

RITHIK SIDHARTH

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Career Summary

Management and Project Consultant with seven years of experience helping organisations solve complex operational and technology challenges across utilities, consulting, engineering, and digital services. I bring a blend of analytical thinking, structured problem solving, and client-facing delivery, shaped through leading 120+ multi-disciplinary projects ranging from £80K to £32M. Comfortable working with ambiguity, breaking down complex problems, and producing clear, insight-driven recommendations for senior stakeholders. Known for building trusted relationships, delivering work to a high standard, and supporting teams with calm, practical leadership.

Career Highlights

Cost-Driven Governance: Identified legacy software inefficiencies and led a £1.2M/year cost-saving switch to internal tools.

Sustainability Champion: Enabled reporting automation aligned to ESG metrics in a UK-regulated utility, enhancing board visibility.

Stakeholder Engagement: Spearheaded workshops that improved regulatory buy-in, reaching 98% satisfaction across three departments.

Core Skills & Expertise

End-to-End Project & Programme Delivery: Experienced in full lifecycle management from discovery to benefits realisation, across public, private, and digital sectors.

Strategic Planning & Road mapping: Skilled at converting business strategy into clear delivery plans with measurable outcomes and defined milestones.

Stakeholder & Partnership Management: Proven ability to influence senior leaders, regional authorities, and delivery partners to secure buy-in and drive outcomes.

Innovation & Change Leadership: Champion of agile delivery, continuous improvement, and inclusive innovation practices.

Governance, Risk & Commercial Management: Strong command of PMO structures, compliance, risk frameworks, and financial controls.

Economic Growth & Local Development Insight: Experienced in leading transformation initiatives aligned to regulatory, sustainability, and local growth goals.

Agile, Waterfall & Hybrid Frameworks: Skilled in adaptive delivery models (Scrum, Kanban, PRINCE2, PMP) for cross-functional and cross-sector teams.

Data-Driven Decision Making: Advanced in Power BI, SQL, Excel, and analytics tools for project reporting, KPI tracking, and performance optimisation.

Engineering & Technical Project Delivery: Experienced in coordinating product design, testing, and rollout activities within engineering-led environments.

Stage Gate & Lifecycle Management: Skilled in managing structured project lifecycles, including Gate Reviews, Change Control, and Cost-to-Completion forecasting.

ERP & Project Control Tools: Proficient in MS Project, Jira, and enterprise resource systems to track procurement, risk, and schedule dependencies.

Professional Experience

Southwest Water (Wastewater Business) | Exeter, United Kingdom

Project Manager (acting)

July 2024 - Present

Recruited as a Project Coordinator but trusted at instance to act as Project Manager to due landing quickly. Worked across technical, operational, data, and engineering teams to deliver improvement projects linked to regulatory outcomes and customer performance.

Key responsibilities include:

- Lead delivery of 120+ cross-functional projects valued between £80K–£32M, spanning digital transformation, infrastructure, and regulatory compliance.
- Translated strategic goals into delivery plans aligned with Ofwat performance metrics, enabling measurable improvement in customer satisfaction (C-MeX/CSAT).
- Implemented Power BI dashboards integrating data from six departments, improving project reporting transparency by 35% and enabling faster decision-making.
- Coordinated governance boards and stakeholder reviews to ensure adherence to compliance and operational standards.
- Introduced risk tracking and mitigation frameworks, reducing scope deviations across projects by 22%.
- Applied structured project lifecycle methodologies, using MS Project and governance checkpoints to monitor progress, risks, and quality compliance across delivery stages.

Notable achievements:

- Championed data-driven problem solving and evidence-based decisions within governance boards, influencing multi-million-pound improvement programmes.
- Replaced legacy project tracking systems with a Microsoft Power Apps & MS Planner integration, cutting third-party tool licensing costs and increasing team productivity by 27%.

Exe Consulting | Exeter, United Kingdom

Project Manager

January 2023 - March 2023

Key responsibilities include:

- Managed design and rollout of a hospitality-sector digital MVP, coordinating IT, Legal, and Customer Service teams.
- Delivered project documentation (milestones, data protection compliance, licence schedules) ensuring GDPR-aligned operations.
- Drove engagement across stakeholders, achieving on-time delivery and full adoption by client teams post-handover.

Notable achievements:

- Delivered the design and development of a hospitality web application MVP using Agile Scrum, ran backlog grooming, sprint planning, QA syncs, and demo showcases.

Sweans Technologies | Kozhikkode, India

Senior Subject Matter Expert

November 2015 - August 2022

Key responsibilities include:

- Directed multi-country programme rollouts across 4 countries and 20+ stakeholders, overseeing end-to-end software migration.
- Designed analytics-based media research dashboards for clients including Disney, Amazon, and Paramount, improving campaign targeting and decision accuracy.

- Collaborated with legal and finance departments to ensure compliance and contract alignment across international projects.
- Supported executive reporting with data-driven recommendations that informed global strategy for digital and retail clients.

Notable achievements:

- Partnered directly with finance and legal to scale a client service platform to 100K+ users across retail, legal, and media clients.
- Built and mentored a remote team of 12+ project associates and analysts, enhancing delivery speed by 2x within one year.

Education

University of Exeter

September 2022 - September 2023

Master of Science | Management - Distinction

Core Modules: Strategic Management, Marketing, Business Analytics, Future Trends, Sustainability, and Professional Development

Frankfurt School Of Finance & Management Frankfurt

July 2023 - July 2023

Finance & Management - 2:1

Gained practical insight into international finance, investment strategy, and management decision-making through intensive, case-driven learning

Cochin University Of Science & Technology

June 2010 - June 2014

Bachelors | Electronics and Communication Engineering – 2:1

Core modules: Statistics, Calculus, Linear Algebra, and Differential Equations enabled precise modelling and analysis of engineering systems

Positions Of Responsibility

MSc Management Academic Representative

January 2023 - September 2023

Advocated for process improvements in academic governance.

President, International Student Society

January 2023 - September 2023

Led cultural integration initiatives and process optimisations for student services.

Volunteering

December 2022 - September 2023

Volunteer for Heart Heroes UK - committed to making a difference by supporting children affected by heart disease.

Awards and recognition

Exeter Leaders Award | University of Exeter

September 2022 - September 2023

Recognised for demonstrating strategic leadership

CPD Certification & Memberships

- PRINCE2® / Project Management Professional (PMP®) | PMI
- Google Project Management Professional | Google
- Agile, Six sigma & Scrum Fundamentals
- CSM certified scrum master (Scrum Alliance)