

Project Management Update from Chile



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3 key points to successful project management

Project management is promptly becoming a standard way of doing business in many organizations. The key to productivity is often found in how we manage projects. Lot of theory has been written about processes, skills, tools and techniques most suitable for carrying out successful projects. On the other hand, there are also a lot of managers with lack of theoretical knowledge but experience, managing projects successfully.

While enjoying a pleasant lunch with participants of the project management course that I was teaching in Mexico DF last September, I heard someone at the table asking about the key factors that could assure fulfill project targets. Someone said "resources", another person answered "team" and someone replied "leadership".

Back to the classroom, I put the enquiry over image for all people's view, asking for answers from whole course. Nevertheless all answers were right, there are three key points that I believe are determinants for project success. Three concepts whether ignored, can make a difference between success and failure, between enjoying or suffering during time project and after.

Alignment

Every project should support company strategic plan.

Maintaining project alignment means focus on what is truly important. Besides, help to get resources flowing. Do visibility to both project team and project leader. By contrast, a successful project that does not add value to strategic plan, is view as a waste of time and resources.

Stakeholders

Projects by definition, hit positively or negatively to stakeholders´ interest. Therefore, early identification of stakeholders and key stakeholders timely allows take care of their expectations and interest have about the project. Nothing is more important to be taken into account: informed. Nothing is more delicate than hurt human susceptibility or ego.

Praxis

It consists in applying best practices for project management, mixing theory with experience. Develop a competent project team, led by project manager with necessary skills, in order to develop a project plan, and put it into practice, all together.

There are other issues that are relevant also, as the definition of scope, risk and ...

[Source](#)

The 50 measures for the first hundred days of the government

“The contribution and commitment of every person is more necessary than ever. I invite you not only to read these proposals, that of course represent a very ambitious work we have ahead, but also to make your own this beautiful and complex challenge of building in each home, in each town and city, a Chile for everybody.” President Michelle Bachelet.

Today Chile begins a new phase that also comes with a great challenge: the historic opportunity to make our country one that is more inclusive, just, and developed. It is our commitment and the time has come. For this reason, we are delivering 50 measures that shall be put into operation during the first one hundred days of the new government.



These 50 measures represent a large-scale project: we believe that big transformations can be carried out with governability. We believe in quality State funded education that is acknowledged as a right for all citizens. We believe in appropriate and better quality health care. We believe in safer and friendlier neighborhoods, with fair working relationships and where diversity is embraced as a sign of the richness of our society.

We believe in and we want a country where all its inhabitants are part of the progress and development it has achieved. That moment starts today. The 50 measures are already in progress.

Check the 50 measures [here](#).

PMI Santiago Chile Chapter

Antofagasta branch makes its first workshop: Project Management and its impact on project success.

With a high public attendance was held the first workshop of the year organized by the PMI Santiago Chile Chapter, branch Antofagasta. On the occasion they discuss the theme "Project Management and its impact on project success" which highlighted the importance of proper project management to increase the productivity of organizations.

The research applied to three sectors: mining, infrastructure and real estate, was developed in the context of the Magister in Integrated Project Management, taught by Catholic University of the North, where the issue presented is related to the study on chronic elements that occur along lifecycle of project, which prevent fluid and continuous development towards successful project.



All attendees were invited to next workshop called "Coaching in Project Management" in May 9th.

For more information, visit www.pmi.cl ; contact by telephone at +56 2 2481 4060 or by email to pmi@pmi.cl.

HidroAysen: Chile to review biggest energy project plan

Chile's new government has said it will review plans for its biggest energy project amid environmental concerns. It said it would decide on the future of the HidroAysen project within 60 days.

Environmentalists say the huge project, which would dam rivers in a remote region of Patagonia in Chile's far south, would ruin an area known for its wild beauty.

President Michelle Bachelet previously said the project was "not viable". Chile is short of energy but correspondents say most Chileans oppose the hydropower project, a joint venture by Spanish-owned energy company Endesa and Chile's Colbun.

Its future has been uncertain for months, with environmentalists staging protests against the project and businesses looking to it as a fix for the country's power needs.



The government said it will allow all parties involved, including the local communities, to make their arguments in favour or against the plans before issuing a final decision.

"Within the legal period of 60 days, the Cabinet of Ministers will decide on the merits of the matters that have been challenged, in a comprehensive way and in accordance with the law," Environment Minister Pablo Badenier told a news conference in the Chilean capital, Santiago.

In January, a ministerial committee requested additional studies on how the project could affect the volume of water in the rivers and a nearby glacier. It involves flooding about 6,000 hectares (15,000 acres) of land by building five dams on two fast-flowing rivers that run into the Pacific - two on the river Baker, and three on the river Pascua.

Chile's Supreme Court ruled in favour of the project in 2012, rejecting an appeal by environmental groups.

But new Energy Minister Maximo Pacheco called on the discussions about Chile's energy not to be centred on HidroAysen alone.

"The country knows that this is (just) one project; we have to understand that we have many others," he said.

[Source](#)

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.

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