

# Preface

While the profession of project management has matured remarkably, the discipline of project management has tended to lag behind, remaining today essentially as a toolbox (albeit one containing an impressive array of devices and instruments). The irony of this situation is that, although the profession is becoming increasingly preoccupied with the achievement of project management maturity, its own frameworks appear locked into a state of adolescence.

This book seeks to advance an important discussion in which practitioners and researchers are currently engaged related to the foundations of project management in general and its theoretical underpinnings in particular. It does this by proposing a number of new concepts and models that appear to resolve some of the more pressing issues that are of increasing concern to members of the profession.

The ideas and tools presented here should be of interest to three sorts of audience: practitioners who are seeking to understand the strengths and weaknesses of their tools and techniques, academics who need a theoretical scaffold on which to base development of a “theory of projects” and professionals who seek to create a more meaningful and reliable discipline for their work.

The authors wish to acknowledge the contributions towards the ideas presented in this book from academic colleagues, students and business associates. In particular, we mention the input from Dr. Esther Unger-Aviram. We also thank our respective families for their patience, perseverance, encouragement and support over the past few years.



<http://www.springer.com/978-1-84996-515-6>

Project Management for the Creation of Organisational  
Value

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2011, XIV, 359 p., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-1-84996-515-6