IPMA Special Interest Groups

The Core Concepts
What are Special Interest Groups?

Special Interest Groups are groups of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly. Learning is one objective, but there are other objectives — advance the industry, create new standards, develop deliverables that help improve how the industry works, create training, networking with peers, etc.

It is the combination of these three elements that constitutes an IPMA SIG. And it is by developing these three elements in parallel that one cultivates such a community. It takes time and it’s continuous development!

IPMA SIGs: Designed for You

IPMA SIGs are an opportunity for IPMA members and industry leaders to interact and solve some of the world’s most pressing challenges. IPMA Special Interest Groups incorporate three essential ideas that bind the group toward a common objective:

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<th>Domains</th>
<th>Communities</th>
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<td>Every SIG is focused on a domain such as Artificial Intelligence, Smart Cities, Mega Projects, etc. The domain represents the general focus of the SIG. Members may be novice or expert in the topic, and should seek to make a contribution and work to implement real deliverables in these focus areas.</td>
<td>Members engage in meetings, webinars, events and other activities and discussions, building relationships and networks along the way. Members seek to grow and learn from each other, and therefore the culture of each SIG is one of learning and sharing in the service of a common purpose.</td>
<td>IPMA SIG’s seek to create understanding across the membership through building new approaches, innovative practices and tools for the benefit of the project management practitioners. SIG’s operate toward a higher purpose, and while they are voluntary, the SIG should strive to build real world solutions that can benefit others.</td>
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The benefits of joining a SIG is that members gain a deeper understanding of perspectives around the industry, and there are many opportunities to mentor or be mentored, network with industry leaders and get recognized.
How Do I Participate In A SIG?

» **Solve Problems**: Can we work on this project management plan and brainstorm some ideas; I’m stuck.

» **Information requests**: Where can I find the code of conduct?

» **Get experience**: Has anyone dealt with risks in this situation?

» **Develop Key Asset**: I have a proposal for a local area network I wrote for a client last year. I can send it to you and you can easily tweak it for this new client.

» **Develop strategies**: Can we combine our purchases...?

» **Argument building**: How do people in other countries do this? With this information it will be easier to convince my Ministry...

» **Confidence growing**: Before I do it, I’ll run it through my community...

» **Developments discussions**: What do you think of the new PM software and its use for risks in mega projects?”

» **Project’s documentation**: Let us write problems to a registry available for all.

» **Visits and Benchmarking**: Can we come and see your PM IT system? We need to establish one...

» **Knowledge mapping and gaps identification**: Who knows what, and what are we missing?

» **Reviewing**: These are the top ten tools in such situations.

SIG Objectives

The objective of the IPMA Special Interest Groups is to:

» Provide an **engaging experience for IPMA members** from all MA’s to network, explore opportunities;

» Support Member Associations with a **standard, global SIG program**;

» Encourage meaningful **partnerships with IPMA (globally and locally)** through SIG sponsorship;

» Include members, and **key non-members including experts from specific industries**.

IPMA Special Interest Groups:

IPMA SIGs include a wide range of domains including:

» **Smart Cities**: how to supply information which is used to manage assets and resources efficiently

» **Smart Rural**: how to nurture the world

» **Digitizing Construction**: how to model building information

» **Diversity and Inclusion**: how to model diverse and inclusive cultures

» **Sustainability**: how to plan and execute sustainable investments

» **Megaprojects**: how to plan and execute major and mega endavours

» ...
How Do These Groups Operate

SIGs operate with the following parameters:

» **Support of IPMA goals**, global events, standards development
» Strong SIG facilitation and **leadership**
» **Monthly meetings/events** (virtual or F2F)
» **Webinar(s)** per year
» **Live events** – Interviews, discussion groups, meet-ups, conferences
» **Delivered content** – Reports/White Papers/Case Studies, Blogs – broadcasted through IPMA networks and media

IPMA runs only a limited number of strategically important international SIGs and, in doing so, does not get compete with any local, MA based SIGs. These groups shall focus on one specific part in the field of project, programme or portfolio management.

**SIG Governance**

IPMA SIGs are governed as follows:

» SIG leadership forms a steering committee, which reports to the IPMA VP Profession Development.
» SIGs operate with a one-year charter, renewed each year contingent on satisfactory progress.
» IPMA SIGs operate independent of MA’s, however with necessary MA coordination and collaboration.
» Co-branded events and opportunities between SIGs and MA’s are encouraged and expected

**SIG Steering Committee**

» The Steering Committee aligns all SIGs with IPMA goals.
» Composed of all SIG leaders led by VP of Professional Development

**SIG Leader**

» Each SIG has a leader who are credible industry players and servant leaders to the committee
» SIG leaders drive the SIG forward, encouraging members to engage

**Committee lead**

» Committees are created as needed to dive into specific topics.
» Committee leads are servant leaders that support great committee experience and work product

**SIG Support**

» The IPMA Support role includes IPMA employees assigned to provide logistical support for SIGs

About IPMA

IPMA annually announces call for new SIGs with detailed instructions for application.

Join us!

www.ipma.world/sig
IPMA Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are an engaging way to get involved in IPMA internationally. Work with your peers across many different countries and time zones to solve some of the most important questions facing projects success today.

- **Artificial Intelligence**
  - Turkey
  - The AI SIG is involved with projects that look at machine learning, AI, robotics and more.

- **Mega Projects**
  - Croatia
  - The Mega Projects SIG investigates tools, techniques and technologies for improving large-scale projects. Croatia

- **Smart Cities**
  - Korea
  - The Smart Cities SIG seeks to create sustainable models for project management in the development of smart cities.

- **Smart Rural**
  - Mexico
  - The Smart Rural SIG influences how technology and agriculture are shaping the modern industrial-agro business.
Join us!

Tim Jaques  
IPMA Global SIG Leadership

Mladen Vukomanović  
IPMA VP of Profession Development

Are you ready to expand your network and support the development of global solutions with leading experts? IPMA SIGs are looking for committed individuals who are willing to participate with peers in exploring these important topics. Novice, mid-career and experts are all needed. **so sign up today!**

**Here is what makes a great SIG member:**

- **RELEVANT KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND EXPERIENCE IN SIG DOMAIN**
- **OPEN MINDED**
- **ACTIVE LISTENER**
- **WILLING TO PARTICIPATE AND WORK ON DELIVERABLES**

Want to join a SIG?  
Want to lead a SIG?  

[www.ipma.world/sig](http://www.ipma.world/sig)