**ASSIGNMENT 1: PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

**1.How does sharing experiences in the form of lessons learned lead to best practices in managing and developing information systems?(5 MKS)**

Lessons learned help avoid the mistakes that occurred in the previous experience and makes every project better than the previous one thus eventually leading to the best practices in the projects of any field .

Sharing of best practices saves projecting team from the need of making already existing inventions, they therefore aim at discovering new knowledge and experiences.

Sharing of best practices motivates managers to communicate and connect with other managers hence increased information sharing .

By sharing best practices managers can grab the required skills and knowledge easily and in short time thus enabling them to become more skilled hence they will be more useful to the project’s success.

Sharing of best practices in the form of knowledge and experiences makes the project managers informed and knowledgeable.

**2.Describe eXtreme programming (XP). How does XP accelerate the SDLC?(5 MKS)**

Extreme Programming (XP) is an agile software development framework that aims to produce higher quality software, and higher quality of life for the development team

XP divides a project into four phases; planning, designing, coding, and testing. It accelerates the SDLC process by involving customers in the development of the system to react to any changes in business requirements and customer needs.

**3.Describe the relationship among scope, schedule, and budget.5 MKS)**

Project Scope:

Project scope is defined as what the project is supposed to accomplish and describes what should be the result. It is also known as the deliverables of the project.

Project scope is directly proportional to the project schedule and project cost. Project schedule and project cost would be dependent on the project scope and the project manager would fix the budget and schedule as per the particular scope or deliverables required by the client.

Project time/schedule:

Project time or schedule is the duration of project completion and describes when the project will be finished and the client will get the desired product. The project manager must manage project tasks to manage project time.

 Project budget/cost:

budget is the total sum of money allocated for the particular purpose of the project for a specific period of time.

Project schedule and project cost have an inversely proportional relationship and these move in opposite directions. If the project has to finish in a shorter time than planned at the planning stage, the project cost has to be increased.

**4.What are the benefits of using a project management approach to developing information systems?(5 MKS)**

1. Better Efficiency in Delivering Services: Project management provides a “roadmap" that is easily followed and leads to project completion. Once you know where to avoid the pits, you’re going to be working smarter and optimally.

2. Enhanced Customer Satisfaction: Whenever you get a project done on time and under budget, the client walks away happy. And a happy client is one you’ll see again. Smart project management provides the tools that enable this client/manager relationship to continue.

3. Enhanced Effectiveness in Delivering Services: The same strategies that allowed you to successfully complete one project will serve you many times over.

4. Improved Growth and Development Within your Team.

**5. Greater Standing and Competitive Edge: Word travels fast and there is nothing like superior performance to secure your place in the marketplace.**

6. Opportunities to Expand your Services: Great performance leads to more opportunities to succeed.

7. Better Flexibility: It allows for flexibility, allows you to map out the strategy you want to take see your project completed.

8. Increased Risk Assessment: Project management provides a red flag at the right time, before you start working on project completion helping you assess the risk and take measures.

9. Increase in Quality: It goes hand-in-hand with enhanced effectiveness.

10. An increase in quantity of projects and output is often the result of better efficiency.

By implementing fundamental project management strategies, you will narrow your scope, achieve goals within specific time and cost perimeters.

**5.Define knowledge management? Although many people believe knowledge cannot be managed, why do you think many companies are undertaking knowledge management initiatives?(5 MKS)**

Knowledge Management is systematic way of managing the organization's knowledge which helps to create values and meet tactical or strategic requirements. It thus involves everything from storing , sharing and creating knowledge.

Companies are undertaking knowledge management initiatives due to its advantages which include;

The ability to solve problems by learning from past mistakes is one of the other strong benefits of knowledge management. By carefully tracking successes and failures, an organization can create an effective list of best practices. This can help an organization in every area, from customer satisfaction to improved productivity.

It provides materials for training personnel. Both new and current employees can benefit from the accumulated knowledge of an organization. They can also develop an understanding of the organization as a whole and learn more about its inner functions and how it interacts with the outside world. This includes learning from mistakes and building on past success.

Another benefit of knowledge management is that it can help managers and executives to direct work to the proper resources in the organization. With detailed information about employee capabilities and records of what efforts have and have not worked, it can be possible to find the best way to save time and resources. This knowledge can also help an organization to avoid hiring or maintaining too many personnel for its needs.