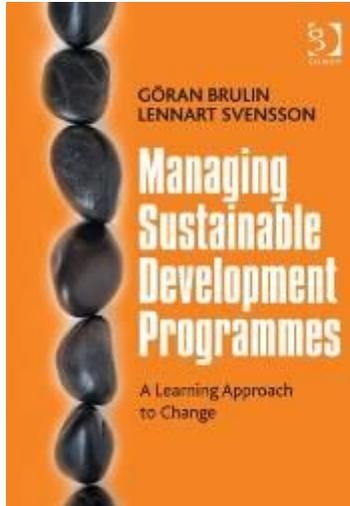


PM WORLD BOOK REVIEW



Book Title: ***Managing Sustainable Development Programmes***

Author: Goran Brulin and Lennart Svensson

Publisher: **Gower Publishing Limited**

List Price: US\$124.95

Format: hard cover; 218 pages

Publication Date: 2012

ISBN: 978-1-4094-3719-2

Reviewer: ***Nazanin Mehrooz, PMP***

Review Date: September 2012

Introduction to the Book

This book provides guidance on how public programs and sustainable development should be designed, steered and evaluated in order to optimize the return on investment. Analysis of thousands of projects implemented from EU Structural Fund Programs in Sweden identifies how traditional program implementation can be improved by adding ownership, collaboration and development.

Overview of Book's Structure

The book is divided into the following chapters:

1. Running Programs for Sustainable Development
2. Models of Change and Evaluation
3. Key Research Findings
4. Evaluation for Sustainable Development
5. Lessons from Earlier Program Initiatives
6. Lessons from Competence Initiatives
7. Innovation and the Regional Fund
8. Owning Steering and Evaluating Large Programs

Highlights: What's New in this Book

This book analyzes many large public and private funded programs in Sweden. Building competence development to better manage uncertainties, risk and creativity is one of the approaches suggested by the authors. The lessons learned from these projects and incorporation of continuous improvements will result in higher quality and strategic change.

Highlights: What I liked!

The authors have strong background in understanding Swedish political, social environment and economics and development programs. While their focus is centralized towards their local studies, their suggested improvements to traditional program management by adding ownership, collaboration and development can be applied globally. Development in these areas can lead to innovation to improve success rates on any size project.

Shortfalls: What was Missing!

The focus is more towards European large scale programs and projects. This seems to exclude many other contributors globally. There are 1-2 simple diagrams in the book and the material covered is high level. It may take a few attempts to absorb the topics covered in the book.

Who might benefit from the Book

This book would be beneficial for those who are involved in large projects and programs. Those responsible for programs, project cases handlers, project owners, steering groups, project managers may benefit from the lessons learned and proposed improvements. Benefits can be attained by added ownership, collaboration and development to any project (regardless of size and location).

Conclusion

This book offers models for change and evaluation, and shares lessons learned from program initiatives conducted in Sweden. How to improve results by adding ownership, collaboration and development is the key message delivered for continuous improvements in successful project and program execution.

Managing Sustainable Development Programmes, by Goran Brulin and Lennart Svensson, published by Gower Publishing; 2012, ISBN 9781409437192; \$124.95 USD; 218 pages, hard cover. More at <http://www.ashgate.com/isbn/9781409437192>.

Editor's note: This book review was the result of cooperation between the publisher, PM World and the Dallas Chapter of the Project Management Institute (PMI Dallas Chapter – www.pmidallas.org). Publishers provide the books to PM World; books are delivered to the PMI Dallas Chapter, where they are offered free to PMI members to review; book reviews are published by PM World in the PM World Journal and PM World Library. PMI Dallas Chapter members are all mid-career professionals, the audience for most project management books. If you are an author or publisher of a project management-related book, and would like the book reviewed through this program, please contact editor@peworldjournal.net.

About the Reviewer



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Nazanin Mehrooz was born in Iran and migrated to the USA. She studied software engineering and has worked in both defense and telecom industries. For the past decade, her focus has been IT Application Support, Operations and Service Delivery Management. She is an active volunteer for the Dallas and Ft Worth PMI chapters. Email: nazi_mehrooz@yahoo.com