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# Practical Risk Analysis For Project Planning: A Hands-On Guide Using Excel (Practical Analytics)



**PRACTICAL  
RISK ANALYSIS  
FOR  
PROJECT PLANNING**  
A HANDS-ON GUIDE

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## Synopsis

Projects are investments of resources for achieving a particular objective or set of objectives. Resources include time, money, manpower, and sometimes lives. Objectives include financial gain, social and health benefits, national goals, educational and scientific achievements, and reduction of suffering, among many others. Projects are undertaken by large and small organizations, by governments, non-profit organizations, private businesses, and by individuals. Determining whether to execute a project, or which project to execute among a set of possibilities is often a challenge with high stakes. Assessing the potential outcomes of a project can therefore be detrimental, leading to the importance of making informative decisions. Practical Risk Analysis for Project Planning is a hands-on introduction to integrating numerical data and domain knowledge into popular spreadsheet software such as Microsoft Excel or Google Spreadsheets, to arrive at informed project-planning decisions. The focus of the book is on formalizing domain expertise into numerical data, providing tools for assessing potential project performance, and evaluating performance under realistic uncertainty. The book introduces basic principles for assessing potential project performance and risk under different scenarios, by addressing uncertainty that arises at different levels. It describes measures of expected performance and risk, presents approaches such as scenario building and Monte Carlo simulation for addressing uncertainty, and introduces methods for comparing competing projects and reducing risk via project portfolios. A companion website to the book is available at [www.RiskAnalysisBook.com](http://www.RiskAnalysisBook.com). No special software is required except Excel or another spreadsheet software. While the book assumes no knowledge of statistics, operations research, or management science, it does rely on basic familiarity with Excel. Chapter exercises and examples of real projects are aimed at hands-on learning.

## Book Information

File Size: 3793 KB

Print Length: 114 pages

Publisher: Axelrod Schnall Publishers; 1 edition (July 15, 2016)

Publication Date: July 15, 2016

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01IJGMZEU

Text-to-Speech: Not enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #543,276 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #82

in Kindle Books > Business & Money > Finance > Financial Risk Management #376 in Kindle Books >

Kindle eBooks > Business & Money > Management & Leadership > Project Management >

Business #881 in Kindle Books > Business & Money > Management & Leadership > Project

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I decided to give it a try when I read the title. It was a great good surprise! A simple but complete approach of the theme. Great for projects!

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