

Considerations for an Agile Approach to a Project

Consider using an Agile approach to a project when...

Note: the following checklist does not address considerations for project communications or project throughput (efficiency).

Value to Stakeholders

- An incomplete project objective provides value to stakeholders
- Stakeholder value can be delivered incrementally
- Difficult to predict how long it will take to produce something of value to stakeholders

Requirements

- Requirements may evolve during the project
- Requirements cannot be defined early
- Mid-level solution requirements can be prioritized

Project Objectives

- One or more project objectives of this type have never been done before
- There is some ambiguity around what objectives will yield value
- It's unclear what deliverables or solution capabilities will actually achieve an objective
- One (or more) project objectives is exploratory

Development Process

- Early results (products or processes) can inform later project work
- A partial but functional solution must be delivered quickly
- A few essential activities take considerable calendar time relative to the time constraints on the whole project

Risk

- Risk of misinterpreting the requirements is high
- A significant dimension of quality is subjective, in the eye of the sponsor and users of the finished product
- Consequence of budget or schedule overrun is significant
- Significant rework of intermediate and finished work is likely to be unavoidable
- Project funding is available only in increments