A Customized Leadership Development Program Targeted to Prepare Future Regional Managers for McDonald's Corporation

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Background and Rationale

Business Context and Need for the Leadership Program

In early 2001, the HR Design Center for McDonald's Corporation initiated the development of a special leadership development program for a select number of high-potential managers identified as candidates for possible promotion into a key role in its system, that of Regional Manager. The program developed was entitled the McDonald's Leadership Development Experience. This chapter will describe what differentiated this program from other leadership development activities that had previously been offered within the company, what program elements worked particularly well (and which didn't), and how this program has helped to influence both the training methodology as well as substantive content of current and future planned leadership training initiatives at McDonald's.

There were a number of factors that led the company to support this initiative. First, the Regional Manager role was a very significant one within the overall operations structure of the business. At the time of this initiative, individuals in the Regional Manager positions were responsible for managing regions that were comprised of 300-400 stores that generated \$480--\$640 million in revenue. The Regional Manager position was not only considered a significant business responsibility but also a key stepping stone for many individuals who were thought to be capable of advancing to the senior executive level of the company. Another factor that helped create a felt need for developing a special leadership development program focusing on future candidates for the Regional Manager role was the fact that the expectations and challenges for this position had shifted significantly over the previous 5-10 years as a result of both changes in the marketplace as well as within McDonald's. These changes included: heightened competition, the increased challenge of growing market share, RM's being given more autonomy as the organization became more decentralized and moved decision-making closer to the market/customer, and the growing expectation for RM's to act strategically as well as tactically. Given this evolution in the role, it was decided to develop an accelerated leadership development experience that could assist potential future RM's to be better prepared to meet these new expectations and challenges.

A final factor that helped lead to and influence the development of this program was a study that had been conducted during the year 2000 and that was designed to develop a Regional Manager Success Profile. The intent in developing this profile was to provide a sharp picture of what superior performance in the Regional Manager role looked like in order to guide both the future selection of individuals for and the development of individuals (already in) this position. The development of this profile involved interviews with the President of the North American business, all five Division Presidents reporting to him, key senior human resources executives, selected others who had a clear perspective on the role and demands of the RM position, and selected "star" performers in the RM position. The content of the interviews focused on identifying:

- 1. how the business had changed in the past 5-10 years,
- 2. how these changes had impacted on "the recipe for success" in the RM role,
- 3. the critical results and competencies that differentiated the "star" performers from the average ones,
- 4. what experiences were felt to be key to the preparation of someone to step successfully into the role and the kinds of problems that had de-railed some individuals who had been put into the position.

The Regional Manager Success Profile that emerged from this work (and was finalized in early 2001) identified both the key results that the top RM's needed to produce and the critical competencies that they needed to be able to demonstrate in order to excel in the position (see Exhibit 1). The availability of this success profile made the design of a customized leadership experience for developing future RM's easier and more effective.

In addition to the "success profile" that emerged from this process, a variety of other useful information was gathered in the course of this preliminary work that has proved valuable in guiding the ongoing efforts to design training and development initiatives for regional manager leadership. Key elements of this additional information include:

- specific examples of 10 critical but common practical leadership challenges that
 individuals stepping into the RM role might expect to face and which they must be
 prepared to handle if they are to be effective (e.g. inheriting a region that has been
 steadily losing market share, needing to significantly upgrade the talent/morale level of
 the regional staff team, needing to strengthen or re-build trust and credibility with the
 owner-operators, etc.) and
- identification of the kinds of jobs/experiences that an individual might have prior to becoming an RM that would help to better prepare him/her for taking on the role.

While some elements of this additional information were incorporated in the "Leadership Development Experience" (that is the primary focus of this chapter), other aspects are just beginning to be used to help shape a broader and more complete set of development programs and experiences that are being designed to better prepare future leaders for success at the regional leadership level throughout McDonald's.

Objectives of the Leadership Development Experience

The design of the leadership development program for high-potential RM candidates had a number of key objectives. These included:

1. help participants take a critical look at themselves and their current management capabilities and develop an individualized personal learning plan that could help them to increase their likelihood of future success as RM's,

- 2. provide participants with an action-learning assignment that would help them grow in their understanding of the business while, at the same time, contributing to the development of practical ideas to address the significant business issues they worked on,
- 3. provide participants with an opportunity to build relationships with key peers from across the organization with whom they could partner as part of their ongoing development,
- 4. provide significant exposure of the candidates to senior executives in the organization and vice versa, and
- 5. demonstrate the potential value and power of "action learning" as a new model for accelerating the development of leaders and as a way to complement the more classroom-based approaches that were already in use.

Assessment of Participants

The Role of Assessment

It was decided that the Regional Manager Success Profile would be used not only to shape the design of the overall program but also as part of the process of assessing the strengths and development needs of individuals who were participating in the program. While a number of the individual candidates selected for this program had been through various management assessment experiences at different points in their careers, none of these assessments had been tailored to evaluate the individuals against the more specific demands and requirements associated with success in the RM role. Thus, the RM Success Profile provided a tool that was uniquely tailored to help the individuals better understand their readiness to step into the role and to identify the kinds of development needs they might need to address to enhance their likelihood of effectiveness in it. As will become apparent later in this chapter, the opportunity to get feedback about one's readiness for promotion into a specific role (rather than just feedback about generic management skills) turned out to be one of the more compelling aspects of this leadership development experience for the participants.

It should be made clear that all fourteen participants who had been identified as high-potential candidates for future advancement to the RM role were assessed <u>after</u> they were selected by their Division Presidents for inclusion in the program. In other words, at this stage, the assessments of individuals against the RM Success Profile were not used as the basis for selection into the high-potential group and this leadership program.

The specific objectives of the assessment of individual participants were to:

1. provide individuals with an evaluation of themselves against the RM Success Profile so that they could identify key strengths to build on and key development areas to work on in order to enhance their potential effectiveness in the RM role, and

2. provide the organization with data on development areas the group might benefit most from having targeted in this and other future leadership development programs.

Process and Approach

The assessment process was conducted by a team of external consultants (Ph.D. psychologists) and took place between the time that participants were told they had been selected for the program and the time that the program was launched.

The assessment process itself included:

- (1) having participants complete pre-work including:
 - a self-assessment against the 14 competencies that comprised the RM Success Profile,
 - a brief survey regarding the extent to which they had had the opportunity to already be exposed to, manage, and learn from a set of six learning challenges that were similar to practical on-the-job leadership challenges typically faced by RM's, and
 - a brief synopsis of their career histories highlighting key jobs/learning experiences on the path toward the RM role
- (2) an in-depth (3-4 hour) behavioral-event focused interview designed to evaluate the individuals' career accomplishments and experience against the key elements in the RM Success Profile (e.g. results "track-record" as well as competencies demonstrated).

Insights Emerging from the Assessment Results

While there was considerable variability across the individuals assessed it was apparent that, as a group, the participants would benefit most from a program targeting development in the competency areas of:

- Strategic Perspective,
- Maximizing Business Performance,
- Insightful Listening,
- Problem-Solving and Innovation, and
- Mental Agility

Further, when the participants were evaluated in terms of the extent of their prior learning as a result of opportunities to deal with the various types of key leadership challenges they would likely face as RM's, it was clear that a number of them had a somewhat limited view of how to lead the business due to:

- having "grown up" primarily in a single region and thus having seen a fairly limited set of business conditions/challenges,
- working for relatively few Regional Managers, thus limiting the modeling of varied leadership styles and approaches in operating as an RM, and

• being accustomed to focusing primarily on executing the plans and tactics developed for them at more senior management levels (rather than having personal responsibility for formulating strategy/vision).

These insights regarding the needs and readiness of individuals targeted for development for the Regional Manager role were used both to shape the leadership program described here and are currently being leveraged to shape training initiatives for the future.

Initial Feedback and Coaching

Prior to the start of the leadership program, the individual consultants who had conducted the assessments met with each individual participant in a one-on-one session to discuss his/her results. The intent of this meeting was to help participants identify areas of personal learning needed **prior** to the start of the program so that they might be able to begin to take advantage of opportunities to learn or practice new behaviors in the course of the program itself. This feedback session also set the stage for subsequent work on the development of personal development action plans for each participant that was to take place during and after the action learning program itself.

The Program

Designing the Leadership Development Experience

A number of factors and influences were used to help shape the design decisions for the leadership program. Among these were the results of the initial work done to create the RM Success Profile, the results of the initial assessment of the skill and development levels of participants against elements of the success profile, and an understanding of the kinds of leadership development experiences that these participants had already been part of in the past. These considerations helped identify some specific needs and opportunities and led to the design of a leadership development program intended specifically to:

- provide participants with the opportunity to learn, practice, and demonstrate key competencies identified as in need of development including:
 - think about the business more broadly and strategically
 - mental agility and creativity in problem-solving,
 - listening/collaboration skills, and
- expose participants to selected Regional Manager role models who could expand their perspective about the RM role by sharing some of their key experiences and learnings in the position

- provide participants with the opportunity to work closely with senior level executives from whom they could learn (about leadership and about the business)
- give participants an action-learning assignment that addressed real issues facing the business overall (and that would complement typical classroom-based training offered)
- provide participants with an experience that was both organizationally relevant (tied to achieving McDonald's growth objectives) and personally relevant (tied to developing specific competencies needed for success in the RM position to which they aspired)
- take place in a concentrated period—90 days with a definite commitment to present results to the President of the business and his team

Content of the Program

The program consisted of four phases over a period of 6-12 months.

Phase One

In Phase One, the participants met initially for 3 ½ days. Content in this phase included:

- strategic business context for the program and for their development as a group,
- introduction of personal learning journals to be used throughout,
- explanation of the basis for the RM Success Profile and a presentation of the aggregate profile results for the entire group,
- initial individual development planning,
- the use of learning partners,
- presentations on the business from "star" RM performers,
- introduction of the group to the two action learning assignments,
- introduction of Division President champions who would assist each learning group through the process,
- development of team charters for tackling their action learning assignments,
- presentation of their initial work on their issue to senior management, and
- recording of personal learnings from the initial meeting.

The Action Learning Assignments

The "action learning" assignments were tied to specific business issues/questions that had been identified as "high-priority" by the senior leadership of the company. The actual business issues/questions selected were, in fact, drawn from a list of key initiatives identified as part of a "Blueprint Plan" developed at the Corporate level to drive and support doubling the size of the business in 10 years. It was believed that tying the program content to the business strategy in this way would make the learning experience more real and compelling for thee participants and the output more valuable to the business.

Phase Two

Phase Two consisted of the next 90 days over which the two action-learning teams tackled their respective assignments:

<u>Group One</u>: Identify opportunities and make recommendations to simplify marketing and operations within all the regions, and

<u>Group Two</u>: Make recommendations for how to transform the critical role of business consultant in the regions in order to support the company's growth objectives.

During this phase, the groups met on several occasions to brainstorm and refine ideas, members carried out individual assignments (gathering data, accessing experts throughout the system for interviews) and learning partners connected with each other to stay on track with their individual learning objectives.

Phase Three

Phase three involved the entire group of participants re-assembling at corporate in 90 days to present their results and recommendations to senior management.

Phase Four

Phase Four involved senior management actually implementing the many of the ideas developed by the learning groups as well as ongoing follow-up and coaching of individual participants.

Tools, Instruments and Training Materials

There were a number of support tools, instruments and training materials that were developed and used throughout the program. Among these were:

• RM Success Profile

- This profile was developed as a "blueprint for success" for individuals in the RM role. It includes a picture of both the competencies and the results that must be demonstrated and produced by RM's in order to excel in the role. It is provided as Exhibit 1
- Individual participant assessment and development reports developed by the external assessors with and for the individual participants. These reports identified individual strengths and weaknesses relative to the success profile.
- Personal Learning Journals for each participant that focused on identifying his/her learning needs and objectives, significant learning events and insights, and ongoing progress.
- Action Learning Tools including:
 - <u>Team tools</u> (e.g., Project Map, Team Charter (see Exhibit 2), Roles & Responsibilities Chart, Team Metrics (Exhibit 3), Team Communications Model, Team Process Check (Exhibit 4)),
 - <u>Project tools</u> (e.g., Stakeholders Commitment Chart, Data Collection Methods: Pros and Cons (Exhibit 5), Affinity Diagram, Force-Field Analysis (Exhibit 6), Flowchart

- Process Measures, Cause and Effect Diagram, Project Review Checklist (Exhibit 7)) and,
- <u>Presentation tools</u> (e.g., defining your audience needs, presentation choreography, organizing the presentation content, using visuals effectively)

Reinforcing and Building on Learning

While the program was well received by participants it was felt important to take some specific steps to reinforce the learnings gained by participants. Examples of some of these steps included:

- Follow-up memos to the group regarding program outcomes
- Progress reports on the specific participant recommendations that had been implemented
- Providing feedback to the managers of the participants so that they could reinforce ongoing learning, and
- Follow-up progress checks with individual participants by executive coaches on implementation of development plan ideas

Integration with the HR systems in the organization

In order to reinforce the participants' learning from the program experience steps were taken to help participants be able to connect their "program specific" insights and learning plans with the overall organization's ongoing personal development system and processes. These included:

- Showing participants how the unique job-specific competencies developed as part of the success profile for the RM position linked to the organization's more generic Core & Leadership competencies that serve as a key component within the overall Performance Development System.
- encouraging participants to take their specific learning and development goals/plans emerging from this program and "add them to" the development plans that they had put together with their managers earlier in the year,
- providing participants with information on how to use the in-house resources for competency development and link it to the kinds of personal development needs identified in this program,
- offering additional external resources for personal development (e.g. coaching) where required for specific development needs.

Evaluation

Methods and measures

Efforts were made to identify and gather both process and outcome oriented measure of the program's effectiveness. Examples of the evaluation data collected included:

- Questionnaires of participants at the end of each of the four phases of the program
- Invitation of comments and suggestions from all of the senior executives involved with the program/participants
- Data on completion and implementation of individual action plans
- Tracking of participants' promotions and job success
- Follow-up phone calls and surveys to program participants one-year after program completion

Program Outcomes

The evaluation data gathered to date include both information on objective outcomes that have occurred with participants as well as their subjective assessment of program impacts.

Objective Data on Program Impact

- The recommendations presented by two teams were both adopted and integrated into the Strategic Agenda for the U.S. business in 2002. One focused on simplification at the restaurant level, and the other focused on the redefinition of the Business Consultant's role.
- Ten of 14 participants have been successfully promoted into key regional leadership positions. Thirty percent of those promoted into these key leadership positions were rated at the top of the performance rating scale after only six months in position in their new jobs. The remaining 70% were performing at a strong level.

Subjective Assessment of Program Impact

Results of the one-year follow-up survey with program participants indicated that they felt the Action Learning experience and the feedback/insights on their own individual effectiveness and development needs has helped them to be much more effective in their current roles as a result of their:

• having learned the importance of and practicing better listening skills, particularly when working in groups (e.g. allowing others to express their opinions, understanding before reacting, etc.)

- recognizing the value of teams and diversity of thoughts (e.g. one GM provided the example of how the learnings from the program helped him to assemble his team during the restructure picking talented individuals to maximize the strengths of his team)
- looking at the business differently today (e.g. with more strategic perspective, big picture thinking, focusing on building a foundation for the future vs. just short-term results, etc.) as a result of the program reinforcing their understanding of the notion of linkage and how the many different aspects of the business need to be considered when making changes.
- enhanced communication with and leveraging of people/idea resources within the broader McDonald's system.
- putting increased emphasis on their efforts to coach and develop others,
- being exposed to different management styles that allowed them to realize the strengths of different approaches,
- becoming more self-aware and beginning to put more emphasis on their own personal development by working on the specific issues/opportunities that were targeted in the feedback from their personal assessments.

Critical Success Factors

Feedback from participants indicated that there were a number of key features of the program and its design that helped make it successful. The participants especially appreciated:

- 1. Having the ability to make a significant contribution to the business through working on real business problems and seeing their recommendations implemented by senior management
- 2. Having their own personal success requirements articulated in the context of a leadership model tailored to the RM position to which they aspired (as opposed to a more generic model of leadership effectiveness)
- 3. Getting personal feedback and coaching based on the assessment of their competencies and "readiness" for advancement
- 4. Having the opportunity to network with highly talented peers as well as "content experts" in other areas of the business and build relationships with them
- 5. Having senior managers be available, involved, and engaged in the action learning program,

- 6. Having the opportunity to be part of a learning group comprised of individuals with a real diversity of members (e.g. thinking style, work approach, ethnicity, etc.)
- 7. Having the opportunity to significantly broaden their understanding of the organization and view of the business

Lessons Learned—Opportunities for Improvement

While the feedback from and about the program was generally quite positive there were also some specific opportunities for improvement identified. These included:

- <u>Use of learning partners</u> participants indicated that they did not have enough time to interact closely with their learning partner during the course of the program. While they liked the concept there just wasn't enough time to really get to know and "bond with" partners during the program.
- Assessment results linkage to program —while the individualized feedback that
 participants received relative to the RM Success Profile prior to the program was felt to
 be very helpful, participants indicated that it could have been better linked to the specific
 development activities contained in the Action Learning program three-day kick-off and
 follow-up sessions.
- Assessment results linkage to IDP's--While all of the participants expressed that the individual assessment component of the program had increased their self-awareness of strengths and development needs and had worked to make positive behavioral changes, none of the participants had incorporated the assessment results into their formal individual development plans (that had been put together earlier in the year prior to the program). Part of this was simply due to a lack of time but more could have been done to facilitate this linkage between program information and the ongoing performance development process within the company.
- Improving the assessment process—While a number of the participants found the personal assessment process to be quite valuable many felt that its value/impact could have been heightened by gathering and including 360-degree feedback to supplement the data gathered in the interview conducted by individual assessors (this suggestion has already been implemented). In addition, participants felt that their should have been greater clarity from the very start with regard to who in the organization would have access to the results of their assessment data (i.e. some understood that their data would be shared with their managers and others understood that it was confidential—for them only).

Additional Benefits/Impacts Realized After Initial Program Completion

While the main objectives in developing the program and its success in achieving them have been described above, there were a number of additional impacts of the program that have also been realized within the organization. These include:

- The success of the program set the stage for the establishment of a senior level position devoted specifically to executive development
- The positive response to the "success profile" developed specifically for the RM position and used to shape this program set the stage for increased use of a leadership competency model within the organization and for a commitment to develop additional job-specific "Success Profiles" to differentiate the effectiveness and potential of individual managers in key roles
- This program demonstrated the viability and value of the action learning approach to leadership development within McDonald's. As a result, "action learning" has now become the preferred methodology for developing leaders in the organization and will used in future development programs for high potentials

Enhanced Program Launch

In June of 2003, an enhanced leadership development program was launched. The *Leadership* @ *McDonald's Program* (LAMP) was designed to bring together a global pool of twenty-two high potential directors viewed as having potential to move into officer level positions for a ninemonth long intensive leadership development experience. Key learning's from the *McDonald's Leadership Development Experience* launched in 2001 (and described above) contributed significantly to the design of this new accelerated development program for McDonald's.

The Leadership at McDonald's Program (LAMP) is an integrated approach to developing high potential talent. While it clearly focuses on accelerating the development of individual participant, the program process is also designed to more broadly benefit the organization by driving real business results, shaping culture, and building leadership depth. To achieve these goals the program focuses on:

- Increasing the ability of participants to improve business results in their current roles as well as prepare them for achieving success at the next level (Similar to the "action learning" component of the Leadership Development Experience (LDE) that was so well received, LAMP gives participants the opportunity to work in small groups to identify significant business improvement opportunities and develop specific actionable recommendations to be presented to executive management. In LAMP, participants are also expected to develop their improvement recommendations by scanning the external environment and using ideas from sources outside of McDonald's to encourage innovation)
- Leveraging participants' on-the-job accountabilities as opportunities to learn and develop (Feedback from the LDE program indicated a need to more closely tie participant's identified development needs to concrete actions included their current Individual Development Plans. LAMP focuses on strengthening the connection between the development needs identified in individual program participant's' assessments and readily available opportunities in their current roles to build relevant skills. It also

incorporates the direct involvement of participants' bosses into the development planning process during the program)

- Helping participants gain the insight needed to further develop individual leadership capabilities (Taking into account the very positive feedback from LDE program participants on the value of being assessed against a specific leadership model tied to success in the role(s) they were aspiring to, the LAMP program provided participants with a look at how they matched up against the LAMP leadership framework designed for officer level positions. In addition, the insights gained from the assessment process for LAMP were strengthened with the added the use of 360 feedback and realistic work/business simulations)
- Broadening participants' focus and expanding their mindset from regional to global (A clear need identified for most participants in the initial LDE program was to broaden their strategic perspective of the business that was generally limited by the narrow scope of their localized experience. The LAMP program placed strong emphasis on helping participants develop a more global perspective through the use of a two-week executive education program provided by The Thunderbird International Consortia)
- Providing opportunities to build strong peer networks externally as well as internally (The opportunity to build strong peer networks as a result of program participation was recognized as a key benefit of the initial LDE program. The LAMP program not only facilitated the building of stronger internal peer networks for participants but added the opportunity for participants to extend this network building to external peers (from non-competing global companies) with whom they worked in the Thunderbird executive education program.)

As this book goes to publication, the participants are approximately three weeks away from the end of the 2003 program. The program will conclude with the sub-teams presenting their business improvement recommendations (see summary of the Business Improvement Recommendation process in Exhibit 8), a debrief of the presentation "experience" as well as overall learning's from all aspects of the program, and a team celebration. Program follow-up will include the establishment of key mentoring relationships, sponsorship of the 2004 program participants and a "reconnecting" experience six months after conclusion of the program.

Summary

This chapter described the development and implementation of a leadership development program targeted to help prepare selected candidates for advancement into a key leadership position for the McDonald's business (i.e. Regional Manager.) The combination of doing preliminary work to identify the specific requirements for success of leaders in this role (vs. taking a "generic" approach to leadership) and the use of a more practical and engaging training method (action learning) resulted not only in producing significant benefits for the initial program participants but also in helping to set the stage for influencing the design of current and future leadership initiatives within the company.

Regional Manager Success Profile

	Results				
Types	Metrics				
Employee	 Staff and commitment survey results. Understanding of company strategy/future vision Solid staff expertise Performance standards and accountability for results Development of leadership talent for the System. 				
Customer	 Customer-count targets QSC&V standards scores Customer experience feedback 				
Owner-Operator	 Owner-operator feedback/confidence Results-focused O/O teams Engagement of O/O's with the strategic platform Operator cash flow targets 				
Structure/Process	Performance on corporate initiatives				
Financial	 Infrastructure/process improvements Operating income targets Positive Economic Profit (EP) contribution Net new unit plan targets 				
Thinking Skills	 Competencies Mental Agility Focus and Balance Strategic Perspective Problem Solving and Innovation 				
People Skills	 Self Management Insightful Listening Impact and Influence Mature Assertiveness Teamwork and Collaboration Communicates Effectively Peer Leadership 				
Business Understanding	 Marketplace Perspective Maximizes Business Performance Financial Acumen Business Judgment 				

Team Charter--Sample Format

Team Leader, Members, and Sponsor (if appropriate)								
Team Purposes	Links to Organization's Context							
Task purpose	(How the purpose contributes to specific plans and							
Interpersonal purpose	objectives, addresses gaps in the organization's							
Process to Be Used	performance, and/or addresses specific customer needs) Success Measures and Progress Measures							
Frocess to be Useu	Success Measures and Progress Measures							
(e.g., specific problem-solving methodologies,	(e.g., cycle time, error rates, and/or costs to be reduced;							
information technologies, conflict-resolution techniques)	productivity to be increased customer satisfaction to be improved; gaps to be closed)							
Boundaries of the Team's Work	Resource Availability/Constraints							
(e.g., issues outside of team's scope, beginning and end	(e.g., budget, equipment, training)							
points of a process to be improved, decision-making authority)								
Key Milestones	Team Member Time Commitments							
(e.g., formal reviews, deliverable dates, final deadline)	ting Dringinles							
Team Operating Principles								

Team Metrics

	Subjective Measures			Objective Measures			
Team Metric							
Description							
Responsibility							
How Measured							
Variance							
Kick-off							
Frequency							
Status							
Issues							

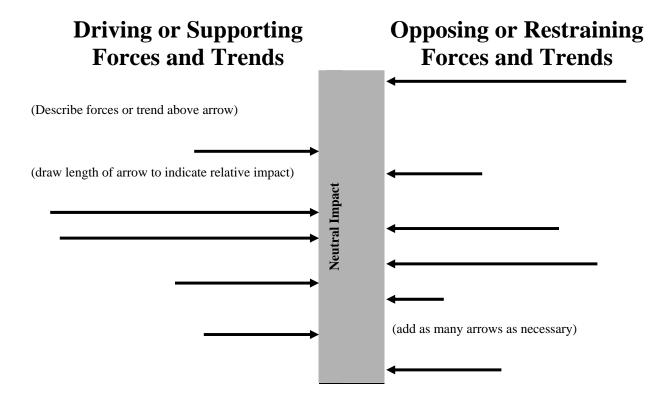
Team Process Check

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Pros and Cons of Data Collection Methods

	Pros	Cons
One-on-One Interviews	 Opportunity to build relationships with those interviewed. Direct/indirect nonverbal communication will allow you to pick up additional information. Details can be clarified when necessary. 	 Getting access to the people you need to interview may not be easy. Telephone interviews sometimes catch people off guard and keep them from communicating. Those not interviewed may feel "discriminated against."
Focus Groups	 You can get a lot of data in a short period of time. Group synergy can lead to deeper inquiry. Allows you to obtain several points of view. 	 Scheduling may be difficult. There is a risk of "group think" or self-censoring in front of group. Process may become dominated by strong or vocal leader.
Surveys	 You can get a lot of data, inexpensively, from many people. You can get information from people who may otherwise be inaccessible. Anonymous answers promote greater openness. Can be used to alert the organization as part of an intervention. 	 Questions cannot be clarified. You can't identify the exact sources of the responses, so they be difficult to interpret. You may not receive open and honest answers to all questions. Require attention to design and implementation.
Direct Observation	 You get first-hand information from what you personally observe. There is less chance of misunderstanding from someone else's observation. You can redirect your focus as situation change. 	 You may not have access to the situations that need to be observed. Direct observation may alter the situation being observed. It may difficult to observe enough situations to be able to make generalizations.
Analysis of Existing Date	 Saves time, money and resources. Data may be more respected from primary researcher. You may get information that you would not otherwise have access to. What others don't see as relevant may be vitally important. 	 The data may be incomplete, unreliable, or out of date. The data may be difficult and or time consuming to obtain or understand. Data obtained may be irrelevant to your research.

Force-Field Analysis



Notes on using Worksheet

Identify the force or trend whether it is a positive or negative impact on the project.

Label the force or trend on the appropriate side of the central (neutral impact) axis.

Immediately under the label, draw an arrow whose length reflects the team's perception of the relative amount of impact that force or trend is likely to exert on the project's success-short arrows indicate minor impact; longer arrows indicate major impact.

Project Review Checklist

	Task	Applicable	Time Needed	Date Needed	Done
Wi	nat Planning the Execution of the Project:				
•	Set project review dates at the start of the project.				
•	Ask project team members to keep the dates sacrosanct on their personal calendars.				
•	Create a template so that each member can report progress on his or her part of the project in a standardized way.				
•	Ensure the project sponsor is aware of the dates.				
Bei	fore the Review:				
•	Identify all participants; send announcements				
•	Specify the goal of the review.				
•	Develop an agenda with times for specific areas if the review is going to last longer than three hours				
•	Prepare pertinent materials and distribute them well in advance				
•	If needed, arrange for logistics support (room, coffee, food, audio-visual support, etc.).				
Du	ring the Review:				
•	Welcome participants and make any introductions.				
•	Ask for someone to act as a recorder and take notes unless there is a formal secretary.				
•	Set goals for the review.				

	Task	Applicable	Time Needed	Date Needed	Done
Du	ring the Review (continued):				
•	Review agenda; modify as needed.				
•	Announce decision-making model.				
•	Describe relevant rules and processes.				
•	Monitor group processes.				
•	Stay focused on the task.				
•	Sum up at the end of discussions.				
•	Ensure the recorder has captured any decisions before moving on.				
•	Watch the logistics and timekeeping. If people have effectively finished their contribution, offer to excuse them if they wish.				
•	Before the end, review decisions reached.				
•	Develop any action plans needed.				
•	Ask participants to evaluate the effectiveness of the review.				
•	Thank participants.				
Aft	er the review:				
•	Follow up with minutes as soon as possible. On a fast-moving project they should be issued the same day.				
•	Implement action plan.				

Business Improvement Recommendation Process

Background

Achieving McDonald's business strategies and goals will require that McDonald's leaders do things differently. While it is important that our leaders are confident in the company and their own ability, that confidence cannot result in the perception that others can't and aren't doing things better than we are. In fact, in healthy companies, innovation occurs when every leader has a mindset of continuous improvement and is constantly scanning the external environment for better ways of doing business.

Therefore, we are using LAMP as a vehicle support and reinforce a culture of continuous improvement and innovation within McDonald's. Each LAMP sub-team is charged with leveraging their combined LAMP experiences, especially their experience at Thunderbird University, to scan for potential ideas from external sources that, if adopted/adapted appropriately, have the potential to significantly impact McDonald's performance.

Team Deliverable

Four sub-teams are to search and discover, from any sources external to McDonald's one significant "business improvement opportunity" that they recommend be seriously considered by the executive councils for possible adoption within McDonald's. The opportunity should be one that supports and/or accelerates the achievement of our key business strategies.

Each team is to do enough research on their recommendation to be able to present a business case to the Chairman's and President's Councils and their proposed action plan for taking the recommendation to the next step of feasibility be adopted and funded should funding is required.

Purpose of the Business Improvement Recommendation

- Organizational leadership: Reinforces a "continuous improvement" and "innovation" mindset
 and culture within McDonald's. Put a strong focus on the importance of leaders to be
 constantly seeking to "scan and mine" the external environment for ideas that, if adopted
 within McDonald's, could have the potential of positively and significantly impacting
 business results.
- Team Leadership: Provide each of the four teams a "real" vs. "role-play" opportunity to learn more about how to be a part of, and lead a high-performing team responsible for delivering an important business recommendation to a high-profile audience of senior leaders of the business.
- Personal Leadership: Provide every LAMP participant the opportunity for personal development around innovation, idea development/ and adaptation, managing change, stakeholder analysis, and executive presentation and influence.

Exhibit 8 (cont.)

Ground Rules

- 1. The core idea must come from somewhere outside of McDonald's.
- 2. There must be evidence to confirm that the recommendation has worked successfully in another organization(s)
- 3. Theirs is no need to get approval from a person or any organization inside McDonald's before presenting recommendation.
- 4. Each team presentation can go no longer than 30 minutes leaving 15 minutes for discussion with the Council members.
- 5. Teams have complete freedom within this framework.

Evaluation of Recommendation by Council Members

- Assess the quality of the thought process and logic that went into the recommendation.
- Evaluate the presentation approach, style and form in terms of it's impact on persuading you towards approving the recommendation.
- Rate the degree to which the team effectively handles questions, challenges and concerns during the discussion.
- Assess the feasibility of successfully implementing this recommendation successfully and gaining the benefits for the business.

Executive council members will also provide each team with specific, written feedback on what they liked most about the team's recommendation and one or two suggestions they have for how the team could have improved their presentation.