

(IT) Management in the Organization of the Developing Countries

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1. ABSTRACT

At the present century (IT) plays major role in the international development programs. Those countries which have been well educated or specialized in this subject have taken the best advantage in every aspect of today's human kind activities. Information is the lifeblood of any system. It is the essential ingredient for a successful business. If the resources of the information are not reliable or the mismanagement of the technological information exists in the organization, it is clear that the destructive decisions will lead the organization towards the bankruptcy or dark end. In most of the developing countries the organizational activities are not goal oriented and communication system, and also circulation of the information are not well organized. In this paper difficulties encountered with the management of (IT) in the developing countries are discussed and for effective use of (IT) in these countries constructive suggestions are made.

Keywords: Management – Technology – E. Collaboration – Development.

2. (IT) STRATEGY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES:

At the present time it can be noticed that, from telecommunications to super computers, from semiconductors to multimedia technology is probably the single most important factor driving the evolution global competition. Where are developing countries in this global market? The debate about the competitive need of these countries technological growth – and local government's role in improving it is increasingly becoming the focus of the debate of formulating technology policy. This debate centers on the question of whether government can or should play an active role in stimulating commercial technological innovation. For example in Iran at a time when companies are steadily gaining ground in the industrial sector because of the privatization and the formation of the capital market, government support for R&D on critical technologies is absolutely essential. However, not by owning and controlling the industry but by being an active partner with the private sector, linking industry with universities, by providing generous funding of basic research at universities and major investment on the part of related ministries such as heavy industry, oil, and energy in technology development. Critics may counter – argue that however painful the formation of private industry and loss of business might be any government remedy would be worth than the disease. There is the question of whether, on general developing countries need technology policy? If so, what is the role of local governments in shaping this policy and what are the appropriate domestic technologies for these countries for producing? Learning from other countries like Japan, U.S, and Singapore in forming their technologies is the matter which could be focused upon it.

3. HOW THE PROGRESS SHOULD BE MADE?

In order to have a society capable of growth, there are other issues to be resolved. If one believes that the foundation of society have been established for growth, then the next question becomes who makes progress happens? Is it people or government, or, combination of both? Is it external forces or is it the internal need of a country that makes progress happens. If we consider, the U.S. and Singapore, one could ask, what was the role of people in making these countries the way they are presently? For example In the case of Iran as a developing country, also Iranian government, by virtue of its nature which is Islamic, has been making efforts to create an atmosphere for progress. Nevertheless, in many areas, the progress is not adequate to create an environment that promotes citizens to participate in building the country to its potential. Perhaps a fundamental question is how the government can integrate the power people and the institutional systems that bring civil justice and at the same time provide principles for growth. Many Arab countries are moving in this direction.

Much as they fear the fundamentalists, the Arab governments are still under pressure to reform. They know that they have to manage the process carefully, but they can not stop it. The challenge for the governments, there fore, is to maintain some momentum towards greater freedom and democracy, enough to give their people a feeling of gradual improvement. (1)

Iran is also moving toward democracy. However the collaboration between government and the people is not enough. There fore, the next step is to integrate efforts of the government and the people conceivably, another major revelation in Iranian thinking is quintessential to take the country many steps farther than where it presently is.

This revelation lays on collaboration between people and government. A type of magical unity that a nation craves to take that quantum leap in terms of progress

Looking to this subject from different angles, reveals that, what need the nation of a developing country to achieve in order to create the condition for technology policy to mold itself in a meaningful direction? However, in general if there is infrastructure for progress and the society share justice, people and government are flexible, then the governments of developing countries can look at people as it resources not as an adversarial camp that requires support on a constant basis. In the case of Iran, majority of people look at their government as source of their income. However, if these vision changes, which means, Iranians become skilled resources for their government or their country, then Iranian government can focus on creating technology policy, however, before technology policy can succeed, the privatization of major industry has to be completed. The reason is because government can not be in direct competition with citizens. The first step towards allowing a government of facilitate growth is to privatize. However, privatization is not without its problems. Some studies indicated that, the privatization and liberalization programs either failed outright in the so called market economics of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates or were blocked in the so called socialist countries of Syria, Libya, and Algeria through the concerted efforts of labor, party members, and bureaucrats (2).

Considering that most of these issues are some what the same for Iran, then Iran presently is experiencing some the same problems shared with its Arab neighbor. There has been no study about the process of privatization conducted in Iran yet. There fore, many of the questions can not be answered yet. Under the privatization plan of the Islamic republic of Iran, a number of companies have been privatized.

Iran has suffered tremendously for lack of an infrastructure. As a nation, Iranians have to think twice when they demand modernization, state of the art technologies, and the latest and greatest of the western products. They have to stop and think about what makes them deserve to have the best but contribute very little in building their country. There fore, once they become honest in their thinking, then as a nation, thinking about how to build the economy, is possible. So they have to participate in building the infrastructure and then will start to appreciate what it takes to have a technologically advanced country. The participation process takes times but if and only if this participation happens, the formation of a technology policy is possible (3).

4. (IT) MANAGEMENT IN THE ORGANIZATIONS OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES:

Information technology is the fastest – growing industry in the world. In a way Iran has to absorb the technologies from other countries just like what Japan did after war II. In the process of strengthening ability to borrow and adapt U.S. technology, Japan has also created the intellectual talent to generate new technology on

its own. Iran and also other developing countries should focus on the absorption and application of existing ideas. The most important task currently facing the policy community is not how to create a new series of recommendations but how to systematically implement an existing set of ideas.

Because of the dynamics of technology fusion, established technologies in any industry constantly run the risk of being displaced by radically different technologies coming from outside. As a result, traditional distinctions between High – tech and Low – tech industries are fast disappearing. In effect, every business is, or should be, High – tech. Thinking in Global scale nations should create an international research and education network (IREN) that could expand internet to serve universities, governments, and industries. (IREN) could be important because it will greatly increase the capacity for collaboration by many geographically dispersed companies and institutions.

Now a days knowledge has proven so vital to organizational success that a new organizational form – knowledge based firms has emerged. With a slow down in the world economy, the bursting of the technology bubble and tighter budgets, the importance of leveraging existing knowledge and expertise has reached new highs. Knowledge management will remain in a critical success factor for organizations as the economy recovers. In most of the developing countries knowledge management is a critical issue and especial attention should be focused upon it. In the organizations there are formal knowledge and informal knowledge networks so management of both should be taken in to consideration. Effective use of information for economy and technological development is needed. For sustainable development and protection of environment and saving of our planet for future generations, transfer of knowledge, information and experience among all nations is an essential factor, which it should be considered seriously. In this paper especial attention has been focused on e-collaboration. Collaboration is a process by which individuals and/or groups work together on a practical endeavor. Collaborative work is a fundamental feature of organizations and is increasingly being supported by technology. The advent of (ICT) or information and communication technologies in network for nation and support has enabled collaboration to take place on a virtual dimension regardless of time and location. This form of working relationship through the electronic network is known as electronic collaboration. The development of these technological capabilities and e – collaboration initiatives is changing the way individuals and groups perform

and interact. As well as the scope of traditional processes and work flow. E-collaboration offers an unprecedented way for organizations to share information and knowledge, and to better integrate business, work or learning processes.

For solving the existing problems of the developing countries and for the best management of (IT), for above mentioned reasons e-collaboration could be the right choice. If we believe that for the better future and comfort of all nations, we need to share in resources and technological achievements, in this case we have to help each other in order to achieve the mutual targets. Hence to achieve sustainable development, close cooperation between organizations in international scale is needed. It has been shown 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 due to the lack of proper circulation of scientific information between developed and developing countries accelerated depletion of energy resources and unrepairable environmental damages have been occurred. It is believed that through e-collaboration and exchange of knowledge and technical achievements the human being can solve most of existing problems and create better life for future generations.

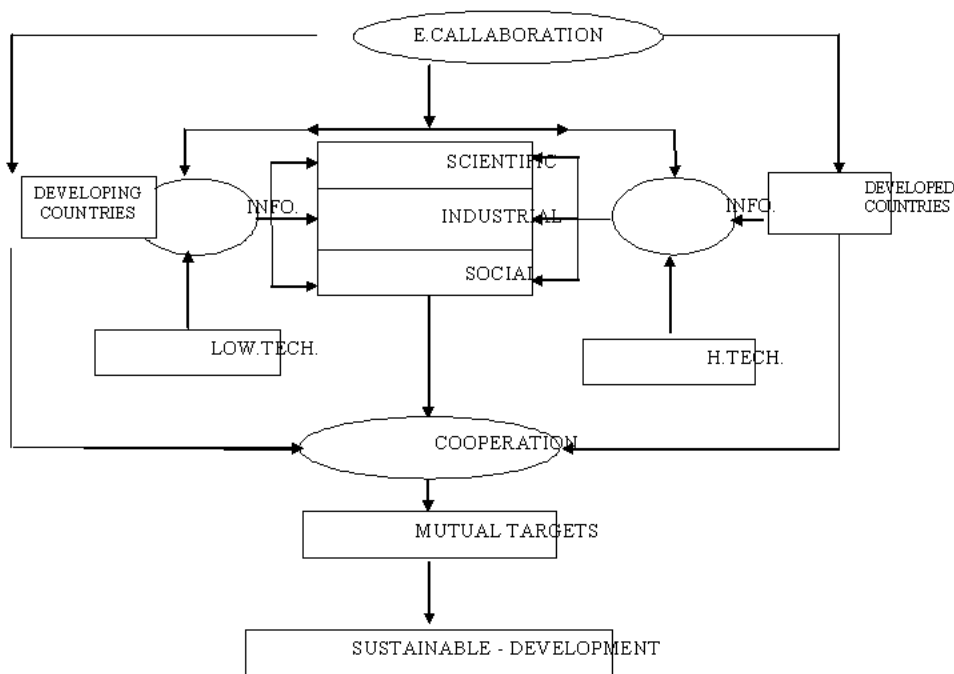
In Fig1 with e-collaboration the High – tech and Low tech. information’s flows in both directions from developed and undeveloped countries in different fields of scientific, industrial and social fields in order to exchange ideas, knowledge and experiences to solve existing problems and for gaining the mutual targets and benefits.

As could be seen from fig 1 the e – collaboration could have essential role in achieving targets which finally could end to the sustainable development.

5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Information technology increasingly gaining importance in the world today. Information and Communications technologies are pervading all aspects of life at work, university, and home.
- In order to succeed in our complex world, a variety of people require (IT) education.
- Management of (IT) in developing countries is an essential factor which should be taken into consideration.
- For solving scientific, industrial and social problems of developing countries, e. collaboration could have major role which in Fig 1 has been shown.

Figure 1.



- In order to have better life for whole nations and to protect environment and planet for the future generations, the transfer of ideas, experience, knowledge in the, international scale is necessary and gaining benefit from (IT) in whole aspects should have the first priority.
- Paying especial attention to the international research and education network (IREN) is highly recommended.

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