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**ISO 21500**  
**Project Management Standard**  
**Characteristics, Comparison and Implementation**

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## Introduction

After six years of work the new standard for project management ISO 21 500 was published in 2012. More than 30 national standard bodies and IPMA as an International Project Management Association were working together.

Now in many organizations especially those who are involved in international projects it is time to decide about the implementation. In this book you can find thoughts from authors who worked as members of the ISO team. They like to share their knowledge and expertise not only about the final text of this standard but also the deeper knowledge about the discussions that took place during this development.

Who else can give you more insight and help you towards a successful implementation?

## The book structure

The book contains *8 chapters*, written by *10 authors* coming from *6 countries*.

The chapters are grouped in *four parts*:

I. ISO 21500 Relevance

II. Overview about the important characteristics of ISO 21500

III. Comparison of ISO 21500 with other project management standards

IV. How to implement?

## I. ISO 21500 Relevance

- **ISO 21500 – Good reason to implement a new standard**, author: **Prof. dr. Nino Grau**. The chapter presents the advantages and disadvantages of the implementation of the standard. Some key points about the development and implementation of standard were defined. Considering the high market expectations, the author discusses what could affect the market to accept the new standard in order to give it a push.

## II. Overview about the important characteristics of ISO 21500

- ***Processes of ISO 21500***, author: ***Reinhard Wagner***. The chapter presents project management from a process perspective. The project management processes of ISO 21500 are described and analysed. The application, benefits and limitations of the ISO 21500 processes are discussed.
- ***ISO 21500 as base for a project model***, author: ***Hakan Sjöholm***. The chapter shows that the content of the ISO 21500 standard contains adequate descriptions of concepts and processes that may be used directly to develop a project model. The content of ISO 21500 is reviewed against purpose and scope of a typical project model.

## III. Comparison of ISO 21500 with other project management standards

- ***ISO 21500:2012 vs. other project management standards***, authors: ***Dr. Mihail Sadeanu, Dr. Silvia Candea, Prof. dr. Constanta-Nicoleta Bodea***. The chapter provides basic comparisons of ISO 21500 with other worldwide project management references, such as: PMBOK® ANSI/PMI Standard 99-001-2013 – Fifth edition, PRINCE2™:2009 Project Management Methodology, and ICB V. 3.0:2006
- ***Different standards for different purpose***, author: ***Tikajit Rai***. The chapter demonstrates that a project management eco-system should be created where all method, models and standards could collaborate for both commercial and development projects. ISO 21500 is considered as a milestone in the project management landscape.

## IV. How to implement?

- ***Developing organization's project management methodology based on ISO 21500***, author: **Alexey Polkovnikov**. The chapter shows how ISO 21500 can be used as a base standard for developing a project management methodology, describing the main required steps.
- ***Change management – Your way towards 21500***, author: **Dr. Dagmar Zuchi**. The chapter presents the main key success factors in managing changes and demonstrates that when the new concepts and processes of ISO 21500 are implemented, attention shall be given to a “re-freezing” phase.
- ***The ISO puzzle – Auxiliary tool for implementation***, author: **Helmut Berger**. The chapter presents how different simulation games can be used in order to support training processes. The author presents how an ISO Puzzle may be applied.

## Conclusions

After the standard was published it became one of the best selling standards from ISO. It seems that many organizations are thinking about the implementation.

As we can see from the structure and the content of this book it is not a big theoretical compendium, more important there are practical implications.

Being aware of the fact that practitioners do not have time to read bulky volumes our goal was to keep it as slim as 100 pages. So nobody has an excuse for not reading it.

The book can be ordered from the publisher as a printed book as well as in an electronic version under:

<http://www.shaker.de/de/content/catalogue/index.asp?lang=de&ID=8&ISBN=978-3-8440-2493-7>