

RESEARCH PROBLEM STATEMENT

DATE: 09/06/2019	PROJECT AREA: Special Projects
TITLE: Fine Tuning Project Management Functions to Achieve Better Success	
PROBLEM STATEMENT: According to studies conducted by various state and government agencies, about 70% of projects fail to meet the milestones in terms of cost, schedule etc. often wasting millions of dollars per failed project. The same enterprises agonize over the causes of project failure, call in expensive consultants to assess and recover failing projects, and often abandon what originally seemed like well-planned, well-organized projects, destined for success. Contracting a Project Management Office (PMO), the PMO costs around 3% - 5% of the overall construction budget. Although there is no single method or organizational structure that can be used to manage projects to success, advancements in project management techniques has brought into existence tools and techniques such as the PMO, managing and facilitating the Scope, Cost, Schedule, Resource, and Communication areas. With these smart applications many potential unscheduled and unwanted events can be averted. The Scope of Work is arranged in a Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) and streamlined into Activities which is the basis for schedule management, creating easy and user-friendly supervision during project execution.	
OBJECTIVES: This study will: 1) Assist ARDOT in formulating major PMO functions that are necessary to achieve success in their construction projects; 2) Prepare user-friendly templates for Buyer (Client) or Seller (Subcontractor) to establish pragmatic cost, schedule and project monitoring templates; 3) Provide higher management the graphic presentation of "S" curves for an efficient overview of any project; 4) Conduct monitoring for "AS WE GO" templates, facilitating easy access to beneficial key project directories such as Cost Performance Index (CPI) and Schedule Performance Index (SPI).	
FORM OF RESEARCH IMPLEMENTATION AND RETURN ON INVESTMENT: A detailed breakdown of the PMO's management services would be provided. As a thumb rule, one can easily assume to have a cost saving of around 5% to 8%. The main advantage of an effective PMO within a project ensures, 1) Efficient Project kickoff by having Scope, Schedule, and Cost Baselines in place starting Project Start Date; 2) Activities or Defined Activities scheduled are thoroughly documented both with ARDOT and the PMO; 3) With a Performance-written Contract or Specification, the PMO will oversee the ARDOT's interests from preventable Change Orders. From the contractor's perspective, all potential Change Orders are supported with consistent and organized documentation.	
Estimated Project Duration: 18 Months	
PREPARED BY: Zahid Hossain & Arshed Baig	
AGENCY: Arkansas State University	
PHONE: (870) 680-4299	REVIEWER: Christopher McKenney

Standing Subcommittee
Ranking

3/5

Advisory Council
Ranking

Statement Combined with
Statement Number(s)