Priya Saikumar (she/her)

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Education

University of Oxford, UK   2023-2026
Reading for DPhil in Engineering Science

Judge Business School, University of Cambridge, UK   2022-2023
Master of Business Administration degree, Energy & Environment track (non-classed degree)

Technical University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany   2011-2014
MSc International Production Management (Grade 1.7, UK equivalent 'First Class Honours')

Visveswaraya Technological University, Belgaum, India   2006-2010
BE Industrial Engineering & Management (Score: 84.92%, UK equivalent 'First Class Honours')

Professional experience

Jungheinrich AG, Hamburg, Germany   **Feb 2022- Apr 2024**
Warehouse management and Intralogistics solutions provider

Senior Enterprise Portfolio Manager & Agile Coach, PMO Lead
- Led an enterprise-wide innovation strategy workshop, utilising design thinking, participatory budgeting and the Scaled Agile Framework to facilitating go/no-go decisions for Strategy 2025+ using bespoke innovation-risk assessment tool.
- Setup an innovation lab for new product introduction activities by replacing portfolio processes with a product-centric approach using DevOps, Lean UX, and Agile methodologies.
- Led a circular retrofit and solutions program, managing a portfolio of low-carbon intralogistics innovations including remanufactured range of products and performance-as-a-service business models.

NXP Semiconductors Germany GmbH., Hamburg, Germany   **Jan 2019- Jan 2022**
Dutch Semiconductor and software solution provider

Trust Provisioning (TP) Portfolio and Demand Manager/ Sustainability ERG Lead
- Led the pilot programme on Agile implementation for NXP's central security strategy, phasing out legacy solutions and streamlining our backlog to a 60% reduction in lead time for feature deliveries to clients.
- Co-ordinated feature requests for trust provisioning services on IoT, Sensors, Mifare, NFC and Edge computing applications, together with client teams from ICT, automotive and payment industries.
- Developed an initiative scoring model to align design outcomes of new technology projects with NXP's corporate growth and security targets to aid in informed R&D investment decisions.
- Chaired the demand board for feature requests from clients in the automotive, healthcare, e-Gov, energy and ICT sector.
- Orchestrated cross-product R&D funding by organizing innovation workshops with product marketing teams to identify new use cases for emerging technologies, securing partial development contributions from adjacent product lines and accelerating scalable deployment.

Airbus SaaS (on behalf of Accenture GmbH), Hamburg, Germany   **Nov 2017 – Dec 2018**
Technology and management consulting service provider

Technology Consultant, A350 Scalability Portfolio Manager at Airbus GmbH
- Designed and scaled an internal platform for the Airbus A350 to develop a governance model to report and track project impact and outcomes on program objectives.
- Led a portfolio of 56 projects across 14 teams and 3 production sites in Europe, securing annual savings of $7.6 million in production costs for the A350 Aircraft program in 2018 through innovative strategies such as incorporating circular principles (refurbishment, repair, retrofit), strategic contract negotiations, and engaging downstream suppliers for collaborative design improvements.
- Established a central Project Management Office (PMO) and introduced interdependency tracking by conducting workshops with global teams to link key strategic outcomes such as circularity, cost, quality, lead time, and Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) across various projects and designed a program tracking tool utilizing Palantir software to track project outcomes.

Airbus GmbH (on behalf of Scalian), Hamburg & Speyer, Germany   **Mar 2016 – Oct 2017**

Aerospace consulting services for Digital Transformation, Digital Systems, and Operations Performance

Project Lead, End-2-End Supply Chain Transformation Project

- Spearheaded the deployment of digital supply chain planning and procurement processes, increasing customization capabilities by 12 times and reducing lead time by 70%.
- Led the integration of predictive maintenance and remote diagnostics into the ERP system, accurately identifying component requirements within supplier lead times.

Airbus GmbH, Hamburg, Germany   **Jan 2013 – Mar 2016**

Aeronautical engineering company offering work-package and staffing support

Supply Chain Manager, Operational Procurement (on behalf of Bishop GmbH)   Nov 2014 – Mar 2016

Junior Supply Chain Manager (Part-time), Operational Procurement   Jan 2013 – Oct 2014

- Designed and developed a prototype New Parts Introduction for Airbus's Supplier Relationship Management tool "AirSupply" following iterative testing and stakeholder feedback.
- Developed a training module to incorporate Scrum and Less framework into LBIP+, Airbus's bespoke Price2 based project management methodology.
- Secured the supply of new parts for the Airbus A350 program, achieving material readiness in 123 days—down from 550 in previous programs—with zero missing parts during the first 25 assembly shifts

Hiten Fasteners Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore, India   **Aug 2009 – Sep 2010**

OEM of high tensile fastening systems for rail and renewable energy sector

Industrial Engineer, Rail fastening systems   Aug 2009- Sept 2010

- Supported development of an induction hardening facility to address warping issues in anchor bolts for rail systems.
- Conducted acceptance sampling and established process and quality control procedures in accordance with lean-six sigma and ISO requirements to qualify new products manufactured with this technology for the Indian metro and German rail systems.

Other Professional & Research experience

Freelance engagements, research groups and MBA consulting roles

Freelance Consultant (Part-time), Independent engagements   **Sep 2024- Current**
- Advised a German windmill component manufacturer on double materiality analysis and CSRD reporting, aligning sustainability disclosures with regulatory requirements.
- Supported four clients in India and Thailand on CBAM compliance and carbon accounting, ensuring adherence to EU export regulations.
- Conducted a feasibility study for a South African client, evaluating materials and service contracts, and developed a pilot proposal for implementation.
- Worked with an Indian original equipment manufacturer (OEM) to implement SBTi targets and achieve Cradle-to-Cradle product certification, integrating circular economy principles.
- Part-time engagement at the department of Teaching and Design Support Group, University of Oxford, on designing interactive lessons and gamification for innovation management and project management education.

Member, Expert group on Resource Management, UNECE, Geneva, Switzerland   **Apr 2024 - Current**
- Formulating and testing UNFC and UNRMS guidelines for projects embracing circular economy principles, specifically aiding circular e-waste management in the Global South and supporting SMEs in securing funding via the EU Critical Material Act.

Executive council member, Tondo, Milan, Italy   **Nov 2024- Current**
- Facilitate design thinking workshops for summer schools and industry hackathons, including the EU-funded CLOCKs Circular Economy Summer School and the Circular Threads Hackathon, driving innovation in circular economy solutions.
- Contribute to research and white papers, supporting Tondo's studies on circular economy transitions, with a focus on circular textiles (Circular Threads) and e-waste management.
- Engaged as a trainer for online and in-person courses on design thinking organised by Tondo, specializing in circular economy innovation and sustainable design strategies.

Research Intern, Business in Global Society, Harvard Business School, USA   **Jul 2023- Sep 2023**

- Utilized archival methods to analyse Climate Change CDP reports and publicly available data from five companies to assess profits, revenue, costs, and savings associated with various circular business models in the textile and battery sectors. The study identified which business models optimally balance profitability and cost while highlighting their emission-related drawbacks and revealed a novel insight on accounting and financial outcome of circular business models.

ESG Policy Research, IBM - Envizi, London, United Kingdom   **Jul 2023- Sep 2023**

- Conducted research on the ESG policy landscape and corporate digitization requirements to inform the design of IBM's ESG reporting tool, Envizi. This involved analysing policy guidelines from frameworks such as CSRD, TCFD, CDP, GRI, SASB, and ISSB, alongside conducting primary research with sustainability professionals to identify challenges, primarily the knowledge gaps in data collection and carbon accounting. This research provided IBM with strategic insights for enhancing their ESG services portfolio and supported the development of a white paper on ESG digitization.

Additional information

Nationality	German
Languages	English (native proficiency), German (fluent), Tamil (native proficiency), Hindi (native proficiency), Kannada (fluent), Italian (beginner)
Other qualifications	PMP- Project management professional, Certified Agile Coach, Scaled Agile Frameworks (SAFe), Certified Design Thinking Coach, Oxford Leading Sustainable Corporations Program (issued by Said Business School), Mastering Design Thinking (issued by MIT Sloan School of Management).