PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE
(PMO) Branch

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PMO Branch Organization Structure

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Volunteer Coordination: Ricardo Alvarez

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Rodion Rogov
Djoni Wabisono
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PMI-SOC Program Management Office (PMO) Branch

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Program Management: Alignment between strategy and the projects

(By Djoni Wibisono, PMP, PgMP, CSM)

Organization has concerned that the result of projects should bring achievement of organization's strategic objectives. There are a lot of studies or articles how to make reasonable linkage between strategy and project.

Strategic management methodology focuses on strategic objective development, how to govern, and an approach to identify the targets. Meanwhile the project management methodology emphasizes on contribution to the completion of the project and its management efficiency.

Methodology at a strategic level cannot ensure that initiatives can be implemented well, while the method at the project level cannot ensure that the project aligned with the organization's strategy and will give an expected value. The success of the project is generally measured by the balancing of project constraints. So there is limited concerned that the project will contribute enough change to organization.

When I learned book of "The Standard for Program Management", one of the methods to connect organizational strategy and the execution is Program Management. It is mentioned that business case is a formal declaration how program aligns with the organization strategic objectives.

At program business case, it identifies business benefits, outcome, project outputs and
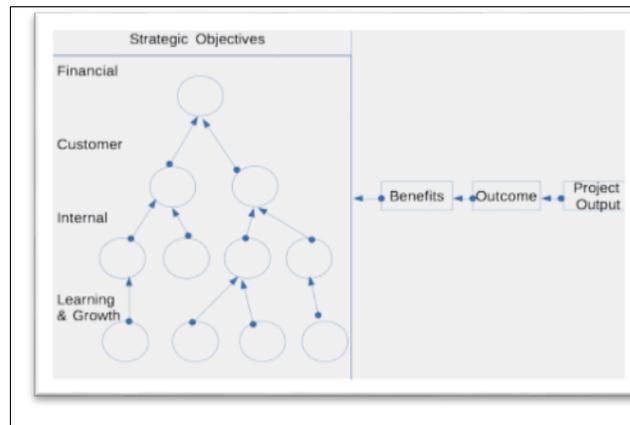
mapping them with strategic objectives.

The definition of output is deliverable which is tangible by nature, whereas outcome is the final result of the proper use of outputs.

Benefit is measurable improvement that has a positive impact to organization from the effect of exploited outcome.

Hence the identification and mapping of benefits, outcome and project output through program management approach play important roles for organization to establish alignment between strategic objectives and projects.

Effective Communications — Promotion of Project Management

Simple Tips for Project Success
(By Lisa Anderson, President of LMA Consulting Group)

Projects are instrumental in growing the business and making a profit
It is critical that we find simple yet effective ways to make sure we are successful. In trying out many project management techniques, Lisa has found out these to be most beneficial yet simple.

What's the point? It helps to start the project by understanding why you are doing the project. What will be accomplished? Or why does management consider it a priority? How will you affect the company performance? For example, will customers enjoy the improvement? Or, will the company make additional profit? Be more efficient? What will be the outcome?

Develops a simple plan: Don't become overwhelmed with complex project timelines and worrying about "form vs. function". Instead, put together a simple plan. Who needs to do what? And by when? Are there tasks that have to be done prior to other tasks starting? Or that need to be completed before other tasks can complete? Do we have these outlined somewhere? Getting bogged down in project software details is the quickest way to ruin a project.

Prioritize and sequence the tasks: Start by identifying which tasks are most important? Just take a step back and think logically. Which tasks will have the largest impact on the success of the project? If you cannot decide, think about 3 things you could use to evaluate whether the task will have an impact. Then compare these criteria with the tasks on the simple plan. Priorities will emerge. Priorities and sequencing are not the same. Sequencing refers to what order the tasks must be accomplished.

Follow up: Follow-up will make or break success. You need to check in with task owners before and after your task. Asking a few simple questions can go a long way.

If common sense was prevalent, companies would probably double their profits. If you can focus on what is simple yet effective in project management, you will affect those programs that will have a direct benefit to your business.

(Article republished with the permission of Project Times. Original article can be found at https://www.projecttimes.com/lisa-anderson/simple-tips-for-project-success.html#addcomments)

PMO Branch Articles
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Send your articles (400-600 words) to **pmobranch@soc.pmi.on.ca**

Useful Resources

1. Senior Executives Unconsciously Disrupt Projects

https://www.projecttimes.com/george-pitagorsky/how-senior-executives-unconsciously-disrupt-projects.html

2. The Good and The Bad of PMO Maturity

http://duration-driven.com/the-good-and-the-bad-of-pmo-maturity/

3. Reasons Your EPMO is Failing

http://www.pmhut.com/3-reasons-your-epmo-is-failing

The most important thing for a project manager is to '**Being proactive'**.

Fixing a problem is '**Reactive'**, it creates more problems that you won't be able to do anything else. That's what we call '**Firefighting'.**