

Driving Project Success Through Effective Stakeholder Management

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# Objective

- Why do projects or change initiatives fail?
- Who is a stakeholder? Why are they so crucial?
- Challenges faced in stakeholder management
- Managing Stakeholder(s)
  - Identifying
  - Engaging
  - Monitoring
- Continuously improve stakeholder's participation



### Managing Stakeholders at Apple Inc.



MANAGING STAKEHOLDERS AT APPLE STEVE JOBS



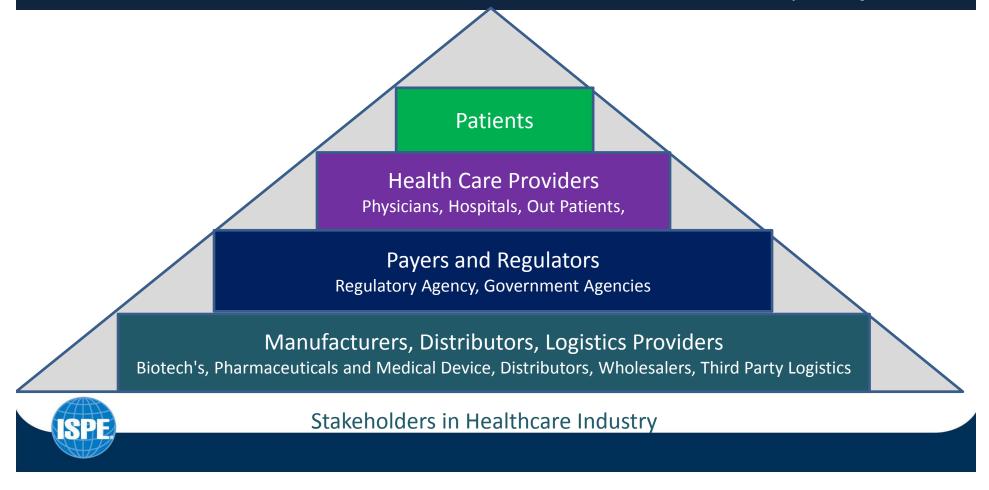
### Why do Projects or Change Initiatives Fail?



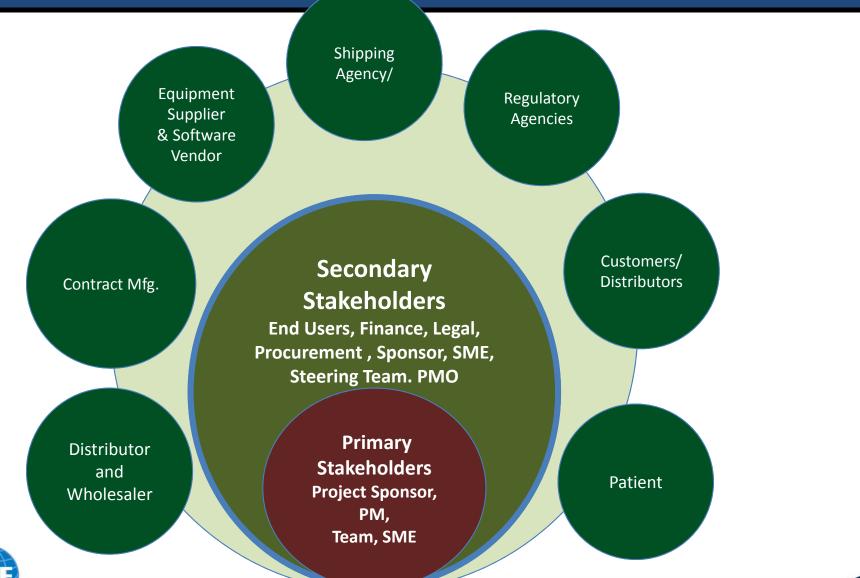
### Who is a Stakeholder

An individual, group or organization who may affect, be affected by, or perceive itself to be affected by a decision, activity or outcome of the project. (e.g., A Customer, The Sponsor, Supplier, Government Agency, Patient, Stock Holder)

**Pr**oject Management Institute



#### A Project Stakeholder Ecosystem



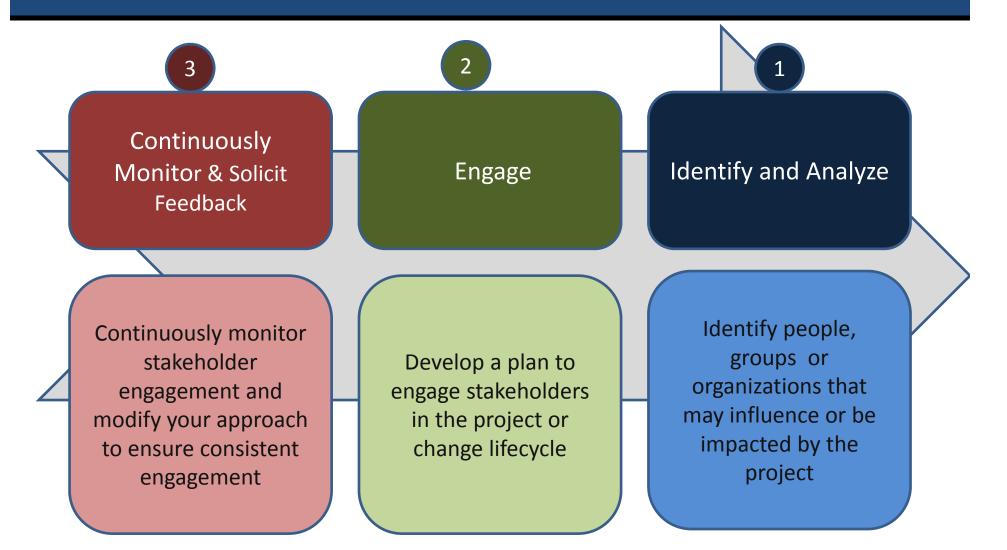


### Challenges in Stakeholder Management

- Identifying Stakeholders
  - Stakeholders not identified during the early stages of project
- Unclear Goals and Objectives or Business Requirements
  - Extracting Requirements and understanding expectations
- Lack of Trust with your Stakeholders
  - Stakeholders have little trust in each other
- Managing your Stakeholder's Expectations
  - Unrealistic, Conflict of interests, Assumptions
- Disengaged/Uninvolved Stakeholders
- Managing Conflict
- Devil's Advocate/Nay Sayers
  - Could be negative and could be contagious

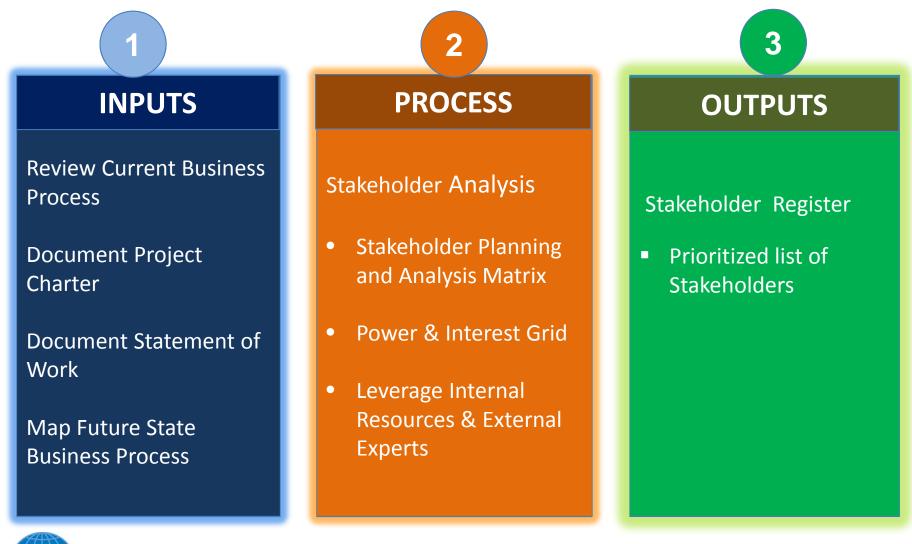


#### Stakeholder Management – 3 Steps





### Identifying your Stakeholders



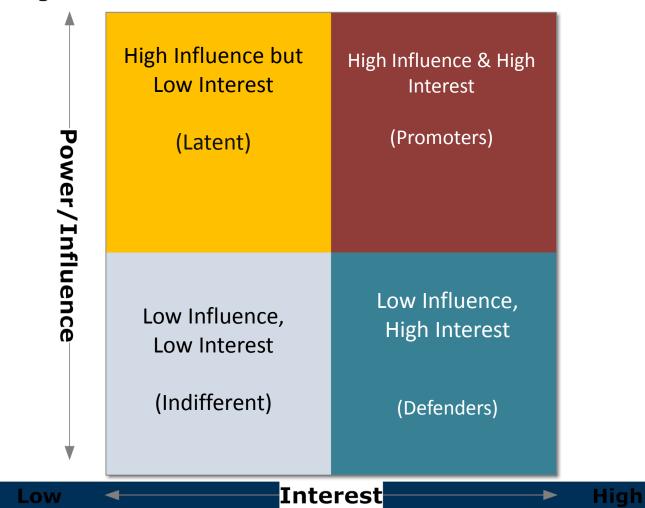


### Analyzing your Stakeholders

#### **POWER/INTEREST GRID**

#### **Prioritize Stakeholder based on Power/Influence & Interest**

High



# **Engaging Stakeholders**

Plan and execute a strategy to engage stakeholders

- Clarify roles and responsibilities using RACI Chart
- Develop an effective communication strategy
- Continuously monitor, identify, engage & manage

Stakeholder Analysis Matrix									
Project:					Date:				
Stakeholder Name	Planned Role	Interest Level	Level of Influence/ Power	Subject Matter Expertise	Current Level of Engagement	Target Level of Engagement	Management Strategy		
	Sponsor	High	Medium	Low	Medium	High			
	Business Process Owner	High	High	High	Medium				



### **Tools for Engaging Stakeholder- RACI**

#### RACI is a tool used to indentify critical project activities and clarify roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders in delivering those activities

<u>**Responsible**</u>, is the person or position who must actually do the work

<u>Accountable</u>, is the person or position who must make sure the work is done

<u>Consulted</u>, is the person(s) or position(s) who must be consulted prior to making a decision or taking any action

**Informed**, is the person(s) or position(s)who must be informed of the decisions taken

Stakeholders						
Deliverables	Business Process Owner	Sponsor	Project Manager			
Business Case	R	A	С			
Author Project Charter	С	A	R			
Review and Approve Charter						
Define Scope						
Prepare Project Schedule						
Review Design Solution						



# Creating a RACI

- 1. The stakeholders assigned to RACI must be present in the meeting
- 2. Reach consensus on all Accountabilities and Responsibilities
- 3. Assign one Accountability per deliverable
- 4. Ensure that your stakeholders agree with the RACI and sign off
- 5. Do a RACI for critical or value added activities
- 6. Eliminate excessive Cs and Is



### Engaging Stakeholders through Communication

- Thoroughly understand the needs of your target audience
- Plan your communication
  - Review Content be distributing
  - Frequency of communication
  - Delivery method
  - Assess Communication effectiveness



# Strategies for Engaging Stakeholder

Case #	Stakeholder Description	Stakeholder Management Options		
1.	High Interest and Low Power Subject Matter Experts	Engage them in all relevant meetings (Keep Informed)		
2.	Low Interest and High Power	<ul> <li>Investigate and address root cause for low interest</li> <li>Educate the stakeholder on project benefits</li> <li>Provide incremental value &amp; build trust (Keep Satisfied)</li> </ul>		
3.	High Interest & High Influence	<ul> <li>Communicate frequently</li> <li>Provide more visibility through status updates Request for suggestions &amp; recommendations</li> <li>(Manage Closely)</li> </ul>		
4.	Moderate Interest, Low Influence	<ul> <li>Understand the challenges faced by this stakeholder</li> <li>Support the stakeholder in effectively managing their activities</li> <li>(Monitor)</li> </ul>		



# Monitoring Stakeholder Engagement

- Consistently monitor stakeholders engagement
- Measure your stakeholder engagement by

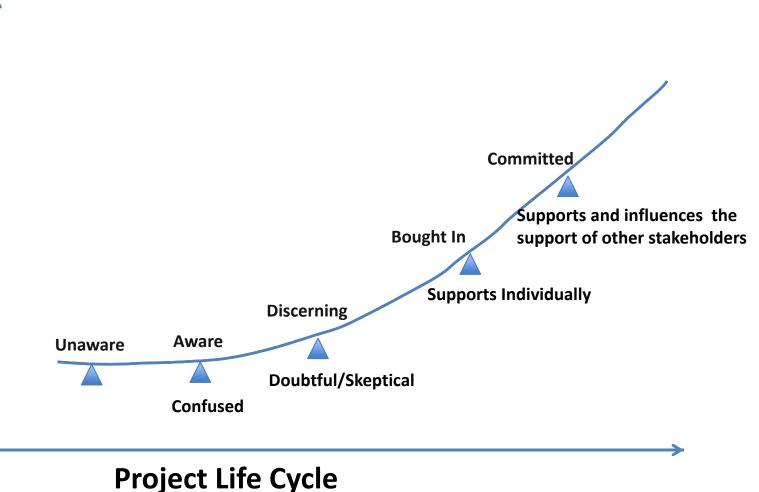
Assessing stakeholder's participation level/ involvement Monitor your project performance, Request feedback from your stakeholders

• Adjust strategies to improve stakeholder management



# Monitoring Stakeholder's Engagement and Support

### Stakeholders Support, Engagement and Trust





### Continuously Improve Stakeholder Involvement

- Continue to listen to the voice of your stakeholders
- Use every opportunity to develop relationship and trust
- Actively negotiate and influence
- Be flexible and think out of the box
- Proactively foresee and mitigate conflicts





# **Building Trust and Credibility**

- Share information, over communicate if it helps
- Identify common ground
- Tell the truth and admit mistakes
- Deliver on your promise, and try not over commit
- Use compelling evidence
- Listen with empathy and be approachable and accessible





### Benefits of Happy Stakeholders

- Early buy-in can lay the foundation of a successful project
- Win more resources for the project
- Drive faster decision making and approvals of deliverables
- Collaborative decision making, Risk Management
- Minimizes Conflicts by improving trust and relationship
- Faster Adoption of Change







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