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Monthly 2026 Newsletter

President's Message May 2026

May has been a particularly proud month for the Ireland Chapter of PMI, marked by the outstanding success of our PMI National Conference 2026 and continued progress across our global and local initiatives.

First, I want to extend my sincere thanks to **Gabriela Agüero** for her exceptional leadership and hard work in delivering this year's conference. The event was a tremendous success, and much of that was down to the dedication, planning, and professionalism she brought to every stage of its delivery. Her contribution helped create an event that not only ran seamlessly, but also delivered real value to everyone who attended.

At the PMI Global Summit Series and Leadership Institute Meeting, we were proud to showcase the breadth of our Chapter's work across membership and certification, capital projects, enterprise agility, and social impact and sustainability. It was a strong reminder of the impact a chapter can have when it brings together professional development, sector insight, community engagement, and purposeful delivery. Sharing our experience on a global platform reflected not only the strength of our volunteers and directors, but also the relevance of the work being done here in Ireland.

As always, I am grateful to all of our volunteers, speakers, partners, and members who continue to support the Chapter's work and help us build momentum for the months ahead.

I welcome your ideas and thoughts on how we can continue to improve the chapter. Get in touch via email.

deagling@pmi-ireland.org

Regards,
Daniel Eagling

President, Ireland Chapter of PMI



PMI National Conference 2026: A Sold-Out Success at Aviva Stadium



The PMI National Conference 2026, held on May 14th at the Aviva Stadium, was a resounding success, bringing together 350 project professionals for a fully sold-out event at maximum capacity.

This year's conference was anchored around three key pillars: Capital Projects, Sustainability, and Enterprise Agility, reflected across the speaker programme, exhibitors, and catering. Sustainability featured strongly throughout, including a fully plant-based menu, reinforcing its role as a core consideration in modern project delivery.

Across the day, attendees explored how these themes are shaping the future of the profession, from infrastructure and transformation to AI, leadership, and social impact.

Session Highlights

The conference opened with **Pat Lucey**, PMI Global Board Director, who set the tone by highlighting the need for adaptability in a rapidly changing world. With 93% of CEOs expected to rethink operating models every five years, he emphasised AI, sustainability, and complexity as key forces shaping the future of project management.

Tammy Snook, from PMI Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada Chapter, focused on the importance of power skills, highlighting communication, collaboration, and problem-solving as essential to delivering successful outcomes in complex environments.

Justin Conry, from Three Ireland, explored enterprise agility in a VUCA world, challenging leaders with the question: "Are we built for change?" His session emphasised clarity of purpose, outcome alignment, and the ability of organisations to continuously adapt.

A panel on Capital Projects and Sustainability, featuring **Laura McDermott Colectivo**, **Stephen Dunne EirGrid**, **John Kelly ESB**, and **Jay Sattin Mason Hays Legal**, highlighted that infrastructure delivery is now about transformational change. Key themes included sustainability, innovation, stakeholder engagement, and modern construction approaches such as modular and offshore wind solutions.

A special session during lunch break, the fireside chat facilitated by **Jackie Fagan**, with **Natalie Hartzell** and **Tsakane Ndzimandze**, explored early career development in project management, with insights on certification pathways, mentorship, and the importance of community in building strong foundations.

We were then joined virtually by **Kathleen Walch**, PMI Director of AI Engagement and Community, who emphasised that every AI initiative is fundamentally a data project. She introduced the "Seven Patterns of AI" and highlighted the growing importance of the PMI-CPMAI certification, stressing the need to focus on value rather than "tool chasing."

Navjot Sawhney, founder of The Washing Machine Project, shared an inspiring story of purpose-driven innovation, showing how the "Divya" washing machine has created meaningful impact across 50+ countries.

Katie Flood, from EY Ireland, also delivered a compelling session on creating transformation that delivers genuine and lasting value. She emphasised that successful transformation starts with a value creation mindset, aligning organisations around shared outcomes and sustainable change. Her session highlighted the importance of

leadership, empowerment, engagement, and behaviour change, reinforcing that long-term transformation success depends as much on people and culture as it does on process and technology.

The day concluded with a keynote from **Marie Gleeson**, from Navmar Leadership, who shared powerful leadership lessons from her time in the Irish Navy. She emphasised trust, resilience, and the importance of creating environments where teams can thrive under pressure.

Collectively, the conference sessions provide 8 PDUs for certification holders. PDUs are currently being processed and will be visible in attendees' dashboards by the end of June.



We extend our sincere thanks to all speakers, exhibitors, volunteers, and attendees that joined on the day and made the National Conference 2026 such a success. special thank you to **EY, our Super Titanium Sponsor**, alongside **Nucleo, Aangine, Velopi, Sapro, Morgan McKinley and KSNPM**, and our supporting organisations – **Techies Go Green, An Taisce and Irish Emergency Alliance** — for their continued partnership and support.

As we close this year's event, we look ahead with excitement. Stay tuned, a Save the Date and special early offer for the PMI National Conference 2027 will be announced in the coming weeks.

PMI Europe Leadership Institute Meeting



Various members of the board of directors of the Ireland Chapter of PMI had the pleasure of attending the PMI Global Summit Series (GSS) and the Leadership Institute Meeting (LIM) recently in the beautiful and sunny city of Lisbon.

Here are a few key take aways from the events.

Enterprise Agility

Many organisations continue to operate on the assumption that stability and predictability remain the norm, despite disruption becoming a constant feature of modern business. In this environment, adaptability is emerging as a capability equal in importance to expertise itself. Resilience is increasingly defined not by the ability to avoid uncertainty, but by the speed and effectiveness with which individuals and organisations respond to it. Uncertainty and discomfort are therefore not signs of failure, but necessary conditions for transformation, growth, and long-term progress.

AI and the Project Manager

Artificial intelligence is reshaping how project work is done. By reducing administrative effort, summarising information and surfacing risks, it allows project managers to focus on decisions and stakeholders. Used well, it strengthens judgement rather than substitutes it, combining faster insight with context and accountability that remain distinctly human.

Social Impact and Sustainability

Carlos Mandolesi, Director of Social Impact & Sustainability Ireland Chapter of PMI, presented the Ireland Chapter success story during the Leadership Institute Meeting (LIM), sharing the chapter's work around sustainability, social impact, and community collaboration.

Sustainability and social impact are increasingly central to how organisations define value, make decisions, and measure success. Environmental, social, and long-term economic considerations are now shaping decision-making alongside traditional delivery measures.

At the same time, organisations are placing greater emphasis on community, belonging, and human connection as foundations for sustainable growth and effective volunteer networks. Engagement is becoming less about promotion and more about trust, relationships, recognition, and shared purpose.

In practice, approaches such as servant leadership, psychological safety, and structured volunteer engagement are helping organisations build stronger participation, deeper commitment, and more resilient communities over time.

Capitol Project & Infrastructure

Capital projects are increasingly being delivered in conditions where disruption is continuous rather than occasional. Cost pressures, political scrutiny, supply-chain instability, climate risk, and emerging technologies are forcing organisations to make faster decisions with less certainty and greater consequences.

In this environment, success depends not only on governance and controls, but on the ability of leadership teams to prioritise quickly, reassess constantly, and balance competing risks in real time. Cross-functional collaboration, data visibility, and organisational culture are becoming as important to project performance as technical delivery itself.

PMI Certifications

Coming July 2026: The PMP exam is evolving to reflect the future of project management.

The updated exam introduces topics such as sustainability, AI and value delivery, reflecting the changing ways project leaders think, collaborate and deliver results.

This shift comes at a time when PMI estimates the global economy will require 25 million new project professionals by 2030, driven by accelerating transformation, technological change, and increasing project complexity.

The PMP continues to strengthen its focus on strategic thinking, adaptability, and value-driven leadership in complex environments.

[See highlights from the events here.](#)

Partnership Breakfast Event with the Irish Association of Corporate Treasurers, KPMG and the Ireland Chapter of PMI in May



The Ireland Chapter partnered with the **Irish Association of Corporate Treasurers (IACT)** and KPMG for an amazing breakfast event on 7th May; 'A Young Treasurer's Guide to Project Management'. The event was held in the Spencer Hotel, Dublin 1 attracting a packed room full of young and some not so young treasury professionals.

Our Past President, Peter Glynn delivered the keynote presentation on 'Project Management: Delivering Value When It Matters'. His focus was on project management as a skillset for all business leaders and why professional development should be a top priority in the world of AI led transformation. This was followed by a great panel discussion moderated by **Yudeshtra Naidoo (Associate Director, KPMG)**, with **John James Dunne (Founder & Principal at Elevate Treasury Advisory)** and **Peter Glynn**.

A big thank you to Yudeshtra (Yudi) for bridging the partnership through his work with all three organisations partnering to deliver the event. Watch this space for more exciting announcements.

Sustainability and Social Impact

Across Ireland and globally, sustainability, AI, governance, and social impact are increasingly shaping how organisations prioritise and deliver projects.

At the Ireland Chapter of PMI, we are proud to see growing momentum across our sustainability and social impact initiatives, from international recognition and new partnerships to practical learning opportunities and community collaboration.

Here's a look at some of the highlights from May.

Earth Day Recognition and Global Visibility

This #EarthDay, PMI highlighted projects helping create a more sustainable world through the Projects on Purpose initiative and Project Managers Without Borders.

We were also delighted to see PMI Global include the Ireland Chapter's Climate Action Week video in a worldwide post and newsletter shared with PMI members across the globe:

[What it Takes to Run a Nation-Wide Climate Movement | Projects on Purpose](#)

New Partnership with Techies Go Green!



From Left: Carlos Mandolesi - Director of Social Impact & Sustainability Ireland Chapter of the Project Management Institute and Michael O'Hara - Techies Go Green Co-Founder

We are excited to announce a new collaboration between the Ireland Chapter of PMI and **Techies Go Green!**

The partnership was officially announced during the opening of the Urban Sustainability Forum by the President of Techies Go Green at The Guinness Enterprise Centre.

Together, both organisations will work to support more practical, scalable, and sustainable impact through stronger project delivery capability, collaboration, and knowledge sharing.

With more than 3,600 PMI members in Ireland and a global PMI network of over one million professionals, this partnership represents an important step toward building stronger sustainability capability across industries.

[Learn more about the partnership here.](#)

PMI Board of Elections: Voting Now Open

The 2026 Board of Elections is now open.

PMI members have the opportunity to cast their votes and influence the future of the Project Management Institute.

Voting is open from now until 30 June. [Meet the candidates here!](#)

Check your email for a personalized ballot with instructions for casting your vote.

Upcoming Events

Webinar: Sustainability is the #1 Predictor of Project Success

We are delighted to welcome **Lucila Dotto, PMI's Global Head of Sustainability**, who will share insights on integrating sustainability principles into project delivery and organizational strategy.

Sustainability and regulation are reshaping how organisations operate across Europe. While many organisations are committed to sustainability, they often struggle to deliver meaningful change.

This creates a major opportunity for project professionals to lead transformation, proactively manage stakeholders and deal with uncertainty, and deliver sustainable outcomes.

Learn how the P5 Methodology helps assess and manage risks. It offers over 260 ways to evaluate project impacts and performance.

Join us to discover how Sustainability in project leadership can become a key differentiator of resilience and innovation!

Participants will be able to:

- Understand the link between sustainability and project success
- Gain insights from PMI Thought Leadership report released on 5th June.
- Recognise the impact of increasing regulations on delivery
- Understand the key principles of the P5 Methodology
- Understand the value of the CSPP™ certification

Date: Thursday, June 18
Time: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Register now! <https://pmi-ireland.org/calendar?eventId=46835>

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