Project Management Institute - Japan (PMI-J) chapter recently celebrated its 20th anniversary since foundation on 20th May 2018. In fact, this year will see series of events aimed at celebration of the PMI-Japan chapter. Earlier known as PMI - Tokyo during its inception, it evolved into national chapter of PMI with various regional branches like Chubu, Kansai under its umbrella.

When it was decided to celebrate the year 2018 as 20th anniversary year of PMI-Japan foundation, a volunteer committee was established to conduct it along-with directorate of the event itself. Both worked in tandem with PMI-Japan secretariat to see flawless event execution. In volunteer committee were around 20 members from various study groups and committees, bounded by a virtual communication group to put all planning together. Periodic meetings were held to understand the program outline, some of which were supervised by PMI-J secretariat. Along-with the meetings were the formal and later a personal bond of friendship that saw several members network based on their work, hobbies, project management experiences and aspirations.

To showcase the PMI Japan activities so far and its values as well as to invoke interest of the general public about project management, the event on 20th May was kept open to all and saw record registration from the time the event was opened. Web based seat reservations was filled up to its capacity the day it was opened in just a few hours. And in spite of being a public holiday, the event on 20 May 2018 saw a record turnout of close to 400 attendees apart from the seminars speakers and PMI-J directors. The overall event went all smoothly with several speakers sharing their pie about project management.

Nevertheless, in keeping with PM methodology, a feedback meeting of volunteers was held on 6th June to discuss the improvement as well as to express the gratitude.

A PMI-Japan chapter logo marked pen was gifted to all attendees of seminar and tie-pin, brooch to PMI directors and volunteers who had helped conduct the event graciously.

As PMI chapter, right from planning of the event till its execution, it was diligently conducted. My personal take-away was about the communication tool that kept broadcasting at regular intervals about progress of the event. It was not just an email in inbox but a series of threads bound by a subject heading, making the voting, commenting, replying, concluding each topic to its conclusion.

Volunteer committee formed to celebrate the 20th anniversary was a common place for many members to meet and exchange their ideas, planning several activities to come together on diverse topics like Golf, Barbecue, picnic and so many good things. PMI-J secretariat hosted some meetings and some as offsite ones.

A long cherished and enjoyable event for all those involved in it, aptly described by PMI's slogan marked on the wall-banner at PMI Japan secretariat that says it all- "Good things happen when you get involved with PMI"!