

Project Management Update from India and PMO Global Alliance India Hub ¹



By Kartikeyan Ramamurthy

International Correspondent
Bengaluru, India

Introduction

In this first report for the PM World Journal, I want to introduce the PMO Global Alliance (PMOGA) and PMOGA India Hub. Then below you will find the recently released first newsletter from India Hub, with key players involved. I hope this information will all be of interest to PMWJ readers, and especially those who might be involved with developing, operating or improving a project management office (PMO).

PMO Global Alliance

The PMO Global Alliance was founded in 2017 and quickly spread across the world, becoming the largest and most relevant global community of PMOs (Project Management Offices) and PMO professionals, with active members in more than a hundred countries. PMOGA is a global hub, connecting people and organizations. We allow meaningful experiences, ideas, knowledge and solutions from any region of the planet to reverberate globally, generating a relevant impact for everyone.



¹ How to cite this report: Ramamurthy, K. (2021). Project Management Update from India and PMOGA India Hub; report, *PM World Journal*, Vol. X, Issue IX, September.

We envision that PMOGA will increasingly become the 'one-stop point' for every PMO professional or organization that wants to find valuable knowledge and experiences in the PMO field. With 12,000+ members in over 110 countries, PMOGA already has 5,000+ PMO-CP credential holders and 7,000+ attendees at recent events. The PMOGA annual awards program has been a huge success with hundreds of entrees in multiple categories each year.

For more information, visit <https://www.pmoga.world/>

PMOGA India Hub

The PMOGA India community hub was launched on 8th May 2021, through an online kickoff event. In the last four months the india hub has setup the core team, invited volunteers, launched its knowledge sharing platform – PMO Insights and is looking at more India specific projects.



PMO Global Alliance India Community Hub is driving the agenda of fostering a learning culture, promoting research, and building a strong community to support PMOs and help organizations achieve excellence on strategic and operational aspects of PMOs by institutionalizing and implementing pragmatic P3M best practices. We are entrusted with the responsibility of promoting the vision and mission of PMO Global Alliance along with its flagship events like PMO Global Awards, PMO-CP/CC certifications and deploy various other global projects in India. We have started inviting volunteers for our various projects to drive growth as we believe volunteers are the heart and soul of our community. We are a thriving community with 200+ members. You may join our LinkedIn group at: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13985237/>

Looking forward to support and involvement in making this journey a grand success!

PMO Insights: Aug 2021 Edition – From PMO Global Alliance India Hub Desk

We wish our entire community a very Happy India Independence month!

It gives us immense pleasure to release our first monthly newsletter focused on “PMO Insights”. PMO Insights is an initiative launched by PMOGA India Hub which is a series of knowledge sharing events to encourage discussions on PMOs and how they can bring value to the projects and programs and improve their success rates in the organizations. We invite eminent industry thought leaders to share their knowledge and practical experience on topics of interest and debate.

PMO Global Alliance (www.pmoga.world) is the world’s largest community of PMOs and PMO Professionals with 12000+ members globally. We allow meaningful experiences, ideas, knowledge and solutions from any region of the planet to reverberate globally generating a relevant impact for everyone.

PMO Insights: PMO as a Change Catalyst

We kicked-off our first knowledge sharing event on 14th Aug 2021, a day before our 75th Independence Day. In this session we invited Mr. Pankaj Jain ‘PJ’, Global Head of Change, State Street to share his hands-on experience in the PMO and change management areas with nearly 40+ participants.

The focus of the session was to help understand how **PMO can be a change catalyst** and lead the change in an organization as part of the organization’s strategic journey or when an organization pivots its strategy. Pankaj brought out beautifully the balance required for implementing PMOs highlighting that they need to be “structured yet adaptable”, “disciplined yet empathetic”, and above all “continuously evolving” to ensure that they are successful.

Interesting responses were received from the participants on the question about the PMO’s importance to any organization. It was very interesting to know that PMO is being considered as the focal point to drive projects and training, process standardization, delivery assurance, providing roadmap and managing efficiencies. Pankaj mentioned that PMO is pivotal to drive the change. He also summarized that a PMO should never say “NO” to a requestor, it should either say “YES” or ask for time to find out the answer or point towards the direction of the answer.

Pankaj then spoke about his “wheel of fortune” representing the fact that PMO drives impact, value and accountability within an organization.

He focused on the need to involve PMOs in the strategic planning process. He also reiterated that PMO is the only umbrella organization that has a holistic view on delivery, strategy, governance, finance and other related areas and, hence, has a greater responsibility to align projects to strategy.

One of the questions was asked by Pankaj on how the audience have delivered value as PMO during their professional experience. The responses were varied including – “Go to team” with a 50,000 feet view driving strategic KPIs, organizational navigation, transformation and knowledge enhancement. Pankaj added on the classic example of PMOs and audit teams as partners and inviting them to come and punch a hole in the project or PMO. In one of the cases, when the audit team presented their report, it brought out key aspects where all the PMOs brought value and how it made the project management practices stronger.

He made a great analogy that “PMO is the central nervous system” which maintains the balance of the body and can act, react and predict situations so that health of the whole system/organization improves. He further talked about the evolution of PMOs from project repository to Enterprise PMO to Project Coach. Most of the PMOs are never one of these but are a combination of these three “Avatars”.

He closed the session with the wonderful quote “**Keep Calm and let the PMO handle it**”

There were also interesting questions around adapting PMOs in the pandemic context, handling resistance during change management and PMO in an agile setup. If you missed any of this, the recording is available in the PMO Global Alliance YouTube Channel ([PMO as a Change Catalyst for an Organization - YouTube](#)). We also thank our supporters [The PMO Leader](#) and [International Association of Project Managers](#).

Individual Achievements in August Month

The following section is dedicated to individual achievements of our India Hub leaders and volunteers to promote the culture of continuous learning and upgradation.

1. Speaker of the Month- [Pankaj Jain](#)
2. Volunteer of the Month – [Sri Sudharshan](#)
3. Wicked Problem-Solving Practitioner – [Kartikeyan Ramamurthy](#) (Ambassador, PMOGA India Hub)
4. PMI-ACP Certification- [Asif Virani](#) (Director, PMOGA India Hub)

Compiled by [Ramachandran Ashokkumar](#), Director, PMOGA India Hub

Edited by [Gaurav Dhooper](#), President, PMOGA India Hub

Contact us: indiahub@community.pmoga.world

PMOGA India Hub Core Team



KARTIKEYAN RAMAMURTHY
India Ambassador



GAURAV DHOOPER
President



GAURANG VORA
Director



MINAKETAN DASH
Director



RAMACHANDRAN ASHOKKUMAR
Director



AVINASH K JHA
Director



ASIF K VIRANI
Director



MANI SELVAN
Director

About the Author



Kartikeyan Ramamurthy

Bengaluru, India



Kartikeyan Ramamurthy is a certified PMP, PfMP, PMO-CP, SAFe Agilist5, DevOps Leader. He has more than 20+ years' experience in Project, Program, Portfolio management and PMOs. He is currently working in the role of Director-Strategy at Amadeus Labs. He is also interested and passionate about innovation and agility and has been involved in mentoring startups and corporate innovation programs.

Kartikeyan is currently the India ambassador for PMO Global Alliance and a member of the board of directors at the PMI Bengaluru Chapter. He holds a Master's degree in Computer Applications from IMT Ghaziabad and a Bachelor of Science from Delhi University. He began reporting as an international correspondent for the PM World Journal in early September 2021 in order to inform PMWJ readers about the PMO Global Alliance and India Hub activities in particular.

Kartikeyan can be contacted at k.ramamurthy@community.pmoga.world