

# OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE ENGINE

BEYOND EFFICIENCY

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In an era of heightened customer expectations and ever-evolving market dynamics, organizations must prioritize operational excellence as a cornerstone of their competitive strategy. More than just a pursuit of efficiency, operational excellence is a disciplined approach to continuous improvement—one enhances agility, responsiveness, and overall execution. When seamlessly integrated with a customer-centric mindset, operational excellence becomes a powerful driver of value creation, fostering sustained differentiation and long-term success.

In an era of heightened customer expectations and ever-evolving market dynamics, organizations shall prioritize operational excellence as a core strategy. Beyond efficiency, it fosters continuous improvement, agility, and responsiveness. When aligned with a customer-centric approach, it becomes a catalyst for value creation, sustainable differentiation, and long-term success.

#### THE CUSTOMER AT THE CORE

Operational excellence is founded on a steadfast commitment to understanding and anticipating customer needs. A truly **customer-centric organization** transcends traditional process optimization by ensuring that every operational decision is strategically aligned to maximize customer value. This is achieved by prioritizing value-adding activities while systematically eliminating those that do not contribute to the customer experience. By moving beyond internal efficiency to a holistic, integrated model, organizations can drive operational improvements that directly enhance **customer satisfaction**, foster loyalty, and elevate the overall experience.

## Enhanced Operational Profitability

A 1% increase in customer satisfaction can drive nearly a

6%

boost in operating profit.

#### Accelerated Revenue Growth

Organizations that prioritize customer experience can achieve up to

80%

higher revenue growth.

## Sustainable Profitability Advantage

Customer-centric companies are

60%

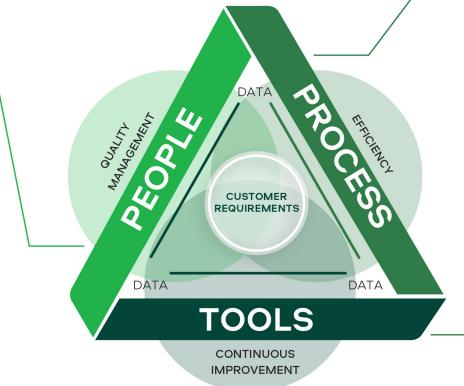
more profitable than their competitors.

Operational excellence is not achieved in isolation; it demands seamless integration of three fundamental components—processes, people, and tools—all strategically aligned around customer centricity.

Processes alone are not sufficient— **PEOPLE** remain the driving force behind operational success. A high-performing organization relies on employees who are fully aligned with customer needs and empowered to execute value-adding activities. It is essential that employees clearly understand their roles in delivering customer-centric outcomes, with optimized decision paths, efficient scheduling, and the elimination of non-value-adding activities.

To reinforce this, clear authority structures must be in place to enable efficient decision-making, minimize response times, and enhance process execution. Maintaining excellence also requires continuous performance measurement, using critical metrics such as cycle time, first-pass yield (FPY), rework rates, and throughput efficiency.

Achieving operational excellence requires a structured approach to streamlining workflows, optimizing operations, and ensuring efficient resource utilization. The continuous evaluation and refinement of **PROCESSES** drive cost reduction, waste elimination, and enhanced agility, enabling organizations to meet customer demands with speed and precision. Mastery of processes is the foundation for efficiency, responsiveness, and scalability, ensuring that every operational improvement directly contributes to business performance.



Effective measurement and data analytics **TOOLS** are essential for tracking progress, evaluating performance, and driving continuous improvement. By leveraging these tools, organizations can make data-driven decisions that enhance operational efficiency, uphold quality standards, and foster innovation.

A key component of process enhancement lies in the implementation of continuous monitoring and control mechanisms, such as control plans, performance dashboards, and systematic audits. These tools provide real-time visibility into operations, ensuring that improvements are sustained by identifying process variations, measuring critical metrics (CTQ – Critical to Quality, CTC – Critical to Cost, CTS – Critical to Satisfaction), and proactively addressing inefficiencies.



Organizations that view operational excellence as an ongoing journey rather than a one-time initiative build resilient, adaptable, and high-performing business models. The most successful companies integrate customer-centric operational strategies with performance metrics that extend beyond cost reduction, ensuring sustained value creation and competitive differentiation.

By continuously **refining processes and eliminating inefficiencies**, businesses can optimize resource utilization, lower production costs, and enhance overall financial performance. This disciplined approach not only unlocks funds for **innovation and service enhancements** but also drives measurable operational improvements, reinforcing **long-term growth**, **agility**, **and customer satisfaction**.

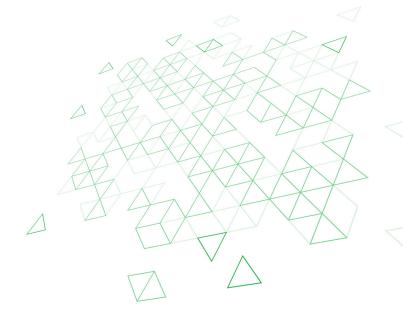
# 1.0 FROM ROADBLOCKS TO RESULTS

#### **Achieving Operational Excellence**

Achieving operational excellence delivers substantial benefits, yet organizations frequently encounter key challenges that impede efficiency, inflate costs, and diminish overall effectiveness. Factors such as redundant processes, overproduction, insufficient automation, and resistance to change often create bottlenecks, limiting operational flow.

Furthermore, misaligned performance metrics and siloed management structures exacerbate inefficiencies, hindering an organization's ability to adapt and respond to dynamic customer demands. Overcoming these barriers is critical to unlocking sustainable operational excellence and maintaining long-term competitive advantage.

Inefficiencies arise from redundant processes, overproduction, insufficient automation, and resistance to change, further compounded by misaligned metrics and siloed management, limiting adaptability to customer demands.



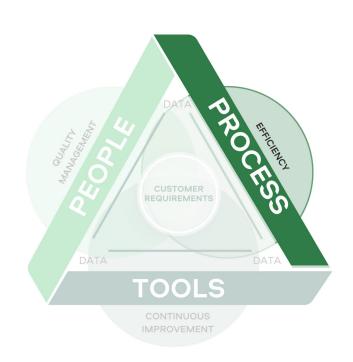


#### 1.1 PROCESSES

#### Overabundance of Processes

Organizations frequently grapple with redundant, inefficient, or overly complex workflows that impose administrative burdens, slow decision-making, and divert resources from value-generating activities. Inefficient processes continue to hinder productivity in the MENA manufacturing sector, which, despite a 4% TFP increase from 1980 to 2016, still lags behind global benchmarks due to technological and macroeconomic challenges.

To enhance efficiency and competitiveness, businesses must streamline workflows, eliminate redundancies, and optimize operational processes.



#### **Excessive Approval and Control Points**

While oversight is essential, excessive approval layers create bottlenecks that slow decision-making and diminish organizational agility. On average, employees waste 26% of their workday on avoidable administrative tasks, including unnecessary approvals and outdated processes. Streamlining approval workflows and reducing bureaucratic complexity can significantly enhance efficiency, responsiveness, and overall productivity.

Inefficient workflows, excessive controls, siloed operations, and misaligned metrics hinder productivity and agility-businesses shall streamline processes, integrate systems, and align goals to drive sustainable growth and competitiveness.

#### Siloed Process Management

Although 76% of manufacturers in the Middle East, Turkey, and Africa are actively pursuing Digital Transformation (DX), operational silos hinder seamless implementation. These organizational silos lead to inefficiencies, misaligned objectives, and communication gaps, restricting seamless collaboration and data-driven decision-making. To achieve operational excellence, manufacturers must break down these silos by integrating DX initiatives, centralizing data, and aligning technology ecosystems.

#### Metrics Misalignment

When performance metrics are not aligned with organizational goals, teams risk prioritizing short-term gains over sustainable growth. This misalignment can create operational inefficiencies, resource misallocation, and strategic drift, ultimately leading to confusion, missed opportunities, and suboptimal decision-making.

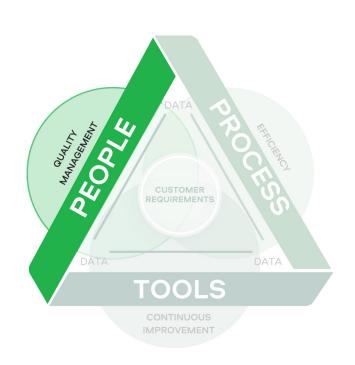


#### 1.2 PEOPLE

#### Lack of Decision-Making Autonomy

Highly centralized decision-making often leaves lower-level employees feeling disempowered, leading to reduced motivation, trust, and collaboration within teams. A lack of autonomy not only lowers performance and accountability but also contributes to higher turnover rates.

These challenges are especially pronounced in the MENA region, where rigid hierarchical structures remain prevalent. According to Gallup's 2024 data, only 14% of workers in the region feel engaged, while 61% are disengaged, and 25% are actively disengaged. This widespread disengagement is largely driven by limited decision-making autonomy, pushing employees to seek workplaces that offer greater involvement in strategic and operational decisions.



#### Culture Resistance to Change

Employees who are comfortable with existing processes often resist adopting new technologies, methodologies, or workflows, creating a significant barrier to innovation and transformation. This reluctance can slow progress, limit agility, and hinder an organization's ability to meet evolving market demands. History provides examples such as General Motors and Blockbuster, where failure to adapt to technological advancements led to their downfall.

#### Lack of Strategic Alignment

Employees often spend time on tasks misaligned with organizational priorities, resulting in inefficiencies and resource wastage. A lack of role clarity and defined objectives further hampers effective communication and cross-departmental collaboration, diminishing overall productivity. To enhance efficiency, organizations must ensure that all resources—human, technological, and financial—are strategically directed toward delivering customer value.

Organizational rigidity, resistance to innovation, and lack of strategic alignment impede operational excellence—companies must foster a culture of adaptability, autonomy, and clear strategic direction to maximize efficiency and drive growth.

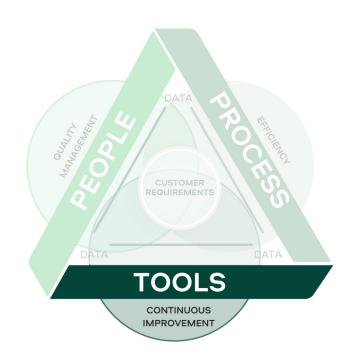


#### **1.3** TOOLS

#### Lack of Integration Across Systems

Many organizations rely on disconnected tools and systems, leading to inefficiencies and data silos that hinder productivity. Without system integration, data can't flow seamlessly between departments, making it difficult to achieve a holistic view of organizational performance.

In industries like manufacturing, fragmented systems for inventory management, production tracking, and sales forecasting can cause inconsistent data, delayed orders, and inventory shortages. By integrating technology ecosystems, organizations can enhance collaboration, improve decision-making, and drive operational excellence.



## Inefficiencies of Poor Automation Implementation

While manual processes remain a significant barrier to operational efficiency, leading to higher error rates, lower productivity, and increased corrective costs, automation is not a universal solution. The repetitive nature of manual tasks makes them susceptible to human error, often requiring additional resources to rectify mistakes.

However, not all processes should be automated. Poorly implemented automation can introduce unnecessary complexity, inefficiencies, and additional operational burdens.

#### Delayed Access to Real-Time Data

Inefficient data access can hinder real-time decision-making, restricting an organization's capacity to respond promptly to operational challenges. Real-time dashboards resolve this issue by offering instant visibility into critical metrics through interactive visualizations. By continuously monitoring key performance indicators, real-time dashboards empower managers to identify emerging issues, make data-driven decisions, and optimize overall efficiency for sustained success.

Inefficiencies stem from manual processes, flawed automation, and disconnected systems—organizations shall embrace seamless integration and smart automation to boost productivity and drive operational success.

#### STREAMLINING GROWTH FOR AGILITY AND EFFICIENCY

#### Google's Strategic Approach to Scaling with Agility

As Google expanded from 30,000 employees in 2011 to 135,000 by 2020, the company faced increasing complexity, slower decision-making, and bureaucratic inefficiencies that impacted agility and employee satisfaction. Recognizing these challenges, Google took strategic steps to optimize operations while maintaining a customer-centric approach.



#### Google's Strategic Initiatives for Operational Excellence

Process Rationalization	Google optimized workflows by removing redundant approvals and implementing lean management principles.
Automation & Al Integration	By leveraging Al and automation, Google minimized manual tasks, improved decision-making speed, and enhanced operational accuracy.
Agile Decision- Making	Google accelerated decision-making by decentralizing approvals and granting teams greater autonomy.
Employee-Centric Culture	Through continuous training and upskilling, Google enhanced employee flexibility, satisfaction, and overall productivity.

# 2.0 FROM FRICTION TO FLOW

#### Winning Strategies for Seamless Operational Excellence

#### 2.1

#### PROCESS RATIONALIZATION

#### Optimizing for Efficiency and Value

While automation plays a vital role in optimizing processes, it is important to recognize that not every task can or should be fully automated. The ultimate objective is to reduce cycle time, improve productivity, and remove unnecessary manual interventions while maintaining the necessary controls. This requires organizations to distinguish between value-added and non-value-added activities, ensuring that resources are focused on tasks that directly benefit the customer while eliminating rework and inefficiencies.

#### **KEY STEPS IN PROCESS RATIONALIZATION**

#### Value-Added Activity Analysis

This analysis allows companies to focus on high-value activities while eliminating or automating low-value ones, ensuring resources are allocated where they will have the most significant impact on the customer experience, reducing waste and optimizing overall service delivery.

# Decision Paths and Customer Journey Mapping

Mapping decision-making processes along with the customer journey reveals the moments that influence customer experiences, highlighting the critical decision points that determine satisfaction levels. Optimizing these decision points ensures a seamless experience and more responsive customer service.

#### **Automation Maturity & Risk Assessment**

By understanding the criticality of each task, businesses can assess the potential risks of not automating mission-critical activities, such as slow response times, human errors, and inefficiencies, which could negatively affect customer interactions, service delivery, and competitiveness in the market.

## Proactive Risk Identification in Critical Activities

Identifying the risks associated with critical customer-facing activities allows businesses to anticipate and mitigate potential disruptions that could affect the delivery of services or products. Whether it's a breakdown in communication, delays in production, or failure in product quality control, such risks can directly undermine customer expectations.

# MAXIMIZING FINANCIAL GAINS THROUGH PROCESS OPTIMIZATION

Process rationalization is a critical driver of financial stability, enabling organizations to enhance cost efficiency and reduce operational expenses. By eliminating inefficiencies, streamlining workflows, and leveraging automation, businesses can lower labor costs, optimize resource allocation, and boost overall productivity. Additionally, optimizing processes improves cash flow by accelerating lead times, increasing inventory turnover, and minimizing working capital requirements-enhancing both liquidity and financial resilience. Beyond cost rationalization control. process strengthens profit margins by improving output quality and reducing production expenses, allowing companies to maintain competitive pricing while safeguarding long-term profitability.



#### 2.2

# CULTURE TRANSFORMATION & CHANGE MANAGEMENT

#### The Foundation of Agility

Building a culture that embraces change and agility is essential for continuous improvement. This transformation begins with leadership, fostering collaboration, innovation, and inclusive decision-making at all levels. Strong leaders actively champion change, model adaptability, and communicate its strategic importance, ensuring employees understand and embrace transformation.

Process rationalization success goes beyond technology and streamlined workflows—it requires a structured change management approach to ensure smooth adoption and long-term sustainability. Organizational resistance, poor communication, and inadequate skill development often hinder optimization efforts, making a robust change management strategy essential.

#### The Key Pillars of Change Management In Process Rationalization

#### Stakeholder Engagement & Alignment

- Ensuring leadership commitment and cross-functional alignment.
- Ensuring proper decision paths to be aligned with the customer journey.
- Fostering empowerment and knowledge transfer to ensure all stakeholders understand their roles, responsibilities, and contributions to meeting customer requirements.

#### Clear Communication & Transparency

- Driving clarity on the rationale, benefits, and expectations of the new processes.
- Ensuring clarity on the critical metrics to be measured and monitored.

#### Capability Building & Training

Upskilling employees to efficiently operate within optimized workflows.

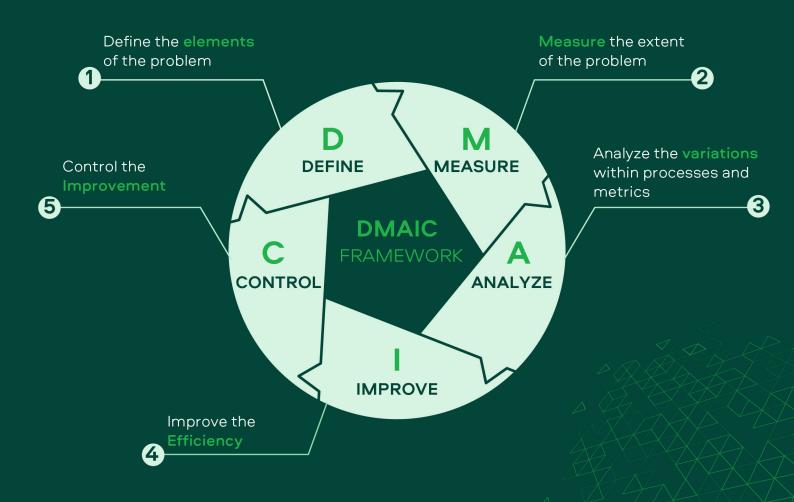
#### **Cultural Adaptation**

Embedding a performance-driven cutlure that embraces continuous improvement.

# LOGIC'S OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE-DMAIC FRAMEWORK

Achieving operational excellence is a continuous journey, deeply intertwined with the commitment to delivering exceptional customer satisfaction. This journey demands a structured approach that focuses on optimizing internal processes, aligning employees with the organization's strategic goals, and using key performance tools and metrics to effectively monitor and measure customer experience. By proactively identifying inefficiencies and adapting to evolving customer needs, businesses can reduce the risks of offering products or services that lack value, ultimately ensuring they remain competitive and customer centric.

LOGIC Operational Excellence – using a Six Sigma methodology - DMAIC Framework provides a systematic approach to process optimization. It guides organizations through each phase, from clearly defining and measuring issues, to analyzing root causes, implementing improvements, and maintaining sustained control. This structured framework ensures not only the fine-tuning of processes but also alignment with the overarching goal of delivering the highest value to customers, driving long-term satisfaction and business success.





This phase focuses on thoroughly understanding the customer journey by identifying key touchpoints and their corresponding requirements. It aims to align internal processes with customer expectations, establish key performance metrics, and track variations impacting customer needs. Furthermore, the phase defines stakeholder roles and responsibilities, ensuring their contributions enhance process efficiency and overall success.

This phase focuses on analyzing data to assess process performance, establish benchmarks, and evaluate efficiency, quality, and customer satisfaction. It also identifies process inefficiencies, automation compliance, and decision pathways impacting the customer journey, while documenting potential risks for future evaluation and optimization.





This phase focuses on identifying the root causes of inefficiencies and performance gaps by analyzing data, workflows, and metrics. It helps prioritize solutions that improve performance, reduce costs, and enhance customer satisfaction. The phase also examines critical metrics to identify waste related to quality, cost, and schedule, converting these into monetary values for actionable insights to drive cost reduction and minimize errors.

This phase aims to refine operations by improving productivity, streamlining workflows, and ensuring alignment with organizational goals. It focuses on addressing root causes and applying innovative solutions for long-term success. Additionally, risks and failure modes are assessed, with high-risk activities evaluated for severity, likelihood, and detection, allowing for targeted mitigation strategies to enhance operational resilience.





This phase establishes performance monitoring mechanisms to track progress, reinforce accountability, and ensure processes remain aligned with organizational objectives. Continuous evaluation enables early identification of potential issues, allowing for proactive adjustments. By maintaining strict oversight and regularly reviewing key metrics, businesses can sustain improvements, mitigate risks, and drive long-term success.

For this framework to succeed and drive continuous improvement, Operational Excellence (OE) methodologies must be integrated into the company's strategic objectives. Aligning these methodologies with operational goals and key performance indicators (KPIs) ensures that efficiency, innovation, and process optimization become ingrained in the company's culture and long-term vision.

#### Strategy Alignment

To drive sustainable operational excellence, it is essential to ensure that the company's strategy aligns with OE principles and integrates OE objectives at every level.

#### Example:

A well-structured balanced scorecard can effectively incorporate OE objectives, particularly within its internal processes section.

#### Organizational Development

Empowering employees through clear roles and responsibilities, while building a performance-based culture.

#### Example:

Establishing KPIs and implementing a robust performance management system ensures accountability, tracks progress and drives continuous improvement across the organization.

#### Governance

Ensuring the organization is well governed and controlled to support operational excellence by ensuring compliance, accountability, and alignment with strategic goals.

#### Example:

Internal audits play a crucial role in ensuring compliance to established policies and procedures.

#### **Meet the Contributors**

#### **Nihal Ghannam**

Partner
Operational Excellence Practice Head
at LOGIC Consulting

#### **Nadine Mousa**

Associate Director at LOGIC Consulting

The article was edited by

Mai Alnahas, Senior Editor
at LOGIC Consulting

#### Cairo Office

+20 127 350 5023 SODIC West, Block 1, Zone 4B

#### Riyadh Office

+966 53 662 0650 3888 Anas Ibn Malik, Al Malga

#### Jeddah Office

1004 Jameel Square Building. Tahlia St.

#### **Dubai Office**

+971 52 499 2567 Business Bay, Parklane Tower, Office 1102

#### **Bahrain Office**

Park Place Building. Seef Area office 9001/ 9th Floor- Bahrain