

Augmented Project Professionals: The Impact of Corporate Internal AI Implementation on Project Managers and Their Operational Dynamics within the Organization

In today's technological era, where data analytics, machine learning, and automation are increasingly integral to project workflows, understanding the implications of AI in project management is crucial. This research investigates the impact of an internally implemented AI system, referred to as Corp.AI (a pseudonym chosen to ensure confidentiality), within Corporation X (an anonymized entity chosen to safeguard the identity of the company under examination), focusing on its effects on project managers' daily tasks.

The central question is whether Corp.AI can enhance project managers' proficiency, making them "AI-enabled." The hypothesis suggests that Corp.AI significantly improves project managers' day-to-day tasks. However, responses varied: some managers embraced and effectively integrated the tool, while others were less engaged, resulting in varied benefits.

The study also examines whether achieving AI-enabled proficiency requires additional efforts or understanding from project managers. Findings indicate that without proactive engagement and concerted efforts, this proficiency is unattainable. Most respondents agreed that active participation and a proactive stance towards AI adoption are essential for reaching this level of proficiency.

Furthermore, the research explores optimal utilization of generative AI in project management and potential challenges or drawbacks. While generative AI holds potential benefits, it also presents challenges. Some participants highlighted these challenges, while others did not perceive any drawbacks, underscoring the subjective nature of AI integration experiences.

The thesis also investigates the correlation between project managers' perceptions of AI and their attitudes towards adopting new strategies. It hypothesizes that those who view AI integration positively are more likely to engage in proactive professional development. Findings support this, showing that optimistic project managers adapt more readily to technological changes, aligning with advancements and fostering career growth and resilience.

In conclusion, the research reveals that Corp.AI has a moderate to low impact on project managers' workflows. There are advocates and skeptics of the tool, suggesting a need for stronger change management to help employees adopt AI in their daily workflows. One of the interviewed directors emphasized that firsthand experience with Corp.AI is necessary for employees to recognize its potential benefits.

Moving forward, it is essential to acknowledge the diverse perspectives on AI integration and tailor strategies that empower project managers and employees to harness AI's potential while effectively navigating associated challenges. Further exploration and validation through longitudinal studies and in-depth qualitative analyses are recommended to understand the mechanisms driving project managers' attitudes and behaviors towards AI adoption and professional development.