

Assignment #2 – Project Continuation

1. Research Questions

- What are the most common risk factors affecting construction project planning in Saudi Arabia?
- What are the primary challenges in executing risk management plans in Saudi construction projects?
- How do project managers in Saudi Arabia identify, assess, and mitigate risks during project implementation?
- What are the key differences in risk management approaches between planning and execution phases?

2. Research Objectives

- To identify the major risk factors affecting project planning and execution in the Saudi construction industry.
- To analyze the effectiveness of risk management practices during the project lifecycle.
- To propose improved strategies for managing risks in construction projects within the Saudi context.

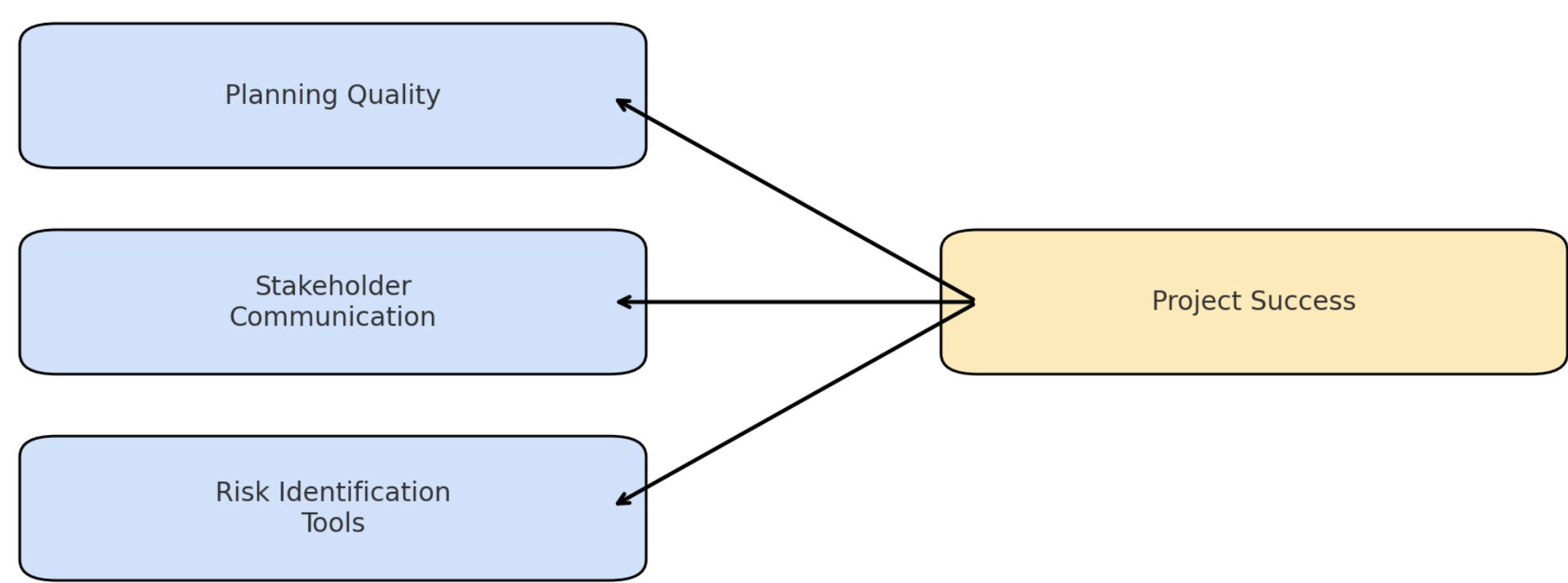
3. Research Hypotheses

- H1: Effective risk identification in the planning phase reduces the likelihood of delays in execution.
- H2: Poor communication among stakeholders is a significant contributor to project risks during execution.
- H3: The adoption of formal risk management frameworks improves overall project success rates.

4. Research Model

The research model will be based on identifying independent variables (such as planning quality, stakeholder communication, risk identification tools) and their relationship with the dependent variable (project success rate). The model will follow a cause-effect framework to determine how planning-related factors influence execution success.

Proposed Research Model



5. Suggested Industry/Organization for the Empirical Study

The study will focus on construction companies operating in Riyadh and Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. These may include both public-sector projects (e.g., infrastructure projects under Vision 2030) and private-sector developments. Companies like Saudi Binladin Group or Nesma & Partners may serve as case studies.

6. Suggested Research Methodology

The research will follow a qualitative methodology supported by semi-structured interviews and document reviews. Data will be collected from project managers, engineers, and risk officers involved in construction projects in Saudi Arabia. Thematic analysis will be used to interpret responses and extract patterns.

7. Suggested Structure of the Project

- Title Page
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Literature Review
- Research Methodology
- Data Analysis and Results
- Conclusion and Recommendations
- References
- Appendices

8. Table of Contents

- 1.Introduction
- 2.Literature Review
- 3.Research Methodology
- 4.Data Collection and Analysis
5. Results and Discussion
6. Conclusion and Recommendations
7. References
8. Appendices

9. Updated References List

- PMI (2021). A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK® Guide) – Seventh Edition.
- Alghamdi, A. (2020). Risk Management in Saudi Construction Projects. *International Journal of Project Management*, 38(4), 215-227.
- Smith, N. J. (2014). *Managing Risk in Construction Projects*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Zwikael, O., & Ahn, M. (2011). The Effectiveness of Risk Management: An Analysis of Project Success Factors. *International Journal of Project Management*, 29(2), 85-97.

Furthermore, the study aims to explore how technological advancements, such as Building Information Modeling (BIM), influence the identification and control of risks during the planning phase. The research also seeks to understand whether project managers with formal risk training handle challenges differently compared to those relying on experience-based approaches.

Another key objective is to assess the alignment of current practices in Saudi Arabia with international risk management standards. The study will also evaluate how effectively lessons learned from previous projects are incorporated into new ones to avoid repeating mistakes.

H4: Projects that integrate digital tools in risk tracking have higher adaptability to unexpected events.

H5: Organizational culture significantly moderates the relationship between planning quality and execution success.

The model assumes that risk management is a continuous process and introduces feedback loops to capture how past project outcomes affect future planning. Additionally, the role of external environmental uncertainties such as supply chain disruptions and labor market shifts are included as moderating variables.

In addition to qualitative analysis, a small-scale quantitative survey may be distributed to validate patterns observed in the interviews. This mixed-method approach will help in triangulating data and enhancing research validity.