

PROJECT LIFE CYCLE



What is a project life cycle?

- Project life cycle is a series of phases of a project from initiation to completion.
- The life cycle gives a practical approach to problem solving applied to all aspects of a project.
- Phases in a project life cycle encompasses sequential and overlapping phases.
- A project life cycle typically has 4 major phases:
 - Initiation Phase
 - Planning Phase
 - Implementation/ Execution Phase
 - Closure Phase



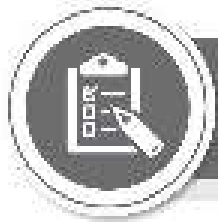
Project life cycle phases



Initiation phase

- The first phase explores the project concept.
- Scope is defined during this phase.
- Feasibility studies are made in order to identify if there is a business need and justification to pursue the project. Project charter is developed for approval.
- This is the phase that the project team is assembled and the project manager is identified.





Planning phase

- This phase further details the scope of the project.
- Tasks and resources are identified and assigned during this phase
- Project manager coordinates the preparation of the schedule and project budget
- Risks are identified ahead to anticipate any project threats
- Quality plan is developed to maintain proper standards throughout project
- Communications plan is created in order to ensure everyone is constantly informed of project status





Implementation phase

- This phase is where the work outlined in the project plan is performed.
- This phase consumes the most resources and energy.
- Constant and close monitoring of the work should be done to ensure efficiency of the project execution.
- Status reports are important for all stakeholders involved.
- Deliverables are measured against the set metrics to ensure quality is acceptable



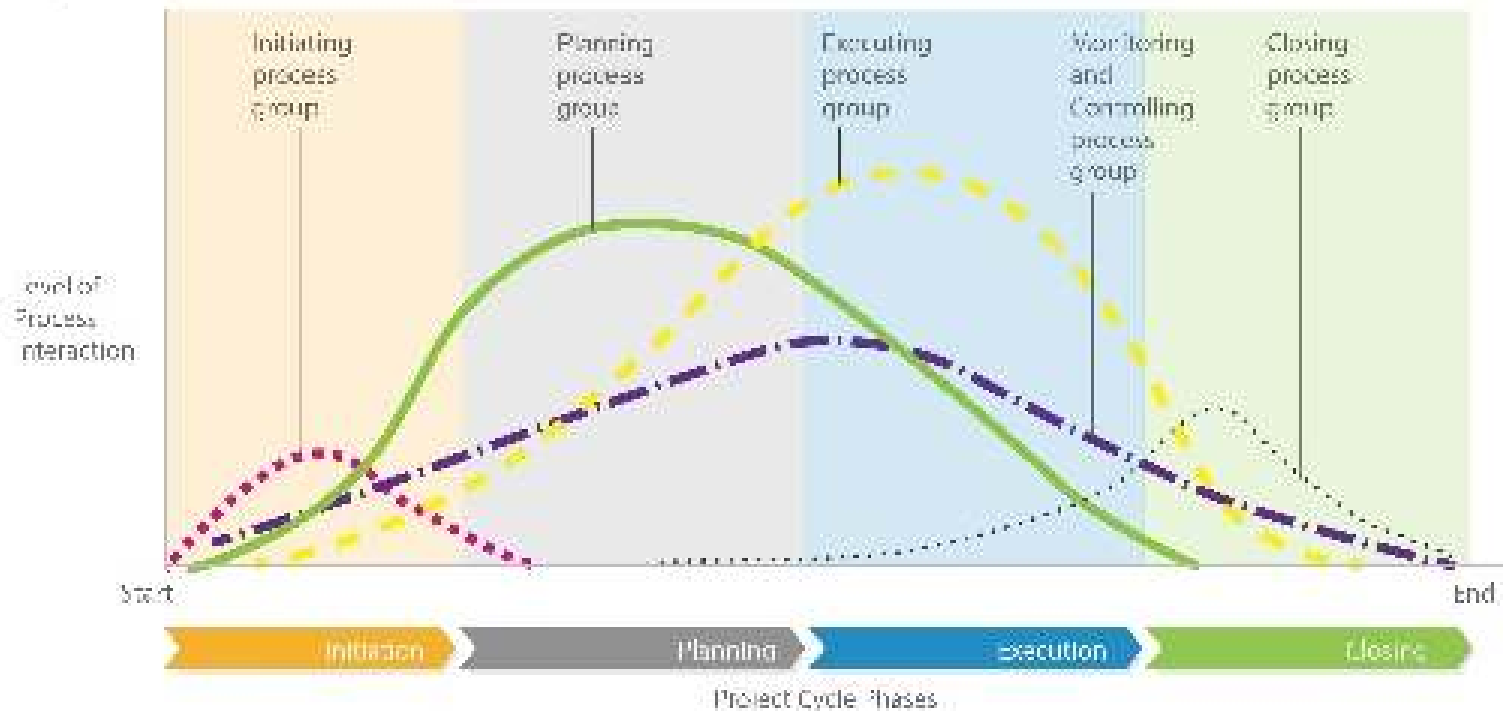
Closure phase

- This is the last phase of the project life cycle and involves handing over final deliverable to the customer.
- Contracts are properly terminated for equipment, vendors and staff.
- All stakeholders are to be informed of project closure.
- This phase is when the team reviews the overall project and identify lessons learned for future projects.



Processes

- This graphic is a representation of when these processes typically occur over the project life cycle



Initiating process group

- Typically occurring during the initiation phase of a project.
- These process groups define the new project or phase objectives and what is needed to achieve it.
- Involves obtaining authorization for the project or phase.
- Process group main output is the project charter and stakeholder register.

Planning process group

- Typically occurring during the planning phase of a project.
- Planning process group does not just apply to the planning phase. Planning is an activity that continues to almost the end of a project, as projects tend to change as it progresses.
- A skilled project manager knows how much time and effort to put into each stage of planning as the project changes



Executing process group

- Typically occurring during the implementation/execution phase of a project.
- This process group involves a lot of management tasks and coordination with staff while the project plan is being executed.
- The outputs produced during this process group is the actual project deliverable.



Closing process group

- Typically occurring during the closure phase of a project.
- Formal transfer of deliverable to customer
- Administrative closure and contract closure is performed to formally close out project.



Monitoring and controlling process group

- This process group occurs on all phases of the project life cycle.
- Ensures that the project is on track and flags issues to maintain project course direction.
- Collects performance data through constant reports from team such as status reports and team meetings.

