

PM EVENT NEWS

Urgent and Unexpected Projects

Free online IPMA workshop to discuss urgent projects in the age of Covid-19

2 September 2020 – Zurich, Switzerland and St. Petersburg, Russia – The International Project Management Association (IPMA) in partnership with the 32nd IPMA World Congress program team has announced a free online workshop on Urgent and Unexpected Projects. The seminar will be held on 21 September as part of a three-day forum on Project Management Practice in the Digital Age – the theme of IPMA 2021 congress. The two-hour session will begin at 0900 GMT (11:00 MSK).



The banner features a blue background with white and green text. The main title 'Project Management Practices in the Digital Age' is prominently displayed. Below the title, there are logos for 'St. Petersburg 2021' and 'IPMA 32nd World Congress'. To the right, it says 'In the lead up to 32nd IPMA World Congress'. At the bottom, there are two lines of text: 'date:// 21-24 September, 2020' and 'format:// Free online forum'.

The virtual event will include an interactive keynote presentation, three international project case studies and group discussions. Seminar leaders are Darren Dalcher, Professor in Strategic Project Management at Lancaster University Management School in UK, and Oxana Klimenko, President of the Association of Project Managers' "Project Alliance". Participation is free but registration is required. To register, [click here](#).

According to event information: In the last few months our world has changed dramatically as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, forcing us to rethink some of our ideas about project work. The emergency nature of the reaction to the global outbreak means decisions must be made immediately, plans must be enacted in a matter of hours – or minutes – and our conservative aversion to risk taking must be reversed to facilitate rapid mega transformations in organisations, nations and society at large. Yet, the need to respond urgently, and engage with rescue and recovery activities means there has been very little time to think about the changing nature of projects. As humanity seeks to re-establish a new normal, it is important to reflect on what we have learned from this turbulent period.

Are there any lessons here for project management? We have witnessed the results of exercising disaster management on a global scale, often with spectacular results. We have seen hospitals established in 10 days, countries rearranging their health, education, finance and leisure industries, multiple megaprojects launched to discover

a new vaccine, rapid procurement of essential items, such as respirators, and the re-wiring of complete countries and economies. many of these emergency projects challenge the norms and assumptions applied in project management; so this is a good opportunity to consider what new ideas and insights we can take from disaster management and the successful projects enacted during the pandemic. For example, is it time to rethink business cases, adaptability in projects, the definition of success and how to start projects quickly in light of recent experiences?

The purpose of this interactive workshop is to reflect on the implications of the new ways of working, share stories of successful emergency projects, and establish new guidelines, ideas and good practices for deploying urgent and unexpected projects. The session heralds the beginning of a new conversation about doing critical projects that matter under demanding and unforgiving circumstances. This IPMA expert workshop provides an opportunity for practitioners to hear what works, contribute, share, reflect and improve. Join us and our global community of practitioners to explore what's different now, make sense of new development and determine how we can become better at dealing with urgent and unexpected projects, programmes and initiatives.

For information and to register, go to <https://pmforum-online.com/en#rec211279227>



Founded in 1965 and registered in Switzerland, IPMA is one of the world's oldest international project management professional organizations. IPMA is a federation of more than 70 national project management societies in Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas. IPMA and its member associations sponsor research, standards, awards, seminars, an annual world congress and the IPMA Young Crew, all related to professional project, programme and portfolio management. For more information about IPMA, visit www.ipma.world.

Source: IPMA