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**GO LIVE:
CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS
FOR PROJECTS**

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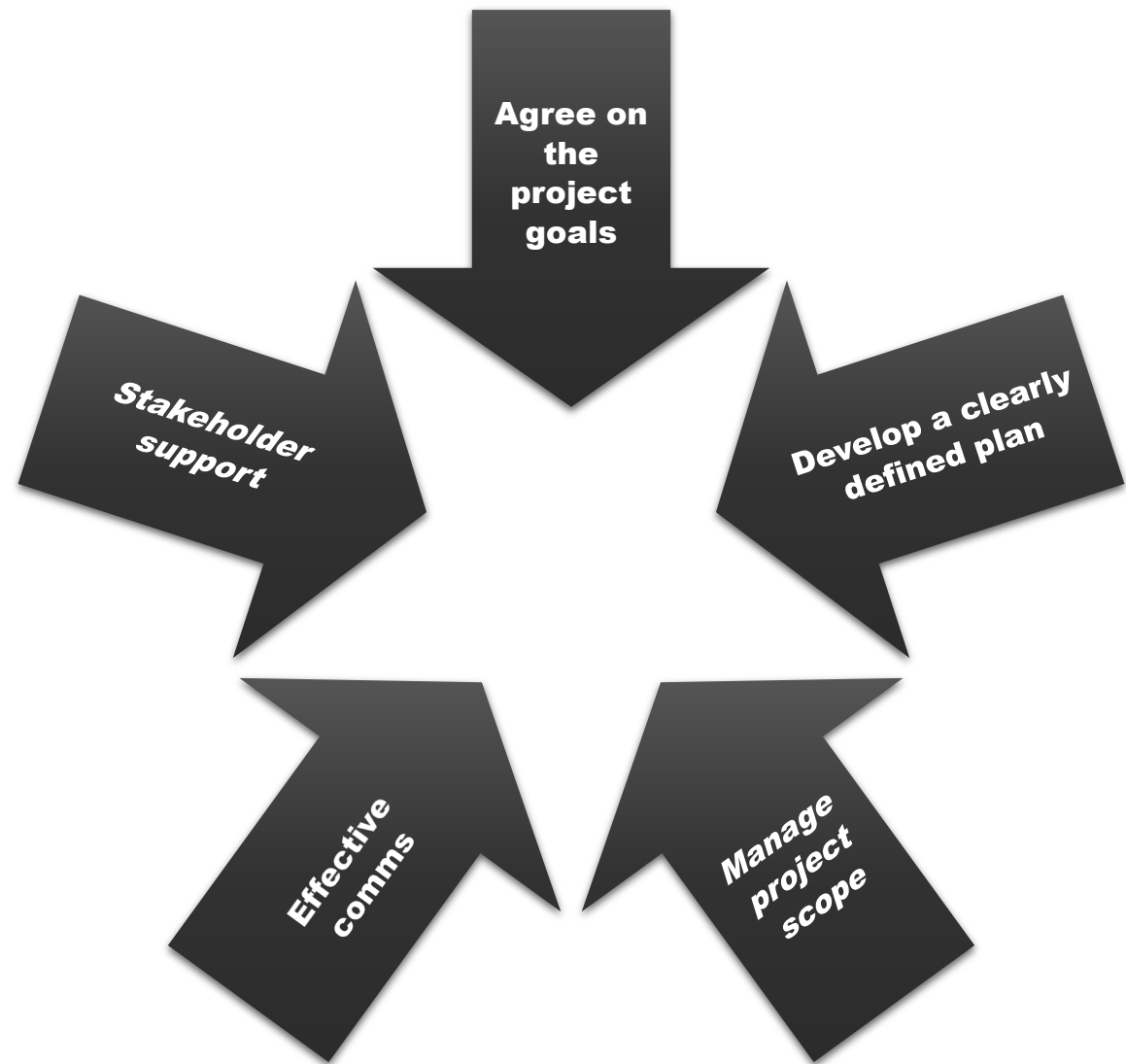
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Project go-live refers the stage in the development process of a project where the goals of a project are accomplished, a desired outcome is produced, and deliverables accepted. Deployment of the product or service is another way to describe the project go-live phase. This includes handover (to customer), deployment and maintenance which aims to introduce the functional product or service to the organization. Thus the critical success factors to be discussed are the aspects of a project considered most essential to its success or failure.



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Agree On The Project Goals

Make sure there is agreement with stakeholders, management, project sponsors, and others on the purpose and goals of the project.

Goals should be specific and measurable.

Understand what the desired end result is and what will the project accomplish.



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Develop A Clearly Defined Plan

Create a plan that includes assigned responsibilities and accountabilities.

Developing a plan is more than just project schedule and entering the tasks into a project management application.

All the deliverables need to be defined along with the necessary tasks to produce them and any associated risks.

The planning process should also include risk management activities and communication requirements



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Manage project scope

The project scope is defined in the goal setting and planning stages of a project.

The project manager must always be on the alert for scope changes and effectively manage those changes if necessary, for the project.



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Effective communications

Operative the communication channels are needed to inform stakeholders of project progress of the project.

The frequency and types of communication for each channel should be defined and managed.

Integrate this communication plan into the project plan.

Projects fail because of poor communications.



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Stakeholder support

Project sponsors must agree that the project will add value to the business or solve a pressing problem.

If the stakeholders do not see the value of the project, they will be reluctant to support it.

The organization may have an abundance of projects or priority rankings that could hinder the level of available support and could be a key to the overall success of the project.