

# Embedding ERM in the Life Insurance Industry Getting Phase 0 right

Anthony Bice

#### **Contents**



## Five key success factors for getting Phase 0 right

- Scope what do we mean by ERM and which version are we implementing?
- 2. Baselining where are we now and where are we going?
- 3. Set course agree your implementation approach and set expectations
- 4. Engagement the right methods for the right people
- 5. Planning ride the wave

# 1. Scope – what do we mean by ERM and which version are we implementing?



ERM has been used to cover a lot of different programmes, and to hide a lot of sins...

### Operational risk assessment and controls

- Understand key processes and their risk of failure
- "Narrow" focus on the largest operational risks e.g.
  - Fraud
  - Treating customers fairly
  - Process errors
- Using scenario analysis methods, identify top
  - Operational risks
  - Associated controls
  - Mitigants
- Consider cost/benefit of strengthening controls

## Risk policies and governance

- Focus on 2<sup>nd</sup> line of defence (risk oversight and control)
- Formalise policies and processes for management of some or all risks
  - Insurance
  - Market/credit/ALM
  - Operational
- Formalise risk organisation and governance
  - Corporate centre
  - BU/LOB

## Company-wide Risk and Value Management

- Addresses comprehensive suite of Applications and Enablers
- Covers first and second lines of defence
  - Risk-based steering
  - Managing for value
  - Risk oversight and control
- Far-reaching impact well beyond the risk community

# 1. Scope – what do we mean by ERM and which version are we implementing?



In order to achieve a best practice, comprehensive ERM framework, insurers are looking at their capabilities and ambitions in four key areas

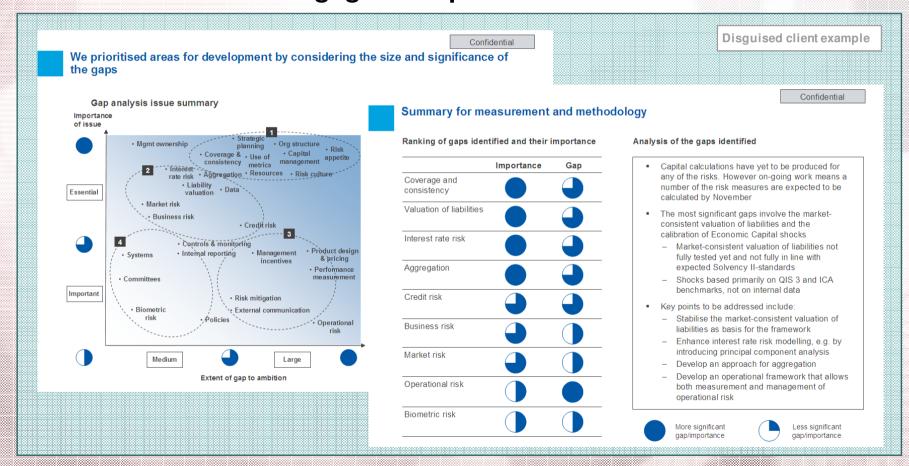
- 1. Models for measuring and analysing the overall risk situation
- Coverage of "risk map" by standardised models: Insurance risk (life and non-life), ALM risk, market risk, credit risk (investments, re-insurance), catastrophe risk, business risk, operational risk
- Aggregation method and management of diversification method
- 3. Governance and instrument for managing risk
- Committee structure
- Internal risk reporting
- o Organisational structure within risk management
- o Risk appetite, risk tolerance and limit system

- 2. Implementation into operational environment
- Integration of risk measurement
- Establishment of the risk management "idea" within the organisation
- Ongoing development of risk models
- 4. Group-wide use of risk information for risk/return decisions
- Integration of risk management into strategic steering
- Impact of risk management on incentive systems
- Impact of risk management on pricing, product design and profitability measurement
- Impact of risk management on investment management
- External risk communication

# 2. Baselining – where are we now and where are we going?



Gap analysis and ambition statement are critical in the communication and engagement process...



# 2. Baselining – where are we now and where are we going?



...as is understanding and articulating where the value potential lies

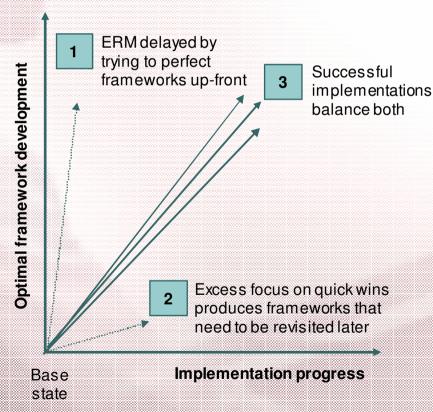
Disguised client example **Contain and manage Optimise upside** downside Improved financial performance Improved oversight and active mitigation **Improve external perceptions Comply with regulation** More favourable treatment from Comfortable compliance with external appraisers (regulators, Solvency II and Basel II rating agencies, analysts)

# 3. Set course – agree your implementation approach and set expectations



#### **ERM** implementation paths

Frameworks are essential to begin, but will evolve over time



#### Getting the right path to success

- Such a complex, interlinked problem as ERM is not easily implemented
  - Defining exhaustive frameworks is difficult and delays implementation
  - 2 Excessive focus on "quick wins" results in waste as initial efforts are revisited when other framework components later demand a different approach
  - The best approach balances the two
    - Develop and adapt frameworks as implementation is carried out
    - Minimise both the "time to start" and the "need to rework"
- Crucially a significant communication effort must be employed so people know what to expect, and when

# 4. Engagement – the right methods Action All for the right people



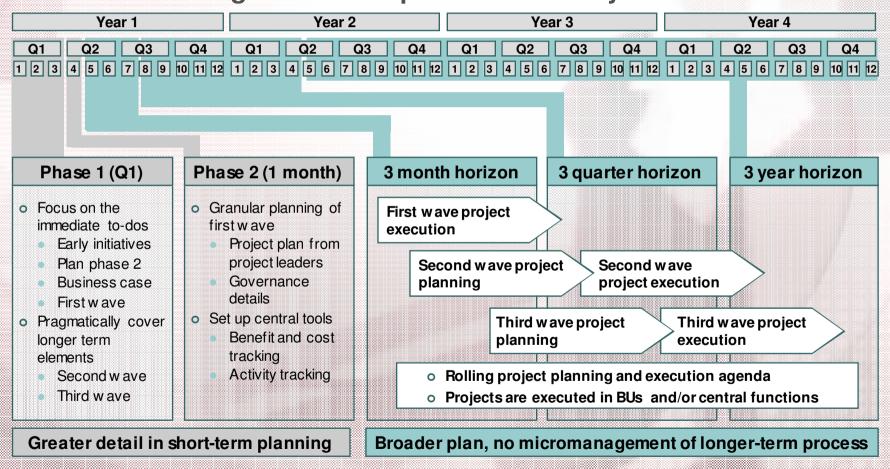
## Success can be accelerated and enhanced by strong leadership from the very top, and driven from the functions most affected

- At least four different stakeholder groups with significantly different interests
  - Central risk and finance team
  - Broader risk and finance community
  - "The Business"
  - External stakeholders
- Certain features of ERM frameworks do not easily resonate further down the hierarchy
  - Some seem abstract
  - Some seem onerous and pointless
- Significant support from the top-of-house can help create the momentum
  - Keeps it relevant
  - Formal inclusion in executive KPIs is a great way to focus the mind
  - Maintaining "the vision" is a good way to ensure consistent support
- Support from the wider (and most-affected) parts of the organisation can ensure ERM is actually embedded
  - Involve the "do-ers" in the design they know what will work and what won't
  - Maintain regular contact and support between the do-ers and the top management

### 5. Planning – ride the wave



Have a good (and reasonable) sense of how you will implement, but don't micro-manage the entire process from day one



#### **Contact details**



- Anthony Bice Oliver Wyman
  - anthony.bice@oliverwyman.com
  - +44 7932 682 775



2009 Convention Lite and the Pensions, Health and Life Seminars
19-20 May 2009

Sandton Convention Centre Johannesburg, South Africa