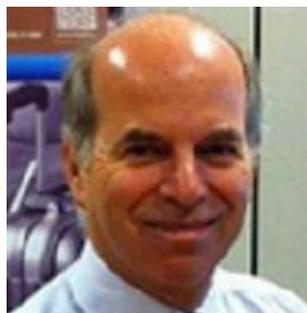


Project Management in Spain: Monthly report End of August 2019



*By Alfonso Bucero MSc, CPS, PMP, PMI-RMP, PfMP, SFC, IPMO-E, PMI Fellow
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PM Journal*

Volunteering at PMI Madrid Spain Chapter



[Gerald Richli](#)

PMI Madrid Spain Chapter volunteer

As a PMI Madrid Spain Chapter founder member and second former president, I'm proud to encourage all volunteers that helped and still are helping the PMI Madrid Spain Chapter and PMI globally on the continuous development of our profession.

In our interview we had the pleasure to interview Mr. [Gerald Richli](#), who is a PMI Madrid Chapter volunteer at their Mentoring Program. We thank Gerald because of giving us the opportunity to talk to him for a while to run our interview.

What is your professional role, for which industry are you working for?

First of all thanks so much for this interview. It is an excellent initiative that allows to know PMI Volunteers in Spain, and also to know better each other among PMI Spain volunteers.

I have a Business Management degree by the Webster University Misuri (EEUU) and I am PMP since 2013. At the beginning, my professional career was more focused on finance and internal and external audits.

I always worked for the financial sector in Switzerland, where I was born, Greece and finally in Spain and Portugal since 1995, initially as an internal auditor for Citibank before moving to Financial Control. From there I moved to the management la gestión de proyectos, because of the EURO project coordination in 1999.

From that implementation, I continued in project management activities focused on technological migrations, but also by launching new financial products following legal compliances such SEPA, MiFID, LSP, FATCA, CIRBE at Citibank Spain and Portugal till 2015. I was a project manager till 2007 when I took over the PMO, as a Senior Programme Manager.

In 2016, due to the acquisition of “Banca Retail” from Citi in Spain by “Grupo Banco Popular”, I joined Banco Popular IT area, as Demand Management responsible for means of payment. In 2017 I moved to Operations as a Control Manager, with the challenge of facilitating the integration of Popular Bank Operations at “Banco Santander”.

Since 2019, I am a freelance on Interim Management for operations, control and internal audit. I am also working on Interim Management solutions and I continue learning in Technology (doing an IT Master’s Degree), Auditing (Certified Internal Auditor) and new trends like “Honest Strategy” and “BCorp”.

Why did you become a PMI Madrid Spain Chapter volunteer?

Maika Williams and *Carmen Cano*, coworkers, talked to me about the Mentoring Program during a PM meeting in June 2016. Initially I thought that it was an excellent way of having a better link with PMI Madrid Spain Chapter and to meet more people. On the other hand, I always enjoyed sharing information and motivating my coworkers. Previously I already had the opportunity to participate in a Corporate Mentoring Program at Citi bank.

What does encourage you to be a PMI volunteer?

I like the idea of being useful and sharing my knowledge among the excellent professionals we count in our PMI Chapter. This is a win-win situation where every participant gets some benefits from the program, from the mentee through receiving some recommendations, to the mentor who, at the same time he/she mentors, develop him/herself.

What was your experience along the mentoring program? What was the most complex?

The most complex task was the time management together with the mentee, to follow the planned meetings and phone calls discipline, and to be prepared for the meetings with the agreed deliverables.

What was the most interesting?

I believe that the Mentoring Program has been a total success. I still remember our kick-off meeting on July 2nd, 2016 using the dynamic of information exchange among mentors and mentees. It has been a total success because the excellent organization from the launch team having *Raquel Garcia* and *Pedro Balsa*.

Personally, the most rewarding has been to see the evolution from all professionals that I had the opportunity to mentor and keeping in touch after the relationship mentor/mentee. A climate of trust is established that lasts for a long time.

What would you tell to potential volunteers?

Voluntarism is a unique opportunity to go out from the daily routine to develop yourself and at the same time to help PMI colleagues to improve their skills, realign their professional careers or being aware of their capabilities, all of this inside the PMI structured framework.

From this monthly report I encourage all PMI volunteers to continue adding value and contributing to PMI and the profession with their energy and enthusiasm.

TODAY IS A GOOD DAY and TOMORROW WILL BE BETTER!

About the Author



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Alfonso Bucero, MSc, CPS, PMP, PMI-RMP, PfMP, SFC, IPMO-E, PMI Fellow, is an International Correspondent and Contributing Editor for the *PM World Journal* in Madrid, Spain. Mr. Bucero is also founder and Managing Partner of BUCERO PM Consulting. Alfonso was the founder, sponsor and president of the PMI Barcelona Chapter until April 2005, and belongs to PMI's LIAG (Leadership Institute Advisory Group). He was the past President of the PMI Madrid Spain Chapter, and then nominated as a PMI EMEA Region 8 Component Mentor. Now he is a member of the PMIEF Engagement Committee. Alfonso has a Computer Science Engineering degree from Universidad Politécnica in Madrid and is studying for his Ph.D. in Project Management. He has 32 years of practical experience and is actively engaged in advancing the PM profession in Spain and throughout Europe. He received the PMI Distinguished Contribution Award on October 9th, 2010, the PMI Fellow Award on October 22nd 2011 and the PMI Eric Jenett Excellence Award on October 28th, 2017. Mr. Bucero can be contacted at alfonso.bucero@abucero.com.