Chapter 4: Project Integration Management

Information Technology Project Management, Seventh Edition

Note: See the text itself for full citations.

Learning Objectives

- Describe an overall framework for project integration management as it relates to the other project management knowledge areas and the project life cycle
- Discuss the strategic planning process and apply different project selection methods
- Explain the importance of creating a project charter to formally initiate projects
- Describe project management plan development, understand the content of these plans, and review approaches for creating them

Learning Objectives

- Explain project execution, its relationship to project planning, the factors related to successful results, and tools and techniques to assist in directing and managing project work
- Describe the process of monitoring and controlling a project
- Understand the integrated change control process, planning for and managing changes on information technology (IT) projects, and developing and using a change control system
- Explain the importance of developing and following good procedures for closing projects
- Describe how software can assist in project integration management

The Key to Overall Project Success: Good Project Integration Management

- Project managers must coordinate all of the other knowledge areas throughout a project's life cycle
- Many new project managers have trouble looking at the "big picture" and want to focus on too many details (See opening case for a real example)
- Project integration management is *not* the same thing as software integration

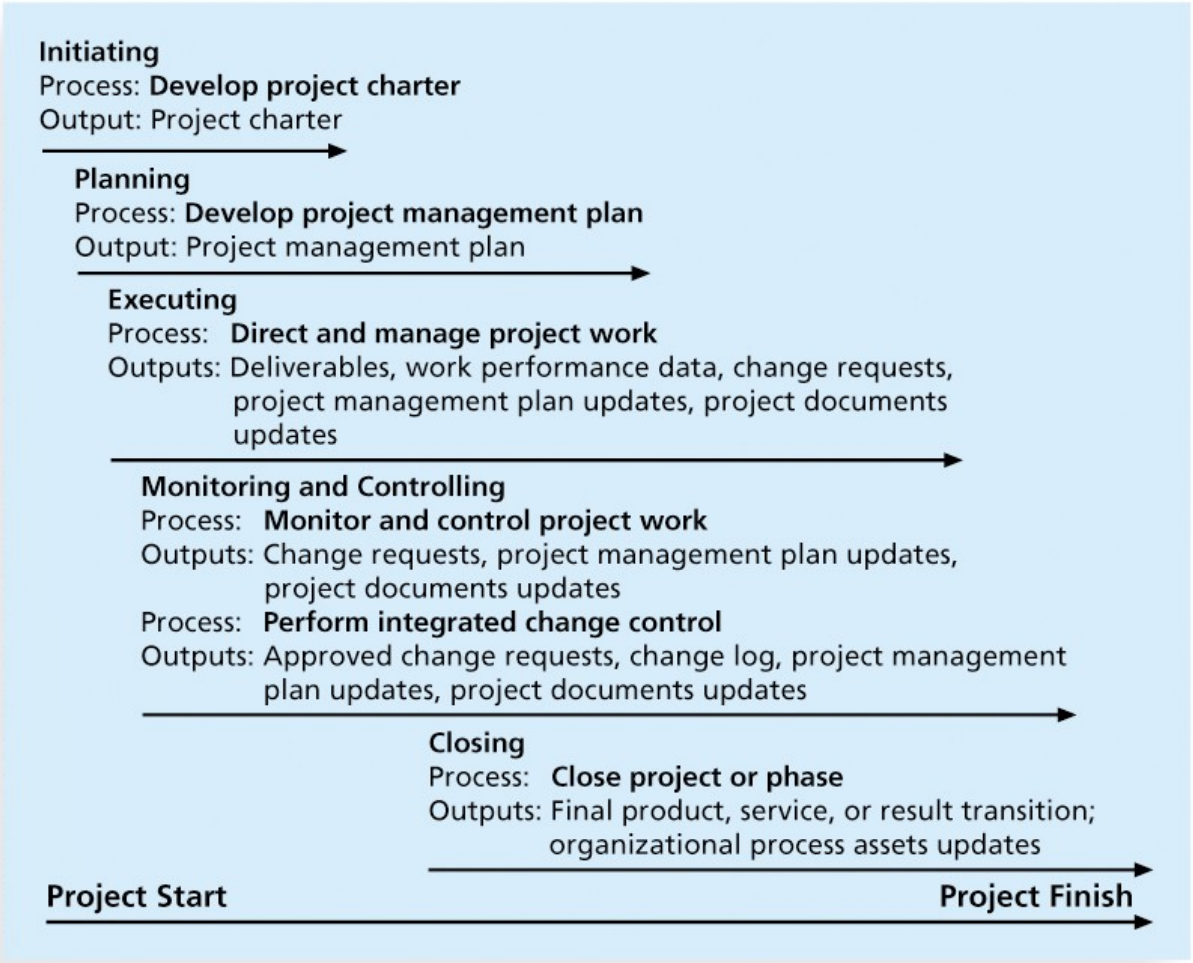
Project Integration Management Processes

- 1. Developing the project charter involves working with stakeholders to create the document that formally authorizes a project—the charter.
- 2. Developing the project management plan involves coordinating all planning efforts to create a consistent, coherent document—the project management plan.
- 3. Directing and managing project work involves carrying out the project management plan by performing the activities included in it.

Project Integration Management Processes (cont'd)

- Monitoring and controlling project work involves overseeing activities to meet the performance objectives of the project
- Performing integrated change control involves identifying, evaluating, and managing changes throughout the project life cycle.
- Closing the project or phase involves finalizing all activities to formally close the project or phase.

Figure 4-1. Project Integration Management Summary



What Went Wrong?

- The Airbus A380 megajet project was two years behind schedule in Oct. 2006, causing Airbus' parent company to face an expected loss of $6.1 billion over the next four years
- The project suffered from severe integration management problems, or "integration disintegration...Early this year, when pre-assembled bundles containing hundreds of miles of cabin wiring were delivered from a German factory to the assembly line in France, workers discovered that the bundles, called harnesses, didn't fit properly into the plane. Assembly slowed to a near-standstill, as workers tried to pull the bundles apart and re-thread them through the fuselage. Now Airbus will have to go back to the drawing board and redesign the wiring system."*

*Matlack, Carol. "First, Blame the Software," *BusinessWeek Online (October 5, 2006).*

Strategic Planning and Project Selection

- **Strategic planning** involves determining long-term objectives, predicting future trends, and projecting the need for new products and services
- Organizations often perform a **SWOT analysis**
  - analyzing **S**trengths, **W**eaknesses, **O**pportunities, and **T**hreats
- As part of strategic planning, organizations
  - identify potential projects
  - use realistic methods to select which projects to work on
  - formalize project initiation by issuing a project charter

Figure 4-2. Mind Map of a SWOT Analysis to Help Identify Potential Projects

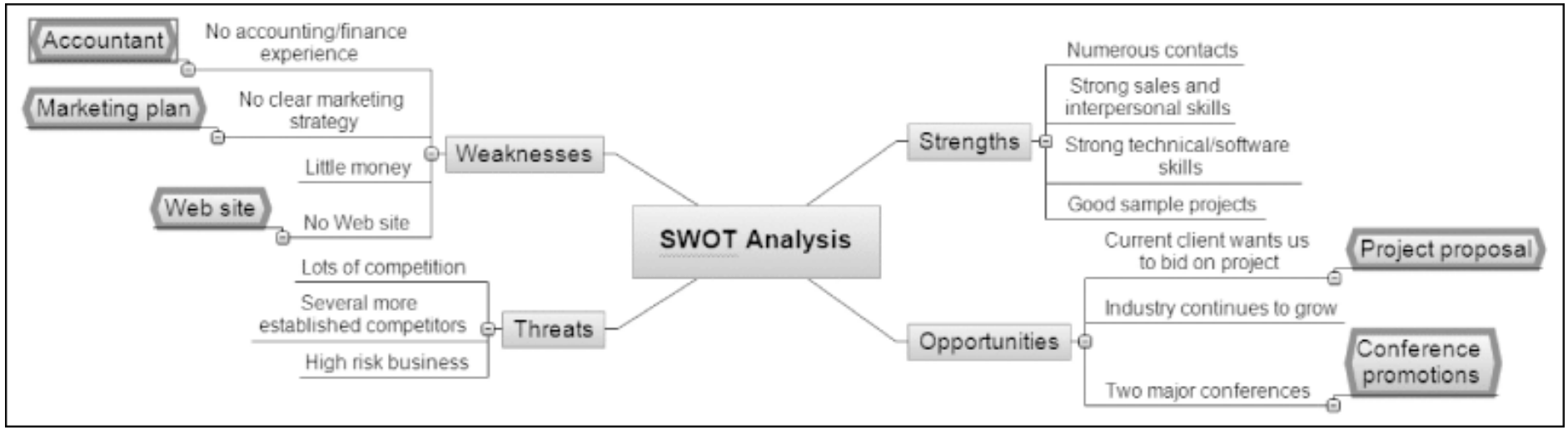
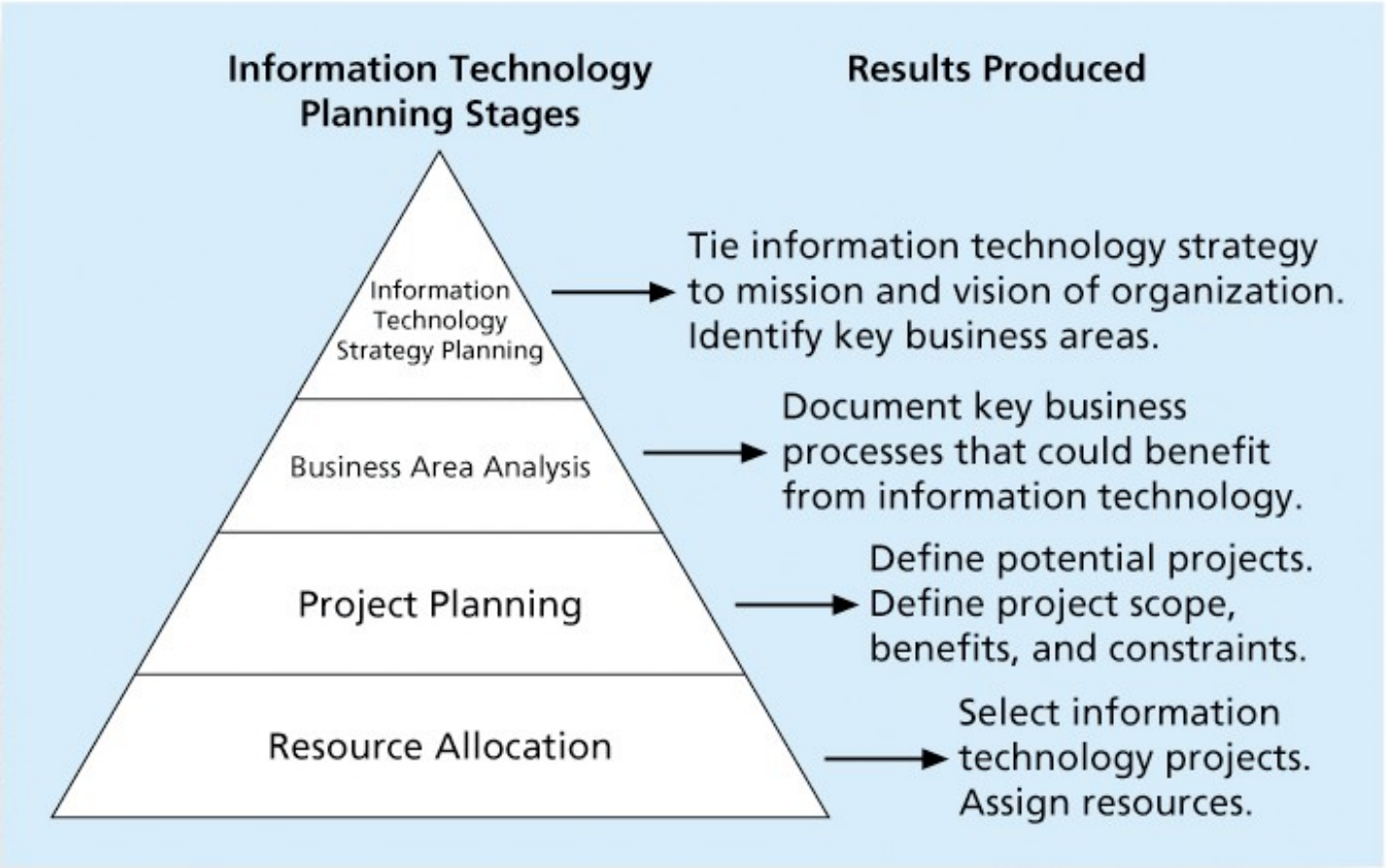


Figure 4-3. Information Technology Planning Process



Best Practice

- Only one in seven product concepts comes to fruition. Why is it that some companies, like Proctor & Gamble, Johnson and Johnson, Hewlett Packard, and Sony are consistently successful in NPD? Because they use a disciplined, systematic approach to NPD projects based on best practices
- Four important forces behind NPD success include the following:
  1. A product innovation and technology strategy for the business
  2. Resource commitment and focusing on the right projects, or solid portfolio management
  3. An effective, flexible and streamlined idea-to-launch process
  4. The right climate and culture for innovation, true cross-functional teams, and senior management commitment to NPD

Methods for Selecting Projects

- There are usually more projects than available time and resources to implement them
- Methods for selecting projects include:
  - focusing on broad organizational needs
  - categorizing information technology projects
  - performing net present value or other financial analyses
  - using a weighted scoring model
  - implementing a balanced scorecard

Focusing on Broad Organizational Needs

- It is often difficult to provide strong justification for many IT projects, but everyone agrees they have a high value
- "It is better to measure gold roughly than to count pennies precisely"
- Three important criteria for projects:
  - There is a ***need*** for the project
  - There are ***funds*** available
  - There's a strong ***will*** to make the project succeed

Categorizing IT Projects

- One categorization is whether the project addresses
  - a problem
  - an opportunity, or
  - a directive
- Another categorization is how long it will take to do and when it is needed
- Another is the overall priority of the project

Financial Analysis of Projects

- Financial considerations are often an important consideration in selecting projects
- Three primary methods for determining the projected financial value of projects:
  - Net present value (NPV) analysis
  - Return on investment (ROI)
  - Payback analysis

Net Present Value Analysis

- **Net present value** (NPV) analysis is a method of calculating the expected net monetary gain or loss from a project by discounting all expected future cash inflows and outflows to the present point in time
- Projects with a positive NPV should be considered if financial value is a key criterion
- The higher the NPV, the better

Figure 4-4. Net Present Value Example

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Discount rate	10%					
2							
3	PROJECT 1	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	TOTAL
4	Benefits	$0	$2,000	$3,000	$4,000	$5,000	$14,000
5	Costs	$5,000	$1,000	$1,000	$1,000	$1,000	$9,000
6	Cash flow	($5,000)	$1,000	$2,000	$3,000	$4,000	$5,000
7	NPV →	$2,316					
8		Formula =npv(b1,b6:f6)					
9							
10	PROJECT 2	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	TOTAL
11	Benefits	$1,000	$2,000	$4,000	$4,000	$4,000	$15,000
12	Costs	$2,000	$2,000	$2,000	$2,000	$2,000	$10,000
13	Cash flow	($1,000)	$0	$2,000	$2,000	$2,000	$5,000
14	NPV →	$3,201					
15		Formula =npv(b1,b13:f13)					
16							
17							

Note that totals are equal, but NPVs are not because of the time value of money

Figure 4-5. JWD Consulting NPV Example

Discount rate	**8%**					
Assume the project is completed in Year 0			**Year**			
	0	**1**	**2**	**3**	**Total**	
Costs	140,000	40,000	40,000	40,000		
Discount factor	1	0.93	0.86	0.79		
Discounted costs	**140,000**	**37,200**	**34,400**	**31,600**	**243,200**	
Benefits	0	200,000	200,000	200,000		
Discount factor	1	0.93	0.86	0.79		
Discounted benefits	**0**	**186,000**	**172,000**	**158,000**	**516,000**	
Discounted benefits - costs	(140,000)	148,800	137,600	126,400	**272,800**	← **NPV**
Cumulative benefits - costs	(140,000)	8,800	146,400	272,800		
ROI →	**112%**					
	Payback In Year 1					

Note: See the template called business_case_financials.xls

NPV Calculations

- Determine estimated costs and benefits for the life of the project and the products it produces
- Determine the discount rate (check with your organization on what to use)
- Calculate the NPV (see text for details)
- Notes: Some organizations consider the investment year as year 0, while others start in year 1. Some people entered costs as negative numbers, while others do not. Check with your organization for their preferences

Return on Investment

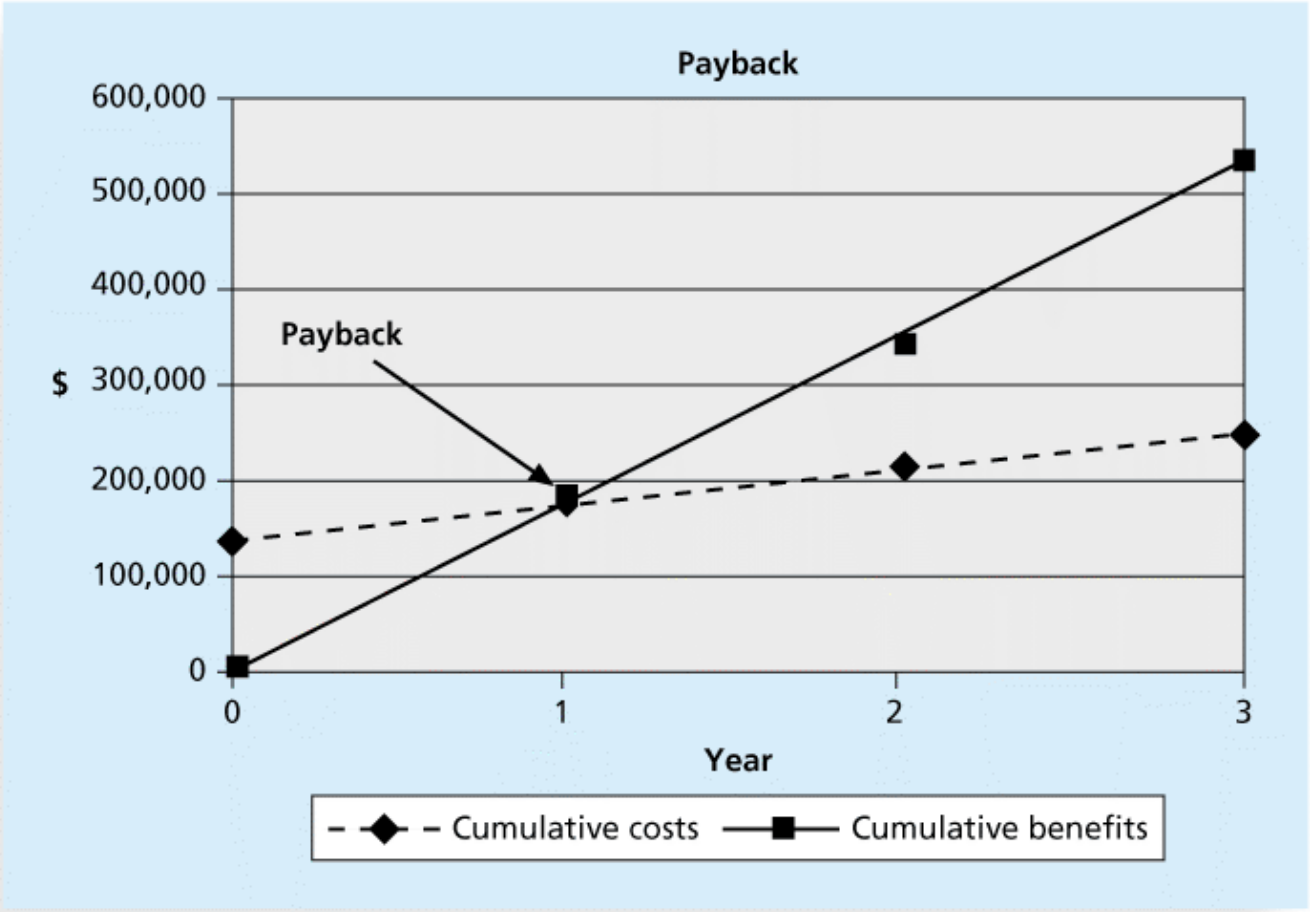
- **Return on investment** (ROI) is calculated by subtracting the project costs from the benefits and then dividing by the costs

  ROI = (total discounted benefits - total discounted costs) / discounted costs
- The higher the ROI, the better
- Many organizations have a **required rate of return** or minimum acceptable rate of return on investment for projects
- **Internal rate of return** (IRR) can by calculated by finding the discount rate that makes the NPV equal to zero

Payback Analysis

- Another important financial consideration is payback analysis
- The **payback period** is the amount of time it will take to recoup, in the form of net cash inflows, the total dollars invested in a project
- Payback occurs when the net cumulative discounted benefits equals the costs
- Many organizations want IT projects to have a fairly short payback period

Figure 4-6. Charting the Payback Period



Weighted Scoring Model

- A weighted scoring model is a tool that provides a systematic process for selecting projects based on many criteria
  - Identify criteria important to the project selection process
  - Assign weights (percentages) to each criterion so they add up to 100%
  - Assign scores to each criterion for each project
  - Multiply the scores by the weights and get the total weighted scores
- The higher the weighted score, the better

Figure 4-7. Sample Weighted Scoring Model for Project Selection

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	**Criteria**	**Weight**	**Project 1**	**Project 2**	**Project 3**	**Project 4**
2	Supports key business objectives	25%	90	90	50	20
3	Has strong internal sponsor	15%	70	90	50	20
4	Has strong customer support	15%	50	90	50	20
5	Uses realistic level of technology	10%	25	90	50	70
6	Can be implemented in one year or less	5%	20	20	50	90
7	Provides positive NPV	20%	50	70	50	50
8	Has low risk in meeting scope, time, and cost goals	10%	20	50	50	90
9	**Weighted Project Scores**	**100%**	**56**	**78.5**	**50**	**41.5**
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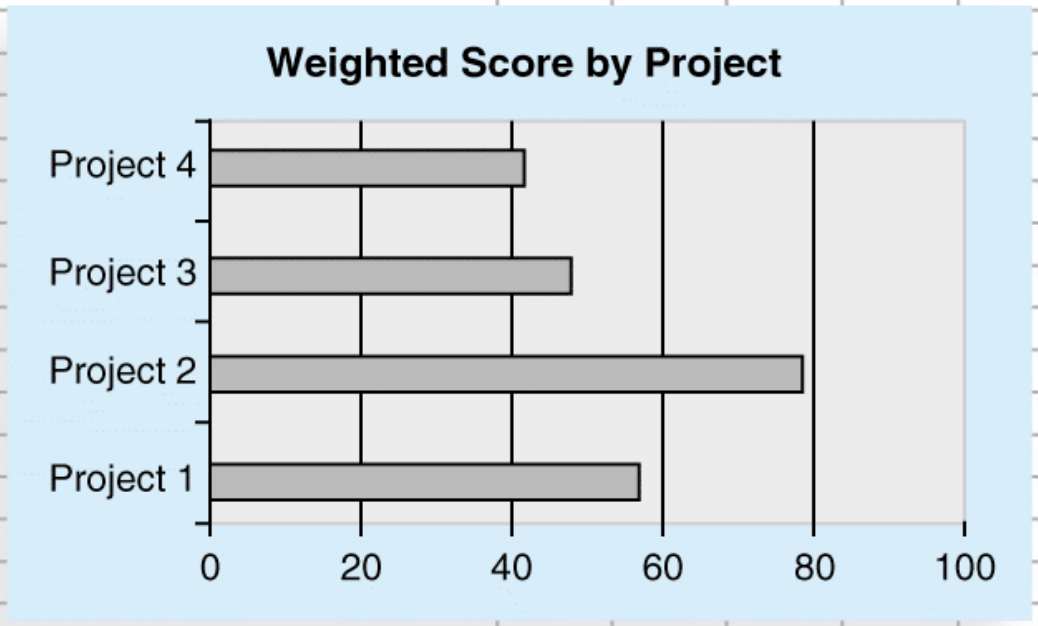
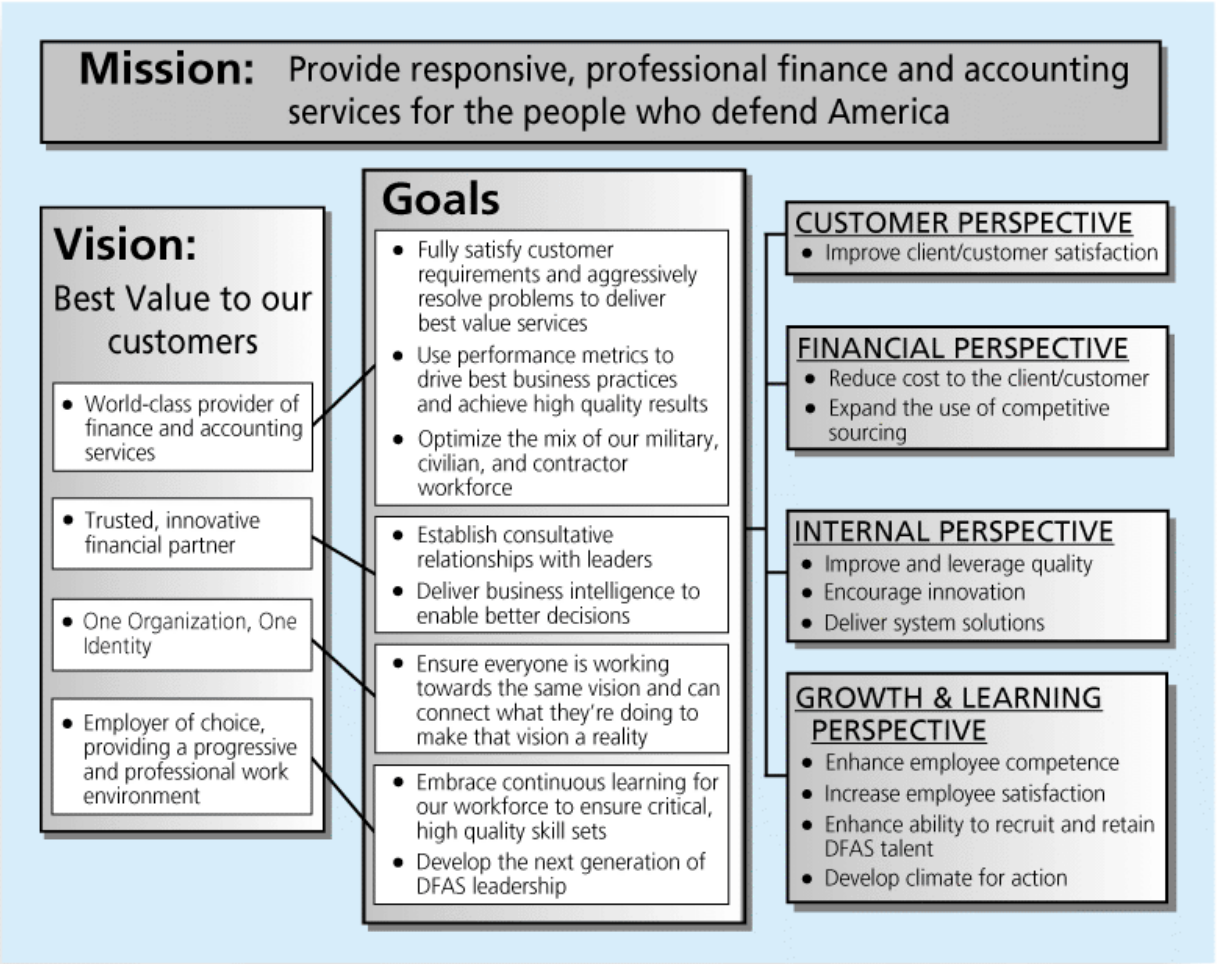


Implementing a Balanced Scorecard

- Drs. Robert Kaplan and David Norton developed this approach to help select and manage projects that align with business strategy
- A **balanced scorecard**
  - is a methodology that converts an organization's value drivers, such as customer service, innovation, operational efficiency, and financial performance, to a series of defined metrics
- See www.balancedscorecard.org for more information

Figure 4-8. Balanced Scorecard Example



Developing a Project Charter

- After deciding what project to work on, it is important to let the rest of the organization know
- A **project charter** is a document that formally recognizes the existence of a project and provides direction on the project's objectives and management
- Key project stakeholders should sign a project charter to acknowledge agreement on the need and intent of the project; a signed charter is a key output of project integration management

Inputs for Developing a Project Charter

- A project statement of work
- A business case
- Agreements
- Enterprise environmental factors
- **Organizational process assets**, which include formal and informal plans, policies, procedures, guidelines, information systems, financial systems, management systems, lessons learned, and historical information

Table 4-1. Project Charter for the DNA-Sequencing Instrument Completion Project

Project Title: DNA-Sequencing Instrument Completion Project
Date of Authorization: February 1
Project Start Date: February 1 **Projected Finish Date:** November 1

Key Schedule Milestones:

- Complete first version of the software by June 1
- Complete production version of the software by November 1

Budget Information: The firm has allocated $1.5 million for this project, and more funds are available if needed. The majority of costs for this project will be internal labor. All hardware will be outsourced.

Project Manager: Nick Carson, (650) 949-0707, ncarson@dnaconsulting.com

Project Objectives: The DNA-sequencing instrument project has been underway for three years. It is a crucial project for our company. This is the first charter for the project, and the objective is to complete the first version of the software for the instrument in four months and a production version in nine months.

Main Project Success Criteria: The software must meet all written specifications, be thoroughly tested, and be completed on time. The CEO will formally approve the project with advice from other key stakeholders.

Table 4-1. Project Charter (cont.)

Approach:

- Hire a technical replacement for Nick Carson and a part-time assistant as soon as possible.
- Within one month, develop a clear work breakdown structure, scope statement, and Gantt chart detailing the work required to complete the DNA sequencing instrument.
- Purchase all required hardware upgrades within two months.
- Hold weekly progress review meetings with the core project team and the sponsor.
- Conduct thorough software testing per the approved test plans.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Name	Role	Position	Contact Information
Ahmed Abrams	Sponsor	CEO	aabrams@dnaconsulting.com
Nick Carson	Project Manager	Manager	ncarson@dnaconsulting.com
Susan Johnson	Team Member	DNA expert	sjohnson@dnaconsulting.com
Renyong Chi	Team Member	Testing expert	rchi@dnaconsulting.com
Erik Haus	Team Member	Programmer	ehaus@dnaconsulting.com
Bill Strom	Team Member	Programmer	bstrom@dnaconsulting.com
Maggie Elliot	Team Member	Programmer	melliot@dnaconsulting.com

Sign-off: (Signatures of all the above stakeholders)

Ahmed Abrams *Nick Carson*
Susan Johnson *Renyong Chi*
Erik Haus *Bill Strom*
Maggie Elliot

Comments: (Handwritten or typed comments from above stakeholders, if applicable)

"I want to be heavily involved in this project. It is crucial to our company's success, and I expect everyone to help make it succeed." —Ahmed Abrams

"The software test plans are complete and well documented. If anyone has questions, do not hesitate to contact me." —Renyong Chi