

## **Project Management Update from Chile**



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### **Innovation is Manage**

Globalization and new technologies have spawned an overflow of changes in our present lives. Both products and markets are in constant motion. Innovation is the new paradigm to operate in the actual social and business development.

They say that innovate is to invent, it is the creativity to make something new; however, to make things happens management is required. Innovate is also to highlight new ideas, which means make profitable business environment. Invention by itself does not produce profitability skills and abilities required to bring it to market effectively.

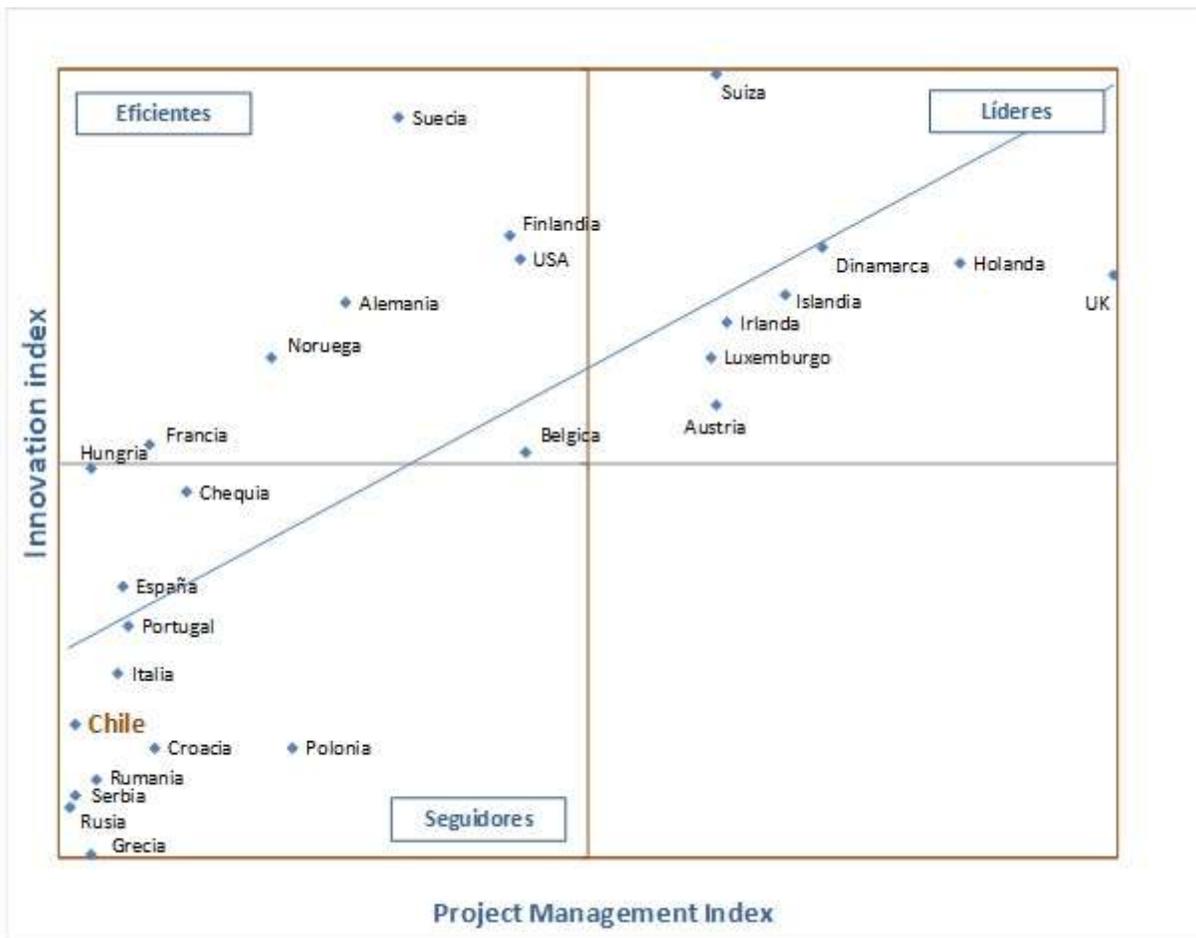
In today's knowledge society innovation is required to add value to companies to better compete. It means gain a competitive advantage through innovation, nevertheless that advantage is only temporary because innovation's protection (patents) effectiveness is limited, and because product takes 2 to 3 years to be copied.

The key advantage that produces innovation is reducing the learning curve ahead of his imitators. It is the result of innovation that really creates a sustainable competitive advantage. It is knowledge and excellence in execution of innovation process which will remain competitive.

Great innovation project management is ultimately the one that will create value.

If project is the link between idea and market, it seems clear that project management skills should be correlated with the results of innovation. Below we present the results of a study conducted by [Victor Lerga B.](#), confirming the direct relationship between level of innovation and skills and project management skills.

Lerga studied the direct link between project management skills and innovation in the country, and plotted the following ranking of countries, linking Europe and USA within Chile. It is noted that there is a correlation between the result of innovation and skills in project management in the country. It can be concluded that the project management capabilities are drivers of innovation.



Chile is one of the most advanced countries of Latin America, and should be compared in their goals with the European environment. To obtain an adequate level of innovation management they estimates that it will require in near future to increase our levels of certification between 8.000 to 13.000 professionals certified PMP®.

Innovation should be our goal in current knowledge society. Achieving significant globally level, be a benchmark country in not too distant future, means investing in innovation.

But to get an effective and sustainable competitive advantage through innovation, it is necessary to achieve excellence in the implementation of the innovation process. It is therefore essential to obtain skills in Project Management, which increase successful outcomes.

## About the Author



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**Jaime Videla, PMP**, is the Managing Director for [Videla Montero Consultores](#) a project management consultant firm based in Santiago, Chile. He is also senior partner of [AccuFast! Cubicaciones](#), a company provides material takeoff estimating services and engineering projects in Chile. Mr. Videla has 20+ years of project management experience leading utilities, mining and industrial projects (totaling US\$222 millions) for large multinational companies like Siemens and ABB, or as a consultant for BHP and Anglo American. Jaime is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP®) since 2007, has formal studies in Civil Engineering from Universidad de Chile. He has professional experience working/training in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico and Germany. Since 2006 has been an active member of the Project Management Institute (PMI®), assuming the role of director and vice president of communications and publicity of the [PMI Santiago Chile Chapter](#) in 2010. His areas of activity today include PMO development; contracting, claim, risk and project management services; project management training and coaching. Author of the e-book “Los 7 pasos para salvar un proyecto (The 7 steps to project recovery)”, he also writes about project management themes on [PMOChile](#) blog. In addition, he works as volunteer at Fundación Trascender, an innovative institution that manages a network of volunteer professionals through social projects. Jaime Videla is fluent in English, Portuguese and Spanish, lives in Santiago and can be contacted at [contacto@jaimevidela.cl](mailto:contacto@jaimevidela.cl).