

What is project. What are It's characteristics and parameters.

PROJECT

- * A project is a combination of interrelated activities with well defined objectives to be completed in a specific time period. Project is something special which is different from routine and regular activities

DEFINITION

- * The application of knowledge, skills, tools and techniques to project activities in order to meet project requirement.
- * Project Management is the art of directing and coordinating human and material resources throughout life of a project by using modern management techniques to achieve pre-determined objectives of scope , cost , time, quality to the equal satisfaction of those involved.”

DEFINITIONS

- * According to Harrison, “ Project is a non routine, non repetitive, one-off undertaking, with well defined time, financial and technical performance goal.
- * According to Project Management Institute (PMI), “Project can be defined as a temporary endeavour undertaken to accomplish a unique objective at goal.”

EXAMPLES OF PROJECT

- * Construction of a house.
- * Writing a book.
- * Building a dam.
- * Introducing a new product in the market.
Construction of a new bridge over a river.
- * A Politician contesting an election.
- * Organizing a seminar.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PROJECT AND REGULAR OPERATIONS

Project	Regular Operation
One Time	Repetitive
Use of wide variety of skills	Limited Skills
Use of special purpose equipment for short duration	Equipment's are in continuous use
No revenue during Project stage	Revenues are there

CHARACTERISTICS OF PROJECT

- * Unique Activities
- * Interrelated activities
- * Sequence of activities
- * Specified time
- * Attainment of a specific goal

Project Parameters

- * Scope
- * Quality
- * Cost
- * Time
- * resources

Project Scope

- * The project scope is a document that defines the parameters factors that define a system and determine its behaviour of the project, what work is done within the boundaries of the project, and the work that is outside the project boundaries. The scope of work (SOW) is typically a written document that defines what work will be accomplished by the end of the project—the deliverables of the project. The project scope defines what will be done, and the project execution plan defines how the work will be accomplished.

Project Quality

- * Project quality focuses on the end product or service deliverables that reflect the purpose of the project. The project manager is responsible for developing a project execution approach that provides for a clear understanding of the expected project deliverables and the quality specifications. The project manager of a housing construction project not only needs to understand which rooms in the house will be carpeted but also what grade of carpet is needed. A room with a high volume of traffic will need a high-grade carpet.

Project Schedule and Time Management

- * The definition of project success often includes completing the project on time. The development and management of a project schedule that will complete the project on time is a primary responsibility of the project manager, and completing the project on time requires the development of a realistic plan and the effective management of the plan. On smaller projects, project managers may lead the development of the project plan and build a schedule to meet that plan. On larger and more complex projects, a project controls team that focuses on both costs and schedule planning and controlling functions will assist the project management team in developing the plan and tracking progress against the plan.

Project Costs

- * The definition of project success often includes completing the project within budget. Developing and controlling a project budget that will accomplish the project objectives is a critical project management skill. Although clients expect the project to be executed efficiently, cost pressures vary on projects. On some projects, the project completion or end date is the largest contributor to the project complexity. The development of a new drug to address a critical health issue, the production of a new product that will generate critical cash flow for a company, and the competitive advantage for a company to be first in the marketplace with a new technology are examples of projects with schedule pressures that override project costs.

Human Resources and Communications

- * Staffing the project with the right skills, at the right place, and at the right time is an important responsibility of the project management team. The project usually has two types of team members: functional managers and process managers. The functional managers and team focus on the technology of the project. On a construction project, the functional managers would include the engineering manager and construction superintendents. On a training project, the functional manager would include the professional trainers; on an information technology project, the software development managers would be functional managers. The project management team also includes project process managers. The project controls team would include process managers who have expertise in estimating, cost tracking, planning, and scheduling. The project manager needs functional and process expertise to plan and execute a successful project.

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