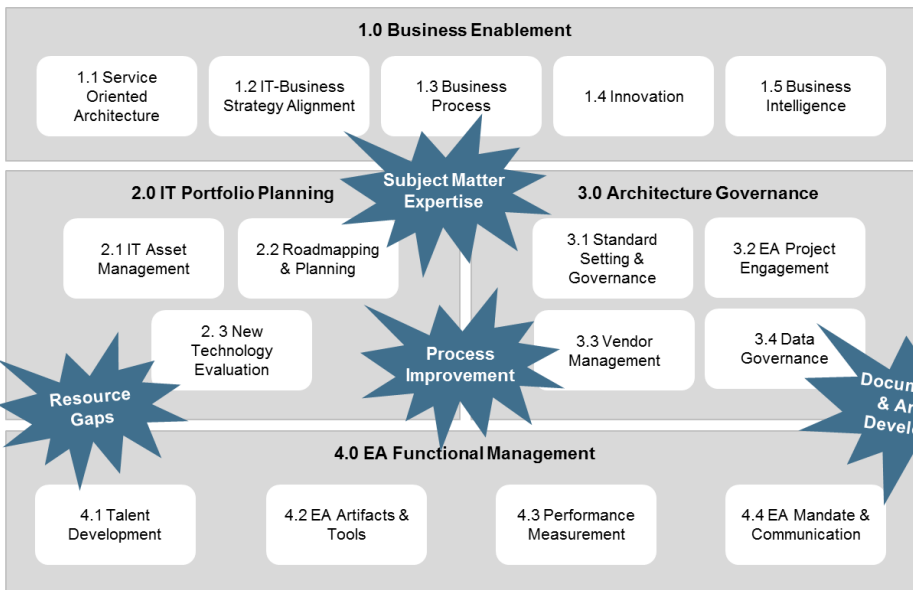


Companies, large and small, and across industries have come to recognize the value and need for an Enterprise Architecture function. Progressive, forward thinking IT Leaders have successfully made the case for EA within their organizations and have established a clear vision and charter for moving forward. They have also defined and deployed the necessary resources – people, process and technology to position EA for success. However, in many cases, the EA function falters during execution - not because its value is questioned, but because the EA team is resource constrained, hampering its ability to ramp up and respond effectively to the growing demand for EA services. If this situation were left unattended, the overall interest level in EA would rapidly decline and positive momentum would be lost, resulting in a missed opportunity for IT to deliver business value.

Balancing Internal EA Core Competencies with Targeted External Support

The functional scope of Enterprise Architecture as depicted in the EA capability map below can quickly stretch an EA organization's resources thin.

EA Capability Map



Source: Cornerstone Analysis – Enterprise Architecture Executive Council

Additionally, identifying and recruiting available EA resources in the marketplace or cross-training internal IT resources can be both time-consuming and nonproductive. Organizations faced with such EA talent gaps can turn to external service providers and consulting organizations for interim support, as they build their in-house capabilities over time. This allows them the flexibility to focus on bringing in the right talent, while also delivering services and value to their internal customers.

Key Value:

- *Tapping into external EA resources helps accelerate ramp-up, improve internal EA intellectual capital and enable overall EA agility and responsiveness*
- *Cornerstone's EA Advisory and Implementation Support can come in various forms such as subject matter expertise, interim EA practitioners, EA process improvement and EA artifacts development*
- *Cornerstone's EA Advisory and Implementation Support can help organizations focus on their competencies while executing their EA agendas*

EA Advisory & Implementation Support

- *Providing Enterprise Architecture support where and when you need it across your EA capabilities*

The nature and scope of this outside support can vary significantly depending on the overall maturity and skills gap within a particular EA organization. However, it's not uncommon for EA organizations to seek

- **Subject matter expertise** around a specific EA domain: Business Architecture, Data Architecture, Application Architecture or Technology Architecture
- Experienced **EA practitioners** to assess and refine existing EA policies, practices and processes.
- **Business and System Analysts** to support the definition and development of various EA artifacts
- **EA specialists** to fill vacant/open EA roles

This model of leveraging external consulting resources is not new and has been executed on a much larger scale through outsourcing engagements, however, it's also proving its value on a much smaller scale for select pockets of an organization. It's also become particularly useful within Enterprise Architecture, as there's a relatively limited supply of such resources.

There are both strategic and tactical benefits of tapping into external sources of EA support and talent:

- **EA Agility:** engage and dis-engage EA resources on an as needed basis providing a flexible sourcing model
- **Knowledge Transfer:** gain insights to industry EA 'best practices' and lessons learned from other client engagements
- **Strategic Focus:** leverage internal resources to focus on higher value add activities of EA planning, socialization & positioning and business engagement
- **Customer Satisfaction:** ensure internal customer satisfaction by keeping up with the demand for EA services

Leveraging Our Experience for Your Organization

Cornerstone will work closely with you to identify resource skill gaps and fill them in a timely manner to avoid any operational issues or organizational consequences. We can provide EA resources on a stand-alone basis or 'packaged' as a team. Ultimately, we **are flexible** in defining the most effective resource model to address your specific needs and expectations.

Contact us today to learn more about Cornerstone's EA Advisory and Implementation Support Offering and how we can help you efficiently and effectively execute your EA agenda.

Cornerstone Data Strategies Enterprise Architecture (EA) Practice

- Cornerstone's EA Practice helps clients **align their IT assets** with their business priorities
- Cornerstone's EA Practice offerings **span the entire EA delivery lifecycle** and can be customized to the specific EA needs and maturity of our clients
- Cornerstone's EA consultants are **experienced architects with hands-on exposure** and are able to balance theoretical concepts with real world pragmatism

Cornerstone Data Strategies, Inc.

- Los Angeles
- New York
- Washington D.C.

EA Product Offerings

EA-4-01-201200

Enterprise Architecture Diagnostic

Assess existing EA program and positioning, identifying Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT)

Enterprise Architecture Blueprints & Roadmap

Develop target state architecture blueprints and identify short and long-term initiatives to evolve enterprise architecture over time

Enterprise Architecture Advisory & Implementation Support

Provide domain experts as required to help fill short-term EA skillset and knowledge gaps

Enterprise Architecture Governance Framework & Process

Develop a governance framework to ensure the effective definition, integration and maintenance of EA specifications

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