

Response Post

Good morning,

I enjoyed reading this, and agree with what you have identified as the most common causes for project failures.

Thinking specifically about the two examples you have provided of project failures, there are some things that could have been done by the organisations at hand to remedy these.

Taking the risk assessment issue at the Waste Management organisation, it's pretty clear that they were desperate for a solution and were pretty blinded by this, leading to a lack of due diligence throughout the process. If they had taken time to fully identify the risks associated with just looking at the price and timings, they might have made a more informed decision.

As for the issues at the ESA, this is a little more nuanced. You cannot get experienced staff who, at some point, were not inexperienced. Training, specifically investment in training, is essential to developing a fully functional team. That being said, there should always be oversight with this to ensure that the deliverables still meet the high standard required. An investment in resources to provided this oversight would have been considerably cheaper and more effective that what happened in the real case.