IT planning & portfolio management

Alfabet

Fact Sheet

Ensure IT powers business success

Increase IT investment returns and reduce transformational risks by understanding when, where how and why to make changes in the IT portfolio.

Key benefits

- Align IT portfolios to business strategy, required capabilities and requested demands
- Manage changes to IT portfolios in a consistent and transparent manner
- Expose dependencies and impacts between different IT portfolios–current and future
- Provide relevant stakeholders with a collaborative planning platform

Features

- Cross-portfolio analytics for a high-level view of how the various IT portfolios—application, project, technology, demand—interrelate
- Collaborative planning facilitated through road mapping, stakeholder-oriented views and reporting
- Process workflows to ensure alignment to policies and timelines to maintain governance and keep IT up-to-speed in the demand and portfolio processes
- Portfolio assessment according to any number of indicators to base portfolio decisions on the value, cost and risk across a number of possible IT investment alternatives
- Future-state planning and change management including on-demand generation of views of the IT landscape for any desired date or timeframe

Stakeholder support

- Use automated assistants and chatbots to help users find information efficiently and easily perform tasks such as creating and editing objects
- Let users explore and understand which aspects of the IT portfolio may need attention using modern AI technology for discovery and analysis
- Ease product adoption and usage in multinational environments by using machine translation engines to automatically translate user interface texts

Portfolio governance

- Create manageable portfolios that show clear responsibility for capturing information, for assessing portfolios, and for decision-making
- Implement standard business portfolios—for example, along business capability or organizational responsibility—and create ad-hoc portfolios as needed
- Use workflows and monitors to ensure that all required information is available and assessed before decisions are made and to make approval decisions transparent and auditableg

Data capture and maintenance

- Use Alfabet's integrations with other systems of record to maintain a complete, accurate and up-to-date repository
- Use templates, wizards, workflows and surveys to capture data, ensuring the IT landscape is documented with a consistent quality and categorized according to corporate conventions

Application portfolio management

Application inventory

- Capture the business, technology, information and functional perspectives as they relate to applications

Portfolio assessments

- Analyze the application portfolio alongmultiple dimensions, such as cost, risk, usage, technology health and business fit
- Add new information attributes "on the fly" to perform ad-hoc application assessments
- Equip technology owners with application lifecycle reports to align their technology support plans and to understand application roadmap impacts

Demand management

Demand inventory

- Provide all IT stakeholders with a central inventory of the information required to assess demands and build an IT strategy

Demand assessments

- Associate demands to the strategies they support and the business capabilities they impact
- Ensure alignment of demands to business and IT goals using KPIs measuring issues such as value contribution, cost, and architectural impact
- Use portfolio diagrams and other analytical techniques to ensure that only the demands leading to the best business outcomes are approved

Impact analysis

- Document impacted capabilities, processes, applications, technologies and information objects during demand capture to be able to assess demand impact early in the approval process
- Consolidate demands by automatic identification of similar demands and thus reduce implementation effort and avoid conflicts during project execution

Technology portfolio management

Technology inventory

- Manage technologies from a central inventory supporting single and composite technologies as well as multiple taxonomies
- Understand the relationships between various IT-related elements, for example, technology usage by applications, supplying vendors and associated contracts

Portfolio assessments

- Combine and aggregate KPIs to create technology rankings
- Assess technology innovations, for example, the Internet of Things or artificial intelligence (AI), for their ability to improve business
- Perform impact assessments on the current landscape when planning transformation programs to detect conflicts and identify potential synergies

Project portfolio management

Project inventory

- Create a central project inventory and configure the program and project breakdown structure to fit your organization's needs
- Understand the relationship of projects to strategies, demands, business capabilities, applications and technologies

Portfolio assessments

- Organize project portfolios along business structures, for example, organizations and business capabilities
- Create ad-hoc portfolios for specific, non-standard assessments
- Use portfolio scenarios to make tradeoffs transparent for decision-makers

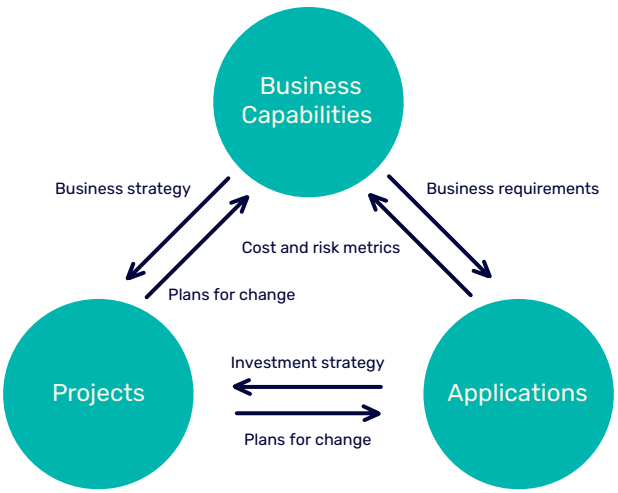
Project planning

- Document how projects change applications and technologies, and perform impact analysis of projects on application and technology roadmaps
- Understand dependencies between projects and architecture to improve portfolio planning integrity

Project management for agile transformation

Make IT agile for faster solution delivery:

- Ensure project execution is closely tied to project investment decisions using tactical and operational project planning and management capabilities
- Leverage a wide spectrum of Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe) artifacts such as strategic themes, epics, and Agile release trains
- Apply a strategic portfolio management approach to the funnel and backlog for effective planning and governance in an Agile development environment
- Use the interactive Kanban report for Agile development and greater efficiency in maintaining relationships and status assignment
- Link issues from Jira® to specific features and applications in Alfabet to prioritize operative development work and facilitate planning and assessment of the application and feature portfolios



Alfabet links the interdependent perspectives of IT, business, finance and risk for "whole view" analysis of how IT can support business change.

Take the next step

Talk to your Software AG representative or learn more at www.softwareag.com

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