

Today's world is complex, and there are many reasons you may have a heightened need to do business and IT planning. Check all that apply...

1. You're not getting the information you need to run the business.
2. The business has to become more effective and efficient to survive, but you're not sure how technology can contribute.
3. You have made budget cuts. More than ever, you have to make tradeoffs and say 'no' to projects.
4. You are going through a business consolidation, and need to rationalize multiple business processes and business systems.
5. You manage a portfolio of businesses, and need an informed basis to make project decisions between them.
6. Your departments operate as silos. You want to reduce duplicate efforts and realize synergies from shared information and processes.
7. You are unsure whether your IT investments are returning business results.
8. Your CIO is struggling with a huge backlog of requests, and changing priorities.

About SIRMP

Strategic Information Resource Management Planning (SIRMP) is a process for identifying and prioritizing IT projects based on an organization's business strategy. SIRMP helps build the IT project portfolio that's right for you based on these core concepts:

1. **Information Resource Management** – business information, business processes, and the IT projects that enable them are organizational assets, and should be managed as such.
2. **Business Driven Projects** – IT projects should address the true needs of the business.
3. **Strategic Priorities** – The portfolio of IT projects should be tuned to best support the organization's business strategy.

How the SIRMP process works

Strategic planning for business and IT can occur at multiple levels of the organization. We provide a common, business-driven planning process for all organization units, and a common database with Web interface to bring these plans together. Planning is done by business managers, with a focus on business needs, rather than technical solutions. The process is the same for each organizational unit:

- **Confirm the organization's business strategy**
- **Assess the organization's major business processes and services – the activities that enable the business strategy**
- **Identify and prioritize candidate projects**
- **Formally define each high priority project**

SIRMP outcomes

The result of the SIRMP process is a structured plan for each organizational unit, with a clear linkage of business strategy and IT projects. The process of creating the plans also means that...

- Project priorities are driven by the business strategy.
- Priority decisions are made by business stakeholders (not IT).
- Business managers will have a better understanding of IT projects.
- Business managers can agree that the right projects are being done to best achieve the organization's goals.

Our experience

Advanced Strategies has been helping major organizations with business planning, IT planning, business modeling, and systems development projects for over 12 years. Recent SIRMP projects include the State of Minnesota and the Centers for Disease Control.

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