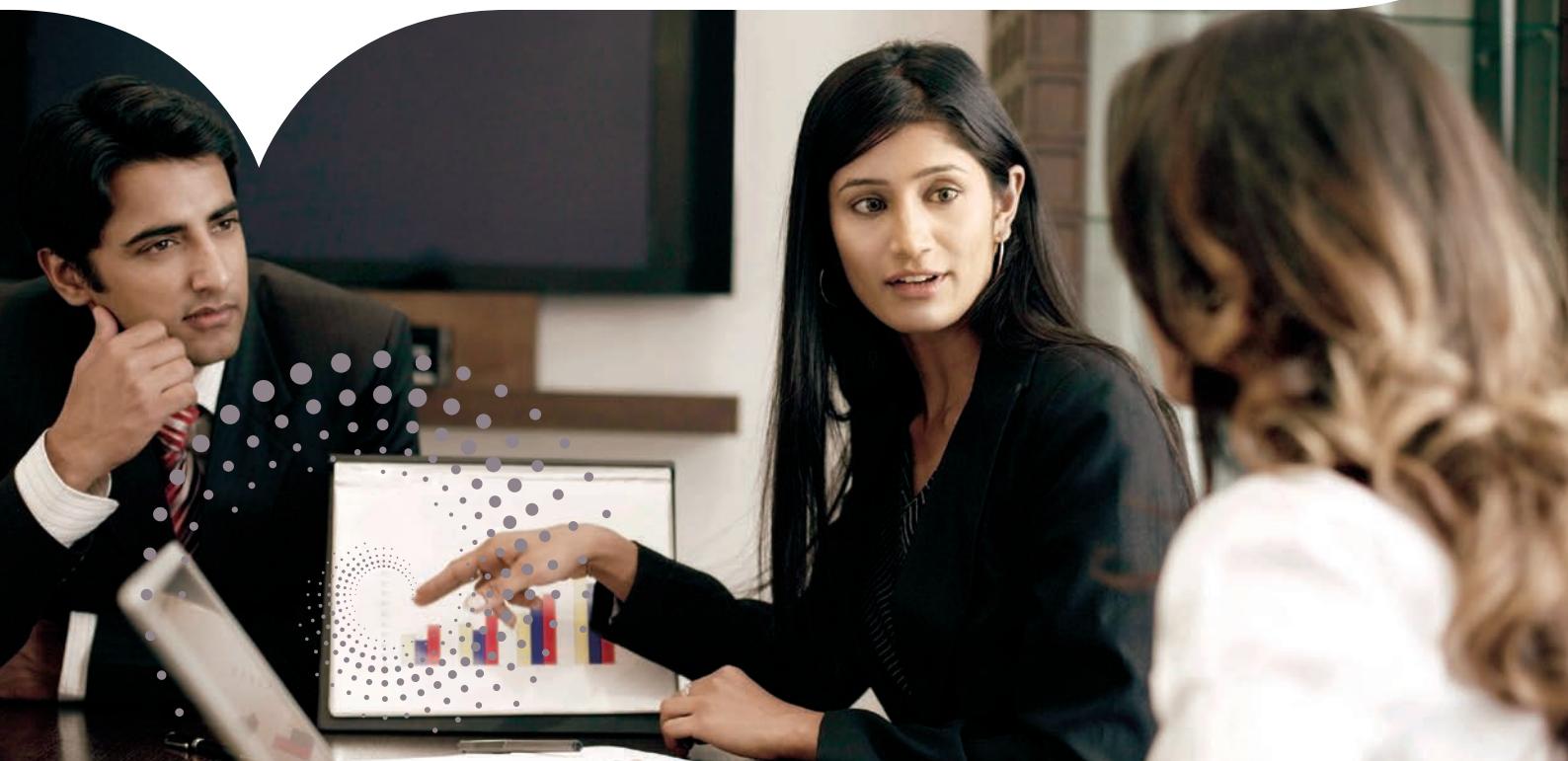


# Agile Information Management (AIM)



**The standard Agile approach is designed to deliver high-quality software under frequently changing business conditions.**

Information Management (IM) is the discipline of distilling information and knowledge from data in order to provide insights that can help in running or improving the organization. These business insights can come from different types of data and have different goals. The common theme, however, is to support faster and better-informed business decisions.

Business Intelligence (BI), Analytics and Big Data projects tend to be complex and volatile. The complexity comes from the fact that they involve bringing together data from many different sources. The volatility arises because users often change their minds once they see early results, and because information needs to move on rapidly to stay in line with changing business needs.

These characteristics make these projects ideal candidates for an Agile development approach. The standard Agile approach is designed to deliver high-quality software under frequently changing business conditions, but is not specifically designed for BI development. Capgemini's Agile Information Management (AIM) provides a comprehensive framework that extends the Agile framework to specifically address BI projects.

## Challenges in applying Agile to Information Management

### Challenge 1: Strong focus on data

One reason why applying Agile techniques to IM projects is not always straightforward is that these projects have a strong focus on data rather than processing. Traditional Agile techniques are centered on business processes.

### Challenge 2: Difficult to get the whole picture quickly

Getting early feedback is another challenge. Creating a major new report or dashboard or set of analytics can prove to be a lengthy task. Agile techniques are centered on value delivery, and user stories depict the functionality that describes the value. In BI, value lies in the information delivered, and in what can be done with that information, rather than in the actions that the software performs.

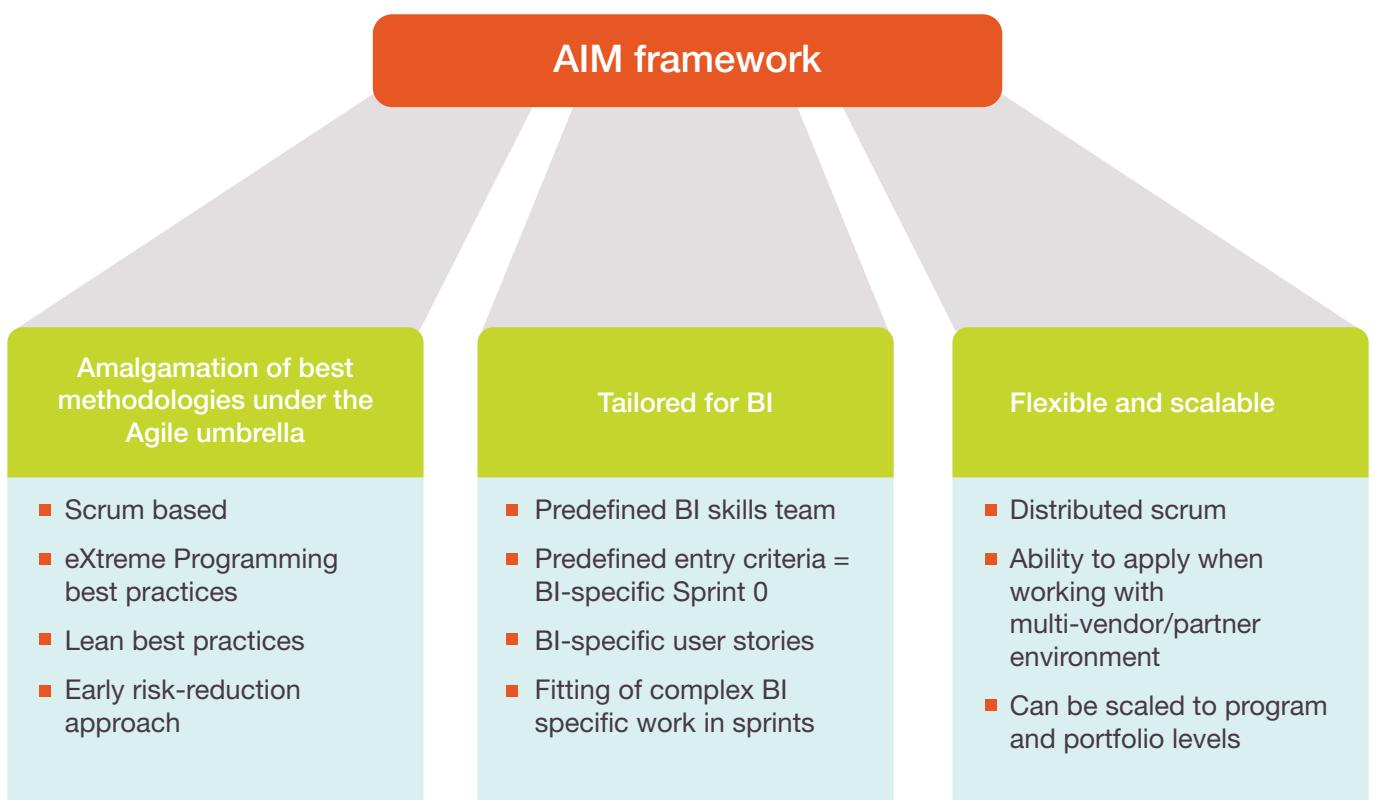
Capgemini has developed Agile Information Management (AIM) to overcome these challenges. AIM provides a comprehensive framework for executing IM projects the Agile way. The approach enables decisions about data to be

made early in the project while retaining maximum flexibility. The AIM framework defines different ways of fitting complex and lengthy tasks into the sprint timebox to facilitate early feedback. AIM also prescribes writing BI user stories around the information to be generated and the actions that can be performed based on that information.

With Capgemini AIM, BI projects can take advantage of all the benefits of Agile to deliver quality solutions.

### Highlights of the AIM framework

- The framework is based on Agile scrum, with best practices drawn from methods under the Agile umbrella such as eXtreme Programming and Lean.
- Classical and emerging IM technologies are supported, including Big Data and open source projects using microservices.
- The approach is scalable to program and portfolio levels.
- Distributed delivery is facilitated by Capgemini's Rightshore® model.
- Sprint 0 is tailored for BI projects, taking care of prerequisites like data availability, data quality, and performance parameters.



- Quality of delivery is achieved with stringent acceptance criteria and definition of done (DoD).
- There is a predefined team setup and flexible estimating model specific to Agile projects in IM.
- Tasks are broken down by using AIM's ability to fit work into sprints so that early feedback is obtained.

### **Benefits of AIM**

- Overall project speed improvement of up to 20%.
- Rework reduction of up to 50%, ensuring cost savings.
- Iterative, incremental delivery of valuable chunks of the solution within weeks or months (instead of a long list of requirements in years) resulting in faster development with better interim results.
- More control over requirements and solutions, with less speculation about them.
- Closer alignment to business needs.
- Data-centric, rather than process-centric, approach.
- Report visualization for end-users with actual values ensures user alignment.
- True collaborative atmosphere – Collaborative Business Experience™.
- Balance between Rightshore®, offshore and onsite, reducing cost.
- Reduction in process overheads with high quality maintained.

### **Tailored for IM. Scalable. Flexible. Delivers early business value**

AIM is not restricted to individual projects where teams are co-located; it is scalable to guide entire project portfolios in distributed environments. In scenarios where it is scaled to portfolio level, it limits work-in-progress to a manageable level, deconstructs large tasks into smaller ones, and synchronizes and integrates work at all levels to ensure overall business objectives are met.

AIM has inherited flexibility from Agile best practices. It has all the aspects of Agile development's empirical process model, such as transparency and the ability to "inspect and adapt" for continual improvement.

### **Why Capgemini and AIM?**

Capgemini's AIM framework is tried and tested, and its guidelines are in line with Agile principles. AIM leverages Capgemini's Rightshore® approach and unique way of working with clients, the Collaborative Business Experience®, to deliver business value incrementally and iteratively for all types of clients, from small organizations to major global players.

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### **Successful AIM engagements**

- For a complex global organization with several separate financial planning and consolidation processes, we have methods defining short sprints and supporting delivery in weeks. A conventional IM process might have delivered a monolithic solution after three to five years.
- For a major telecom company in Europe, we delivered priority KPIs to eliminate financial losses quickly.
- For a large electronics and consumer goods company, we reduced rework by 50% in a project that completed 20% faster than expected.



## About Capgemini

With almost 140,000 people in over 40 countries, Capgemini is one of the world's foremost providers of consulting, technology and outsourcing services. The Group reported 2013 global revenues of EUR 10.1 billion. Together with its clients, Capgemini creates and delivers business and technology solutions that fit their needs and drive the results they want. A deeply multicultural organization, Capgemini has developed its own way of working, the Collaborative Business Experience™, and draws on Rightshore®, its worldwide delivery model.

For further information visit

**[www.capgemini.com/bim](http://www.capgemini.com/bim)**

or contact us at

**[bim@capgemini.com](mailto:bim@capgemini.com)**