ANNEX 2: COMMUNICATION



Communications: Dimension

A Project Manager is spending ~85% of his time communicating

Breakdown: Writing \rightarrow 9%

Reading → 16%

Talking \rightarrow 30%

Listening → 45%

Main PM communication Skills :

- Listening actively and effectively
- Questioning and probing ideas and situations to ensure better understanding
- Setting and managing expectations
- Fact-finding to identify or confirm information
- Persuading to perform an action. Negotiating
- Motivating and coaching to encourage and to improve performance
- Summarizing, recapping, identifying next steps

Communications: Dimension

- Written and oral
- Verbal and nonverbal Voice vs Body Language
- Internal within the project and external to Customers, vendor, other projects, the media, the public ...

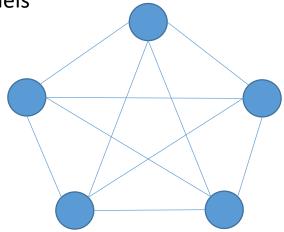
- Formal reports, minutes, briefings, etc...
 And informal emails, memos, ...
- Official Newsletter, annual reports, ...
- Vertical up and down and horizontal with peers

Communications Interactions / Channels

Total number of communication channels between N people :

$$N(N-1)/2$$

• Ex: if N=5 \rightarrow (5*4)/2= 10 channels



But if N=10 → 45 channels
 So in large project, the Project Manager will not only need to determine communication channels but may need to limit who will communicate with whom

Communication: Guidelines

- Formal communication should be planned
- Project Manager is responsible for making the information clear, unambiguous and complete

• Guidelines :

- Messages should be concise
- Use of appropriate tools and timing
- Build Trust
- Speak less, Listen more

The KISS Principle
Keep It Short and Simple