

Project Management

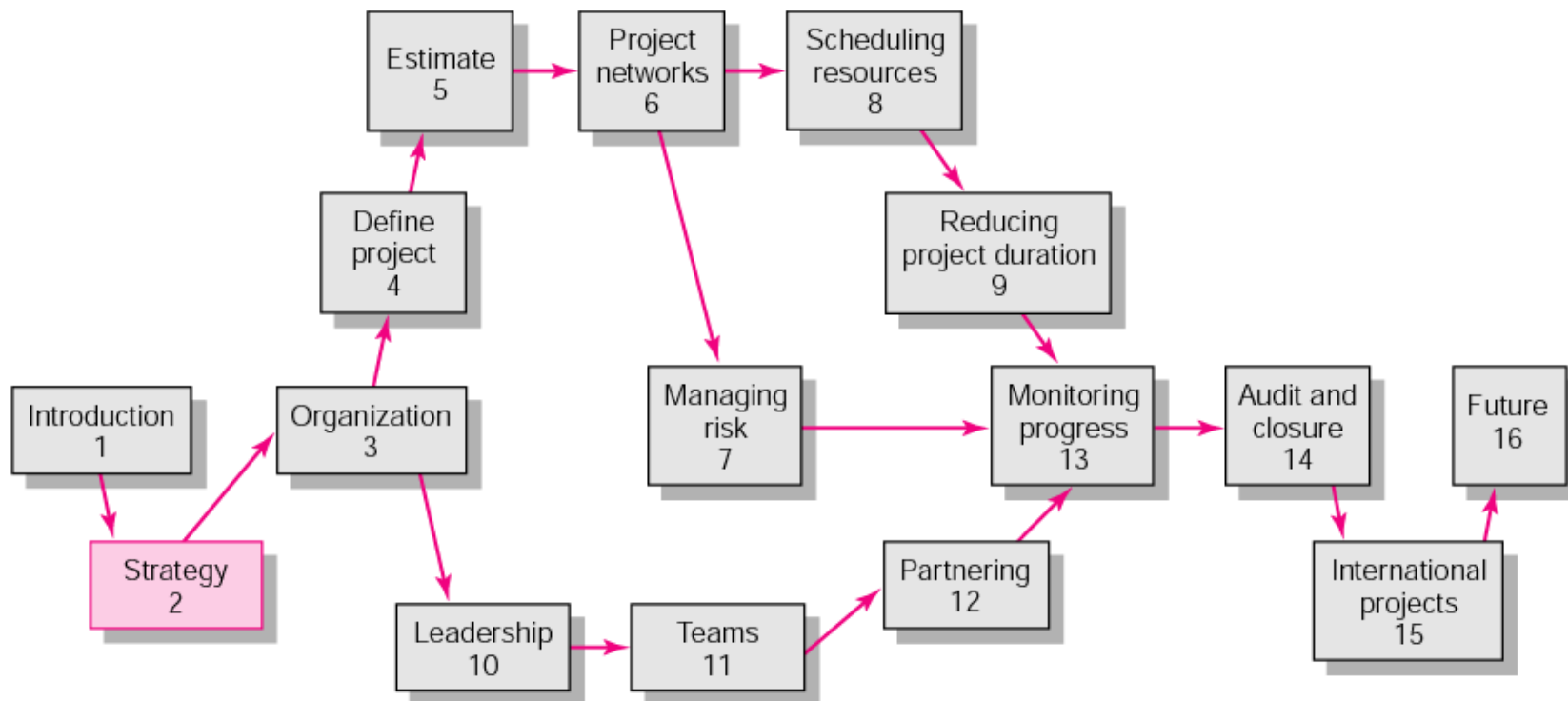
THE MANAGERIAL PROCESS

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Eric W. Larson
Third Edition



Chapter 2

Organization Strategy and Project Selection



Why Project Managers Need to Understand the Strategic Management Process

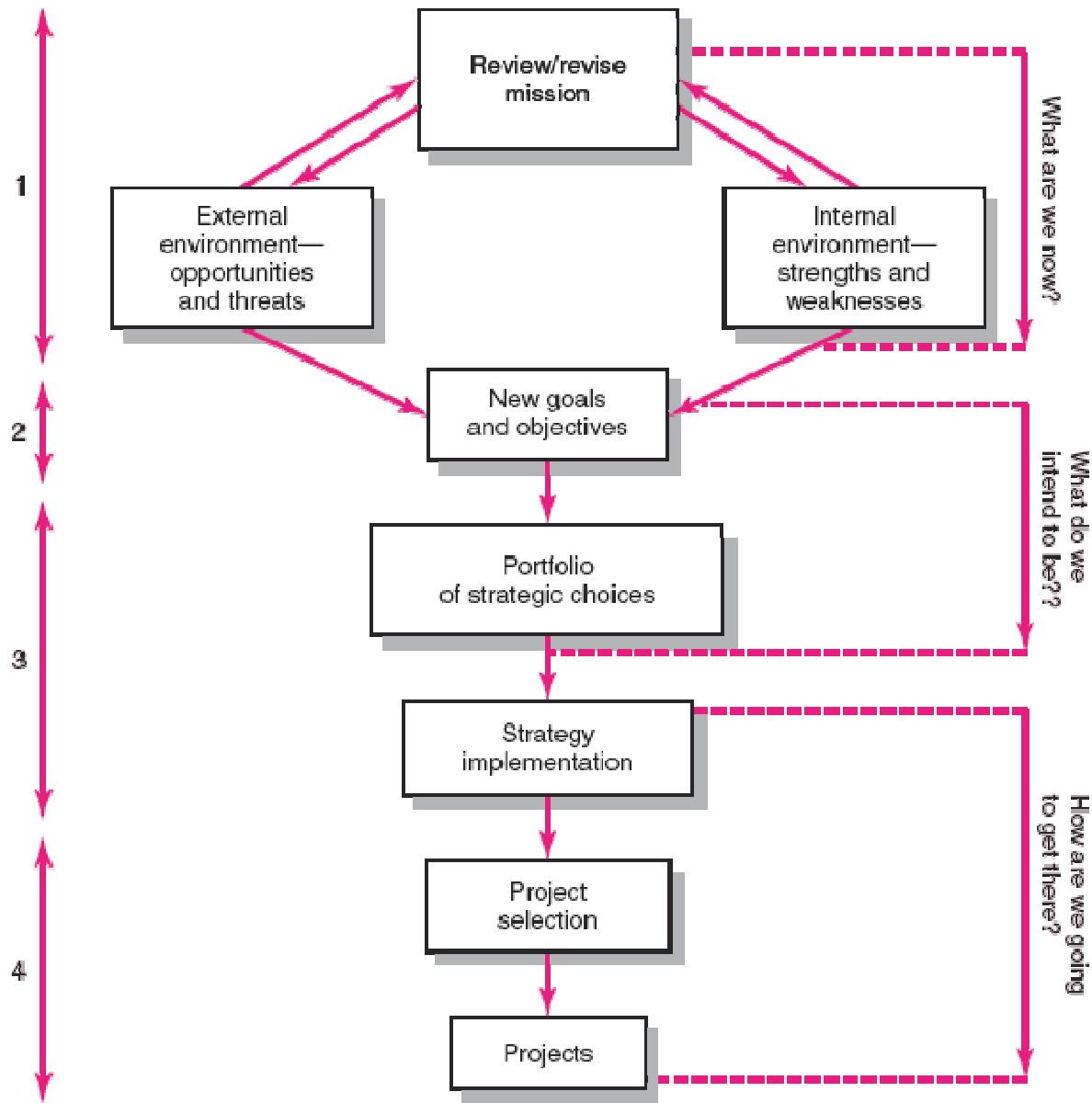
- Changes in the organization's mission and strategy
 - Project managers must respond to changes with appropriate decisions about future projects and adjustments to current projects.
 - Project managers who understand their organization's strategy can become effective advocates of projects aligned with the firm's mission.

The Strategic Management Process: An Overview

- Strategic Management
 - Provides the theme and focus of the future direction for the firm.
 - **Responding to changes** in the external environment—environmental scanning
 - **Allocating scarce resources** of the firm to improve its competitive position—internal responses to new action programs
 - Requires strong links among mission, goals, objectives, strategy, and implementation.

Strategic Management Process (cont'd)

- Four of Activities of the Strategic Management Process
 1. Review and define the organizational mission.
 2. Set long-range goals and objectives.
 3. Analyze and formulate strategies to reach objectives.
 4. Implement strategies through projects



Strategic Management Process

FIGURE 2.1

Characteristics of Objectives

- S Specific** Be specific in targeting an objective
- M Measurable** Establish a measurable indicator(s) of progress
- A Assignable** Make the objective assignable to one person for completion
- R Realistic** State what can realistically be done with available resources
- T Time related**

EXHIBIT 2.1

Project Portfolio Management Problems

- The Implementation Gap
 - The lack of understanding and consensus on strategy among top management and middle-level (functional) managers who independently implement the strategy.
- Organization Politics
 - Project selection is based on the persuasiveness and power of people advocating the projects.
- Resource Conflicts and Multitasking
 - The multiproject environment creates interdependency relationships of shared resources which results in the starting, stopping, and restarting projects.

Benefits of Project Portfolio Management

- Builds discipline into project selection process.
- Links project selection to strategic metrics.
- Prioritizes project proposals across a common set of criteria, rather than on politics or emotion.
- Allocates resources to projects that align with strategic direction.
- Balances risk across all projects.
- Justifies killing projects that do not support organization strategy.
- Improves communication and supports agreement on project goals.

EXHIBIT 2.2

Portfolio of Projects by Type

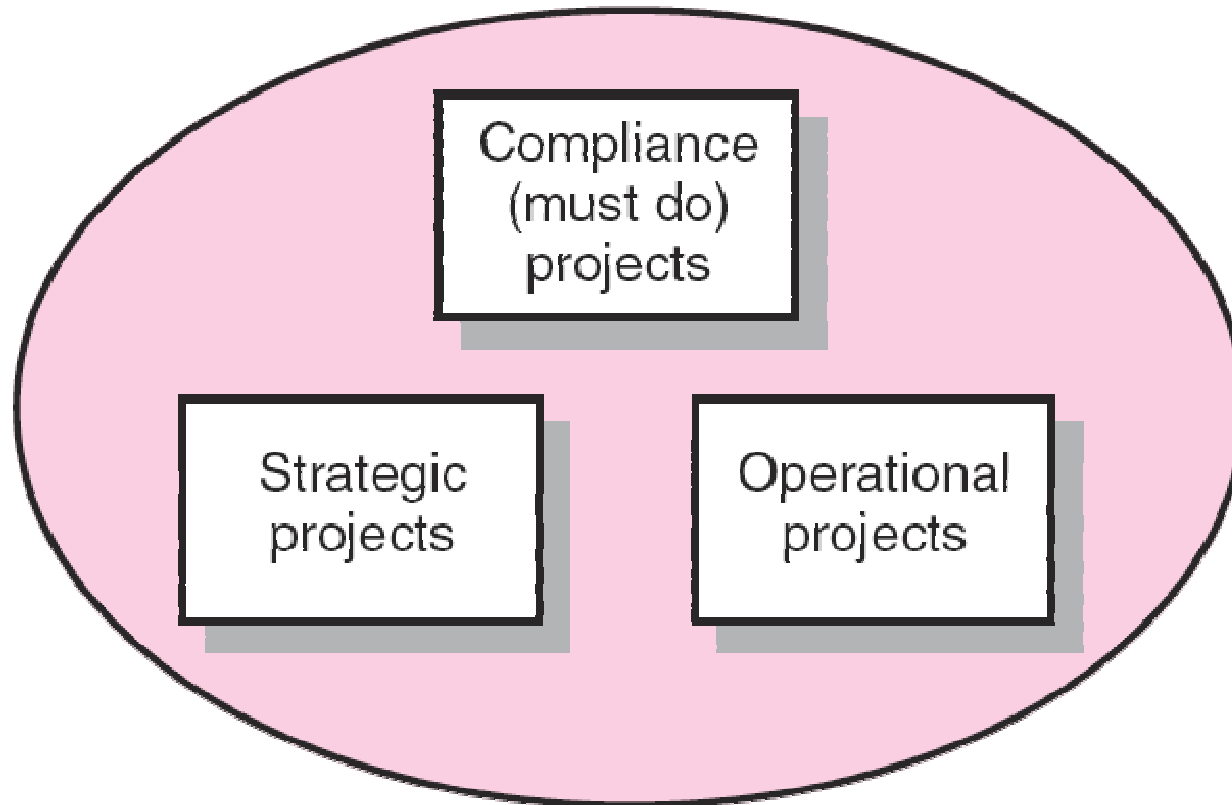


FIGURE 2.2

A Portfolio Management System

- Selection Criteria
 - **Financial:** payback, net present value (NPV), internal rate of return (IRR)
 - **Non-financial:** projects of strategic importance to the firm.
- Multi-Weighted Scoring Models
 - Use several weighted selection criteria to evaluate project proposals.

Financial Models

- The Payback Model

- Measures the time it will take to recover the project investment.

- Shorter paybacks are more desirable.

- Emphasizes cash flows, a key factor in business.

- Limitations of payback:

- Ignores the time value of money.

- Assumes cash inflows for the investment period (and not beyond).

- Does not consider profitability.

- Payback period (yrs) = Estimated Project Cost/Annual Saving

Financial Models (cont'd)

- The Net Present Value (NPV) model
 - Uses management's minimum desired rate-of-return (discount rate) to compute the present value of all net cash inflows.
 - Positive NPV: the project meets the minimum desired rate of return and is eligible for further consideration.
 - Negative NPV: project is rejected.

$$\text{Project NPV} = I_0 + \sum_{t=1}^n \frac{F_t}{(1+k)^t} \quad \text{where}$$

I_0 = Initial investment (since it is an outflow, the number will be negative)

F_t = net cash inflow for period t

k = required rate of return

Net Present Value (NPV) and Internal Rate of Return (IRR): Example Comparing Two Projects

| Project A | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Total | Formulas |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Required Rate of Return [*] | 20% | | | | | | |
| Outflows | (\$700,000) | | | | | (\$700,000) | |
| Inflows | \$225,000 | \$225,000 | \$225,000 | \$225,000 | \$225,000 | \$1,125,000 | Project A: =NPV(B6,C9:G9) |
| Net Inflows | (\$475,000) | \$225,000 | \$225,000 | \$225,000 | \$225,000 | \$425,000 | |
| NPV | \$89,554 | | | | | | |

| Project B | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Total | Formulas |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| Required Rate of Return | 20% | | | | | | |
| Outflows | (\$400,000) | | | | | (\$400,000) | |
| Cash Inflows | \$110,000 | \$110,000 | \$110,000 | \$110,000 | \$110,000 | \$550,000 | Project B: =NPV(B14,C17:G17) |
| Net inflows | (\$290,000) | \$110,000 | \$110,000 | \$110,000 | \$110,000 | \$150,000 | |
| NPV | -\$4,366 | | | | | | |

NPV comparison: Accept Project A—NPV is positive
Reject Project B—NPV is negative

| | Payback Method | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Project A | Project B | |
| Investment | \$700,000 | \$400,000 | Project A Payback: =(C32/C33) |
| Annual Savings | \$225,000 | \$110,000 | Project B Payback: =(E32/E33) |
| Payback Period* | 3.1 years | 3.6 years | |
| Rate of Return* | 32.1% | 27.5% | Project A: =(C33/C32) |
| | | | Project B: =(E33/E32) |

Project A: Accept, less than 5 years and exceeds 20% desired rate
Project B: Accept, less than 5 years

EXHIBIT 2.3

Project Screening Matrix

| Criteria Weight | Stay within core competencies | Strategic fit | Urgency | 25% of sales from new products | Reduce defects to less than 1% | Improve customer loyalty | ROI of 18% plus | Weighted total |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|---------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | 2.0 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 3.0 | |
| Project 1 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 5 | 66 |
| Project 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 27 |
| Project 3 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 56 |
| Project 4 | 3 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 32 |
| Project 5 | 1 | 10 | 5 | 10 | 0 | 8 | 9 | 102 |
| Project 6 | 6 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 55 |
| ⋮ | | | | | | | | |
| Project <i>n</i> | 5 | 5 | 7 | 0 | 10 | 10 | 8 | 83 |

FIGURE 2.3

Applying a Selection Model

- Project Classification

- Deciding how well a strategic or operations project fits the organization's strategy.

- Selecting a Model

- Applying a weighted scoring model to bring projects to closer with the organization's strategic goals.

- Reduces the number of wasteful projects
 - Helps identify proper goals for projects
 - Helps everyone involved understand how and why a project is selected

Project Proposals

- Sources and Solicitation of Project Proposals
 - Within the organization
 - Request for proposal (RFP) from external sources (contractors and vendors)
- Ranking Proposals and Selection of Projects
 - Prioritizing requires discipline, accountability, responsibility, constraints, reduced flexibility, and loss of power.
- Managing the Portfolio
 - Senior management input
 - The priority team (project office) responsibilities

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Date _____ | Number _____ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Project Title _____ Responsible Manager _____ Project Manager _____ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> _____</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> General support</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Quality</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Legal</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> New product</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> _____</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> _____</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Cost reduction</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Replacement</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Capacity</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> _____</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> _____</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> _____</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> _____</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> _____</td> </tr> </table> | | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> General support | <input type="checkbox"/> Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal | <input type="checkbox"/> New product | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Cost reduction | <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement | <input type="checkbox"/> Capacity | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> General support | <input type="checkbox"/> Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal | <input type="checkbox"/> New product | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Cost reduction | <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement | <input type="checkbox"/> Capacity | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> The project will take more than 500 labor hours? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> The project is a one-time effort? (will not occur on a regular basis) YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> The project proposal was reviewed by the product manager? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <div style="text-align: center;"><i>Problem definition</i></div> <p>Describe the problem/opportunity.</p> <hr/> <div style="text-align: center;"><i>Goal definition</i></div> <p>Describe the project goal.</p> <hr/> <div style="text-align: center;"><i>Objective definition</i></div> <p>Performance: Quantify the savings/benefits you expect from the project.</p> <p>Cost: Labor hours, materials, methods, equipment?</p> <p>Schedule: Overall duration in months.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Major Project Proposal

FIGURE 2.4A

| | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--|--|
| What are the three major risks for this project? | | | |
| 1. | | | |
| 2. | | | |
| 3. | | | |
| What is the probability of the above risks occurring? | 0 to 1.0 none high | Risk 1 above | |
| | | Risk 2 above | |
| | | Risk 3 above | |
| What is the impact on project success if these risks do occur? | 0 to 10 none high | Risk 1 above | |
| | | Risk 2 above | |
| | | Risk 3 above | |
| Resources available? _____ Yes _____ No | | | |
| Current project status | | | |
| Start date _____ Estimated finish date _____ | | | |
| Status: <input type="checkbox"/> Active <input type="checkbox"/> On hold | | | |
| Update: | | | |
| Priority team action: <input type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Returned | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discovery—project not defined | | <input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate to: _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Operational—proposal not a project | | Project # <input type="text"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Need more information—to prioritize project | | <input type="checkbox"/> Completed project | |

Risk Analysis

FIGURE 2.4B

Managing the Portfolio

- Senior Management Input
 - Provide guidance in selecting criteria that are aligned with the organization's goals
 - Decide how to balance available resources among current projects
- The Priority Team Responsibilities
 - Publish the priority of every project
 - Ensure that the project selection process is open and free of power politics.
 - Reassess the organization's goals and priorities
 - Evaluate the progress of current projects

Project Screening Process

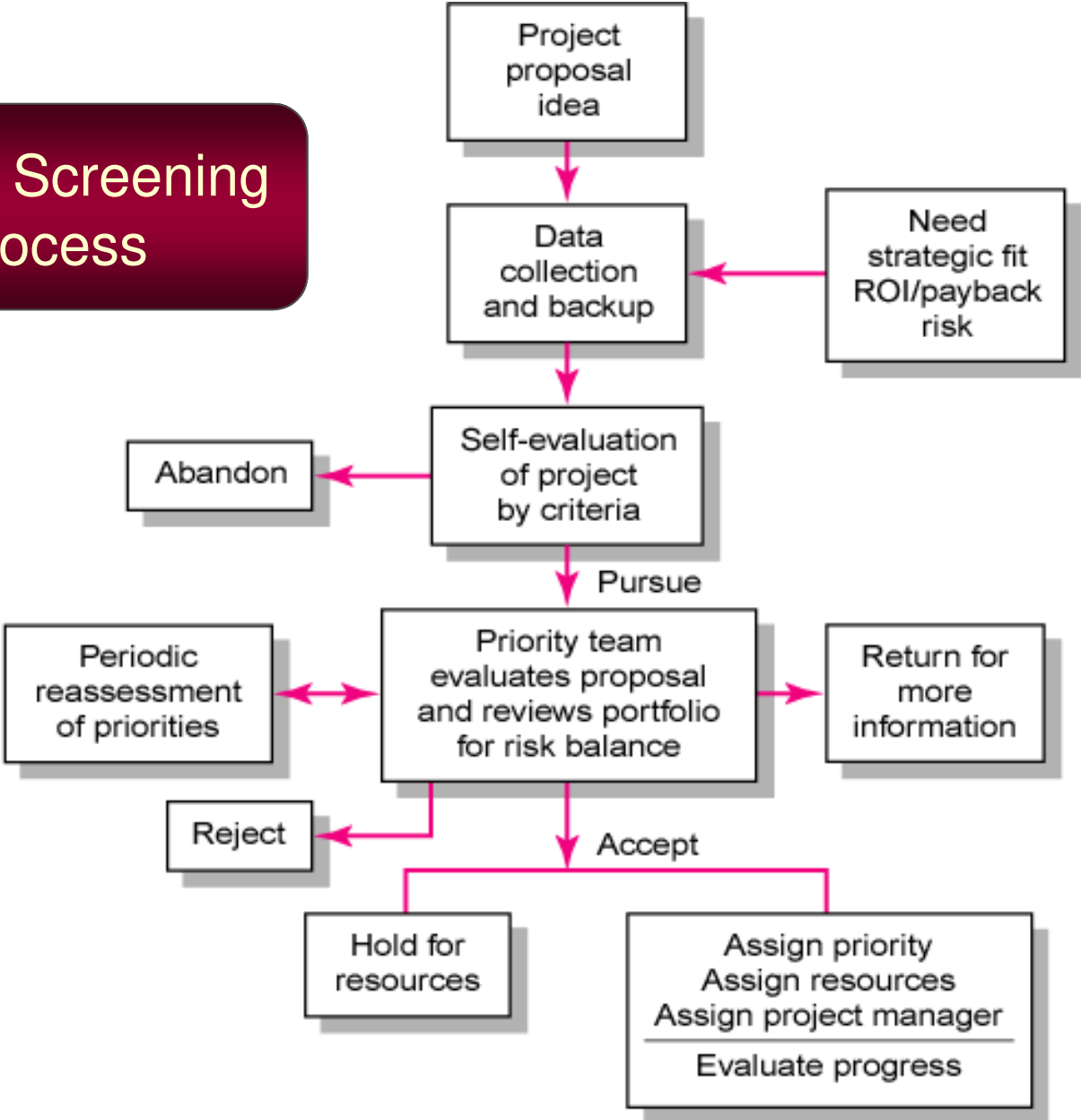


FIGURE 2.5

| | | Project number | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Must objectives | | Must meet if impacts | ...26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| All activities meet current legal, safety, and environmental standards | | Yes-Meets objective No-Does not meet obj N/A-No impact | n/a | | | |
| All new products will have a complete market analysis | | Yes-Meets objective No-Does not meet obj N/A-No impact | yes | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Want objectives | Relative Importance 1-100 | Single project impact definitions | Weighted score | Weighted score | Weighted score | Weighted score |
| Provides immediate response to field problems (30) | 99 | 0 ≤ Does not address ① = Opportunity to fix 2 ≥ Urgent problem | 99 | | | |
| Create \$5 million in new sales by 20xx (15) | 88 | ① < \$100,000 1 = \$100,000–500,000 2 > \$500,000 | 0 | | | |
| Improve external customer service (18) | 83 | 0 ≤ Minor impact 1 = Significant impact ② ≥ Major impact | 166 | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Total weighted score | | | | | | |
| Priority | | | | | | |

Priority Analysis

FIGURE 2.6

Project Portfolio Matrix

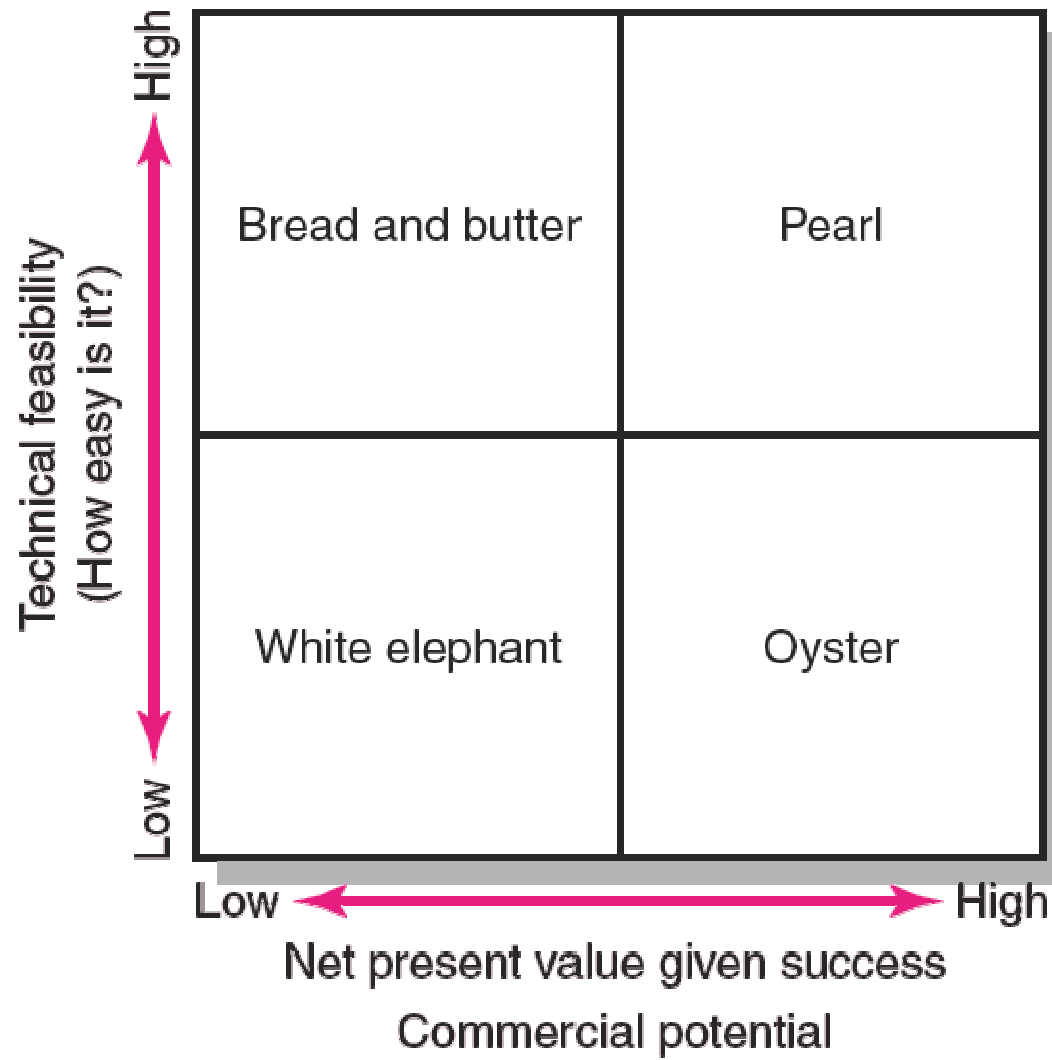


FIGURE 2.7

Project Portfolio Matrix Dimensions

- Bread-and-butter projects
 - Involve evolutionary improvements to current products and services.
- Pearls
 - Represent revolutionary commercial advances using proven technical advances.
- Oysters
 - Involve technological breakthroughs with high commercial payoffs.
- White elephants
 - Projects that at one time showed promise but are no longer viable.

Key Terms

Balanced scorecard

Implementation gap

Net present value

Payback

Organizational politics

Priority system

Priority team

Project portfolio

Project screening matrix

Sacred cow

Strategic management process