

The Importance of Project Management in IT Projects

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Abstract: This article begins by discussing the timeliness, uniqueness, and unpredictability of IT projects and introduces the concept of project management, which is defined as the process of conceiving, planning, monitoring, and executing projects in a way that achieves the benefits intended. The article also introduces the concept of project management, defining it as the process of conceiving, planning, monitoring, managing, and executing projects in a way that achieves the benefits intended. The importance of the concept of project management in the IT industry is also discussed from three perspectives: time, cost and quality. The results of the analysis show that good project management can help an IT company to reduce the time spent on a project, reduce the budget, ensure the quality of the product and achieve more value.

Keywords: Project Management, IT Projects

1. Introduction

Over the last decade, global e-government efforts have gained traction. Government agencies all around the globe are attempting to deliver services to residents via online interfaces, decreasing or eliminating the need for individuals to visit physical facilities (Winter M.,2006). However, government agencies will inevitably encounter IT issues throughout this process of providing services, thus reasonable and effective IT solutions provided by some outsourcing companies are especially crucial at this stage. Therefore, it is extremely vital for IT solution companies to implement the concept of project management in order to accomplish tasks supplied by government departments faster, enhance product quality, and minimize costs.

2. Description

2.1 Characteristics of IT projects

IT projects are distinguished by their timeliness, uniqueness, and unpredictability (Nelson R R., 2007). Initially, each project has a cycle limit, but the IT industry's short life cycle dictates that it has tighter restrictions in this respect. Furthermore, IT projects not only deliver products to clients, but also diverse solutions based on customer requirements. Finally, the uncertainty of an IT project indicates that it cannot be finished by the stated employees within the stipulated time and budget. As a result, the project manager must master the essential tools and procedures to successfully tackle the problem, which is the project management idea described in this report (Nelson R R., 2007).

2.2 Definition of project management

Project management, according to Söderlund (2011), is a subfield of management and organisational studies. Although the majority of project management definitions come from professional project management organisations, they all represent the same notion (Lock D., 2017). Association for Project Management defines project management as "the process of conceiving, planning, monitoring, managing, and executing projects in a way that achieves the benefits intended.". According to Loo (2002), project management refers to methods that improve work performance. In other words, it consists of activities or processes that add value to the final outcome of the project, and, consequently, to the organization in which it is carried out. Throughout this research, the concept of project management is described as a disciplined approach to attaining well-defined

goals by applying tried-and-true methods and tools for planning, organizing, assessing, and managing work (Loo, 2002).

3. Analysis

3.1 Time Management

As a result of project management, realistic expectations about what can be completed, when it can be accomplished, and for how much may be established (Watt A, 2014). Because IT projects are time-sensitive and unstable, inefficient project management and a lack of a well-defined project strategy can result in overly optimistic budget predictions and project delivery dates (Meredith J R, et al., 2017). Furthermore, projects that are not well managed might be delivered late and beyond budget (Watt A, 2014). Smart planning and project management come into play here.

3.2 Cost Management

It is critical to maintain track of IT project budgets (Hansen D R, et al., 2021). The project cost management process is separated into three parts. It starts with estimating and projecting expenses, then developing a project budget, and ultimately controlling spending and monitoring costs in real time to avoid any unexpected changes (Blocher E J, et al., 2019). The dangers of budget overruns are decreased by adding project management practises into IT initiatives. Effective cost management guarantees that a project's budget remains on track and that it is finished within the scope that was originally anticipated. If expenses are not managed, a company may lose money fast, and expenditures may exceed planned profit (Foster G & Gupta M., 1994).

3.3 Quality Management

Because of the uniqueness of IT projects, it is vital to get high-quality outputs. In IT projects, standards are defined, regulated, and maintained through project management, resulting in a high-quality product or service and a pleased consumer (Watt A, 2014). Dedicated project management ensures that projects have the time and resources to be completed, as well as that quality tests are carried out at every stage of the process (Hoyle, 2021). To ensure successful project management, gated stages are essential in order for teams to evaluate the output's quality, applicability, and ROI (Oberlender, 2014). With no specialized project manager with the endorsement and buy-in of senior management, IT projects are likely to be overstated, deadlines shortened, and procedures accelerated, resulting in a lack of quality. As a result, project management is crucial to IT projects' qualities since it allows teams to monitor and analyse their outputs at each level of the process (D. Hoyle, 2021).

4. Conclusion

Good project management ensures that project objectives are consistent with critical business objectives (Watt A, 2014). Project management is critical in developing a good business case and being efficient about return on investment, particularly in the IT industry, because it may help ensure that the service or product is provided and provides genuine value. As a result, sensible application of the notion of project management is critical for project managers.

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