

Types of projects

In order to subdivide and classify the multitude of existing projects, projects are divided into project types. As a rule, a distinction is made according to three criteria:

1. Type of contractor

Projects can be carried out by a wide variety of organisations. The most common types of organizations are non-profit organizations and business organizations:

Non-Profit Organizations (NPOs)

Non-profit organizations do not pursue a profit motive; possible profits are reinvested in the company's purpose. Rather, the focus of project implementation is on achieving a goal considered meaningful by society. The projects carried out by the organization thus usually serve the common good or the benefit of its members. Examples of NPOs are school projects or social projects.

Business projects

Business projects are carried out by companies with the intention of making a profit. The primary interest is the completion of the product to be achieved and gaining knowledge about the organizational process and management of the project in view of further implementations of future projects.

2. contractor role

In terms of the role of the contractor, projects can also basically be divided into two subgroups:

External projects

External projects are projects with which a company is commissioned, usually by another company. The commissioned commercial company, which usually specializes in the implementation of projects, pursues a profit-making intention.

Internal projects

Internal projects are characterized by the fact that they are initiated by internal clients and planned and executed with the help of own resources. Internal projects normally don't generate direct revenues and must therefore be justified against their benefits.

3. Project scope

There are no regulated quantitative benchmarks for the scope of a project. The differentiation between large and small projects depends on the respective industry as well as the specific company.

This subdivision is particularly essential for the project implementation. For example, large projects must be approved by the company management, while small projects can usually be commissioned independently by lower levels of the company.

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