

ARCHITECTURE THINKING MINDSET / DISCOVER PHASE / SYNTHESIZE

# Visualize the Solution Context

Show the relationship between the proposed solution and the organizational units, business roles and business functions within the enterprise.

# Why To Visualize the Solution Context

The goal of the “Solution Context Diagram” is to provide a high-level overview of the aspired solution that can be easily understood by the business. Therefore, the solution context describes the required business capabilities that need to be satisfied by the architecture.

Prerequisites for creating the solution context are the **Stakeholder Matrix** and **Statement of Architecture Work**.

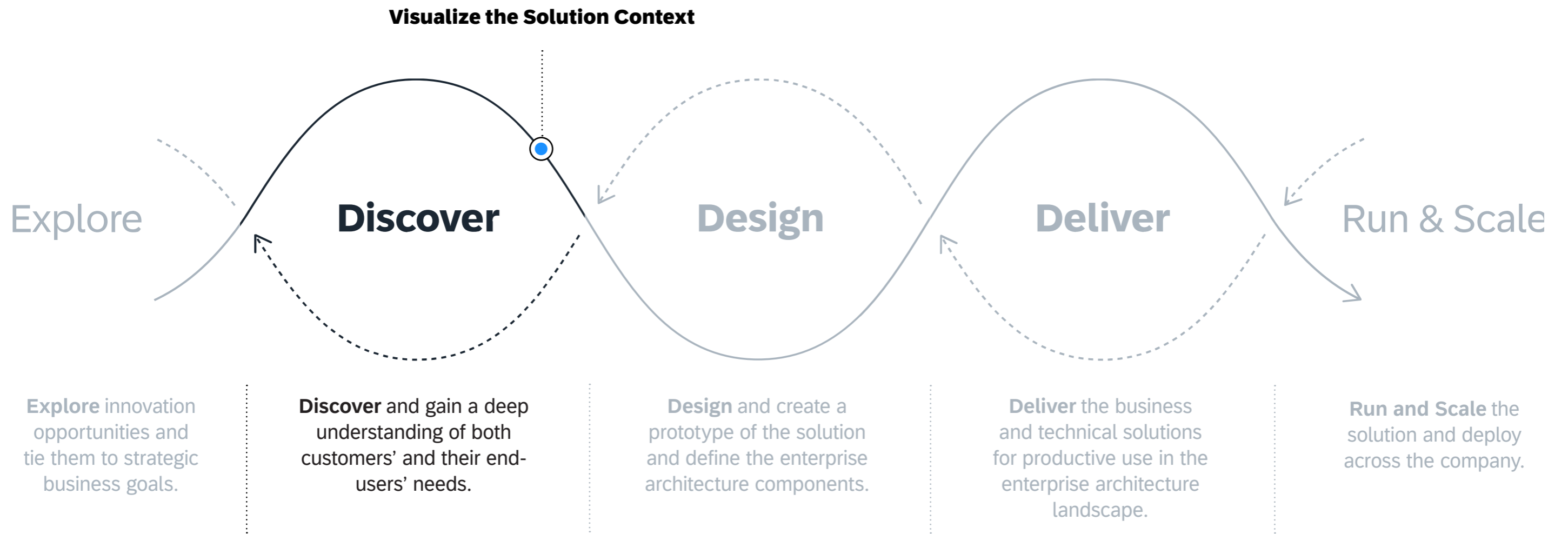
For stakeholders in the business domain, the solution context provides a valuable visual representation of the architecture, illustrating how your proposed solution interacts with various organizational units, Roles, and business functions.



# When To Visualize the Solution Context

We use the “Solution Context Diagram” to identify business capabilities, capture business users, and visualize the overall solution context. The Solution Context Diagram happens in the Discover Phase, within the business domain of Enterprise

Architecture Thinking. To create a Solution Context Diagram, it is necessary to have the **Stakeholder Matrix** and **Statement of Architecture Work**.



Learn more about SAP's Human-Centered Approach to Innovation: <https://apphaus.sap.com/approach>

# How To

## Visualize the Solution Context



Duration  
**Approx. 30 - 60 Minutes**



Participation  
**1 - 3 People**



Roles  
**Architects**



Use Input From

- **Map Architecture Stakeholders**
- **Identify the Scope of Your Architecture**

### Steps

- 1 Translate your learnings about the aspired solution into business capabilities that describe what the solution can do. These can be main functions or features of the aspired solution expressed in business terminology. This list doesn't need to be exhaustive; think of 5 to 10 main capabilities.
- 2 Identify related organizational units, business Roles and existing business applications. Use the **Stakeholder Matrix** as reference for users and Roles.
- 3 Visualize the components in a diagram (use the template).

### Expert Tips

The most prominent part of the Solution Context Diagram is a box representing the aspired solution. Label the box with the name you have defined in the **Statement of Architecture Work**.

Throughout architecture development, you gradually add more details to the Solution Context, e.g., evolving the Solution Context to other work products such as a **Solution Concept** and **Solution Realization Diagram**.

You use the Solution Context Diagram to share and communicate your architecture to your business stakeholders. You can also update your **Statement of Architecture Work** by adding the Solution Context to the "Overview of Architecture Vision" section of the template.

# Example

## Solution Context Diagram

