Project control system (PCS) implementation in engineering and construction projects: an empirical study in Saudi's petroleum and chemical industry

Sahar Jawad and Ann Ledwith School of Engineering, University of Limerick, Limerick, Ireland, and Rashid Khan Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia, USA

Abstract

Purpose – There is growing recognition that effective project control systems (PCS) are critical to the success of projects. The relationship between the individual elements of PCS and successfully achieving project objectives has yet to be explored. This research investigates the enablers and barriers that influence the elements of PCS success and drive project objectives.

Design/methodology/approach – This study adopts a mixed approach of descriptive analysis and regression models to explore the impact of six PCS elements on project outcomes. Petroleum and chemical projects in Saudi Arabia were selected as a case study to validate the research model.

Findings – Data from a survey of 400 project managers in Saudi's petroleum and chemical industry reveal that successful PCS are the key to achieving all project outcomes, but they are particularly critical for meeting project cost objectives. Project Governance was identified as the most important of the six PCS elements for meeting project objectives. A lack of standard processes emerged as the most significant barrier to achieving effective project governance, while having skilled and experienced project team members was the most significant enabler for implementing earned value.

Practical implications – The study offers a direction for implementing and developing PCS as a strategic tool and focuses on the PCS elements that can improve project outcomes.

Originality/value – This research contributes to project management knowledge and differs from previous attempts in two ways. Firstly, it investigates the elements of PCS that are critical to achieving project scope, schedule and cost objectives; secondly, enablers and barriers of PCS success are examined to see how they influence each element independently.

Keywords Project control systems, Project success, Maturity, Engineering, Construction, Enablers, Barriers Paper type Research paper

1. Introduction

The COVID 19 pandemic has and continues to have a dramatic impact on the global economy and industrial sectors. Business has been severely interrupted by the pandemic and the ensuing economic challenges (Gamil and Alhagar, 2020; Shibani *et al.*, 2020). All sectors, other than essential services such as public health and utilities, have been impacted. Organizations

© Sahar Jawad, Ann Ledwith and Rashid Khan. Published by Emerald Publishing Limited. This article is published under the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY 4.0) licence. Anyone may reproduce, distribute, translate and create derivative works of this article (for both commercial and non-commercial purposes), subject to full attribution to the original publication and authors. The full terms of this licence may be seen at http://creativecommons.org/licences/by/4.0/legalcode

The authors acknowledge that the manuscript has been submitted solely to this journal and is not published, in press, or submitted elsewhere. The authors have checked the manuscript submission guidelines and complied with any specific policy requirements specified.



Engineering, Construction and Architectural Management Emerald Publishing Limited 0969-9988 DOI 10.1108/ECAM-02-2022-0114

Received 4 February 2022 Revised 10 May 2022 Accepted 30 May 2022

implementation

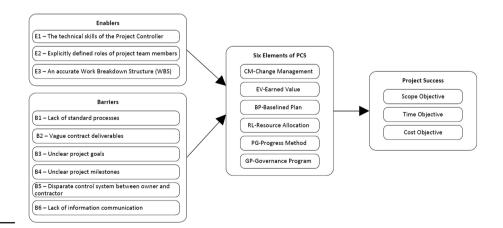
PCS

Figure 1. Research model around the world have responded by shifting to a work-from-home concept to mitigate government-imposed restrictions and social distancing regulations. Globally, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is likely to be impacted by 3–6% but might fall to 15% in some countries (Prasad and Prasad, 2020; Maliszewska *et al.*, 2020).

Recent studies have highlighted the extent to which different industries have been negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, with the engineering and construction industry being one of the hardest hit (Gamil and Alhagar, 2020). This pandemic has impacted on the engineering and construction industry in many ways such as the suspension of projects, schedule extension, cost overrun, resource unavailability and financial shortfalls. Given the fact that projects in this sector typically have a high level of uncertainty due to large scope, design difficulty, complex interfaces and involvement of multiple stakeholders, challenges to complete projects once the pandemic subsides are more prevalent (Assaf and Al-Hejji, 2006; Shibani *et al.*, 2020). There is growing recognition that effective project control systems (PCS) are critical to the success of projects and more importantly to address challenges in the engineering and construction industry (Al-Jibouri, 2003; Ford *et al.*, 2007; Jayaraman, 2016). Therefore, an effective PCS becomes more crucial for the industry as it recovers and comes out of the pandemic.

Although some studies developed different maturity models to assess and improve the effectiveness of PCS (Backlund *et al.*, 2013; Brookes *et al.*, 2014; PMI, 2013; Crawford, 2014), the question of how the PCS relates to, and influences, overall project objectives still needs to be investigated. Previous research (Jawad and Ledwith, 2021) has identified six elements of PCS: 1) change management, 2) earned value, 3) baselined plan, 4) resource allocation, 5) progress method and 6) project governance. However, the impact of each of these PCS elements on project scope, schedule and cost is not well understood. Additionally, the relationship between the enablers and barriers of PCS success (Jawad and Ledwith, 2020) and these PCS elements is also unknown. This research addresses these gaps by providing a comprehensive model linking critical enablers and barriers with PCS elements and project success this is illustrated in Figure 1. This can be summarized in the following research questions;

- (1) What are the critical enablers and barriers of PCS success and how do they impact the PCS elements?
- (2) Which PCS elements are critical to achieving project objectives: scope, schedule and cost?



To achieve this, three enablers, six barriers and six elements of PCS success were selected from previous research (Jawad *et al.*, 2018; Jawad and Ledwith, 2020, 2021) to develop a model for this study. The significance of this research is to provide organizations in the engineering and construction industry with a direction for implementing and developing PCS as a strategic tool that can improve project outcomes.

This paper is structured as follows. Section 2 presents a review of the literature on enablers and barriers of PCS, main elements of PCS success and project success objectives in the engineering and construction industry. The research methodology is described in Section 3 and the results of the study are reported in Section 4. Section 5 presents the discussion and final research model. Finally, Section 6 highlights the conclusions and implications of the study.

2. Literature review

Engineering and construction projects are naturally high risk due to scope complexity, contracting strategies, overly optimistic schedule, difficulties managing project change and resources capabilities (Assaf and Al-Hejji, 2006; Braimah, 2014). Therefore, achieving project objectives in this sector is one of the key subjects in project management (Olawale and Sun, 2014; Sakka et al., 2016). Although the definition of project success is different amongst industries, it is based on the basic notion of overall achievement of project goals and expectations. Typically, the iron triangle of scope, time and cost has been the dominating performance indicator of project success (Al-Hajj, 2018; Tsiga et al., 2017). Particularly in engineering and construction projects, a lack of definition of project scope at the beginning of the project is a major contribution to unsuccessful projects. An accurately defined and managed scope supports the delivery of a quality project outcome within stakeholders agreement for cost and schedule targets (Mišić and Radujkovic, 2015; Winch, 2012). While ineffective project performance remains a major area of concern for project management practitioners (Setia and Patel, 2013), previous research attributes the underperformance in a majority of construction projects to poor project control practices (Yean Yng Ling and Theng Ang, 2013; Liu, 2015a; Magsoom et al., 2020).

PCS is an integrated framework of processes, tools and people that businesses use to track and monitor project performance (Rozenes *et al.*, 2006; Jayaraman, 2016; Jünge *et al.*, 2019). The main purpose of a PCS is to provide a means to measure project performance parameters and present them in a way that allows effective feedback against defined expectations. On large complex projects PCS generally have many facets and demands consideration of time, costs, quality, safety and environmental issues (Wang *et al.*, 2017). In engineering and construction industry with multiple stakeholders, PCS require project information from different parties such as owner, contractor and vendor which makes the implementation of PCS more complicated (Bower and Finegan, 2009; He *et al.*, 2019; Jünge *et al.*, 2019).

An effective PCS has been shown to have a direct link to achieving project objectives and to reducing the reasons for project failure (Benjaoran, 2009; Ford *et al.*, 2007; Maqsoom *et al.*, 2020; Parnell *et al.*, 2020). Although many studies emphasis that implementing effective PCS is significant to project success (Al-Hajj, 2018; Durdyev, 2020; Sudhakar, 2016; Taherdoost, 2016), very few identify the elements of PCS that are most critical to improve project outcomes (Jawad and Ledwith, 2021).

Maturity models are recognized as systematic approaches to measure the relative performance of different aspects of project management (Backlund *et al.*, 2013; Brookes *et al.*, 2014). PCS maturity in the context of project management has been addressed in previous studies (Crawford, 2014). The majority of these studies have focused on specific elements of PCS such as change management and earned value. For instance, change management maturity model (CM3) was developed by (Sun *et al.*, 2009) which consists of six key processes

PCS implementation

evaluated against five maturity levels. Stratton (2006) also proposed a five-level maturity model as a tool to assess an organization's capability in earned value management. These studies show that established, high capability maturity levels lead to better and more consistent performance, particularly in the construction industry. Project management standards also identify PCS as one of the project management knowledge areas and have addressed PCS maturity as part of organizational maturity (PMI, 2013, 2017). A study conducted by Jawad and Ledwith (2021) has attempted to consider more PCS elements by proposing a new PCS maturity model that measures project control capabilities and the quality of applying project control tools. This model defines six critical elements of a PCS: 1) change management, 2) earned value, 3) baselined plan, 4) resource allocation, 5) progress method and 6) project governance. The approach of this model is to provide a comprehensive framework for PCS by including project governance that allows the project team to review project performance and add corrective verification processes (White and Fortune, 2002).

These models provide a practical framework to help organizations assess their performance in the main elements of PCS and improve their maturity in each element however, the impact of enablers and barriers on these PCS elements has not been investigated. A study of the construction industry in Oman identified a number of factors effecting PCS success. These are: 1) schedule with documented milestones and deliverables, 2) ability of project team to manage scheduled activities, 3) effectiveness in reworking schedules, 4) reliability of schedules, 5) lack of leadership, 6) lack of support from project stakeholders, 7) lack of skills in planning and scheduling, 8) ineffective control and reporting system between management levels and 9) lack of use of new technology for project control (Al-Nasseri and Aulin, 2016). Another study in the same year conducted in Kenya identified project team experience diversity as a critical factor for PCS success and found that it had a significant positive impact on the performance of construction projects (Obare *et al.*, 2016). In 2018, Jawad et al. identified the critical enablers and barriers linked with successful PCS in the petroleum and chemical industry using a fuzzy multi-criteria model and expert's judgment. Their study identified a total of nine enablers and 15 barriers that related to PCS success (Jawad et al., 2018). A follow-on study was then conducted using interpretive structural modeling (ISM) to examine the relationship between these enablers and barriers and to identify the most dominant ones (Jawad and Ledwith, 2020). This study identified (3) dominant enablers that drive successful PCS: 1) "Skilled and experienced project team members", 2) "Explicitly defined roles of project team members" and 3) "An accurate Work Breakdown Structure (WBS)". Also identified were six dominant barriers: 1) "Lack of standard processes", 2) "Vague contract deliverables", 3) "Unclear project goals", 4) "Unclear project milestones", 5) "Disparate control system between owner and contractor" and 6) "Lack of information communication".

Although previous studies present practical frameworks for 1) the main elements of PCS success and 2) the enablers and barriers of successful PCS implementation (Jawad and Ledwith, 2020, 2021), the relationship between these two frameworks needs to be investigated in the context of project success. Two questions remain unanswered; 1) which PCS elements are critical to achieve project objectives of scope, schedule and cost? and 2) what are the critical enablers and barriers that impact these PCS elements.

This study builds on the research about PCS implementation and maturity models described above by identifying; 1) the specific elements of PCS that impact project success, and 2) the individual enablers and barriers that influence each of the six PCS elements. Hence, three enablers, six barriers and six elements of PCS have been selected to develop the research model for this study shown in Figure 1. A new modeling approach aims to provide a wider understanding of PCS as an integrated framework for project success. The proposed model contributes to project management knowledge and differs from previous attempts in two ways. Firstly, it investigates the elements of PCS that are critical to achieving project scope,

ECAM

schedule and cost objective; secondly, enablers and barriers of PCS success are examined to see how they influence each PCS element independently. The methodology to validate the proposed model presented is explained in the next section. PCS

3. Research methodology

The objectives of this study are twofold: 1) to examine which of the PCS elements are more important for achieving project scope, schedule, and cost and 2) to identify which enablers and barriers of PCS implementation impact these elements and drives project success. Following the literature review presented in the previous section, six elements are identified as critical components of PCS. These elements are: 1) change management, 2) earned value, 3) baselined plan, 4) resource allocation, 5) progress method and 6) project governance. The performance of these elements can be measured using the PCS maturity model developed by Jawad and Ledwith (2021). This model presents a framework for the measurement of PCS success and improvement of PCS capability as shown in Table 1.

The assessment of maturity in this model involves improving project control capabilities of the six PCS elements against five maturity levels (Crawford, 2014; Kwak and Ibbs, 2002; Lianying *et al.*, 2012) as described in Table 2.

The level of maturity is expressed on a 1 to 5 Likert scale, where 1 is the lowest level of process maturity and 5 the highest (Backlund *et al.*, 2013; Crawford, 2014; Lianying *et al.*, 2012). This scale is well established in the literature and one of the most widely used in assessing process maturity in project management (Backlund *et al.*, 2013; Brookes *et al.*, 2014; Duffy, 2001; PMI, 2013).

To achieve the second objectives, the dominant enablers and barriers of PCS implementation have been selected from the literature review (Jawad and Ledwith, 2020). The description of these enablers and barriers are shown in Table 3.

The approach undertaken to achieve the research objectives is a questionnaire survey. To investigate the relationship between PCS elements and project success, the respondents were asked to rate the impact of each of the six PCS elements on project objectives: scope, schedule and cost. The survey also asked respondents to assess the performance of their PCS in each of the six elements and to report the impact that each of the enablers and barriers had on these elements. The steps of the applied methodology are outlined in Figure 2. The development of the survey instrument used to collect data, and the data collection process is described in the following sections.

3.1 Survey instrument

The survey questionnaire used for data collection in this study consists of four sections. The first section contained open questions collecting background information about the respondents and their projects such as position, total years of experience and the number of projects being managed. In the second section of the survey, respondents were asked to assess the performance of their PCS in terms of the maturity level of the six elements: 1) change management, 2) earned value, 3) baselined plan, 4) resource allocation, 5) progress method and 6) project governance. The respondents in this section had to rate each element on a five-level Likert scale, as follows: 1 = Level 1 (Ad-hoc), 2 = Level 2 (Repeatable), 3 = Level 3 (Defined), 4 = Level 4 (Managed) and 5 = Level 5 (Optimized). This scale is typically used to assess the maturity level in project management studies (Backlund *et al.*, 2013; Brookes *et al.*, 2014; Sun *et al.*, 2009). The third section of the survey was designed to allow the respondents to determine the impact that the three enablers and six barriers have on the six PCS elements. The impact level was measured on a five-point Likert scale: 1 = Not significant, 2-Low significance, 3-Significant, 4-High significance and 5-Very high

Elements of PCS success	Maturity level	Key capabilities of PCS success
1. Change Management	Level 1	No change management processes in place. Few processes are defined or regular basis
A documented management of	Level 2	Basic change management processes are established, but it is not enforce consistently. The project team is reactive to changes
change process	Level 3	Change Management processes are followed in a consistent basis and
that clearly sets out the method of		documented. The project team begins proactive in anticipating changes. Audit trail is recorded
project change required to correct	Level 4	The change management processes are integrated throughout the team a with other functions. There is a dedicated measurement system for chan management. The project team is supportive to managing changes
deviations against project objectives	Level 5	Change management Performance evaluation metrics are developed and implemented. Processes are monitored and analyzed for potential improvement. The project team takes full advantage of technology supp
2. Earned Value The value of	Level 1	No or limited EVM implementation in place, any use of Earned Value is limited to individuals
work performed; Earned Value	Level 2	Basic EVM at the lowest level of WBS is established and basic reviews of S and CPI are carried out
(EV) can be provided from the PCS based	Level 3 Level 4	EVM system is defined and documented based on an international standa There is a dedicated measurement system for EVM use. Advanced applications of Earned Value
upon the basis of the project schedule	Level 5	Plans are put in place to improve the quality of the EV data and it use. Metrics are used to track EVMS improvements
<i>3. Baselined Plan</i> An appropriately presented base	Level 1	No formal methods for capturing the major Project deliverables (WBS), activities are randomly placed in the schedule, and some schedule constraints, calendars and major deliverables are identified
lined schedule within an agreed	Level 2	Scope, constraints, and major deliverables are defined, not all activities a assigned to a WBS element
definition of project scope using a defined	Level 3	The project durations and deliverables are clearly defined and document and related to the projects WBS including third parties, subcontractors, a field activities. Project has an established a clearly identifiable critical pa
WBŠ	Level 4	The schedule is comprehensively structured by the WBS and milestones Cross-WBS linkages are defined in the schedule logic. Schedule is integra- with other functions such progress method and reporting. Schedule risks identified
	Level 5	Changes to baseline are properly managed through a documented, integrated change control process. Schedule modeling techniques are use e.g. networking. All schedule optimization techniques are documented alo with a rationale and risk assessment and are approved by management
4. Resource Loaded	Level 1	No formal methods to define the resource requirements, resource categorization not defined
A schedule that defines activities	Level 2	Basic Methods of presenting resource allocations and categorization are established
and resources required to complete the	Level 3	Methods of presenting resource allocations and categorization are define and documented; resource requirements are based upon demonstrated historical performance
project- considering the Construction,	Level 4	Risk mitigation of resource constraints can be identified, and timely corrective action proposed. Changes to schedule comprehend the resource constraints and is adjusted considering those constraints
Commissioning and Handover to Operations	Level 5	Resource changes and update to PCS is defined in an integrated change control process. All schedule optimization techniques are documented alo with a rationale and risk assessment and are approved by management
stages		(continue

Table 1.Six elements of PCSsuccess with maturitylevel criteria

Elements of PCS success	Maturity level	Key capabilities of PCS success	PCS implementation
5. Progress	Level 1	No formal progress method defined or in place, progressing deliverables	
Method		depend on the capabilities of individuals	
Clear and	Level 2	Basic methods of progressing deliverables and activities are established	
documented method to	Level 3	Methods of progressing deliverables and activities, forecasting, and performance measurements are defined and documented. Methods of	
progress		progressing other project activities such as third-party services,	
deliverables,		construction, and commissioning are defined, documented and part of the	
activities, and		PCS	
materials/sub-	Level 4	Method in place to report deviation from the project baseline to allow	
contractor		corrective action to be undertaken. PCS is integrated and there is only one	
throughout all		entry of raw data on regular basis	
stages of project "life cycle"	Level 5	Processes are continuously monitored and analyzed for potential improvement	
6. Project	Level 1	No governance program in place	
Governance	Level 2	Basic Process of project performance review with all stockholders is	
The project has a		established	
governance	Level 3	Governance program is defined and documented. Project management team	
program with all		roles and authorization level are defined and documented	
stakeholders	Level 4	PCS produces information and data that drives decision making. Information	
where project		sharing process that streamlines and empowers decision making	
performance is	Level 5	Goals are set for improving the governance program. Project team shares	
reviewed		holistic view of what value PCS is to the overall project success	Table 1.

Level	Title	Description	
Level 1	Ad-hoc	Processes are not established	
Level 2	Repeatable	Basic processes have been established	
Level 3	Defined	The processes necessary to achieve the organizational purpose are documented, standardized and integrated with other processes in the business	
Level 4	Managed	Evidence of quantitative objectives for quality and process performance, to be used as criteria in decision making	Table 2.
Level 5	Optimized	The organization is focused on optimization of its quantitatively managed processes for making organizational management decisions for the future	PCS maturity levels description

significance (Artur, 2019; Kriksciuniene *et al.*, 2019). The same scale was used in the last section of the survey, Section 4, to collect data on the impact of each PCS element on project objectives: scope, schedule, and cost. To increase the response rate, an online survey using the QuestionPro platform was developed. Finally, a pilot study was conducted to validate and pre-test the survey and subsequently modified before a final version was submitted to the respondents.

3.2 Case study and data collection

Petroleum and chemical projects are a major part of the engineering and construction industry that includes chemical plant, oil and gas field engineering, manufacturing, construction, operation and maintenance services. In Saudi Arabia, although the Saudi government presented Vision 2030, an ambitious plan for moving the kingdom beyond oil dependence, the petroleum and chemical sector is still critical to the country and a major

ECAM	Enablers	Definition					
	 E1 – Skilled and experienced project team members E2 – Explicitly define roles of project team members E3 – Accurate and detailed WBS 	A variety of skills and competencies required for a project team to be effective in project control. These capabilities can be gleaned from experience and often take years to master Job description that indicate responsibilities and corresponding expectations, clearly define level of authority in order to make decisions defined by project organization chart, working methods defined by standard processes, procedures and tools The work breakdown structure (WBS) identifies the project elements that will need resources and thus is the primary input to resource planning. Any relevant outputs from other planning processes should be provided through the WBS to ensure proper control					
	Barriers	Definition					
	B1 – Lack of standard processes	Poor standardized project management that is composed of standardized practices standardization means the degree of absence of variation in implementing such practices					
	B2 – Vague contract deliverables B3 – Unclear project	Vague and inconsistent information regarding contract, Scope of Work and contract deliverables A lack of direction and define desired benefits and outcomes of project					
	goals and objectives B4 – Un-clear project	Poor planning for schedule activities that shows an important achievement in a					
	milestones B5 – Disparate control system between owner and contractor	project. Different control system between owner and contractor in term of defining Scope of Work, deliverables, scheduled, payment methods and indistinct criterion used to define project completion					
Table 3. Description of PCSenablers and barriers	B6 – Lack of information communication	Poor communication planning that includes the processes required to ensure timely and appropriate generation, collection, distribution, storage, retrieval and ultimate disposition of project information					

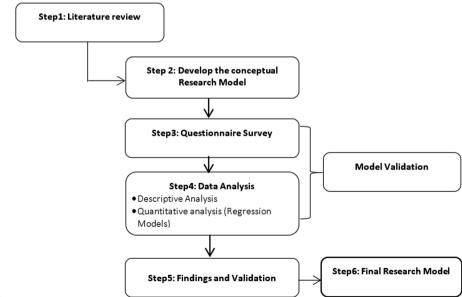


Figure 2. Research methodology contributor to the kingdom's economic growth (Alkahtani et al., 2018; Erdogan et al., 2010; Moshashai et al., 2020). Schedule delays, budget overruns and scope changes that prevail in those projects, particularly with the COVID 19 pandemic, pose serious challenges in this sector (Gamil and Alhagar, 2020; Shibani et al., 2020). An effective PCS will have a significant influence on the way which these challenges can be addressed. Therefore, petroleum and chemical projects in Saudi Arabia were selected to validate the research model.

PCS implementation

The survey targeted organizations involved in the petroleum and chemical industry in Saudi Arabia. The initial list came from a company register (gulftalent.com) this list was shortened to include those companies that operated in the petroleum and chemical sector which comprise 72 companies. The sampling technique used for data collection was random sampling of respondents sourced from professional platforms. The survey was sent to 1.400 participants in October/September 2020. According to Adam (2020), the number of respondents required to provide a 95% confidence level in the survey was 302. The total completed responses received back was 400 which represent 29% response rate and well above the required 95% confidence level. The completed respondents came from nine owner/operator, 13 engineering and 21 engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) companies. Table 4 shows the complete analysis of the survey, the high non-disclosure percentage for completed surveys was expected due to the high level of confidentiality that exist within the petroleum and chemical industry. The valid data set was then organized and analyzed using SPSS software.

4. Data analysis and results

4.1 Data profile and reliability tests

Initial analysis of the main attributes of respondent's profiles including; position, years of experience and number of projects managed, is shown in Table 5.

The survey questionnaire in this study consists of 13 constructs, shown in Table 1. The first construct assesses the performance of the six elements of PCS using PCS maturity levels. the next nine constructs map enablers and barriers individually against PCS elements and the last three constructs evaluate each element of PCS against project objectives scope, schedule, and cost. The reliability of the research instrument was examined in terms of the stability and consistency of the results for each construct (Mohamad et al., 2015; Taherdoost, 2016). To assess the consistency of the results, Cronbach's coefficient alpha is applied. According (Streiner, 2003; Gliem and Gliem, 2003) Cronbach's coefficient alpha is considered the most preferred method for assessing the reliability of measures. The coefficients of 0.7 or above are

Description	Number of items	%	
Total surveys distributed	1,400	100.0%	
Surveys completed	400	29%	
Surveys terminated	39	3%	
Surveys not responded	961	68%	
Company representation from survey			
Respondents from owner/operator	127	32%	
Number of organizations in survey	19		
Number of organizations represented in respondents	9		
Respondents from engineering consultant	79	20%	
Number of organizations in survey	28		
Number of organizations represented in respondents	13		
Respondents from EPC contractors	101	25%	
Number of organizations in survey	25		
Number of organizations represented in respondents	21		Tal
Respondents from undisclosed	93	23%	Survey sum

Table 5. Respondents' profile generally considered to be an excellent value for reliability (Cho and Kim, 2015; Streiner, 2003). In this study the value of Cronbach's Alpha for each construct was greater than 0.7 as presented in Table 6.

4.2 Descriptive analysis: PCS elements that drive project objectives

The next stage of the analysis is to measure the performance of the companies surveyed in the six elements of PCS. The respondents were asked to assess the maturity level of each of the PCS elements: 1) change management, 2) earned value, 3) baselined plan, 4) resource allocation, 5) progress method and 6) project governance against the capabilities defined for each level

Respondent's years of experience	<10 years	42%
	Between 11 years and <20 years	42%
	>20 years	12%
Respondent's position	Project management	51%
	Technical management	11%
	Construction/Field management	6%
	Project controls	28%
Average projects being managed by respondents	<10 projects	77%
	Between 11 projects and 20 projects	7%
	>20 projects	16%

	Construct no.	Description	Number of items	Cronbach's alpha
	Construct 1	Maturity level of the six elements of PCS, Change Management, Earned Value, Baselined Plan, Resource Loaded, Progress Method and Governance Program	6	0.951
	Construct 2	Significance of the impact of "E1 – Skilled and experienced project team members" on the six elements of PCS	6	0.951
	Construct 3	Significance of the impact of "E2 – Explicitly define roles of project team members" on the six elements of PCS	6	0.968
	Construct 4	Significance of the impact of "E3 – Accurate and detailed WBS" on the six elements of PCS	6	0.929
	Construct 5	Significance of the impact of "B1 – Lack of standard processes" on the six elements of PCS	6	0.929
	Construct 6	Significance of the impact of "B2 - Vague contract deliverables" on the six elements of PCS	6	0.910
	Construct 7	Significance of the impact of "B3 – Unclear project goals and objectives" on the six elements of PCS	6	0.912
	Construct 8	Significance of the impact of "B4 - Un-clear project milestones" on the six elements of PCS	6	0.948
	Construct 9	Significance of the impact of "B5 – Disparate control system between owner and contractor" on the six elements of PCS	6	0.937
	Construct 10	Significance of the impact of "B6 – Lack of information communication" on the six elements of PCS	6	0.958
	Construct 11	Significance of the impact of the six elements of PCS on project Scope objective	6	0.932
	Construct 12	Significance of the impact of the six elements of PCS on project Schedule objective	6	0.876
Table 6. Reliability statistics	Construct 13	Significance of the impact of the six elements of PCS on project Cost objective	6	0.783

(Table 1). The purpose of this step was to operationalize the six elements of the PCS which represent the dependent variables in the research model. The variables were operationalized by averaging the items scores across each variable. Table 7 presents the distribution of survey respondents. For example, for change management 0.8% of the respondents indicated that they were at Level 1 (Ad-Hoc) and 50.8% indicated that were at Level 5 (Optimized). Generally, the results show that a minimum of 90% of the respondents indicated that their organizations operated at level 4 (Managed) or Level 5 (Optimized) for all six PCS elements.

The first objective in this study is to examine the relationship between PCS elements and project success objectives. To achieve this, the respondents were asked to map how each of the six PCS elements impacted the three project objectives scope, schedule and cost. The average values for each construct between the six elements of PCS and three project objectives were calculated. Table 8 presents the results showing which PCS element was considered by respondents to have the greatest impact on each project objective.

The results show that project governance and baselined plan were judged to have the highest impact on achieving project scope objectives with scores of 4.26 and 4.11, respectively. Project governance (4.26), earned value (4.13) and resource allocation (4.13) were ranked as most important for meeting schedule objective. Finally, for project cost objectives, project governance and earned value were deemed as the most important with scores of 4.45 and 4.38. Based on these results, the top two elements within each of project objectives were selected for regression analysis. These elements are: project governance, earned value, baselined plan and resource allocation. From Table 8, it can be observed that all six elements have a high score for project cost objective. This would indicate that the respondents consider the PCS elements more important in controlling project cost and executing projects within the planned budget.

4.3 Quantitative analysis: regression models

The second objective of this study was to identify which enablers and barriers of PCS implementation impact PCS elements and drive project success. To achieve this objective, the respondents were asked to assess the impact of each enabler and barrier individually on the each of the six PCS elements. The results of the previous analysis of PCS elements identify the

Level 1 Ad-Hoc 0.8% 0.5% 0.5% 0.8% 0.8% 0.5% Level 2 Repeatable 2.0% 2.0% 2.0% 2.0% 2.0% 2.5%
evel 3 Defined 5.5% 6.8% 5.8% 6.5% 6.5% 4.8% evel 4 Managed 41.0% 39.8% 38.8% 39.8% 39.3% 39.3% evel 5 Optimized 50.8% 51.0% 53.0% 50.8% 51.5% 53.0%

Scope objective		Schedule objectiv	e	Cost objective		
Governance program Baselined plan Progress method Earned value Resource allocation Change Management	$\begin{array}{c} 4.26 \\ 4.11 \\ 4.08 \\ 4.04 \\ 4.04 \\ 4.00 \end{array}$	Governance program Earned value Resource allocation Progress method Baselined plan Change Management	4.26 4.13 4.13 4.05 3.86 3.83	Governance program Earned value Resource allocation Progress method Baselined plan Change Management	4.45 4.38 4.29 4.29 4.24 4.21	Table 8. PCS elements ranking for project objectives

PCS implementation four (4) elements are the most important in accomplishing the three project objectives scope, schedule and cost. These elements are: project governance, earned value, baselined plan and resource allocation. Therefore, these elements were used for further quantitative analysis to examine the significant enablers and barriers that impact their performance.

Linear regression analysis provided an estimate of the linear equation coefficients, concerning one or more independent variables that resulted in the best prediction of the dependent variable value (Seber and Lee, 2012). Prior to running any of the regression's models, multicollinearity was checked with bivariate correlation analysis (Pallant, 2010). None of the independent variables (enablers and barriers) have a correlation with each other of greater than 0.7 (Appendix 1). This result indicates that the multicollinearity assumption has not been violated. A regression analysis was thus conducted for a total of 400 responses. The following tables present the four regression models run between the independent variables (three enablers and six barriers) of PCS implementation and the dependent variables of project governance, earned value, baselined plan and resource allocation. All models are significant explaining between 28% and 35% of the variation of the dependent variables (Appendix 2).

4.3.1 Regression model 1 – project governance. The dependent variable for regression model 1 is project governance. The independent variables are the three enablers and six barriers of PCS implementation that are listed in Table 3. The model was significant and had an R^2 of 0.339, (p < 0.01). One enabler and three barriers made a unique contribution to the performance of project governance;

- (1) E1- Skilled and experienced project team members (beta = 0.177, p < 0.01).
- (2) B1-Lack of standard processes (beta = 0.246, p < 0.01).
- (3) B3-Unclear project goals (beta = 0.176, p < 0.01).
- (4) B5-Disparate control system between owner and contractor (beta = 0.141, p < 0.01).

The beta value indicates that "Lack of standard processes" has the most significant impact on project governance.

4.3.2 Regression model 2 – earned value. The dependent variable for regression model 2 is earned value. The independent variables are the three enablers and six barriers of PCS implementation that listed in Table 3. The model was significant and had an R^2 of 0.281, (p < 0.01). One enabler and three barriers made a unique contribution to the performance of earned value;

- (1) E1- Skilled and experienced project team members (beta = 0.218, p < 0.01).
- (2) B1-Lack of standard processes (beta = 0.151, p < 0.01).
- (3) B3-Unclear project goals (beta = 0.183, p < 0.01).
- (4) B5-Disparate control system between owner and contractor (beta = 0.157, p < 0.01).

The beta value indicates that "Skilled and experienced project team members" has the most significant impact of earned value.

4.3.3 Regression model 3 – baselined plan. The dependent variable for regression model 3 is baselined plan. The independent variables are the 3 enablers and 6 barriers of PCS implementation that listed in Table 3. The model was significant and had an R^2 of 0.302, (p < 0.01). One enabler and three barriers made a unique contribution to the performance of baselined plan;

(1) E1- Skilled and experienced project team members (beta = 0.157, p < 0.01).

- (2) B1-Lack of standard processes (beta = 0.224, p < 0.01).
- (3) B3-Unclear project goals (beta = 0.186, p < 0.01).
- B5-Disparate control system between owner and contractor (beta = 0.134, p < 0.01). (4)

The beta value indicates that "Lack of standard processes" has the most significant impact of baselined plan.

4.3.4 Regression model 4 – resource allocation. The dependent variable for regression model 4 is resource allocation. The independent variables are the three enablers and six barriers of PCS implementation that listed in Table 3. The model was significant and had an R^2 of 0.306, (p < 0.01). One enabler and three barriers made a unique contribution to the performance of resource allocation;

- (1) E1- Skilled and experienced project team members (beta = 0.207, p < 0.01).
- (2) B1-Lack of standard processes (beta = 0.214, p < 0.01).
- (3) B3-Unclear project goals (beta = 0.183, p < 0.01).
- B5-Disparate control system between owner and contractor (beta = 0.141, p < 0.01). (4)

The beta value indicates that "Lack of standard processes" has the most significant impact of resource allocation.

The results of the four regression models are presented in Table 9. The results show that "Skilled and experienced project team members", "Lack of standard processes", "Unclear project goals and objectives" and "Disparate control system between owner and contractor" have significant impact in all four models (p < 0.01). The negative coefficients reported for "Unclear project milestones" and "Lack of information communication" in some of the regression models is surprising since the survey questions asked only for significance of the impact of independent variables against dependent variables not whether that impact was positive of negative. However, since the results showed these independent variables as

	Dependent variables								
Independent variables	Mod Gover prog Beta	nance	Moc Earnec Beta		Moo Baselin Beta	lel 3 ed plan Sig. (¢)	Moo Reso alloc Beta	ource	
E1 – Skilled and experienced project	0.177	0.001	0.218	0.000	0.157	0.003	0.207	0.000	
team members E2 – Explicitly defined roles of project team members	0.087	0.108	0.132	0.019	0.054	0.330	0.076	0.171	
E3 – An accurate work breakdown structure (WBS)	0.112	0.022	0.075	0.143	0.086	0.089	0.082	0.101	
B1 – Lack of standard processes	0.246	0.000	0.151	0.006	0.224	0.000	0.214	0.000	
32 – Vague contract deliverables	0.013	0.760	0.035	0.430	0.042	0.343	0.016	0.718	
33 – Unclear project goals	0.176	0.000	0.183	0.000	0.186	0.000	0.183	0.000	
34 – Unclear project milestones	-0.031	0.536	-0.056	0.280	0.001	0.987	-0.067	0.190	
35 – Disparate control system between owner and contractor	0.141	0.001	0.157	0.001	0.134	0.003	0.141	0.002	
36 – Lack of information	-0.028	0.595	-0.078	0.153	-0.004	0.936	0.011	0.838	
communication									Tab
R ²	0.3	39	0.2	81	0.3	302	0.3	806	Results of the
Model significance	0.0	00	0.0	00	0.0	00	0.0	000	regression mo

PCS implementation

insignificant with (p > 0.1), they were not considered as part of the research model and thus warrant no further investigation.

5. Discussion and final research model

A well implemented PCS contributes to the boarder strategic goals of the organization by supporting an integrated framework of processes and people that work together to execute projects successfully (Jayaraman, 2016; Jünge *et al.*, 2019). A clear understanding of the enablers and barriers that impact PCS implementation has a direct bearing on an organization's ability to deliver successful projects. In this context, it is crucial that the PCS elements linked with project success are defined and that the associated enablers and barriers are understood and managed. Therefore, the main objectives of this study were: (1) to investigate the PCS elements that are critical to achieve project success; and (2) to identify the significant enablers and barriers of PCS success by examining the impact of these enablers and barriers on each elements of PCS. Based on the results of a previous studies (Jawad and Ledwith, 2020, 2021), three enablers, six barriers and six elements of PCS success were selected to further study in this research.

Descriptive analysis was conducted to map the PCS elements against each project objectives scope, schedule and cost. Quantitative analysis was then preformed to identify which enablers and barriers impact the performance of the critical PCS elements that defined for each project objective. Figure 3 presents the final research model.

Some of the major findings of this model are:

- (1) The result suggests that engineering and construction organizations should consider PCS as a key tool to achieve project cost objectives. Although there is a slight difference in weighting between the importance of PCS for each of the three project objectives, the high importance rating allocated to project cost indicates that respondents should considered PCS as the main project management tool for completing a project within the planned budget.
- (2) The study has identified project governance, earned value, baselined plan and resource allocation as the most important PCS elements to accomplish the three project objectives scope, schedule and cost.
- (3) Project governance was identified as the most critical PCS element for all three project objectives scope, schedule and cost. Although project governance is not discussed frequently in project management studies as part of PCS (Too and Weaver, 2014; Too et al., 2017), this study has highlighted that it is the main PCS element that directly links with project performance. Good project governance clearly articulates structured roles, responsibilities and accountabilities within a project, this facilitates an effective monitoring and decision-making process. Project governance is the key PCS element that provides different project stakeholders with a structure that aligns the project deliverables with their organizational goals (Joslin and Müller, 2015).
- (4) The results also show that "Lack of standard processes" is a significant barrier that impacts the performance of the four PCS elements and is most significant for project governance. This result infers that from respondent's perspective project governance requires structure and repeatability to be effective. This barrier can only be addressed when the organization has formally documented the processes that are implemented in line with organizational standards for PCS. This requires strong organizational leadership and a concerted effort especially when the organization undertakes a wide variety of projects with different clients and different magnitudes of scope (Dinsmore and Cabanis-Brewin, 2014; PMI, 2017).

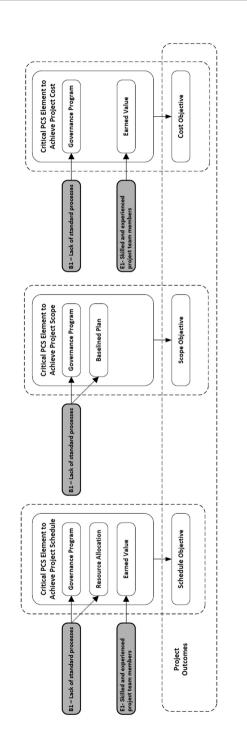




Figure 3. Final research model

- (5) The findings of this study show that "Skilled and experienced project team members" is a significant enabler that impacts the performance of the four PCS elements, most significantly impacting earned value. Organizations need to recognize that essential competencies are required in project team members across all elements of the PCS, particularly earned value. These competencies involve detailed knowledge of the systems and software being utilized on projects. Acquiring these competencies can involve years of experience as well as technical qualifications (Khoury, 2014; Wang and Yuan, 2011). In engineering and construction projects, the diversity and complexity of projects requires skills gained through experience in the industry using specific PCS systems and tools (Yosua *et al.*, 2006).
- (6) In addition, this study identified "Unclear project goals and objectives", and "Disparate control system between owner and contractor" as significant barriers for the four PCS elements. This result can be explained by reflecting that engineering and construction projects typically include multiple parties with different interests and project goals. Differences in organizations' objectives, combined with the enormous variety of unexpected situations that emerge during project execution, makes disparate control system between owner and contractor unavoidable (Doloi, 2011; Kivilä *et al.*, 2017; Pinto *et al.*, 2009). Effective PCS then depends on the project team defining goals and objectives that all parties agree with and consider legitimate, this allows them to be built into the organization's PCS.

The research model has revealed some nuances specific to the three project objectives scope, schedule and cost. These are discussed below:

5.1 Project scope objective

The results indicate that project governance and a baselined plan are the most important PCS elements to achieve the project scope of work. A baselined plan is a clearly defined starting point for a project that allows the project management team to assess deviations against the agreed plan. This baseline represents the planned execution of the project scope with defined deliverables and associated resources (Dinsmore and Cabanis-Brewin, 2014; PMI, 2017). The results also show that "Lack of standard processes" is the most significant barrier to developing a baselined plan. This result confirms that having a standardized approach to creating a baseline plan is critical in order to deliver project scope objectives.

5.2 Project schedule objective

The results of this study suggest that project governance, resource allocation and earned value are the most important PCS elements to meet a project schedule. This result confirms that the project management team needs to understand the resources required to deliver each scheduled activity in order to complete a project on time (Dinsmore and Cabanis-Brewin, 2014; PMI, 2017). This also becomes important as any deviations observed through project governance can be effectively corrected if resources are identified and available. The results also show that "Lack of standard processes" is the most significant barrier to the resource allocation element of PCS. This result confirms that a standardized approach to resource loading the project baseline plan is critical to ensure that a project adheres to its schedule.

5.3 Project cost objective

Investigation into the most important PCS elements for project cost revealed that project governance and earned value are the critical elements to deliver a project within the planned

budget. A clear earned value process through the project lifecycle is crucial to have an accurate understanding of the project progress and thus the actual and forecast cost.

The present study aimed to extend previous research in project control by providing an empirical investigation of the elements of PCS that are critical to achieving project scope, schedule and cost objectives. Moreover, enablers and barriers of PCS success are examined to see how they influence each element independently. The final research model was validated with data from a survey of 400 project management practitioners, thus the findings of this study can be generalized across similar industries.

6. Conclusion and implications

With the growing cost of overruns and delays in engineering and construction projects globally, particularly due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, there is a need for governments and organizations to address the challenges of delivering projects within scope, cost and schedule objectives. Although many studies in project management have stressed PCS as a main component of project success and conversely failure, these studies have not offered empirical methods to address the factors that influence the level of PCS success.

This study contributes to our knowledge of project management by presenting a new model that explains the relationships between the six elements of PCS, and their enablers and barriers and the achievement of successful project outcomes, cost, schedule and scope. The results of this study revealed that project governance, earned value, baselined plan and resource allocation are the most important PCS elements to accomplish the three project objectives scope, schedule and cost. Moreover, this study identifies "Skilled and experienced project team members", "Lack of standard processes", "Unclear project goals and objectives" and "Disparate control system between owner and contractor" as the most significant factors for PCS success through the four identified elements. The study offers a direction for implementing and developing PCS as a strategic tool and focuses on the PCS elements that can best improve project outcomes. This paper provides project management teams in engineering and construction organizations with some practical implications:

- (1) This study highlights the importance of effective project governance with clear responsibilities for decision making to achieve project objectives scope, schedule and cost. Every project should have demonstratively active project governance in place to ensure project objectives are reviewed by stakeholders and senior management.
- (2) In order to achieve effective project governance, organizations need to ensure that standard processes are used by all project stakeholders. A lack of defined and documented processes inhibits the performance of all PCS elements.
- (3) "Skilled and experienced project team members" is another area that organizations need to focus on when assembling project teams. This is a main enabler to assure the effective deployment and utilization of PCS in particulate earned value.
- (4) Effective PCS is found to be particularly critical for achieving project cost objectives. Therefore, if a project is cost sensitive project managers need to ensure that all six elements of PCS are fully implemented.

One limitation of this research is that it is based on a case study of engineering and construction projects within the petroleum and chemical industry in Saudi Arabia. It is expected that the findings of this research will have applicability to other industries, but further studies in different sectors and regions should be undertaken to validate this assumption.

PCS implementation

ECAM References

- Adam, A.M. (2020), "Sample size determination in survey research", *Journal of Scientific Research and Reports*, Vol. 26 No. 5, pp. 90-97, doi: 10.9734/jsrr/2020/v26i530263.
- Al-Hajj, A. (2018), "The impact of project management implementation on the successful completion of projects in construction", *International Journal of Innovation, Management and Technology*, Vol. 9, doi: 10.18178/ijimt.2018.9.1.781.
- Al-Jibouri, S.H. (2003), "Monitoring systems and their effectiveness for project cost control in construction", *International Journal of Project Management*, Vol. 21, pp. 145-154, doi: 10.1016/ S0263-7863(02)00010-8.
- Al-Nasseri, H. and Aulin, R. (2016), "Enablers and barriers to project planning and scheduling based on construction projects in Oman", *Journal of Construction in Developing Countries*, Vol. 21, pp. 1-20, doi: 10.21315/jcdc2016.21.2.1.
- Alkahtani, M., El-Sherbeeny, A., Noman, M., Abdullah, F.M. and Choudhary, A. (2018), "Trends in industrial engineering and the Saudi vision 2030", *Proceedings of the 2018 IISE Annual Conference*, available at: http://amz.xcdsystem.com/C5AB9227-CA78-AE70-2946FDB80F96639A_ abstract_File8390/SubmitFinalPaper_1197_0301074039.pdf.
- Artur, B. (2019), "Research on the impact of the project team on selected areas of project management", *Trends Economics and Management*, Vol. 13, p. 43, doi: 10.13164/trends.2019. 34.43.
- Assaf, S.A. and Al-Hejji, S. (2006), "Causes of delay in large construction projects", *International Journal of Project Management*, Vol. 24, pp. 349-357, doi: 10.1016/j.ijproman.2005.11.010.
- Backlund, F., Chonéer, D. and Sundqvist, E. (2013), "Project management maturity models a critical review", Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences. doi: 10.1016/j.sbspro.2014.03.094.
- Benjaoran, V. (2009), "A cost control system development: a collaborative approach for small and medium-sized contractors", *International Journal of Project Management*, Vol. 27, pp. 270-277, doi: 10.1016/j.ijproman.2008.02.004.
- Bower, D. and Finegan, A. (2009), "New approaches in project performance evaluation techniques", *International Journal of Managing Projects in Business*, Vol. 2, pp. 435-444, doi: 10.1108/ 17538370910971072.
- Braimah, N. (2014), "Understanding construction delay analysis and the role of preconstruction programming", *Journal of Management in Engineering*, Vol. 30, 04014023, doi: 10.1061/(ASCE) ME.1943-5479.0000216.
- Brookes, N., Butler, M., Dey, P. and Clark, R. (2014), "The use of maturity models in improving project management performance: an empirical investigation", *International Journal of Managing Projects in Business*, Vol. 7, doi: 10.1108/IJMPB-03-2013-0007.
- Cho, E. and Kim, S. (2015), "Cronbach's coefficient alpha: well known but poorly understood", Organizational Research Methods, Vol. 18, pp. 207-230, doi: 10.1177/1094428114555994.
- Crawford, J.K. (2014), Project Management Maturity Model, 3rd ed., Auerbach Publications, New York, NY, doi: 10.1201/b17643.
- Dinsmore, P.C. and Cabanis-Brewin, J. (2014), The AMA Handbook of Project Management, AMACOM.
- Doloi, H.K. (2011), "Understanding stakeholders' perspective of cost estimation in project management", *International Journal of Project Management*, Vol. 29, pp. 622-636, doi: 10. 1016/j.ijproman.2010.06.001.
- Duffy, J. (2001), "Maturity models: blueprints for evolution", Strategy and Leadership, Vol. 29, pp. 19-26, doi: 10.1108/EUM000000006530.
- Durdyev, S. (2020), "Review of construction journals on causes of project cost overruns", *Engineering, Construction and Architectural Management*, Vol. ahead-of-print No. ahead-of-print, doi: 10. 1108/ECAM-02-2020-0137.

- Erdogan, B., Abbott, C. and Aouad, G. (2010), "Construction in year 2030: developing an information technology vision", Philosophical Transactions. Series A, Mathematical, Physical, and Engineering Sciences, Vol. 368, pp. 3551-3565, doi: 10.1098/rsta.2010.0076.
 - implementation

PCS

- Ford, D., Lyneis, J. and Taylor, T. (2007), "Project controls to minimize cost and schedule overruns: a model, research agenda, and initial results", 25th International Conference of the System Dynamics Society, Boston, MA, available at: http://davidnford.engr.tamu.edu/wp-content/ uploads/sites/83/2017/02/ProjectControlModel-SDConf2007.pdf.
- Gamil, Y. and Alhagar, A. (2020), "The impact of pandemic crisis on the survival of construction industry: a case of COVID-19", Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences, Vol. 11, pp. 2039-2117, doi: 10.36941/mjss-2020-0047.
- Gliem, I.A. and Gliem, R.R. (2003), "Calculating, interpreting, and reporting Cronbach's alpha reliability coefficient for Likert-type scales", Midwest Research-To-Practice Conference in Adult, Continuing, and Community Education.
- He, Q., Wang, T., Chan, A.P.C., Li, H. and Chen, Y. (2019), "Identifying the gaps in project success research: a mixed bibliographic and bibliometric analysis", Engineering, Construction and Architectural Management, Vol. 26 No. 8, pp. 1553-1573, doi: 10.1108/ECAM-04-2018-0181.
- Jawad, S. and Ledwith, A. (2020), "Analyzing enablers and barriers to successfully project control system implementation in petroleum and chemical projects", International Journal of Energy Sector Management, Vol. ahead-of-print No. ahead-of-print, doi: 10.1108/IJESM-08-2019-0004.
- Jawad, S. and Ledwith, A. (2021), "A measurement model of project control systems success for engineering and construction projects case study; contractor companies in Saudi's petroleum and chemical industry", Engineering, Construction and Architectural Management, Vol. aheadof-print No. ahead-of-print, doi: 10.1108/ECAM-11-2020-0924.
- Jawad, S., Ledwith, A. and Panahifar, F. (2018), "Enablers and barriers to the successful implementation of project control systems in the petroleum and chemical industry", International Journal of Engineering Business Management, Vol. 10, 1847979017751834, doi: 10.1177/1847979017751834.
- Jayaraman, R. (2016), "Project cost control: a new method to plan and control costs in large projects", Business Process Management Journal, Vol. 22, pp. 1247-1268, doi: 10.1108/BPMJ-10-2014-0102.
- Joslin, R. and Müller, R. (2015), "Relationships between a project management methodology and project success in different project governance contexts", International Journal of Project Management, Vol. 33, pp. 1377-1392, doi: 10.1016/j.jproman.2015.03.005.
- Jünge, G.H., Alfnes, E., Kjersem, K. and Andersen, B. (2019), "Lean project planning and control: empirical investigation of ETO projects", International Journal of Managing Projects in Business, Vol. 12 No. 4, pp. 1120-1145, doi: 10.1108/IIMPB-08-2018-0170.
- Khoury, G.C. (2014), Cases on Management and Organizational Behavior in an Arab Context, IGI Global.
- Kivilä, J., Martinsuo, M. and Vuorinen, L. (2017), "Sustainable project management through project control in infrastructure projects", International Journal of Project Management, Vol. 35, pp. 1167-1183, doi: 10.1016/j.ijproman.2017.02.009.
- Kriksciuniene, D., Sakalauskas, V. and Lewandowski, R. (2019), "Evaluating the interdependent effect for Likert scale items", pp. 26-38, doi: 10.1007/978-3-030-36691-9_3.
- Kwak, Y.H. and Ibbs, C.W. (2002), "Project management process maturity (PM)2 model", Journal of Management in Engineering, Vol. 18, pp. 150-155, doi: 10.1061/(ASCE)0742-597X(2002)18:3(150).
- Lianying, Z., Jing, H. and Xinxing, Z. (2012), "The project management maturity model and application based on PRINCE2", Procedia Engineering, Vol. 29, pp. 3691-3697, doi: 10.1016/j.proeng.2012. 01.554.
- Liu, S. (2015), "Effects of control on the performance of information systems projects: the moderating role of complexity risk", Journal of Operations Management, Vol. 36, pp. 46-62.

- Maliszewska, M., Mattoo, A. and van der Mensbrugghe, D. (2020), "The potential impact of COVID-19 on GDP and trade: a preliminary assessment", World Bank Policy Research Working Paper No. 9211, SSRN: available at: https://ssrn.com/abstract=3573211.
 - Maqsoom, A., Hamad, M., Ashraf, H., Thaheem, M.J. and Umer, M. (2020), "Managerial control mechanisms and their influence on project performance: an investigation of the moderating role of complexity risk", *Engineering, Construction and Architectural Management*, Vol. 27 No. 9, pp. 2451-2475.
 - Mišić, S. and Radujkovic, M. (2015), "Critical drivers of megaprojects success and failure", Procedia Engineering, Vol. 122, pp. 71-80, doi: 10.1016/j.proeng.2015.10.009.
 - Mohamad, M.M., Sulaiman, N.L., Sern, L.C. and Salleh, K.M. (2015), "Measuring the validity and reliability of research instruments", *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences*, Vol. 204, pp. 164-171, doi: 10.1016/j.sbspro.2015.08.129.
 - Moshashai, D., Leber, A.M. and Savage, J.D. (2020), "Saudi Arabia plans for its economic future: vision 2030, the national transformation plan and Saudi fiscal reform", *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, Vol. 47, pp. 381-401, doi: 10.1080/13530194.2018.1500269.
 - Obare, J., Kyalo, D., Sabina, M. and Mbugua, J. (2016), "Implementation process of project control systems and performance of rural roads construction projects in Kenya: role of project team experience diversity", *European Scientific Journal*, Vol. 12, doi: 10.19044/esj.2016.v12n29p408.
 - Olawale, Y. and Sun, M. (2014), "Construction project control in the UK: current practice, existing problems and recommendations for future improvement", *International Journal of Project Management*, Vol. 33, doi: 10.1016/j.ijproman.2014.10.003.
 - Pallant, J. (2010), SPSS Survival Manual: A Step by Step Guide to Data Analysis Using SPSS, Open University Press, London.
 - Parnell, B., Stone, M. and Aravopoulou, E. (2020), "Controlling superprojects information management requirements", *The Bottom Line*, Vol. 33 No. 1, pp. 116-131, doi: 10.1108/BL-11-2019-0126.
 - Pinto, J.K., Slevin, D.P. and English, B. (2009), "Trust in projects: an empirical assessment of owner/ contractor relationships", *International Journal of Project Management*, Vol. 27, pp. 638-648, doi: 10.1016/j.ijproman.2008.09.010.
 - PMI, P.M. (2013), Organizational Project Management Maturity Model (OPM3), Knovel Library. Project Management Institute.
 - PMI, P.M. (2017), A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge: (PMBOK® Guide), 6th ed., Project Management Institute, Newtown Square, PA.
 - Prasad, B. and Prasad, N. (2020), "COVID-19: an emerging rapidly evolving situation", Journal of Basic and Applied Research in Biomedicine, Vol. 6 No. 2, pp. 82-89.
 - Rozenes, S., Vitner, G. and Spraggett, S. (2006), "Project control: literature review", Project Management Journal, Vol. 37 No. 4, pp. 5-14, doi: 10.1177/875697280603700402.
 - Sakka, O., Barki, H. and Côté, L. (2016), "Relationship between the interactive use of control systems and the project performance: the moderating effect of uncertainty and equivocality", *International Journal of Project Management*, Vol. 34, pp. 508-522, doi: 10.1016/j.ijproman. 2016.01.001.
 - Seber, G.A. and Lee, A.J. (2012), Linear Regression Analysis, Vol. 329, John Wiley & Sons.
 - Setia, P. and Patel, P.C. (2013), "How information systems help create OM capabilities: consequents and antecedents of operational absorptive capacity", *Journal of Operations Management*, Vol. 31 No. 6, pp. 409-431.
 - Shibani, A., Hassan, D. and Shakir, N. (2020), "The effects of pandemic on construction industry in the UK", Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences, Vol. 11, p. 48, doi: 10.36941/mjss-2020-0063.
 - Stratton, R.W. (2006), *The Earned Value Management Maturity Model*, Management Concepts, Vienna, VA.

Streiner, D.L. (2003), "Starting at the beginning: an introduction to coefficient alpha and internal consistency", Journal of Personality Assessment, Vol. 80, pp. 99-103, doi: 10.1207/ implementation S15327752IPA8001 18.

PCS

- Sudhakar, G. (2016), "Critical failure factors (CFFs) of IT projects", The International Journal of Management Research, Vol. 04 No. 02, pp. 31-51.
- Sun, M., Vidalakis, C. and Oza, T. (2009), "A change management maturity model for construction projects", Association of Researchers in Construction Management, ARCOM 2009 - Proceedings of the 25th Annual Conference, Vol. 7, pp. 803-812.
- Taherdoost, H. (2016), "Validity and reliability of the research instrument; how to test the validation of a questionnaire/survey in a research", International Journal of Academic Research in Management, Vol. 5, pp. 28-36, doi: 10.2139/ssrn.3205040.
- Too, E. and Weaver, P. (2014), "The management of project management: a conceptual framework for project governance", International Journal of Project Management, Vol. 32, pp. 1382-1394, doi: 10.1016/j.ijproman.2013.07.006.
- Too, E., Le, T. and Yap, W. (2017), "Front-end planning the role of project governance and its impact on scope change management", International Journal of Technology, Vol. 8, p. 1124, doi: 10. 14716/iitech.v8i6.708.
- Tsiga, Z., Emes, M. and Smith, A. (2017), "Critical success factors for projects in the petroleum industry", Procedia Computer Science, Vol. 121, pp. 224-231, doi: 10.1016/j.procs.2017.11.031.
- Wang, J. and Yuan, H. (2011), "Factors affecting contractors' risk attitudes in construction projects: case study from China", International Journal of Project Management, Vol. 29, pp. 209-219, doi: 10.1016/j.ijproman.2010.02.006.
- Wang, C., Li, B., Li, B. and Baldwin, A. (2017), "Case study of 'project controlling' on a large HOPSCA project in China", Engineering, Construction and Architectural Management, Vol. 24 No. 6, pp. 862-874, doi: 10.1108/ECAM-07-2015-0118.
- White, D. and Fortune, J. (2002), "Current practice in project management an empirical study", International Journal of Project Management, Vol. 20, pp. 1-11, doi: 10.1016/S0263-7863(00)00029-6.
- Winch, G. (2012), "Industrial megaprojects: concepts, strategies and practices for success", Construction Management and Economics, Vol. 30, pp. 1-4, doi: 10.1080/01446193.2012.665996.
- Yean Yng Ling, F. and Theng Ang, W. (2013), "Using control systems to improve construction project outcomes", Engineering, Construction and Architectural Management, Vol. 20 No. 6, pp. 576-588, doi: 10.1108/ECAM-10-2011-0093.
- Yosua, D., White, K.R.J. and Lavigne, L. (2006), "Project controls: how to keep a healthy pulse on your projects", Paper presented at PMI® Global Congress 2006-North America, Project Management Institute, Seattle, WA. Newtown Square, PA.

Further reading

- Cheng, E.W.L. and Li, H. (2002), "Construction partnering process and associated critical success factors: quantitative investigation", Journal of Management in Engineering, Vol. 18, doi: 10. 1061/(ASCE)0742-597X(2002)18:4(194).
- Costello, A. and Osborne, J. (2005), "Best practices in exploratory factor Analysis: four recommendations for getting the most from your analysis", Practical Assessment, Research and Evaluation, Vol. 10, pp. 1-9.
- George, R.A., Siti-Nabiha, A.K., Jalaludin, D. and Abdalla, Y.A. (2016), "Barriers to and enablers of sustainability integration in the performance management systems of an oil and gas company", Journal of Cleaner Production, Vol. 136, pp. 197-212, doi: 10.1016/j.jclepro.2016.01.097.
- Görög, M. (2009), "A comprehensive model for planning and controlling contractor cash-flow", International Journal of Project Management, Vol. 27, pp. 481-492, doi: 10.1016/j.ijproman.2008. 08.001.

Gulftalent (2021), available at: https://www.gulftalent.com/companies-in-saudi-arabia/9.

- Hadi, N., Abdullah, N. and Ilham, S. (2016), "An easy approach to exploratory factor Analysis: marketing perspective noor ul hadi", *Journal of Educational and Social Research*, Vol. 6, pp. 215-223, doi: 10.5901/jesr.2016.v6n1p215.
- Ika, L.A. (2009), "Project success as a topic in project management journals", Project Management Journal, Vol. 40 No. 4, pp. 6-19, doi: 10.1002/pmj.20137.
- Joslin, R. and Müller, R. (2016), "The impact of project methodologies on project success in different project environments", *International Journal of Managing Projects in Business*, Vol. 9 No. 2, pp. 364-388, doi: 10.1108/IJMPB-03-2015-0025.
- Krejcie, R. and Morgan, D. (1970), "Determining sample size for research activities", *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, Vol. 3 No. 30, pp. 607-610, doi: 10.1177/001316447003000308.
- Miller, R. and Lessard, D. (2001), "Understanding and managing risks in large engineering projects", International Journal of Project Management, Vol. 19 No. 8, pp. 437-443.
- Rodrigues, J.S., Costa, A.R. and Gestoso, C.G. (2014), "Project planning and control: does national culture influence project success?", *Procedia Technology*, Vol. 16, pp. 1047-1056, doi: 10.1016/j. protcy.2014.10.059.

	E1-skilled and experienced project team members	E2-explicity defined roles of project team members	E3-accurate work breakdown structure (WBS)	B1-lack of standard processes	B2-vague contract deliverables	B3-unclear project goals	B4-unclear project milestones	B5-disparate control system between owner and contractor	B6-lack of information communication
E1- Skilled and experienced team	1	0.310**	0.308**	0.350**	0.016	0.351**	0.163**	0.277**	0.252**
members E2-Explicity defined roles of project team	0.310**	1	0.185**	0.483**	0.106*	0.273**	-0.052	0.411**	0.312**
members E3-Accurate work breakdown	0.308**	0.185**	1	0.158**	0.016	0.121*	-0.089	0.174**	0.268**
B1-Lack of	0.350**	0.483**	0.158**	1	0.122^{*}	0.397**	0.018	0.624^{**}	0.150^{**}
B2-Vague contract	0.016	0.106^{*}	0.016	0.122*	1	-0.076	0.029	0.151**	0.065
denverables B3-Unclear project	0.351**	0.273**	0.121*	0.397**	-0.076	1	-0.032	0.247**	0.100*
B4-Unclear project	0.163**	-0.052	-0.089	0.018	0.029	-0.032	1	-0.110^{*}	-0.024
B5-Disparate control system between owner and	0.277**	0.411**	0.174**	0.624**	0.151**	0.247**	-0.110*	1	0.215**
B6-Lack of 0.252** 0.312** information ** Communication ** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (9-tailed)	0.252** nificant at the 0.0	0.312** 01 level (2-tailed)	0.268**	0.150**	0.065	0.100*	-0.024	0.215**	1
SIC OF HOMBINION	mannain ar an v	יד זר ארו (ה ימוורת)							

Appendix 1

PCS implementation

Table A1. Bivariate correlation test

Appendix 2 ECAM

1-Regression Model 1 – project governance Dependent Variable: Project Governance Independent Variables: three enablers and six barriers of PCS implementation

Model summary

I						Change	statist	ics		
		R	Adjusted R	Std. Error of	R square	F			Sig. F	
Model	R	square	square	the estimate	change	change	df1	df2	change	
1	0.582^{A}	0.339	0.324	0.52982	0.339	22.252	9	390	0.000	
Note(s	Note(s): ^A Predictors (Constant), El, E2, E3, Bl, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6									

Anova^A

Model	Sum of squares	df	Mean square	F	Sig
1 Regression Residual Total	56.219 109.479 165.697	9 390 399	6.247 0.281	22.252	0.000 ^B
Note(s): ^A Depen	dent Variable: Project Gov	vernance			

^BPredictors: (Constant), El, E2, E3, Bl, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6

Co-efficients^A

		lardized cients Std.	Standardized coefficients		
Model	В	error	Beta	t	Sig
1 (Constant)	0.101	0.366		0.276	0.783
E1-Skilled and experienced team members	0.191	0.055	0.177	3.450	0.001
E2-Explicity defined roles of project team members	0.077	0.048	0.087	1.609	0.108
E3-Accurate work breakdown structure (WBS)	0.131	0.057	0.112	2.293	0.022
B1-Lack of standard processes	0.269	0.057	0.246	4.731	0.000
B2-Vague contract deliverables	0.015	0.048	0.013	0.305	0.760
B3-Unclear project goals	0.231	0.058	0.176	3.982	0.000
B4-Unclear project milestones	-0.031	0.050	-0.031	-0.620	0.536
B5-Disparate control system between owner and contractor	0.132	0.041	0.141	3.207	0.001
B6-Lack of information communication	-0.022	0.041	-0.028	-0.532	0.595
Note(s): ^A Dependent Variable: Project Govern	nance				

2-Regression Model 2 – earned value Dependent Variable: Earned Value

Independent Variables: three enablers and six barriers of PCS implementation

PCS implementation

Model summary

		R	Adjusted R	Std. Error of	R square	Change F	statist	ics	Sig. F
Model	R	square	square	the estimate	change	change	dfl	df2	change
1	0.531^{A}	0.281	0.265	0.54496	0.281	16.974	9	390	0.000
Note(s): ^A Predic	tors (Cons	tant), E1, E2, E3	, B1, B2, B3, B4, I	B5, B6				

Anova^A

Model	Sum of squares	df	Mean square	F	Sig
1 Regression	45.369	9	5.041	16.974	0.000^{B}
Residual	115.821	390	0.297		
Total	161.190	399			

Note(s): ^ADependent Variable: Earned Value ^BPredictors: (Constant), E1, E2, E3, B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6

Co-efficients^A

L. Beta t Sig $5r$ $Beta$ t Sig 76 1.287 0.199 57 0.218 4.080 0.001 100 0.192 0.212 0.021
0.218 4.080 0.00
0 0100 0015 001
19 0.132 2.347 0.019
59 0.075 1.467 0.143
59 0.151 2.781 0.000
50 0.035 0.789 0.430
60 0.183 3.970 0.000
-0.056 -1.082 0.280
12 0.157 3.417 0.00
42 -0.078 1.432 0.153
6 5 4

3-Regression Model 3 – baselined plan Dependent Variable: baselined plan

Dependent Variable: baselined plan Independent Variables: three enablers and six barriers of PCS implementation

Model summary

	D	R	Adjusted R	Std. Error of	R square	Change F			Sig. F	
Model	R	square square the estimate		the estimate	change	change	df1	df2	change	
1	0.549^{A}	0.302	0.285	0.54152	0.302	18.712	9	390	0.000	
Note(s): ^A Predic	tors (Const	ant), E1, E2, E3	, B1, B2, B3, B4,	B5, B6					

ANOVA^A

Model	Sum of squares	df	Mean square	F	Sig
1 Regression Residual Total	49.384 114.366 163.750	9 390 399	5.487 0.293	18.712	0.000^{B}
Note(s): ^A Depen	dent Variable: Baselined I	Plan			

^BPredictors: (Constant), E1, E2, E3, B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6

Co-efficients^A

	0 0	lardized cients Std.	Standardized coefficients		
Model	В	error	Beta	t	Sig
1 (Constant)	0.219	0.374		0.586	0.558
E1-Skilled and experienced team members	0.169	0.057	0.157	2.983	0.003
E2-Explicity defined roles of project team members	0.048	0.049	0.054	0.976	0.330
E3-Accurate work breakdown structure (WBS)	0.099	0.058	0.086	1.704	0.089
B1-Lack of standard processes	0.244	0.058	0.224	4.187	0.000
B2-Vague contract deliverables	0.047	0.049	0.042	0.950	0.242
B3-Unclear project goals	0.241	0.059	0.186	4.074	0.000
B4-Unclear project milestones	0.001	0.051	0.001	0.016	0.987
B5-Disparate control system between owner and contractor	0.125	0.042	0.134	2.965	0.003
B6-Lack of information communication	-0.003	0.042	-0.004	-0.080	0.936
Note(s): ^A Dependent Variable: Baselined Plan	1				

4-Regression Model 4 – resource allocation

Dependent Variable: resource allocation

Independent Variables: three enablers and six barriers of PCS implementation

Model summary

						С	hange	statisti	ics	
		R	Adjusted R	Std. Error of	R square	F			Sig. F	_
Model	R	square	square	the estimate	change	change	df1	df2	change	
1	0.553^{A}	0.306	0.290	0.56104	0.306	19.072	9	390	0.000	
Note(s): ^A Predic	tors (Const	tant), E1, E2, E3	, B1, B2, B3, B4,	B5, B6					

Anova^A

Model	Sum of squares	df	Mean square	F	Sig
1 Regression	54.031	9	6.003	19.072	0.000^{B}
Residual	122.759	390	0.315		
Total	176.790	399			
Note(s): ^A Depend	dent Variable: Resource L stant), E1, E2, E3, B1, B2, 1	oaded	2		

Co-efficients^A

		lardized cients Std.	Standardized co-efficients		
Model	В	error	Beta	t	Sig
1 (Constant)	0.285	0.387		0.736	0.462
E1-Skilled and experienced team members	0.231	0.059	0.207	3.932	0.000
E2-Explicity defined roles of project team members	0.070	0.051	0.076	1.371	0.171
E3-Accurate work breakdown structure (WBS)	0.099	0.060	0.082	1.645	0.101
B1-Lack of standard processes	0.241	0.060	0.214	4.002	0.000
B2-Vague contract deliverables	-0.018	0.051	-0.016	-0.362	0.718
B3-Unclear project goals	0.247	0.061	0.183	4.029	0.000
B4-Unclear project milestones	-0.069	0.053	-0.067	-1.313	0.190
B5-Disparate control system between owner and contractor	0.136	0.044	0.141	3.124	0.002
B6-Lack of information communication	0.009	0.043	0.011	0.205	0.838
Note(s): ^A Dependent Variable: Resource Loa	ded				

Corresponding author

Sahar Jawad can be contacted at: jw_sara@yahoo.com

For instructions on how to order reprints of this article, please visit our website: www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/licensing/reprints.htm Or contact us for further details: permissions@emeraldinsight.com

PCS implementation