MindManager increases the efficiency of urban planning for Paris suburb

The Results

“MindManager’s graphic approach makes it easy for even those unfamiliar with the software to gain a deeper and more complete understanding of a project.”

Oussama Lamouri
Director of Operations, Planning and Economic Development at GPSEA

GREATER EFFICIENCY
Ready access to all project actions, partners and milestones.

REDUCED RISK
Shared understanding of a project makes it less likely that key information will be ignored or overlooked.

INCREASED FLEXIBILITY
Ready access to key data points facilitates ability to adapt to changing circumstances.

ENHANCED COLLABORATION
Mind maps foster a common understanding of complex, multi-faceted projects.
The Challenge

GPSEA is one of several government agencies created in 2010 to better manage the continued growth of communities around Paris. Along with urban planning, the agency is responsible for a broad range of public services and facilities: water and wastewater treatment, waste collection, pools, libraries and more. To plan a project effectively, GPSEA must first identify the impacts on everything from transportation patterns and public utilities to housing. And since much of the relevant information is stored in different databases and in different formats, designing, implementing and tracking projects is particularly complex.

“Good governance means properly considering all of the factors that touch the lives of citizens,” says Oussama Lamouri. “Our projects usually involve staff from different parts of the organization, such as public works, zoning and transportation. A project is much more likely to succeed when everyone has the same understanding of what it involves and how it will proceed.”

The Solution

In 2016, GPSEA adopted MindManager Enterprise, approximately 60 people now use it on a daily basis. GPSEA increasingly relies on MindManager to brainstorm and develop complex, multi-phase projects, and to establish and communicate critical paths toward their completion. The software facilitates the development of work-breakdown structures and scheduling. GPSEA uses MindManager to forge a shared project vision and create a shared reference point for everyone involved. Usage of the software has continued to grow as more and more GPSEA staff become comfortable with it.

The Result

GPSEA reports considerable time saved in the preparation of projects and workshops, and in the planning and monitoring of milestones and follow-up actions. For Oussama Lamouri, a key advantage is the ability to efficiently identify and resolve potential problems.

“Recently, we were about to sign an agreement with a developer when we ran into a possible zoning issue,” says Lamouri. “We were able to resolve the issue quickly thanks to the mind map I had created for the project. The map featured a series of entry points for particular users, such as financial managers, zoning officers and public-works managers. And each entry point linked to relevant information, such as project milestones, reference materials, and other key data. As a result, we were quickly able to make the needed adjustments.”

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