Overview of Project Routemap

Setting up projects for success

Project Routemap is the IPA's support tool for novel or complex major projects. It helps sponsors and clients understand the capabilities needed to set projects up for success, incorporating learning from other major projects and programmes.

What is Routemap?
Why would I use it?
When is Routemap most effective?
How does the Routemap methodology work?
What are the key benefits?
**Project Routemap**

**What is it?**
- A structured and tested methodology to set up novel or complex projects for success
- Capturing best practice and learning about project failures and successes from over £300bn of capital programmes
- Developed by the UK Government in collaboration with industry and academia
- Ensures that the ‘right’ questions are asked upfront and that the key risks and opportunities are identified
- Collaborative way for stakeholders to work together, towards practical solutions to address gaps in project capability
- Routemap has been adapted for use internationally, as the Project Development Routemap

**Who would use it and why?**
- We are a new team lacking experience of delivering similar projects but want to kick this project off properly!
- I am the project sponsor and I am not confident that I understand the capabilities this project needs to succeed
- We want to learn all we can from other projects and sectors to improve delivery
- We are developing our business case and need help working through some critical aspects
- We know we are not working effectively with our project partners and need to do something about it
- We need to be sure this project is ready to transition to the next stage and provide confidence to our stakeholders

**When is Routemap most effective?**

- Routemap provides a structured approach to thinking right from the outset of a project. It is a very collaborative tool, helping you get under the skin of challenging problems during the early stages of development. It really helps you set up your project up for success.

**What new themes are in Routemap?**
- Benefits and outcomes focus
- People and skills
- Economic, environmental and social value
- Digital and technology
- Behaviour and culture
- Transitions

Project Routemap was refreshed in 2021 to reflect new and emerging best practice from major projects and programmes.
Our Routemap methodology

“The Routemap process covers the entire project system – from sponsor through to supply chain and asset managers”

How does the Routemap methodology work?

Three key stages:

Setup
Determine the scope and timing of the Routemap, which can be project wide or targeted to specific capabilities

Diagnosis
Gather information and identify where capabilities need to be enhanced

Action Planning
Collaborative development of practical solutions to enhance capability

Eight underpinning modules of good practice

Requirements Delivering strategic project outcomes and realising the benefits.
Governance Establishing clear accountability and empowering effective decision-making.
Systems Integration Making multiple systems work as one.
Organisational Design & Development Organising the project team to deliver successfully.

Key benefits of the Routemap

What do Routemap users say?

“Applying Routemap helps to identify and start to resolve big questions, decisions and issues for their projects sooner than is otherwise the case”

“It provides an excellent support tool when preparing stage business cases”

“The modules provide tangible learning points from previous projects and programmes”

“Routemap stimulates collaboration between stakeholders and helps them better understand each other’s expectations and success criteria”

If you want to find out more, search

Routemap at GOV.uk