

Project Management update from Argentina



By Cecilia Boggi, PMP
International Correspondent
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Organizations in Argentina, as other countries in Latin America, have showed an increased awareness in the benefits of formal Project Management practices, and Project Management learning programs are having an increased demand, as Ana María Rodríguez, MSE, PMP mentioned in her article [“Project Management Education in Latin America”](#) published in the April issue of this PM World Journal.

Executives of some companies in Argentina have noticed an increment in the professionalism of Project Managers, since they are participating of learning programs and many of them, obtaining their Project Management Professional (PMP®) credential, certification of Project Management Institute (PMI®).

Mr. Sergio Donzelli, Managing Director South America Region at Neoris, a global business and IT consulting firm, says that “Project Managers in Argentina have very good professional skills, knowledge and training, and they have a strong motivation in their professional development”. Donzelli finds that his company has very good Project Managers. Fernando Silvestre, Marketing Manager at Neoris commented that “Neoris has the policy of training its own staff and most of the personal talent is formed internally. They have internal project management training as well as training and lectures at local universities”.

As the weaknesses in Project Management Professionals, Mr. Donzelli perceived that soft skills are the main aspect to be improved. “Some Project Managers lack of negotiation skills and some attitudinal behaviors as a strong commitment to the objectives of the project”. Due to these poor development of soft skills, sometimes they may have difficulties in their influence over the team to the achievement of the milestones of the projects”, said Sergio Donzelli.

Strengths and weaknesses of the Project Managers are also noticed by Mr. Jorge Sapirstein, Manager of Project Management Services of Pragma Consultores, an international IT Services Company, who commented that “Professionals in Project Management are more skilled and have more formal training than years before, but still there are some aspects to be improved”.

Mr. Sapirstein finds that “Project Managers need to improve their capacity to implement correctly the good practices in real projects, even when the environment is not so favorable”. “Sometimes - adds Sapirstein - Project Managers excuses their poor performance in project management with the fact that their bosses or their clients do not allow them to spend enough time for planning or properly control the project”. “A good Project Manager must show the advantages of the discipline and persuade the stakeholders in following the good practices”, concludes Jorge Sapirstein.

In this aspect, it is good to say that PMI Chapters in Argentina are working to reduce the gap in the soft skills of Project Managers, by the realization of events in these subjects. Last month, PMIBA offered some conferences and workshops on leadership and communications. In this context, I had the opportunity to facilitate, in conjunction of my partner Mrs. Adriana Cibelli, a workshop of Communication and Difficult Relationships, with an audience of more than 60 professionals at the Catholic University of La Plata. I could perceive the interest in this topic by the local community.

This month, Argentinean chapters will also offer a number of events in several cities of the country, to contribute to the development of the soft, as well as the program and project management skills of their members and the communities.

Main Events to be offered by the PMI Buenos Aires Argentina Chapter:

May 7th: Open Meeting in Cordoba City, Province of Cordoba

Lecture: Communication in Virtual Teams.

Speaker: Gerardo Blitzer, Volunteer Management Director of PMIBA Chapter.

Lecture: Program Management... your next step.

Speaker: Adrian Des Rotours

May 16th: Open Meeting in Buenos Aires City

Lecture: Organizational Culture for Success.

Speaker: Prof. Juan M. Bodenheimer.

May 29th: Open Meeting in Buenos Aires City

Workshop: Business Therapy - A method to lead forward better results.

Facilitator: Andrea Churba.

May 30th: Open Meeting in Buenos Aires City

Lecture: Seminar to Support Certifications PMP[®] and CAPM[®]

Facilitators: Gaston Horvat, Veronica Roberti, Jorge Sapirstein and Federico Varchavsky.

Find more information of these events at [PMIBA website](#).

Main Events to be offered by the PMI Nuevo Cuyo Argentina Chapter:

May 23rd: Webinar offered to Chapter members and the Community

Lecture: Seminar to Support Certifications PMP[®] and CAPM[®]

June 5th to 7th: PMI Nuevo Cuyo Congress “Jornadas Cuyanas 2013”

Lectures and workshops to be held in the cities of Mendoza, San Juan, San Luis and La Rioja.

Find more information of these events at [PMINC website](#).

About the Author



CECILIA BOGGI
International Correspondent



Buenos Aires, Argentina

Cecilia Boggi, PMP is founder and Executive Director of activePMO, giving consulting services and training in Project Management and Leadership skills in Argentina and Latin America.

After graduating with a degree in Computer Science Engineering from Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina, she has managed software development projects and PMO implementation projects for more than 20 years both in the government and private sector. Cecilia also has graduated from an Executive Program in Business Management at Universidad del CEMA. She holds the Project Management Professional (PMP®) credential since 2003, is certified as SDI Facilitator from Personal Strengths© and is alumni of the PMI Leadership Institute Master Class 2012. Ms. Boggi is Past President of the PMI Buenos Aires Argentina Chapter, and is a founding member of the PMI Nuevo Cuyo Chapter and PMI Santa Cruz Bolivia Chapter. She has been designated by PMI in the role of Mentor of Region 13, Latin America South, for the years 2014-2016. Cecilia has participated in the development of PMBOK® Guide 5th Edition, leading the Chapter 9, Human Resource Management, content team and she is professor of Project Management in some Universities and Institutes in Argentina, Chile, Peru and Bolivia.

She can be contacted at cb@ceciliaboggi.com.ar and www.activepmo.com.ar