

Procurement Documents

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Most projects today have a significant procurement component. In your view, what role should project manager's play in procurement within the executing process group? In what way, if any, would this differ from the role played by functional managers involved in procurement?

Chapter 12 of the PMBOK covers this topic in detail. It is the project management teams' responsibility to make certain that all procurements meet the specific needs of the project while adhering to organizational procurement policies (PMI, 2013). From reading chapter 12 of the PMBOK I believe the primary role of the project manager is to initiate procurement requirements in the early phases of the project from subject matter experts like contract specialists, purchasing law, technicians. From that point on it's the project managers responsibility to document the requirements, determine how to procure what is needed (internal vs external), and identify suppliers. This occurs throughout the project life cycle through tracking, updating and decision making based off the procurement management plan.

The functional managers are utilized more as a procurement tool by being able to provide expert judgement within their functional area of the project. This can include expertise from functional disciplines such as contracting, legal, finance, accounting, engineering, design, research, development, sales, and manufacturing (PMI, 2013).

References

Project Management Institute. (2013). *A guide to the project management body of knowledge (PMBOK guide)*. Newtown Square, Pa: Project Management Institute.