

Inixia Resource Materials: Transformation Mgt

Project Implementation: Agile vs Waterfall

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When to use **AGILE** vs **WATERFALL**

Agile

Projects with factors like :

- Unclear requirements/deliverables
- Level of participation/input and buy-in from stakeholders
- Cost of change is minimal
- Emphasis on teamwork, transparency and continuous improvement

Typical Industry fit :

- Technology-based & new product development projects often run as agile.
- Work that benefits from transparency, frequent validation and adaptation; stakeholders can assess and re-prioritize as needed.

Waterfall

Projects with factors like :

- Certainty, or stability, of requirements/deliverables (and lack of flexibility from stakeholders)
- Strict budget or timeline constraints (cost of change is high)
- Part of a program/portfolio where projects have interdependencies and risks
- Compliance and regulatory requirements

Typical Industry fit :

- o compliance heavy fields such as medical, aviation and food processing often require waterfall methods to adhere to regulations.
- o work more sequential and linear in their nature, such as city planning and construction

The Professional GBS™ Model



Waterfall vs Agile methodologies

Traditional project management

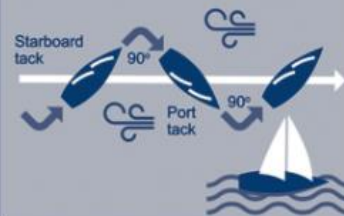
- Define target
- 'Take aim'
- Launch
- Hope (the target doesn't move)



Agile project management

- Vision
- Start in broad direction
- Learn/adapt to conditions
- Home in on target incrementally

Hybrid



Source: Directing Agile Change

If you use hybrid approaches within a single project, use agile methods for unclear parts of the project while using traditional methods for the clearer parts.

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