

Agile in Public Sector

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Agile – Iterative process

- Agile promotes a disciplined project management process that encourages frequent inspection and adaptation
- Focus on the rapid delivery of business value
- Agile anticipates change and allows much more flexibility than traditional methods
- Agile encourages teamwork, self organization and accountability

What does Agile mean, Really?

- Agile means there is no planning required
- Agile is for software development
- I can change requirements as I want when I want
- Agile doesn't believe in documentation
- Agile means less discipline
- Agile is not for fixed price projects

Challenges

- Understanding of Agile way of working
- Lack of clearly defined project roles
- Agencies want to know up-front how much a system will cost
- Procurement processes
- Deliverable heavy

Open discussion

- What has been your experience?
- How are you addressing the challenges?

Agile-Waterfall Hybrid

- The hybrid approach includes all the principles and elements identified in both agile and traditional methods
- In hybrid method, the project is broken down into manageable components either by discipline or by functionality
- When multiple disciplines are used in a project, one discipline might use agile (software) and waterfall is used by others.

Smart Approach or Terrible Solution?

Agile-Waterfall Hybrid

- Agile methods allow for iteration and more frequent releases with subsequent user feedback. Waterfall methods tend to greatly reduce the number and severity of errors that will affect the end user.
- The agile and waterfall combination incorporates significant planning early in the development process to mitigate errors while introducing Agile processes to the release schedule and user feedback opportunities, allowing for faster and more controlled improvements.
- Through adequate communication and effective cooperation between team members and diverse teams, however, the hybrid approach can often be the most effective means of completing complex projects with shifting requirements.