

Project Management update from Argentina



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A new edition of PM SURVEY.ORG has been recently launched in Argentina as well as in other countries of the region.

PM SURVEY.ORG, <http://www.pmsurvey.org/>, is one of the major research initiatives in the world on the topic of project management. It has become a reference for professionals, students, universities and organizations that are looking for an overview of how project management practices are being used in organizations around the world and what results have been obtained through their use.

Founded in 2003 in Brazil, at PMI Rio de Janeiro Chapter by the volunteer Americo Pinto, every year the PM SURVEY.ORG has evolved in the number of participating countries and organizations and since 2011 it has been launched in Argentina with the collaboration of the local PMI Chapters.

As we commented in previous editorials, organizations in Argentina have showed an increased awareness in the benefits of formal Project Management practices, and this is reflected in the increasing implementations of Project Management Offices in the region.

An example of this awareness is the selection of the case of the Strategic Project Office of the Argentinian bank Banco Hipotecario S.A. to be included into the book “A Compendium of PMO Case Studies: Reflecting Project Business Management Concepts” published last year. According to Mr. Alberto G. Sirvent, Manager of that PMO, the authors of the book, Dennis L Bolles and Darrel G Hubbard, have stated that “this case study was selected because it was recognized as an enterprise that exhibits excellence and innovation in developing a maturing organizational structure to support

effective business management of projects and whose executive management have recognized the business potential of a PMO at a senior management level.”

Mr. Sirvent added that “high management support is fundamental to achieve the cultural change that involves the Strategic Project Office implementation. Without the strong sponsorship of the Directors of the Bank and the organizational and strategic focus of the projects it is difficult to accomplish success in this endeavor”, concluded Mr. Alberto Sirvent.

The evolution of the awareness in Project Management practices in Argentina was also commented by Esteban Zuttion, Partner of Liveware IS SA, an international company dedicated to software engineering and process improvement services, who states that “the evolution of the PMOs could be described in three stages: Visualization, or knowing the project portfolio and project parameters, Controlling the projects parameters, and Prediction of future results of the projects parameters, the current state of PMOs in Argentina may be aligned with the first and second stage.” “There is still a failure in prediction” according to Mr. Zuttion. “But five years ago there was neither project portfolio visualization in Argentinian organizations”, he added.

Mr. Jorge Sapirstein, Manager of Project Management Services of Pragma Consultores, an international IT Services Company, agrees with this evolution when commented that “today organizations seek to establish order in their processes, carrying out process improvement and implementing project management methodologies. These needs are perceived both in large and SMEs organizations. Some companies have implemented PMOs, sometimes more than one PMO in the same company. But for other organizations PMO is a bad word. They see it as bureaucracy and it is possible that they have entities functioning as PMOs but with other names. However, these entities have tactics and operational functions, but non-strategic focus.”

We can conclude that there is an improvement in the project management maturity of Argentinian organizations but there is still much work to do. In this aspect, the results of the PM SURVEY study will be very valuable to know better the actual state of project management practices in our region.

Regarding Project Management events in Argentina, among the great number of events offered by the two local PMI Chapters described below, this month will take place the PMI Nuevo Cuyo Chapter Congress “**Jornadas Cuyanas 2013**” with lectures and workshops in four cities of the region.

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

June 7th: Open Meeting in Posadas City, Province of Formosa

Lecture: Introduction to Project Management and PMI Buenos Aires Chapter

Speaker: Jose Esterkin, Marketing Management Director of PMIBA Chapter.

Lecture: Project Management and the Creation of a Business Plan.

Speakers: Gustavo Barutta and Javier Porporatto.

June 13rd: Open Meeting in San Salvador de Jujuy City, Province of Jujuy

Lecture: Reaching results through Project Management

Speaker: Jose Agustin Haro.

June 19th: Open Meeting in Buenos Aires City

Lecture: Differences between PMBOK 4th and 5th Editions.

Speaker: Juan Carlos Gonzalez.

June 25th: Open Meeting in Buenos Aires City

Lecture: Communicating in Difficult Relationships.

Speakers: Cecilia Boggi and Adriana Cibelli.

June 26th: Open Meeting in La Plata City, Province of Buenos Aires

Lecture: Lessons Learned from Lessons Learned.

Speakers: Pablo Zarbo.

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

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

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

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

Speakers: Carlos Calderaro, Mauricio Garay, Alejandro Aramburu, Cecilia Boggi, María Pia Pollio, Victor Orellana among others.

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

About the Author



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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.

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