

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

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### **First half 2025 activities from the Project Management Communities' Associations in Italy**

#### **Introduction**

In this second 2025 report, we will briefly highlight the main initiatives organized by the Italian Project Management associations during this second quarter. These events aimed not only to promote the discipline but also to foster cross-sector collaboration by actively engaging a diverse range of stakeholders. From the industrial sector to public administration and the non-profit world, each initiative was designed to encourage dialogue, share best practices, and explore the evolving role of Project Management in addressing today's complex challenges. This multi-environment approach reflects a growing awareness of the discipline's relevance and adaptability across different contexts and underscores the associations' commitment to building a more integrated and forward-looking professional community.

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### The Associations of Project Management Community in Italy



### **The Project Management Institute: Northern Italy's Chapter (PMI-NIC)<sup>2</sup>; Central Italy's Chapter (PMI-Central Italy)<sup>3</sup>; Southern Italy's Chapter (PMI-SIC)<sup>4</sup>**

Beside normal activities, PMI people have been looking forward for the PMI Chapter's main event at his 8<sup>th</sup> edition this year coordinated by the Southern Italy Chapter.

Projects, both big and small, have become a fundamental part of our personal and professional lives. At the core of every endeavor lies the human element, especially in an era where artificial intelligence, virtual reality, and cutting-edge technologies are reshaping how we connect and work.

Within this evolving landscape, people's skills and talents have greater opportunities to be recognized and enhanced. Talented men and women will remain essential to project success, bringing creativity, empathy, and perspectives that technology alone cannot replace.

The eighth edition of the National Project Management Forum has focused on these issues, featuring talks and experiences from various sectors to highlight how the "human factor" is vital to meeting the future challenges of project management.

This edition has been organized by the three Italian PMI Chapters in partnership with the University of Bari Aldo Moro.

The day began with institutional greetings, an introduction, and sponsor presentations, followed by Angela Procida's talk on *"The Right to Be Different as a Privilege of Being Free."* Then, Walter Villadei addressed the *"Human Factor in Space,"* while Gianni Previdi explored *"Critical Thinking in Dialogue with AI."* The morning session closed with Barbara Quacquarelli discussing *"Building the Future Between Humanity and Innovation."* After a lunch break, sponsor presentations resumed, followed by Luca Baiguini's talk on *"Making Things Happen: Power, Consensus, and Leadership,"* Maria Cristina Koch's *"Freedom Arises from Limits,"* and Elisabetta Bracci's presentation on *"Stakeholder Engagement and Hybrid Workforce: Creating Value Between AI and Emotional Intelligence."*

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.pmi.org/chapters/northern-italy>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.pmi-centralitaly.org/>

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

Lynn Shannon then presented “*Human Factor and PMI Culture Values*,” while the Forum Lounge “*Volli, sempre volli*,” featuring Mariafelicia Carraturo, Mariafelicia De Laurentis, and Andrea Saviano, welcomed by Luciana Pennino from the PMI-SIC Communication Committee, offered a space for meeting and discussion. The day concluded with closing remarks and a farewell until the next Forum, followed by a networking session.



8th Project Management National Forum at Auditorium Villa Romanazzi Carducci, Bari

### **Team Management: Break the Limits – Inclusion and Performance on Track**

Another special event, “Break the Limits – Power Skills, Inclusion and Performance on Track” has recently concluded with great success at the Vallelunga Circuit, during a thrilling weekend of the Italian Motorcycle Championship.

Over two adrenaline-filled days, participants were immersed in a unique experiential journey, using the world of motorsport as a metaphor to explore key aspects of team management: communication, coordination, inclusion, stress management, and innovation.

A standout feature of the event was the direct involvement of the Angeluss<sup>5</sup> racing team, led by Team Manager Aurora Angelucci. With a diverse team of young male and female riders, Angeluss shared real-world insights on how to lead high-performance groups with passion and purpose.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://angelussmanagement.com/en>



The program featured exclusive experiences such as:

- Behind-the-scenes access to team garages and pit lane during practice sessions and races;
- Sessions on cutting-edge sports technology, focusing on how equipment like helmets and suits enhance safety and performance;
- Post-race debriefs with mechanics and technical staff, revealing the operational core of high-performing teams.

Exceptional guest speakers – including Olympic athletes, Paralympic champions, neuroscientists, and philosophers – inspired attendees with powerful stories about resilience, inclusive leadership, and the ethics of teamwork. Interactive Q&A sessions offered practical takeaways for applying these insights in professional settings.

The event also provided a valuable networking platform, connecting professionals from various industries to exchange experiences and perspectives on effective team leadership.

Blending speed, strategy, and human connection, this event proved to be an unforgettable opportunity for those seeking to elevate their leadership skills in a dynamic and inspiring environment.



June 28–29, 2025 – Vallelunga Circuit (Campagnano di Roma, Italy)



### **The International Project Management Association (IPMA ITALY)<sup>6</sup>**

The IPMA Young Crew Italy announced the six student teams that have qualified for the National Final of the IPMA PM Championship 2025. The National Final, organized in collaboration with Baker Hughes, held in Florence on Friday, May 12, 2025.

The qualifying teams and their scores are as follows:

- **Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore**  
Team: Angelica Missiroli, Paolo Monica, Pornima Truffelli  
Score: 73%
- **Politecnico di Torino**  
Team: Chiara Aprilis, Elisabetta Artusi, Dino Di Emidio  
Score: 68%
- **Politecnico di Milano**  
Team: Ramez Gohary, Ahmed Hassan, Filippo Lupi, Saniya Mukhanova  
Score: 63%
- **Politecnico di Milano**  
Team: Andrea Fumagalli, Gabriele Grisetti, Luca Pezzera, Marco Piensi  
Score: 60%
- **Politecnico di Torino**  
Team: Ariele Ceccon, Elena Elia, Mattia Ghigo, Emanuela Previtero  
Score: 58%
- **Politecnico di Milano**  
Team: Alessandro Palomba, Luca Fabrizio Piazza, Luca Puzzi  
Score: 57%

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<sup>6</sup> <https://ipma.it/ipma/>

the Competition Stages:

1. **Qualification Round** (April 8 – May 8, 2025): Teams take a one-time online test (100 questions in 100 minutes, in English). The top 6 scoring teams qualify for the National Final.
2. **National Final** – Florence, May 16, 2025 (in collaboration with Baker Hughes): Finalists have been solved a business case and present their solutions to a jury.
3. **International Final** – Warsaw, June 6–8, 2025: The National winner will represent Italy at the international competition.

The **PM Championship** is a 3-stage international competition supported by IPMA and its Young Crews. It aims to engage students in project management and foster knowledge exchange between academia and industry.

The winning team of the National Final has earned the opportunity to represent Italy at the International Final of the IPMA PM Championship 2025 took place in Warsaw from June 6 to 8, 2025.





## The Italian Institute of Project Management (ISIPM)<sup>7</sup>

In 2025, the Italian Institute of Project Management (ISIPM) launched a new adventure in its mission to promote the culture of Project Management across Italy. Building on the momentum of PMexpo - the country's premier event dedicated to the discipline - ISIPM has returned with the second edition of PMexplore, a five-city event series designed to highlight how Project Management can be effectively applied across a range of industries. This edition takes a fresh approach, beginning with specific professional sectors—Retail, Tourism, Creative Industries, SMEs, and Food & Beverage—and inviting expert voices from each field to share insights and experiences. Through dynamic panel discussions, PMexplore will uncover the strategic value of Project Management in diverse contexts. The tour will stop in Bologna, Cagliari, Naples, Lecce, and Turin, continuing ISIPM's commitment to widespread knowledge dissemination and paving the way for the next edition of PMexpo.

### Project Management Explore



On March 28, the first 2025 edition of *PMexplore*, titled “**Project Management + Retail: From Project to Consumer,**” was held in Bologna at MUG – Magazzini Generativi. The seminar focused on exploring how project management practices can be strategically applied within the retail sector. This area presents unique challenges, not only due to the

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<sup>7</sup> <https://isipm.org>



complexity of processes and activities involved, but also because of the multitude of relationships and the large number of stakeholders—chief among them, the end consumers. The event provided insights into which aspects are most critical when planning activities in the retail field, the most common complexities encountered, and how project management can offer effective support. Professionals and industry experts shared real-world experiences, illustrating how structured project management approaches can enhance operational efficiency, team coordination, resource management, and—most importantly—customer orientation as a key element in project success.



The Round Table at PMEXplore Bologna

On May 16, 2025, the second edition of *PMexplore*, titled **“Project Management + Tourism: The Importance of a Structured Approach to Tourism Projects,”** took place at the Lazzaretto in Cagliari. The seminar focused on the growing need for a rigorous and structured project management methodology in the tourism sector—one that effectively integrates planning, execution, and monitoring phases to ensure the success of initiatives. A structured approach was shown to optimize resource use, ensure sustainability, and maximize the positive impact on local communities and territories. Throughout the event, participants shared exemplary case studies and practical experiences, highlighting how continuous improvement and adherence to industry best practices can lead to tangible results.

The dialogue between tourism professionals and operators fostered the identification of effective strategies for overcoming sector challenges and seizing new development opportunities. In an ever-changing market, adopting project management as a guiding framework not only makes tourism projects more efficient and sustainable, but also ensures a lasting, positive impact on local economies and communities. The ultimate goal is to promote a high-quality tourism model—adaptive, resilient, and capable of evolving with the needs of a dynamic and globalized market.



The Round Table at PMExplore - Cagliari

### **Joining FORUM PA<sup>8</sup>**

For the 2025 edition as well, the Italian Institute of Project Management (ISIPM) participated as a Partner in the Forum PA, held in Rome from May 19 to 21 at the Palazzo dei Congressi. The central theme of the event was the path toward an “augmented Public Administration,” capable of integrating people, advanced technologies, and collaborative relationships to face current and future challenges and contribute to the collective well-being of the country. ISIPM was featured in a key conference held on May 20 in Room 6, titled “The Application of Project Management for the Transformation of the Public Administration: Comparing Experiences,” with notable speakers including Giorgio Centurelli (Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security), Francesca Bergami (Municipality of Ferrara), Daniela Marchesa Grandi (INPS), and Graziano Trasarti (President of ISIPM).

During the session, several important topics were addressed: Maurizio Monassi and Graziano Trasarti presented the evolving role of the RUP (Responsible for the Procedure), who, under the new Public Procurement Code, officially becomes the Single Project Manager. They highlighted the methodological foundations required to align this role with project-based work, in accordance with the UNI ISO 21502 standard, and introduced the qualification path proposed by ISIPM. Maria Luisa D’Orazi presented the ISIPM-Prado® model, an annual tool used to assess the project management maturity of Italian public sector organizations.

The model reveals seven common traits and offers guidelines for growth in areas such as competencies (technical, behavioral, and contextual) and organizational development (project management digitalization, strategic alignment with the NRRP, and structured methodologies). Finally, Enrico Mastrofini discussed the definition of professional requirements for project managers in public tenders, stressing the importance of clearly specifying qualifications in compliance with technical standards and the guidelines provided by Accredia. His intervention underscored the need to ensure a competent and effective project management approach, particularly in the implementation of NRRP-related projects.

ISIPM’s participation reaffirmed the Institute’s commitment to promoting certified competencies, innovative management models, and a project-oriented culture aimed at enhancing efficiency and innovation within the Public Administration.

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<sup>8</sup> <https://www.forumpa.it/>





Maria Luisa D'Orazi<sup>9</sup> presenting the ISIPM-Prado® model



Maurizio Monassi<sup>10</sup> at Forum PA within ISIPM stand

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.linkedin.com/in/maria-luisa-d-orazi-4b431511a/>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.linkedin.com/in/maurizio-monassi-850418/>



## **Women in Project Management – Experiences Compared**

Project management is a field in which women are increasingly emerging, bringing with them a wealth of skills, perspectives, and sensitivities that enrich and diversify a sector in constant evolution. In this role, many women demonstrate distinctive strengths such as empathy, active listening, effective communication, and a strong focus on managing interpersonal relationships—key elements in coordinating diverse teams, handling complex scenarios, and ensuring project success. Organizational skills, attention to detail, and a leadership style based on trust, motivation, and team inspiration further distinguish the feminine approach to project management. The contribution of women is now widely recognized as a true added value, not only in terms of operational efficiency but also for their ability to foster inclusive, collaborative, and people-centered environments—qualities that are essential to address the increasing complexity of modern projects. Nevertheless, despite numerous exemplary cases, women remain underrepresented in project management, largely due to barriers that go beyond technical skills or professional capabilities and often stem from cultural, structural, or systemic issues. In this context, the event “Women in Project Management – Experiences Compared” aimed to provide a platform for the voices and real-life stories of women leading projects across various professional fields. Through an open and engaging roundtable discussion, participants shared their experiences, challenges, and achievements, reflecting on the progress made so far and the actions still needed to promote gender-based approaches and support truly inclusive development in a strategic and rapidly evolving sector like project management.



Tesera Iorfida<sup>11</sup> moderate the event Women in Project Management

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.linkedin.com/in/teresa-iorfida-55310b5/>

## ISIPM HUB – PMDay 2025



On Thursday, March 13, the *PM Day* was held at the Conference Hall of the Engineering Macroarea at the University of Rome Tor Vergata—a full day dedicated to discovering the importance of Project Management and understanding how it applies to both student associations and various professional sectors. The event was made possible thanks to the collaboration between A.L.I.T.U.R. (Association of Engineering Graduates of Tor Vergata University of Rome) and ISIPM (Italian Institute of Project Management), with the aim of raising awareness about the value and practical utility of project-based thinking. The morning featured an engaging business game, where participants had the chance to put their project management skills to the test in a simulated environment, tackling challenges related to planning, coordination, and problem solving.

After a lunch break, the afternoon was dedicated to a roundtable discussion organized by ISIPM, titled *“The Event as a Project: From Planning to the Realization of an Effective Experience.”* Experts in the field shared insights and experiences, exploring key concepts in project management and illustrating how structured planning can transform events into successful, goal-driven initiatives.

The day followed a well-defined agenda that included institutional greetings, an introductory session on the fundamentals of project management, interactive activities, and expert contributions—creating an enriching opportunity for all attendees to deepen their understanding of a discipline that is increasingly vital in today’s professional landscape.



PMDay at Auditorium Tor Vergata's University





## Conclusions

In Italy, the first half of 2025 has witnessed a remarkable surge in participation and engagement across a wide range of professional and cultural initiatives. From round tables and panel discussions to conferences and community events, there has been a renewed enthusiasm for collective dialogue and knowledge sharing. This growing momentum reflects a broader desire to connect, collaborate, and co-create meaningful pathways forward—particularly during a period of significant social, technological, and economic transformation.

Professional associations across the country have responded with energy and vision. Fueled by passion and creativity, they have embraced this moment as an opportunity to rethink their roles, reshape their strategies, and reimagine the future of their disciplines.

Whether through innovative formats, inclusive dialogues, or forward-looking programs, each association is contributing to a shared effort to navigate the challenges and possibilities of this transition phase. What emerges is a dynamic ecosystem where collaboration, adaptability, and a renewed sense of purpose are driving forces toward sustainable and impactful change.



## About the Author



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**Alessandro Quagliarini**, MScEng, PMP, MBA, is an experienced Project, Program and Portfolio 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 Professional Master in Business Administration from the Bologna University Business School. He has obtained both PMP® and ISIPM-Av® advanced certifications in Project Management, and he is also certified as an Information Management Systems Lead Auditor.

For the past ten years, He has been a Member of the Board of the "Italian Institute of Project Management" (ISIPM) and an Accredited Teacher in Project Management. Currently, He works in the "Enterprise and Innovative Solutions Office" of TIM as a Project Management Officer. Previously, He was involved in the "Digital Transformation" engineering and industrialization programs of the new Italian telecommunications network. His focus has been on the engineering of delivery and assurance processes for the provision of services to retail, business, and industrial customers, as well as operational management and procurement support for defining specifications and contracts. He has also contributed to the definition of operating rules for maintenance, requirements for systems development, and support for commercial and regulatory teams in defining services and processes for customers (Other Licensed Operators and Industries). Additionally, He has worked on ensuring operational compliance with ISO Standards and International Best Practices.

As a Member of the ISIPM Board, He dedicates his volunteer activities to promoting project management culture among young people, particularly high school students and staff, including teachers. As an ISIPM accredited teacher, He has taught project management in public and private institutions, schools, and universities. He also has experience in organizing events, speaking at conferences, and proposing and managing EU-funded projects.

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