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What is the main idea of Agile software development model?

Agile development is a different way of managing IT development teams and projects, based on iterative and incremental development. The requirements and solutions evolve through collaboration between self-organizing, cross-functional teams. Agile development values :

* Individual and interactions over processes and tools
* Working software over comprehensive documentation
* Customer collaboration over contract negotiation
* Responding to change over following a plan.

Agile methods are considered as lightweight methods, which are perceived as providing a little control, much less document oriented than heavyweight methods, the team considers the source code to be the project documentation.

Here are some of the advantages of lightweight methodologies:

* They accommodate change well.
* They are people oriented rather than process oriented. They tend to work with people rather than against them.
* They are complemented by the use of dynamic checklists.
* The project teams are smaller.
* They rely on working in a team environment.
* They foster knowledge sharing.
* Feedback is almost instantaneous.
* The project manager doesn’t need to develop “heavy” project documentation but instead is able to focus on the absolute necessary documentation (e.g., the project schedule).
* They are learning methodologies. After each build or iteration, the team learns to correct issues on the project, forming an improvement cycle throughout the project.