



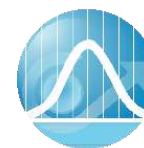
CMMI[®] Institute

Bridging the Strategy- Execution Gap: CMMI as the Engine for Strategic Success

Scenario Study – Andes Copper Corporation

Dr Pieter van Zyl, Ron Lear

June 2025



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Elite CMMI Partner

POLL TIME

- **How aware that organizations struggle to implement their strategy?**
1 = Not aware at all, 5 = Extremely aware
- **How aware are you that CMMI is a capability improvement model?**
1 = Not aware at all, 5 = Extremely aware

The strategy-execution problem

- **The problem:** Many organizations struggle to turn strategy into action, creating a strategy is one thing, but actually making it happen is much harder.

Failure rates of
48% reported (@50% objectives)
85% failure (@2/3rds objectives)

*Bridges: 20 years Results From
Surveying Strategy Implementation,
2020*

Harvard Business Review,
McKinsey, and Gartner
suggests up to **78%** of
strategic initiatives fail to
achieve intended
outcomes

Cascade 2025 Strategy
Report **70%** of leaders
admit they fail at strategy
execution.

- **Cause and solution:** Many causes of failure are directly related to a lack (or weakness) of capability to deliver the strategy, **and/or** organizational change management.

CMMI MDDAP VIP program shows impressive results in declining total
product recall rate.

CMMI Technical Report 2025: Impressive Performance Results
for 2019 to 2024

I am not a betting man, but a 91%
performance achievement rate seems
like a pretty safe, no-brainer bet
Ron Lear

Strategy-Execute Gap Failures

Case	Strategy/Claim	Operational Failure	Possible Capability Failures
New Coke	Reformulate Coke to compete with Pepsi	Consumer backlash, poor market research	Understanding customer needs, Decision-making with data, Oversight of product strategy
Nokia's iPhone Response	Stick with Symbian OS, dismiss iPhone	Slow development, internal coordination issues	Innovation and product agility, Strategic risk awareness, Future-oriented workforce development, Sustained process evolution
WeWork's IPO	Massive IPO for growth, tech positioning	Financial mismanagement, governance issues	Governance and oversight, Risk and business continuity, Organizational discipline, Financial strategy tracking
Uber's Expansion	Rapid global expansion in ride-sharing	Legal battles, toxic culture, regulatory pushback	Ethical leadership and employee empowerment, Regulatory preparedness and resilience, Stakeholder governance, Continuous improvement culture
Boeing to Mars	Beat SpaceX to Mars with SLS	Delays in SLS, Starliner setbacks, operational inefficiencies	Systems engineering execution, Supplier coordination, Cost & schedule control, Organizational learning



From strategy to successful execution

- **Step 1: Plan Your Strategy:** Start by doing strategic planning using well-known tools like SWOT Analysis, Balanced Scorecard (BSC), Business Model Canvas (BMC), or Porter's Value Chain Analysis (VCA).
- **Step 2: Appraise your capabilities using CMMI:** Analyze your plan by using CMMI to understand your organisational capability on your key strategic priorities. Use the CMMI model to take a structured look at your strategy and identify strengths, gaps, and opportunities.
- **Step 3: Convert appraisal insights into operational capability (execute the strategy):** Turn strategy into action, by applying proven methods like Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) to close the appraisal gaps and implement your plan. Also, remember to manage change well and consider the people involved, success depends on them too.

POLL TIME

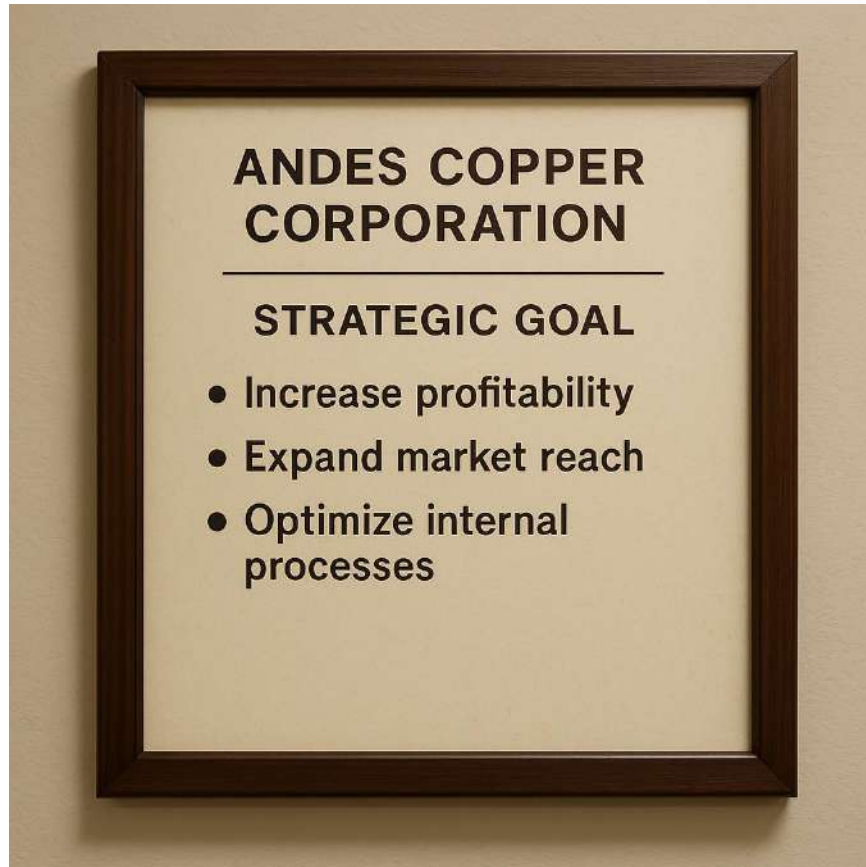
**Which of these strategic planning tools have you used in your role?
(Select all that apply)**

- SWOT Analysis
- Balanced Scorecard
- Business Model Canvas
- Porter's Value Chain Analysis
- Other tools

Strategic Planning Methods

- To **Plan Your Strategy**, you can use popular and proven methods to plan your strategy. Here are some examples:
 - SWOT Analysis: Helps you look at your Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats.
 - Balanced Scorecard: Connects your big goals to measurable results (KPIs).
 - Business Model Canvas: Shows how your organization creates and delivers value.
 - Porter's Value Chain Analysis: Helps you spot where your organization adds value and where there may be waste or inefficiencies.
- There are many other tools that can work just as well. We're showing these because they're well known and widely used.

Fictitious Andes Copper Mining



- Strategic goal
 - Increase profitability
 - Expand market reach
 - Optimize internal processes
- Challenges
 - High operating costs
 - Water scarcity
 - Aging infrastructure
 - Political and regulatory risk

Click for [full case study](#)

SWOT and CMMI Capabilities

Andes Copper Mining



■ STRENGTHS

Mature, standardized operational processes contribute to current efficiency levels, despite aging infrastructure and high operating cost.

- Capability Area: Improving Performance
 - Managing Performance & Measurement, Process Management.

■ WEAKNESSES

Water scarcity risks is prompting a reassessment of resource planning and contingency development to protect production continuity.

- Capability Area: Managing Business Resilience
 - Risk and Opportunity Management, Business Continuity

■ OPPORTUNITIES

Anticipating surging copper demand in electric vehicles and renewable energy, Andes Copper identified the need for scalable production and dynamic market targeting.

- Capability Area: Planning & Managing Work
 - Work estimation, Planning and Monitored.

■ THREATS

Community relations posed a potential threat to operational stability, requiring structured engagement and assurance programs.

- Capability Area: Ensuring Quality
 - Process Quality Assurance

Balanced Scorecard and CMMI

Andes Copper Mining

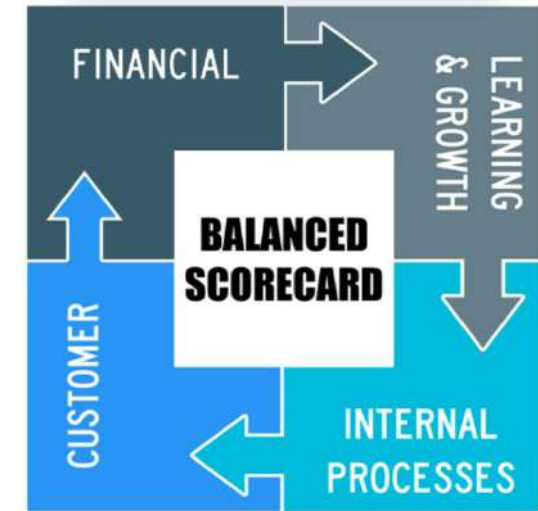
■ FINANCIAL

Recognizing that optimizing production costs and maximizing returns is vital to profitability.

- Capability Area: Improving Performance
 - Managing Performance and Measurement
 - Process Management
- Capability Area: Managing Business Resilience
 - Risk & Opportunity Management

Speak to a CMMI Appraisal
Consultant for guidance

<https://cmmiinstitute.com/partners/directory>



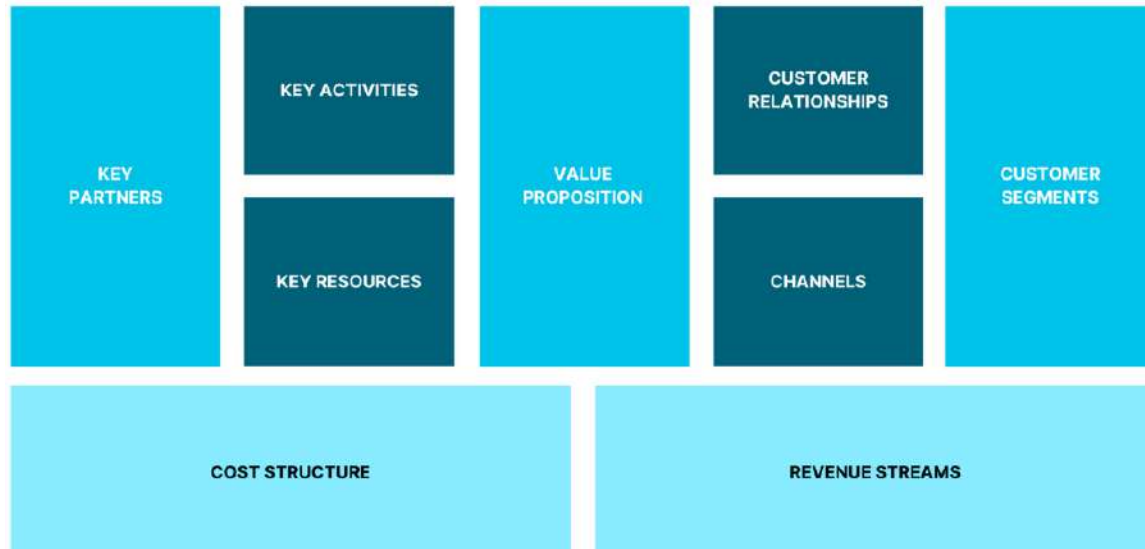
■ INTERNAL PROCESSES

A major focus during strategic planning was ensuring streamlined, safe, and sustainable operational processes across all mining stages.

- Capability Area: Improving Performance
 - Process Asset Development
 - Process Management
- Capability Area : Sustaining Habit and Persistence
 - Governance
 - Implementation Infrastructure

The same exercise can be done for

Business Model Canvas



Value Chain Mapping



CMMI Capabilities

> How capable is your organization?

Nearly a third of organizations surveyed do not have standard processes in place that enable them to adapt quickly. Executives know improving their key capabilities is critical for continued success.



Do not have a current set of documented processes or job aids that are routinely followed.



Do not have a documented planning process that all projects/departments follow.



Do not have a pathway to develop additional job relevant skills to increase capability or career advancement.



Do not track or monitor progress against documented plans and take corrective action as needed.

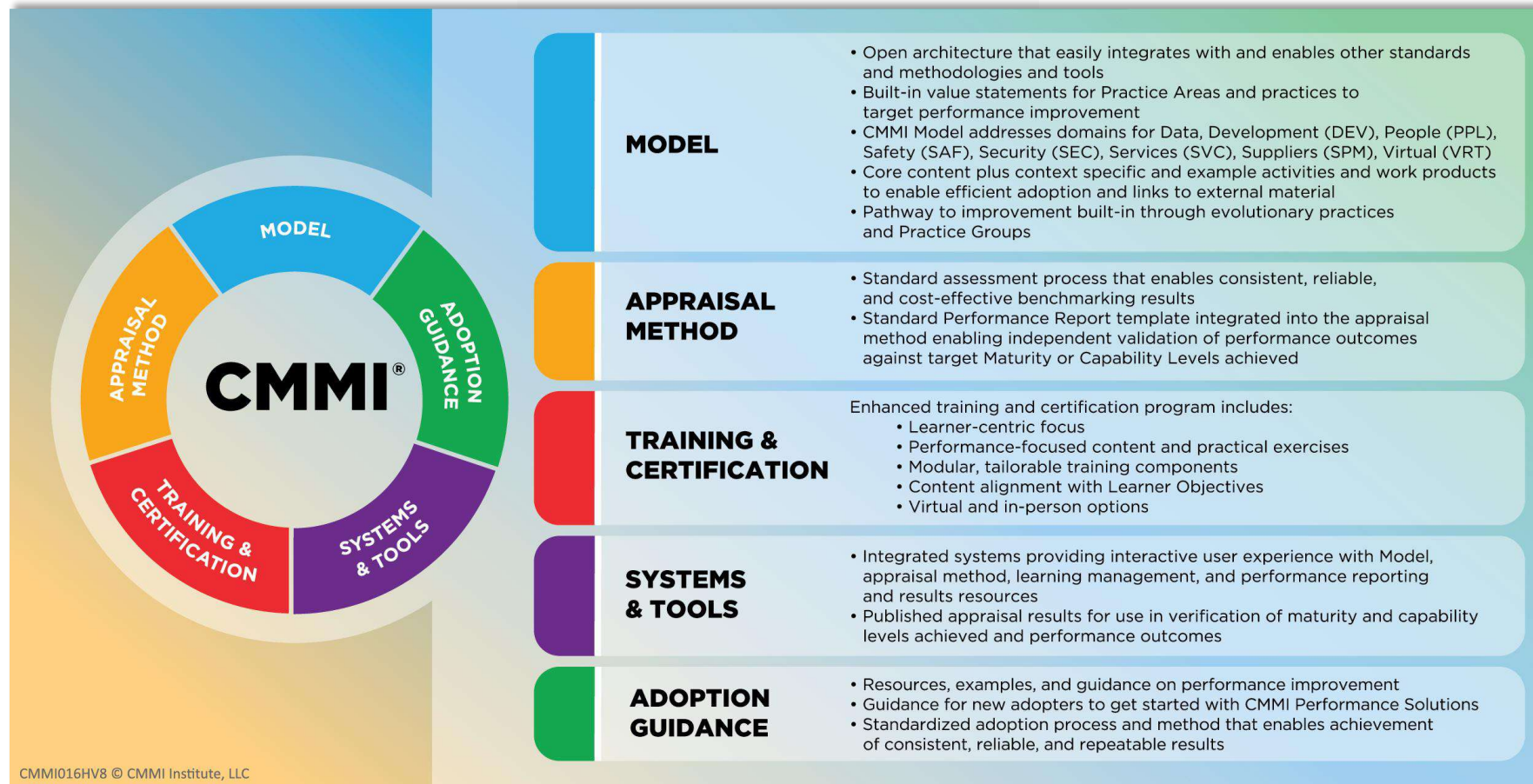


Do not align skill and experience requirements for future business needs.

Source: ISACA Capability Survey, December 2024

CMMI014VV4 © 2025 CMMI Institute, LLC

CMMI Performance Solutions – Five Integrated Components in the CMMI Ecosystem

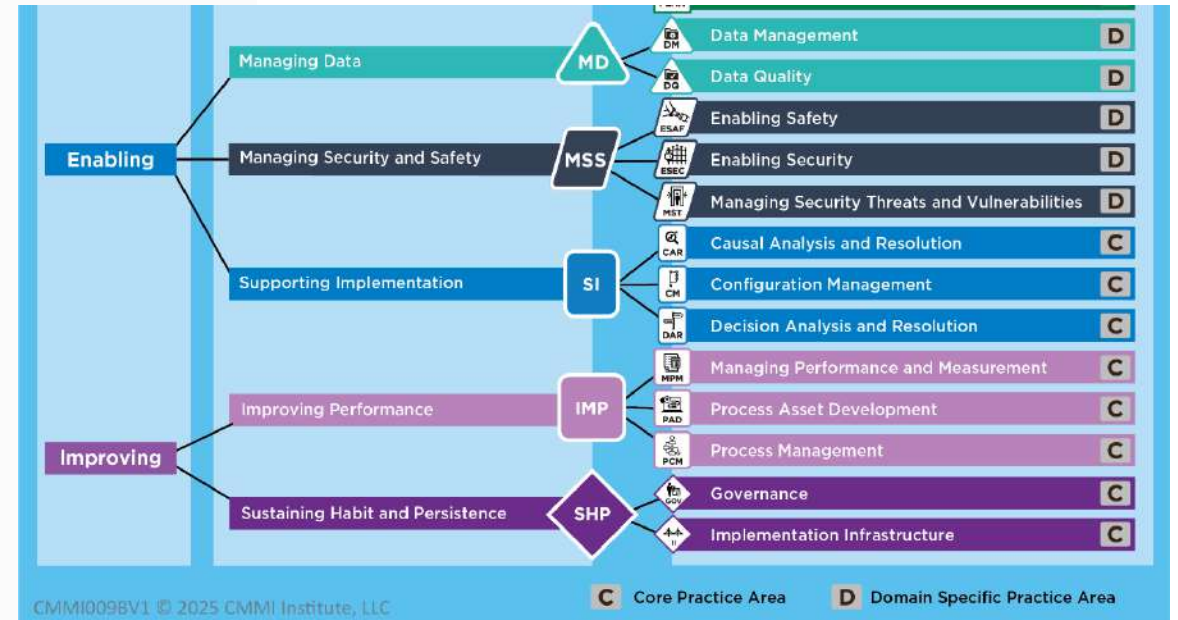
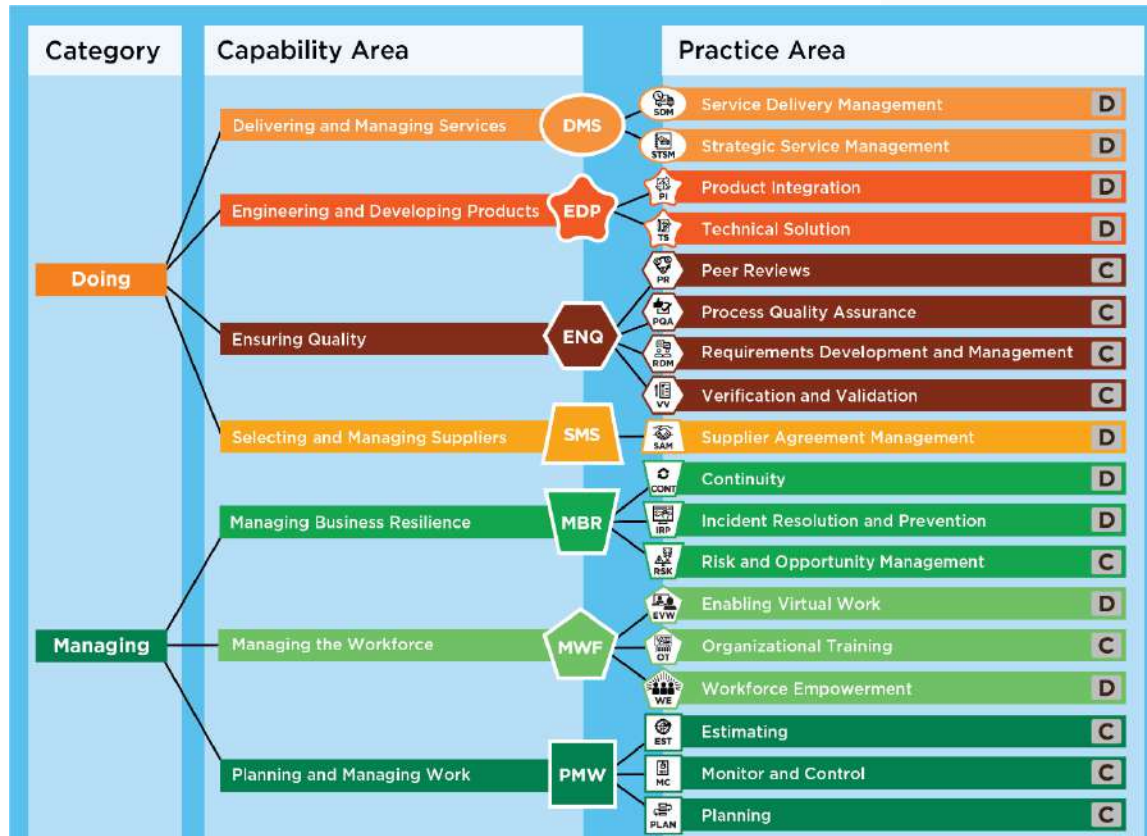


Capability and Maturity Levels are Consistently Defined and Enable Organizations to Consistently Measure Their Own Unique Journey

*The CMMI includes curated evolutionary best practices that are the **gold standard** for defining maturity and capability levels and can be consistently adopted by any industry to measure performance.*

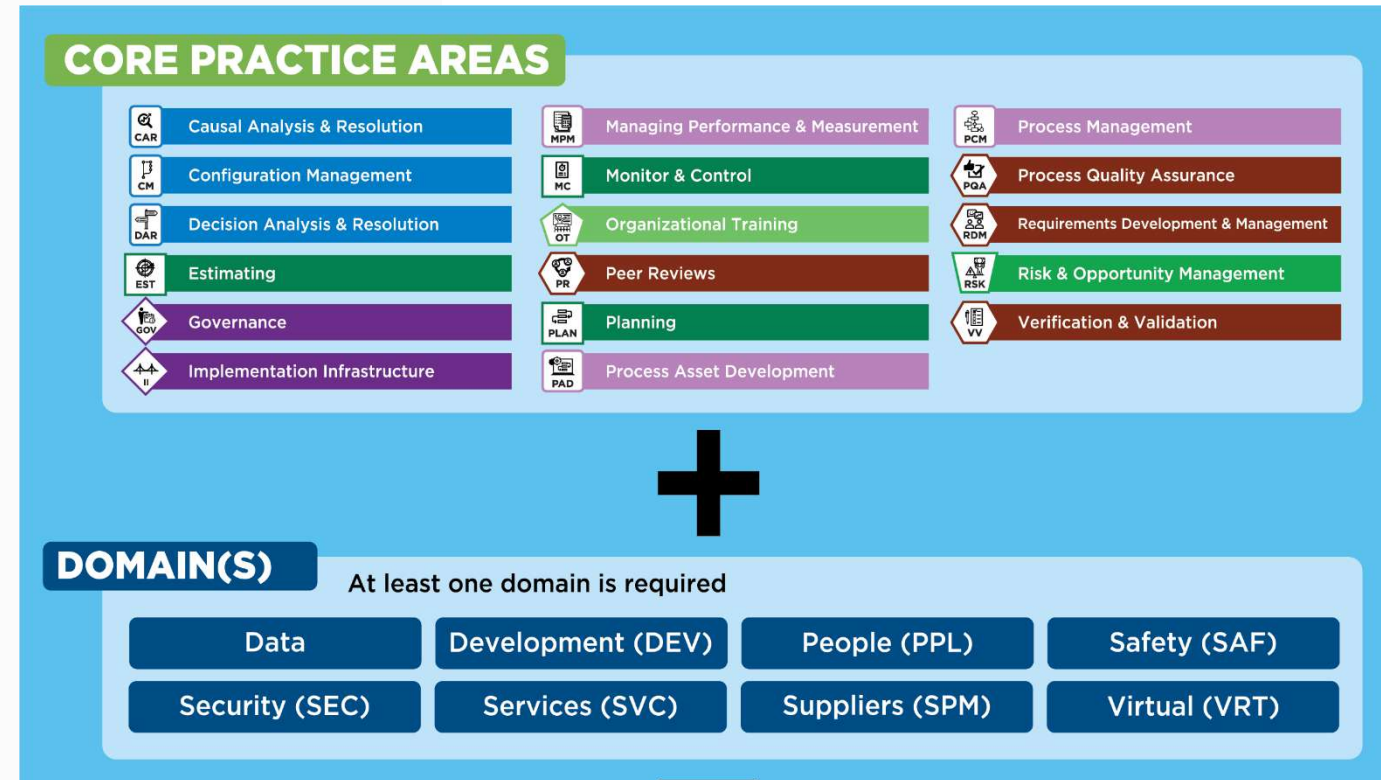


CMMI Capability Areas

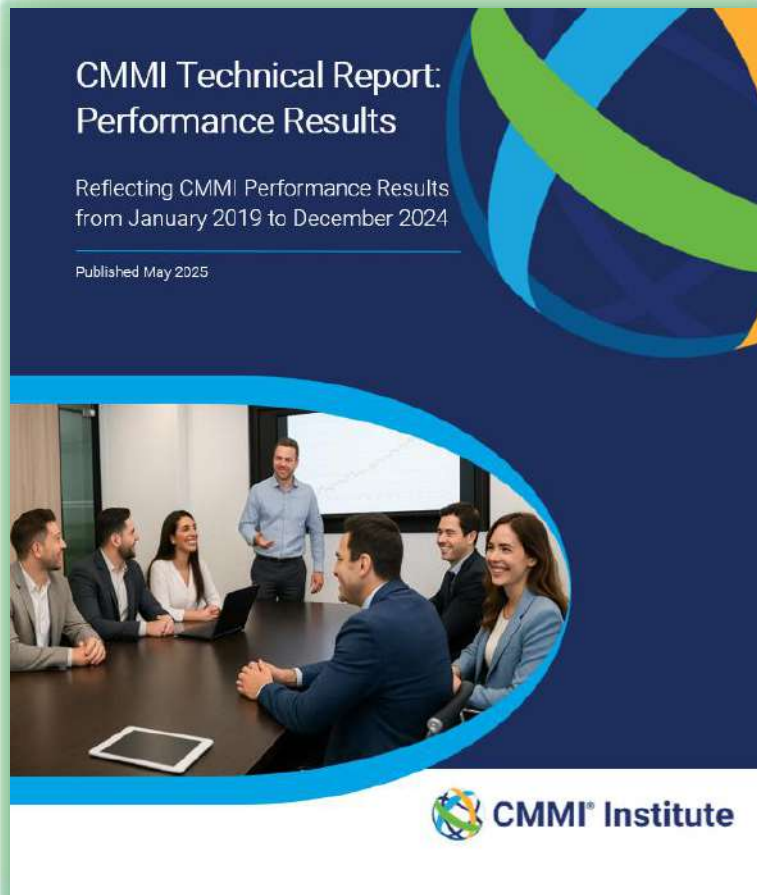


CMMI Domains – Flexible and Customizable

- CMMI covers everything you need, including a proven and solid foundation for effective, safe, and reliable AI capability
- It connects well and easily with many popular strategic planning tools and methods
- CMMI helps you find quickly identify your strengths and weaknesses, and provides best practices to address them
- Put your strategy into action using proven improvement methods
- Keep refining your strategy as you go, using continuous improvement



CMMI Technical Report: Performance Results



Content Highlights by Data Source

This annual technical report features the following insights into performance data.

Data Source	Report Description	Page
Appraisal Results <ul style="list-style-type: none">• By Year• By Industry• By Location• By Org Unit	Relevant Market Sectors Which industries and market sectors are using CMMI and where is the current focus?	7
	CMMI Locations Where in the world is CMMI being adopted and where is it the most popular?	8, 26
	Domains Affinity Which of the CMMI domains are being used most and how many appraisals are being performed across multiple domains?	10
	Size of Organizations How big are the Organizational Units that are adopting CMMI in terms of headcount?	24
	Significant Improvement Areas Across categories, which subcategories of improvement objectives are seeing the most substantial improvements?	6
Performance Improvement Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• By Category• By Subcategory	Most Improved Categories Which categories have the highest levels of improvements across all available appraisals?	11
	Most Popular Categories & Subcategories Which are the top categories of improvement objectives across the available report period?	12-14
	Comparing Categories What are the scale of improvements that are being realized in each of the Objective Categories?	15-16
	The Most Significant Improvements Within the top improvement categories, what are the most significant subcategories and what is the range of improvements being realized for each?	17-22

**Released:
May 2025**

**Available in the
CMMI Resource
Center:**

<https://cmmiinstitute.com/resource-files/public/cmmi-performance-report-summary>

6 Years of Consistent Performance Results

Top Improvement Areas

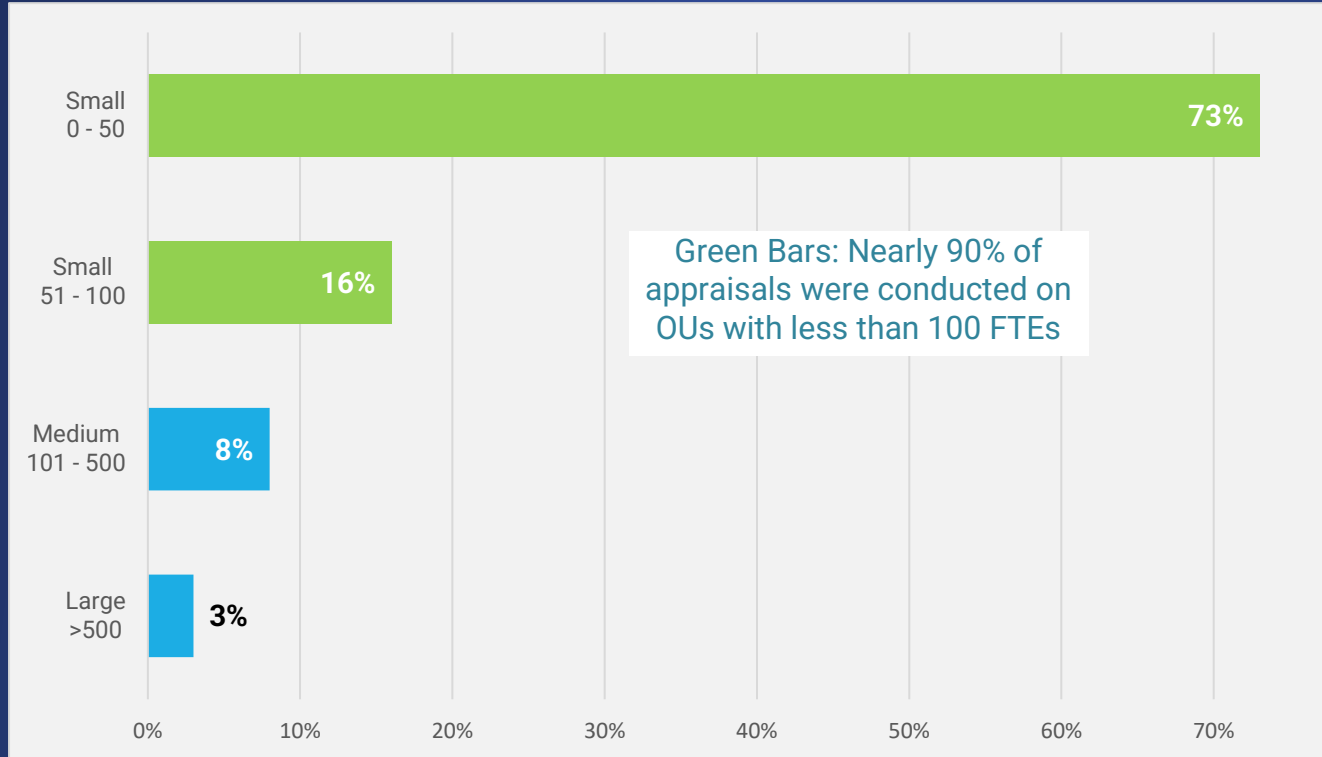
The following are the top 6 Improvement Categories by Average Rate, cumulative from 2019 to 2024 appraisal results.

- **Technical Performance:** On-Time Delivery up 18%
- **Technical Performance:** Schedule Variance down 15%
- **Productivity Performance:** Overall Productivity up 24%
- **Quality Performance:** Defect Density down 26%
- **Operational Performance:** Customer Satisfaction up 18%
- **Productivity Performance:** Project or Solution Productivity up 20%

Exceed Performance Expectations

- CMMI adoption enables **a proven and effective approach** for performance-based improvement and **enables innovation and transformation**
- CMMI's focus on **persistent and habitual performance improvement** sets it apart from any other standard or model
- **Flexible architecture** and an online experience **enable tailoring the adaptation of content to customer requirements**

CMMI Fits Any Size Organization



- *CMMI is flexible, useful, and suitable for small, medium, and large enterprises*
- *CMMI usage is relevant to and comparable across organizations of all sizes and is especially popular with smaller Organizational Units*
- *90% of approved appraisals were conducted on organizations with 100 FTEs or less*
- *3% of approved appraisals were conducted on organizations with greater than 500 FTEs*

COMING SOON!

CMMI - Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- 25+ Members of the AI Working Group
- 5 Packages for Community Review
- 80 Community Reviewers
- 7 Internal CMMI Content Reviewers
- ~100 different companies involved in the development or review of AI material – including IBM as the lead AI WG Sponsoring organization
- 130 punchlist items, in addition to AI content
- 200+ Pages of additional content reviewed
- 31 (all) Practice Areas in the CMMI Model will have AI Content
- 138 out of 276 Practices will have AI Content
 - 14 Practices with AI content incorporated into Explanatory Practice content
 - 124 AI Context Specific additions across PAs (~50% of all practices)

CMMI AI Content – Key Strategic Themes - 1

Governance activities play a critical role in any Artificial Intelligence (AI) implementation or use, and steps needed vary based on the approach, such as:

Autonomous Augmentation: Using AI solely to perform specific governance tasks such as “policy by code” where inputs that violate policy are automatically rejected

Verified Augmentation: Implementing AI to perform some governance activities with Human-in-the-Loop (HITL) intervention, e.g., a human verifying accuracy of AI selected governance decisions or actions

Support Augmentation: Humans using AI to assist management with governance activities, e.g., identifying key information needs and business objectives, research, conducting trend analysis, monitor compliance with organizational directives

CMMI AI Content – Key Strategic Themes - 2

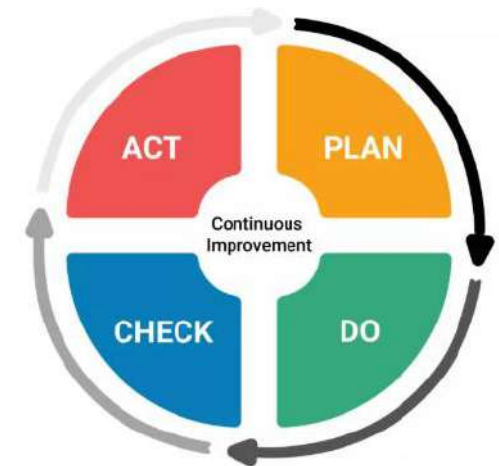
- *Of particular importance, **senior management should** emphasize and prioritize organizational efforts and resources to **address data debt, process debt, and technical debt holistically and together**, otherwise, AI becomes just another failed promise and strategic initiative.*
- As with any strategic implementation: Senior management must also foster a data-driven culture to address critical AI-related challenges such as privacy, silos, misuse, bias, data quality, and related regulatory requirements. This includes reinforcing responsible data best practices, identifying and mitigating data-related risks, and communicating the importance of proper data governance in support of AI adoption.

Next step: Appraise and close the gap

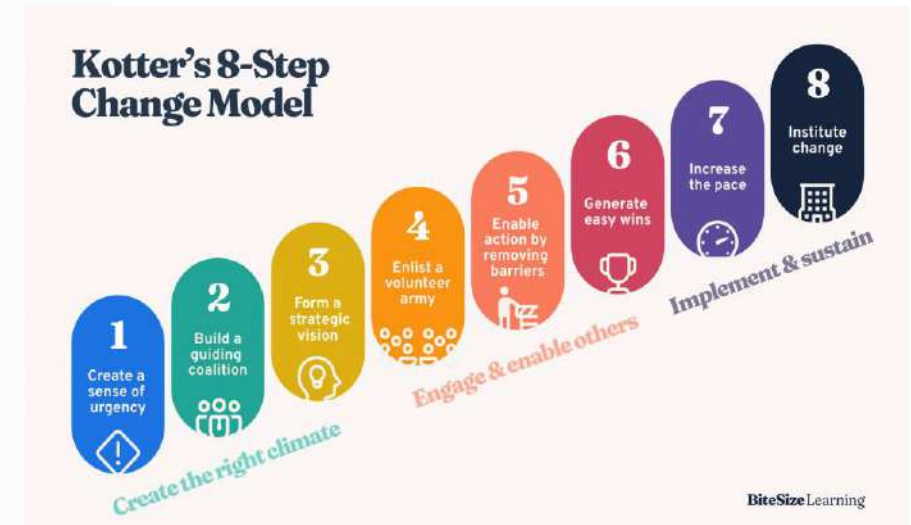
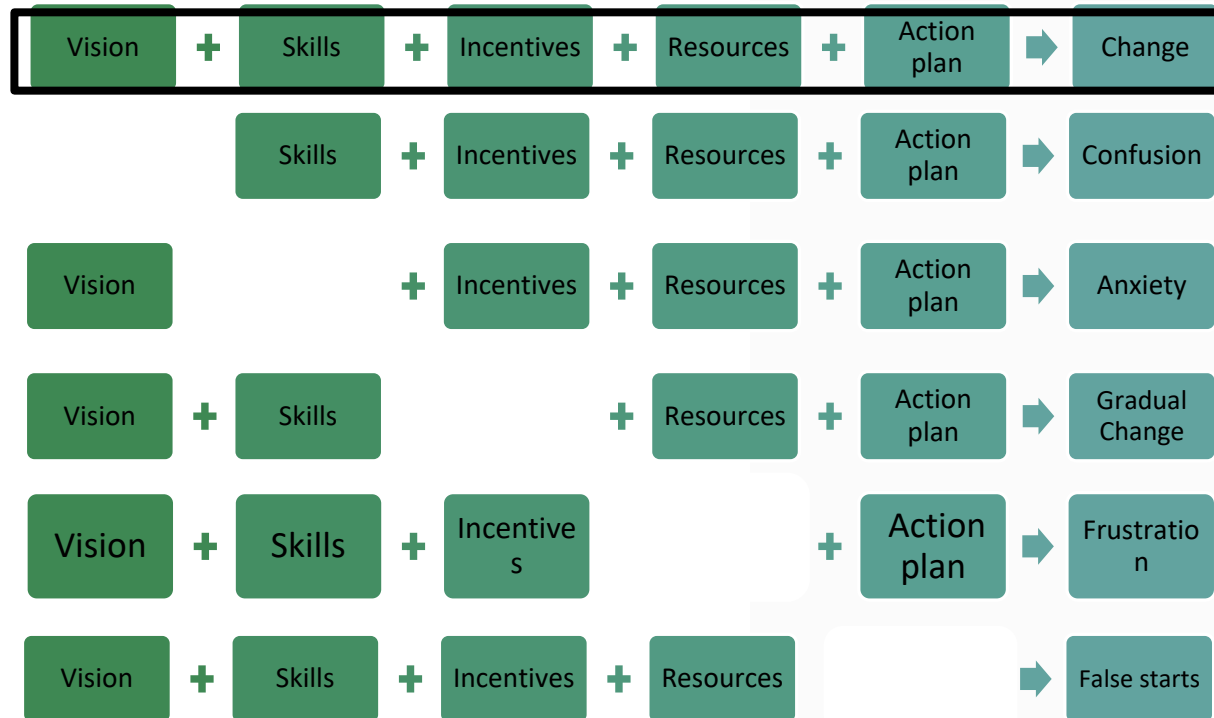
- At this point strategic plan is completed and CMMI capabilities have been identified.
- Finalize scoping, planning and conduct the appraisal.
 - Finalize scoping and planning.
 - Conduct the appraisal to identify strengths and improvement opportunities.
- Next is the process for developing, deploying and improving process.
 - Prioritize the improvement opportunities.
 - Process definition to close the gaps.
 - Deploy the process: Training, measures and process quality assurance (PQA).
 - Feedback and continually improve the process.
- Who owns the process?
 - EPG, PMO, Quality Director, CSO

Many examples of how to do this process for process

Tools that can help are
Six Sigma's DMAIC
SEI's IDEAL
Demings PDCA



Organizational Change Management



Executive coaches can help leadership with change management

Summary

- Strategic planning can be done with very well-known models.
 - Strategic Planning practices are good, but executing the plan failures are high.
- CMMI is a comprehensive model that is proven to enhance organizational capabilities.
 - CMMI aligns well with the outcomes of widely used strategic planning tools, such as SWOT, Balanced Scorecard (BSC), Business Model Canvas (BMC), and Porter's Value Chain.
 - CMMI addresses many of the capability gaps that lead to strategy-execution failures.
- Plan, scope, and appraise the identified organizational processes (which deliver capabilities) to uncover strengths and opportunities for improvement.
- Follow a "process for process" approach to develop and deploy repeatable practices that build strategic capabilities and help close the strategy-execution gap.
- Learn from your process practices and continuously strengthen your processes and strategic capabilities.
- A key leadership responsibility is organizational change management.

What's next

- Contact any CMMI partner at <https://cmmiinstitute.com/partners/directory>
- Contact the Demix team today for

Free consultation + Free CMMI model quick reference guide

- Pieter van Zyl: Pieter.vanZyl@demix.org
- Melanie Spies: Melanie.Spies@demix.org
- Bianca Erasmus: Bianca.Erasmus@demix.org
- Visit the CMMI website <https://cmmiinstitute.com/>
 - Ron Lear: rlear@isaca.org
 - Lindsey Marshall: lmarshall@isaca.org
- Visit the Demix website www.demix.org



Q & A



Supplementary material

A Manager's Guide to Successful Strategy Implementation

15 Jan 2024 by Kate Gibson

<https://online.hbs.edu/blog/post/strategy-implementation>

- 1. Handle Tension
 - Making tough choices isn't easy, and you need to manage any tension that arises with change.
 - CMMI Supporting Implementation (SI)
 - DAR
 - CMMI Sustaining Habit and Persistence (SI)
 - GOV, II
- 2. Align Job Design to Strategy
 - CMMI Managing the Workforce (MWF)
- 3. Inspire Employee Buy-In
 - CMMI Sustaining Habit and Persistence (SI)
 - GOV, II
- 4. Manage Risk
 - CMMI Managing Business Resilience (MBR)

Strategy Implementation Process: Why 70% of Strategic Initiatives Fail (And How to Be in the 30% That Succeed)

21 May 2025 by Lisa Carlin

<https://theturbochargers.com/strategy-implementation-process-why-70-of-strategic-initiatives-fail-and-how-to-be-in-the-30-that-succeed/>

- Organizations frequently lack structured processes for translating strategy into action.
- And stakeholder resistance emerges when execution begins and staff push back on the change.
- The Three-Dimensional Implementation Process You're Not Using
 - 1 Strategic Clarity Dimension
 - Sustaining Habit and Persistence (SHP)
 - GOV and II
 - Improving Performance (IMP)
 - MPM, PAD, PCM
 - 2. Engagement Dimension
 - Sustaining Habit and Persistence (SHP)
 - GOV and II
 - 3. Execution Structure Dimension
 - Planning and Managing Work (PMW)

5 Reasons strategy execution fails

21 December 2023 by Kate Gibson

<https://online.hbs.edu/blog/post/why-do-strategic-plans-fail>

- 1. Ineffective Resource Allocation
 - CMMI Planning and Managing Work
 - CMMI Managing the work force
- 2. Ineffective Risk Management
 - CMMI Managing Business Resilience
- 3. Vague Strategic Goals
 - CMMI Sustaining Habit and Persistence
- 4. Lack of Organizational Support
 - CMMI Sustaining Habit and Persistence
- 5. Imbalance of Innovation and Control
 - CMMI Planning and Managing Work
 - CMMI Ensuring Quality

Why Strategy Fails: When Strategy Stays On The Slide

14 April 2025 by Tefi Alonso

<https://www.cascade.app/blog/why-strategy-fails>

- Strategies fail because organizations lack the right systems and, crucially, the C-suite commitment required to manage strategy as a living, operational process, not just a document.
 - CMMI Sustaining Habit and Persistence
 - GOV and II
 - CMMI Plan & Managing Work (PMW)
 - EST, PLAN, MC
 - CMMI Improving Performance (IMP)
 - MPM, PAD, PCM
- 1. Visibility
 - CMMI Sustaining Habit and Persistence
 - GOV and II
- 2. Lack of insight: Strategy deserves its system
 - CMMI Improving Performance
 - MPM, PAD, PCM
- 3. Alignment Chasm – Fragmented Action Disconnected From Intent
 - CMMI Planning and Managing Work
 - EST, PLAN, MC

Why Strategy Fails: When Strategy Stays On The Slide

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- 4. The need for a shared, living process
 - CMMI Sustaining Habit and Persistence
 - GOV and II
 - CMMI Improving Performance
 - MPM, PAD, PCM
 - CMMI with the applicable selected domains
- 5. Question for leaders: Does your process foster true alignment?
 - CMMI Sustaining Habit and Persistence
 - GOV and II
- 6. The Focus Deficit – Drowning In Complexity With Static Plans
 - CMMI Supporting Implementation (SI)
 - CAR, CM, DAR
- 7. Two-thirds of strategic projects miss their deadlines.
 - Planning & Managing Work (PMW)
 - EST, PLAN, MC

Gartner Summit 2024 Highlights: Building Effective AI Strategies

27 March 2024

<https://www.castordoc.com/blog/gartner-summit-2024-highlights>

- “Organizations with advanced D&A maturity enjoy a 30% higher financial performance than their peers.” – Gartner
 - CMMI – Data
 - Managing Data = Data Management, Data Quality
- A - Successful Data Leadership: 3% Strategy, 97% Execution
 - CMMI Supporting Implementing
 - DAR, CM, CAR

Why Strategy Fails: When Strategy Stays On The Slide

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The 5 core execution challenges:



Visibility

Too many moving parts obscure what's happening with strategy.



Alignment

Teams duplicate efforts and chase misaligned goals.



Accountability

Without ownership of results, teams focus on tasks, not impact.



Focus

Time and resources are spent on the wrong priorities.



Speed

Execution is slow, even when direction is clear.

- Visibility
 - CMMI Sustaining Habit and Persistence
- Alignment
 - CMMI Managing the Workforce
- Accountability
 - CMMI Managing the Workforce
 - CMMI planning and managing work
- Focus
 - CMMI planning and managing work
 - CMMI planning and managing work
- Speed
 - CMMI is about process capability. Process determines speed.

The focus

Benchmark (maturity levels) (add definition)	USD Department of Defence, India, China	CMMI Dev focus
Evaluation – Improvement focus (add definition). Covering the strategic cap focus.	Strategy Execution Gap , MDDAP (Medical Device Discovery Appraisal)	Full CMMI Model Focus

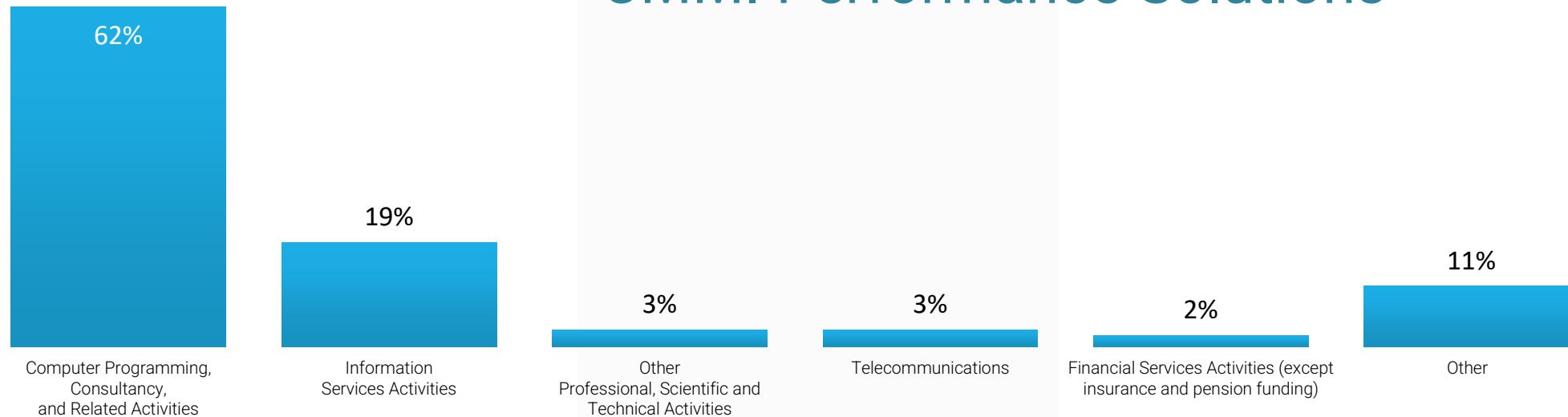


Focus is evaluation appraisals using parts of the full model and all its domains

Which Industries Use CMMI?

A broad and diverse set of industries use CMMI and CMMI adoption continues to expand across industries

Top Industries Adopting CMMI Performance Solutions



Source: CMMI Technical Report: Performance Results, 2019-2024

CMMI Artificial Intelligence (AI) : Numbers to Date

- 25+ Members of the AI Working Group
- 5 Packages for Community Review
- 80 Community Reviewers
- 7 Internal CMMI Content Reviewers
- ~100 different companies involved in the development or review of AI material
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CMMI AI Content Community Review Highlights

881 Total Comments from Community Review

81% of Comments Accepted (96% of these were focused on content additions, primarily adding examples, clarifying content, or adding additional context)

All content has been through an AI and plagiarism checker

Themes when comments were not accepted:

- Request to add information but the location was not appropriate:
 - Already covered in other areas of the model, e.g., policy, risk
 - Information is already incorporated within the Practice Area or practice
 - Information was too narrowly focused and not broadly applicable
- No change clearly identified, e.g., comment of no change.
- Misunderstanding of CMMI architecture or scope of release, e.g., change to practice statements
- Terminology inconsistencies, e.g., request to add terms not used in the model