Scope creep is recognized as potential challenge to successful project completion but to what extent?

Question to be addressed:

Do you agree that Scope creep is the predominant reason for project failure? Why or why not?

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**ABSTRACT**

Scope creep could be feared component that can be happen on any project, squandering cash, diminishing fulfillment, and inflicting the predicted project esteem to not be met. Most projects appear to suffer from Scope creep. When a project extends distant past its unique vision, it is referred to as “Scope creep”. Scope creep in project management is one of the actual reasons for undertaking disappointment.

**I would like to take a position** “Scope creep in project management is one of the major reasons for undertaking disappointment/project failure”.

A little increment in scope may not have a huge effect, but if there’s an accumulation of these, the project may have its budget or plan altogether expanded. Scope creep can come from any heading (can happen for any number of reasons), but one of the foremost treacherous is from inside the project. Scope creep is most harming when totally new requirements are heaped on as the project runs. Such additions not as it were make projects more costly and more difficult to manage, they too know significantly delay conveyance of the initially anticipated benefits. Managing Scope creep requires starting necessities' definition process that completely considers potential options.

**DEFINITION**

***Scope creep*** in project management refers to nonstop and incremental changes that lead to an uncontrolled and unauthorized development within the project’s scope.

Accepting merely know what is required, without legitimate examination and analysis and belittling the complexity of a project are common botches.

**Causes for Scope creep:**

**1. Project life cycle**

Scope creep appears in the early periods of the undertaking as indicated by Larson and Gray (2014, p. 475) while Davis and Radford (2014, p. 92) and Kerzner (2017, p. 751) proposes that Scope creep can happen during any of the task life cycle stages. Barry et al. (2002, p. 117) takes an outer position on Scope creep and proposes that Scope creep is the aftereffect of the gradual changes to project requirements.

**2. Poor Scope Definition**

A destitute scope definition and WBS leads to assumption-making within the project organization (Kerzner, 2014, p. 262). On the off chance that you haven't defined the project scope unmistakably, it is unavoidable that things will definitely leave scope. An ineffectually defined scope is probably the most reason for expand disappointments. On the off chance that the extend does not fulfill the genuine needs of a client it is destined to fail. Whereas the scope can be defined in a too-broad sense, the agreement among analysts emphatically shows scope creep happens as a result of a ineffectively defined scope, either by the customers or project manager. A common botch managers make when doing this is often to depend as well much on the scope statement. It might sound conflicting, but the scope statement is really a destitute direct for defining project scope. It is as well high-level and as well early within the project planning prepare to donate you an exact gauge of all that's to be done.

**3. Changed client’s priorities**

This happens frequently: clients alter their minds, need a bit more for the same cost, make project-related choices within the center of the extend course, or see at their competitors’ items and realize they need something comparable. This comes about in unused demands to the venture group, changes in prerequisites, and highlight creep said over. Once more, adjusting to the modern necessities and conveying unused highlights takes time – huge and unusual sums of it.

**4. Poor Communication**

Destitute understanding between the client’s vision and yours is one of the major causes of Scope creep. A weak or wide scope definition is likely to influence communication adversely as a result. Scope creep stemming from a ineffectively defined or too-broadly defined scope can cause misinterpretations within the project organization. Destitute possibility arranging and formal communication may make fundamental data to decision-makers inaccessible which could impact them to form conclusions on wrong or wrong grounds. Moreover, miscommunication can happen by a project manager’s unwillingness to say no to clients, stakeholders or project group individuals with the deliberate to a if it's not too much trouble.

In spite of the fact that saying yes and accepting change on sake of project group individuals and clients is well-intentioned, falling flat to require into consideration the impacts of tolerating apparently little alter requests without officially communicating the changes to the scope could be a critical calculate for empowering scope creep. The communicative discord between the project manager and stakeholders increment both scope creep and the potential for inside struggle.

**5. There is little to no stakeholder involvement**

The need of stakeholder engagement or stakeholder numbness of the project scope can lead to scope creep as proposed by Hussain (2012, p. 76). Stakeholders frequently do not commit sufficient time to extend work, however their input is required for defining and checking on prerequisites. In case stakeholders aren’t included, a part of decision-making obligations drop to the project group. The stakeholder might inquire for a huge modern include, but choosing whether it ought to be inside the scope gets to be your work.

A shinning and total definition of the project scope is still not sufficient to play down scope creep in case project managers overlook stakeholders conclusions and concerns (Greiman, 2013, p. 169). The project managers probability of experiencing scope creep is decreased in the event that there's a great understanding of what the stakeholders wish to see completed agreeing to Farok & Garcia (2016, p. 18)

**6. Lack of Change Control:**

A powerless or indulgent change control prepare will be incapable to perform its reason for presence, to anticipate pointless changes driving to continuous scope creep (Kerzner, 2014, p. 262). In case endorsement and audit forms are missing, the acknowledgment criteria of change are non-existent, and project group individuals are free to create unnoticed change. A lack of change control decreases the value of the actualized changes to stakeholders, and without legitimate documentation, the reflection of these unsanctioned changes will materialize within the last taken a toll account of the project (Wich, 2009, p. 3). The event of unsanctioned changes to the project scope is one of the basic issues to whether the scope change will lead to scope creep.

**7. Underestimating Complexity**

Huge and complex undertakings, for example, megaprojects are progressively inclined to scope creep because of the sheer size and multifaceted nature which for the most part includes revamp somewhat as per Greiman (2013, p. 169) and Farok and Garcia (2016, p. 19). The multifaceted nature of bigger projects can make a " fog of war ", where downstream impacts of choices are not noticeable, despite the fact that they are esteemed positive at the time and point in the association where the choice is made (Kerzner, 2014, p. 261; Shapiro and Lorenz, 2000, p. 4)

**8. Gold Plating:**

This term is given to the hone of surpassing the scope of a project within the conviction that a esteem is being included. These changes unavoidably expend time and budget and are not ensured to extend client fulfillment. Developers may include item highlights they think are valuable or curiously [called “gold plating”]. Whether or not changes include esteem, developers or SMEs ought to not be making decisions approximately included usefulness. The individuals authorized to create choices ought to be the as it were ones making the choices.

Hunsberger and Gibson (2011; 1998, refered to in Meredith and Mantel, 2011, pp. 497-498) proposes that inward desire, question, and struggle between departments can prompt uncontrolled scope creep, notwithstanding lesser contribution of stakeholders in the later project life cycle stages. An absence of administrative data, poor comprehension of the first task and strife in the basic leadership procedure are other lesser-known culprits of scope creep (Farok and Garcia, 2016, pp. 18-19).

**Conclusion:**

In most cases, project manager is the individual capable for Scope creep and the individual who can avoid it. Taking vital measures to recognize its signs at the exceptionally starting and minimizing its results is an imperative portion of the project management work. Well-defined and recorded forms are key here. Overseeing Scope creep shrewdly will continuously be essential to each project’s approach towards accomplishing its objectives. The foremost critical calculate to avoid it, is to get it where things go amiss and get out ahead of the issue. Taking a proactive approach ought to make the extend run more easily.

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