

The Pattern of Concepts: Roles – Artifacts – Processes



We start our journey throughout **Lean Project Management** talking about the basis and norms that we must know and understand to ensure – as users of LPM – that our projects flow dynamically and effectively.

The pattern on which the LPM concepts are woven is as follows:

- **ROLES** – The concrete responsibilities to be assigned to the persons involved.
- **ARTIFACTS** – A collection of tools available for use while managing a project.
- **PROCESSES** – The management tasks and their respective timing cycles on which they must take place.

Does it sound familiar? Of course, we are not very original so far. It is the same as in traditional project management: roles, tools and methods. We immediately think about leader, technical expert, Microsoft Project, Gantt, PMI, A-SAP... More of the same old stuff!

True. LPM and the same old techniques are very similar... for now. However we can tell you that you can start forgetting about leaders and Gantt. Let's go on with setting up our starting point without becoming too dense and boring.

We say that Lean Project Management is a practical methodology, dynamic and effective, that allows us to see results in the short term. We even say it can be fun, which leads us to ask whether it must be fun. Well, let's say upfront that something that brings us so much must necessarily have its toll. **LPM mechanism is simple but it requires a strict discipline of use.** This does not imply at all that we are not serious when using more classical methodologies.

Last but not least, we must add that **LPM is an adaptive methodology**, meaning each company can adapt it to their type of projects and working culture, probably like you have been doing so far. Beware though. Once you have defined the LPM format you want to follow, you should be very rigorous in its application.

One more point addressed to the defenders of traditional project management techniques. The similarities between the agile and the traditional methodologies end here. From now on, both methodologies follow different paths. We warn you in case you want to get stuffed with antidotes!