



SIG 10 - PO - Project Organizing

With our theme **Exploring the Future of Management: Facts, Fashion and Fado**, we invite you to participate in the debate about how to explore the future of management. We look forward to receiving your submissions.

T10_03 - Projects & Society

Proponents:

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Short description:

Today, the impact of projects on economy and society is undeniable. Whether we look at the public or private sector (regardless of industry type), the relevance of projects on society is highlighted in academia and practice. This track seeks to advance the debate on the bidirectional relationship between projects and society: on the one hand (1) projects as a fundamental element to achieve societal objectives (e.g. energy reduction, sustainable development, social inclusion and SDGs) and on the other hand (2) institutional pressures that society exerts to shape projects in terms of success, expectations, value and benefits realisation.

Long description:

Our society is faced with a number of unprecedented challenges that may be threatening the future of not just mankind but the entire existence of the planet Earth. Climate change, depletion of natural resources, poverty and social injustice are calling for actions from governments, organizations as well as individuals. The United Nations' development goals clearly set targets for the change our society needs to realize. The word 'project' in its essence means plan. With a project we plan and 'project' the future and bring change to individuals, organizations, and society. Projects as vehicles for change therefore play a crucial role in the society (Marcelino-Sádaba et al., 2015). For some years, the connection between society and project management is being discussed in academia (refer to Marcelino-Sádaba et al., 2015; Silvius and Schipper, 2014; Huemann and Silvius, 2017) and practice (refer to IPMA and PMI code of ethics).

This linkage between the two concepts is relatively recent, however, a fundamental paradox arises by associating projects and society: how does a time-bound activity, such as a project,



that by its definition is ‘temporary’ and ‘unique’, become important for the achievement of typical societal objectives that are directed more at continuity and long-term growth?

Exploring the implications of this paradox is what we aim to address in this Project Organizing track of EURAM.

Keywords:

Sustainable development
Sustainable Management
Societal Challenges
Projectification of Society
Sustainability

Publication Outlet:

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