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Navigating the Project Approval Pathway: Tips, Tricks and Other Lessons Learned

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Objective

- Overview of Public Services and Procurement Canada's (PSPC) real property project approval process
- Share project approval streamlining that PSPC has recently implemented
- Opportunities to share ideas



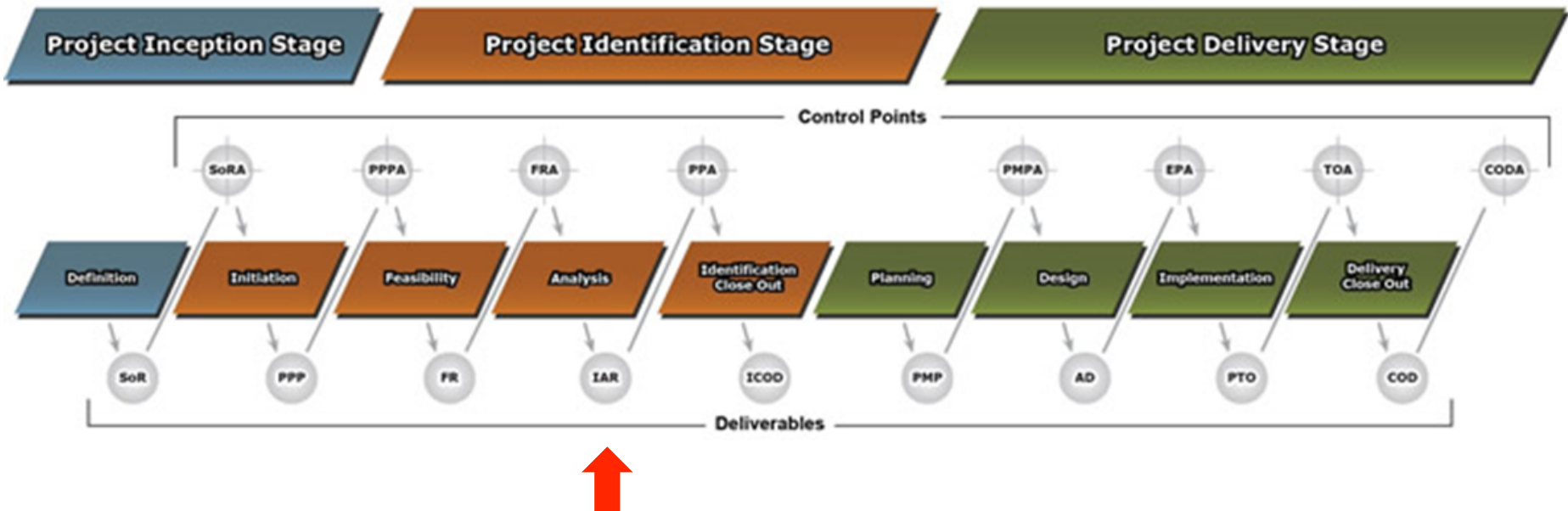
Context

- Organizational Project Management Capacity Assessment (OPMCA)
- Standard for Project Complexity Risk Assessment (PCRA)



Context

PSPC National Project Management System (NPMS)



Service Delivery?

- How to ensure efficient service in this environment?
 - Risk management approaches
 - Process mapping
 - Innovation



Process Mapping

- Internal and central agency approval processes were mapped
 - Allowed for understanding of each step
 - Eliminated and “paralleled” steps
 - Facilitated the creation of service standards



Risk Management

- Low risk and low cost projects delegated to regional investment boards.
- Treasury Board Secretariat (TBS) agreed to review PCRAs on a risk basis.
- Full business cases provided to TBS – increased transparency, but 90% reductions in questions.



Other Innovations

- The concept of class business cases is being tested.
 - A generic and reusable business case was developed to obtain project approvals for a specific group of near-identical projects (called a “class”).
 - Generic document covers statement of requirements, feasibility, and business case.

Other Innovations

- Omnibus Treasury Board submissions now in use since last fall. Three types of submission for each session:
 - disposal/acquisition
 - lease transactions
 - capital projects
- Allows the broader Real Property story to be told once.



Future Projects

- Review internal approvals levels in light of TBS' Policy reset (OPMCA 3 departments: no requirement for PCRAs for projects under \$10M)



Conclusion

- Interested in finding out more about our approach?
- Have you implemented anything that might be of interest to other departments?
- Would a Project Approval community of practice make sense?
- Contact me!

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