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PMI Indonesia Chapter Surabaya Branch successfully held the fifth session of CollabPM, featuring the theme "From Plan to Impact: How Projects Create Real Value." The session aimed to strengthen participants' understanding of how projects move beyond delivering outputs to generating measurable benefits and long-term value for stakeholders.



We had one offline PRANKS session in December 2025 at the Multimatic Office, AXA Tower, 37th Floor, Kuningan, South Jakarta, and in case you missed it, we featured a report of The Event.

On behalf of the board of editors I would like to thank the contributors of this edition and everyone who has supported in the preparation of this newsletter. I hope you enjoy reading this edition.

**Rafi Sani Hardono, PMP**

Editor in Chief



## Turning Skills Into Service: How Project Managers Can Transform Nonprofits

Nonprofits fail for reasons most outsiders don't see. It's rarely a lack of passion or commitment. Volunteers show up, leaders care, and donors give.

Yet despite the goodwill and good intentions, many organizations struggle to execute effectively. Events spiral into chaos and feel unprofessional, and aspirational targets get missed. The missing ingredient isn't money or heart, or even effort—it is usually structure. It's the kind of operational rigor that makes good intentions turn into measurable impact.

Project managers know this world well, though in a different context. We've lived through the chaos of under-resourced teams, unclear priorities, and misaligned stakeholders. We've built order out of complexity, created repeatable processes, and learned to deliver results despite seemingly impossible constraints. These aren't just professional skills; they're tools with immense value when applied beyond the corporate walls.

When PMs lend their expertise to nonprofits, they don't just volunteer; they amplify the organization's reach and effectiveness. A single person who understands strategy, planning and execution can transform the way a team operates, turning scattered effort into coordinated action.

Importantly, this isn't about taking over or "fixing" a nonprofit; it's about empowering it, leaving it stronger,

more sustainable, and better equipped to fulfill its mission.

The question isn't whether PMs can make a difference. The question is how, and how much impact a single, well-positioned professional can create when they turn their skills into service.

### [Why Nonprofits Need Project Management More Than They Realize](#)

Most nonprofits operate with a level of complexity that would overwhelm many corporate teams. They rely on volunteers with inconsistent availability, leaders who wear four or five hats at once, and funding that fluctuates from month to month (or even week to week.)

Despite these challenges, many still try to plan programs, run events, manage partners, communicate with donors, coordinate outreach, work with the media and report on impact. The mission is noble, but the operational load is enormous.

Because resources are tight, planning often becomes reactive. Teams don't have the luxury of long-term roadmaps or detailed capacity forecasts, even if they had the data to build them. Work gets prioritized in the moment, often by whoever is loudest or most stressed. Documentation barely exists, processes evolve through tribal knowledge, and tools are chosen because they're cheap (or free!)—not because they scale. When everything depends on the heroic efforts of a few

overextended leaders, burnout becomes a constant threat.

This is where project managers bring outsized value. PMs are trained to cut through noise, clarify priorities, and create structure in environments where structure is missing. They understand how to break down big goals into workable steps, facilitate conversations that lead to alignment, and establish repeatable rhythms that reduce chaos. These skills don't just improve execution, they protect the energy of the people who keep the nonprofit running.

Many nonprofits think they need "more hands." What they actually need is orchestration to make better use of the hands they already have. They need someone who can help them move from busy to effective. A project manager can walk into a room full of passionate people and give them a path forward that feels achievable, coordinated, and sustainable.

When nonprofits gain that kind of clarity, everything improves. Volunteers become more productive, leaders regain bandwidth, and donors start to see results. The mission gains the momentum it deserves, and the output matches the passion levels of the people providing the inputs.

### **The "Force Multiplier" Effect: What PMs Bring That Ordinary Volunteers Can't**

Most volunteers contribute effort, but project managers are able to contribute coordination.

The distinction matters. Nonprofits often run on goodwill, but goodwill without coordination leads to duplicated work, missed handoffs, and unnecessary rework. A PM steps in and turns scattered effort into aligned movement, unlocking productivity the organization didn't know it had.

1. The first contribution is **clarity**. Many nonprofit projects start with broad intentions: "run a fundraiser," "increase outreach," "feed more families." But vague goals create vague execution (sound familiar?). A PM forces definition: What does success look like? What's the target? Who owns which part? That alone can save weeks of drift.
2. The second contribution is **structured execution**. PMs understand how to map dependencies, set realistic timelines, surface risks, and create accountability. They turn "we need to do this" into "here's how we'll get it done." When everyone sees the plan, confidence rises and confusion drops.
3. Third, PMs create **operational consistency**. They build templates, checklists, workflows, and simple



processes that hold up even when volunteers rotate or leaders change roles. A good PM leaves behind systems and mechanisms that outlast them, shifting the nonprofit from hero-driven to process-driven.

4. And finally, PMs excel in **communication alignment**. They translate across roles, among directors, volunteers, vendors, partners, the media, paid employees and donors. Miscommunication is one of the biggest drains on nonprofit energy. A PM reduces that drag immediately.

This is the force multiplier effect—one project manager can raise the output of an entire organization. Picture a chaotic annual fundraiser transformed into a predictable, scalable event. Or a volunteer onboarding process rebuilt so new people contribute within days instead of months. Or a program team that can finally track progress and adjust with intention.

A PM doesn't need to run the nonprofit to create impact (and of course, they probably shouldn't!). They simply make everyone around them more effective. That's the power ordinary volunteering rarely achieves.

### **Practical Ways PMs Can Contribute Immediately**

Nonprofits often don't need complex transformations. They need targeted support that removes friction and builds sustainable momentum. Project managers can deliver that value quickly, even with limited time expenditure..

The key is to focus on contributions that create leverage rather than adding another pair of hands:

1. **The one-day audit:** A fast, high-impact option. Spend a few hours observing how work flows through the organization, such as how events are planned, how requests come in, how decisions get made. Then deliver a short, actionable brief outlining bottlenecks, communication gaps, and two or three improvements that offer immediate relief. It's simple, low risk, and often eye opening for nonprofit leaders.
2. **Project rescue:** Many nonprofits have an in-flight project that is behind schedule, understaffed,

or stuck in planning limbo. A PM can step in, reset expectations, rebuild the plan, and get the team moving again. It doesn't require long-term involvement; just a few structured working sessions to redirect momentum.

- 3. Capacity building:** One of the highest-value contributions is creating lightweight operational tools (for example: event templates, intake forms, simple roadmaps, volunteer checklists, risk logs, or a basic dashboard for tracking program outcomes). These assets reduce cognitive load, speed up onboarding, and shrink the gap between ideas and action.
- 4. Volunteer coordination support:** Introducing a predictable cadence that all project managers recognize—like weekly planning, a brief sync, or a retrospective—can transform how volunteers collaborate. Even a small dose of rhythm gives teams consistency and makes work feel manageable instead of ad hoc.

Across all of these options, the strategy is the same: create structure they can sustain without you. Effective PM philanthropy isn't about becoming indispensable. It's about leaving behind systems that enable the mission to run smoothly long after you step away.

#### PM Impact in Action

A personal example of PM impact came when I volunteered for my kid's school auction, which was meant to fund after-school programs.

By the time I joined, the event was six weeks away and everything was in disarray. No one knew which vendors had confirmed; the donation list lived in three different spreadsheets; half the volunteers thought the event started at six, the other half thought seven; and no one had a clue how to sell tickets...or even if tickets needed to be sold in the first place. The principal and the school secretary were trying to coordinate everything themselves, working late nights just to keep up.

I didn't do anything heroic, or even all that special. I gathered everyone for a 30-minute alignment meeting. We defined the final goal, assigned owners, and built a simple one-page timeline. I consolidated the spreadsheets, created a single communication thread, and set up two quick check-ins per week.

Within days, the chaos settled. Volunteers finally knew what to do, our vendors got answers and got paid, the principal and the secretary could breathe again. And our auction raised more money than any previous year.

#### The Mutual Benefit: How Philanthropy Makes PMs Better Leaders

Supporting a nonprofit isn't just an act of service. It sharpens the core skills that make project managers effective, and lets PMs get better at skills they may not get to use on a daily basis.

When you step into an environment with limited funding, rotating volunteers, and minimal process, you learn to operate within constraints and with precision. Every decision matters, and every conversation requires clarity. You stop relying on formal authority (because none exists) and start leading through influence, patience and empathy.

Working in these settings also expands your perspective. You navigate stakeholders who are motivated by passion rather than KPIs and OKRs. You learn to communicate across different cultures, comfort levels, and working styles. Constraints force creativity while ambiguity becomes normal. And you develop a deeper appreciation for the human side of delivery, the emotional labor that keeps teams moving even when resources are thin.

These experiences translate directly back into the workplace. You become more adaptable, more empathetic, and more confident guiding teams through complexity. Philanthropy doesn't just help the community, it helps you grow into a more resilient, strategically minded leader who understands what it takes to deliver impact under real pressure.

#### Why Your Expertise Matters More Than Your Time

Nonprofits don't need louder urgency or longer hours; they need clarity and structure. They need someone who can turn a mission into a plan, and scattered effort into coordinated progress.

That's where project managers can create real, lasting impact. A single PM can stabilize programs, elevate volunteer capacity, and give leaders the space to focus on what matters most—serving their community and being mission focused.

The ripple effect is enormous. Better planning leads to better events. Better communication leads to better donor relationships. Better systems lead to stronger, more resilient organizations that can make a measurable difference year after year.

For project managers looking to give back, the opportunity is far bigger than helping with tasks. You can shape how a nonprofit operates, multiply its impact, and grow as a leader in the process. Use the skills you've spent years building to create progress that lasts.

#### The takeaways:

- **PM skills amplify impact.** Project managers don't

just contribute effort, they bring structure, clarity, and coordination, multiplying the effectiveness of nonprofit teams.

- **Nonprofits need better orchestration, not just more hands.** Clear priorities, repeatable processes, and aligned communication often solve more problems than additional volunteers.
- **Small interventions create big results.** One-day audits, project rescues, and lightweight (or free) operational tools can stabilize programs and accelerate outcomes.
- **Volunteering builds leaders.** Working in resource-constrained, ambiguous environments strengthens stakeholder management, adaptability, and strategic decision-making for PMs.

Sustainable change matters most. The goal of PM philanthropy is leaving behind systems and processes that enable nonprofits to operate more effectively long after the volunteer role ends.



**Bart Gerardi**

Bart has been in ecommerce for over 20 years, and can't imagine a better job to have. He is interested in all things agile, or anything new to learn.

**Arisman Indrawan, PMP**  
**Vice President Marketing**



Arisman is an experienced project manager in the petrochemical and cement industry, with experience in project risk and insurance management for big construction projects.

Arisman is a seasoned volunteer with the Chapter having served as Chapter President and Regional Mentor, and continues to contribute to the chapter's success. He holds a Masters' Degree in Project Management from the University of Indonesia.

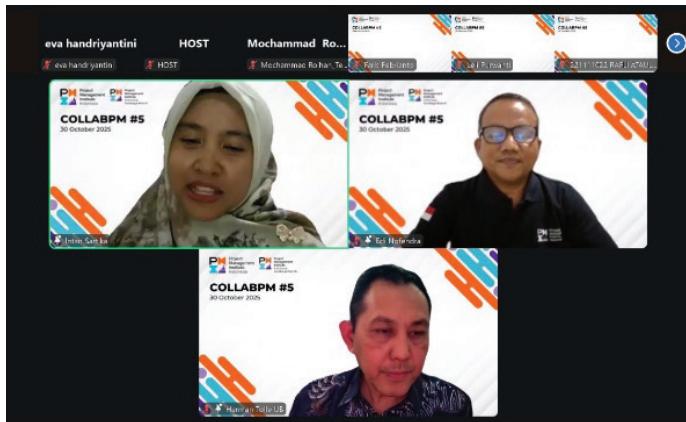


# COLLABPM#5 WEBINAR:

## FROM PLAN TO IMPACT - HOW PROJECTS CREATE REAL VALUE

**PMI Indonesia Chapter Surabaya Branch x FILKOM Universitas Brawijaya**

30 October 2025



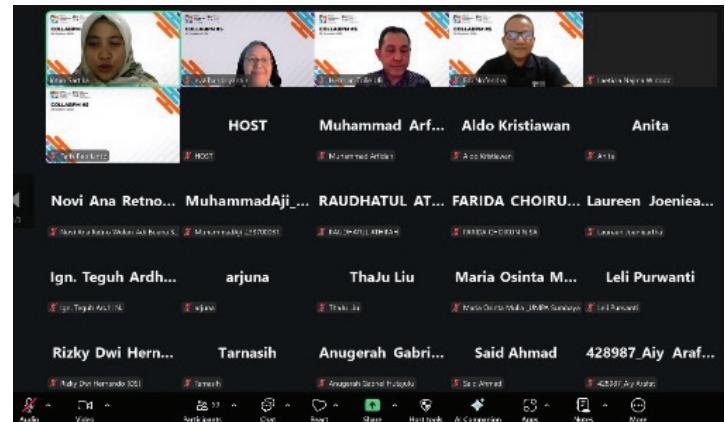
PMI Indonesia Chapter Surabaya Branch successfully held the fifth session of **CollabPM**, featuring the theme **“From Plan to Impact: How Projects Create Real Value.”** The session aimed to strengthen participants’ understanding of how projects move beyond delivering outputs to generating measurable benefits and long-term value for stakeholders.

The event featured two distinguished speakers: **Edi Nofendra, ST., PMP., PMI-RMP., PgMP**  
Construction Assistant Manager – PT Pertamina EP Zone 7

Mr. Nofendra presented insights on **Strategic Execution and Value Delivery**, emphasizing the importance of aligning organizational strategy with program and project outcomes. He highlighted the role of **program management**, supported by integration management, change management, and benefits management, in ensuring that project outputs translate into meaningful value.

Using a case study on inclusive river-tourism development, he illustrated how project deliverables connect to outcomes, benefits, and ultimately sustainable socio-economic value creation.

**Dr.Eng. In. Herman Tolle, S.T., M.T.**  
Expert Staff to the Vice Rector for Academic Affairs – Universitas Brawijaya



Dr. Tolle discussed how **Human-Centered Design, Design Thinking, and User Journey Mapping** enrich the PMBOK 7th Edition’s value-based project approach. He emphasized that value is not produced at project closure, but at the moment users adopt and benefit from the solution.

A university-level digital learning transformation case demonstrated how integrating PMBOK with user-centered design resulted in improved learning access, increased adoption of digital teaching, and reduced administrative workload.

### Participant Engagement and Outcomes

The session drew participants from universities, industries, and professional communities. The interactive discussion highlighted shared challenges in ensuring value realization and underlined the importance of collaborative learning within Indonesia’s project management ecosystem.

### Closing

PMI Indonesia Chapter Surabaya Branch extends its appreciation to all speakers, participants, and partners for their contribution to the success of CollabPM#5. The Chapter remains committed to advancing project management capabilities and fostering a culture of continuous professional development.

# Bringing PMBOK® Guide Eighth Edition to Life



PRANKS 125 marked a special moment for the PMI Indonesia Chapter community. Unlike many previous sessions, this edition was held face-to-face, creating a refreshing and energetic atmosphere that many participants had been looking forward to. The event took place on a bright Saturday morning at the Multimatic Office, AXA Tower, 37th Floor, Kuningan, South Jakarta, starting at 9:00 a.m. With Jakarta's skyline as the backdrop, the setting felt both professional and inspiring.

The session officially opened at 9:15 a.m. by Raisyuli Indria, VP Program of PMI Indonesia Chapter. In his opening remarks, Raisyuli shared an overview of the chapter profile, highlighting PMI Indonesia Chapter's ongoing commitment to learning, knowledge sharing, and community building. His warm and structured introduction set the tone for the day and reminded everyone why PRANKS continues to be a valuable platform for project management professionals.

The event then smoothly transitioned to Ewiranti Ayang, Board Member of Program, who served as the moderator. She opened the session in a friendly and engaging way starting with a light-hearted pantun that immediately lifted the mood in the room. Laughter and smiles quickly replaced the usual Saturday morning

stiffness, making participants feel relaxed, connected, and ready to learn.

One of the highlights of PRANKS 125 was the presence of Arief Prasetyo, who is currently home-based in London. Arief is not only a respected practitioner but also a core development contributor to the PMBOK® Guide Eighth Edition. Coincidentally, he was visiting Jakarta at the time to meet family and relatives. Despite his busy schedule, Arief generously agreed to share his experience and insights with the PMI Indonesia Chapter community—making this session feel both exclusive and personal.

The theme of PRANKS 125, "PMBOK® Guide Eighth Edition: A More Relevant and Value-Driven Approach," could not have been timelier. In his session, Arief explained how PMBOK 8 represents a meaningful evolution in project management thinking. While earlier editions focused heavily on processes, tools, and documentation, PMBOK 8 shifts the conversation toward value—placing it at the center of every project decision.

Arief emphasized that project success is no longer defined solely by finishing on time or staying within budget. Instead, success is measured by how well a project delivers real benefits to stakeholders. Value, he explained, is experienced differently by different people. What looks successful to management may feel incomplete to users, and what satisfies customers may not always align with internal teams. This reality makes early alignment and continuous dialogue more important than ever.

To support this shift, PMBOK 8 is structured into two main parts. The first is The Standard for Project Management, which introduces foundational concepts such as the system for value delivery, project management principles, and project life cycles. This section helps practitioners understand why projects exist and what value they are meant to create, rather than jumping straight into execution.

The second part, The PMBOK® Guide, provides practical guidance on how those concepts are applied



in real projects. It introduces performance domains, processes, tools, techniques, and most importantly tailoring. Arief stressed that PMBOK 8 does not promote a “one-size-fits-all” approach. Instead, it encourages project managers to adapt the framework to their specific environment, organizational culture, and project complexity.

A key takeaway from the session was that project success is relative and dynamic. Stakeholders learn as the project progresses, priorities evolve, and definitions of success can change. PMBOK 8 acknowledges this reality and challenges project managers to treat success criteria as living targets, not fixed assumptions.

Beyond structure and content, PMBOK 8 places strong emphasis on the behavior and mindset of project managers. Principles such as integrity, collaboration, accountable leadership, focus on quality, and sustainability are no longer optional ideals—they are essential capabilities. Arief shared real-world examples showing how these principles are often tested not when things go smoothly, but when problems emerge

and tough decisions must be made.

The guide also introduces eight key performance domains, including governance, scope, schedule, finance, stakeholders, resources, and risk. These domains help project managers see projects holistically, understanding how decisions in one area can directly impact others.

As the session concluded, one message stood out clearly: PMBOK® Guide Eighth Edition is not about adding more rules it is about making project management more human, adaptive, and meaningful. It invites practitioners to move beyond compliance, focus on value, and lead projects with purpose.

PRANKS 125 successfully delivered not just knowledge, but perspective leaving participants inspired, thoughtful, and better equipped to navigate the evolving world of project management.

**Raisyuli Indria**  
Vice President Program

