

Project Management Update from Abu Dhabi



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A Mega Conference In View

The 2023 Dubai International Project Management Forum (DIPMF)¹

What does an IT Service Delivery Manager, Team Performance Coach and First year Project Manager have in common? Well aside from their desire to enable effective solution delivery and optimize performance, they also have a thirst for Knowledge. With a month gone by since the 2023 Dubai International Project Management Forum, this article explores the experience, outcomes and plans of three professionals who recently attended the Dubai International Project Management Forum (DIPMF).

What is DIPMF you asked? The Dubai International Project Management Forum (DIPMF) is a highly esteemed occasion where experts, professionals, and scholars from diverse fields and industries convene to exchange knowledge, ideas, and experiences on project management. Participants are afforded the opportunity to participate in thought-provoking discussions, workshops, and keynote speeches that highlight the latest trends and advancements in project management. With a broad range of topics which include risk management, leadership, strategy, technology, and sustainability, with a specific emphasis on promoting best practices and augmenting the skills and knowledge of project management professionals. Attendees are encouraged to collaborate and network with one another during the forum. The DIPMF, held annually in Dubai, attracts a varied audience, including project managers, business leaders, government officials, academics, and students from all over the world. The forum's focus

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on learning, sharing, and networking plays an integral role in the advancement of the project management field and contributes significantly to the growth and development of global businesses and organizations.

The 2023 edition of the forum did not fall short of expectations; the event was set to attract a lineup of international experts to discuss topics relating to project management and wellbeing. Fostering Wellbeing as a theme for the 8th round of the DIPMF was a perfect fit with the UAE's strategy to enrich the wellbeing of all community segments. It also reflects the keenness of the forum to embed the concepts and practices of wellbeing in the work environment and raise awareness of its importance, which helps enhance productivity and performance levels. With a lineup of speakers that hosted notable thought leaders like **Scott Ambler** Co-creator, Disciplined Agile Delivery & Consulting Methodologist, Ambysoft, **Galen Low** Co-Founder, The Digital Project Manager and **Ricardo Vargas, PhD** Global Leader in Project Management and Business Agility, attendees were guaranteed their money's and times worth. It's a no-brainer why attendees will decide to attend a seminar of this magnitude but some of the additional reasons for attending the session were;

"learning more about project management" - Huda

"networking, besides meeting PMI professionals I have the opportunity to meet individuals from within the region"

-Natalya (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/nataliya-wiedemeyer/>)

"I'm attracted to the lineup of speakers, to network and the overall experience of a forum"

-Abdul Saleem (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/saleempc/>)

I also enquired details about the speaking session and what stood out for each participant. Attendees interviewed had a diverse response on what stood out for them; the allure of sustainable projects – going beyond scope delivery and focusing on value, benefits as a key driver was one recurring message captured.

Wellbeing and the opportunities to look into the heads of their project teams mental health and not just the provision of deliverables caught the attention of Abdul Saleem

On the other hand, the groundbreaking research and technological advancement and discoveries from the singularity as detailed by **Peter Diamandis** Chairman and CEO of the 'X PRIZE' Foundation caught the attention of Natalya. With the World Cup recently concluded as one of the most captivating in recent years, it's no surprise that the revelation of how an event of such magnitude was planned and delivered would be of interest. As such, attendees had the privilege of listening to **H.E. Nasser Al-Khater**, Chief Executive Officer, FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 on Setting up the infrastructure of Qatar

Both Natalia and Abdul Saleem got close and personal with the world-renowned Author **Antonio Nieto-Rodriguez** and even got a signed copy of his book, The Project Revolution



Abdul Saleem and Antonio Rodriguez pose for a picture

There is the saying that all good things come to an end, but with conferences of this magnitude, their ending is the start of a new spark, insight, discovery and opportunity to channel their learning. So, when we asked Huda, Abdul Saleem and Natalya on what has transpired since their attending the esteemed conference, here is a synopsis of their response.

“I’m excited about the future I can achieve in project management and am encouraged to attend more conferences” – Huda

“My perspectives on focusing on the people side of delivery has been further enriched – I look forward to incorporating these lessons into GRAVITEAMS and accelerating team performance” - Natalya

“My perspective has changed; I now focus on value delivery and I am implementing my learning on the steps to ensuring sustainability of my outcomes” – Abdul Saleem

I could keep writing on the feedback, on the infrastructure, logistics and setup of the event, but while we anticipate the next event, here are a few useful links from the event.

DIPMF Home Page: <https://www.dipmf.ae/en/>

DIPMF Media Center: <https://www.dipmf.ae/en/media-center/>

About the Interviewer



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Obi Omoregie, MSc, PgMP®, PMP®, ACP®, IPMO-E, is an experienced PMO Leader and Program Manager, with more than a decade leading solution delivery in a diverse portfolio of organizations including the Nuclear Industry, Finance, Software and Manpower Services.

Graduating with a computer science degree from the prestigious Covenant University, Nigeria, he kicked off his career at Nigeria's Leading software house SystemSpecs before exploring opportunities within the UAE. Despite being accredited with multiple PMI® certifications such as certified Program Management Professional PgMP®, Project Management Professional® and an Agile certified Practitioner certificate ACP®, Obi maintains the need for individuals to develop and [pursue competence over earning certifications](#).

Obi currently Heads Project Management Competency development at the Middle-East's First Nuclear Power Plant, Nawah Energy Company, where he leads a multi-national team of certified project professionals in delivering competency-based project management development packages (trainings, mentoring, assessment, governance) that enable a culture of effective project and program delivery enterprise wide.

Obi is an active voice in providing thought leadership through his writings and public speaking sessions within the Project Management Community of Practice in the UAE and across the African continent where he leads a self-initiated coaching program in partnership with PMI® chapters.

When he is not engulfed in projects, you will find Obi in an outdoor physical activity as he frequently engages in hiking, cycling and snowboarding. He recently completed an 11hr, 309km endurance cycling ride across all 7 states in the UAE in a campaign to spread the message of physical fitness.

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