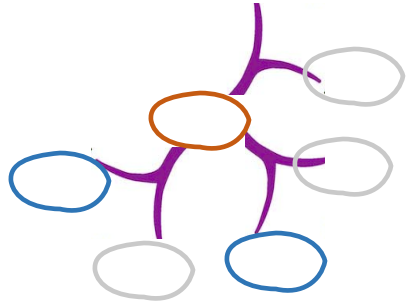


## WHOLE SYSTEMS MAP



Whole systems mapping allows for not only listing all the players around a central entity (your product/service) but also their role in how it affects you as well as relationships to you and to one another. The players in the map could be things, people, organizations, public policy...anything that affects your product/service.

A systems map should have all components your product / service will interact with from the time it is rolled out to the time it wraps up (cradle to grave as it is said. Now with the added attraction of making things sustain longer, or morph into something else, the terminology could even be 'cradle to cradle'. This means, when your service reaches the end of its life-cycle, the gains from it could be used to create another service of adapted to another product or service.

The rule is you map everything. Then two things happen

1. It gives you the entire ecosystem in which your product/service will exist, making you understand advantages and anticipate challenges that might come your way.
2. It gives you choices in terms of which players to harness / channel to your advantage.

What a systems map should address:

- Components
- The entire life cycle of your product/service
- Client/ user interaction
- Things and other services that your service is used with / complementing services needed.
- Relationships/ connections / networks (existing and required)

When creating a systems map, keep in mind the following:

- Use different colors
- Correct errors immediately
- Use arrows to show relationships, use double sided arrows if needed, use different color arrows
- DO NOT COMPLICATE THE MAP WITH TOO MANY SYMBOLS AND ELEMENTS. Your map will be complex enough so do not add to it!!

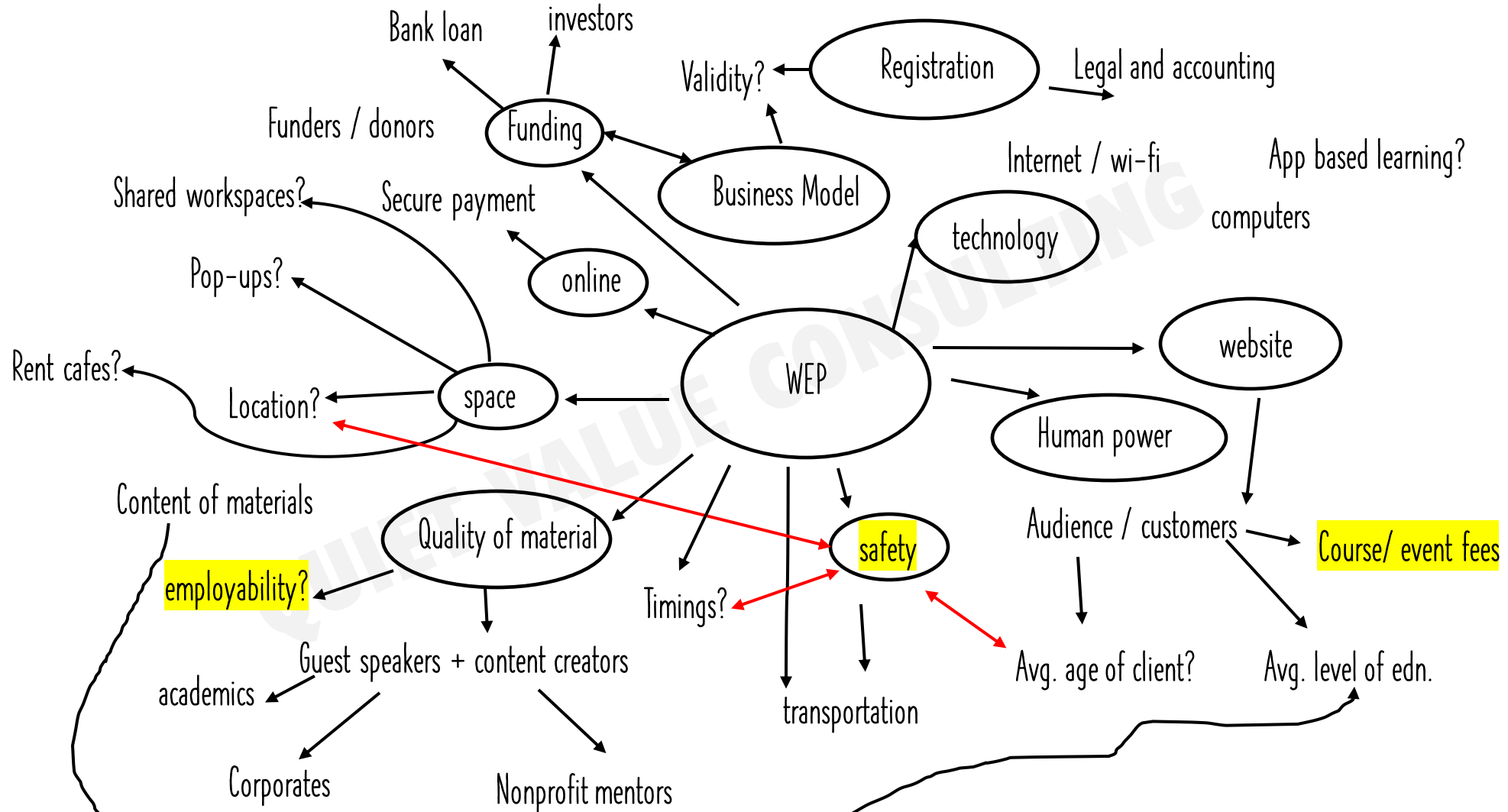


Tip: whole systems map allows you to make a case with / collaborate with seemingly disparate entities as to how they affect your work, how they can benefit from your work etc.

# WHOLE SYSTEMS MAP

## EXAMPLE

Mapping out the entire system for a women's empowerment program that imparts courses and events on everything from life skills to professional networking.

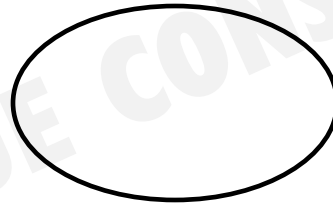


## WHOLE SYSTEMS MAP

The template below will get you started. DO NOT COMPLICATE IT WITH TOO MANY COLORS AND ELEMENTS AND IF YOU DO, HAVE A LEGEND!!

The map should be easily readable, understood by every player on that map! And when presented to stakeholders, they should get a hang of things without too much explanation.

Write down your service in short form in the middle of the oval and take it away!!



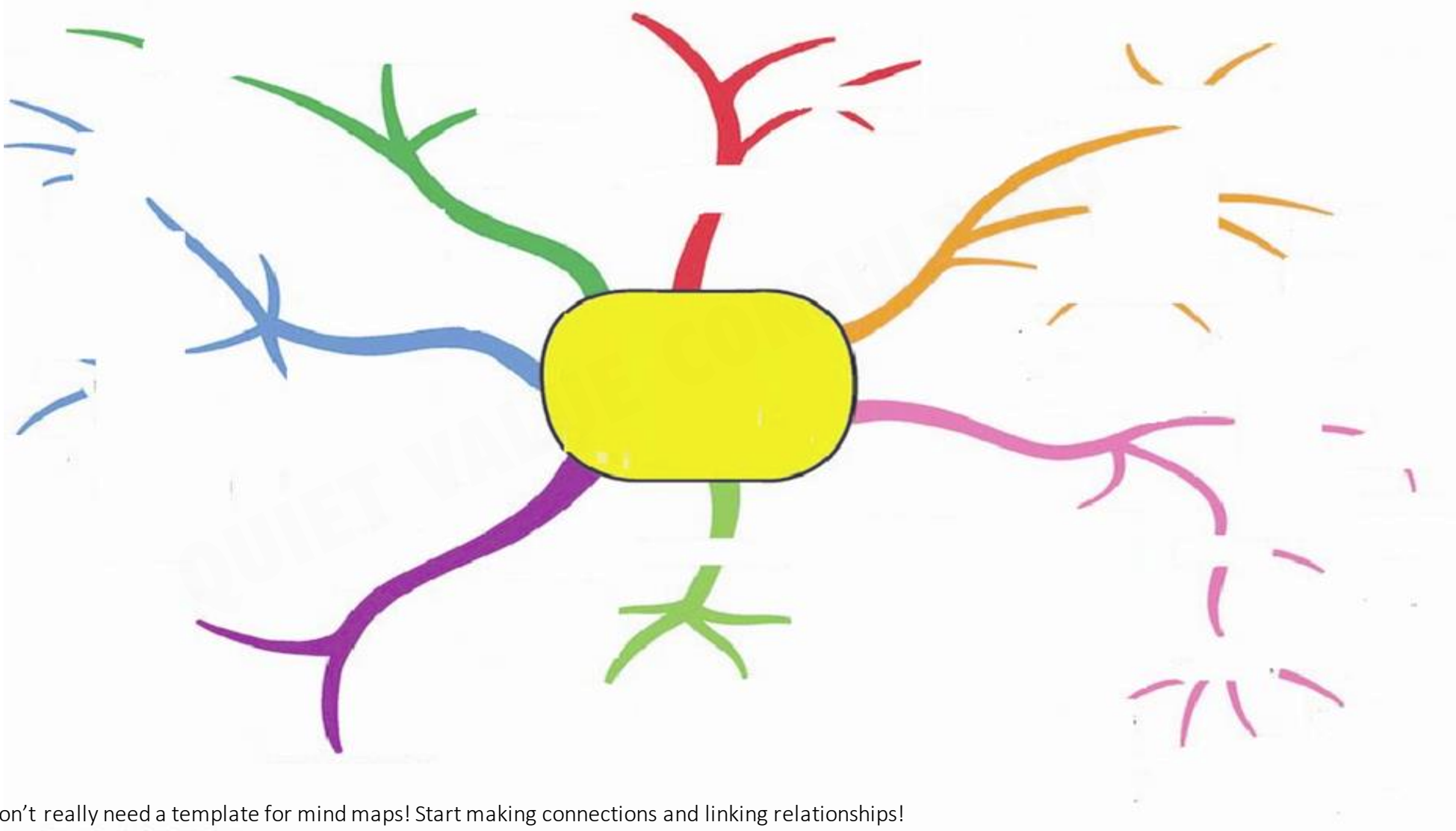
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There are plenty of software available to map these things, but experience has told us that NONE of them are comprehensive OR simple/ fast enough! Do it yourself. Use a free hand sketching program to make it a digital version...even basic tools like MS PowerPoint has very advanced shapes and arrows you can use. Go for it!!

## MIND MAPS

Mind maps create links and relationships around an idea. Use the template below to do the same for whatever idea is on your mind. Wherever you see "interruptions" in the nodes, add a thought. Add more branches of your own if you have more thoughts! Mind maps are more for internal thought processing, informal and not for formal presenting.



Tip: You don't really need a template for mind maps! Start making connections and linking relationships!