## Co-creating engagement

using the Open Decision Framework

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## Background

Or The beginning of our problem statement



- ► 5000+ Associates working on our core products
- Pockets of Continuous Improvement happening
- Demand from customers for faster releases at the same quality
- A challenge to have a coordinated view of our Products Portfolio

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# The ODF Application: A 4 Phase Approach

### Overview

#### What it is

A flexible, open approach to making decisions and leading projects

#### When to use it

For decisions and projects that are likely to:

- impact our culture or
- affect people beyond your immediate team

#### How to use it

 Build steps from the Open Decision Framework into your project plan or decision-making process



2009 - 2010

#### Based on principles practiced by open source communities

Developed by Red Hat People team based on research by Duke University's Fuqua School of Business, Diana Martin, and additional community resources

## Why the framework exists

#### A collection of proven practices that:

- Drive better alignment between business decisions and our company strategy, goals, culture, values, and mission
- Demonstrate "what good looks like" in decision-making and communication
- Offer consistent guidance for teams and leaders on Red Hat cultural expectations, balancing transparency and confidentiality
- Improve associate engagement, signal-to-noise ratio on memo-list



Based on principles practiced by open source communities

2009 - 2010

Developed by Red Hat People team based on research by Duke University's Fuqua School of Business, Diana Martin, and additional community resources



#### Grew from People team to PMO

2012 - 2013

Project Management Office's effort to create an open project management methodology



#### Tested and used internally

2014 - 2015

By PMO, IT and Engineering, example Google Calendar bridge working group.



#### Published on GitHub

2016

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## What is an open decision?





Explain who is making the decision, what problems you're trying to solve, the requirements and constraints involved, and the process you will follow.



#### Inclusive

Engage others for feedback and collaborate throughout the decision-making process.

Seek out diverse perspectives, including potential detractors.



#### Customer-centric

Think of people as customers with competing needs and priorities.

When a decision will help some customers, but disappoint others, manage relationships and expectations while getting stuff done.

## Open decisions are made using open source principles

#### Open exchange

Transparency with customers, stakeholders, and the community

## Participation

Involves those most impacted by the change Ideas can come from any part of the organization

## Builds trust and respect, through collaboration

Adapt iteratively, a key agile principle

Release early & often

Community

## How open source principles lead to better decisions

#### **PRINCIPLES**

- Open exchange
- Participation
- Release early + often
- Community

#### **PRACTICES**

- Transparency with internal customers and other stakeholders
- Customer involvement
- Gain feedback and adapt iterative changes
- Ideation with people
- Build trust and respect via collaboration

#### OUTCOMES

- Increased buy-in
- Stronger and faster adoption
- Best ideas win
- Fewer bugs, issues, and unanticipated impacts
- Higher people engagement
- Decisions aligned to strategy and culture

## You can't please everyone

But when you make open decisions, people feel ...

- I understand why the decision was made and how it aligns to our strategy, goals, and mission.
- There was visibility to the business requirements, research, and evaluation criteria.
- ► The decision-making process was inclusive and transparent.
- Although I wasn't the decision maker, I was able to contribute to the process.
- I may not agree with the decision, but it's obvious that the decision makers understand our values and culture.
- I might be disappointed, but I wasn't surprised.
- My voice was heard and valued.

#### ODF Phase or Activity



#### Concept, Define, Ideate

Lead with transparency.

Define a Problem Statement.

Identify who will contribute and who will sign off.

Build diversity of thought and an inclusive environment.

Photo by <u>Diego PH</u> on <u>Unsplash</u> @jimmysjolund@mastodon.social



#### Plan, Research

Gather input.

Make it easy to participate.

Explain the obvious and publish your research.

Remain open to new information and perspectives.

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#### ODF Phase or Activity



Design, Develop, Test

Build your community.

Promote open exchange.

Make it safe to voice concerns.

Publish progress in an open place.

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#### ODF Phase or Activity



#### Launch, Deploy, Close

Begin with the end in mind.

Show how feedback shaped the decision.

Default to open.

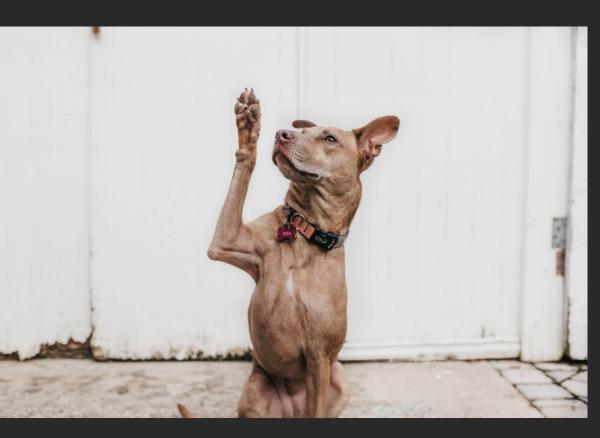
Contribute upstream.

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Photo by <u>ian dooley</u> on <u>Unsplash</u>

# How about that vision then?

## Invited people to drive the decision



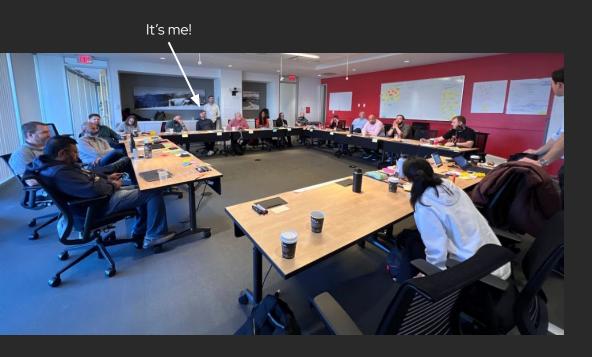
- Call for volunteers issued
- ► 22 people chosen from 100+ volunteers
- Willing to give 20 hours of their time over a period of 3-4 months
- Diverse, inclusive group

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## Remember our Problem Statement?

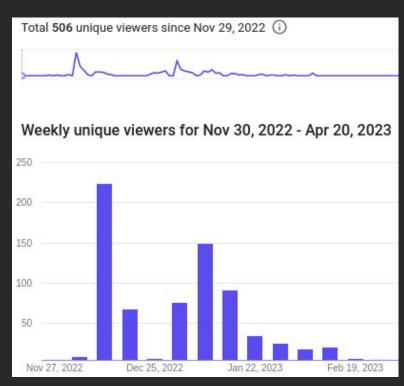
- Faster to market
- Same quality or higher
- Coordination across product streams
- Associate wellbeing and avoiding burnout

## We gathered to Ideate and bound the ODF



- Reiterated the problem statement
- Redefined scope
- Defined 4 Key Objectives
  - A unifying Continuous Improvement
    Vision for the entire Organisation
  - · A singular view of our products
  - Roles and Responsibilities for this brave new future
  - Training to enable it all

### Collaboration



Vision Statement document v 2.0

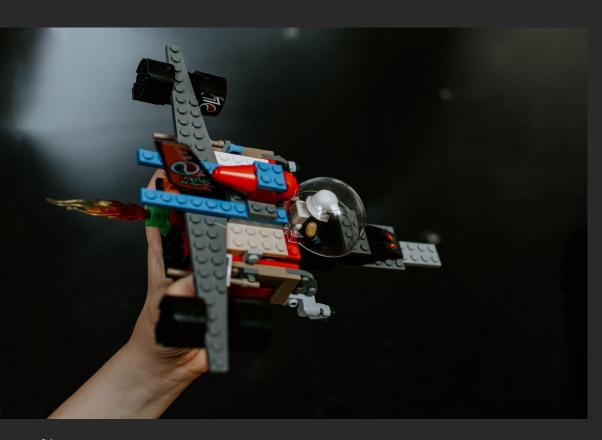
- Vision Statement v 1.0
  - · 22 unique viewers
  - · 42 comments, 55 replies
- Vision Statement v 2.0
  - 502 unique viewers
  - · 113 comments, 239 replies
- Vision Statement v 3.0.1
  - · 131 unique viewers
  - · 60 comments, 141 replies

## Shared, discussed, presented



- Office hours
- Engaged 1:1 with those giving deep feedback
- Went on team calls and leadership calls at all levels
- Engaged our leadership to provide direct feedback in the documents
- Moulded a set of outcomes that we could call Version 1.0
  - This will grow and evolve as the action plans get implemented

## Launch and continuance

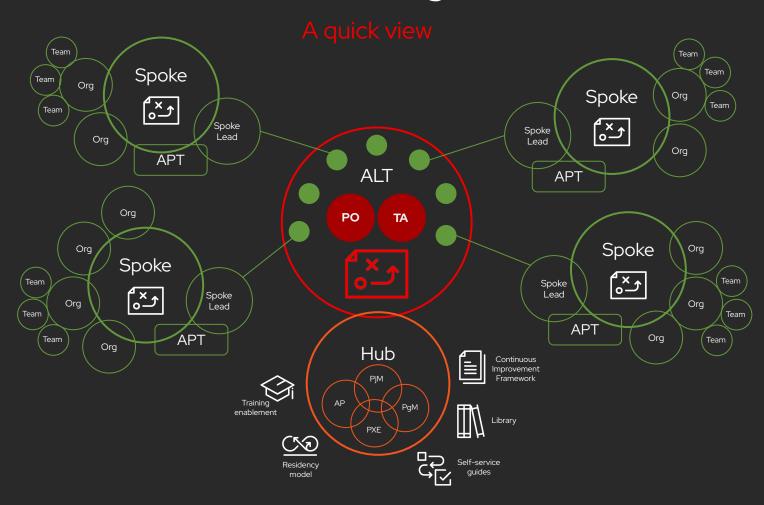


- ► Launched on the 10th of February 2023
- Hub and spoke model for continuance
  - Refine
  - Harden
  - · Learn by doing

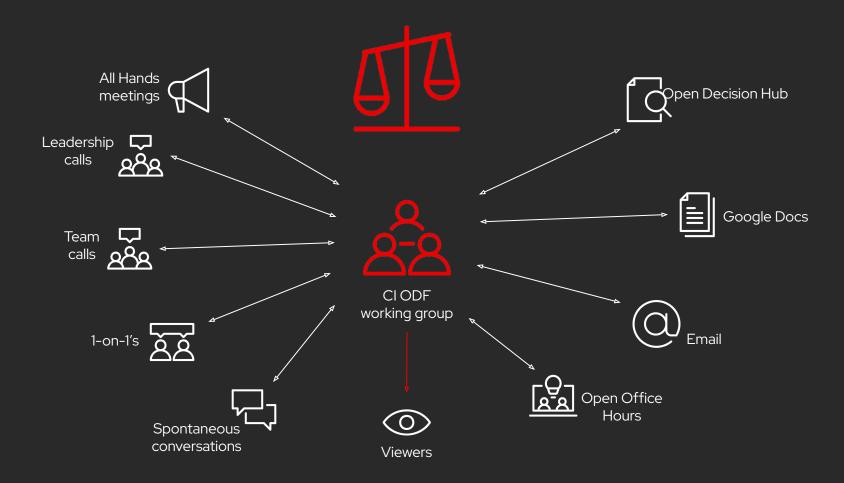
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## How did it go?



## Lower the barriers vs Too many channels



## Concluding thoughts

https://github.com/red-hat-people-team/open-decision-framework

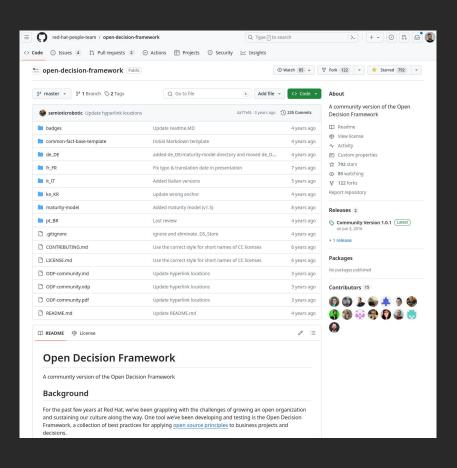


- ► Effective feedback loops
- Whole organization involvement, everyone inputs to strategy
- A graduating pathway from Vision to Objectives to Actions

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## Open Decision Framework

https://github.com/red-hat-people-team/open-decision-framework



- Engage
- Feedback
- Contribute
- Improve



## Give feedback to Jimmy

#### Scan this QR code



#### Or go to

#### https://talk.ac/jimmy

and enter this code when prompted

FN24

Powered By talkadot



## Thank you

Jimmy Sjölund

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