

Launch of *Getting Stuff Done*

The Global Alliance for the Project Professions (GAPPS) announces the launch of our globally developed *Getting Stuff Done* framework – a set of principles for being productive in today’s dynamic workplace.

Informed by world-leading research and contemporary practice, but written in jargon-free, plain English, *Getting Stuff Done* outlines a set of principles that can help anyone understand and adopt effective ways of thinking, working, and collaborating with others,

Getting Stuff Done is intended to be used by businesses, academic institutions, training providers, professional associations, and government standards and qualifications bodies globally. Adoption of the framework as best practice by organisations worldwide could provide real opportunities to improve program management capability and competence. Resultant growth in performance levels may ultimately lead to business improvement and economic reward.

Who developed it

The GAPPS team comprises representatives from industry, academia, national training authorities, and professional associations in Asia, Australia, Europe, North America, Russia, and South Africa. The team works collaboratively to develop tools that provide for global portability of program and project management qualifications, certifications, and development programs.

Why it was developed

Faced with volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous (VUCA) environments, governments, individuals, and both public and private sector organisations have become interested in frameworks and guidance that describe actions required for guiding principles for being productive. This productivity can be associated with dealing with interdependencies and delivery of endeavours in many different contexts including projects, programs, contracts, supply chain, and business as usual across all industries.

At TLF#44 in June 2019, in Lancaster, UK, review of the GAPPS Project Manager framework was discussed. It was decided that so much had changed in the world of projects since it was first issued in 2006, that we should start again.

We therefore had the opportunity for a fresh start and different approach. We decided to develop a Guiding Framework for Getting Stuff Done. TLF#46 in Sydney, in early February provided the first opportunity for Getting Stuff Done to be addressed.

How it was developed

At TLF#46 pieces of paper with ‘actions’ taken from a broad range of standards and guides including project management, program management, agile practice, change management, and business analysis were laid out on tables. Everyone was asked to look at the ‘actions’ and remove those that they didn’t consider essential to ‘Getting Stuff Done’. Individuals had the right to return an ‘action’ to the table if they disagreed with its removal. The remaining ‘actions’ were grouped under broad topic headings. Next, each person selected one ‘action’ as their favourite / most important - desert island action for getting stuff done. Then everyone provided give things they considered essential to getting things done.

Over the next three years, participants at our Thought Leadership Forums (2020-2023), along with Sydney University Project Management Capstone students, refined the framework and decided a visual representation would be most useful.

How it can be used

Currently program and project management magazines and journals world-wide report that organisations and companies are still suffering significant revenue loss due to poor performance and/or failure of their programs and projects. Adoption of the GAPPS tools may assist organisations by

providing a means for developing their program and project performance capability, leading to their being more competitive in the marketplace.

The GAPPS tools can be adopted by organisations for the assessment, development, and certification of their program and project managers, in their entirety or customised to support existing program and project management cultures, processes, tools, and models. Utilisation of the standards could potentially result in a demonstrable improvement to the organisation's bottom line by revolutionising the way programs and projects are managed.

The Guiding Framework for Getting Stuff Done identifies a range of contexts in which the framework might be applied by Individuals (e.g. to review the health of a project), Teams (e.g. as the basis of a Team Charter), Initiatives (e.g. to guide a project/program re-set), and Organisations (e.g. by embedding it in the project management methodology).

This and other GAPPS tools may be downloaded for free from the GAPPS website.

www.pmprofessions.org