Final Project: YouTube by Google

QSO-645 Project Mgmt

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Project Analysis of YouTube by Google

Acting as a project manager consultant, I will assess Googles' youtube project, using established project management methodologies and principles outlined primarily in the PMBOK Guide. The analysis will include key project details, stakeholder roles, scope management, budget assessment, risk response planning, and other critical areas of project evaluation.

The goal of this analysis is to identify both the successes and challenges encountered during YouTube's project lifecycle, offering actionable recommendations for improvement. By examining YouTube as a case study, this paper aims to highlight effective project management practices and propose strategic solutions for addressing issues related to scope, communication, resource management, and stakeholder collaboration. This work synthesizes the ten knowledge areas and five process groups of project management, offering insights into applications of these frameworks.

I. Key Project Details

YouTube, the world's leading video sharing platform owned by Google has transformed digital media consumption and content creation globally. As a major key player in Google's portfolio, it continues to generate substantial revenue while innovating constantly to meet user demands in an evolving technological landscape (Downey, 2021). The focus of this analysis is on the application of agile project management methodologies, emphasizing user friendly content creation tools, seamless streaming, and high user engagement.

YouTube's development relies heavily on agile methodologies, which allow iterative and

adaptive project management approaches. This flexibility has been vital for continuous innovation, enabling YouTube to address constant shifting market trends and user needs. Agile methodologies focus on breaking down tasks into smaller, manageable bits, allowing teams to adapt quickly to challenges such as changes in user expectations, copyright law, and new technological developments (Agilemania, 2024)

II. Project Scope

The scope of the YouTube project is the platform's ability to enhance content creation, streaming, and user engagement. In-scope elements include developing new content creation tools, improving video processing speeds, and enhancing user safety as well as data privacy measures. This ensures the platform continues to support the needs of both creators and viewers. Out-of-scope items include features that do not significantly impact user experience, such as less critical backend features or highly costly investments that do not align with YouTube's core values (Lederer, 2021).

The success criteria for the YouTube project, as defined by Google, includes increased user engagement, improved content upload efficiency, and the expansion of advertising revenue streams. These metrics ensure that the platform maintains its competitive edge while delivering value to both content creators and advertisers.

III. Stakeholders

A. Stakeholders and Their Impact

YouTube's project success relies on the collaboration and engagement of various stakeholders, each playing a role in the platform's ongoing development. These stakeholders

include content creators, advertisers, Google's development and policy teams, and end users. The progress of the project directly impacts each group and their feedback continuously shapes it in return.

Content Creators are at the forefront of YouTube's success, they contribute to the platform's growth by generating diverse content. They rely on the platform for smooth video uploads, copyright protection, and tools to engage audiences. Through agile methodologies, YouTube collects continuous feedback from creators, which allows the platform to implement adjustments in real-time, ensuring the features meet creators' needs.

Advertisers play a crucial role in monetizing the platform. They depend on YouTube's massive reach and robust analytics to target users effectively. As the project progresses, developments that can enhance video quality or expand the user base positively affects advertisers by increasing advertising revenue opportunities.

Google's Development Teams are responsible for the technical infrastructure and innovation behind YouTube. Their role is to maintain the platform's stability while introducing new features that enhance user experience. Agile practices are instrumental in ensuring that the development is incremental, allowing for flexibility in response to feedback from creators and users.

Finally, end users make up the largest stakeholder group. They expect a seamless viewing experience with minimal interruptions and access to high-quality content. Meeting user expectations is crucial for maintaining YouTube's competitive advantage in the global video sharing market.

To effectively manage these diverse stakeholders, YouTube uses a stakeholder registry

that categorizes each group based on their influence and importance. Content creators and advertisers are high-priority stakeholders, as they drive the platform's revenue and content creation. Development teams and end users are also key stakeholders but vary in influence depending on the project phase and their specific needs. As these needs shift throughout the platform's lifecycle, YouTube continuously adjusts its focus to ensure that all stakeholder groups are satisfied (PMI, 2024).

B. Staffing Issues and Stakeholder Collaboration

The agile nature of YouTube's development process presents constant staffing challenges, particularly when it comes to balancing resources between maintaining current functionalities and innovating new features. While agile practices such as daily stand-ups and sprint planning foster effective collaboration, gaps can still arise in areas of technical expertise or capacity, which can slow down progress.

To address these staffing challenges, YouTube should enhance cross-functional team training to create a more adaptable workforce. This will allow team members to handle both technical development and user feedback integration more effectively, reducing delays caused by limited expertise in specific areas. Additionally, hiring specialized talent in fields like data privacy and copyright law compliance is essential. These are critical areas where bottlenecks often occur, as YouTube continues to face increasing challenges around user safety and legal compliance. Expanding the team in these high-demand areas will enable faster, more efficient responses to these issues, maintaining platform quality while supporting innovation.

Effective stakeholder collaboration and engagement are also crucial to resolving staffing issues. By fostering stronger communication between development teams, content creators, and

policy advisors, YouTube can ensure alignment on project goals. Regular feedback sessions and collaborative tools, such as stakeholder workshops and engagement platforms, will help all parties provide timely input and contribute to the platform's success.

The expected outcome of these strategies is improved team efficiency, minimized project delays, and enhanced stakeholder satisfaction. These changes will ensure that YouTube continues to be agile and innovative, maintaining its leading position in the video-sharing market.

In summary, YouTube exemplifies the importance of agile project management in a fast-evolving digital landscape. Its scope focuses on enhancing key functionalities that drive user engagement and revenue, with success criteria centered around platform efficiency and advertiser growth. Effective stakeholder management and addressing staffing concerns will further optimize the platform's capabilities and ensure continued innovation. By addressing these challenges, YouTube can maintain its position as a leader in the online video-sharing market, continuing to shape the way digital content is consumed globally.

IV. Planning Measures, Budget, Project Risk

A. Schedule Execution and Management

The YouTube project's schedule is developed and executed using agile practices that prioritized flexibility, collaboration, and continuous improvement. Agile methodologies like sprints and iterative planning allowed the YouTube project teams to break down complex tasks into smaller, manageable components. This approach ensured the team could adapt quickly to changes in user demands, technological advancements, and market trends.

YouTube's development team needs to leverage key tools and techniques to achieve the best agile practices such as Kanban boards, Work Breakdown Structures (WBS), and daily

stand-ups to maintain focus and adaptability in a dynamic project environment. (Agilemania, 2024) The on-going use of Kanban boards provides a visual workflow to track progress and prioritize tasks, As noted by Atlassian, "Kanban boards include columns that represent stages in your workflow, such as 'To do,' 'In progress,' and 'Done'" and allow teams to visualize tasks in real time, improving efficiency and collaboration (Atlassian, 2024). The WBS breaks the project into manageable components, preventing scope creep. Daily stand-ups foster cross-functional communication, resolve issues quickly, and ensure the schedule stays on track. Together, these tools enable consistent platform improvements, aligning with YouTube's strategic goals and evolving user expectations.

B.Timeline Discrepancies

During the YouTube project, several timeline discrepancies arose that impacted the delivery of key features and updates. These discrepancies include delays in the release of new content creation tools and enhanced data privacy features, as well as periods of slowed progress due to things like staffing shortages in specialized areas like data privacy and compliance.

Delays in YouTube's development are primarily caused by shifting market trends and resource limitations. The fast-evolving media landscape requires frequent adjustments to project scope, as changing user expectations redirected resources toward priorities like the boom of short-form content tools. Simultaneously, staffing shortages for example in areas such as copyright compliance and data security has occasionally slowed progress especially since covid according to Forbes highlighted here:, "high demand for, and attrition of, tech talent is the new norm in most countries" (Forbes Technology Council, 2022).

To mitigate these challenges, predictive planning models using analytics to anticipate

risks and emerging trends would allow for proactive adjustments, while cross-training initiatives and increased communication coordination could create a versatile workforce capable of filling gaps during high-demand periods. As noted, "collaboration and knowledge sharing continue to be big challenges this year" (Forbes Technology Council, 2022) Addressing these measures could improve project timelines and ensure the timely delivery of innovative features.

V. Budget

The budget for YouTube's project requires extremely strategic allotment across several key areas to support its objectives. These areas include the development of content creation tools, enhancements to user engagement features, and compliance with stringent data privacy regulations. With content creation tools, A large portion of the budget is needed to support tools like video editing software, analytics dashboards, and monetization features to help creators produce high-quality content and engage audiences effectively. As Burton (2024) notes, "Understanding the key stages involved in this process is essential for content creators aiming to produce engaging and compelling video content. From the initial phase of ideation and planning to the final stage of post-production and release, a well-defined content creation process ensures efficiency and consistency." This will ensure continued audience engagement.

The budget also needs to include allotment for user engagement features including the optimization of video streaming algorithms, introduction of interactive features like polls and live chats, and enhancement of recommendation systems powered by machine learning. These consistent improvements are critical in maintaining high user satisfaction and increasing watch time. The last major cost comes in the form of ensuring constant adherence to evolving global data privacy laws, such as the GDPR in Europe and CCPA in California, requiring significant

financial resources. This included investments in secure data storage solutions, advanced encryption technologies, and dedicated compliance teams. (Bloomberg Law ,2024)

A. Efficiencies and Inefficiencies

YouTube achieved cost efficiencies by leveraging Google Cloud's scalable infrastructure for data processing and storage, enabling adaptation to fluctuating demands while minimizing fixed costs. Agile methodologies further allowed iterative budget adjustments, prioritizing high-impact areas in real-time.

However, inefficiencies arose from high compliance costs due to evolving global data privacy regulations and the need for specialized talent. Additionally, rework on features misaligned with market trends or user feedack led to budget overruns. Refining financial planning, emphasizing scalable technologies, and maintaining agile practices will help YouTube enhance cost-effectiveness and address compliance and innovation challenges. According to Marzini and Maciejewski (2023), "although the cost of running scalability testing can be considerable, it's often the most efficient and fastest way to learn how to prepare the system to operate at a larger scale."

B. Contingency Allotments and Limitations

YouTube's budget needs to include contingency reserves to address legal challenges and scalability demands. Allocations for compliance with data privacy laws and copyright regulations mitigates some risks and is essential but can stretch the budget thin quickly and unexpectedly. Similarly, scalability demands from exponential growth required substantial investments in server capacity and bandwidth, particularly during peak usage periods. As noted,

"Even if you run your scalability tests on an ad hoc basis, you still need to optimize your costs...The most common way to do that is to make a test as short as possible" (Marzini & Maciejewski, 2023). While contingency funds manage short-term spikes, they often do not support long-term scalability solutions without careful planning. Budget limitations also constrain innovation and rapid problem-solving. Resources diverted toward compliance and rework reduced the ability to invest in exploratory projects like AI-driven content moderation or next-generation streaming technologies.

C. Recommendations for Adjustments

To address inefficiencies, YouTube should prioritize hiring specialized talent in data privacy and copyright enforcement to prevent delays. Expanding training to boost team adaptability and enhancing ad-targeting technologies would maximize advertising revenue by improving ROI for advertisers. Additionally, increasing contingency reserves can provide the flexibility to tackle scalability demands and legal challenges without disrupting projects. Finally, as Unlocking Business Transformation with Predictive Analytics highlights, "Predictive analytics has the power to anticipate market trends and provide actionable insights, helping companies avoid costly rework by staying ahead of shifting user preferences and industry demands" (Sloane, 2024). predictive analytics should be implemented to anticipate market trends and user feedback, reducing costly rework. These steps will streamline operations, drive innovation, and align YouTube's budget with its growth objectives.

VI. Risks and Control Tactics

A. Risk Response Planning

YouTube manages risks by implementing strategies in key areas like copyright compliance, user safety, and scalability. For copyright, it developed the Content ID system to automate infringement detection and maintain relationships with creators, alongside a dedicated legal team to navigate region-specific regulations. In user safety, YouTube used AI-driven moderation combined with human reviewers for efficient content flagging. For scalability, it utilized Google Cloud to handle traffic spikes and employed agile sprints to quickly adjust infrastructure, ensuring minimal service interruptions. As Youtube has noted, "Our priority is to create a safe and enjoyable experience for our users, while balancing the needs of creators and advertisers" (Faster capital, 2024). These strategies ensured effective risk management and a seamless user experience.

YouTube missed opportunities in areas like staffing for data privacy and preparing for emerging legal challenges. It occasionally underestimated the need for specialized talent in data privacy compliance, especially with the rise of regulations like GDPR. It struggles to address complex legal issues such as copyright disputes in emerging markets. These gaps emphasize the need for better resource planning and proactive legal strategies. They have dealt with some hefty fines over time and the FTC does not hold back on holding youtube accountable. As the FTC noted, "There's no excuse for YouTube's violations of the law" (FTC, 2019) YouTube has however capitalized on opportunities by using agile methodologies to quickly adapt to market trends, launching features like Shorts and live streaming. Its data-driven approach improved recommendation algorithms, boosting user engagement and solidifying its leadership in the video-sharing market.

B. Qualitative and Quantitative Risk Measurements

YouTube's risk management framework incorporates both qualitative and quantitative assessments to address the complex challenges of maintaining a global platform. Key qualitative risks include maintaining user trust and protecting brand reputation. Any failure in content moderation, data privacy compliance, or handling of sensitive issues can erode user confidence and damage YouTube's reputation. For example, the dissemination of harmful or inappropriate content, if left unchecked, can lead to public backlash and tarnish the platform's image.

Proactively addressing these risks involves implementing robust moderation policies, clear community guidelines, and transparent communication with users.

Quantitative risks include measurable factors such as the financial impact of platform downtime, legal penalties, or revenue loss due to advertiser boycotts. For example, unexpected service disruptions can lead to significant losses in advertising revenue, given YouTube's reliance on continuous user engagement. Similarly, non-compliance with regulations like GDPR or COPPA can result in hefty fines, as seen in prior settlements that cost millions (Bloomberg law, 2024). YouTube mitigates these risks by investing in automated tools, such as copyright detection systems and data compliance frameworks, which reduce the likelihood and severity of these financial setbacks. By balancing qualitative insights with quantitative metrics, YouTube ensures a comprehensive approach to risk management.

The analysis of YouTube's planning measures, budget management, and risk response highlights the importance of strategic agility in sustaining its position as a global leader in digital content. Effective planning measures, such as the use of iterative sprints and tools like Kanban boards, have allowed YouTube to adapt swiftly to market changes while prioritizing critical project components. Budget management has demonstrated both efficiencies, such as leveraging cloud platforms to reduce infrastructure costs, and areas for improvement, particularly in

allocating resources to high-demand sectors like data privacy and compliance. Meanwhile, YouTube's proactive risk response, including automated copyright detection and scalability planning, has mitigated significant challenges, though opportunities remain to better anticipate staffing and legal risks.

Addressing these areas in future iterations of the platform will lead to improved project outcomes, such as enhanced operational efficiency, stronger stakeholder satisfaction, and sustained growth in user engagement and revenue. Incorporating predictive planning models, reallocating budgets toward emerging priorities, and refining risk measurement tools would further bolster YouTube's resilience in a competitive landscape. Ultimately, agile practices remain integral to YouTube's success, enabling continuous innovation and responsiveness in a dynamic market. By building on these practices, YouTube can maintain its leadership and set new benchmarks for excellence in the digital content space.

VII. Project Control Techniques

A. Quality Auditing Tools and Techniques

YouTube utilizes various quality control methods including; checklists, control charts, and periodic inspections. Checklists ensured task compliance, control charts helped monitor performance, and inspections at key project milestones identified issues with code and design. These tools are effective for maintaining baseline quality, especially during initial stages of development. However, when dealing with more complex and fast paced challenges, such as large scale user experience issues, these tools prove much less effective. As projects grow in

complexity, relying solely on these basic tools will overlook critical issues which will necessitate the adoption of more advanced control techniques.

B. Project Control Techniques: Reporting Metrics

Dashboards and milestone reports are being used to track user engagement and monitor progress. However, it may have lacked more advanced metrics like Earned Value Management (EVM), which includes the Cost Performance Index (CPI) and Schedule Performance Index (SPI). The absence of these metrics would have hindered proactive adjustments to budget and schedule deviations (PMBOK2021). EVM metrics such as Schedule Variance (SV), Cost Variance (CV), CPI, and SPI are vital for tracking progress and enhancing decision making. Incorporating these reporting metrics would allow the team to identify issues early, improve accountability, and implement timely corrective actions, thereby improving project control and ensuring better alignment with project objectives.

VIII. Communication Plan

A. Critique of Communication Tactics

YouTube relies on weekly meetings, email updates, and Slack for immediate concerns. While weekly stand-ups and sprint retrospectives provided progress updates, the reliance on email often causes delays and unclear task delegation. Inconsistent communication across teams lead to silos that hindered collaboration. According to Abudi (2013), :effective communication involves selecting appropriate methods and ensuring information is conveyed in a way that meets stakeholder needs. This was lacking due to over-use of email for communication.

B. Communication Strategies

To improve communication we decided to adopt more tools Slack for live, instant updates alongside weekly check-ins. Structured feedback loops through regular sprint reviews and daily stand-ups can enhance alignment and accountability as well. These agile strategies will streamline communication, reduce silos, and improve team coordination. As Abudi (2013) suggests, engaging stakeholders through clear, frequent, and appropriate channels is essential for effective project communication, and shifting away from email-centric communication would facilitate this.

IX. Resource Management

A. Resource Conflict and Resolution

The project experienced resource conflicts when key developers were assigned to multiple high-priority tasks, leading to delays and a lack of focus during peak development periods. This will quickly result in a Bottleneck effect. According to the article *What Are Bottlenecks in Project Management?* (2024), "Bottlenecks cause inefficiencies which result in delays or increases in production costs," highlighting the impact of such resource conflicts on the overall project workflow. In response, the management team reallocated team members to critical areas and negotiated extended deadlines between departments to alleviate immediate pressure. However, the lack of proactive resource planning left the project susceptible to potential bottlenecks in the future.

B. Best Practices in Resource Management

Effective resource planning at the project's start, cross-training team members, and hiring

contingency staff could prevent similar conflicts. Tools like RACI charts and capacity planning software would offer real-time insights into resource utilization, ensuring balanced workloads and smoother project delivery. As noted by Miranda (2024), "A RACI chart is a simple spreadsheet or table that lists all stakeholders on a project and their level of involvement in each task". This tool helps clarify roles, streamlines communication, and ensures better resource allocation. Additionally, contingency planning can prevent bottlenecks, allowing the project to proceed smoothly even in the face of unexpected challenges.

This highlights several areas for improvement in project control, communication, and resource management within YouTube's initiative. While quality control techniques were in place, the absence of advanced reporting metrics like EVM limited performance monitoring and proactive adjustments. Communication was hindered by the over-reliance on email and inconsistent updates across teams, leading to silos and delayed responses. Resource conflicts, arising from poor initial planning, underscored the need for more effective resource management strategies, including the use of RACI charts and capacity planning tools.

By implementing these improvements, for example by adopting advanced reporting metrics, shifting to real-time communication tools, and focusing on proactive resource planning, future projects can benefit from greater visibility, smoother collaboration, and more efficient resource management. These changes would enhance team alignment, foster more efficient problem-solving, and ensure the timely delivery of project outcomes.

X. Procurement Options

A. Evaluation of Procurement Options and Missed Opportunities

The procurement strategy for YouTube's projects prioritizes a hybrid approach of

leveraging available expertise and outsourcing for specialized tasks. Key areas of procurement include infrastructure services, such as cloud storage, which are outsourced to reliable vendors to ensure scalability and efficiency. For highly specialized tasks like algorithm development and AI recommendation. Procurement opportunities were missed however as well, for example; outsourcing content moderation to third party firms with expertise in managing large, culturally diverse user bases could have alleviated internal workload and improved content compliance. Similarly, investing in or procuring advanced data governance tools could have enhanced compliance with regulations like GDPR and COPPA for addressing risks associated with user data privacy. These missed opportunities highlight areas where a more strategic approach to procurement could have supported long-term project goals and risk mitigation.

B. Discussion of Contract Types

The project employs a mix of contract types tailored to specific needs. Set contracts are used for infrastructure procurement, ensuring predictable costs for long term partnerships. This approach minimized financial risks for essential services like cloud storage, which required a stable, predefined budget. Despite their suitability, the absence of incentive-based contracts limits the potential for driving higher performance or innovation. Performance-based contracts, could have encouraged vendors to deliver beyond the baseline fostering greater alignment with YouTube's strategic goals.

C. Recommended Modifications to Contract Types

To optimize procurement outcomes, YouTube should adopt hybrid contract models to manage scope changes flexibly while incentivizing vendors to meet performance milestones.

This approach is crucial for areas like content moderation. Furthermore, implementing advanced vendor evaluation metrics, such as performance history and ethical alignment, during the bidding process would enhance vendor selection. These modifications would improve accountability, encourage innovation, and ensure procurement aligns with the project's evolving needs and long-term goals.

XI. Efficient Project Management Practices

A. Analysis of Implementation of Project Principles

We have effectively applied agile principles, enabling the team to adapt to shifting priorities and market trends, resulting in successes like YouTube Shorts and improved recommendation algorithms. Tools like Kanban boards and sprint retrospectives ensured task tracking, while stakeholder meetings maintained alignment on deliverables. However, gaps in resource planning led to bottlenecks, with key developers overburdened by multiple high-priority tasks. Risk management fell short in addressing resource conflicts and compliance risks proactively. Communication silos further delayed progress, highlighting the need for cross-functional coordination plans.

Ethical issues in content moderation and data privacy, including harmful content and compliance lapses, are too often left inadequately addressed. Stronger stakeholder engagement and ethical decision-making could mitigate these challenges.

B. Recommendations for Alternative Approaches

I would have pressed proactive resource management through tools like RACI charts and capacity planning software to prevent bottlenecks and ensure balanced workloads. Establishing

contingency staffing plans at the project's outset would also have provided greater flexibility during peak development periods. From an ethical standpoint, I would have implemented stricter oversight for content moderation and data privacy, including setting up dedicated ethics committees and investing in tools for real-time content flagging and compliance monitoring. Clear accountability structures for addressing sensitive issues would ensure faster and more transparent responses.

Additionally, improving communication practices would have been another priority. I would replace the over-reliance on email with a structured combination of real-time tools like Slack for immediate updates and project management platforms for centralized task tracking. This shift would reduce silos and foster greater team alignment.

Ultimately, by adopting these alternative approaches, the project could have achieved more efficient resource utilization, minimized risks, and upheld ethical standards, resulting in better outcomes for all stakeholders.

XI. Conclusion: Evaluation of Overall Project Success

In conclusion, we evaluate YouTube through the 10 knowledge areas and five process groups of project management, as outlined in the PMBOK Guide. While significant achievements were made, as for example in leveraging agile methodologies and delivering innovative features like Shorts, several gaps in planning, execution, and ethical oversight indicate room for improvement.

- 1. **Integration Management** was handled well, with effective use of iterative sprints to align project goals with organizational objectives. However, a lack of proactive resource integration led to bottlenecks that hampered efficiency during critical phases.
- Scope Management was adequately maintained, as the project team focused on delivering key priorities, such as enhancing recommendation algorithms and expanding features.
- 3. **Schedule Management** utilized agile tools like Kanban boards to ensure iterative progress, but the absence of advanced metrics, such as Earned Value Management (EVM), limited the team's ability to address deviations promptly.
- 4. **Cost Management** showed mixed results. While leveraging cloud platforms optimized infrastructure costs, insufficient allocation of resources to critical areas like data privacy and compliance created key vulnerabilities.
- 5. **Quality Management** incorporated basic tools like checklists and inspections, which were effective for simpler tasks.
- Resource Management emerged as a critical weakness. Overburdening key developers
 without sufficient cross-training or contingency planning resulted in inefficiencies and
 delays.
- Risk Management demonstrated strength in deploying automated tools for compliance and copyright detection, but missed opportunities to address resource and legal risks more comprehensively.
- 8. **Procurement Management** was functional but underutilized, with a limited exploration of potential vendors and overly rigid contract structures.

- Communications Management highlighted gaps in methodology. While weekly
 meetings and sprint retrospectives provided updates, over-reliance on email caused delays
 and fostered silos.
- 10. **Stakeholder Management** was partially successful, with regular engagement of primary stakeholders. However, ethical concerns around content moderation and data privacy highlighted a need for deeper stakeholder involvement in governance and decision-making processes.

When viewed through the five process groups, the project successfully aligned its objectives with YouTube's strategic vision during initiation. However, planning efforts, while addressing basic requirements, lacked depth in resource allocation and risk anticipation. During execution, agile methodologies facilitated the delivery of key features, but resource and communication issues hindered overall progress. In monitoring and controlling, the limited use of advanced monitoring tools prevented proactive adjustments. While the project achieved key deliverables during closure, unresolved challenges, particularly in resource planning and ethical governance, remained.

Overall, the project can be deemed successful. It achieved its primary goals, such as enhancing user engagement and launching new features, but the inefficiencies and ethical shortcomings highlight areas for improvement. By addressing these gaps in future iterations, YouTube can sustain its leadership in the digital content space while setting higher standards for operational excellence and ethical responsibility.

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