

## REGIONAL REPORT – ARGENTINA – MAY 2009



## Project Management News from Argentina

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With the Cooperation of  
**Mónica González, MBA - PMIBA, Mendoza Branch (in formation)**  
 and  
**Juan Manuel Moreno - PMIBA Córdoba Committee**

**News From the Project Management Profession**

The Buenos Aires Chapter of the Project Management Institute (PMIBA) is having a year of high level of activity, related to the growth of regional communities in Argentina. To the already established communities in Mendoza and Córdoba it has been added a new one on Rosario. The Branch in Mendoza (in formation) and the committees in Córdoba and Rosario are organizing activities that are giving more value to the membership to those living in these cities regions. The regular activity in Buenos Aires is also being developed as in previous years. Therefore, the PM agenda in the country is very interesting. The Board of Directors of the chapter is also being very active establishing new rules and agreements on how to manage regional communities; this is a proactive discussion that includes representatives from all communities already established and will provide a framework for the growth of PMIBA in all the country.



Following is a synthesis of the last news of all PMI Communities in Argentina listed by city:

- **Buenos Aires:** Volunteers in Buenos Aires hosted the Region 13<sup>th</sup> Leadership Meeting on Late March. Mr. Gregory Balestrero, CEO of PMI, visited Buenos Aires on that occasion. Mr. Balestrero not only met with regional leaders but also participated of an open meeting with more than 90 members chapters. The Leadership Meeting gathered almost 40 leaders of Peru, Uruguay, Paraguay, Chile and Argentina. The main chapters were represented by their leaders and also the leaders of these new regional communities in these countries attended the meeting. As part of the agenda, the Buenos Aires chapter arranged a very nice night of Tango Lessons to leaders. It was obvious that we better on PM tasks than on Tango, but we shared a good moment of fun.

On April 30<sup>th</sup> a very interesting conference was offered to members by Abel Bernal, PMP and RMP, on the topic "Compatibility on Front End Loading methodologies and PMI standards". Next members meeting will be hold on early June.

On May, the chapter will offer again in Buenos Aires a preparation seminar for the CAPM and PMP exams. This is a one day seminar that offers very valuable tips for those preparing for the exams; it is free for PMIBA members.

The volunteers on Buenos Aires are also beginning working on their stop of the PMI Cono Sur Tour to be hold on November 9<sup>th</sup>. The chapter has shown an amazing growth in membership and expects to count with a high level of assistants to this event.

For more information on the activities in Buenos Aires [www.pmi.org.ar](http://www.pmi.org.ar)

- **Mendoza:** With just one year and a half of activity, Mendoza Branch (i.f.) has more than 50 members. Volunteers work with dedication adding value to PMI members as well as making see local entrepreneurs and executives that Project Management profession is indispensable for business results. In addition, Capitalizing professional experiences and building solid networks with public and private organizations are top priority objectives for this team.

For this month, the Mendoza Branch is organizing the The “Jornadas Cuyanas de Project Management”. This congress will be hold on May 14<sup>th</sup> from 15:45hs to 20:00hs. The congress includes 4 recognized speakers and a networking event. It is expected to bring knowledge and experiences to professionals on project management best practices. For more information [infomendoza@pmi.org.ar](mailto:infomendoza@pmi.org.ar)

Volunteers in Mendoza are also working on their stop of the PMI Cono Sur Tour, to be hold on November 7<sup>th</sup>. They are defining the speakers agenda but also working hard on offering a good teambuilding activity. This experience was very fruitful last year when an enthusiastic group of volunteers of PMI® Buenos Aires Chapter Branch Mendoza (i.f.) organized a one-day Team Building activity, preceding to the main conferences event.



The site chosen last year was Mendoza River’s rapids close to Los Andes Mountain. The very same river had been employed for the 2008 Rafting Pan-American Championship. It was an excellent team building journey, full of communication, coordination and cooperation between participants. This allowed them to develop and empower skills to work in

project teams.

This year the congress in Mendoza on 7th November includes a half day Team Building activity searching treasures between Vineyards and Cave. On this occasion Marita Abraham, international coach will challenge us to produce highly effective team-work through giving the best of ourselves.

For more information: [www.pmi.org.ar/mendoza](http://www.pmi.org.ar/mendoza)

- **Córdoba:** Since early 2008, with the goal of spreading the discipline of Project Management, a group of professionals located in Córdoba (Argentina) has organized the PMI Córdoba Committee, as part of the PMI Buenos Aires chapter.

Its mission is to become the local referent and facilitator for development of the PM professional discipline, thru diffusion of best practices, collaboration with other PMI communities as well as coordinating certification guidance and knowledge sharing activities and events.



By March 2009, its leading team was defined: Nestor Delisa (President), Luis Ferraris (VP), Iris Gastañaga (Events Director), Fernando Scarpatti (Programs Director), Rodrigo Porta (Memberships Director), Raúl Rueda (Finance Director) and Juan Manuel Moreno (Communications Director). This is an important milestone in order to better organize our activity.

Counting already with 11 members and near a hundred affiliate candidates, the committee will schedule their first open work session on the month of May.

Further information at: [www.pmi.org.ar/cordoba](http://www.pmi.org.ar/cordoba) - [infocba@pmi.org.ar](mailto:infocba@pmi.org.ar)

- **Rosario:** On early 2009 the Rosario Committee restarted activity to serve better to those members of PMI and also to increase the knowledge about PMI in the region. The committee is actually composed by 7 volunteers that will soon define the agenda of activities for the year. As a first activity in Rosario, a lecture on “Project Management as a Commercial Tool” was offered on April 29<sup>th</sup> by Mr. Jose Esterkin, PMP and Vice President of PMIBA. For learning more on the activities in Rosario or to participate as a volunteer email [anarodriguez@pmi.org.ar](mailto:anarodriguez@pmi.org.ar)

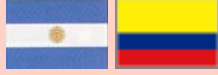
### News about Local Programs and Projects

Argentineans are for sure working hard to avoid strong effects of the world economic crisis. Although some industries as Automobile and Steel have shown a strong reduction of activity, other industries such as goods, food and even construction are keeping an interesting level of activity. It is true that important investments have been postponed in most industries; however small projects are being executed and are keeping busy the project management professionals in the country.

The construction industry case is very specific; it is true that so far it is maintaining the same level of investment that it showed in the year 2008 specifically regarding buildings and houses. Some analysis forecast actual projects are the result of already compromised investments but soon investments will be reduced due to the high interest rates; others forecast a continued level of investment due to a popular thought in Argentina “bricks are the only safe investment”. So far the activity in this industry has assured a job for many Argentineans, I expect it to continue in this manner.

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**Ms. Ana Maria Rodriguez** is founder and manager of ERA Project Management, offering consulting services to the Engineering and Construction Industry in Rosario, Argentina, and is an adjunct professor of project management at the Universidad Nacional de Rosario. Colombian by birth, Ms. Rodriguez graduated with a Civil Engineering Degree from Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogota and from the University of Texas at Austin, USA with a Masters Degree in Construction Engineering and Project Management (MSE). Ms Rodriguez has implemented Project Management best practices and managed projects both in the government sector and in the engineering and construction private sector. Ms. Rodriguez is also an active member of PMI in Argentina, and is an international correspondent for PMForum and PM World Today in Argentina. Additional information about Ms. Rodriguez can be found at <http://www.pmforum.org/pm%20forum%20team/index.htm>. Ms. Rodriguez welcomes contact at [arodriguezdev@gmail.com](mailto:arodriguezdev@gmail.com) also at [www.erapm.com.ar](http://www.erapm.com.ar) .