

# Top Project Management Conferences

I am a big proponent of proactive career development. Professional training and conferences are a great way to stay current on industry and business trends, gather new ideas, and expand our networks of like-minded individuals from around the world.

Over the past year I have been assembling a list of the top Project Management conferences that we as project leaders should consider in order to grow our careers and knowledge. This is not the ultimate list, but it will provide you with plenty of new ideas. **Plan ahead and save the dates!**

Note: Text in **blue** font includes links to conference websites.

## January

**Deliver Conference** (January 2019) is based out of Manchester, UK and covers the full range of project execution methodologies. The sessions aim to help those who lead digital projects to learn and grow existing expert knowledge and be successful in their jobs and careers. In the end, it is all about delivering customer value.

## February

**Resource Planning Summit** (Feb 10-13, 2019, Nashville, TN) is advertised as the premier thought leadership event for promoting best practices in resource management, demand management, capacity planning, and portfolio management across industries.

**LearnFest Caribbean** (February 6-8, 2019, Kingston, Jamaica) is a fun and non-traditional development experience unfolded in a festive atmosphere. The objective of LearnFest is to provide project leaders with the knowledge and inspiration required to take action to develop themselves and their organizations in bold new ways. The event is underpinned by fun coupled with adult experiential learning techniques.

## March

**Passion for Projects** (March 2019, Stockholm, Sweden) is organized by the PMI Sweden Chapter and Scandinavia's largest project management conference. This year's theme has not yet been announced.

## April

**Change Management Conference** (April 28 - May 1, 2019, Orlando, Florida) is the annual meeting of the Association of Change Management Professions (ACMP). It brings together change

management professionals to share the latest business solutions, explore best practices and trends, and offers networking opportunities.

**International Scientific Conference on Project Management** (April 25 - 26, 2019, Riga, Latvia) is organized by the Research Institute of the Project Management of the Faculty of Business, Management and Economics, University of Latvia, in cooperation with the Professional Association of Project Managers. The aim of the conference is to discuss results of scientific research in project management issues and the sessions are conducted in English.

**PM Congress “ADAPT OR DIE”** (April 11-12, 2019, Delft, Netherlands) is organized by the Delft University of Technology and the PMI Netherlands Chapter. This year's theme is "Research Meets Practice: Towards Project Management 3.0" with the aim of building bridges between research and practical expertise.

**New Trends in Project Management** (April 2019, Gdańsk, Poland) is organized by PMI Gdańsk and focuses on the exchange project management knowledge and best practices in Poland and abroad.

## May

**APM Project Management Conference** (May 2, 2019, London, UK) will explore how the profession is *Delivering Value in a Transforming World*, and transitioning from a position of facilitation to influence. There are three streams of focus: adapting to develop your career, working smarter in your approach to projects and how to develop your performance.

**UMD Project Management Symposium** (May 9-10, 2019, College Park, Maryland) pulls together project managers from the Baltimore-Washington metro area, and abroad, for DC's premier PM symposium. The PM Symposium a great hub for scholars and practitioners to meet and share their latest technological/organizational achievement and cutting-edge vision.

**Global Scrum Gathering** (May 20-22, 2019, Austin, Texas) is organized by the Scrum Alliance and is organized around multiple themes, such as Champions of Agile, Community of Agile, Organizational Transformation, Scrum in Hard Places, Scrum Toolkit, Scrum in my Heart, and Scrum in Unusual Places.

**Agile & Beyond** (May 2019, Ypsilanti, Michigan) is a grassroots, volunteer-run conference that helps people learn about agile principles and practices, as well as covers topics that help make people and companies awesome. I attended and presented at AAB18 and found the conference and its sessions to be well-run and informative.

**PMI EMEA Congress** (May 13-15, 2019, Dublin, Ireland) is organized by the Project Management Institute and gathers project, program and portfolio managers from around the globe. They are there to discuss best practices, identify new trends and reinforce core industry skills. This year's theme is "Be a Champion of Change".

**HAPPYPROJECTS19** (May 23, 2019, Vienna, Austria) brings together project management practitioners and academic researchers to share information about new theoretical developments and best practices, as well as facilitate networking with participants of other companies and speakers. This year's team is "Reset".

## June

**Project Summit Business Analyst World** is a series of conferences for project managers and business analysts. Participants can earn up to 26 PDUs/CDUs and the sessions are accredited by both PMI and IIBA. PSBAW Conferences are held in Orlando (April), Toronto (June), Washington, DC (June), Vancouver (September) and Boston (October). The Toronto event has their largest attendance.

**Project Management in Practice** (June 14-18, 2019, Boston, MA) is organized by Boston University and covers a wide range of topics of interest to both academic and business professionals. The two-day conference is also available online, and PDUs are available for attending the sessions virtually.

**PMO Conference** (June 2019, London, UK) focuses on portfolio, program and project offices. Attendees will learn about the latest PMO research, discover new PMO ideas and techniques, and network and share with other like minded practitioners.

## August

**Agile2019** (August 5-9, 2019, Washington, DC) is dedicated to furthering Agile principles and providing a venue for people and ideas to flourish. The annual event is organized by Agile Alliance is touted as "where the Agile tribes meet".

**Women in Agile** (August 2019, Washington, DC) is half-day workshop that strives to expand as a community and continue supporting, cooperating, and compassionately including all underrepresented groups in the Agile community. This event has coincided with the Agile2018.

## September

**The Digital PM Summit** (September 2019, TBD) is organized by Bureau of Digital and brings together professionals who manage digital projects. The conference welcomes all methodologies and approaches, from Agile to waterfall and hybrid, offering new perspectives in a social networking-friendly environment.

**Baltic Project Management Days** (September 2019, TBD) is organized by the members of International Project Management Association in Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. Baltic PM Days is the central meeting point for project management professionals from the Baltic States, Nordic and other European countries. The 2018 event is being held in Tallinn, Estonia.

**PMO Impact Summit** (September, Virtual) is a multi-day virtual conference that has been planned to allow participants time to actually watch each presentation and to absorb the information. The conference brings together 35+ top industry experts to share their knowledge and experience around PMOs.

**PMI Netherlands Summit** (September 19, 2019, TBD) is organized by CKC Seminars and the PMI Netherlands Chapter. The 2019 summit will be the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the annual event that gathers top experts in the areas of project, program and portfolio management.

## October

**PMI Global Conference** (October 2019, TBD) is organized by the Project Management Institute and is the preeminent professional conference for project managers world-wide. The event focuses on the evolving role of project management, this conference is open to project, program and portfolio professionals and will discuss new ideas and approaches, while giving participants the opportunity to make new relationships and strengthen existing ones.

**Australian Institute of Project Management National Conference** (October 2019, TBD) is the premier event for the project management profession in Australia. The annual conference is the platform for project leaders, both established and up-and-coming, to gain knowledge and share experiences on a range of areas that impact the management of projects today and in the future.

**FuturePMO** (October 2019, London) is 1-day PMO conference for practitioners at all levels. It is organized and run by Wellington Project Management, a leading PPM consultancy from the UK. The 2018 PMO Global Awards will be presented at this year's FuturePMO conference in London.

## November

**PMO Symposium** (November 2019, TBD) is organized by the Project Management Institute and provides participants access to executive-level networking, workshops and discussions. Participants will come away with insights that can be used to build resilient PMOs.

**International Project Management Day** (November 1, Virtual) is organized by the International Institute for Learning. IPM Day is an online conference that brings together professionals from around the world who are passionate about change, our future, and the important role of those in the project management profession. IPM Day is always on the first Thursday in November.

Again, this is not an exhaustive list. Whichever conference you decide to attend next year, and whatever the lessons learned, you will know that you can face the future of project management with confidence when you are equipped with the right tools for the job. Keep learning and growing!

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