Wider Fields - a UK Perspective

Paul Thornton Past President Institute of Actuaries



Wider Fields - a UK Perspective

The Actuarial Profession

- Does it matter?
- What are the *Wider Fields*?
- What have we done?
- How are we making it happen?
- An example : *RAMP*

Wider Fields - does it matter?

External pressures, for example :

• Convergence of banking and insurance

- threat or opportunity?

• Ascendancy of financial economics

– we need to be at the cutting edge

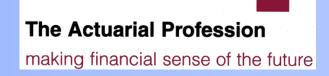


Wider Fields - does it matter?

- We need to attract the best students
 not lose them to the investment banks
- We need to avoid being marginalised
 - the world around us is moving fast eg GARP, AIMR
 - cannot stay as we are

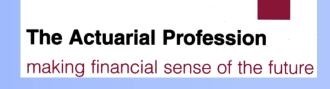
Wider Fields - what are they?

- Areas outside the traditional mainstream where actuaries can add value, for example
 - investment
 - banking
 - health
 - construction
 - nuclear decommissioning



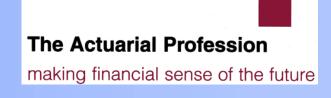
Wider Fields - what have we done in the UK?

- Created a Wider Fields Board initially
- then split it into *Finance and Investment* investment, corporate finance, banking
- and Social Policy
 - health, genetics, personal finance, social security



Wider Fields - some tactics

- Enthusiastic leaders
- Research and publications
- Joint work with bankers, engineers etc
- Affiliate membership for non actuaries
- Broadening the education syllabus
- Promoting our Vision of a much broader profession

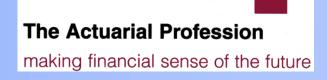


Wider Fields - an example

RAMP

Risk Analysis and Management for Projects

- A joint project with the Institution of Civil Engineers
- Report published as a book
- General application beyond the original focus



The Need for RAMP - Shortcomings of Current Project Management

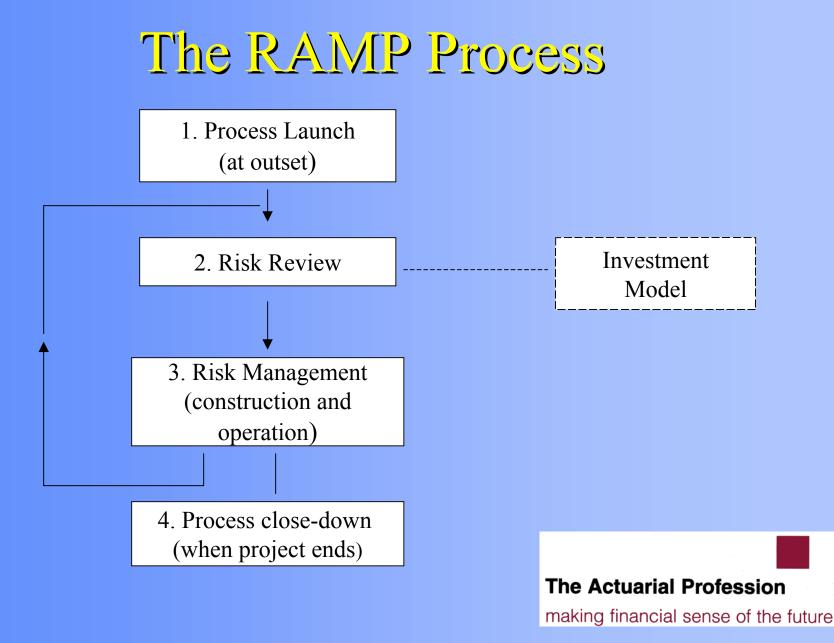
- Inadequate follow through to control stage
- Not enough attention paid to postconstruction risks
- Too much focus on easily quantifiable risks
- Too little attention to changing risk exposures as life cycle proceeds
- No satisfactory method for combining risks
- Lack of consistency

The Actuarial Profession making financial sense of the future

The RAMP Concept

The Actuarial Profession

- Think through at outset
- Identify and analyse risks
- Decide on risk mitigation
- Control residual risks



Possible Applications of RAMP

- Project appraisal
- Decisions on lending/investment
- Purchase of a business
- Launch of a new product
- Reducing risks in an ongoing business



From RAMP to StratRisk

Strategic opportunities and risks

- A multi-disciplinary initiative with Civil Engineers and others
- Three core elements to the concept :
 - there are upside as well as downside outcomes, including uncertain, unpredictable, or even unforeseeable ones
 - every risk is a potential opportunity perhaps for another business
 - taking risk might be necessary to pave the way for profits



Further Information on the UK Actuarial Profession Website

Career Development Day

www.actuaries.org.uk/finance invest/career dev day/seminars.html Mortgage Prepayment Risk www.actuaires.org.uk/finance invest/mort prepay rpt.pdf **Basel** Accord Article www.the-actuary .org.uk/monthsissues frames/articles/01 09 07.asp National Investment Conference www.actuaries.org.uk/finance invest/national inv sem/index.html 2002 F&I Conference (Wokingham) www.actuaries.org.uk/cpd/fininv2002.pdf

> The Actuarial Profession making financial sense of the future

Further Information on the UK Actuarial Profession Website

Information will shortly be accessible from the Institute's website *www.actuaries.org.uk* on

- Actuaries' Panel on Medical Advances
- Ageing Population

The Actuarial Profession making financial sense of the future

Wider Fields - A UK Perspective

Paul Thornton Past President Institute of Actuaries

