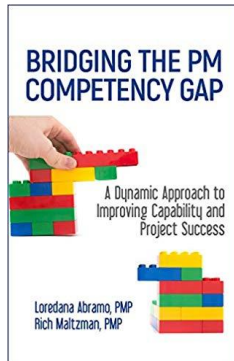


PM WORLD BOOK REVIEW



Book Title: ***Bridging the PM Competency Gap: A Dynamic Approach to Improving Capability and Project Success***

Author: **Loredana Abramo, PMP & Rich Maltzman, PMP**

Publisher: J. Ross Publishing

List Price: \$37.95

Format: 294 pages, hardcover

Publication Date: 2017

ISBN-13: 978-1604271409

Reviewer: **Abdullah Abuzaid, PMP**

Review Date: October 2018

Introduction

Bridging the PM competency GAP by Abramo & Maltzman is a book to help personnel involved in project management activity to build their competency and fill gaps in project management. It will help effectively manage projects, communicate with stakeholders and build personal/soft skill; it is a book that complies with the *Project Management Book of Knowledge*. In addition it presents and elaborates more about approaches to establish a continuous learning environment for advancing PM competency

Overview of Book's Structure

The book's structure draws a logical sequence analogy for any new engagement into an activity or project, with below contents:

- Introduction
- Chapter 1: Problem Statement: In Other Words, The Gap
- Chapter 2: Wanted: Bespoke Strategic Approach
- Chapter 3: Know Thy Audience
- Chapter 4: Options
- Chapter 5: Planning Your Bridges
- Chapter 6: Time to Deliver!
- Chapter 7: Indicators of Success – How Do You Know if Your Bridge Is Built and Working?
- Chapter 8: The Feedback Loop and Improving the Bridge
- Chapter 9: Leveraging Expert Judgment Chapter 9 Ready, Set... Exam Success
- Appendix 1: Select References and Useful Links
- Appendix 2: A Competency Survey of 250 Project Managers
- Appendix 3: Details of the 4-D Approach Applied to PM Competency

- Appendix 4: Case Study: Philips Excellence Project Management

Highlights

The book highlights an important concept in project management - personal success factor (continues learning). As mentioned earlier the book describes a good sequence to overcome a challenge or solve a problem.

- 1- Know and describe the problem/issue
- 2- Define personal/audience level (Stakeholder)
- 3- Assess your competency and identify your gaps
- 4- Explore options
- 5- Implement the right plan suites your situation and prepare backup plans
- 6- Monitor and record progress, be flexible to adapt changes
- 7- Have lessons learned by sharing with/from others
- 8- Better be to surround yourself with experts to learn from them rather than just having a followers (listen to others)

The book presents much research and many lessons learnt extracted from previous projects around the world, which makes a reliable source for learning new things and considering suggested approaches

Highlights: What I liked!

As project managers, a main focus is to achieve goals and meet expectations, which might cause losing strands in other areas. The book helps to find & judge the best ways to deliver a task based on its specific environment, at the same time how to take the opportunity and learn everyday from that project and fill skills gaps.

Another item to mention is the *Project Management Book of Knowledge* touch base on project manger skills is high level as needed from a guideline book, while *Bridging the PM competency GAP* elaborates and explains more into them by giving statistical details, smooth and logical breakdowns for every approach in addition to real-life examples in every chapter.

Who Might Benefit from the Book?

Bridging the PM competency GAP will benefit anyone involved in project management or an activity delivery position who is interested in improving his or his team skills (i.e. Project manager, Team leader, etc.)

Conclusion

Every Project is unique by its nature despite having some similarities among projects which urges any project manager or a lead role personal to learn everyday from others and projects they are working on. Having a reference helps to draw on and filling gaps is a key success strategy.

Self-discipline and commitment of continuous learning help to be multi-skilled, open minded and adaptable to changes, not only in projects but in real-life challenges.

For more about this book, go to: <http://www.jrosspub.com/bridging-the-pm-competency-gap.html>

Editor's note: This book review was the result of a partnership between the publisher, PM World and the [PMI Dallas Chapter](#). Authors and 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 in the PM World Journal and PM World Library. PMI Dallas Chapter members can keep the books as well as claim PDUs for PMP recertification when their reviews are published. 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



Abdullah Abuzaid, PMP

Dallas, Texas



Abdullah Abuzaid, PMP is a Business Development Manager with vast experience in project management, business analyses & business development in telecom world. Abdullah has a Bachelor's degree in electronics & communication engineering, he has Project Management Professional (PMP) certification, and he is a member of the Dallas and the Fort Worth chapters of the Project Management Institute (PMI). He can be contacted at Abdullah.abuzaid1@gmail.com