



AGILE PROJECT MANAGEMENT





Traditional PM vs Agile PM: Differences at a glance







Integrating different concepts







WHY AGILE?





Why agile?

Social business planning is characterized by high levels of **uncertainty** and **complexity**.

Uncertainty



"risks we cannot assign probability to or predict in an accurate manner" (York & Venktaraman, 2010: 452)



the multiplicity of highly interconnected variables involved in a problem (Simon 1969)





Complexity and Uncertainty in Social Business Planning



Process: A circular complexity



Result: A linear statement







Why is social business planning complex and uncertain?

- Balancing Dual Mission (Social vs. Financial Goals): Social entrepreneurs must deliver social value while keeping the venture financially afloat.
- This hybrid mission leads to potential mission drift the risk of compromising the social purpose for revenue, or vice versa.
- Running a social enterprise involves all the challenges of running a commercial enterprise, plus the added complexity of operating a second bottom line that often lacks clear metrics
- Examples in a business plan: goals can conflict scaling a product to increase profit might dilute service quality to the target community. The plan must articulate how profits will be reinvested for impact or how social programs will be funded long-term without derailing financial stability.
- This tension between mission and margin makes planning a delicate balancing act, requiring assumptions about both impact and income that are fraught with uncertainty.





Complexity and Uncertainty in Social Business Planning







Complexity and Uncertainty in Social Business Planning







Why is social business planning complex and uncertain?

Rechtliche Struktur und regulatorische Hürden: Sozialunternehmen in Deutschland sind bei der Wahl einer geeigneten Rechtsform und der Einhaltung von Vorschriften mit Unklarheiten konfrontiert. Das Fehlen einer speziellen Rechtsform für Sozialunternehmen zwingt Gründer dazu, zwischen kommerziellen Formen (z.B. GmbH) und gemeinnützigen Formen (e.V., gGmbH) zu wählen, die jeweils mit Einschränkungen verbunden sind.

Governance (Steuerung & Entscheidungsprozesse)

- Wählt das Startup eine gemeinnützige Rechtsform (z. B. gGmbH, e.V.), kann es zwar einfacher Spenden und öffentliche Fördermittel erhalten, aber die Verwendung von Gewinnen ist eingeschränkt – sie müssen komplett reinvestiert werden.
- Eine **GmbH oder UG (for-profit)** erlaubt dagegen die **Ausschüttung von Gewinnen**, aber es gibt **keinen Anspruch auf Spenden oder Steuererleichterungen**.

Steuerliche Komplexität

- Gemeinnützige Organisationen profitieren von Steuerbefreiungen, können aber keine klassischen Investoren anziehen.
- Eine GmbH zahlt reguläre Gewerbe- und Körperschaftssteuer, kann aber leichter Wagniskapital oder Bankkredite erhalten.

Investitionsmöglichkeiten

- For-Profit-Modelle sind attraktiver für Impact-Investoren, die eine finanzielle Rendite erwarten.
- Non-Profit-Strukturen können oft nur über Spenden, staatliche Förderung oder Mitgliedsbeiträge finanziert werden.





Complexity and Uncertainty in Social Business Planning







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Result: A linear statement





Why is traditional PM limited for social business planning

BEC Berlin Brandenburg: The airport with half a million faults





Traditional project management builds on the assumption that all relevant knowledge already exists at the beginning of the project – while complex projects require a dynamic structure that allows to integrate knowledge along the way





When to use linear vs agile







Why agile?

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Uncertainty



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Uncertainty: Limited knowledge about events and causality



"... as we know, there are **known knowns**; there are things we know we know. We also know there are **known unknowns**; that is to say we know there are some things we do not know. But there are also **unknown unknowns**—the ones we don't know we don't know."

- Donald Rumsfeld





Uncertainty: The Rumsfeld matrix*

Level of awareness	Known Unknowns Things we are aware of and do not understand Assumptions and risks	Known Knowns Things we are aware of and understand. Facts and constraints	Most important category of knowledge for humanity (Zizek 2004) (e.g. climate change: we all know it is happening, but we fail to act on it on our daily decisions)
	Unknown Unknowns Things we are not aware of and do not understand	Unknown Knowns Things we are not aware of but understand	Missing category: suppressed knowledge – knowledge we do not want to obtain as we do not want to know it (Daase & Kessler 2007)
	Black / Green swans	Unconscious bias	

Level of understanding





Definable work vs. high-uncertainty work

Definable work	High-uncertainty work
 Clear procedures that have proven successful before 	
 Production domain and processes involved are well understood 	
 Low levels of execution uncertainty and risk 	
 Examples: production of a car electrical appliance 	



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Definable work vs. high-uncertainty work

	Definable work		High-uncertainty work
•	Clear procedures that have proven successful before	•	New design, problem solving, and not- done-before work is exploratory
•	Production domain and processes involved are well understood		Subject matter experts need to collaborate for creating a solution to problems
•	Low levels of execution uncertainty and risk	•	High-uncertainty work with high rates of change, complexity, and risk
•	Examples:production of a carelectrical appliance	•	 Examples: Software systems engineers Product designers Doctors Lawyers





What is the distinction between the two?



High-uncertainty work

- New design, problem solving, and not-done-before work is exploratory
- Subject matter experts need to collaborate for creating a solution to problems
- High-uncertainty work with high rates of change, complexity, and risk
- Examples:
 - Software systems engineers
 - Product designers
 - Doctors
 - Lawyers





What is the distinction between the two?



High-uncertainty work

- New design, problem solving, and not-done-before work
- Agile approaches
 Agile approaches
 Explore feasibility in short cycles
 Quick adaptations based on
 Quick adaptations based on
 Quick adaptation and feedback evaluation and feedback
 Of change, complexity, and risk
- Examples:
 - Software systems engineers
 - Product designers
 - Doctors
 - Lawyers





Agile approaches are suitable for...

Projects that involve new or novel...

- tools,
- techniques,
- materials,
- application domains

Projects that...

- require research and development
- have high rates of change,
- have unclear or unknown requirements, uncertainty, or risk, or
- have a final goal that is hard to describe.





WHAT IS AGILE?





Agile manifesto, principles, and common practices







Two types of mindsets: growth vs fixed



George's and Geoffrey's self-sustaining cycles.





Agile manifesto, principles, and common practices







The agile manifesto and mindset

We are uncovering better ways of developing software by doing it and helping others do it. Through this work we have come to value:

Individuals and interactions over processes and tools Working software over comprehensive documentation Customer collaboration over contract negotiation Responding to change over following a plan

That is, while there is value in the items on the right, we value the items on the left more.







Agile manifesto, principles, and common practices







Agile Social Business Planning

https://miro.com/app/board/uXjVIOUrTuY=/

12 principles of Agile Development and PM	Was bedeutet das für Euer Social Business Planning?		
Customer satisfaction through early and continuous delivery			
Welcome changing requirements, even late in development			
Deliver working solutions frequently			
Collaboration between business and development teams			
Build projects around motivated individuals			
Face-to-face conversation is the most effective way to communicate			
Working solutions are the primary measure of progress			
Sustainable development pace			
Continuous attention to technical excellence and good design			
Simplicity – maximizing work not done			
Self-organizing teams create the best designs and solutions			
Regular reflection and adjustment			





12 principles

The 12 principles of Agile development and project management

- 1. Satisfy the customer through early and continuous delivery.
- 2. Welcome changing requirements, even late in development.
- Deliver working software frequently with a preference to a shorter timescale.
- 4. Business people and developers must work together daily throughout the project.







12 principles

The 12 principles of Agile development and project management

- 5. Build projects around motivated individuals.
- 6. Convey information to and within a development team through face-to-face conversation.
- 7. Working software is the primary measure of progress.
- 8. Agile processes promote sustainable development.







12 principles

The 12 principles of Agile development and project management

- **9.** Continuous attention to technical excellence and good design enhances agility.
- Simplicity the art of maximizing the amount of work not done – is essential.
- The best architectures, requirements, and designs emerge from self-organizing teams.
- At regular intervals, the team reflects on how to become more effective.







Agile manifesto, principles, and common practices







Narrowing it down for your task







Narrowing it down for your task







6 key practices of agile project management

- **1. User story** is a high-level definition of a work request that contains just enough information so the team can produce a reasonable estimate of the effort required to accomplish the request.
- 2. **Sprints** are a short iteration, usually between one to three weeks to complete, where teams work on tasks determined in the sprint planning meeting.
 - As you move forward, the idea is to continuously repeat these sprints until your product is feature ready.
 - Once the sprint is over, you review the product see what is and isn't working, make adjustments, and begin another sprint to improve the product or service.
- 3. Daily stand-up / scrum meetings (under 10 minutes) are a great way to ensure everyone is on track and informed → standing up helps to keep the meetings short and to the point.





6 key practices of agile project management

- **4. Agile board** helps your team track the progress of your project: a whiteboard with sticky notes, a simple Kanban board, or a function within your project management software.
- **5. Backlog**: As project requests are added throughout the project, they become outstanding stories in the backlog: During sprint planning, stories in the backlog are moved into the sprint to be completed during the iteration.
- 6. **Issue log** is a project document where all issues that are negatively affecting the project are recorded, allocated to a team member and tracked all the way to its resolution as a tool for reporting and communicating all that is happening within the project





Issue Log

- The issue log is a project document where all issues that are negatively affecting the project are recorded and tracked.
- When an issue log is created, it provides a tool for reporting and communicating all that is happening within the project.
- It's a lot like a support ticket that's created when you call a help desk: the problem is logged and given an identifier, then the issue is tracked—all the way through to resolution

Example:

ID	Description	Potential Impact	Priority	Date Opened	Date Closed	Issue Owner	Department	Status	Notes
	1Website loading slowly on ie10	5% of visitors may expereince lag	Critical	05. Apr		Dale	т	Open	For whenever Dale has free time
	Website crashing at credit card collection								
	2screen	Massive loss of revenue	Low	09. Apr		Julie	IT	Open	Need to send report to C-suite on this
	Serving old format images	poor SEO results	Medium	25. Mrz		Sarah	SEO	Open	See Google's reccomendartions
	5Login icons broken on Homepage	Some users unable to login w/ icons	High	03. Apr	09. Apr	Julie	IT	Closed	Completed 4/6/20
	6								
	7								
	В								
	9								
1	D								

https://www.projectmanager.com/templates/issue-tracking-template





Issue Log

Typical elements are

- Issue Number (ID)
- Description (the issue itself)
- Potential impact
- Priority of the impact (e.g. Low/Medium/High/Critical)
- Date opened
- Date closed
- Issue Owner
- Status of the issue
- Notes including: how was the issue resolved (if at all)





Narrowing it down for your task







4 Agile team roles

Different Agile methodologies may require specific team roles - here are a few common roles that you may find:

- 1. Scrum Master ensures that each sprint stays on track and helps to remove or resolve any issues or challenges that may come up. They are the team's advocate.
- 2. **Product owner** defines the goals of each sprint, manages and prioritizes the team backlog, and is the voice of the customer or internal stakeholder.
- 3. Team members are the ones who execute the work in each sprint
- **4. Stakeholders** have an informational role only: They should be kept up-to-date on the product and sprint goals, have the opportunity to review and approve work during a sprint, and provide feedback during the sprint retrospective.





Being collaborative in agile projects







Narrowing it down for your task







6 basic steps in the agile methodology

- 1. **Project planning:** Before beginning, your team should understand the end goal, the value to the organization or client, and how it will be achieved (e.g. impact model / business model). You can develop a project scope here, but remember that the purpose of using Agile project management is to be able to address changes and additions to the project easily, so the project scope shouldn't be seen as unchangeable.
- 2. Product roadmap creation: A roadmap is a breakdown of the features that will make up the final product (e.g. social business canvas). This is a crucial component of the planning stage of Agile, because your team will build these individual features during each sprint. At this point, you will also develop a product backlog, which is a list of all the features and deliverables that will make up the final product. When you plan sprints later on, your team will pull tasks from this backlog.
- **3. Release planning:** When using Agile, your project uses shorter development cycles (called sprints) with features released at the end of each cycle. Before kicking off the project, you'll make a high-level plan for feature releases and at the beginning of each sprint, you'll revisit and reassess the release plan for that feature.





6 basic steps in the agile methodology

- 4. **Sprint planning:** Before each sprint begins, the stakeholders need to hold a sprint planning meeting to determine what will be accomplished by each person during that sprint, how it will be achieved, and assess the task load. You'll also need to visually document your workflow for team transparency, shared understanding within the team, and identifying and removing bottlenecks.
- 5. Daily stand-ups: To help your team accomplish their tasks during each sprint and assess whether any changes need to be made, hold short daily stand-up meetings (max 15 minutes). During these meetings, each team member will briefly talk about what they accomplished the day before and what they will be working on that day.
- 6. Sprint review and retrospective: After the end of each sprint, your team will hold two meetings: first, you will hold a sprint review with the project stakeholders to show them the finished product. This is an important part of keeping open communication with stakeholders. Second, you will have a sprint retrospective meeting with your stakeholders to discuss what went well during the sprint, what could have been better, whether the task load was too heavy or too light for each member, and what was accomplished during the sprint.





Develop your own "Zombie Scrum"



Luca Rossi 🤡 @lucaronin · 25. Nov. 2022 These are not *absolute* pitfalls: any of these may or may not apply to you.							
The central point is that for many teams Scrum manages to be *too much* and *not enough* at the same time.							
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Luca Rossi 🤣 @lucaronin · 25. Nov. 2022 So what is the solution? It's not to be dogmatic.						•••	
Listen to your team's needs and adapt the process to them.							
Develop your own "Zombie Scrum" 👇							