**Why do we need to have a full project management plan if we already have an elaborate software development life cycle? Are we doing too much by doing both? Are we duplicating the effort? Can we just survive with one plan or something hybrid between the two?**

Having a good project management plan in addition to the SDLC can aid significantly in project and product quality. Some of the benefits a project management process will bring are providing consistency of success regarding time, cost, and quality objectives, ensuring customer expectations are met, collecting historical information and data for future use, providing a method of thought for ensuring all requirements are met through a work definition process that is comprehensive, risk reduction associated with the project, and minimizing scope creep. Having a project management plan ensures management commitment, which is a significant factor in having a project succeed. A project management plan also aids client involvement and willingness to support and understand the defined project management plan and SDLC. A good project management plan does not so much duplicate the effort but instead supports and confirms the effort. While it is possible to survive with just one, or a hybrid of the two, doing so would require sacrificing benefits that one or the other provides that might make the difference between the project success or failure.