

The Effect of Communication Efficiency on Project Success in Project-Based Organizations in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

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1. Chapter 1: Introduction

1.1 Research Background

Communication is widely recognized as one of the main factors that contributes to successful project management. In project-based organizations, employees, project managers, clients, suppliers and other stakeholders depend on effective communication to exchange information, coordinate activities and work toward shared project goals. When communication is clear and timely, team members understand their responsibilities more easily, respond to issues faster and help keep projects on schedule. Poor communication, however, can result in misunderstandings, delays, additional costs and lower project performance (Project Management Institute [PMI], 2021).

As projects continue to grow in size and complexity, organizations need stronger communication practices than ever before. Many projects involve several departments, external partners and advanced technologies, making coordination more challenging. Sharing accurate information at the appropriate time supports teamwork, improves coordination and helps everyone remain focused on achieving project objectives (Kerzner, 2022).

Communication efficiency refers to the extent to which information is exchanged clearly, accurately and at the appropriate time among project participants. It is not simply about communication more often but ensuring that information is useful and reaches the right people when it is needed. Effective communication enables project teams to make informed decisions, respond to unexpected situations and reduce mistakes. (Pinto, 2020).

Project success is commonly measured by completing a project within the planned time, budget and quality requirements. Today, however researchers also consider

stakeholder satisfaction and the achievement of project objectives as important indicators of success (Larson & Gray, 2021).

Previous studies have shown that communication has a positive influence on project outcomes. In contrast, communication problems may lead to conflict, delays and reduce efficiency (Turner, 2016).

Saudi Arabia is currently experiencing significant developments through Vision 2030, with many large-scale projects taking place across different sectors. These projects involve many stakeholders, making communication an essential part of successful project management. For this reason, this study investigates the effect of communication efficiency on project success in project-based organizations in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

1.2 Research Problem

Although communication is widely recognized as an important part of project management, many organizations still experience communication-related problems that affect project performance. Delayed information, unclear instructions and poor coordination continue to contribute to project delays, increased costs and stakeholder dissatisfaction. Even with modern communication technologies, many organizations struggle to communicate effectively throughout the project lifecycle (Project Management Institute [PMI], 2021; Kerzner, 2022).

1.2.1 Theoretical Gaps

Many previous studies have examined factors that influence project success, including leadership, organizational culture, team performance and stakeholder

management (Meredith et al., 2019; Pinto, 2020). Although communication has been discussed in project management research, fewer studies have focused specifically on communication efficiency within project-based organizations in Riyadh. In addition, much of the existing research has been conducted in different countries and industries, creating an opportunity to investigate this topic in the Saudi Arabian context (Kerzner, 2022; Project Management Institute [PMI], 2021).

1.2.2 Practical Gaps

Project-based organizations in Riyadh often involve collaboration between different departments, contractors, consultant and clients. Because of this complexity, communication challenges such as delayed responses, incomplete information, poor coordination can still occur. These issues may reduce project performance and negatively affect project quality, schedule and stake holder satisfaction. (Project Management Institute [PMI], 2021; Kerzner, 2022). Although many organizations adapted, the finding of this study are expected to provide useful insights that organizations can use to strengthen their communication practices and improve project performance.

1.3 Research Significance

The significance of this study can be discussed at both the theoretical and practical levels.

1.3.1 At the theoretical level

This research adds to the existing knowledge in project management by exploring how communication efficiency is related to project success in project-based organization located in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. While previous studies have explored communication in different industries and countries, limited research has focused specifically on communication efficiency in the Saudi Arabia context. Therefore, this study may provide additional evidence that can support future research in project management and organizational communication (Pinto, 2020; Kerzer, 2022).

1.3.2 At the practical level

From a practical perspective, the results of this study may help project manager, team leader and organizational decision-makers better understand the importance of communication efficiency in achieving successful project outcomes. The results may assist organizations in improving communication practices, strengthening teamwork, enhance decision-making, reduce communication related challenges and increasing stakeholder satisfaction. Ultimately, these improvements may contribute to better project performance and a higher likelihood project success (Project Management Institute [PMI], 2021; Larson & Gray, 2021).

References

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1.4 Research Questions

- What is the level of communication efficiency in project-based organizations in Riyadh?
- What is the level of project success in project-based organizations in Riyadh?
- Is there a significant relationship between communication efficiency and project success?
- Does communication efficiency significantly affect project success in project-based organizations in Riyadh?

1.5 Research Objectives

To answer the research questions, the following research objectives have been identified:

- To identify the level of communication efficiency in project-based organizations
- To identify the level of project success in project-based organizations

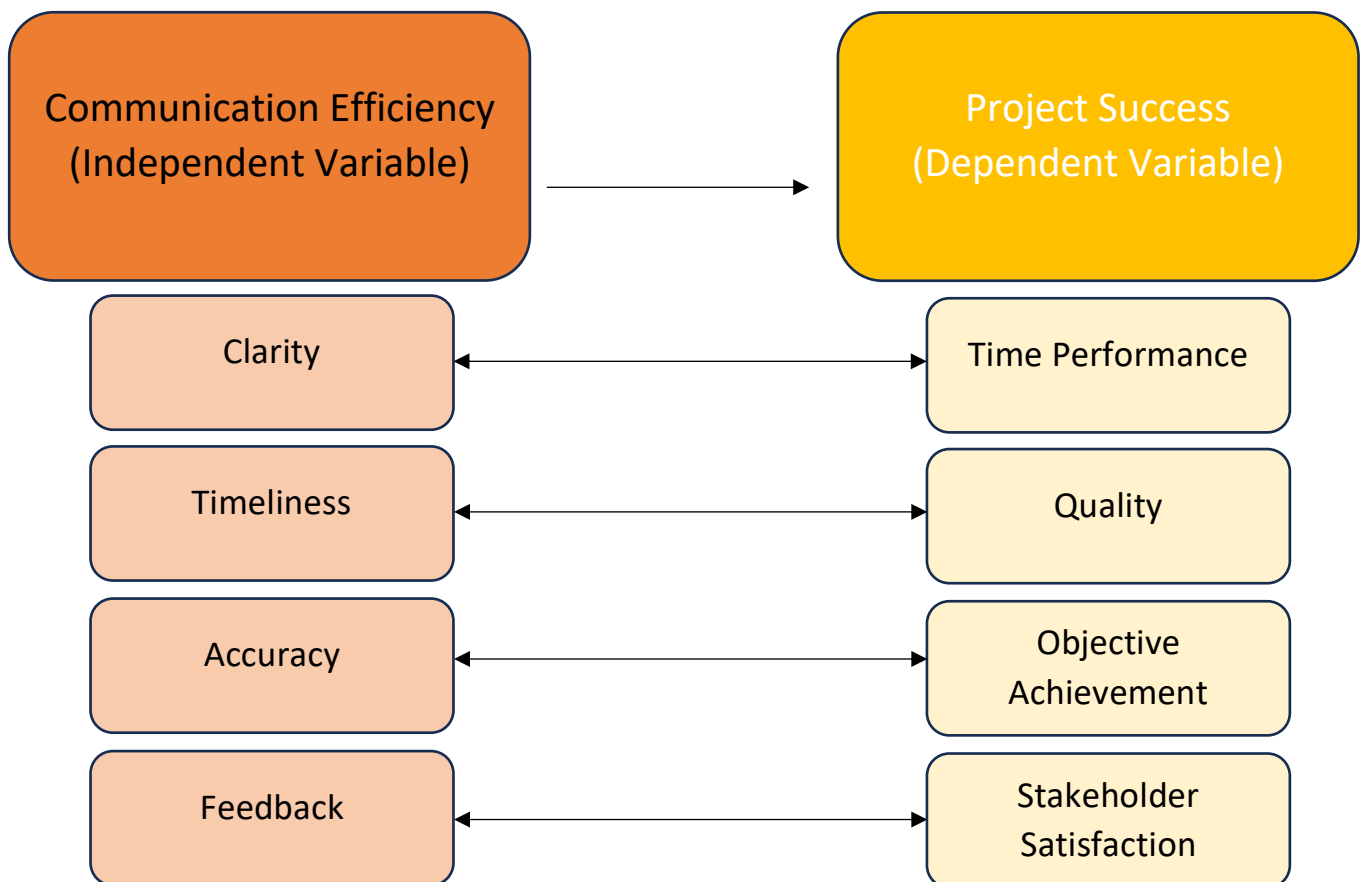
- To examine the relationship between communication efficiency and project success
- To determine the effect of communication efficiency on project success

1.6 Research Hypotheses

The study proposes the following hypothesis:

- Communication efficiency has a positive and statistically significant effect on project success in project-based organizations in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

1.7 Research Model



Research Model based on literature review and research framework (Pinto, 2020; Kerzner, 2022)

1.8 Suggested Industry / Organization

The empirical study will focus on project-based organizations operating in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, particularly those in the construction, engineering, information technology, consulting, infrastructure, telecommunications and real estate stakeholders. These industries rely heavily on effective communication among project stakeholders to achieve successful project outcomes (Project Management Institute [PMI], 2021; Kerzner, 2022).

1.9 Brief Research Methodology

This study will use quantitative research approach supported by descriptive and explanatory research designs. Data will be collected through a structured questionnaire distributed to project managers and employees working in project-based organizations in Riyadh. A five-point Likert scale will be used to measure both communication efficiency and project success. After the data is collected, it will be analyzed using SPSS. The analysis will include descriptive statistics, Pearson correlation and simple linear regression to answer the research questions and examine the proposed hypothesis

1.10 The Project Structure

The research project consists of five chapters:

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Literature Review

Chapter 3: Research Methodology

Chapter 4: Data Analysis and Findings

Chapter 5: Conclusions and Recommendations

1.11 References

- Kerzner, H. (2022). Project management: A systems approach to planning, scheduling, and controlling (13th ed.). John Wiley & Sons.
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2.Chapter 2: Literature Review

2.1 Introduction

Communication is widely recognized as one of the key factors that contributes to successful project management. As organizations continue to manage more complex projects, effective communication has become increasingly important for coordinating activities, sharing information and supporting decision-making. Good communication also helps project teams reduce misunderstandings, solve problems more efficiently and achieve project objectives. (Project Management Institute [PMI], 2021).

This chapter reviews previous studies that are related to the two variables examined in this research, namely communication efficiency and project success. It explains the main concepts of both variables, discusses how they are connected and summarize findings from earlier studies. This review helps establish the theoretical background for the study and provides support for the proposed research model.

2.2 The independent variable – Communication Efficiency

Communication efficiency refers to the ability to exchange information clearly, accurately and at the appropriate time among project participants. In project-based organizations, communication take place continuously between project managers, team members, clients, contractors and other stakeholders. According to Pinto (2020), effective communication enables project teams to coordinate their activities, make better decisions and respond quickly to challenges that arise during project implementation.

Several researchers have emphasized that communication is not only about sharing information is understood by everyone involved in project. Kerzner (2022)

explains that effective communication improves coordination between project stakeholders and helps managers monitor project progress more effectively. As a result, project teams are more likely to complete their tasks efficiently and reduce the risk of misunderstandings.

One of the key aspects of communication efficiency is clarity. Information should be communicated in a way that is easy to understand so that employees know their responsibilities and clearly understand the project's objectives. When communication is unclear, misunderstandings and mistakes are more likely to occur which can negatively affect overall project performance (Larson & Gray, 2021).

Another important aspect is timeliness. Project information should be shared at the appropriate time because delays in communication can slow decision-making and interrupt project activities. According to Meredith, Shafer and Mantel (2019) state that timely communication helps project managers to identify potential risks early and take appropriate action before they become more serious.

Accuracy is equally important since project decisions rely on reliable and correct information. Inaccurate or incomplete information can lead to poor planning, unnecessary costs and delays. For this reason, organizations should ensure that information is carefully reviewed and verified before it is shared with project stakeholders (Project Management Institute [PMI], 2021).

Finally, feedback plays an important role in communication efficiency. Regular feedback allows project managers and team members to evaluate project progress, identify communication problems and improve future performance. Turner (2016) argues that organizations with effective communication and feedback systems

generally achieve better project outcomes because they encourage collaboration and strengthen relationship among project stakeholders.

Overall, the literature suggests that communication efficiency has a positive impact on project performance. When information is communicated clearly and at the right time, project teams are better able to coordinate their work, minimize risks and improve the chances of delivering successful projects (Pinto, 2020; Kerzner, 2022).

2.3 The dependent variable – Project Success

Project success describes how effectively a project achieves its planned objectives and expected results. In the past, success was mainly measured by whether a project was completed within the planned schedule, budget and quality requirements. More recently, researchers have explained this view by including the achievement of project objectives and stakeholder satisfaction as additional measures of success because they are better represent the overall value of project (Larson & Gray, 2021).

One of the most common indicators of project success is time performance. Completing a project according to the planned schedule demonstrates that project activities have been managed effectively. Delays may increase project costs, reduce productivity and affect stakeholder confidence. Therefore, completing projects on time remains an important measure of successful project management (Project Management Institute [PMI], 2021).

Quality

Quality is another important indicator of project success. Project deliverables should meet the required standards while also satisfying client expectations. Delivering high-quality work can improve an organization's reputation and increase opportunities for future projects. According to Kerzner (2022), maintaining quality throughout the project life cycle is essential because it reflects the effectiveness of project planning, execution and monitoring.

Achievement

Another way to evaluate project success is by looking at whether the project's objectives have been achieved. Every project is carried out to accomplish specific goals, such as improving organizational performance, introducing a new product or service or solving a particular problem . A project can be considered successful when these objectives are achieved effectively and provide value to the organization (Pinto, 2020).

Stakeholder Satisfaction

In recent years, stakeholder satisfaction has become another important indicator of project success. Stakeholders include clients, sponsors, project managers, team members, suppliers and anyone else who is affected by the project. Their level of satisfaction depends on whether the project meets their expectations in terms of quality, communication, cost and overall performance. Turner (2016) explains that projects with satisfied stakeholders are more likely to be viewed as successful because they build trust and encourage long-term cooperation.

Based on the literature, project success is now assessed using more than traditional measures of time, cost and quality. Current project management practices also considers whether project objectives have been achieved and whether stakeholders are satisfied with the final outcomes. Taking these factors into account provides

broader understanding of project performance and is widely recognized in project management research (Larson & Gray, 2021; Project Management Institute [PMI], 2021).

2.4 The relationship between the independent and the dependent variables

Communication efficiency can have direct effect on the success of a project.

Project teams usually include people with different roles and tasks, so they need to share information with each other during the project. If the information is clear and received on time, team members can understand what they need to do and what the project is trying to achieve. Pinto (2020) explains that communication is an important part of teamwork and helps people make decisions during a project.

Project managers also rely on communication to follow the progress of the project. They need to know what tasks have been completed and if the team is facing any difficulties. Without regular communication, some problems may not be noticed early and could become more difficult to solve later. Kerzner (2022) states that communication can reduce misunderstandings and improve the way project team members work together.

Communication can also influence the decisions made during a project. Managers need information they receive about resources, activities and project problems. When the information they receive is not clear or arrives late, it may affect the decision and the progress of the project. The Project Management Institute [PMI], (2021) explains that communication between stakeholders should continue during the different stage of a project.

Problems may happen when communication with a project is weak. At team member may misunderstand an instruction or may not receive an important update at the right time. This can lead to mistakes, repeated work or delays. It may also cause disagreements between team members. Turner (2016) discussed communication problems as one of the reasons that projects may face performance difficulties.

From the previous studies, communication and project success are related. Projects may have better results when information is clear, updates are shared on time and team members are able to give and receive feedback. Larson and Gray (2021) also connect good communication practices with achieving project objectives and stakeholder satisfaction. For this reason, the current study examines whether communication efficiency has a positive and statistically significant effect on project success in project-based organizations in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

2.5 Conclusion

This chapter reviewed the literature related to communication efficiency and project success. It explained the concept of communication efficiency and discussed its main dimensions, including clarity, timeliness, accuracy and feedback. The chapter also examined project success by reviewing the indicators commonly used to evaluate project performance, including time performance, quality, achievement of project objectives and stakeholder satisfaction.

The studies reviewed in this chapter indicate that communication efficiency plays an important role in achieving successful project outcomes. Organizations that communicate effectively are generally better at coordinating project activities, supporting decision making, improving teamwork and achieving project goals. The

literature also suggests that communication efficiency is likely to have a positive effect on project success. Overall, the reviewed studies provide a strong theoretical foundation for the proposed research model and support the hypothesis that will be tested in the next chapter.

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Appendix A: Table of Research Instruments

Variable	Dimension	Number of items	Scale
Communication Efficiency	Clarity, Timeliness, Accuracy, Feedback	8	5-Point Likert Scale
Project Success	Time Performance, Quality, Objectives Achievement, Stakeholder Satisfaction, Team Performance	8	5-Point Likert Scale

Appendix B: Questionnaire

This questionnaire is designed to examine how communication efficiency affects the project success in project-based organizations in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. It is part of a graduation research project at Midocean University. Your response are completely confidential and will be used solely for academic research purposes. Thank you for your participation.

Please select the appropriate answer

1. Gender

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female

2. Age

- ☐ 20 - 29 years
- ☐ 30 - 39 years
- ☐ 40 - 49 years
- ☐ 50 years or above

3. Education Level

- ☐ Diploma
- ☐ Bachelor's degree
- ☐ Master's Degree
- ☐ Doctorate (PHD)
- ☐ Other

4. Current Job Position

- ☐ Project Manager
- ☐ Project Engineer
- ☐ Team Member
- ☐ Supervisor
- ☐ Other

5. Years of Experience

- ☐ Less than 2
- ☐ 2-5
- ☐ 6-10
- ☐ More than 10

6. Type of Organization

- ☐ Government
- ☐ Private
- ☐ Semi-Government
- ☐ Other

7. Industry Sector

- ☐ Construction
- ☐ Information Technology
- ☐ Telecommunication
- ☐ Healthcare
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Sales and Marketing
- ☐ Real Estate

☐ Other

Please indicate your level agreement with the following statements using the scale below

Scale	Meaning
1	Strongly Disagree
2	Disagree
3	Neutral
4	Agree
5	Strongly Agree

Section A: Communication Efficiency

1. Information is communicated clearly within my organization.
2. Project-related information is shared on time.
3. Team members receive accurate information when performing project tasks.
4. The communication channels used in the organization are effective.
5. Regular feedback is provided regarding project activities and progress.
6. Information is communicated promptly whenever project changes occur.
7. Team members openly share important project information with one.
another.
8. Communication between different departments is effective during project
implementation.

Section B: Project Success

9. Projects are usually completed on time.
10. Projects meet the required quality standards.
11. Project objectives are achieved successfully.
12. Stakeholders are satisfied with project outcomes.
13. Project teams perform effectively during project implementation.
14. Projects are completed within the approved budget.
15. Project deliverables meet client expectations.
16. Project teams achieve the planned project objectives.