



Objectives and Key Results (OKRs) in Clarity

Your Guides:
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Agenda

— OKR FOUNDATIONS

- 01 Introductions
- 02 What Has Changed in OKRs
- 03 Defining and Structuring OKRs
- 04 Pitfalls to Avoid

— OKRs IN CLARITY

- 05 Aligning the Work
- 06 Tracking Attainment in Clarity
- 07 Use Cases
- 08 Reporting
- 09 Demonstration

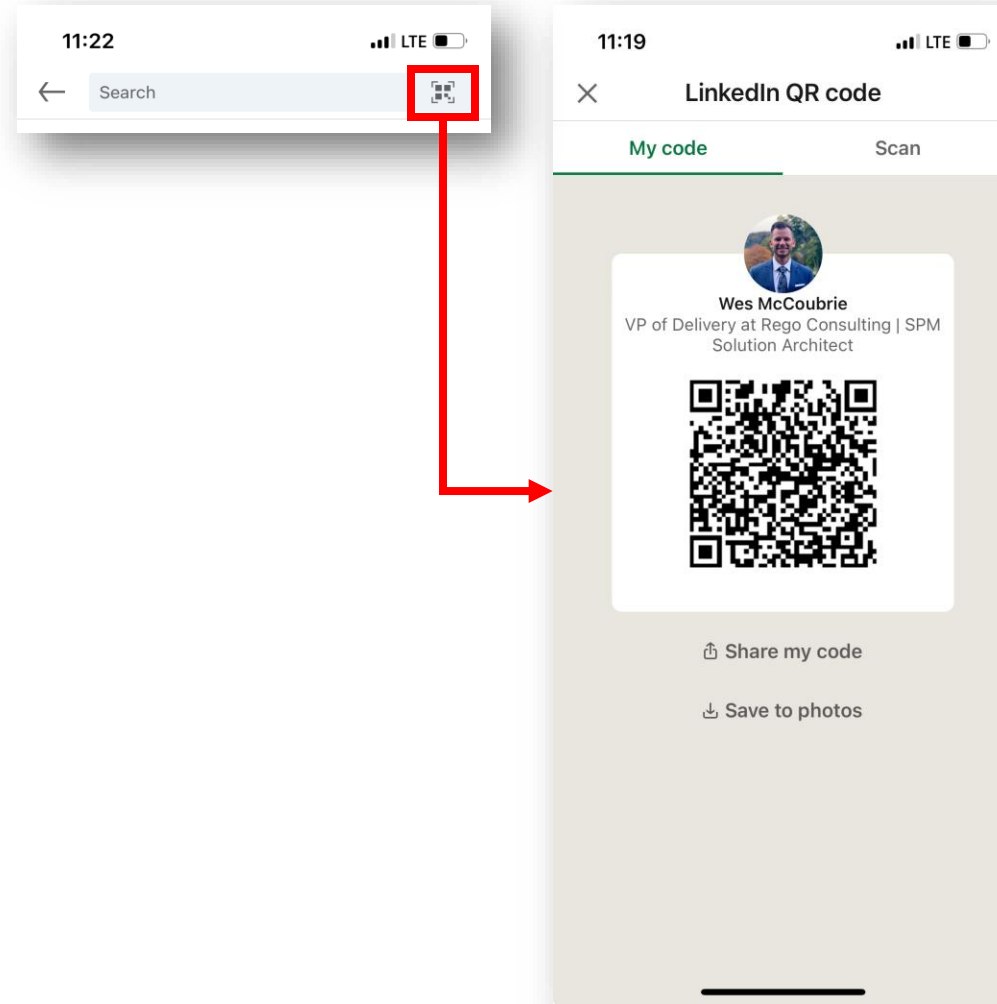
— NEXT STEPS

- 10 Your First 90 Days
- 11 Questions and Resources

Introductions

3

- Take 5 Minutes
- Turn to a Person Near You
- Introduce Yourself
- Connect on LinkedIn



OKR Structure and Overview

Why Strategy Needs Measurable Objectives

Flexible frameworks are a differentiator

Strong strategic frameworks that allow for quick shifts within well-defined strategic guardrails are major differentiators for organizations.

Decompose strategy into measurable objectives

All work should be tied to an enterprise strategy, but this is nothing new. The focus here is on decomposing that strategy into measurable objectives that are specific to a line of business or department.

Measure benefits in business terms

Benefits should be monitored and tracked by business resources. PPM metrics remain important, but they target tactical project execution and are not designed to continuously revalidate the purpose behind our work.



Why OKRs Matter Now

Measurement expectations have risen

OKRs are more important than ever, with a growing focus on quantification and measurement against expectations (e.g., baseline, target, actual).

Flexibility enables faster reallocation

As markets shift, a flexible strategic framework allows companies to pivot quickly, reallocating resources to the most valuable work.

Connecting the dots differentiates platforms

The capability to connect these dots is becoming an important differentiator for major SPM platforms, especially as execution methodologies become more disparate.



Four Shifts Reshaping the OKR Conversation

7

What has changed in the OKR conversation since we last met...

Funding Outcomes

- Money moves to persistent teams, not projects
- The objective becomes the funding unit
- Business cases reframed around key results

AI Changes the Math

- Outcomes are probabilistic, not committed
- KRs shift toward adoption and learning rates
- Baselines reset faster than annual cycles

Fatigue and Backlash

- Cascade theater erodes credibility fast
- Quarterly cadence too slow for some sectors
- Programs collapse under their own volume

Outcomes Meet Dollars

- Attainment measured against spend and FTEs
- Value tracked past go-live, not at delivery
- Finance and the PMO share one scorecard

The center of gravity is moving from measuring delivery to justifying investment — which is where your Clarity data already lives.

AI Initiatives Are Breaking Traditional Key Results

Outcomes you cannot commit to in advance still have to be measured.

■ WHY THE OLD PATTERN FAILS

“Ship the model by Q3” is a task, not an outcome.

Accuracy targets set before a baseline exists.

The value lands in somebody else’s key result.

Quarterly targets outlive their assumptions.

Success measured at launch, not in production.

■ WHAT TO WRITE INSTEAD

Adoption: share of eligible users active weekly.

Quality: human-override rate trending down.

Deflection: hours or tickets removed per month.

Learning: count of validated experiments run.

Cost: inference spend per resolved case.

For AI work, set the key result on the behavior change you expect, not on the model you plan to ship.

Are you actively measuring alignment to strategies? If so, what are you using?



Is your organization using Objectives and Key Results (OKRs)?

1. Yes, we use them across portfolios and projects.
2. Yes, some teams are using them.
3. No, but we are planning to leverage them.
4. No, our organization is not currently planning to use them.

How well are your projects aligned with your organization's strategic goals?

1. Completely aligned.
2. Partially aligned.
3. Minimally aligned.
4. Not aligned.

Goals vs. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) vs. OKRs

	 Goal	 KPI	 OKR
What it is	A desired outcome that describes where the organization wants to end up.	A standing measurement used to evaluate the ongoing health of a project or the business.	An objective paired with three to five key results that make it measurable.
Question it answers	Where are we trying to go?	How is performance trending right now?	How will we know when we have arrived?
Nature	Directional, and often qualitative.	Almost always quantitative, and tracked continuously.	Ambitious, time-boxed, and quantified.
Example	<i>Grow the business in the mid-market segment.</i>	<i>Monthly churn rate held at or below 2%.</i>	<i>Objective: win the mid-market. Key result: 25 new logos by Q4.</i>

Goals set the direction, KPIs monitor ongoing performance, and OKRs define measurable progress toward a goal over a set period.

Setting Effective OKRs

Developed collaboratively

Effective OKRs are built together, well communicated, and visible across the organization.

Layered to fit the organization

Depending on size and complexity, you may need multiple OKR levels, including team and organization-driven objectives.

Simple to measure

Key results must be easy to measure and to communicate. ROI, NPV, and payback can become over-complicated.

70% Target attainment for a healthy OKR
(John Doerr, [Measure What Matters](#))

CRIB *for setting key results*

C — Clarity

R — Results-oriented

I — Important

B — Big

FACTS *what good OKRs drive*

F — Focus

A — Alignment

C — Commitment

T — Tracking

S — Stretching

OKR Best Practices

- ✓ Limit OKRs: **3–5 objectives with 3–5 KRs each** to avoid dilution.
- ✓ Make OKRs **outcome-based, not task-based** (what was achieved, not what activities were completed).
- ✓ **Align vertically and horizontally** so team OKRs support organizational priorities and reduce silos.
- ✓ Review and **refresh OKRs regularly** — they're not “set and forget.”
- ✓ Celebrate and share **progress and wins** to keep engagement high.
- ✓ Use OKRs as a **learning tool**, not just for performance evaluation.

Four Pitfalls That Kill OKR Programs

What goes wrong most often — and what to do instead

01	Cascade Theater	Every team restates the exec objective. Nobody owns a measurable outcome.	<i>Cascade key results, not objectives.</i>
02	Key Results That Are Tasks	“Launch the portal” carries no target. Attainment becomes percent complete.	<i>Name the number that has to move.</i>
03	OKRs in Performance Reviews	Targets are sandbagged immediately. Ambition leaves the process.	<i>Keep OKRs out of compensation.</i>
04	Set and Forget	Written once, never revisited. Data is stale by week three.	<i>A 30-minute check-in every month.</i>

None of these are tooling problems, but Clarity will faithfully scale whichever one you bring to it.

Example: OKR for Rego University

GOAL Deliver a Rego University that leaves attendees better equipped to run their own OKR programs.

OBJECTIVE Run a seamless conference that sends every attendee home with something they can use on Monday.



KEY RESULT #1

95% of event operations milestones on time.

Session scheduling, speaker readiness, and venue logistics all closed out before day one.



KEY RESULT #2

90%+ attendee satisfaction.

Measured through post-session surveys on content, speakers, and overall experience.

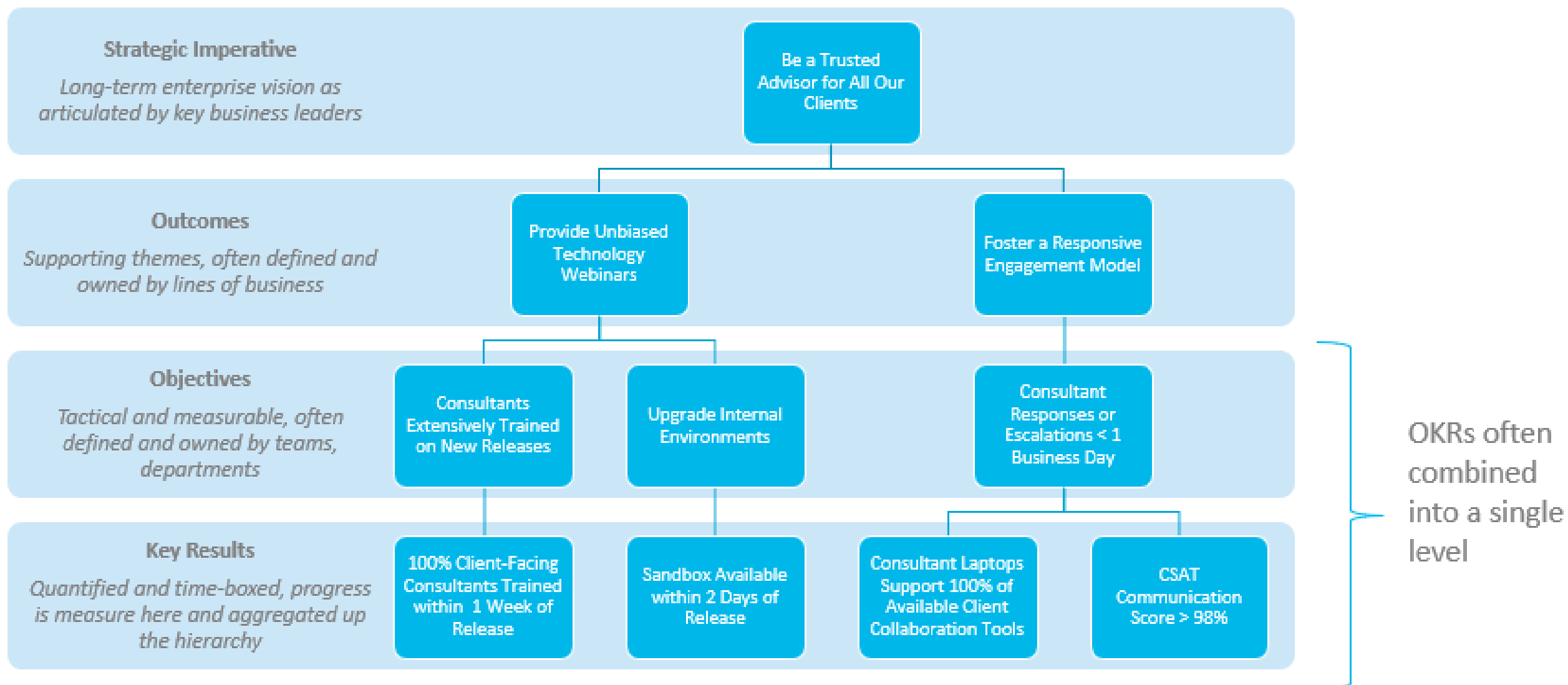


KEY RESULT #3

70% of attendees applying something new.

Measured by a follow-up survey 30 days after the conference.

Example Hierarchy



Aligning the Work

Strategy Framework – Aligned to Clarity PPM

17

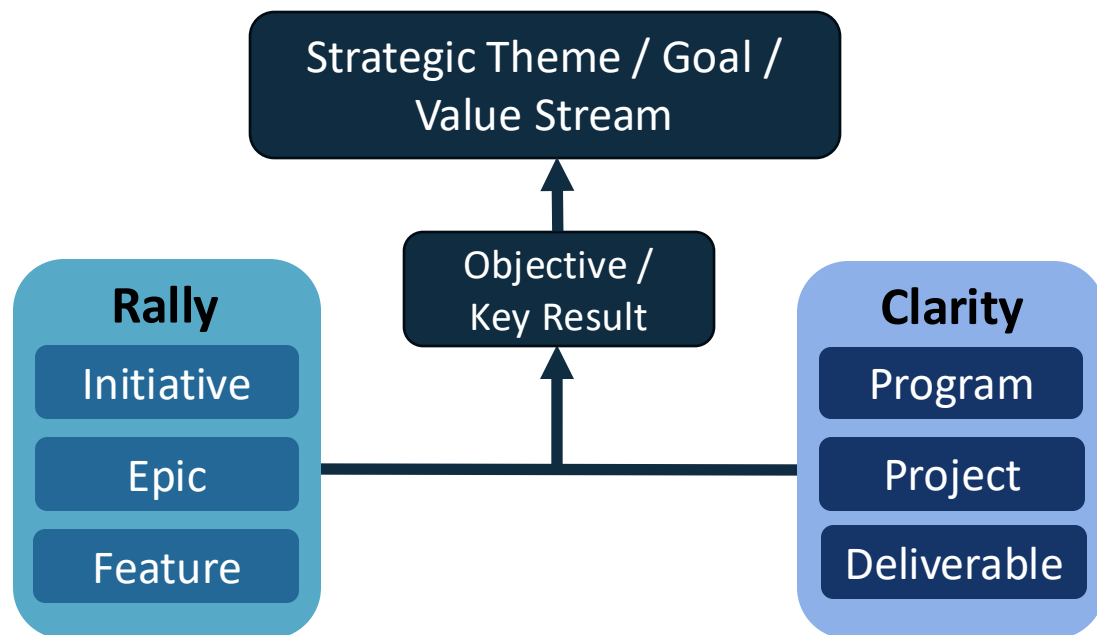


OKRs Are Methodology-Agnostic

Work can be executed in Agile, SAgile, Waterfall, etc.

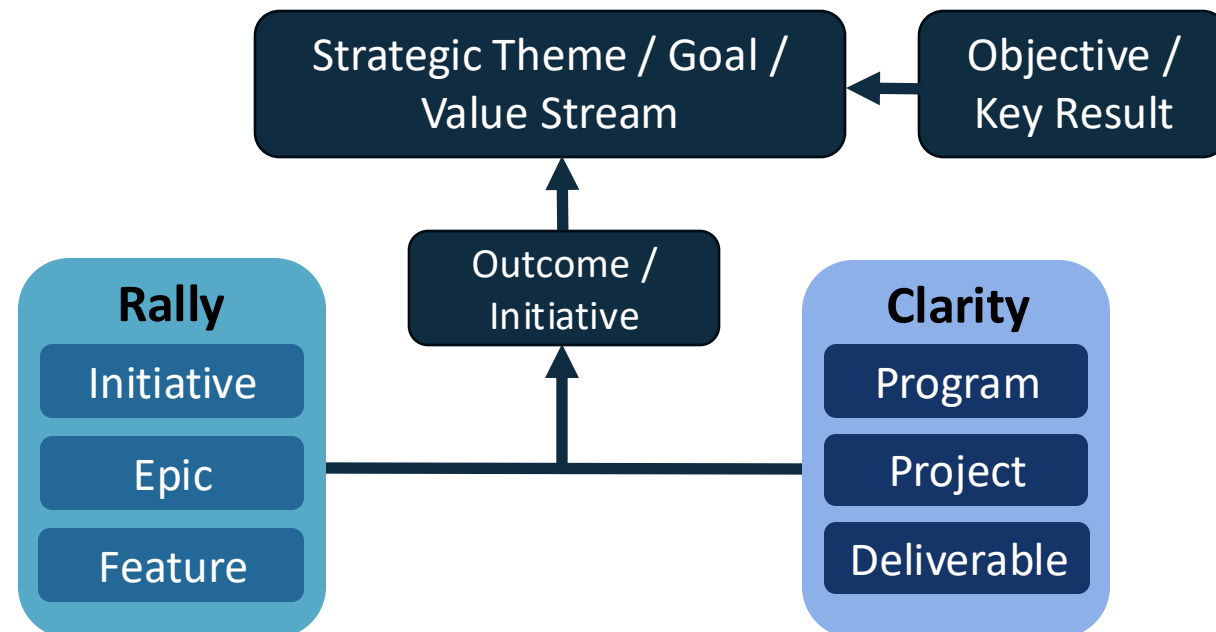
OPTION A

The work can be tied directly to the objective.



OPTION B

For larger and more complex organizations, work can be tied to an initiative or outcome.



If you are aligning work to strategies, are you using one of these approaches?

Tracking

Objectives Module: Then and Now

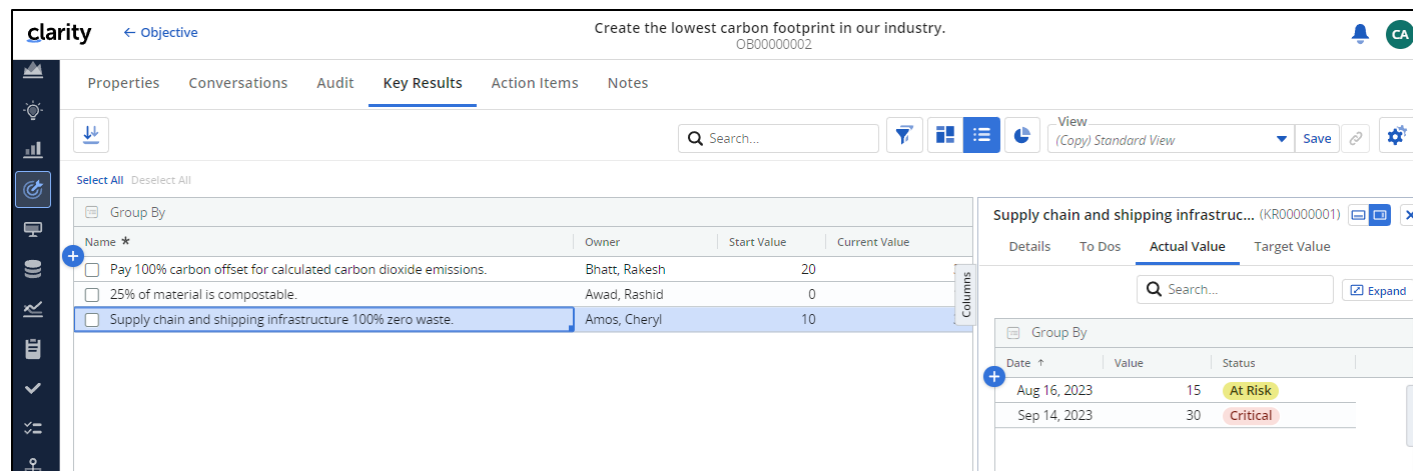
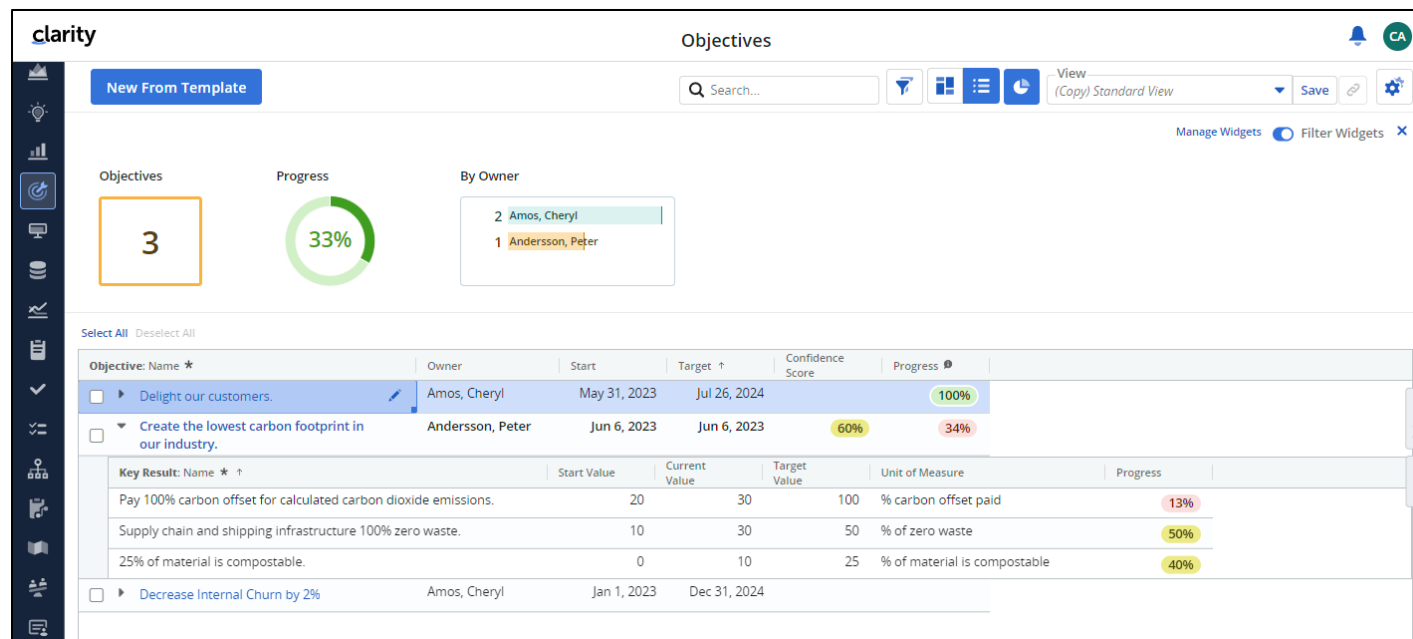
Objectives module

- Standalone module, outside the investment model
- Objective → Key Result → Target / Actual Value
- No financials, staffing, or roadmap links

Objective as an investment

- Full investment framework applies
- Financials, allocations, staffing, blueprints
- Rally still feeds KR actuals from Agile teams

Confirm object availability and migration path against your current Clarity release.



Which Pattern? Objective vs. Custom Investment

Use the Objective object

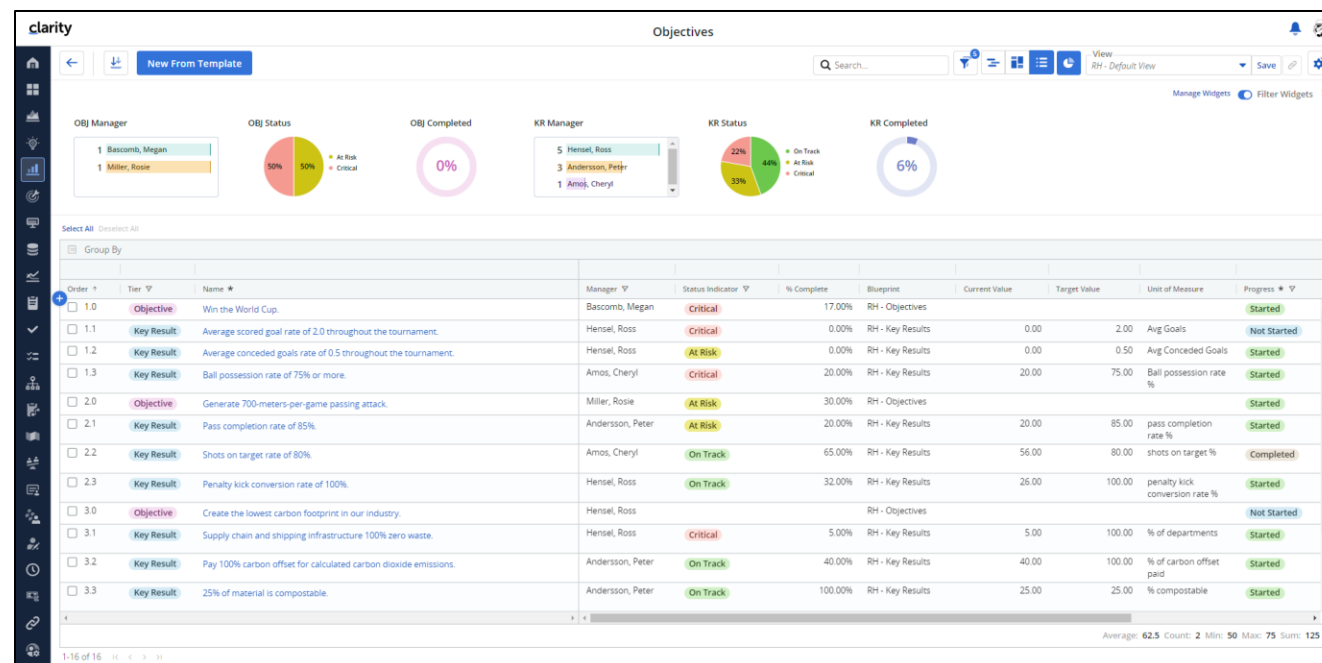
- Your release supports it
- You want financials, staffing, and roadmaps on OKRs

Use a custom investment

- Legacy release, or a heavily tailored OKR model
- Two tiers, with Measures and Actual Values below

If you are migrating

- Map custom attributes first, then move history
- Keep one source of truth per Key Result



The screenshot shows the Clarity Measures dashboard for the objective 'Supply chain and shipping infrastructure 100% zero waste.' (OKR00000031). It displays a table of measures with dates, status, actual values, and comments.

Date	Status	Actual	Unit of Measure	Comments
Aug 18, 2023	Critical	5	% infrastructure at zero waste	No real progress made. Will need management to escalate out to managers.
Jul 14, 2023	At Risk	5	% infrastructure at zero waste	Slower progress than expected due to Summer vacations. Hoping to see some good progress over the next month. We may need to escalate otherwise.
Jun 14, 2023	On Track	0	% infrastructure at zero waste	No issues yet. Just kicked off program.

Use Case: Cascading OKRs Across Six Portfolios

THE ORGANIZATION

\$4B industrials manufacturer

6 portfolios

~900 active investments

Moving ownership of key results up to the portfolio level is what made mid-year re-allocation possible — the tooling only enabled it.



SITUATION

Strategy refreshed yearly in slide decks.
Status reported as percent complete.
No line of sight from PMO to exec goals.



OKR STRUCTURE

3 enterprise objectives, 12 key results.
KRs owned by portfolio managers, not PMs.
Quarterly check-in, annual objective reset.



IN CLARITY

Objectives as investments.
Investments linked via parent objective field.
Task and measure actuals feed KRs weekly.

TWO QUARTERS LATER

90 → 30

minutes for
exec review

22%

of spend
re-allocated
mid-year

2

objectives
retired early

Use Case: Recovering a Failed OKR Rollout

Regional healthcare payer • Year one abandoned after two quarters • Relaunched with a narrower scope

WHAT WENT WRONG

40+ objectives cascaded to every team
Key results were restated task lists
OKR scores fed into performance reviews

THE RESET

Cut to 4 enterprise objectives, 14 KRs
Two levels of cascade only, no team OKRs
Formally decoupled from compensation

CLARITY CONFIGURATION

One Objective blueprint, six required fields
Investment-to-KR link enforced on save
Attainment auto-rolls from measure actuals

31% → 88%

KR update compliance in one year

Three quarters

Objective count has stayed stable

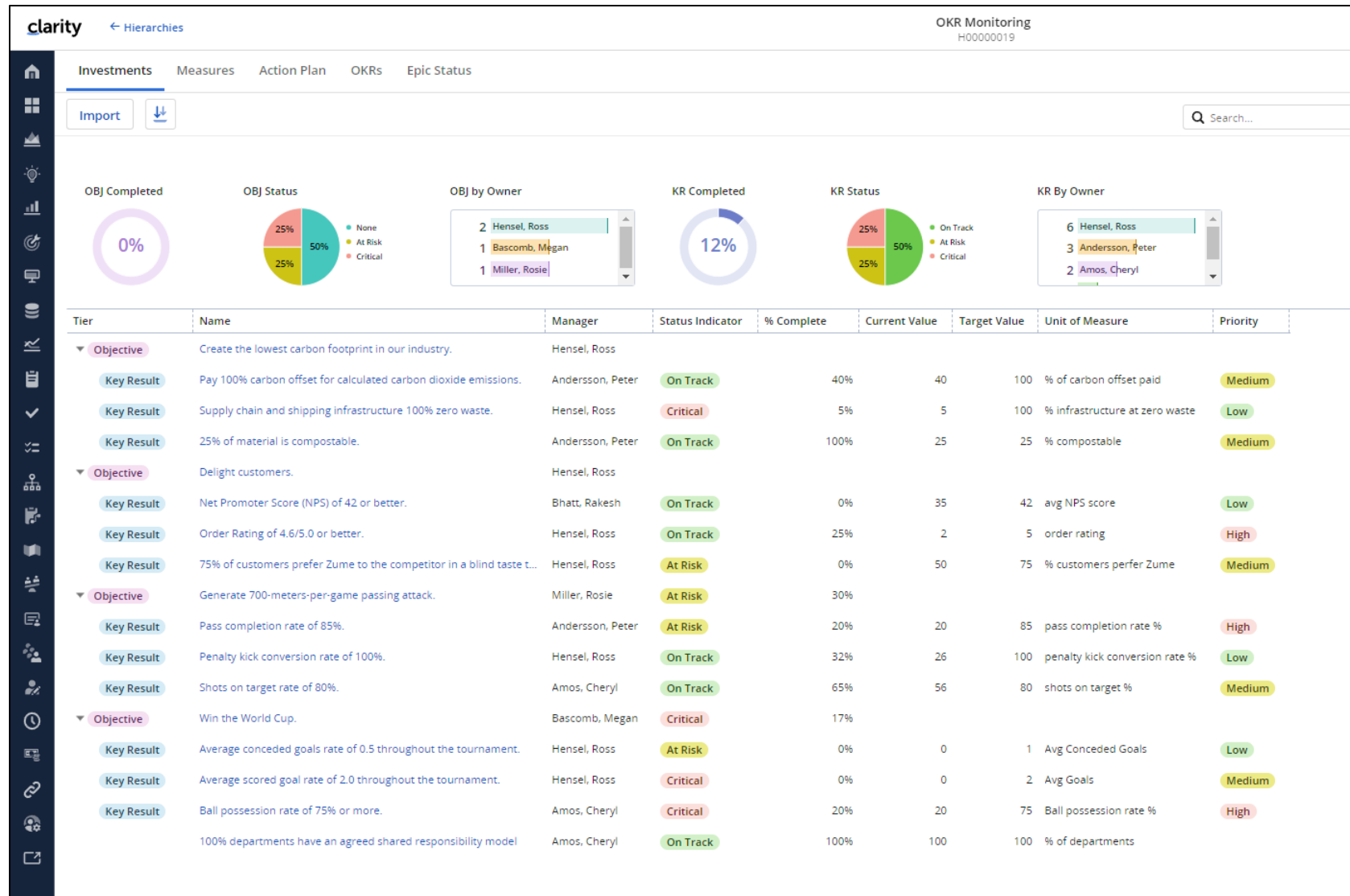
Strategy office

Owens the program now, not the PMO

Most failed OKR programs are scoped too wide rather than configured wrong, so fix the operating model before you touch the tool.

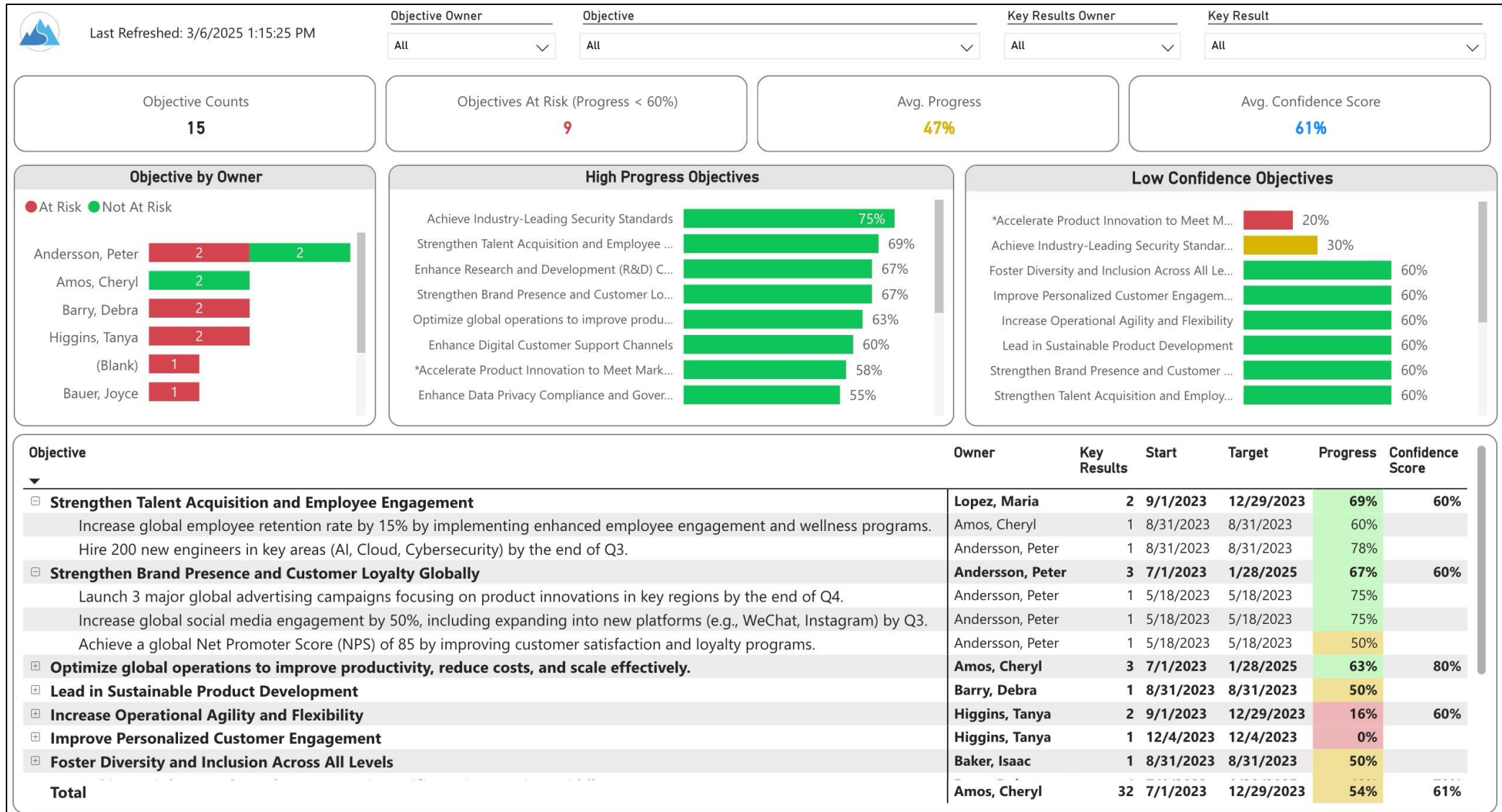
Reporting

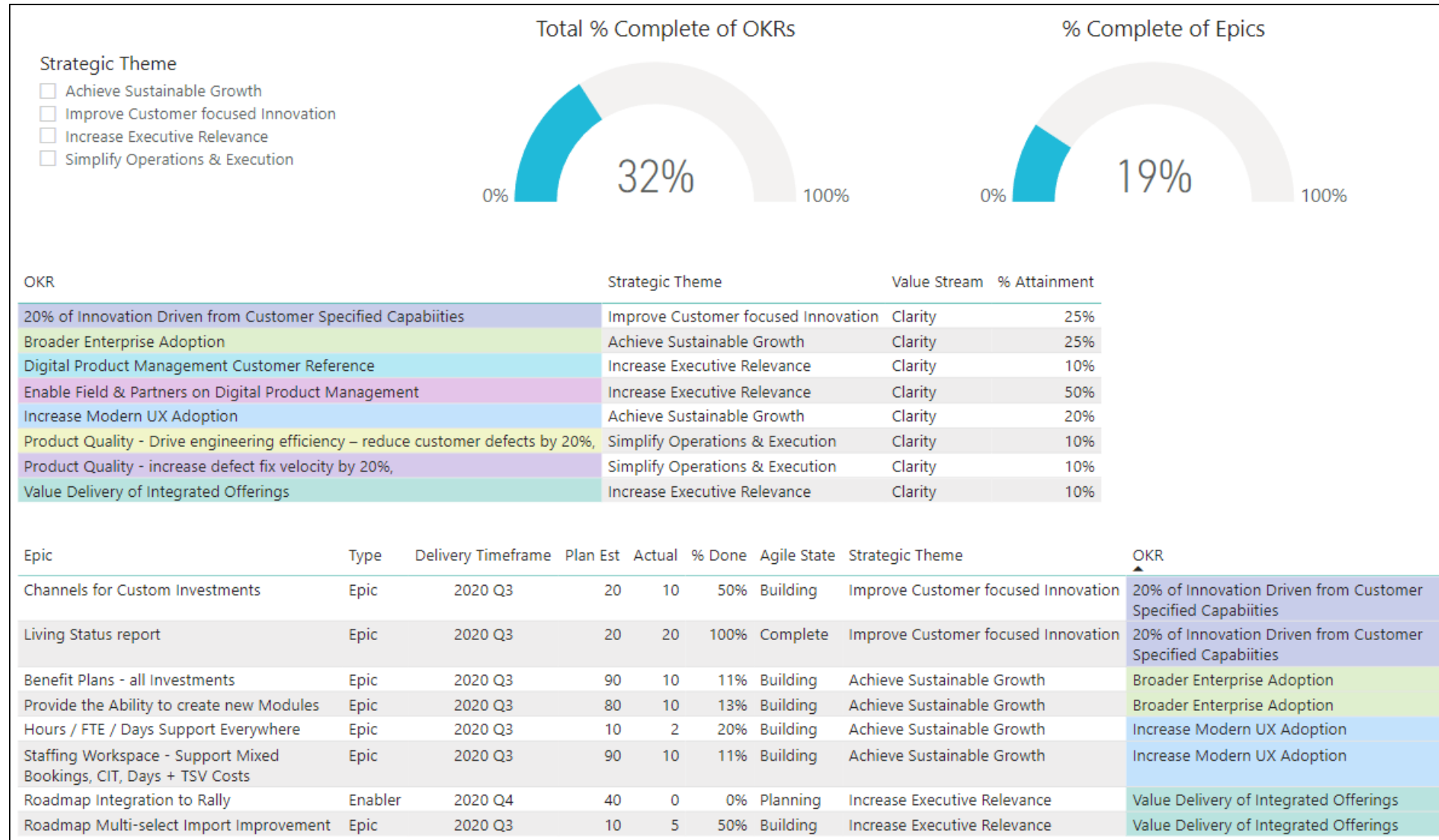
Hierarchies



PowerBI / Tableau

27





Demonstration

Your First 90 Days

What to do when you get back to the office on Monday

DAYS 1–30

Agree on the terminology

- Standardize terminology: objective, key result, KPI
- Inventory the objectives that already exist
- Pick one portfolio as the pilot, not the whole org

DAYS 31–60

Draft the objectives in Clarity

- Draft 3–5 objectives with named owners
- Configure the blueprint and required fields
- Link existing investments to key results

DAYS 61–90

Run the first review cycle

- Run the first monthly check-in
- Publish one attainment view to executives
- Retire or rewrite the key results that did not work

Start with one portfolio for one quarter. A narrow pilot that reports real attainment is worth more than an enterprise rollout that reports nothing.

Questions?



Survey



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Icons

