

Project Management update from Argentina



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“International Congress PMI Tour Cono Sur 2018”

Since 2005, every November it has place into southern Latin America Region the already famous **PMI Tour Cono Sur** (PMI Southern Cone Tour).

This international Congress, organized by Project Management Institute Chapters from the Southern Countries in Latina America, is the largest meeting on leadership and project management in the region and brings together international experts who share the latest international trends in leadership, project management and the impact of projects on business and organizational strategies.

This important event arose in 2005, due to the need to boost the interest of the Project Management in the region and the collaboration between the chapters. The First **PMI Tour Cono Sur** was organized by PMI Buenos Aires Argentina Chapter, PMI Santiago Chile Chapter and PMI Montevideo Uruguay Chapter, holding coordinated conferences in the three cities, with the participation of representatives from each chapter of the three countries. This experience was so successful that the event expanded to Peru in 2008, Paraguay and Bolivia in 2009.

The 2018 edition of the **PMI Tour Cono Sur** included events in 15 locations, under the theme "*Manage, adapt and reinvent the world through projects*".

With respect to the PMI Argentine Chapters, the Tour Cono Sur is held in the cities of Buenos Aires since 2005, in Mendoza since 2008 and the cities of Cordoba and Rosario were added in 2016.

This year the Tour began in Mendoza, organized by the PMI Nuevo Cuyo Chapter on November 2nd and 3rd. Being the province of Mendoza internationally recognized for the quality of its wine, especially the Malbec variety, the place chosen for the PMI Tour Cono Sur 2018 was “La Enoteca”, former School of Vitiviniculture turned into a museum, considered as cultural heritage and emblem of the world of wine, theme which was central to the event.

Exhibitors of great experience, such as Victor Villar, Leonor Viturro, Jorge Moreno, Gustavo Albera, Fernando Bolado, among others, have provided to the audience their theoretical and practical knowledge of current issues in project management.

Additionally, exhibitors from different wineries were invited to share their experience in the management of wine industry projects, very much in keeping with the theme of the Congress.



Photo: Volunteers and Speakers of the PMI Tour Cono Sur Mendoza 2018

Traditionally, the PMI Tour Cono Sur in Mendoza combines the conferences with an Outdoor workshop that, on this occasion, was held at Espacio Lares, which stands out as a place surrounded by nature. The workshop was facilitated by Adriana Cibelli, PMP, vice president of the PMI Buenos Aires Chapter, who developed a very interesting dynamic combining leadership with wine.

Of course, there was no lack of space for networking, meeting with friends and enjoying a unique moment in a relaxed environment.

The president of the PMI Nuevo Cuyo Chapter, Leonardo Vázquez, was extremely satisfied with the results of this magnificent event.



Photo: Adriana Cibelli during her Outdoor Workshop at the PMI Tour Cono Sur Mendoza 2018

On Tuesday, November 6th, the PMI Tour Cono Sur arrived to the City of Rosario. With an auditorium full of 100 attendees, 5 lectures were offered. With the presentations of Leonor Viturro, presenting on Organizational Agility, Pablo Cillota who spoke about Contracts Management, María Marta Jaimez addressing Neurolinguistic Communication, then Diego Gismondi continued talking about the Disruptive Projects in the Local Government and ending with the presentation of Valeria Rodriguez and Cecilia Mato with their presentation called "HCMBOK + PMBOK: Management of organizational transformation", the afternoon was definitely full of knowledge and great experiences to share.

Ana María Rodríguez, promoter of the development of PMI Rosario Community and Chapter under formation, tells us that *"this was the eleventh year in which the PMI community in Rosario offers this event, most of the attendees are experienced project managers who return every year. to receive information on the latest trends. The expectations were fulfilled, thanks to the work of 10 dedicated volunteers who were directed by Iván Seligmann, PM of the event. Networking was also a big point in the event"*.



Photo: Activity developed during the “Neurolinguistic Communication” lecture at the PMI Tour Cono Sur Rosario 2018

On Wednesday, November 7th, the event went to the City of Cordoba, and was held out in the Auditorium and other rooms of the Technological University, with an audience of 300 people and counting, as in the previous cases, with recognized international exhibitors from several countries in Latin America.

The welcome was in charge of Iris Gastañaga, President of the PMI Cordoba Potential Chapter to then give place to the first Keynote Speaker, Gloria Folle, PMI Mentor of the Southern Region of Latin America, exposing about Leadership in the Era of Digital Transformation.

The day continued with two tracks in parallel, one of them aimed at the public that starts in project management and the other one for public with experience that seeks to increase their knowledge and understand the development of the profession. In these sessions the audience appreciated the presentations of José Sergio Torres, Adriana Garavaglia, Henrique Mariano, Pablo Cillotta and Florencia Cafure.

A panel on PMOs organized to discuss the different perspectives and local implementations that summed up the first-hand experiences of Banco de Córdoba, Konecta, Arcor, Coca Cola, guided by Iris Gastañaga, stood out.

Closing this high-level congress, once again in plenary session in the auditorium, the keynote speaker, Victor Villar, presented his lecture "J Curve and Value Generation".

Iris Gastañana, President of the PMI Potential Chapter Córdoba comments that "With musical condiments and networking spaces, the audience enjoyed the meeting and took topics to think about Digital Transformation, Value Curve, Design Thinking, Contract Management, Risks in Construction Projects, and Agility, among others".



Photo: Speakers and Volunteers at the PMI Tour Cono Sur Córdoba 2018

The Argentine part of the PMI Tour Cono Sur 2018 concluded in Buenos Aires, on Friday, November 9th, with more than 350 participants, with a day that was held at the Circle of Sea Officers in Buenos Aires downtown, organized by a team of volunteers of the PMI Buenos Aires Chapter.

The event was opened by Jose Sergio Torres from La Rioja, member of the Executive Committee of PMI Nuevo Cuyo Chapter, who welcomed the audience and introduced the president of the PMI Buenos Aires Chapter, Sergio Candelo, who reviewed the main activities carried out during the year and showed a video about PMI Global new strategy.

The first talk was again given by Gloria Folle with her presentation "Leading in the era of Digital Transformation", where she stressed that "organizations require a new generation of project leaders, more agile and adaptable".

Continued with a full room, Marcelo Espejo, who showed the result of the work done with the team of the Agile Community of Interest, "Demystifying Agile". This conference transmitted the principles and fundamental values of the concept of agility, demystifying the incorrect assertions.

The day continued Carlos Urso, with a talk about the projects as generators of transformation and future, where he analyzed how to face challenges in turbulent, complex and changing environments.

At the end of the morning, the so-called "Techint Space" took place with 2 talks about important projects. In the first place, Pablo Videla presented the project for the start-up of the unconventional gas processing plant in Fortín de Piedra, at Neuquen area of Vaca Muerta, which represents the 2nd reserve of unconventional gas of the world and the 4th reserve of unconventional oil.

Continuing this "Techint Space", Julio Comoglio spoke about the project of Expansion of the Line H of Buenos Aires Subways, highlighting the importance of the stakeholder's management in that complex project.

After lunch, the announcer again summoned the audience, with a humor number where he explained how he applied some processes of the PMBOK Guide to cope with a funny personal situation.

The day continued with a Discussion Table, moderated by Ezequiel Kahan and composed by Marcela Marcote, Andrea Arri and Guillermo Jacobson, discussing about the human factor in the development of projects and some visions on leadership.

The last conference of the afternoon, in the hands of Daniel Scacchi, told the experience of four public and private institutions of the city of Santa Fe that came together to design and put into operation a new instrument of technical and financial support, with the objective of favor the growth of new technology-based companies, including the challenge of creating a fund with private investors.



Photo: Julio Comoglio from Techint company presenting at Tour Cono Sur Buenos Aires 2018

Adriana Cibelli, vice-president of the PMI Buenos Aires Chapter closed the event with words of thanks to all the participants, volunteers, representatives of the Communities and from other Chapters, members, colleagues and Sponsors.

As a final touch, this great day was finished with the header phrase: "Good things happen when you get involved with PMI".

The Project Manager of this event, Guillermo Ibañez, expressed his gratitude to all his team, the speakers, the sponsors, PMI authorities, members, volunteers of the chapters, and finally to the participating colleagues.

Once again, the PMI Tour Cono Sur has been a great success in all locations where it has been carried out, thanks to the passion and dedication of the volunteer organizers.

Now we have to wait for the 2019 edition to arrive.

More information about local Project Management events, enter the sites **PMI Buenos Aires Argentina Chapter [website](#)**, **PMI Nuevo Cuyo Argentina Chapter [website](#)**, **PMI Cordoba Potential Chapter [website](#)**. To contact **PMI Rosario Chapter in Formation** write to email rosario@pmi.org.ar.

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 has an Executive Master in Business Administration from Universidad Francisco de Vitoria, Spain and 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®, is a Professional Executive Coach accredited by Association for Coaching, UK, and alumni of the PMI Leadership Institute Master Class 2012. Ms. Boggi was President of the PMI Buenos Aires Argentina Chapter in 2011, and is a founding member of the PMI Nuevo Cuyo Argentina Chapter and other four PMI Chapters in Latin America. She has been designated by PMI as Region Mentor of Region 13, Southern Latin America, for the years 2014-2017. 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 and Leadership in some Universities and Institutes in Latin America.

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