# Information Systems Strategy and IT Governance ITC4212

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# IS Strategy Planning

#### Reference:

Anita Cassidy, A Practical Guide to Information Systems Strategic Planning, Second Edition, 2006

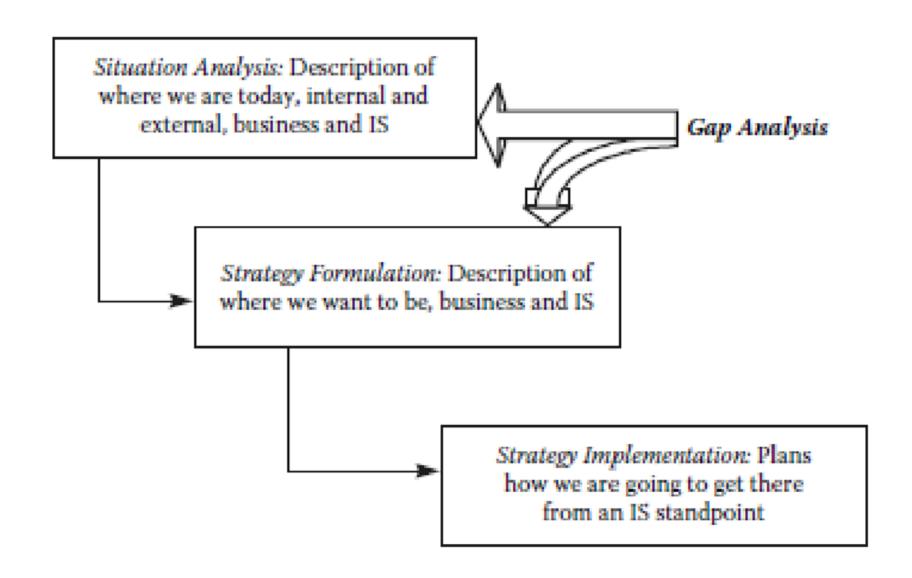
## Content

# IS Strategy Planning

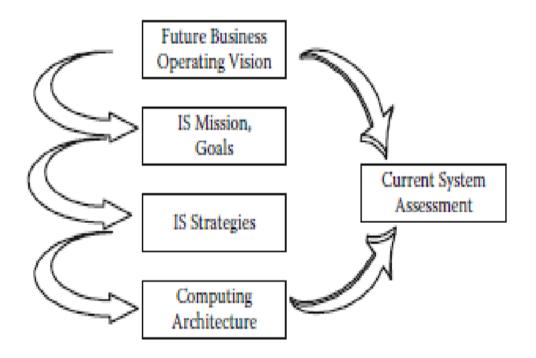
- Planning components
- Plan development
- Planning process

# **Planning Components**

Situation analysis
Strategy formulation
Strategy implementation

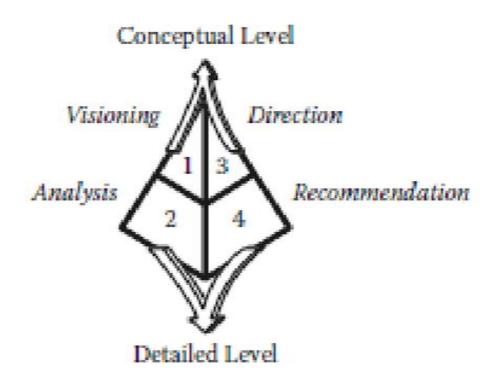


# **Plan Development**



- The plan begins with understanding the future business operating vision. The business operating vision becomes the basis for the IS mission, objectives, strategies, and technical computing architecture.
- Assess the current systems by comparing the systems to the future business operating vision and the desired IS computing architecture, as depicted in the Figure.

# **Planning Process**



Phases of the planning process

# **Phases of the Planning Process**

#### Visioning Phase

- Initiate and manage the project
- Understand business situation and vision
- Document and confirm the business analysis

#### Analysis Phase

- Understand current IS situation
- Analyze current IS situation
- Develop recommendations, solution alternatives

#### Direction Phase

- Develop IS vision and direction
- Develop IS plan
- Identify IS projects

#### Recommendation Phase

- Develop roadmap
- Develop business case
- Communicate the plan

#### Visioning Phase

Initiate Project

#### Initiate and manage the project

- Finalize objectives, goals & scope
- · Identify resources, roles & responsibilities, interview participants
- · Confirm deliverables & work plan
- · Draft deliverables templates
- · Announce the project, conduct project orientation
- · Establish ongoing project governance, communications, status report
- + Review & confirm project plan

Milestone

# **Business Review**

#### Understand business situation & vision

- Review business documentation
- · Develop business interview questions, surveys, workshop structure
- Schedule business interviews & workshops
- Conduct business interviews & workshops & surveys
- Document business interviews & workshops & surveys
- + Review & confirm business input

Milestone

# Analyze Business

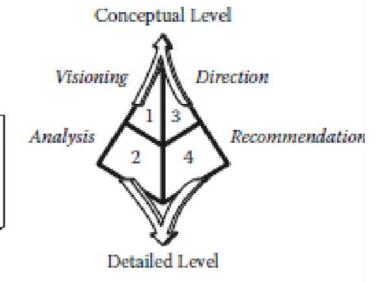
#### Document and confirm the business analysis

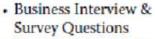
- Document current business description, vision, values, goals, strategies, direction, operating vision, business projects & initiatives
- · Document industry business trends, business and customer requirements
- · Document business strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats
- · Document business impact on IS
- . Review & confirm business situation understanding

Milestone



- · Project Participants
- Deliverable Table of Contents & Structure
- Project Announcement
- Status Report Structure





Detailed Interview &
Workshop Notes & Survey
Results

- · Business Information
- Business Direction
- · Business Operating Vision
- Business Requirements
- Key Measures
- Process Improvements
- Business SWOT Analysis
- · IS Implications

In the first phase, visioning, establish and initiate the planning project and process. Treat the IS planning effort like any other project by developing project plan, schedule, tasks, and deliverables.



#### Analysis Phase

IS Review

#### Understand current IS situation

- Review IS documentation
- · Develop IS interview questions, surveys, workshop structure
- · Schedule IS interviews & workshops
- · Conduct IS interviews & workshops & surveys
- · Document IS interviews & workshops & surveys
- · Document current IS situation
- · Review & confirm IS situation

Milestone

Analyze

#### Analyze current IS situation

- · Conduct industry benchmarking
- Identify IS industry trends, competitor profiles
- · Review information needs, data context model
- · Review business processes, use of applications
- · Identify high level functional requirements & gaps
- Develop IS SWOT, risks, technology opportunities, business enablers
- · Develop IS assessment scorecards, rate with team
- Review & confirm IS analysis

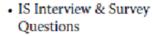
Milestone

Jutions

#### Develop recommendations, solution alternatives

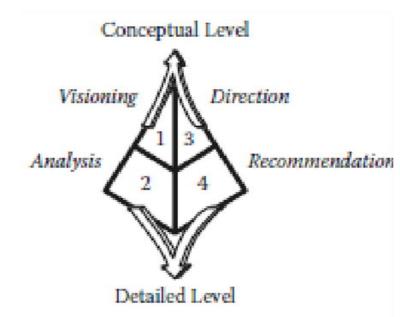
- · Develop business application options, recommendations
- Develop infrastructure options, recommendations
- · Develop organizational options, recommendations
- Develop IS process options, recommendations
- Review & confirm recommendations

Milestone



- Detailed IS Interview & Workshop Notes
- · Current IS Situation
- Survey Results
- Key Information Needs
- Key Functional Requirements & Gaps
- Business Process Improvements
- IS Industry Statistics, Trends & Profiles
- IS SWOT
- IS Assessment Scorecards

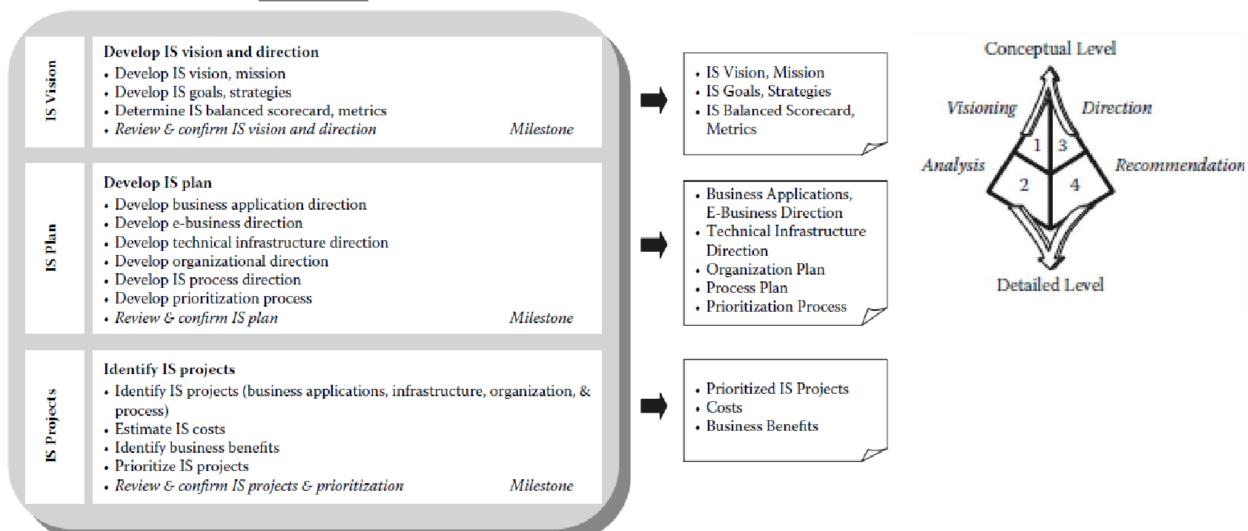
 Recommendations
 (Business Application, Infrastructure, Organizational, Process)



In the second phase, analysis, thoroughly document and objectively analyze the IS environment.

It is often enlightening to communicate the IS situation to executive management.

#### Direction Phase



It is in the direction phase where the mission and vision for IS is expressed using the business situation and direction as a basis.

Formulate the strategic objectives that are necessary to assist the business in achieving its objectives.

#### Recommendation Phase Conceptual Level Visionin Direction Develop roadmap IS Roadmap Roadmap Document detailed roadmap · Investment Proposal Analysis Recommendation · Summarize costs Organizational Impact · Summarize organizational impact Risk Assessment. · Identify risks, concerns, risk mitigation, readiness assessment · Readiness Assessment • Review & confirm roadmap Milestone Detailed Level · Business Case Develop business case Business Case Self-Funding Financial · Summarize business benefits, business case for action Model · Develop communication plan, presentation summary Communication Plan · Develop on-going planning process, steering committee Planning Process · Review & confirm business case Milestone · Executive Summary Communi-cation Communicate the plan · Final Plan Document · Finalize detailed plan document · Summary Presentation · Develop summary presentation · Project Completion and · Present plan, discuss Milestone Review Survey

In this phase, document the detailed roadmap outlining projects for the next several years. Summarize the costs, time, and resources required.

Benchmark data will be helpful to validate estimates. If there are multiple options, identify the various options, as well as the advantages and disadvantages of each option.

- At the end of the planning process we need to have;
  - A well-documented IS strategic plan
  - A business and IS situation that is understood by the entire organization
  - A direction supported throughout the organization

### Plan contents sample

- Figure depicts an example of an outline of the contents of a completed strategic plan document.
- Modify the plan document and process to fit the situation and requirements.
- Create a detailed document as well as a summary presentation while proceeding through the planning phases.

#### · Executive Summary

#### Current Business Situation

- Information
- Direction
- Operating Vision
- SWOT Analysis

#### Business/IS Link

- IS Implications
- Key Business Measures
- Key Business Requirements
- Business Process Improvements

#### Current IS Situation

- Business Application
- Technical Infrastructure
- Organization
- Processes
- Budget

#### Plan Contents Sample

#### IS Industry

- IS Industry Trends
- Manufacturing Industry
- Benchmark Statistics
- Competitive Profiles

#### IS Assessment

- Strengths
- Weaknesses
- Opportunities
- Threats
- Scorecard
- Survey Results
- Recommendations

#### IS High Level Direction

- Vision
- Mission
- Goals
- Strategies
- Scorecard, Metrics
- E-business Direction
- Prioritization Process

#### IS Direction

- Business Application
- Technical Infrastructure
- Organization
- Processes

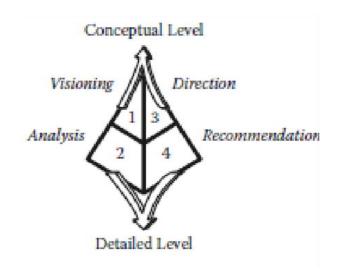
#### Implementation Plan

- Projects
- Roadmap
- Costs, Investment
- Organizational Impact
- Business Case,
   Financial Funding
   Model
- Next Steps
- Communication Plan
- Planning Process

#### Appendix

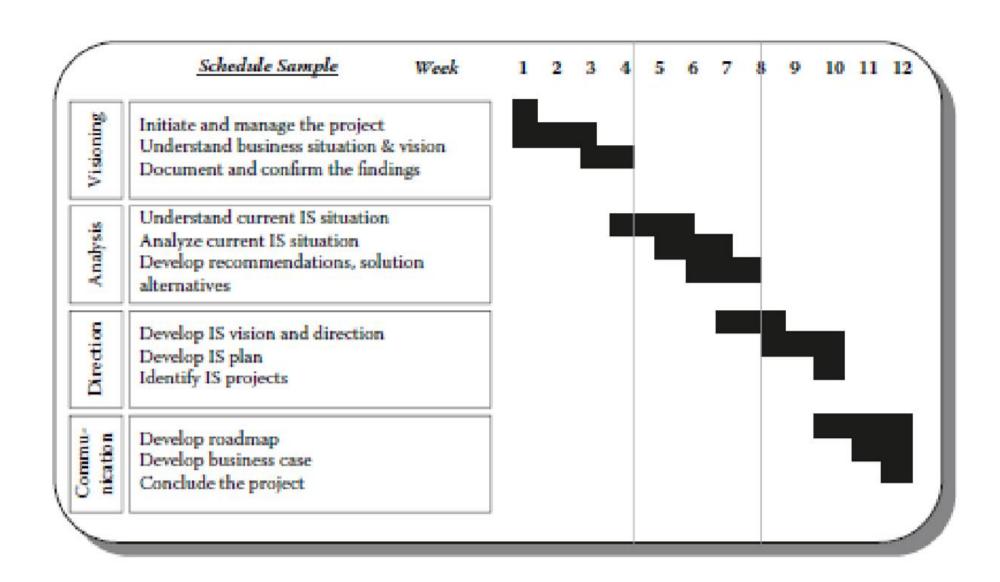
## Plan contents by phase

Figure shows the sample table of contents and identifies at which phase each section is completed



#### Table of Contents 7. IS High Level Direction 2. Current Business Situation Information. Vision Mission Direction. Visioning Operating Vision Goals Phase 3: Direction SWOT Analysis Strategies Scorecard, Metrics E-business Direction Phase 1: 3. Business/IS Link Prioritization Process IS Implications Key Business Measures 8. IS Direction Business Application Key Business Requirements Business Process Improvements Technical Infrastructure Organization Processes 4. Current IS Situation Business Application 9. Implementation Plan Technical Infrastructure Projects Organization Roadmap Processes Costs, Investment Budget Organizational Impact Business Case, Financial Funding Model Phase 4: Recommendation Analysis 5. IS Industry Next Steps 1S Industry Trends Communication Plan Manufacturing Industry Planning Process Benchmark Statistics Competitive Profiles 10. Appendix 6. IS Assessment Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities Threats 1. Executive Summary Scorecard Survey Results Recommendations

## Schedule sample



# Summary

- Identify the planning process and steps you will use to complete the plan. Tailor the planning process so that it meets the needs of the organization and the purpose for completing the strategic plan.
- Give strategic planning the proper priority and attention so that it is completed in a timely fashion.
- Obtain involvement from the organization throughout the planning process.
- Communicate, communicate, communicate.



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