

Gap analysis

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Gap analysis is a central part of the teleological approach to change where dissatisfaction with the current state is expressed as differences between the present situation and a desired future state, which drives strategies for closing “the gap”. These differences might represent any number of structural or performance characteristics and are reflected as a gap between the present and the future that forms the basis for the change program. The analysis involves identifying who needs to be changed, what needs to be changed, and how (the strategy) the change might be accomplished. A checkpoint is also frequently included for evaluating the feasibility of being able to close the gap, which might result in altering the desired state to one more attainable. Tactics for closing the gap include: lengthening the time frame for accomplishing this goal, reducing the scope of the change, reallocating resources to achieve goals, and obtaining new resources.

References

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