

Teams in the real world

An effective team has excellent internal communication and works efficiently. It also has interactions and purpose which is beyond the team. The team serves external customers, managers and other stakeholders. It is supported by suppliers, technology, finance, welfare etc. All these influence the effectiveness of the team and are influenced by it.

When teams are thinking about how to be more effective they need to consider how internal and external relationships work and could work better.

The diagram below is a simple way to capture this. The small circles with a, b, c etc. represent team members. The large circle is the team. The outer segments are domains that influence the team or are influenced by it.

