

## **Project Management Update from Italy<sup>1</sup>**

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### **Breaking news from the Project Management Communities' Associations in Italy**

#### **Introduction**

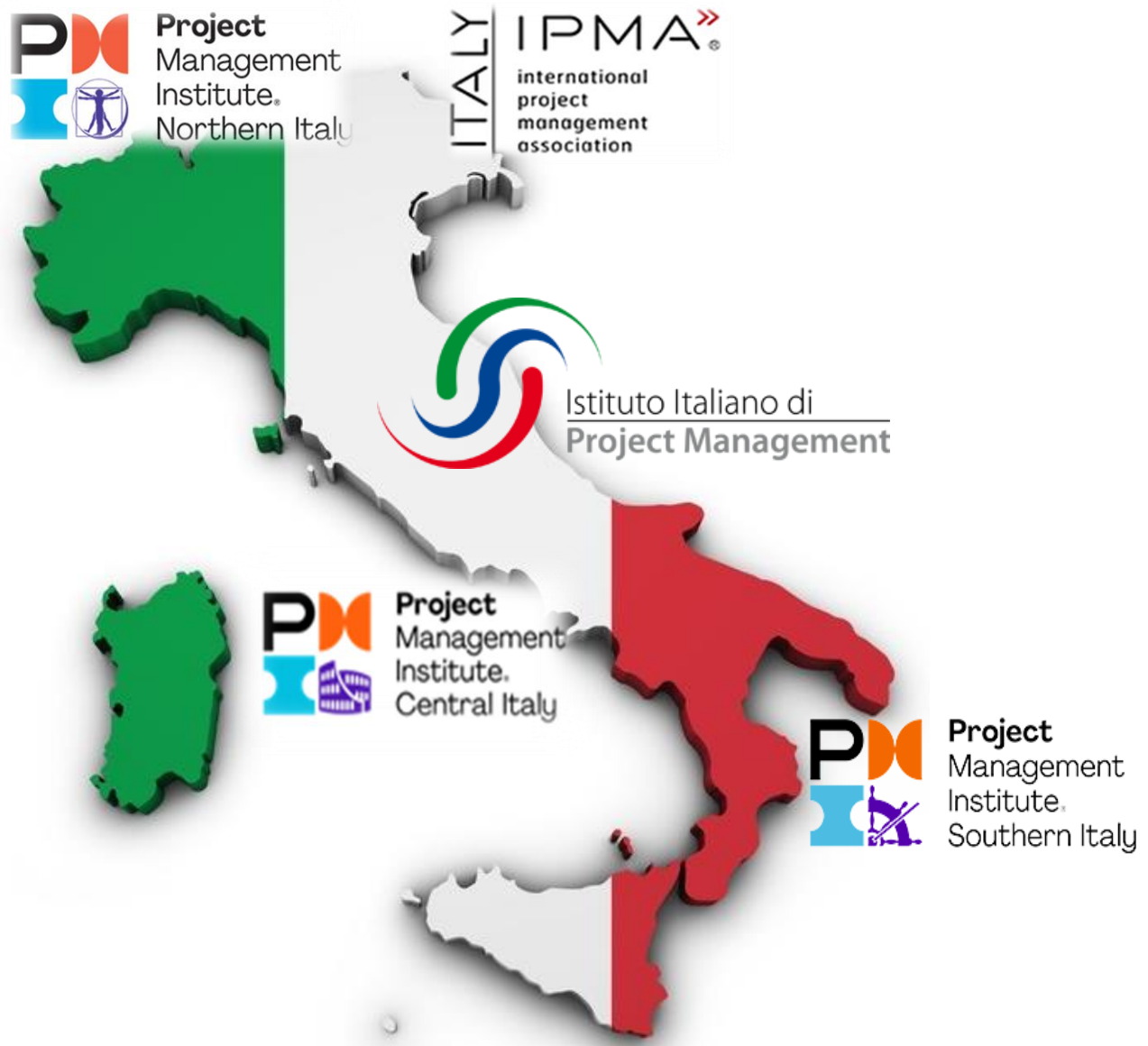
In this article we are going to talk briefly about the activities and the results achieved by the Associations of Project Management in Italy, from pre-summer period up to now, in connection with what I reported last year on PMWJ Issue X – October 2021<sup>2</sup>.

During the last year of pandemics, all associations have been working hard in order to maintain the usual level of initiatives offered or even to improve it, exploring new means aimed to increasing the number of followers and newly certified managers. Nowadays the entire sector still has not settled its interest towards the future challenges of Project Management.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://pmworldlibrary.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/pmwj110-Oct2021-Quagliarini-project-management-Report-from-Italy-English.pdf>



### The Associations of Project Management Community in Italy



### **The Project Management Institute: Northern Italy’s Chapter (PMI-NIC)<sup>3</sup>; Central Italy’s Chapter (PMI-Central Italy)<sup>4</sup>; Southern Italy’s Chapter (PMI-SIC)<sup>5</sup>**

Compared to what I reported last year, Italian PMI chapters are giving continuity to their activities, developing their presence in each region in which each of them operates. We know that the spread of the PM discipline goes beyond certifications; nonetheless the number of people who get credentials is a good parameter to understand the cultural involvement that the PM associations can stimulate. In Italy, up to now, we have 10.054<sup>6</sup> (+3,2 compared with April 2021) PMI licensed people, considering 697 CAPM entry level (+16% compared with April 2021<sup>7</sup>), the 9128 of the professional level PMP (+5,7% compared with April 2021<sup>8</sup>) and the last 229 possessing some of the other PMI credentials (-2,8% respect on April 2021<sup>9</sup>).

Each of the three chapters is still working for expanding their territorial branch, engaging volunteers, and overall trying to make their effort synergic. This will be a subject in the new edition of the “Project Management Italy Forum”, a three-session event organized by the three Italian chapters, that is expected to take place in the next months. During the last edition, from 1 to 3 December 2021, the main topic was the importance and the complexity of management in cultural projects.

During the first session, the central point of discussion was the creation of value with the country’s material and intangible cultural heritage. A challenge for which a profile of cultural Project Manager is designed.

The Second session showed as Italy boasts unique Museums and Foundations compared to the rest of the world, where beauty, art and culture are combined with a series of projects to make visitors live our history, our past, the path that has led us to our days.

The theme of the third day was the new management of the actors involved in cultural projects and the new skills needed for making them thrive in an increasingly interconnected world. It was established that a new normal based on the use of modern

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.pmi.org/chapters/northern-italy>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.pmi-centralitaly.org/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.pmi-sic.org/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.pmi.org/certifications/certification-resources/registry> (Credential holders can opt out of inclusion on the registry and will not display on search)

<sup>7</sup> Data is a courtesy of the observatory of Italian Institute of Project Management

<sup>8</sup> Data is a courtesy of the observatory of Italian Institute of Project Management

<sup>9</sup> Data is a courtesy of the observatory of Italian Institute of Project Management

technologies and an international vision, that involves increasingly demanding and prepared stakeholders, will be for sure a challenge to tackle in the near future for the cultural sector.



### **The International Project Management Association (IPMA ITALY)<sup>10</sup>**

The main activity that IPMA shows from its Italian communication channel (website and social network) is about its “Young Crew”, that consists essentially of an international network of young people under the age of 35 who see project management as a discipline closely related to their work and professional growth prospects. IPMA believes that project management is not only a profession, but above all a passion and why not, also because it is an opportunity to have fun! IPMA is available to get in touch with all the young people who are interested in Young Crew, who recognize themselves in this vision, or who want to share their experiences with us.

Young Crew offers its members the possibility to spread their personal culture of project management, and creates opportunities for exchanging and sharing knowledge, skills and experience. Through a series of activities organized both nationally and internationally, the main objective is to create and share and develop new capacities based on experience transfer, interactivity and direct participation, taking into account the specific needs of network members. These objectives are pursued through:

- organization of events and seminars
- support for the publication of articles and dissertations
- awarding of prizes such as the IPMA International Young Project Manager Award and the IPMA Young Crew Students Award
- willingness to support members in their work
- contact between young professionals and students or recent graduates for their career guidance.

In the late 2022 spring, IPMA Young Crew Italy was pleased to announce the start of the new edition of the Project Management Championship 2022 for all students enrolled at university endowed with knowledge of fundamental project management concepts.

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<sup>10</sup> <https://ipma.it/ipma/>



This first challenge took place in Milan on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> of May 2022 and involved four teams coming from different Italian Universities, rated as follows:

1° Classified Team - Politecnico di Milano (Luca Brusasco, Riccardo Bicego, Alessia Boscarato, Valerio Campinoti) - Score 74%

2° Classified Team - Università degli Studi di Brescia (Federico Maifredi, Michele Ferrari, Riccardo Monti, Nicola Paolino - Score 73%

3° Classified Team - Politecnico di Torino (Paola De Lellis, Luca Alfonso, Biagio Iaconi, Anna Neirotti) - Score 71%

4° Classified Team – Politecnico di Torino (Alessandro Gobbi, Mirco Bartolomei, Andrea Bova, Annalisa Bronzino) – Score 65%

One of the teams from the National Final has participated to the PMC International Final in Berlin between last June 10-12, 2022.



#ProjectManagementChampionship organization as Country Manager for #Italy IT

Paola De Lellis, Biagio Iaconi and Luca Alfonso from the 'Politecnico di Torino' accepted the challenge of representing Italy in the International Final that took place in Berlin on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> of June. And they did it incredibly well, gaining the third place 🏅 in this hard and emotional contest.



### **The Italian Institute of Project Management (ISIPM)<sup>11</sup>**

During 2021<sup>12</sup>, ISIPM certified 2108 people (1.725 entry levels ISIPM-Base and 321 professionals ISIPM-AV) people. In 2022<sup>13</sup> so far they have certified 1.182 (1.041 entry levels ISIPM-Base and 105 professionals ISIPM-AV) new trusted people reaching globally 18.127. Moreover, exploiting historical agreement for the enhancement of project management culture in Italy<sup>14</sup>, now there are 352 ISIPM members have now registered on the PMWJ World Library.

Between 14 – 17 June 2022, ISIPM took part to the annual Italian national event "Forum PA 2022"<sup>15</sup>, the most important meeting for Public Administration, throughout several worktables and speeches. The discussions resulted in the creation of the "Shipyards", an important part of the innovation ecosystem managed by FPA, that for seven years has involved the main actors of public administration in an active community. ISIPM participated in the Forum PA Working Table: "The Future of Work in the PA. Skills, Technologies and Organizational Models". In this context, the Community of Directors of PA Human Resources was brought together with the task of creating a report entitled: "The Future of Work in the PA. Skills, Technologies and Organizational Models - The levers of organizational change".

The initiative in which ISIPM participated with its members Franco Stolfi and Massimo Pirozzi, was divided into 2 sessions:

- in the first, which took place in virtual mode on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022, the HR community together with ISIPM has discussed the issue of the competences of PA staff, given

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<sup>11</sup> <https://isipm.org>

<sup>12</sup> Data is a courtesy of the observatory of Italian Institute of Project Management

<sup>13</sup> Data is a courtesy of the observatory of Italian Institute of Project Management

<sup>14</sup> <https://pmworldlibrary.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/pmwj112-Dec2021-Quagliarini-project-management-update-from-Italy-report-English.pdf>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.forumpa.it/>

the importance of the subject in recent days due to the challenges posed by the PNRR, and the process of osmosis that can be activated between public and private, training, employee experience and new models of work organization; the intervention of Massimo Pirozzi highlighted how the PNRR, as a portfolio of programs and projects to be implemented with time and budget constraints, requires the PA to have in-house expertise in the Portfolio/Program/Project management<sup>16</sup>;

- in the second, which was held in attendance on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022 on three separate worktables, were discussed:
  - new patterns of work organisation;
  - skills actually available in the PA and the those needed to enhance the internal staff or to research in the employees to be hired;
  - new processes of selection and management for human resources.

Moreover, ISIPM participated, through Franco Stolfi and Massimo Pirozzi, at the working table n. 2 on the skills needed by the PA staff, highlighting once again how the basic skills of project management take on a fundamental and transversal value for all PA staff. In addition, with a view to upskilling/reskilling, basic skills must be integrated with specialized skills that invest the management of complex programs, portfolio management but also the development of so-called soft skills (communication, leadership, team building and relational skills).

The point of view of ISIPM was widely shared, integrated and expanded by the human resources directors of the Administrations present (Ministries, Regions, Municipalities, Bodies, Institutes, Hospitals and ASL) that have seen in the project management the necessary competences in order to realize the transitions (digital and ecological) and the technological changes, organizational and services required and financed through the PNRR.

## **Conclusions**

As we can see throughout this report, each Project Management Association is doing its best in giving continuity to all initiatives in place. Something is changing in Project Management comprehension, and its perception as “the imperative strategic decision” to take before “system failure” becomes evident especially observing most of the projects finalized to the energetic transition against the climate change. At the same time, it seems that the tendency of authorities, industries, governments, and so on, is to go back to the pre-pandemic reality as if nothing happened.

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<sup>16</sup> <https://pmworldlibrary.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/pmwj119-Jul2022-Minelle-Pirozzi-et-al-PPPM-for-EU-National-Recovery-and-Resilience-Plans.pdf>

## About the Author



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**Alessandro Quagliarini**, MScEng, PMP, MBA, is an experienced Program Manager, with more than 18 years of experience in the ICT sector. He holds a Master's Degree in Telecommunication Engineering from the University of Rome "Tor Vergata" and a Doctor's degree in Business Administration from the Bologna University Business School. He got both PMP® and ISIPM-Av® advanced certifications in Project Management, and he is also certified as an Information Management Systems Lead Auditor. He is a Member of the Board of the "Italian Institute of Project Management" (ISIPM) for ten years, and he is an Accredited Teacher in Project Management.

Alessandro is currently engaged in the "Digital Transformation" engineering and industrialization programs of the new Italian "Open Fiber" telecommunications network, with particular focus on the engineering of delivery and assurance processes for the provision of retail, business and industries customers, on the operational management and procurement support for the definition of specifications and contracts, on the definition of operating rules/ instructions for maintenance and of requirements for systems development, on the support to the commercial and regulatory lines for the definition of services and processes for customers (Other Licensed Operators and Industries), and on the definition and management of operations compliance with ISO Standards and International Best Practices.

As a Member of the ISIPM Board, he focuses his volunteer activities mainly on the cultural diffusion of the project management to young people – specifically to high school students and also staff, including teachers. As an ISIPM accredited teacher, he has taught project management in public and private institutions, in schools and in universities. He has experience in the organization of events and as a speaker in conferences, and also in proposing and managing EU-funded projects.

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