# The Importance and Trending of IT Project Management

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*Abstract*—**Project management is the application of knowledge, skills, tools, and techniques to meet to project requirement. The talk emphasises on the required qualities for a person to effectively manage projects whether in university or later during our work life. Project consists of 6 main elements which are: cost, time, benefit, risk, scope, and quality.**

**Methods: One of the prime examples given was Prince 2 which is a methodology project management that was established in the UK. This type of methodology could be used to management any type of project but not always applicable to smaller projects. The process begins with starting up, then initiation or planning. After that, execution of the planning phase and monitoring and controlling the execution. Then of course we have the closing of the project. In the working field it is more common for a gig economy to be practised by a company and we as an employee must be accustomed to it. Not only that, but companies also have data analytics, and artificial intelligence to further help them with project management.**

**Conclusion: Lastly, the equality that is most important is our EQ which is emotional quality. This is because when our emotions take over our thinking process, we cannot view the situation realistically and objectively.**

*Keywords—Project management*

## I. INTRODUCTION

The talk was held on 1st December 2020 on 10am until 11am. The talk was given by Mr Mohd Khairul Reeza Ruslan, Head of Project Management Office Commerce Dot Com Sdn Bhd. The title of this talk is The Importance and trending of IT Project Management. This talk was held online using Cisco Webex application since the world is now under the pandemic of Covid-19.

## II. IT PROJECT MANAGEMENT

### A. The Importance of IT Project Management

For IT projects, the importance of project managements is because projects must be finished in time. Main purpose is the project must be submitted before the deadline before the industry starts using it, since the use of the IT application is essential to the industry from the beginning. The next important thing after time, project management also serves to improve the product quality since the basic activities are completed in time, so non-essential but very important quality activities can be then done [1].

Since IT tasks are huge, project management makes useful and efficient use of time, so project can finish on time. For example, in the Malaysian industry, there is a management framework called Quality Management Framework (QMF) that works incrementally up from the basics [2].

### B. Trending of IT Project Management

Recently, new trends have emerged in IT project management:

1) There is a new global "gig" economy. Jobs nowadays may often be "short-term" contracts, freelance work, or remote jobs.
2) Big Data and data analytics are used to gain insights and take decisions.
3) Artificial Intelligence and automation help IT managers to make calculations and assign resources in real-time [3].
4) Many software mythologies may be merged to make a hybrid methodology that solves the problem.
5) The need for Emotional Intelligence (EQ) besides technical skills is greater than before, as string emotional intelligence and soft skills are key behind good leadership skills [3].

## III. RELEVANT IT CAREERS

In the preparation, execution, management, monitoring and closeup of projects, the project managers are the leading players. They are responsible for the whole scope of the project, the project team, the resources and the project success or failure. Project management is an important thing in IT career. One who can manage a project efficiently has always a special demand in the job market. The management of projects is a specialized activity. This requires preparation, coordination, deliverables and ultimately the work according to customer or company requirements. The IT manager's role can consist of managing the organization's everyday IT needs, including the management of computer networks, servers and ensuring the day-to-day efficiency of IT [4]. The project manager must put the system analyst, software developer and technology specialist team together to ensure that the full project team is focused on fulfilling the project objectives to accomplish those goals.

## IV. REFLECTIONS

- On 1st December 2020, I attended a talk by Mr Mohd Khairul Reeza Ruslan, Head of Project Management Office Commerce Dot Com Sdn Bhd about The Importance and Trending of IT Project Management. In this talk, he shared about the process that should a project pass through to call it as a succeed project. After I heard his explanation, I know that before a project is produced, a project manager should make a timeline to describe and show the process of the project. This is because, during the process, if the project fails at certain part, we could still fix the problem before proceeding to the next step. Furthermore, this talk also reminds me if I become a project manager one day, I must control my emotions no matter how hard the situation is. This is because, we cannot think rationally when our emotions are unstable.

- From the talk I learned that project management skills can also be implemented in our daily life. He explained

that a project consists of time, cost, benefit, risk, scope, and quality. All these elements can be related to our lives. We all live to seek benefit in life but cost of it can be crucial with time on the line. So, we need to scope our opportunity and evaluate the risks when grasping our goals. Only when we passionately do our tasks, we can have a quality output in life.

- During Mr Mohd Khairul one-hour speech he explained how project management works and the importance of project management in every work. Mr Khairul mentioned some of the characters of project, they are time, cost, quality, scope, risk, and benefit. He also mentioned that project management was started with construction. It came to IT a little bit later. So, attending this session I was able to understand what project management is, how it works and its importance. I hope this will be very helpful for my future career.

- Mr Mohd Khairul explained that project management is a set of tools, methodologies, and techniques to accomplish a project's activities within time, cost, and quality constraints. He said without this a project may always fail to complete. From this, I realized that whatever hard work, skills, or talent a developer has, if he does not manage himself well, he may always fail to complete his part in the project. Mr Mohd Khairul mentioned in the industry the process is often tailored so that first the bare minimum is done and then more is decided to do. Managing projects may also need flexibility and adaptability. What it needs workers should develop Emotional Intelligence (EQ) besides technical skills. Qualities like effective communication, controlling emotions, leadership skills need to be developed as well.

- In this talk he spoke about the meticulous process of planning and then implementing a project. The steps he emphasized on were starting up, initiation, execution, monitoring and control and finally closing. The highlight of this that I learned is, the steps must be put into a timeline to help manage the project. We learned about the qualities and skills a project manager should have. Besides, to make decisions, maintaining emotional quality is crucial. When emotions take control and you start to take things personally, you will be unable to think logically and objectively and will translate to an unsuccessful project. Mr. Khairul mentioned that future project managers will have to be able to use data analytics software and artificial intelligence to make project decisions, something we should take note.

## A. Tables

TABLE I
Process of Project Management

| Process | Description |
|---|---|
| 1. Initiate | <ul><li>Project objectives</li><li>Constraints</li><li>Authorization</li></ul> |
| 2. Plan | <ul><li>Statement of work</li><li>Project plan</li><li>Assumptions, constraints, critical success factors</li></ul> |
| 3. Execute | <ul><li>Project deliverable</li><li>Deliverable acceptances</li><li>Change requests</li><li>Issues</li></ul> |
| 4. Monitor & Control | <ul><li>Performance/status reports</li><li>Plans change request</li><li>Change management results</li><li>Issues management results</li></ul> |
| 5. Closing | <ul><li>Product and vendor evaluations</li><li>Acceptance documentation</li><li>Project archives</li><li>Re-deploy resources</li><li>Outstanding issues and changes</li></ul> |

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