

ESI CONSULTING

Ensuring Alignment Throughout Your Organization

In order to maximize efficiency and performance, all strategic and structural components of your organization must be in alignment. ESI consultants will first identify any breaches within your organization and then tailor a solution to address any issues, leverage your assets, and achieve organizational alignment.

Organizational Design: Project Management for Executives

A project manager does not work in isolation. He or she reports to managers, works with functional managers, and manages teams of people. Each of these other stakeholders must have some knowledge of project management principles and practices to assist the project managers in his or her work. Executive sessions bring executives together to uncover the organizational and procedural issues impacting project, program and portfolio performance.

What It Is:

The ESI approach to Executive Sessions is highly flexible in content. We custom-develop the agenda for each session, and endeavor to meet the specific needs and expectations of the client with each delivery. Recognizing that every session is in some way unique, a predominant overall goal of the session is to provide knowledge, insight and awareness as to how each executive can help to create a successful environment for projects in their organization. Typical learning objectives of the sessions are:

- Provide an overview of the project management knowledge areas and best practices
- Understand the value and contribution of project management to the success of an organization
- Provide guidance for executives as project sponsors
- Discuss potential barriers to project management improvement and how to overcome them
- Identify specific steps executives as individuals and as a group can take to make the improvement initiative succeed

Why It Matters:

Organizational alignment of people, processes, and tools are critical to the successful performance of an organization and its projects. Without alignment, it is easy for organizations to steer away from their goals, objectives, and visions. This can cause an organization to pay more, do more, and take more time to complete projects.

Project Management for Executive sessions help to:

- Encourage and support the organization's use of project management best practices
- Manage project resources and timelines in a more consistent, unified and coordinated manner
- Foster improved integration and collaboration among executive sponsors regarding the organization's project portfolio
- Develop a consistent framework for establishing project goals and measuring project outcomes
- Identify and plan "next steps" for improving and maturing individual and organizational project management capabilities

ESI's Project Management for Executive sessions provides knowledge, insight and awareness as to how each executive can help create a successful environment for projects in their organization and uncover how each can positively influence the outcomes of specific initiatives.

Potential Topics for an Executive Session:

Topics marked with a star (*) are typical and generally show up in most agendas

- Overview of the nine PMI knowledge areas and five process groups*
- Executive roles and responsibilities*
- Project life cycle and checkpoints*
- Project control and governance*
- PMO and other support options
- Project charters and implementation contracts with teams
- Domain expertise and project management
- Project selection/portfolio issues
- Resource Management and Allocation
- Quality audits and performance reviews
- Stakeholder responsibilities/ stakeholder management
- Levels and training of project managers
- Assignment of project managers
- Curriculum options
- Project team makeup and organizational implications
- Managing global projects



"Since beginning its relationship with ESI, the Bureau has enjoyed a quick, tangible return on its investment. Right away we noticed an increase in productivity and an increase in the quality of work."



Sharon Carlson,
PMO Division Chief,
LA County
Department
of Mental Health

