



FEATURES OF A PROJECT

LECTURE 3

INTRODUCTION

- WHAT MAKES SOMETHING A PROJECT?
- PROJECT = TEMPORARY, UNIQUE, GOAL-ORIENTED ACTIVITY.
- EXAMPLE: DEVELOPING A FOODPANDA APP VS. ROUTINE APP MAINTENANCE.
- WRITING A SOFTWARE CODE FOR A CLIENT VS. DAILY SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE.

KEY FEATURES OF A PROJECT

- CLEAR OBJECTIVE
- UNIQUENESS
- TEMPORARINESS
- LIFE CYCLE
- RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS
- INTERDISCIPLINARY NATURE
- RISK & UNCERTAINTY
- CLIENT ORIENTATION
- PROGRESSIVE ELABORATION

FEATURE 1: CLEAR OBJECTIVE

- EVERY PROJECT HAS A DEFINED GOAL. EXAMPLE:
BUILD A MOBILE APP FOR ONLINE TICKET BOOKING.
- LINK TO MANAGEMENT DECISION-MAKING:
DECISIONS MUST ALIGN WITH THE PROJECT PURPOSE.

FEATURE 1: CLEAR OBJECTIVE

Without
a Goal

Wastage

No
Direction

Confusion

Delays

FEATURE 2: UNIQUENESS

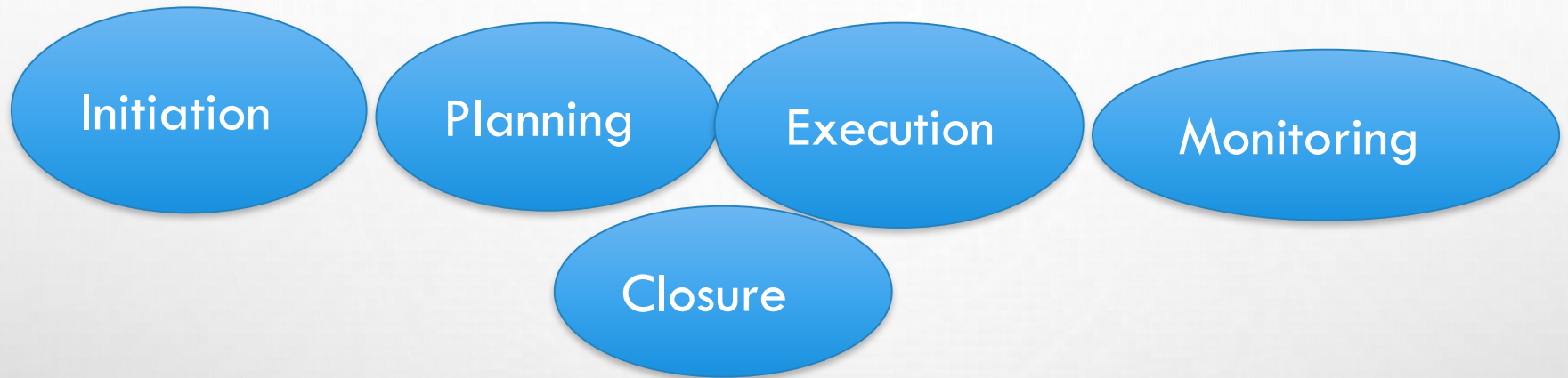
- EACH PROJECT IS DIFFERENT IN SCOPE AND OUTPUT.
- EXAMPLE: TWO BRIDGES MAY LOOK SIMILAR BUT DIFFER IN DESIGN & SITE CHALLENGES.
- PROJECT CAN NOT BE COPY-PASETED

FEATURE 3: TEMPORARINESS

- PROJECTS ARE TIME-BOUND WITH A START & END DATE.
- EXAMPLE: FIFA WORLD CUP ORGANIZATION ENDS AFTER EVENT COMPLETION.
- TEMPORARINESS ENSURE FOCUS AND URGENCY.

FEATURE 4: LIFE CYCLE

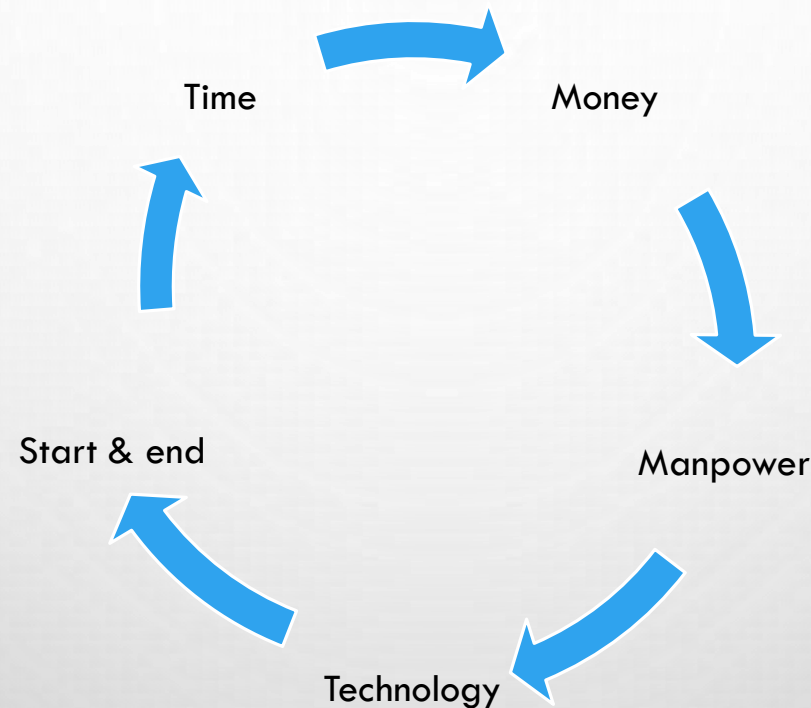
- PROJECTS PASS THROUGH STAGES:



- THIS CYCLE MAKES PROJECTS DIFFERENT FROM ONGOING OPERATIONS.
- EXAMPLE: LAUNCHING AN E-COMMERCE WEBSITE  PHASES FROM REQUIREMENT GATHERING TO DELIVERY.

FEATURE 5: RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS

- PROJECTS MUST BE DELIVERED WITH LIMITED TIME, COST & MANPOWER.



- EXAMPLE: UNIVERSITY PORTAL MUST BE LAUNCHED WITHIN BUDGET.
- DECISION MAKING IS ABOUT CHOOSING THE BEST ALLOCATION OF SCARCE RESOURCES

FEATURE 6: INTERDISCIPLINARY NATURE

- Projects often require **different skills and departments**.
- Example: A hospital automation project involves doctors, IT specialists, and administrators.
- Feature: Projects integrate multiple domains.

FEATURE 7: RISK & UNCERTAINTY

- PROJECTS FACE RISKS: TECHNICAL FAILURE, COST OVERRUNS, DELAYS.
- EXAMPLE: METRO BUS PROJECT IN LAHORE FACED LAND ACQUISITION RISKS.
- RISK MANAGEMENT IS INTEGRAL TO PROJECT SUCCESS.

FEATURE 8: CLIENT ORIENTATION

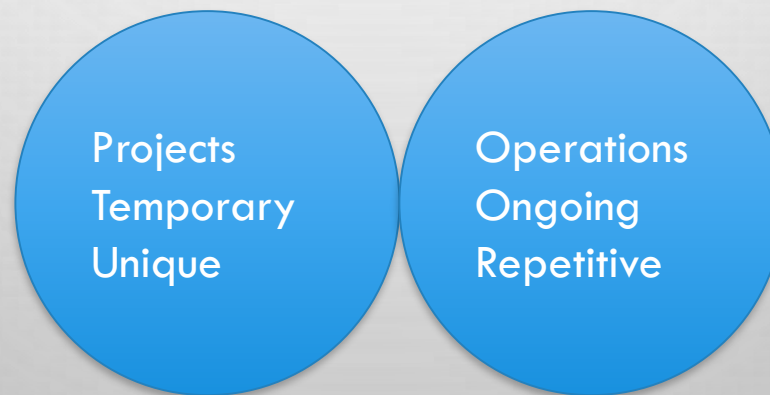
- PROJECTS ARE UNDERTAKEN TO SATISFY STAKEHOLDERS OR CLIENTS.
- EXAMPLE: A CONSTRUCTION COMPANY BUILDS A HOUSING SCHEME FOR A GOVERNMENT CLIENT.
- FEATURE: CLIENT'S SATISFACTION = PROJECT'S SUCCESS.

FEATURE 9: PROGRESSIVE ELABORATION

- PROJECTS BECOME CLEARER AND DETAILED AS THEY PROGRESS.
- EXAMPLE: AT THE START, ONLY BASIC APP FEATURES ARE DEFINED → DETAILS EVOLVE DURING DEVELOPMENT.

PROJECTS VS. OPERATIONS

- PROJECTS: TEMPORARY, UNIQUE OUTCOMES.
- OPERATIONS: ONGOING, REPETITIVE TASKS.
- EXAMPLE: DESIGNING A NEW STUDENT PORTAL VS. DAILY ATTENDANCE ENTRY.



CASE EXAMPLE: NADRA SMART CARD PROJECT

- OBJECTIVE: PROVIDE BIOMETRIC-BASED ID CARDS.
- UNIQUE: DIFFERENT FROM PAPER IDS.
- TIME-BOUND: PHASED ROLLOUT.
- CONSTRAINTS: BUDGET & MANPOWER.
- INTERDISCIPLINARY: IT EXPERTS, GOVT, VENDORS.
- RISKS: DATA LEAKS, INITIAL RESISTANCE.
- OUTCOME: WIDELY SUCCESSFUL BUT FACED INITIAL RESISTANCE.

INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY

- IMAGINE YOU ARE PROJECT MANAGER FOR A NEW UNIVERSITY PORTAL.
- WHICH PROJECT FEATURES DO YOU OBSERVE?
- DISCUSS IN PAIRS FOR 3 MINUTES.

SUMMARY

- PROJECTS = TEMPORARY, UNIQUE, GOAL-FOCUSED, RESOURCE-BOUND.
- KEY FEATURES ENSURE PROJECT SUCCESS.