

Rapid Business Analysis[©]

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This document describes a Business Analysis Consulting service based on a specialized methodology. The proposed service has been designed to follow a faster, accelerated cycle compared to traditional Business Analysis projects.

Process & Methodology



Business Analysts have traditionally been viewed as permanent resources within an organization. Where projects are involved, they tend to work on mid to long-term project cycles. They are expected to take time integrating with the company environment while learning about the systems and processes. No doubt, this prepares them for mission critical tasks once a project is in full swing. Normally, getting to know the organization culture is important in order to locate the right stakeholders and set up communication channels in preparation for Requirements gathering and Analysis.

The emergence of “Agile Business Analysts” and other Business Analyst role variants shows that the traditional role of Business Analysts has been evolving. They are now widely involved in shorter duration projects with many tasks compressed within shorter time frames. Several factors have contributed to this, the most obvious being- resource demands for Analysts on

shorter project cycles; the advent of Iterative and Extreme models including RUP and Agile; and Consultants being brought in to perform Business Analyst tasks. We also see that “Scrum” and other innovative learning and team-building techniques have been working to speed up communication and people-intensive processes.

What is the value add when Business Analysis is transposed to a more accelerated, focused Consulting cycle? When implemented with detailed planning and adoption of rigorous quality standards, the benefits to the organization can be immense. But as expected, this type of engagement would require slight variations to the traditional roles and methods.

The Methodology proposed here, while not being limited to Agile or even IT/Software projects, involves such an “accelerated” mode of Business Analysis, offered with an add-on assortment of specialized Services.

Environment

- Undertaken over relatively short Project Cycle, e.g. 3 months- 6 months. Or it may constitute one Phase within a bigger project.

Application

- To meet focused and time sensitive requirements such as:
- Applicable not just to IT/Software but in any Industry domain.

Methodology

- The Business Analyst and Client stakeholders can evaluate and decide on the most suitable approach for a given project. A Plan similar to [Figure 1](#) would work well in this context. It incorporates some features of industry standard Quality methodologies.
- Shown here is an initial proposed framework with estimated durations for a typical execution. Selected functions will be deployed based on the project objectives and level of customization required.



Resource

- The Business Analyst may be an external Consultant or a Permanent resource assigned to a short-term project.

Figure 1: Rapid BA Cycle



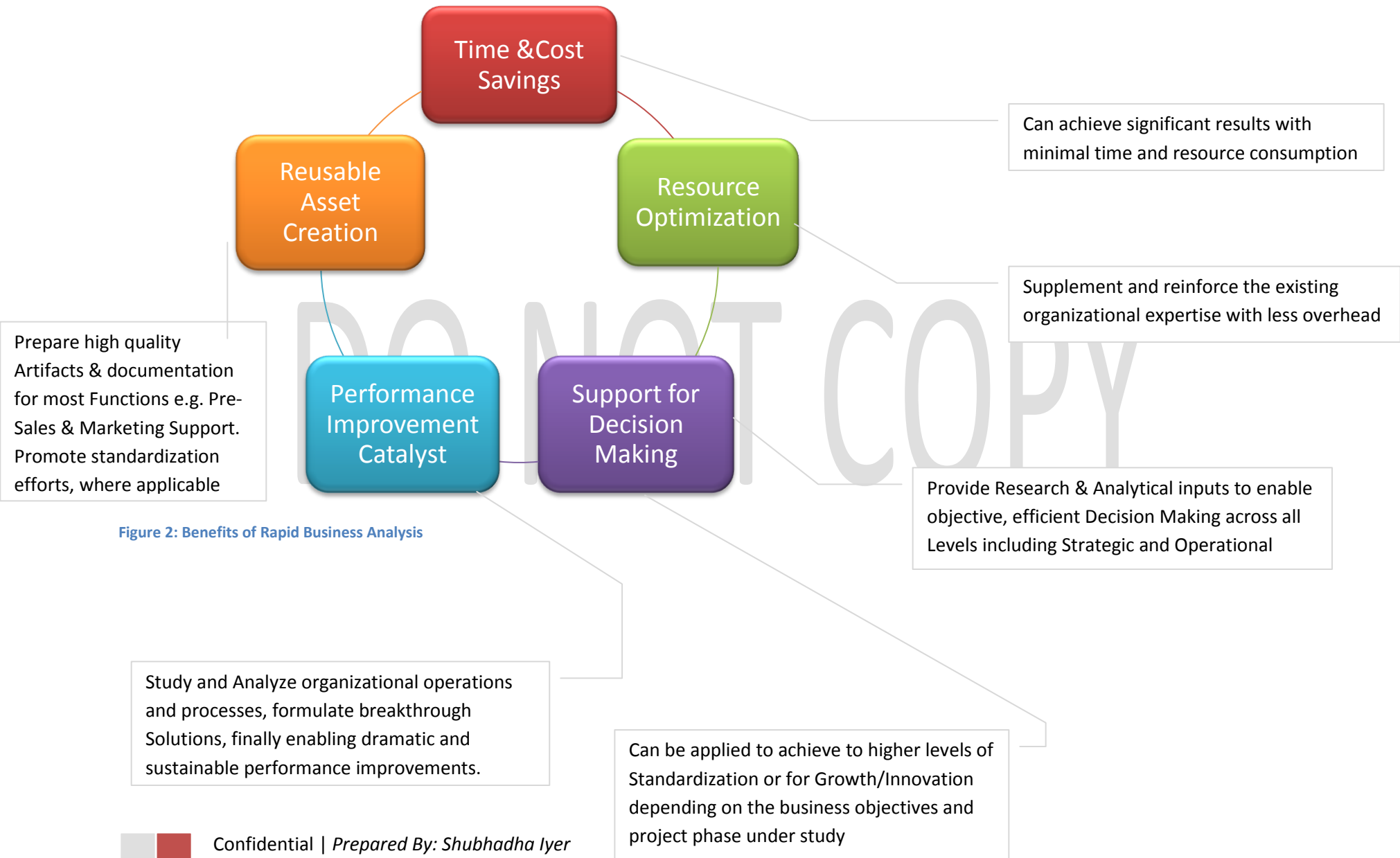


Figure 2: Benefits of Rapid Business Analysis

