Sprout

Challenges, Trends, Strategies, Opportunities and Best Practices

A guide for PMO's

Intuitive partner

Sprout's intuitive PPM platform helps organizations to plan, execute and deliver projects and programs with ease.

About Sonar

Sonar is a leading provider of intuitive, flexible and scalable project portfolio management (PPM) solutions. It enables organizations to plan, execute, and deliver projects and programs with ease. Sonar's solutions are used by more than 1,000 customers in over 100 countries, ranging from small businesses to Fortune 500 companies, across various industries including financial services, healthcare, manufacturing, and government. Sonar's solutions are known for their ease of use, customizability, and integration with other business systems, making them a popular choice for organizations looking to improve their project management capabilities and drive business success.

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Foreword

Welcome to our guide on the challenges, trends, strategies, opportunities and best practices for PMO's in 2023. The world of project management is constantly evolving, and PMOs must adapt to the changing landscape to stay relevant and effective. This guide will provide insights into the challenges facing PMOs in 2023, the trends shaping the industry, and the strategies and best practices that can help PMOs to succeed in this environment. We hope that this guide will be a valuable resource for PMO leaders and professionals looking to improve their project management capabilities and drive business success.

01 Challenges facing PMOs in 2023

Challenges facing PMOs in 2023

Project Management Offices (PMOs) are facing a number of challenges in 2023 that are impacting their ability to deliver projects and programs successfully. These challenges include:

Lack of alignment with business goals: PMOs may struggle to align their projects and programs with the business goals and objectives, which can lead to a lack of support and resources.

Lack of resources and budget: PMOs may face challenges in securing the resources and budget they need to deliver projects and programs successfully, which can impact their ability to meet deadlines and deliver high-quality results.

Lack of executive support: PMOs may struggle to gain the support of executive leadership, which can impact their ability to secure resources and budget and drive change in the organization.

Organizational resistance to change: PMOs may face resistance from stakeholders and team members when introducing new processes and tools, which can impact their ability to drive change and improve performance.

Technology issues: PMOs may face challenges in implementing and managing project management software and other technology solutions, which can impact their ability to manage projects and programs effectively.

Skills and expertise gaps: PMOs may face challenges in finding and retaining skilled project management professionals with the expertise and experience needed to deliver projects and programs successfully.

Changing IT and digital landscape: The rapid evolution of IT and digital technologies can pose challenges for PMOs in terms of keeping up with the latest trends and technologies and ensuring that projects and programs are aligned with the organization's IT and digital strategy.

Managing remote teams: The rise of remote work has created challenges for PMOs in terms of managing remote teams and ensuring that projects and programs are delivered on time and to high quality standards.

Managing risk and compliance: PMOs may face challenges in managing risk and compliance, which can impact their ability to deliver projects and programs successfully and meet regulatory requirements.

GPS

Great Scotland to Strategic Partner

Sonar's GPS (Great Scotland to Strategic Partner) is a framework that helps organizations to plan and execute their strategic initiatives. The framework consists of three stages: Great Scotland, which focuses on building a strong foundation for the organization; Strategic, which focuses on aligning the organization's strategic goals with its operations; and Partner, which focuses on building strategic partnerships with external stakeholders to drive growth and success.

The GPS framework provides a roadmap for organizations to navigate the complex landscape of strategic initiatives and ensure that they are aligned with the organization's overall goals and objectives. The framework helps organizations to prioritize their initiatives, allocate resources effectively, and measure the success of their initiatives.

02 The Trends Shaping PMOs in 2023

PMO as a strategic business partner (alignment & value focus)

The PMO as a strategic business partner (alignment & value focus) refers to the role of the PMO in aligning the organization's strategic goals with its operations and ensuring that the organization's projects and programs are aligned with the organization's overall goals and objectives. The PMO as a strategic business partner focuses on building strategic partnerships with external stakeholders to drive growth and success and on measuring the success of the organization's projects and programs in terms of their impact on the organization's overall goals and objectives.

The PMO as a strategic business partner (alignment & value focus) can help organizations to improve their project management capabilities and drive business success by aligning the organization's projects and programs with its strategic goals and objectives, prioritizing its projects and programs effectively, allocating resources effectively, and measuring the success of its projects and programs in terms of their impact on the organization's overall goals and objectives.

Asahi

Case Study

A leading Irish beverage company, Asahi decided to switch to Sonar to manage its transformation journey.

Hybrid & adaptive delivery - Agile, Waterfall and Kanban

Sonar's hybrid and adaptive delivery approach refers to the use of a combination of Agile, Waterfall and Kanban methodologies in project management. This approach allows organizations to leverage the strengths of each methodology and tailor their project management approach to the specific needs of their projects and programs.

The hybrid and adaptive delivery approach can help organizations to improve their project management capabilities and drive business success by allowing them to adapt their project management approach to the specific needs of their projects and programs, leveraging the strengths of each methodology to improve project management effectiveness, and ensuring that their projects and programs are aligned with the organization's overall goals and objectives.

Meath County Council

Case Study

Meath County Council is a local government organization in Ireland that provides a wide range of services to the residents of the county, including transportation, housing, education, healthcare, and environmental services. The council is responsible for managing the county's infrastructure, promoting economic development, and ensuring the well-being of the county's residents. The council is also responsible for managing the county's finances and ensuring that the county's resources are used effectively and efficiently to meet the needs of the county's residents.

Data-driven decision making & insights

Sonar's data-driven decision making and insights refers to the use of data and analytics to inform decision-making and drive business success. This approach involves the collection and analysis of data from various sources, including project management software, financial systems, and other business systems, to provide insights into the performance of projects and programs and to inform decision-making and drive business success.

The data-driven decision making and insights approach can help organizations to improve their project management capabilities and drive business success by providing insights into the performance of projects and programs, informing decision-making and drive business success, and enabling organizations to make data-driven decisions that are aligned with the organization's overall goals and objectives.

Unified PPM platform & tool integration

Sonar's unified PPM platform & tool integration refers to the use of a single platform to manage all project management activities and tools, including project management software, collaboration tools, and other business systems, to provide a unified view of projects and programs and to facilitate collaboration and communication among project teams and stakeholders.

The unified PPM platform & tool integration approach can help organizations to improve their project management capabilities and drive business success by providing a unified view of projects and programs, facilitating collaboration and communication among project teams and stakeholders, and enabling organizations to manage their projects and programs more effectively and efficiently.

Altus

A modern PPM solution

Altus in action: Several Sonar clients benefits from this unified platform approach.

Meath County Council

Meath County Council is a local government organization in Ireland that provides a wide range of services to the residents of the county, including transportation, housing, education, healthcare, and environmental services. The council is responsible for managing the county's infrastructure, promoting economic development, and ensuring the well-being of the county's residents. The council is also responsible for managing the county's finances and ensuring that the county's resources are used effectively and efficiently to meet the needs of the county's residents.

Meath County Council has been using Sonar's unified PPM platform & tool integration approach to improve its project management capabilities and drive business success. The council has been using the platform to manage its projects and programs, facilitate collaboration and communication among project teams and stakeholders, and provide a unified view of its projects and programs. The council has been able to improve its project management capabilities and drive business success by using the platform to manage its projects and programs more effectively and efficiently.

Resource management & capacity planning in a hybrid world

Sonar's resource management & capacity planning in a hybrid world refers to the use of the platform to manage resources and capacity in a hybrid work environment, where some employees work remotely and others work in the office. The platform can help organizations to manage their resources and capacity in a hybrid work environment by providing a unified view of resources and capacity, facilitating collaboration and communication among project teams and stakeholders, and enabling organizations to manage their projects and programs more effectively and efficiently.

Real-world example - Sonar clients Story

Great Scotland to Strategic Partner

NSW SecurePark

Leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI) & PTM

There are several promising AI use cases in the PMO/PPM context:

Automated data entry: AI can be used to automate the data entry process, reducing the time and effort required to manage project data and improving the accuracy and consistency of project data.

Predictive analytics: AI can be used to analyze historical project data and predict future project outcomes, such as project delays, cost overruns, and resource shortages, to help project managers make data-driven decisions and improve project management effectiveness.

Natural language processing: AI can be used to analyze unstructured data, such as emails, meeting notes, and documents, to extract relevant information and insights that can be used to improve project management effectiveness.

Chatbots and virtual assistants: AI can be used to create chatbots and virtual assistants that can interact with project managers and team members to provide information and support, such as answering questions, providing reminders, and scheduling meetings.

Risk management: AI can be used to analyze project data and identify potential risks and issues, such as resource shortages, budget overruns, and schedule delays, to help project managers mitigate risks and improve project management effectiveness.

Resource management: AI can be used to analyze resource data and optimize resource allocation, such as assigning tasks to the most suitable resources and balancing workloads, to improve resource management effectiveness.

Project prioritization: AI can be used to analyze project data and prioritize projects based on their impact on the organization's overall goals and objectives, such as revenue, customer satisfaction, and market share, to help project managers make data-driven decisions and improve project management effectiveness.

Project forecasting: AI can be used to analyze project data and forecast future project outcomes, such as project delays, cost overruns, and resource shortages, to help project managers make data-driven decisions and improve project management effectiveness.

Project scheduling: AI can be used to analyze project data and optimize project schedules, such as identifying the critical path and optimizing resource allocation, to improve project management effectiveness.

Project monitoring: AI can be used to analyze project data and monitor project progress, such as tracking milestones and identifying deviations from the project plan, to improve project management effectiveness.

Project reporting: AI can be used to analyze project data and generate project reports, such as status reports and dashboards, to provide project managers with a clear and concise view of project performance.

Project collaboration: AI can be used to analyze project data and facilitate collaboration among project teams and stakeholders, such as identifying relevant information and providing recommendations for collaboration, to improve project management effectiveness.

Project knowledge management: AI can be used to analyze project data and manage project knowledge, such as identifying relevant information and providing recommendations for knowledge sharing, to improve project management effectiveness.

Project risk management: AI can be used to analyze project data and identify potential risks and issues, such as resource shortages, budget overruns, and schedule delays, to help project managers mitigate risks and improve project management effectiveness.

Project quality management: AI can be used to analyze project data and monitor project quality, such as identifying defects and deviations from the project plan, to improve project management effectiveness.

Project cost management: AI can be used to analyze project data and manage project costs, such as identifying cost overruns and optimizing resource allocation, to improve project management effectiveness.

Project time management: AI can be used to analyze project data and manage project time, such as identifying the critical path and optimizing resource allocation, to improve project management effectiveness.

Project scope management: AI can be used to analyze project data and manage project scope, such as identifying scope creep and managing changes to the project scope, to improve project management effectiveness.

Project stakeholder management: AI can be used to analyze project data and manage project stakeholders, such as identifying relevant information and providing recommendations for stakeholder engagement, to improve project management effectiveness.

Project procurement management: AI can be used to analyze project data and manage project procurement, such as identifying relevant information and providing recommendations for procurement, to improve project management effectiveness.

Project human resource management: AI can be used to analyze project data and manage project human resources, such as identifying relevant information and providing recommendations for human resource management, to improve project management effectiveness.

Project communication management: AI can be used to analyze project data and manage project communication, such as identifying relevant information and providing recommendations for communication management, to improve project management effectiveness.

Project integration management: AI can be used to analyze project data and manage project integration, such as identifying relevant information and providing recommendations for integration management, to improve project management effectiveness.

Project risk management: AI can be used to analyze project data and manage project risk, such as identifying relevant information and providing recommendations for risk management, to improve project management effectiveness.

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Project procurement management: AI can be used to analyze project data and manage project procurement, such as identifying relevant information and providing recommendations for procurement management