



# Benefits and challenges of benchmarking in Project Management

A hand in a white shirt sleeve points to a vertical stack of yellow blocks, each containing a letter of the word 'BENCHMARK' in black capital letters. The blocks are stacked from top to bottom: B, E, N, C, H, M, A, R, K.

# B E N C H M A R K

- the practice of studying the methods of an acknowledged leader in an industry as a way of setting standards for one's own operation
- a process of measuring your company's success against competitors to discover how to improve your performance

# Content



**Main findings**



**Main sources**



**Next steps**

# Main findings



- A systematic and continuous measurement process; a process of continuously measuring and comparing an organisation's business processes against business process leaders anywhere in the world to gain information which will help the organisation take action to improve its performance
- What can be benchmarked?
- Against whom it can be benchmarked?
- How to define metrics in benchmarking?
- What Project Management is and the responsibilities of a Project Manager



# Main findings



## ➤ Benefits:

- the continuous assessment of an operation's performance against that of its competitors
- the adoption of world-class practices to improve performance and competitive advantage and gain superiority
- the facilitation of breakthrough thinking by direct observation of what has been possible elsewhere

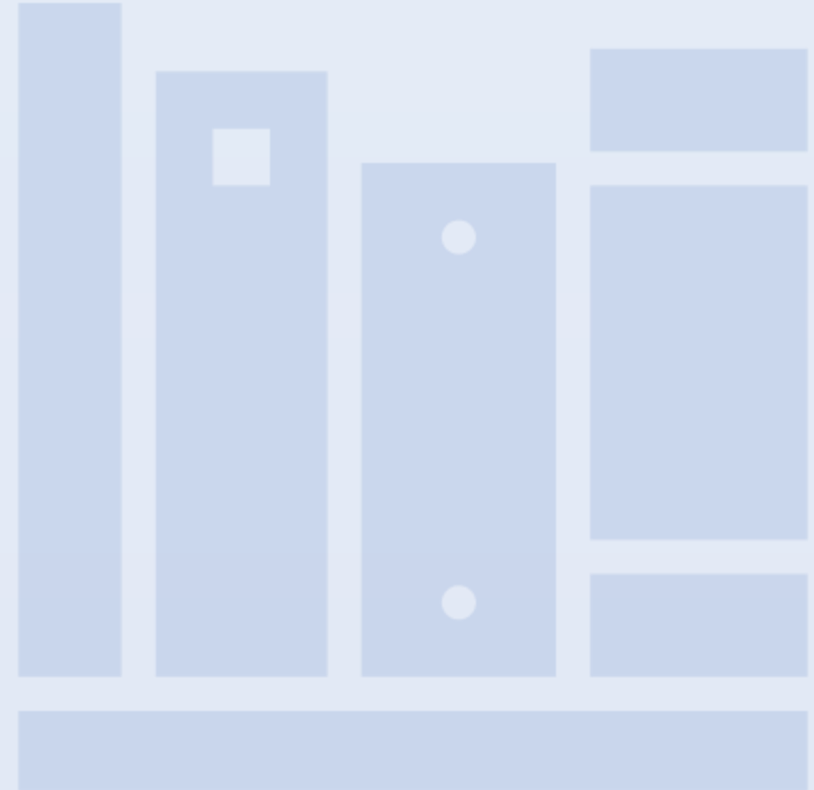
## ➤ Challenges:

- little commonality between projects -> separating between differences from the similarities is almost impossible
- the lack of an objective way to measure the subjective metrics of project management success
- the difficulty in determining the true causes of project performance

# Main sources



- Ajelabi I. & Tang Y. (2010). *The Adoption of Benchmarking Principles for Project Management Performance Improvement*. International Journal of Managing Public Sector Information and Communication Technologies (IJMPICT), Vol. 1, No. 2.
- ProjectManagement.com
- National Research Council. 2005. *Measuring Performance and Benchmarking Project Management at the Department of Energy*. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press.  
<https://doi.org/10.17226/11344>.
- Tabakova, V. (2015). *Is benchmarking an effective tool for improvement in project management?* Degree Project, in Project Management and Operational Development, Second Level Stockholm, Sweden 2014



# Next steps



- Write the paper – until **25/05**
- Make a presentation – until **31/05**
- Present my final work - **01/06**



Is benchmarking an useful tool  
for performance improvement?