**DEVELOPING A MITIGATION STRATEGY FOR DELAYS IN CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS AMONG THE CONSTRUCTION STAKEHOLDERS**

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the causes and mitigation strategies of delays in construction projects, with a focus on the gaps between owners and contractors in successful and unsuccessful projects. The research methodology involved a comprehensive literature review, case studies, and a survey of owners and contractors in the construction industry. The results showed that the major causes of delays in construction projects include poor planning, design changes, insufficient resources, and poor communication between the parties involved. The study also revealed that successful projects were characterized by better communication, a focus on risk management, and a collaborative approach between owners and contractors. On the other hand, unsuccessful projects were associated with poor communication, a lack of coordination, and a confrontational approach between owners and contractors. Mitigation strategies identified in the study included better planning and risk management, effective communication, and a collaborative approach between owners and contractors. The findings of this study provide valuable insights for construction industry stakeholders on how to address delays in construction projects and improve project outcomes

Keywords— Time management; delay management; mitigation strategy; owner perspective; contractor perspective; construction project; Tansz

# INTRODUCTION

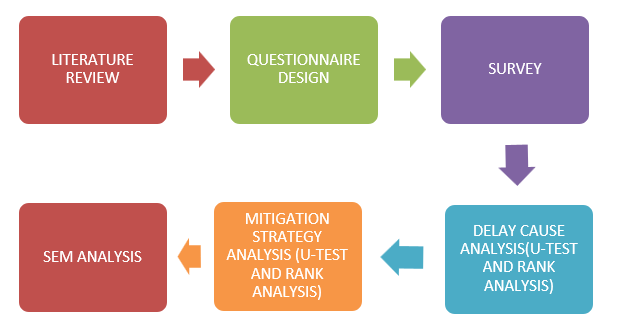
This study examines the causes and mitigation strategies of delays in construction projects, with a focus on the gaps between owners and contractors in successful and unsuccessful projects. The research methodology involved a comprehensive literature review, case studies, and a survey of owners and contractors in the construction industry. The results showed that the major causes of delays in construction projects include poor planning, design changes, insufficient resources, and poor communication between the parties involved. The study also revealed that successful projects were characterized by better communication, a focus on risk management, and a collaborative approach between owners and contractors. On the other hand, unsuccessful projects were associated with poor communication, a lack of coordination, and a confrontational approach between owners and contractors. Mitigation strategies identified in the study included better planning and risk management, effective communication, and a collaborative approach between owners and contractors. The findings of this study provide valuable insights for construction industry stakeholders on how to address delays in construction projects and improve project outcomes. Delays in construction projects are a common problem that can lead to significant cost overruns, project failure, and disputes between the parties involved. Construction projects involve a complex web of interrelated activities that must be carefully planned and executed to ensure project success. Owners and a focus on the gaps between owners and contractors in successful and unsuccessful projects. The study will involve a comprehensive literature review, case studies, and a survey of owners and contractors in the construction industry. The results of this study will provide valuable insights for construction industry stakeholders on how to address delays in construction projects and improve project outcomes.

# LITERATURE REVIEW

Delays in construction projects can lead to increased costs, missed deadlines, and client dissatisfaction, making it crucial for the construction industry to adopt proactive measures to minimize their impact. To develop a comprehensive and well-informed mitigation strategy, the research will review and synthesize insights from the previous works. [1] Addresses the management of stakeholder-associated risks and their interactions in the life cycle of prefabricated building projects using a social network analysis approach. Understanding how stakeholders' interactions influence risks can provide valuable insights into potential delays caused by miscommunication or conflicting interests. [2] Explores the effect of COVID-19 on building construction projects, analyzing the impact and response mechanisms. As the pandemic has had significant disruptions on construction projects worldwide, this study can shed light on how external events can lead to delays and how the industry can respond effectively. [3] Investigates the causes and mitigation strategies of delay in power construction projects, with a focus on the gaps between owners and contractors in successful and unsuccessful projects. This work provides valuable insights into the specific issues that lead to delays and the measures that can be implemented to address them. [4] Presents a BIM-based research framework for sustainable building projects, proposing a strategy to mitigate BIM implementation barriers. Emphasizing sustainable practices in construction projects can lead to smoother workflows and reduced delays. [5] Explores stakeholder-associated supply chain risks and their interactions in a prefabricated building project in Hong Kong. Understanding supply chain risks and their impact on project timelines can help in developing a risk management plan to prevent delays. [6] Investigates the early impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the United States construction industry. As mentioned earlier, understanding the effects of the pandemic on construction projects can provide valuable insights for developing a resilient mitigation strategy. [7] Analyzes the criticality of construction industry problems in developing countries, using Malaysian projects as a case study. Learning from the experiences of developing countries can provide valuable lessons for managing delays in construction projects. [8] Offers a comprehensive list of causes of delays on construction projects, which can serve as a foundation for identifying potential risks and developing mitigation strategies. [9] Focuses on supply chain management for prefabricated building projects in Hong Kong, highlighting the importance of efficient supply chain practices to avoid delays. [10] Explores the causes of delays in the construction industry using a cause-and-effect diagram, with a case study in Iran. This work can provide valuable insights into the root causes of delays and how they can be addressed. [11] Examines risk factors that influence the adoption of Building Information Modelling (BIM) for refurbishment of complex building projects, considering stakeholders' perceptions. Understanding stakeholder perspectives is crucial for developing a mitigation strategy that addresses concerns and ensures effective implementation. [12] Addresses barriers to integrating building information modelling (BIM) and lean construction practices on construction mega-projects. BIM and lean construction practices can enhance project efficiency, and understanding barriers to their integration can help in streamlining processes and reducing delays. [13] Presents a Safety Management System (SMS) framework to mitigate critical safety factors affecting Health and Safety performance in construction projects. While safety is not the primary focus of this research, adopting a systematic approach to risk management, as demonstrated in this work, can provide insights for managing other project risks, including delays. [14] Investigates the impact of COVID-19 on project performance in the UAE construction industry. As with [2] and [6], this work can provide valuable insights into the effects of the pandemic on construction projects and inform the development of a robust mitigation strategy. [15] Revisits critical delay factors for construction, analyzing projects in Malaysia. Learning from past experiences can help in identifying recurring delay factors and developing effective measures to address them. [16] Proposes a statistical approach to assess schedule delays and risks in the Indian construction industry. This approach can aid in analyzing and quantifying the impact of delays, supporting the development of an evidence-based mitigation strategy. [17] provides a theoretical review on critical risk factors in oil and gas construction projects in Yemen. Although oil and gas projects may have unique characteristics, understanding critical risk factors can provide insights into potential delays and mitigation measures. [18] Explores delay causes in Kazakhstan's construction projects and remedial measures. Learning from experiences in different regions can contribute to the development of a context-specific and effective mitigation strategy. [19] Addresses the reckoning of construction cost overruns in building projects through methodological consequences. Understanding cost overruns can be linked to delays, and addressing cost management issues can lead to better project timelines. [20] Focuses on lessons learnt from the design and construction strategies of two Norwegian low emission construction sites. Incorporating sustainable practices can enhance project efficiency and contribute to avoiding delays. [21] Discusses economically improving the quality of construction through Six Sigma and cost-benefit analysis. Applying Six Sigma principles can lead to more streamlined processes and reduced delays. [22] and [23] involve the development of frameworks and literature reviews on improving the quality of supply chain and causes and mitigation strategies of delays in construction projects. These works can provide valuable insights into addressing delays and improving project efficiency. [24] and [25] present literature reviews on developing frameworks for improving the quality of supply chain and a project performance measurement strategy for construction projects, respectively. Both works can contribute to the research by offering insights into holistic approaches to project management and potential risk mitigation strategies. In summary, the reviewed previous works cover various aspects related to delays in construction projects, including stakeholder management, external factors, risk factors, BIM implementation, supply chain management, safety considerations, and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. By drawing from these diverse studies, the current research aims to synthesize and develop a comprehensive mitigation strategy that addresses the complexities of delays in construction projects among construction stakeholders. Incorporating lessons from past experiences and adopting evidence-based approaches will contribute to the development of a practical and effective mitigation strategy, leading to improved project efficiency and successful project delivery in the construction industry.

# METHODOLOGY

The methodology for Developing Causes and Mitigation Strategies of Delay in Construction Projects with a focus on the gaps between owners and contractors in successful and unsuccessful projects can be outlined as follows:



**Figure 1: Methodology of thr research**

The proposed methodology aims to address issues related to delays and communication gaps in construction projects through a comprehensive data-driven approach. The first step involves data collection, where information on both successful and unsuccessful construction projects is gathered. This includes data on project timelines, budgets, delays, as well as details about communication, collaboration, and decision-making processes between owners and contractors. The data can be collected through surveys, interviews, and document analysis. Next, the collected data is subjected to thorough analysis using statistical methods such as correlation analysis and regression analysis. This analysis is performed to identify the underlying causes of delays and the gaps in communication, collaboration, and decision-making processes between owners and contractors. Based on the results of the data analysis, a delay cause rank analysis is developed. This analysis prioritizes the most significant causes of delays, helping to focus on critical areas for improvement. Additionally, a gap analysis is conducted to highlight the differences in communication, collaboration, and decision-making processes between successful and unsuccessful projects. The next step in the methodology involves the development of mitigation strategies. These strategies are based on the identified causes of delays and the gaps in communication and collaboration between owners and contractors. The aim is to create practical and actionable solutions to tackle the issues and improve the overall efficiency and success of construction projects. To ensure the effectiveness and practicality of the developed mitigation strategies, they are evaluated using a case study approach. This evaluation involves applying the strategies to real-world construction projects and measuring their impact on project success. By doing so, the methodology ensures that the proposed solutions are not just theoretical but also applicable and beneficial in actual construction scenarios. One of the strengths of this methodology lies in its incorporation of both quantitative and qualitative research methods. This comprehensive approach allows for a more thorough and well-rounded analysis of the causes of delays and communication gaps. By combining statistical analysis with qualitative insights gained from interviews and document analysis, a more nuanced understanding of the issues is achieved. Furthermore, the inclusion of a case study evaluation of the mitigation strategies adds practical value to the research. The real-world application of the proposed solutions helps to validate their effectiveness and relevance in construction projects. Hence, the proposed methodology offers a systematic and data-driven approach to tackle the challenges of delays and communication gaps in construction projects. By collecting and analyzing data from successful and unsuccessful projects, identifying key causes of delays, conducting gap analysis, and developing and evaluating practical mitigation strategies, this methodology seeks to enhance the efficiency and success of construction endeavors. The combination of quantitative and qualitative research methods ensures a comprehensive understanding of the issues, while the case study evaluation validates the viability of the proposed solutions in real-world scenarios. Through its holistic and evidence-based approach, this methodology contributes valuable insights to the field of construction project management and offers actionable recommendations for improvement.

**IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The result of developing a mitigation strategy for delaying a construction project among construction stakeholders is the formulation of a comprehensive plan to address and minimize the impact of delays on the project's timeline and objectives. This mitigation strategy aims to identify potential risks, assess their likelihood, and impact, and implement appropriate measures to mitigate their effects. The result includes a set of actionable steps and guidelines that the construction stakeholders can follow to proactively manage delays and ensure the successful completion of the project.

The discussion of the developed mitigation strategy for delaying a construction project among construction stakeholders focuses on the key aspects and implications of the strategy. Here are some points to consider:

**Risk Identification:** The mitigation strategy begins with a thorough identification of potential risks that could lead to project delays. These risks may include factors such as inclement weather, labour shortages, supply chain disruptions, design changes, or regulatory issues. The identification process involves input from various construction stakeholders, including project managers, contractors, subcontractors, and suppliers.

**Risk Assessment:** After identifying the risks, a comprehensive assessment is conducted to evaluate their likelihood of occurrence and potential impact on the project schedule. This assessment helps prioritize risks based on their severity and allows stakeholders to allocate appropriate resources and attention to high-risk areas.

**Mitigation Measures**: The strategy outlines specific mitigation measures tailored to address each identified risk. These measures may include proactive planning, contingency planning, resource optimization, stakeholder collaboration, schedule adjustments, or alternative sourcing options.

**Stakeholder Roles and Responsibilities**: The mitigation strategy clearly defines the roles and responsibilities of different construction stakeholders in implementing the identified mitigation measures.

**Communication and Collaboration:** Effective communication and collaboration among construction stakeholders play a vital role in mitigating project delays.

**Monitoring and Evaluation**: The mitigation strategy includes a mechanism for ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the implemented mitigation measures. Regular progress updates, performance tracking, and periodic reviews are conducted to assess the effectiveness of the strategy and make necessary adjustments to ensure its continued success.

**Cost and Schedule Impact**: The discussion acknowledges that implementing mitigation measures may entail additional costs or adjustments to the project schedule. However, it highlights the importance of viewing these investments as a means of safeguarding the project's overall success and minimizing potential financial and reputational risks associated with delays.

**Continuous Improvement:** The strategy emphasizes the need for continuous improvement by capturing lessons learned from the mitigation process. Construction stakeholders are encouraged to document and analyse the effectiveness of the implemented measures, identify areas for improvement, and apply those insights to future projects to enhance their resilience against delays.

## DATA COLLECTION

### **Table 1: Percentage of factors affecting project delay.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SI NO** | **ID** | **Factors** | **Maximum**  **Percentage** |
| 1. | A1 | Change in scope | 60% |
| 2. | A2 | Poor communication and coordination | 60% |
| 3. | A3 | delay in approval | 40% |
| 4. | A4 | Owner ‘s poor supervision | 40% |
| 5. | A5 | Damaging Material and equipment | 20% |
| 6. | B1 | poor quality construction  material and equipment | 40% |
| 7. | B2 | Poor cost and estimation | 40% |
| 8. | B3 | poor project planning and scheduling | 40% |
| 9. | B4 | Contactor late payment to supplier or works | 25% |
| 10. | B5 | Late procurement order of material and equipment | 25% |
| 11. | C1 | Design change in during construction | 40% |
| 12. | C2 | Inappropriate data collection | 40% |
| 13. | C3 | Mistakes and delay in design document | 40% |
| 14. | C4 | Failures in planning and design risk | 25% |
| 15 | C5 | poor estimation and allocation | 20% |
| 16. | D1 | poor working conditions | 60% |
| 17. | D2 | Unskilled labour | 55% |
| 18. | D3 | Late delivery of material and equipment | 55% |
| 19. | D4 | Work in absence | 40% |
| 20. | D5 | Delay in obtaining permits from authorities | 35% |
| 21. | E1 | Force majeure attributable to natural  disaster | 40% |
| 22. | E2 | Unexpected Geological condition | 40% |
| 23. | E3 | Political instability or controls | 25% |

## U- TEST EXPLANATION

The U-test is a non-parametric statistical hypothesis test used to compare two independent samples to determine whether they come from populations with the same distribution or not. It is also known as the Mann-Whitney U test or Wilcoxon rank-sum test. The U-test is used when the assumptions of normality and equal variances of the data are not met. Instead of using the actual values of the data, the test uses the ranks of the data. The test calculates the sum of ranks for each sample and then compares them to determine if they come from populations with the same distribution or not. The U test, also known as the Mann-Whitney U test or Wilcoxon rank-sum test, is a non-parametric statistical test used to compare two independent samples. It is an alternative to the t-test when the assumptions of normality or equal variances are violated. The U test is commonly used when working with ordinal or continuous data that do not follow a normal distribution. It evaluates whether there is a significant difference between the medians of the two groups being compared.

## U- TEST FORMULA

U = (n1 x (n1 + 1)) / 2 - Σ (Rank of observations in sample 1) where: U is the U statistic for the test. n1 and n2 are the sample sizes for samples 1 and 2, respectively. Σ (Rank of observations in sample 1) is the sum of the ranks of the observations in sample 1This formula assumes that the two samples are independent and that the observations are ordinal or continuous. The U-test is a non-parametric test, which means it makes no assumptions about the underlying distribution of the data.

**Rank the data:** The U-test starts by arranging the data from both samples in ascending order and assigning ranks to each data point. Ties are handled by assigning average ranks to tied data points.

**Calculate the sum of ranks:** Determine the sum of ranks for each sample. One sample will have a smaller sum of ranks (U1), while the other sample will have a larger sum of ranks (U2).

**Calculate the U statistic:** The U statistic is calculated by subtracting a value from U1. This value is obtained by multiplying the size of the smaller sample (n1) by the sum of ranks formula: (n1 \* (n1 + 1)) / 2.

**Determine the critical value or p-value:** Depending on the desired significance level and sample sizes, you can look up the critical value from statistical tables or calculate the p-value using software.

**Make a decision:** Compare the calculated U statistic with the critical value or p-value. If the calculated U statistic is less than or equal to the critical value, there is no significant difference between the two samples.

## U- TEST ANALYSIS

**Table 2: Mean Value of delay factor**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Factor** | **Mean (in**  **Percentage)** | **Total**  **Rank** | **U test=**  **(n\*(n+1)/2) – total rank** |
| A | 44 | 13 | 2 |
| B | 31 | 14 | 1 |
| C | 33 | 12 | 3 |
| D | 49 | 14 | 1 |
| E | 35 | 5 |  |

**Table 3: Ranked the major causes of delay in project**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Factor** | **Mean (in %)** | **Total**  **Rank** | **U test=(n\*(n+1)/2) – total rank** |
| A | 44 | 13 | 2 |
| B | 31 | 14 | 1 |

## CALCULATIONS OF U-TEST FACTORS

A

(A1: 60% A2: 60% A3: 40% A4: 40% A5: 20%)

U-test percentage for A: 0.6 \* 0.6 \* 0.4 \* 0.4 \* 0.2 = 0.0288 or 2.88%

B

(B1: 40% B2: 40% B3: 25% B4: 25% B5: 25%)

U-test percentage for B: 0.4 \* 0.4 \* 0.25 \* 0.25 \* 0.25 = 0.0025 or 0.25%

C

(C1: 40% C2: 40% C3: 40% C4: 25% C5: 20%)

U-test percentage for C: 0.4 \* 0.4 \* 0.4 \* 0.25 \* 0.2 = 0.0064 or 0.64%

D

(D1 60% D2: 55% D3: 55% D4: 40% D5: 35%)

U-test percentage for D: 0.6 \* 0.55 \* 0.55 \* 0.4 \* 0.35 = 0.049 or 4.9%

E

(E1: 40% E2: 40% E3: 25%)

U-test percentage for E: 0.4 \* 0.4 \* 0.25 = 0.04 or 4%

## SEM ANALYSIS

**Data Collection**: Next, relevant data is collected from the project under study or from historical records of similar projects. The data should include information on the identified factors as well as the actual delay experienced in each case.

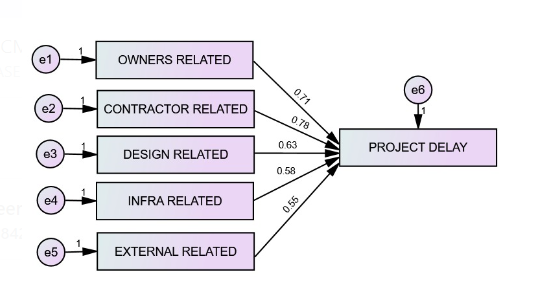
**Measurement Model**: SEM starts by constructing a measurement model that assesses the quality and reliability of the collected data. This model links observed variables (measured data) to latent variables (underlying constructs) to ensure that the indicators accurately represent the intended constructs.

**Structural Model:** The structural model represents the hypothesized relationships between latent variables in the research model. It identifies the cause-and-effect connections between the factors and project delay.

Estimation: Using specialized software, SEM estimates the parameters in the measurement and structural models through techniques like Maximum Likelihood Estimation. It determines the strength and significance of the relationships between variables.

**Model Fit Assessment**: Researchers evaluate the goodness-of-fit of the SEM model to determine how well it represents the observed data. Good model fit indicates that the proposed model adequately explains the variations in project delay.

**Interpretation of Results:** After model estimation and fit assessment, researchers interpret the results to gain insights into the factors that have the most substantial impact on project delays. These insights can help project managers and stakeholders understand critical areas for improvement.



**Figure 2: SEM analysis for project delay factors**

**Table 4: Fitness Indexes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **s/no.** | **Description** | **values** |
| 1. | Chi-sq | 173.153 |
| 2. | Degree of freedom | 113 |
| 3. | P value | 0.000 |
| 4. | Chisq/df | 1.532 |
| 5. | TLI | 0.872 |
| 6. | CFI | 0.905 |
| 7. | RMSEA | 0.076 |

## MITIGATION STRATEGY

To Identify and develop specific measures or actions to mitigate each identified risk. These measures can vary depending on the nature of the risk and the context of the situation. Examples of mitigation measures include implementing safety protocols, diversifying suppliers, implementing redundancy systems, conducting regular inspections, training personnel, or establishing backup plans

**Table 5: Mitigation Strategy Survey**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **SI**  **NO** | **Mitigation strategies** | **Percentage** |
| 1 | Clear communication and regular updates | 100% |
| 2 | Proactive identification of potential risks | 100% |
| 3 | Regular monitoring and tracking the project | 100% |
| 4 | Resource allocation and capacity of planning | 97.6% |
| 5 | Resource of project issue | 95.1% |
| 6 | Resource coordination within the project team | 97.6% |
| 7 | Skill development and training | 92.7% |
| 8 | Decision making process and minimizing bottleneck | 80.5% |
| 9 | Effectiveness of management scope | 95.1% |
| 10 | Utilization of project management tools and technology | 97.6% |

## RISK ASSESSMENT MATRIX

**Identify Risks:** Begin by identifying potential risks that could lead to project delays. These risks can include factors such as resource constraints, scope changes, technical difficulties, external dependencies, or unforeseen events.

**Define Impact Criteria:** Determine the criteria that will be used to assess the impact of each risk on project delay. Common impact criteria can include the extent of schedule disruption, the potential cost overrun, or the impact on project objectives.

**Define Likelihood Criteria:** Establish criteria to evaluate the likelihood of each risk occurring. Likelihood criteria can be based on historical data, expert judgment, or a combination of both. It can be expressed in terms of probability (e.g., low, medium, high) or as a percentage.

Create a Matrix: Create a matrix with two axes representing the impact and likelihood of risks. The impact is typically represented on the vertical axis, while the likelihood is shown on the horizontal axis. The matrix can be divided into different zones or cells to categorize risks based on their severity.

**Define Risk Rating Levels:** Define different risk rating levels based on the combination of impact and likelihood. This can be done using numerical values, colours, or descriptive labels. For example, low, medium, and high-risk ratings can be assigned based on specific ranges of impact and likelihood values.

**Assess Risks**: Evaluate each identified risk and assign ratings for impact and likelihood within the matrix. Plot the risks in the corresponding cell based on their impact and likelihood ratings.

**Prioritize Risks**: Analyze the matrix to identify risks that fall into the high impact and high likelihood zone. These are the most critical risks that require immediate attention and mitigation efforts. Prioritize the risks based on their ratings and potential impact on project delay.

**Develop Mitigation Strategies**: Based on the prioritized risks, develop appropriate mitigation strategies to address each risk. The strategies may involve contingency planning, resource allocation, risk transfer, or implementing preventive measures.

**Monitor and Review**: Continuously monitor the identified risks and reassess their impact and likelihood throughout the project lifecycle. Update the risk assessment matrix as new information becomes available or as the project progresses.

**Communicate and Document**: Share the risk assessment matrix and its findings with relevant stakeholders, including the project team, management, and clients. Document the identified risks, their ratings, and the mitigation strategies in the project documentation to ensure they are properly tracked and addressed.

A risk assessment matrix, also known as a risk matrix, is a visual tool used to evaluate and prioritize risks based on their potential impact and likelihood. It helps project managers and stakeholders understand the risks associated with a project and make informed decisions on how to address them. The matrix typically consists of two axes: the likelihood of the risk occurring (ranging from low to high) and the potential impact of the risk (ranging from low to high).

By using a risk assessment matrix for project delays, project managers can proactively address potential threats and allocate resources to mitigate the most critical risks, ultimately increasing the chances of successful project delivery within the desired timeframe.

**Table 6 – Risk assessment matrix**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S.NO** | **DESCRIPTION OF RISK** | **IMPACT** | **MITIGATION** | **RISK LEVEL** | **EFFECTIVENESS OF MITIGATION** |
| 1 | Change in scope | Delay in delivery | Effectiveness of management scope | Very high | Highly effective |
| 2 | Poor communication and coordination | Delay in material supply | Clear communication and regular update | Very high | Highly effective |
| 3 | Delays in approval | Deay in project | Regular monitoring and tracking the project | High | Highly effective |
| 4 | Owner’s poor supervision | Delay in budget | decision making process and minimizing bottleneck | High | Highly effective |
| 5 | Damaging materials/equipment during construction | Delay in construction | Utilization of project management tools and technology | Very low | Moderately effective |
| 6 | Poor quality construction materials and equipment | Delay in project | Resource coordination within the project team | High | Highly effective |
| 7 | Poor cost estimation | Delay in approval | Skill development and training | High | Highly effective |
| 8 | Poor project planning and scheduling | Delay independency | Proactive identification of potential risks | High | Highly effective |
| 9 | Contractor late payment to suppliers or works | Delay in initiation | Resolution of project issue | Low | Moderately effective |
| 10 | Late procurement order of material and equipment | Delay in resource | Resource allocation and capacity of planning | low | Moderately effective |

The Table-6 indicates that effective risk mitigation strategies are identified and implemented for various risks that may cause delays in the construction project. Some risks have highly effective mitigation measures, while others are moderately effective or have room for improvement. Understanding and addressing these risks can significantly improve project efficiency and success.

**V CONCLUSION**

Developing a robust mitigation strategy for construction project delays is of utmost importance for construction stakeholders to effectively manage risks and ensure project success. The construction industry is inherently complex and subject to various uncertainties, making it susceptible to potential delays that can disrupt project timelines and objectives. However, by adopting a proactive and systematic approach to risk management, stakeholders can significantly improve their project outcomes and deliver successful construction projects. The first critical step in the process is identifying potential risks that may arise throughout the project's lifecycle. These risks can vary widely, ranging from changes in project scope and poor communication to delays in approval and resource constraints. By conducting a comprehensive risk assessment, stakeholders can gain a clear understanding of the potential challenges that might impede project progress. This knowledge empowers them to take preventive actions and implement suitable mitigation measures well in advance. The impact and likelihood of each identified risk should be thoroughly evaluated. This evaluation allows stakeholders to prioritize risks based on their potential severity and occurrence probabilities. By focusing on the risks that pose the greatest threat to project success, resources can be efficiently allocated to address these key challenges effectively. The successful implementation of a mitigation strategy heavily relies on clear communication, collaboration, and well-defined roles and responsibilities among all stakeholders involved in the project. Regular and transparent communication ensures that everyone is aware of potential risks, the adopted mitigation measures, and their respective roles in executing these strategies. Collaborative efforts foster a unified approach to risk management, enhancing the project's overall resilience and responsiveness to unforeseen circumstances. Continuous monitoring and evaluation are indispensable components of an effective mitigation strategy. Construction projects are dynamic and subject to change, so ongoing vigilance is essential to identify emerging risks or reassess the effectiveness of existing mitigation measures. By continuously monitoring the project's progress and assessing the performance of implemented strategies, stakeholders can make timely adjustments and improvements, maximizing the strategy's overall effectiveness. A key aspect of successful risk management is the dedication to continuous improvement. As stakeholders learn from the outcomes of their mitigation efforts, they should strive to incorporate these lessons into future projects. This iterative process enables them to enhance their risk management practices and better prepare for future challenges. Furthermore, sharing knowledge and experiences across projects within an organization can lead to collective learning and better risk management practices company-wide. A well-developed and diligently executed mitigation strategy empowers construction stakeholders to navigate challenges, mitigate delays, and ultimately deliver projects efficiently and effectively. Timely and informed decision-making, coupled with a proactive approach to risk management, can help avoid potential setbacks and minimize disruptions to project schedules and budgets. Moreover, a strong focus on risk management instills confidence in project stakeholders, including clients, investors, and other involved parties, as it demonstrates a commitment to delivering successful projects. In conclusion, the construction industry is inherently prone to delays and uncertainties, but with a robust mitigation strategy in place, stakeholders can safeguard their projects and enhance their chances of success. By identifying risks, assessing their impact and likelihood, implementing suitable mitigation measures, fostering clear communication and collaboration, and continuously monitoring and improving the strategy, construction stakeholders can effectively manage risks, reduce delays, and deliver projects that meet or exceed expectations. Embracing risk management as an integral part of the construction process is a proactive and prudent approach that can lead to better project outcomes and increased stakeholder satisfaction.

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