Managing Public-Sector Projects: Challenges, Methods and Tools (Workshop Suite) - 12 Days

Course Description:

Managing projects is always a challenge, especially when those projects involve multiple stakeholders, new or unproven technology, shifting or unclear project requirements, and constrained resources. Those project challenges multiply in the public sector, which is dependent on successful projects to make the changes necessary for the public sector to cope with a fast-changing world.

- Public-sector projects can be more difficult than many private-sector projects because they:
- Operate in an environment of often-conflicting goals and outcomes
- Involve many layers of stakeholders with varied interests
- Must placate political interests and operate under media scrutiny
- Are allowed little tolerance for failure
- Operate in organizations that often have a difficult time identifying outcome measures and missions
- Are required to be performed under constraints imposed by administrative rules and often-cumbersome policies and processes
- Require the cooperation and performance of agencies outside the project team for purchasing, hiring, and other functions
- Must make do with existing staff resources more often than private-sector projects
- Are performed in organizations that may not be comfortable or used to directed action and project success

This set of workshops has been designed to address the particular and daunting challenges of managing public-sector projects. It introduces participants to project management methods and tools that have proven useful in both public- and private-sector organizations and identifies both the difficulties of public-sector projects and best practices for dealing with them. Ultimately, it is designed to enable public-sector project managers to manage the crucial dialogues necessary for successful projects and organize and inspire their public organizations for taking the actions necessary to create project deliverables that meet organizational needs. It provides those project managers with the "hard" and "soft" skills necessary for success in the project sector.

These workshops are compliant with the project management methods established by the Project Management Institute (PMI®), the world's largest and most respected association of project managers. They comply with the Project Management Body of Knowledge (the *PMBOK® Guide,*

Third Edition). They are also compliant with the requirements created by the Federal Acquisition Certification for Program and Project Managers.

This suite of workshops has been assembled in order to meet the needs of public-sector organizations and to provide a fully scalable approach to building the project management skills of entry level project managers, mid-level project managers, and senior manager project managers, as well as those who are engaged in continuous learning in project management.

Workshops:

Workshops in the public-sector project management suite include:

- Introduction to Public Project Management: Challenges and Solutions, a one-day introduction to public project management
- Managing the Constraints of Public Projects, a three-day overview of tools for managing the unique constraints of public projects including resource, schedule, scope and stakeholder constraints
- Managing Public Project Risks, a two-day detailed discussion of the risks of public-sector projects and the tools and techniques for managing those risks
- Identifying the Requirements of Public-Sector Projects, a two-day exploration of the daunting challenges of eliciting and managing the requirements for public-sector projects
- Managing the Critical Dialogues of Public-Sector Projects, a two-day exploration of the communications challenges of public projects and techniques necessary for managing stakeholder expectations
- Managing Vendors and Partners in Public-Sector Projects: a two-day analysis of the difficulties of managing vendors for public-sector projects and creating good project outcomes through the use of vendors

The modules that comprise these workshops can be re-ordered into custom workshops in order to meet specific organizational needs.