

**Table 11-1. Definition of Impact Scales for Four Project Objectives****Defined Conditions for Impact Scales of a Risk on Major Project Objectives**

(Examples are shown for negative impacts only)

Project Objective	Relative or numerical scales are shown				
	Very low /0.05	Low /0.10	Moderate /0.20	High /0.40	Very high /0.80
<b>Cost</b>	Insignificant cost increase	< 10% cost increase	10 – 20% cost increase	20 – 40% cost increase	> 40% cost increase
<b>Time</b>	Insignificant time increase	< 5% time increase	5 – 10% time increase	10 – 20% time increase	> 20% time increase
<b>Scope</b>	Scope decrease barely noticeable	Minor areas of scope affected	Major areas of scope affected	Scope reduction unacceptable to sponsor	Project end item is effectively useless
<b>Quality</b>	Quality degradation barely noticeable	Only very demanding applications are affected	Quality reduction requires sponsor approval	Quality reduction unacceptable to sponsor	Project end item is effectively useless

This table presents examples of risk impact definitions for four different project objectives. They should be tailored in the Risk Management Planning process to the individual project and to the organization's risk thresholds. Impact definitions can be developed for opportunities in a similar way.