

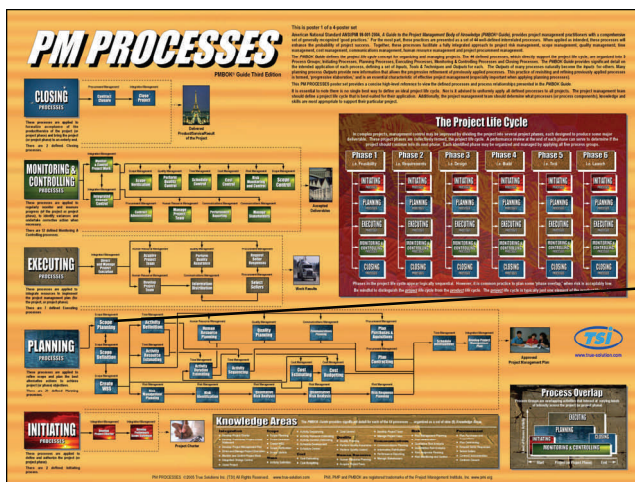


Applying the Scope Planning Process

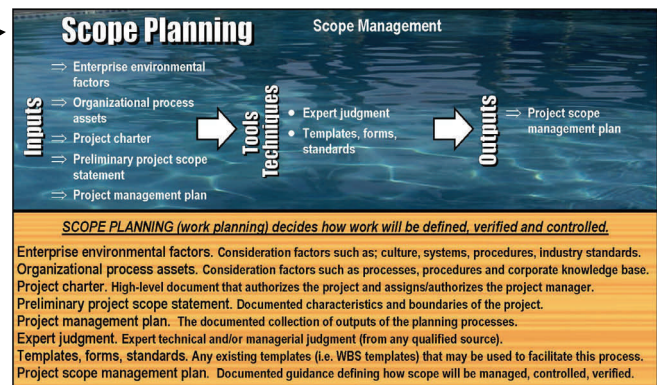
With Initiation complete, you are now armed with your project charter, which formally sanctions the project and authorizes you as project manager. It is time to begin planning the project.

There are 21 formal processes defined in the Planning Processes group. It is important to understand that planning processes are recognized as being those processes most critical to project success. *Projects don't fail at the end, they fail in the beginning.* As you can see, of the PMBOK Guide's 44 formal processes, 21 of them (48%) support planning.

In real-world projects, many of your planning processes will commence in parallel, as soon as the project charter is signed. However, it is always best to follow the intended flow of process application as closely as possible, to maximize your planning efficiency. Because of the iterative nature of project planning, many planning processes will be revisited and refined many times before your final project management plan is ready for presentation. This continuous refinement process is termed, "progressive elaboration."



Scope Planning is ideally the first planning process to apply. Scope Planning is intended to create the project scope management plan, which describes how you and the team will define the project scope, develop the detailed project scope statement, how you will define and develop the work breakdown structure, verify project scope and how you will control project scope.



Scope Planning Must Know Concepts

1. "Planning Processes are the most important processes in project management. Projects don't fail at the end, they fail in the beginning."
2. "The Scope Planning process is intended to create the project scope management plan, which describes how the team will define the project scope, develop the detailed project scope statement, how they will define and develop the work breakdown structure, verify project scope and how they will control project scope."
3. "The primary deliverable (Output) from the Scope Planning process is the project scope management plan."
4. "The project scope management plan may be brief or comprehensive, whichever best suits the size and complexity of the project."
5. "The project scope management plan will become a subsidiary plan to the overall project management plan."

