

# Cynefin framework

The Cynefin\* framework gives decision makers a sense of where they are to be able to "see" what should be done to make the right decisions.

Cynefin offers five decision contexts or domains: Clear, Complicated, Complex, Chaotic - and in between all of these, Confusion.

In the various domains, Cynefin is used to analyze behavior and make decisions. The domains that are clear and complex are "ordered" and cause and effect are known or discoverable. And the domains complex and chaotic, are "disordered" where cause and effect can only be seen afterwards or not at all.

The confusion domain represents situations where there is no clarity about which of the other domains apply. It is difficult to see when this domain applies. "Here several perspectives fight for prominence, faction leaders argue with each other, and the cacophony applies", written by the men behind Cynefin, Snowden and Boone. In this domain one can or should not make decisions, but rather break up the parts and try to place them in one of the other domains first.

*\*Cynefin is a Welsh word meaning habitat, (known) place.*