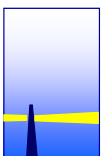


The 6th Concept Symposium on Project Governance

25-26 September 2014
Losby Gods, Lorenskog (Oslo), Norway



CONCEPT



Front-end Management
of Major Projects



Ministry
of Finance



NTNU

Norwegian University of
Science and Technology

Opportunities, Decisions and their Effects

Welcome to Norway, September 2014

Dear Colleagues

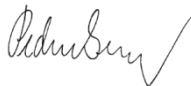
On behalf of the Norwegian Ministry of Finance, I am delighted to invite you to our 6th International Symposium on Project Governance to be held at Losby Gods. During two days we will have a varied program that I hope you will find exciting.

This year we will focus on our efforts and means to identify and take advantage of opportunities latent in our societies and transform them into beneficial effects.

The symposium is an arena for professional exchange among a selected group of prominent decision makers, professionals in government, researchers, academia, international organizations and industry.

I look forward to seeing you all at Losby Gods!

Sincerely



Peder Berg



Peder Berg
Deputy Director General
Norwegian Ministry of Finance

The venue

Losby Gods is a splendid and well preserved manor from the 19th century. It is located within 30 minutes driving distance from Oslo airport and 20 minutes from the city center. It is located in a tranquil environment with forests, lush green hills and meadows, and offers excellent facilities for golf, tennis and hunting. See www.losbygods.no/en/



Aim and target audience

The 6th Concept Symposium is an arena for decision makers, researchers and professionals in government, academia, international organizations, and industry.

The symposium is devoted to project governance, in other words on investments and their outcome and long term effects, rather than on projects and their implementation and management. The principal goal of the Concept Research Program is to develop knowledge and expertise on front-end management, with the aim that the best concept is chosen, resources are used efficiently and anticipated effects are realized.

Organizers

The host for the symposium is the Norwegian Ministry of Finance . It is organized by the Concept Research Program, at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology.

Program

This year three main themes will be highlighted. Firstly, how to expound the **opportunities** inherent in a foreseen investment case, given the setting, needs and priorities, technological choice, institutional restrictions, environmental conditions, etc. A prerequisite for the best choice of concept to be identified is that the opportunity space is explored thoroughly at an early stage, and kept open and unrestricted as long as possible.

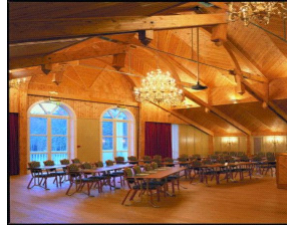
Secondly, the resulting **decisions** will be an issue. Rational thought may often be overruled by political reasoning in a democratic society. This is not only acceptable, it is a fundamental feature of democracy. Nonetheless, we wish to ensure adequate advice in order to facilitate informed decision making in the public sector. Practices and lessons learned will be discussed.

Thirdly, the **effects** of public investments will be highlighted, including how to appraise them ex ante and evaluate them ex post. Under the current Norwegian QA regime, major public projects will now be consecutively evaluated in order to draw lessons and improve front-end management of new investment projects.

An informal get-together dinner will be arranged on the evening of 24 September, hosted by the Norwegian Ministry of Finance.

Fee and deadline for registration

Participants are invited individually, and there is no symposium fee. Please note that there will be a maximum of 120 participants. Early registration is therefore advised. Travel and accommodation to be covered by participants. Accommodation at the conference hotel, Losby Gods, and the near by Thon Hotel Triaden.



Program committee

The committee consists of the following honorable members:

Christophe Bredillet, Professor, Queensland University of Technology , Australia

Tom Christensen, Professor, University of Oslo, Norway

Stephen Hayes, Chief Executive Officer, ICCPM, Australia

Brian Hobbs, Professor, University of Quebec at Montreal, Canada

Mary McKinlay, Trustee and Director, International Project Management Association

Jørn Rattsø, Professor, Norwegian University of Science and Technology

Jonas Söderlund, Professor, BI Norwegian Business School

Gro Holst Volden, Concept Research Director, Norway

Carl Christian Røstad, Concept Symposium Director, Norway

Knut Samset, Professor and Director of the Concept Program, Norway

Contacts

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Registration details available on:
www.conceptsymposium.com



Front-end Management of Major Projects

The Concept Research Program was initiated year 2002 to conduct research on front-end management of major investment projects, more specifically, on how to ensure quality at entry before the final decision to fund a project is made. Its aim is to develop know-how on how to make more efficient use of resources and improve the effect of major public investments. The Concept Program is funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Finance.

The Concept Research Program takes advantage of the unique opportunity to follow a large sample of the largest public investment projects in Norway from their earliest inception and into their operational phase. The aim is to study the effect of different measures and interventions that are used to ensure successful design and implementation. The program facilitates cooperation between key Norwegian and international institutions, both universities, research institutes, and consulting companies. The prime users comprise Ministries and Government agencies, project organisations and professionals in industry. A number of Master's level and PhD students are working with the program.

Below are three examples of recent major Norwegian investment projects: To the left is a model of the new opera-house in Oslo (photo; Snøhetta). In the middle is an image of the new bridge linking Norway and Sweden at the Svinesund fjord (photo; the Norwegian Public Roads Administration). To the right is an image of "KNM Skjold", a stealth type rapid torpedo vessel for the Royal Norwegian Navy (photo; the Norwegian Defence Media Centre).



The program is based at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, in the city of Trondheim. The main academic collaborating institution in Norway is the Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration.