# LECTURE 04: PROJECT MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW

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management

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# LECTURE STRUCTURE

- 1. PROJECT ATTRIBUTES
- 2. DEFINITION OF A PROJECT
- 3. PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS
- 4. THE PROCESS OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT
- 5. PROJECT MANAGEMENT EXPERTISE
- 6. APPLICATION KNOWLEDGE
- 7. UNDERSTANDING THE PROJECT ENVIRONMENT
- 8. MANAGEMENT KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS
- 9. INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

### **PROJECT ATTRIBUTES**

• WHAT A PROJECT IS AND, WHAT IT IS NOT?

- ➤ Going hunting
- Building pyramids
- >Fixing faucets
- ➤ Prepare these

All share certain features that make them projects

### PROJECT ATTRIBUTES

- PROJECTS ARE **TEMPORARY** IN NATURE (PROJECTS CAN LAST MINUTES, HOURS, DAYS, WEEKS, MONTHS, OR YEARS)
- PROJECTS EXIST TO BRING ABOUT A **PRODUCT** OR **SERVICE** THAT **HASN'T EXISTED BEFORE**.SO THE PROJECT IS **UNIQUE**.
- OPERATIONS ARE ONGOING WHILE PROJECTS ARE UNIQUE AND TEMPORARY
- A PROJECT IS COMPLETED WHEN ITS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES ARE ACCOMPLISHED

### PROJECT ATTRIBUTES

• THE PROJECT MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE (PMI) DEFINES A PROJECT AS A TEMPORARY ENDEAVOR UNDERTAKEN TO CREATE A UNIQUE PRODUCT, SERVICE, OR RESULT. THE TEMPORARY NATURE OF PROJECTS INDICATES A DEFINITE BEGINNING AND END. THE END IS REACHED WHEN THE PROJECT'S OBJECTIVES HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED OR WHEN THE PROJECT IS TERMINATED BECAUSE ITS OBJECTIVES WILL NOT OR CANNOT BE MET, OR WHEN THE NEED FOR THE PROJECT NO LONGER EXISTS.

### PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

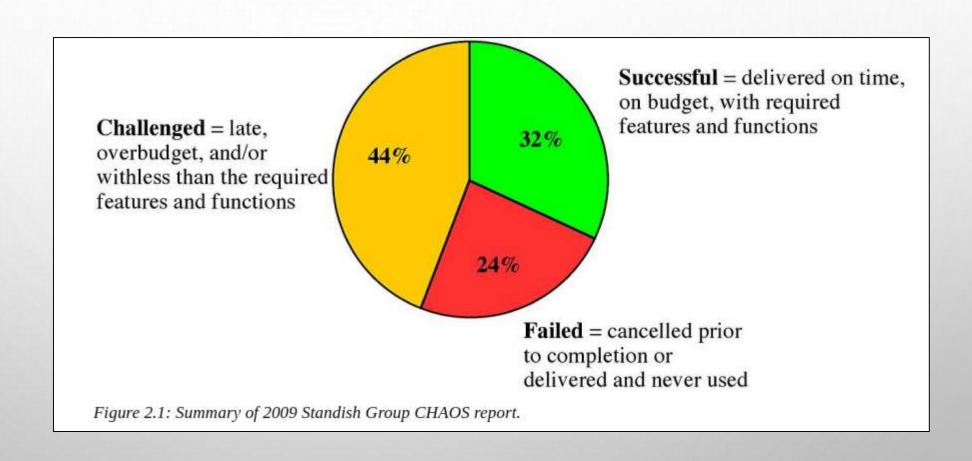
- WHEN CONSIDERING WHETHER OR NOT YOU HAVE A PROJECT ON YOUR HANDS, THERE ARE SOME THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND.
- FIRST, IS IT A PROJECT OR AN ONGOING OPERATION?
- SECOND, IF IT IS A PROJECT, WHO ARE THE STAKEHOLDERS?
- AND THIRD, WHAT CHARACTERISTICS DISTINGUISH THIS ENDEAVOR AS A PROJECT?

### PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

• CAN PREPARING A GRADUATION THESIS FOR OBTAINING A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT BE CONSIDERED A PROJECT?

## PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

- IS IT UNIQUE?
- DOES THE PRODUCT HAVE A LIMITED TIMEFRAME?
- IS THERE A WAY TO DETERMINE WHEN THE PROJECT IS COMPLETED?
- IS THERE A WAY TO DETERMINE STAKEHOLDER SATISFACTION?

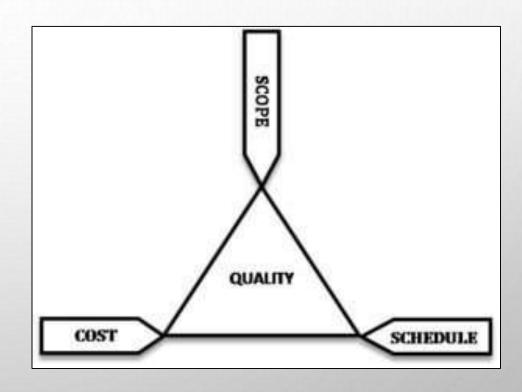


- APPLYING GOOD PROJECT MANAGEMENT DISCIPLINE IS THE WAY TO HELP REDUCE THE RISKS.
- PROJECT MANAGEMENT IS THE APPLICATION OF KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, TOOLS, AND TECHNIQUES APPLIED TO PROJECT ACTIVITIES IN ORDER TO MEET THE PROJECT REQUIREMENTS.
- PROJECT MANAGEMENT IS A PROCESS THAT INCLUDES PLANNING, PUTTING THE PROJECT PLAN INTO ACTION, AND MEASURING PROGRESS AND PERFORMANCE

ON ANY PROJECT, YOU
 WILL HAVE A NUMBER OF
 PROJECT CONSTRAINTS
 THAT ARE COMPETING
 FOR YOUR ATTENTION.
 THEY ARE COST, SCOPE,
 QUALITY, RISK,
 RESOURCES, AND TIME.



• TRIPLE CONSTRAINT



# **Areas of Expertise**

Application knowledge, standards & regulations

Understanding the project environment

Management knowledge & skills

Interpersonal skills

### • APPLICATION KNOWLEDGE

- BY **STANDARDS**, WE MEAN GUIDELINES OR PREFERRED APPROACHES THAT ARE NOT NECESSARILY MANDATORY. IN CONTRAST, WHEN REFERRING TO **REGULATIONS** WE MEAN MANDATORY RULES THAT MUST BE FOLLOWED, SUCH AS GOVERNMENT IMPOSED REQUIREMENTS THROUGH LAWS.
- HAVING SOME LEVEL OF EXPERIENCE IN THE APPLICATION AREA YOU'RE WORKING IN WILL GIVE YOU AN ADVANTAGE WHEN IT COMES TO PROJECT MANAGEMENT. WHILE YOU CAN CALL IN EXPERTS WHO HAVE THE APPLICATION AREA KNOWLEDGE, IT DOESN'T HURT FOR YOU TO UNDERSTAND THE SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE APPLICATION AREAS OF YOUR PROJECT.

### UNDERSTANDING THE PROJECT ENVIRONMENT

THERE ARE MANY FACTORS THAT NEED TO BE UNDERSTOOD WITHIN YOUR PROJECT ENVIRONMENT. AT ONELEVEL, YOU NEED TO THINK IN TERMS OF THE CULTURAL AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENTS (I.E., PEOPLE, DEMOGRAPHICS, ANDEDUCATION). THE INTERNATIONAL AND POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT IS WHERE YOU NEED TO UNDERSTAND ABOUT DIFFERENT

COUNTRIES' CULTURAL INFLUENCES.

Project Environment	
Cultural	Social
International	Political
Physi	cal

### MANAGEMENT KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

AS THE PROJECT MANAGER, YOU HAVE TO RELY ON YOUR PROJECT MANAGEMENT KNOWLEDGE AND YOUR GENERAL MANAGEMENT SKILLS. HERE, WE ARE THINKING OF ITEMS LIKE YOUR ABILITY TO PLAN THE PROJECT, EXECUTE IT PROPERLY, AND OF COURSE CONTROL IT AND BRING IT TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION, ALONG WITH YOUR ABILITY TO GUIDE THE PROJECT TEAM TO ACHIEVE PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND BALANCE PROJECT CONSTRAINTS.

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### INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

YOU ALSO HAVE TO BRING THE
 ABILITY INTO THE PROJECT TO
 MANAGE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS
 AND DEAL WITH PERSONNEL ISSUES
 AS THEY ARISE. HERE WERE TALKING
 ABOUT YOUR INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

Interpersonal Skills	
Communication	Influence
Leadership	Motivation
Negotiation	Problem solving