Applicability of agile approach in managing a project

Business, Management

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Executive Summary

The primary purpose or aim of the executive summary is to provide a short overview of a longer report. In light of this, this executive summary aims at establishing the applicability or usage of agile approach in managing a project from the start to the end. An agile approach is more suitable for projects with less rigid constraints, unclear requirements and more flexible scheduling. Scrum is basically the leading agile development methodology for accomplishing projects with a complex, innovative scope of work.

The main points of the paper

The context

The article emphasizes the unique and specific aspects of integrating an agile approach in each project management process as compared to using the traditional approach. An agile project typically uses several repetitions or deliveries of software instead of waiting up to the end of the project being undertaken in order to provide one product.

The findings

Projects with heavy constraints, inexperienced and dispersed teams, huge risks, generally clear and up-front requirements, and a rigid completion date are often carried out by utilizing a predictive or traditional approach. This is attributable to the conservative and safe nature of the traditional approach. Projects with less rigid constraints, experienced and co-located teams, smaller risks, unclear requirements and more flexible scheduling would be appropriately done using agile approach. The findings also indicates that in

any case, managing projects still involves actions in each of the project management processes namely initiating, planning, executing, monitoring and controlling, and closing. Scrum is the leading and main agile development methodology for completing projects with a complex and innovative scope of work

Conclusions

In conclusion, a firm can still use the five process groups involved in project management to manage an agile project while at the same using the unique aspects of a spectrum approach. The amplified interest in agile project management technique is grounded partly on the anticipation that it will somehow make project management easier. The scrum process offers a simplified method and process of managing complex and innovative range of work.

Recommendation

Many individuals believe that using the agile approach to managing projects is totally different from a more traditional or predictive approach. This is not true as the project management process group, which is, initiating, planning, executing, monitoring and controlling and closing can also be used in an agile approach but with different terms, techniques and outputs. The agile approach is often more suitable for projects whose scope cannot be established early on in its lifecycle. The agile method is suitable and would be recommended for complex work and where the personnel are versed with experience. Given that our organization undertakes a wide variety of projects, agile would be more suitable for our projects accomplishment. The reason being, the scrum method allows one to complete projects with a

complex and innovative range of work.

Justifications for the recommendations

Agile method for project completion is highly recommended due to its efficiency and timeliness. It's highly efficient as various projects can be accomplished at the same time. The efficiency is also attributed to the fact that while using the agile method, deliveries of the project can be used instead of waiting till the end of the project to provide one product. This step by step project management approach enables a firm to undertake various projects at the same time and work on them simultaneously. The capability to deliver pieces of projects at different times before the final project is completed is another advantage of using the agile approach. It enables the various parties involved in project management to identify and correct the mistakes that may have been made during project development cycle.

References

Chin, G. (2004). Agile project management: How to succeed in the face of changing project requirements. New York: AMACOM.