CIT
CANADIAN INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY

KOLEGJI UNIVERSITAR
"PAVARËSIA VLORË"

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

International Conference On Economics, Business Trends and Technologies

2017

ICEBTT'2017
02-03 November 2017

CIT
CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

KOLEGJI UNIVERSITAR "PAVARËSIA VLORË"

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ECONOMICS, BUSINESS TRENDS AND TECHNOLOGIES ICEBTT'2017

Sustainable Economic Development

November on 02-03, 2017, Tirana, Albania

Working Extended abstracts Volume

CIRD
CENTER OF INNOVATION RESEARCH & DEVELOPEMENT

Chief Editors:
Prof. Dr. Habib Hamam , (Former Canada Research Chair holder, Director of EMAT Research Lab, U de Moncton, NB, Canada), Dr. Albana Demi, Head of Center of Innovation Research and Development, University College Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania.

Co-directors:
Prof.Ass.Dr. Skender Uku – Faculty of Economy and Agro business, Agriculture University of Tirana, Albania.
Prof.Ass. Dr. Vaso Qano – University College, Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania.
Prof. Ass. Dr. Lindita Mukli – Faculty of Information Technology, UAMD, Durrës, Albania,

Organizers:
University College, Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania and University College "Pavarësia" Vlorë.

Co – Organizers :
CIRD – "Center of Innovation Research and Development", "Zayed Center" Tirana, Albania.
Center of Innovation Research and Development, Faculty of Economy University College Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania.
Center of Innovation Research and Development, Faculty of Economy, University College Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania.

Organizing Committee:
Dr. Albana Demi - Head of Center of Innovation Research and Development, University College Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania.
Dr. Engjellushe Zenelaj – Head of research center on human science, Faculty of Economy and Social Science, University College "Pavaresia Vlore.
Phd. ©..Mimoza Agolli – Lecturer, University College "Canadian Institute of Technology", Tirana, Albania.
Msc. Ibrahim Çekirri – Lecturer, University College "Canadian Institute of Technology", Tirana, Albania.

Co - organizing team:
Eralba Maçi – student University College Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania.
Reliana Shehaj – student University College Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania.
Klaudia Mersini – student University College Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania.

Marketing manager:
Msc: Ilir Çekiri – Head of marketing department University College Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania.

Student's coordinator:
Migena Duka – Head of Students Affairs Office, University College Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania

Graphic Design Cover:
Msc. Orieta Dashi - University College, Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania

Working Extended abstracts published by:

ISBN:978-9928-4434-3-4

Printing house: EXPO VISION ALBANIA

Scientific Committee:

Prof. Dr. Habib Hamam – President of University College Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania, (Former Canada Research Chair holder, Director of EMAT Research Lab, U de Moncton, NB, Canada), Chair

Prof. Dr. Luan Gjonçaj – "Pavarësia" University College, Vlora, Albania; Chair

Prof. Ass. Dr. Lindita Mukli – Faculty of Information Technology, UAMD, Durrës, Albania

Prof.Ass.Dr. Skender Uku – Faculty of Economy and Agro business, Agriculture University of Tirana, Albania.

Prof. Ass. Dr. Sokol Abazi – Dean of Faculty of Engineering, Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania

Prof.Ass. Dr. Vaso Qano – University College, Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania

Prof. Ass. Dr. Artur Jaupaj - University College, Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania

Dr. Albana Demi – Lecture and Head of Center of Innovation Research & Developmet, University College Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania

PhD. Eldi Metushi – Lecture and Head of BA&IT Department, University College Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania.

Dr. Altin Kulli – Lecture and Head of Business Administration Department, University College Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania.

PhD, Siri Hoxha, Vice Rector, University College "Pavaresia Vlore" Albania.

Dr. Myzafer Elezi, Vice Rector for scientific research, University College "Pavaresia Vlore" Albania

Dr. Veronika Dyrmishi, Vice Dean, Faculty of Economy and Social Sciences, University College "Pavaresia Vlore", Albania

Dr. Esmeralda Hoxha, Head of Computer Engineering Department, Faculty of Applied Sciences, University College "Pavaresia Vlore", Albania

Dr. Engjellushe Zenelaj, Director of Research Center on Human Sciences, Faculty of Economy and Social Sciences, University College "Pavaresia Vlore.

Table of Contents

MEASURING SKILLS DEVELOPED BY BUSINESS STUDENTS

H. Hamam

Faculty of Engineering, Université of Moncton, NB, Canada
Corresponding email: Habib.Hamam@umoncton.ca

Abstract

Purpose: The work consists in quantitatively assessing business related skills. Method: The first step is to identify skills required in the job market. The second step consists in defining performance criteria for each skill. The third step consists in identifying levels of satisfaction of the given criterion **Results:** We defined 12 Business related skills. To illustrate the method we focused on one skill, namely budgeting. We identified four criteria for the given skill. We defined four levels for each criterion, namely: Outstanding, Target, Borderline, Unsatisfying. Conclusion: It turned out the levels gives a quantitative measure of the skill. The level target is what we aim at for all students. Outstanding is the level of excellent students (top 10%). We need more than one course to assess one skill rigorously.

Keywords: Skills oriented education, Measuring skills, Performance indicators

1. Introduction

In the job market, employers are interested more to skillful rather than knowledgeable graduates. Employers like to hire graduates who are operational since day 1. They are not ready to pay salaries to fresh graduates who need time to learn how to use their knowledge to develop skills.

In this paper we focus on Business related skills and chose one of the required skills namely Planning and Budgeting. The main issue is how could we conclude for example that this student is an “A” student and the other one is a “C+” students. In this paper we advance a method to measure skills.

2. Related work

There are two main streams of education with respect to outcomes, namely Knowledge-oriented education [1-2] and Skills-oriented education [2-10]. Combining both streams is also possible.

Knowledge oriented education focuses on the content and makes the learner acquire knowledge (notions, definition, formulas, solving equations,). The system does not make learners develop skills in themselves.

Skills-oriented education, also referred to as Problem-based learning, is one of the most important developments in education. This educational strategy uses real problems as a context for students. Activities are planned and designed to teach not only content but also develop skills and generic competence.

3. The subject of your work

In Engineering, the accreditation body in USA, namely ABET, defined 11 skills, called program outcomes [11]. In Canada, the accreditation body, CEAB, defined 12 skills, called graduate attributes [12]: 1) Knowledge Base for Engineering, 2) Problem Analysis, 3) Investigation, 4) Design, 5) Use of Engineering Tools, 6) Individual and Teamwork, 7) Communication skills, 8) Professionalism, 9) Impact on Society & the Environment, 10) Ethics and Equity, 11) Engineering Economics & Project Management, 12) Life Long Learning.

In Business, similar skills may be defined: 1) Planning and Budgeting Skills, 2) Analysis & Optimization skills, 3) Marketing skills, 4) Management skills, 5) Use of Business administration Tools, 6) Individual and Teamwork, 7) Communication skills, 8) Risk & conflict management, 9) Impact on Society & the Environment, 10) Ethics and Equity, 11) Leadership, 12) Life Long Learning.

In this paper, we focus on the first category of skills of business namely: Planning and Budgeting Skills.

4. Proposed method

For measuring Planning and Budgeting Skills, we define four criteria. The level attained by the student is one of four levels: Outstanding, Target, Borderline, and Unsatisfying. Then For each of these levels we define explicitly the degree of satisfaction of the criterion. Table one summarizes the idea:

Table 1: Assessment of the Planning and Budgeting Skills.

criterion	Outstanding	Target	Borderline	Unsatisfying
Split the plan and the budget into separate and/ or interrelated elements depending on the project	Determine the elements depending on the project and their interrelations, then optimize the budget accordingly.	Determine the elements depending on the project and their interrelations, then propose a budget accordingly	Determine the elements depending on the project and propose a budget	Could not determine the elements depending on the project
Determine the factors influencing the running of the project	Determine all the factors and optimize the budget accordingly.	Determine all the factors, and propose a budget accordingly.	Determine most of the factors depending and propose a budget.	Could not determine most of the factors
Take into account the lifetime of the project or a typical period of it if endless	Planning over the lifetime of the project or a typical period and optimize it accordingly	Planning over the lifetime of the project or a typical period	Planning with a quite reasonable period	Planning with an arbitrary period
Evaluate the efficiency of the solution with respect to the objectives of the project.	Evaluate whether all the objectives of the project are financially met.	Evaluate whether most the objectives of the project are financially met.	Partially evaluate some objectives of the project are financially met.	could not evaluate whether the objectives of the project are financially met.

5. Conclusion

The proposed method allows us to assess the skills developed by the student in a rigorous quantitatively way.

6. References

[1] H. Burns "Knowledge Based Educational Systems". Aviation, Space and Environment 59 (II, Suppl): 69-75. Bushnell, W. 1981.

[2] H.S. Barrows, R.M. Tamblyn Problem-based learning: an approach to medical education, vol. 1, Springer, Berlin (1980)

[3] M. Allen, P. Levy An annotated bibliography: transferable skills and the higher education curriculum Sheffield University (1992).

[4] B.M. Yalcin, T.F. Karahan, D. Karadenizli, E.M. Sahin Short-term effects of problem-based learning curriculum on students' self-directed skills development

Croat Med J, 47 (2006), p. 491

[5] H.G. Schmidt, L. Vermeulen, H.T. Van Der Molen Longterm effects of problem-based learning: a comparison of competencies acquired by graduates of a problem-based and a conventional medical school Med Educ, 40 (2006), pp. 562-567

[6] D.F. Wood ABC of learning and teaching in medicine: problem based learning BMJ, 326 (2003), p. 328

[7] D. Boud, G. Feletti The challenge of problem based learning (2nd ed.), Kogan Page, London (1997)

[8] S. Nayak, K. Ramnarayan, N. Somayaji, K.L. Bairy Teaching anatomy in a problem-based learning (PBL) curriculum Neuroanatomy, 5 (2006), pp. 2-3

[9] C.H. Tan, Z. Amin, H.E. Khoo Student perceptions of the benefits of problem-based learning Med Teach, 29 (2007), p. 284

[10] E.T. Morales-Mann, C.A. Kaitell Problem-based learning in a new Canadian curriculum J Adv Nurs, 33 (2001), pp. 13-19

[11] ABET: www.abet.org

[12] CEAB: Criteria 3.1, Canadian Accreditation Criteria and Procedures, ISSN 1708-8054,

[13] https://engineerscanada.ca/sites/default/files/Accreditation_Criteria_Procedures_2015.pdf

A VIRTUAL INSTRUMENT FOR ELECTRICAL MOTOR SPEED MEAS UREMENT USING ARDUINO AND LABVIEW

Gentian DUME[1], Gëzim KARAPICI[2]

[1]Polytechnic University Tirana, Faculty of Electrical Engineering
gentian.dume@gmail.com
[2]Canadian Institute of Technology, Faculty of Engineering
gëzim.karapici@cit.edu.al

Abstract

The speed measurement in real-time of the electrical motors is very important not only for monitoring and analysis purpose, but also for the speed control of them. Nowadays virtual instruments are becoming familiar to academic institutes and universities because they are replacing high cost instruments in the development and test laboratories. The most well-known software for virtual instrument development is LabVIEW from National Instruments. It is compatible with a large DAQ cards form different vendors, but in general these are not so cheap and consequently rise the cost of costum-built instrument. This last decade has grown a considerable number of development boards based on microcontrollers. Arduino is one of the most popular platforms. It can acquire and control like a DAQ but it is also a low cost device. In this work we will present step by step how to create and test a costumized speed measurement instrument for electrical motors based on LabVIEW, Arduino Nano and an incremental encoder.

Keywords: *Speed measurement, virtual instrument, LabVIEW, Arduino, low cost*

1. Introduction

The incremental encoder is a device used to generate pulses if its shaft rotates. The number of the generated pulses is proportional to the angular position of the shaft. This type of encoder is one of the most used as position transducers. The principle of the incremental encoder is shown in fig. 1. Together with the shaft there is rotating a transparent disc with a circular graduation-track realized as a periodic sequence of transparent and non-transparent radial zones which modulates the light beams emitted by a light emitted diode on one side of the disc, on the fix part of the encoder. [1].

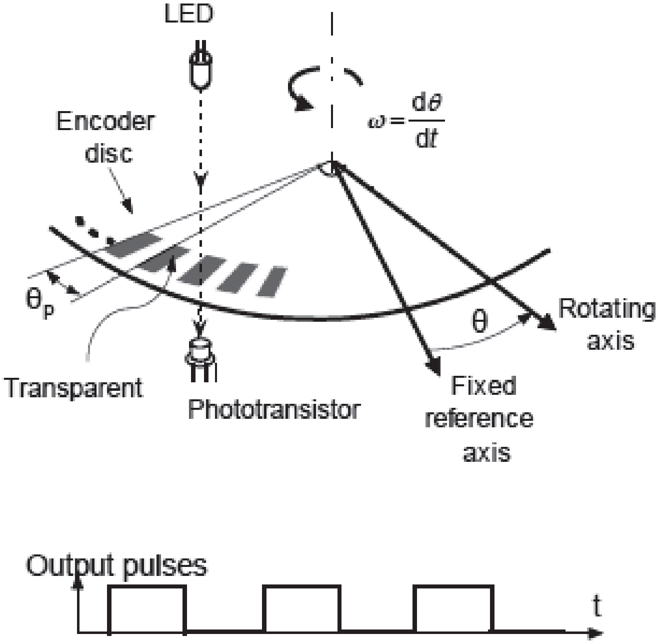


Fig. 1 llustration of the incremental encoder working principle

The measurement of the angular velocity of the electrical machine shaft can be achieved using incremental encoders because their number of pulses per revolution is always known as an encoder parameter. In this kind of measurement an important thing is to take care to know the precise time period in wich a certain number of pulses are measured. Then dividing the number of pulses per time period provides the angular velocity of the motor shaft.

Nowdays exist several types of multifunctional DAQ (Data Acquisiton) devices which can be used as counters.National Instruments is one of the most well-know producers in the world. They can be easily configured to act as counters by using the software created by National Instruments, called LabVIEW.[2]

LabVIEW is released by National Instruments, for the first time in 1986 for Apple Macintosh. It was conceived as a programming environment for hardware control. The introduction of an interface between a PC and the instrument controlled by it was the main target. This graphical interface simulates the controlled instrument on the computer monitor. But LabVIEW is also a graphical programming language, sometimes called "G code". Applications created in LabVIEW are called "Virtual Instruments" [3]. Nowadays LabVIEW is also compatible with Windows, Linux and other operating systems. [4]

This last decade has grown a considerable number of development boards based on microcontrollers. Arduino is one of the most popular platforms. It can acquire and control like a DAQ but it is also a low cost device.[5] One of the cheapest atmega328p microcontroller used in arduino board is the so called **Arduino Nano.** This board has a very small size and almost identical in parameters with **Arduino UNO,** the most well-known world wide board from arduino boards family. The Arduino Nano board is ilustrated in fig. 2.

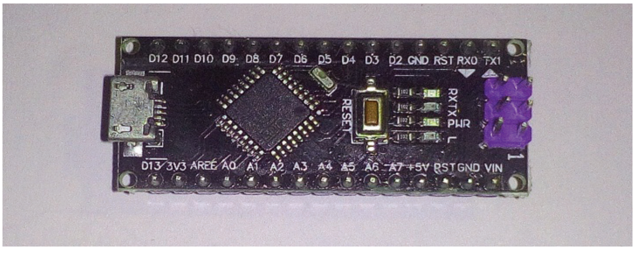


Fig. 2 Arduino Nano

The combination of an incremental encoder, Arduino Nano and LabVIEW software to create a speed measurement virtual instrument will be shown step by step in the next section of this work.

2. Related work

The objective of the speed measurement instrument is to measure the angular speed in rev/min of the DC motor mechanically-coupled with the synchronous generator as shown in fig. 3. The motor speed has to be monitored and also to be controlled in order to fullfill the synchronous generator needs as an electrical power generation producer. Its rated speed is 1500 rev/min and this value is the first thing to keep in mind before building the instrument. It means that in the instrumenting point of view the speed measurement instrument must have an error lower than the frequency deviation allowed for the synchronous generator around the rated speed value of the DC motor.

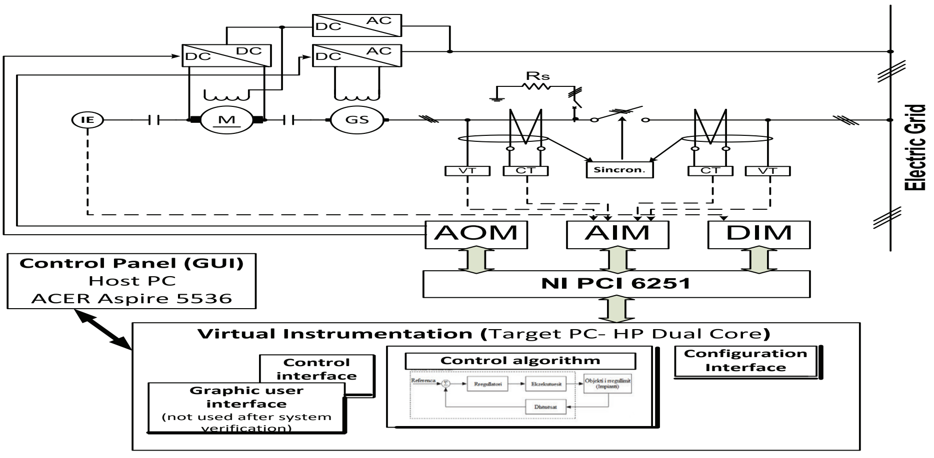


Fig. 3

Overall block diagram of the synchronous generator control and monitoring system [6] As it can be seen from fig. 3, the information on the speed value of the motor-generator system is obtained through an encoder. In this case, the incremental encoder used, is shown in fig. 4. Of course, we can use several techniques for counting the pulses that generate this encoder. It can be done with the help of analogue circuits or with the help of A/D and D/A cards.[6]

The incremental encoder (IE) used, is that shown in figure 4. It gives 1024 pulses/revolution with a magnitude depending on the power supply we choose. We will feed it with a constant DC voltage of 5Volts since the max voltage allowed in the Arduino Nano inputs is this value.

Fig. 4 The 1024 pulses/rev incremental encoder used in this work

3. Proposed method

To measure the number of pulses coming from the encoder when the DC motor shaft is rotating we will use Arduino Nano. But first we have to check for an interface between Arduino and LabVIEW. If it doesn't exist, we can't easily build the virtual instrument for the speed measurement of the DC motor. National Instruments has created The LabVIEW Interface for Arduino

(LIFA) Toolkit. It is a FREE download that allows developers to acquire data from the Arduino microcontroller and process it in the LabVIEW Graphical Programming environment. [7]

It is a good start, but reading more for LIFA we can see that it is not flexible as the DAQmx for the National Instruments DAQ devices (they cost several times more than Arduino). It can only be used to shows values coming from arduino from the serial communication port. So, we must rely on the arduino capabilities to do the most of the work for the speed measurement instrument.

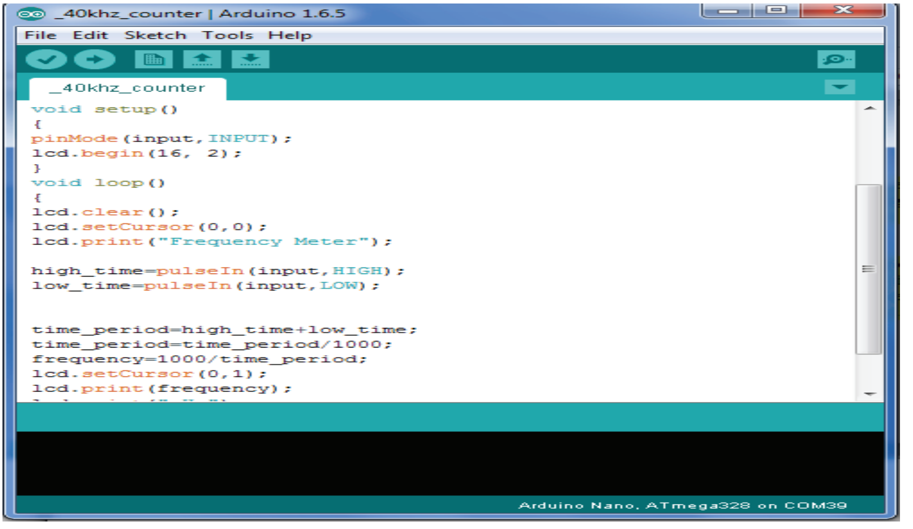
One way is to use arduino as a frequency counter. Using Arduino Nano (UNO) we can measure up to 40kHz pulse signals with a 5V magnitude. The ***pulseIn()*** function can count pulses with time period ranging from 10 μS to 3 minutes. This function counts the number of pulses (HIGH or LOW) coming to a particular pin of the arduino. The general syntax of this function is pulseln(pin, value, time) where pin is the name of the pin, value is either HIGH or LOW and time is time for which the function to wait for a pulse. The function returns zero if there is no valid pulse with in the specified time. [8]

If we do some calculations we can see that for the rated speed of 1500rev/min the encoder gives a 25,6 kHz pulse train. It is lower than the arduino maximum counting frequency (40kHz). So, we will measure the pulse train frequency coming from the encoder during the DC motor shaft rotation and send this value to the LabVIEW environment through serial port with the help of LIFA. Then we will convert it back to the angular speed and will show the value on the virtual instrument front panel.

4. Arduino frequency counter programming and test

The frequency counter code can be found in details in reference [8]. We will show here only a frame of this code during the program uploading to Arduino Nano. The arduino programming environment is called Arduino IDE (Integrated Development Environment) where some of atmel microcontrollers can be programmed easily using C programming language.

Figures 5 shows the Arduino IDE during the successful code uploading in Arduino Nano for incremental encoder pulse frequency counting and fig. 6 shows the experiment for the frequency measurement when the pulse train is generated by another Arduino Nano with a fixed known frequency. It is only indicative because the instrument accuracy can be checked later with a precision digital frequency instrument.



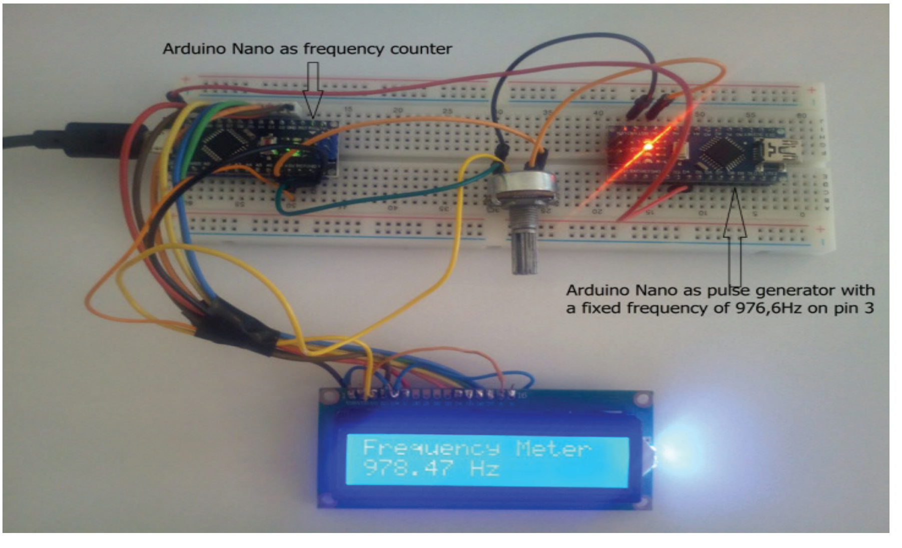


Fig. 5 Arduino Nano code uploading

Fig. 6 Frequency measurement on Arduino Nano

5. Virtual Instrument for speed measurement in LabVIEW

Before we build the virtual instrument for the DC motor speed measurement we have to add the LIFA progam to the frequency counter program in order to give to LabVIEW the possibility to get the desired measured value from Arduino in real-time through the serial communication port.

After this process we build the instrument using the Arduino Library in LabVIEW. The virtual instrument block diagram is shown on fig. 7. We have processed the output to have the speed instead of pulse frequency. It is to be known that the measurement of the train pulses frequency in arduino is done ever 0,5sec and the update in LabVIEW every 100ms. Arduino write the frequency value through the serial port with a baudrate of 115200 and LabVIEW read this value with the same baudrate.

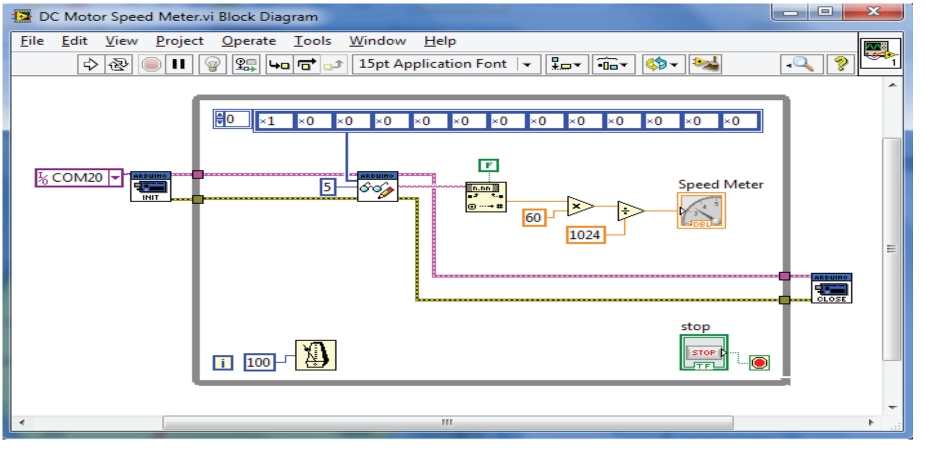


Fig. 7 Virtual Instrument for Speed measurement block diagram through LIFA

In figure 8 it is shown the virtual instrument for electrical motor shaft speed measurement through encoder, Arduino Nano and LabVIEW. In this experiment the conversation from frequency to speed is bypassed to show the accuraccy of the displayed value measured by Arduino Nano in real-time in the Speed Measurement Virtual Instrument.

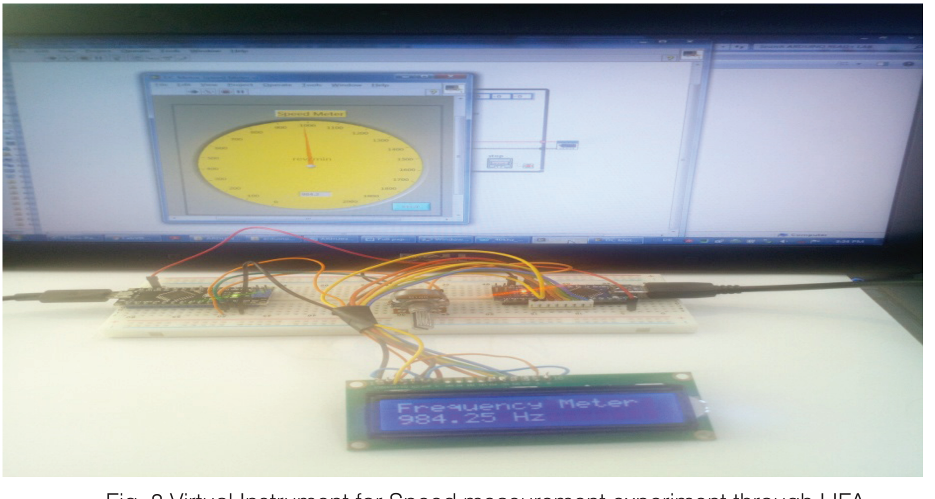


Fig. 8 Virtual Instrument for Speed measurement experiment through LIFA

6. Conclusion

In this paper we showed that we can achieve also virtual instrumentation combining LabVIEW with low cost devices like Arduino.

The Speed measurement Virtual Instrument proposed is not only a low cost device, but also very flexible. In few minutes we can add some codes in its block diagram to store the measured values.This is very important for studies related to the electrical motor behaviour in different situations when its load changes.

The update rate of the instrument is about 0.5 sec, but since the motor speed can not change to fast, because its mechanical inertia, we can say that the measurements are performed in real-time.

This instrument is the first step in implementing the digital speed control design of the electrical motors in electric drives laboratories.

7. References

1. Incze, J. J., Szabó, Cs., and Imecs, M., "Modeling and simulation of an incremental encoder used in electrical drives", in Proc. of 10th International Symposium of HungarianResearchers on Computational Intelligence and Informatics CINTI 2009, Budapest, Hungary, 2009, pp. 97-109.
2. http://www.ni.com/data-acquisition
3. R. De Asmundis, *LabVIEW - Modeling, Programming and Simulations,* InTech, 2011.
4. G. Dume, Synchronous generator model based on LabVIEW software, WSEAS Transactions on Advances in Engineering Education, Issue 2, Volume 10, 2013, pp101-112.
5. www.Arduino.cc
6. G. Dume, Real-Time Control of Synchronous Generator in Island Mode Based on LabVIEW Software for Education Purpose, WSEAS Transactions on Advances in Engineering Education, Volume 13, pp.50-63, 2016.
7. https://forums.ni.com/t5/LabVIEW-Interface-for-Arduino/ct-p/7008
8. http://www.circuitstoday.com/frequency-counter-using-arduino

THE PROBLEM OF CORRUPTION AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF E-GOVERNMENT PROCEDURES IN ITS FIGHT, IN THE ALBANIAN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

ANILA GJONAJ
anilagjonaj@yahoo.com

UNIVERSITETY OF TIRANA
FAKULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
DEPARTAMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Abstract

When it comes to the phenomenon of digitalized of services provision for citizens from public administration, it is implied and factual is a certain relationship established between different social actors. In the present case, we would have a relationship between public administration officials and citizens seeking a service from the public administration ("servants" and "clients") but in this case we have the possibility or the case where the server may not be physically but substitute from a car (computer).

In the framework of a panel study conducted in the city of Tirana, the focus was on how the current electorate of the city of Tirana perceives a change in corrupt behavior in the public administration after using the "e-government" application procedures. In the study a basic assumption was chosen as "The current Tirana City Electoral Office perceives that there is a change in corrupt behavior in public administration after using e-government-type application procedures. Questionnaire that provides information that would allow empirical testing of implications deduced from hypotheses. It did not contain many delicate types of questions, but was selected with a random sample, with unthought-of strata (in Tirana), which was completed by age group and gender. This conclusion would also provide the necessary degree of credibility of the data collected by the questionnaires.

Key-words: corruption, public administration, e-government, precipitation, change.

ANALYSIS OF DATA AND RESULTS

Based on the research question, the basic assumption was drawn up as its supposed response. From the basic assumption, the relevant implications were deduced and the indicators were used to collect the information that enabled the empirical test to be carried out. In line with these indicators, the draft of the questionnaire was drawn up and the final questionnaire was drawn up, and the questionnaire collected the data that are analyzed below. Initially we are analyzing data related to empirical testing of the implications deduced from the basic assumption. So we have the picture as follows.

Implication 1 *"If the current constituency of the city of Tirana perceives that there is a change in corrupt behavior in the public administration after using e-government-type application procedures, then it is expected to find a reduction in citizens seeking services in offices of public administration".*

To measure this implication, the combination of results emerged from the crossroads of the question of the use of online services in the public administration with the question of whether this technique facilitated their taking. As a tool for analysis, Symmetric Measures tables were used and confirmation responses will be obtained from 2 elements that are Cramer's V and Approx. Sig.

Q.10: Do you think that the provision of online services by the Albanian state administration has made it easier for them to get them from citizens?

Q.9: If you used online service, was it: 1. Totally online (or, digitized)?

2. Or, partially online and partly in the old way (by going to the public administration offices)?

Symmetric Measures			
		Value	Approx. Sig.
Nominal by Nominal	Phi	.623	.000
	Cramer's V	.254	.000
N of Valid Cases		215	

From this table we can see that we have a companion force of .254, which is greater than the allowed lower limit of .20. Which means that for this indicator there is moderate or moderate strong statistical association between the two crossed variables. On the other hand, the indicator of the significance of the statistical association has a very high value of 0,000, which means that for this junction of the variables we have a significant statistical association.

As a result between the two crossed variables there is significant statistical association, which means that we have a positive result of empirical testing of the implication 1.

Also, to derive exactly the results for the implication 1, consideration is given to the intersection of the other two variables, such as the facilitation of service delivery, which was considered above but already intersected with the perception that if it has brought about change the level of corruption?

Q.10: Do you think that the provision of online services by the Albanian state administration has made it easier for citizens to get them:

Q. 4: What can be said around you (family, relatives, friends, acquaintances, neighbors, etc.), can it be considered that "online services" in the public administration have brought:

- A very large reduction of corruption...

Symmetric Measures			
		Value	Approx. Sig.
Nominal by Nominal	Phi	.580	.000
	Cramer's V	.237	.000
N of Valid Cases		217	

From this table it is seen that we have a companion force of .237, which is greater than the allowed lower limit of .20. Which means that for this indicator there is a moderate statistical association between two crossed variables. On the other hand, the indicator of the significance of the statistical association has a very high value of 0,000, which means that for this junction of the variables we have a significant statistical association. As a result between the two crossed variables there is significant statistical association, which means that we have a positive result of empirical testing of the implication 1.

Through these two intersections we have been able to confirm the link existing between using online services and facilitating access to service by individuals in the public administration and we could confirm that there is a link between easing the service delivery and the perception of landing Of the level of corruption.

Implication 1.1 *"If the current municipal electorate of Tirana perceives that there is a change in corrupt behavior in the public administration after using e-government-type application procedures, then it is expected that it will be established that there are no public administration offices More with citizens seeking services. "*

Q.10: Do you think that the provision of online services by the Albanian state administration has made it easier for them to get them from citizens?

Q.13: Do you think that the introduction of services electronically (in whole or in part) in the state administration has reduced the ranks for the citizens?

Symmetric Measures			
		Value	Approx. Sig.
Nominal by Nominal	Phi	.640	.000
	Cramer's V	.286	.000
N of Valid Cases		217	

From this table it is seen that we have a companion force of .286, which is greater than the allowed lower limit of .20. Which means that for this indicator there is a moderate strong statistical association between the two crossed variables. On the other hand, the indicator of the significance of the statistical association has a very high value of 0,000, which means that for this junction of the variables we have a significant statistical association. As a result between the two crossed variables there is significant statistical association, which means that we have a positive result of the empirical testing of the implication 1.1. Also, it was not only the crossroads regarding the services in the Albanian electron administration and the decrease of the ranks in the receiving of services, but just below were taken the perception of corruption and the ranks in the taking of services in the Albanian public administration. So less rank, less corrupt.

Q 4: What is being said about you (family, relatives, friends, acquaintances, neighbors, etc.), can it be considered that "online services" in the public administration have brought:

- A huge reduction in corruption. . .

Q.13 Do you think that the introduction of electronic services (in whole or in part) in the state administration has reduced the ranks of citizens?

Symmetric Measures			
		Value	Approx. Sig.
Nominal by Nominal	Phi	.506	.003
	Cramer's V	.226	.003
N of Valid Cases		218	

From this table it is seen that we have a companion force of .226, which is greater than the allowed lower limit of .20. Which means that for this indicator there is a moderate statistical association between two crossed variables. On the other hand, the indicator of the significance of the statistical association has a very high value of 0.003, which means that for this junction of the variables we have an acceptable statistical association. As a result, between the two crossed variables there is significant statistical association, which means that we have a positive result of empirical testing of the implication 1.1

Implication 1.2 *"If the current Tirana electorate perceives that there is a change in corrupt behavior in the public administration after using e-government-type application procedures, then it is expected to be found that there is an abbreviation of the receiving time Service in the public administration offices. "*

This implication is confirmed by the abovementioned intersections analyzed and placed in the implication 1, in facilitating the provision of services, as well as by the second junction in the downsizing, both bringing down the time that should be spent to receive the service, as well as from the data received from the administration for the following implications, will be further confirmed the reduction of time in obtaining services in the public administration.

Implication 1.3 *"If the current constituency of the city of Tirana perceives that there is a change in corrupt behavior in the public administration after the use of e-government-type application procedures, then it is expected to avoid physical contact between public service providers (public administration) and recipients of the service (people). "*

For this reason, the empirical test is positive and is confirmed by the intersection of variables that are considered in implication 1, ease of use of services, and the continuous increase in the use of fully and partially digitized public services. Also, a reinforcement of this implication is the data received from the public administration. The positive test of this implication best supports the data received from the ministry of innovation on increasing the number of individuals who receive service on the e-Albania government portal and do not go to the civil service offices. This number in 2013 was 49,809, in 2014 increased by 43,333 new users on this portal. Year 215 marks the highest increase with 76776 and in 2016 the number of new users increased by 71703. This shows a decrease in physical contact between citizens and employees of the Albanian public administration because individuals are increasingly receiving online service.

Implication 1.4 *"If the current municipal electorate of Tirana perceives that there is a change in corrupt behavior in the public administration after the use of e-government-type application procedures, then it is possible to ascertain the cases of services where the procedures are conducted electronically (partially or completely). "*

For this implication the empirical test is positive and the confirmation comes from the intersection of the variables that are considered in the implication 1: the continuous increase in the use of fully and partly digitized public services. We also used data from the Albanian public administration to confirm this implication. The data show that the number of new electronic services has increased, where it is clear that during 2014 we have an increase of 105 new electronic services compared to 2013, in 2015 we have 129 electronic services increased number of electronic services compared in 2013 and in 2016 added 217 new services, increasing their total to 33 times compared to 2013 on a complete list of services unique e-government portal Albania.

In e-Albania's government portal at the end of 2016, the number of electronic services at level 1-2 was 583. Given that level 1 and 2 in e-government implies only informing the citizen or the business in the existence of a web-page of the public institution and the placement of informative information not the user in partially. Also, services at level 3 and 4 in the public administration, which are not only informative services but above all users, thus fully electronic have increased. Their number in 2013 was 14, in 2014 went 119, in 2015 this number increased to 248 and by 2016 the services are full 465.

Also, on the e-Albania's unique government portal, which is linked to the Government Gateway, in which 37 institutions are exchanged data in real time within 2016, this number has increased to 42.

Implication 1.5 *"If the current constituency of the city of Tirana perceives that there is a change in corrupt behavior in the public administration after using e-government-type application procedures, then it is possible to ascertain the shortening of bureaucratic procedures in these services."*

Q 4: What is being said about you (family, relatives, friends, acquaintances, neighbors, etc.), can it be considered that "online services" in the public administration have brought:

- A huge reduction in corruption. . .

Q 17: Do you think that the introduction of online services (in whole or in part) in the state administration has made it easier and clearer to seek and obtain services in the state administration?

Symmetric Measures			
		Value	Approx. Sig.
Nominal by Nominal	Phi	.522	.039
	Cramer's V	.213	.039
N of Valid Cases		218	

From this table it is seen that we have a companion force of .213, which is greater than the allowed lower limit of .20. Which means that for this indicator there is moderate or modest statistical association between the two crossed variables. On the other hand, the indicator of the meaning of the statistical association has the value of 0.039 significant statistical significance, which means that for this junction of the variables we have a significant statistical association. As a result, between the two crossed variables there is significant statistical association, which means that we have a positive result of the empirical testing of the implication 1.5.

Implication 1.6 *"If the current constituency of the city of Tirana perceives that there is a change in corrupt behavior in the public administration after the use of" e-government "application procedures, then it is possible to ascertain the cost reduction of these services."*

Q. 4: What is being said about you (family, relatives, friends, acquaintances, neighbors, etc.), can it be considered that "online services" in the public administration have brought:

- A huge reduction in corruption. . .

Q. 12: Do you think the introduction of online services (in whole or in part) has reduced the cost of citizens for receiving services in the state administration?

Symmetric Measures			
		Value	Approx. Sig.
Nominal by Nominal	Phi	.532	.025
	Cramer's V	.217	.025
N of Valid Cases		218	

From this table it is seen that we have a companion force of .217, which is greater than the allowed lower limit of .20. Which means that for this indicator there is moderate or modest statistical association between the two crossed variables. On the other hand, the indicator of the meaning of the statistical association has a very high value of 0.025, which means that for this junction of the variables we have a significant statistical association. As a result, between the two cross-linked variables there is significant statistical association, which means that we have a positive result of empirical testing of the implication 1.6

Implication 2 *"If the current constituency of the city of Tirana perceives that there is a change in corrupt behavior in the public administration after the use of" e-government "application procedures, then it is possible to ascertain a perception of reducing the degree of corruption in public administration.* "

Only question 4 is enough to see the perception of individuals about corruption in the Albanian public administration. P. 4: What is said about you (family, relatives, friends, acquaintances, neighbors, etc.), can it be considered that "online services" in the public administration have brought: - a very large reduction of Corruption. . .

9: If you used online service, was he:

-Totally online (or, digitized)?

- Or, partially online and partly in the old way (by going to the public administration offices)?

Symmetric Measures			
		Value	Approx. Sig.
Nominal by Nominal	Phi	.444	.201
	Cramer's V	.181	.201
N of Valid Cases		217	

From this table we can see that we have a companion force of .181, which is smaller than the lower allowed limit of .20. Which means that for this indicator there is no significant statistical association between the two crossed variables. On the other hand, the indicator of the significance of the statistical association has an unacceptable statistical value of 0.201, which means that for this junction of the variables we do not have a significant statistical association. As a result, between the two crossed variables there is significant statistical association, which means that we have a negative result of empirical testing of the implication 2.

Implication 2.1 *"If the current municipal electorate of Tirana perceives that there is a change in corrupt behavior in the public administration after the use of e-government-type application procedures, it is expected that the electorate's opinion will be found to reduce corruption in payment the fines. "*

Q 4: What is being said about you (family, relatives, friends, acquaintances, neighbors, etc.), can it be considered that "online services" in the public administration have brought:

- A huge reduction in corruption. . .

Q14: Do you think that the introduction of online services (in whole or in part) has led the state administration to ease the payment the fines:

Symmetric Measures			
		Value	Approx. Sig.
Nominal by Nominal	Phi	.417	.374
	Cramer's V	.170	.374
N of Valid Cases		219	

From this table we can see that we have a companion force of .170, which is smaller than the allowed lower limit of .20. Which means that for this indicator there is no significant statistical association between the two crossed variables. On the other hand, the indicator of the significance of the statistical association has an unacceptable value of 0.374, which means that for this the crossing of the variables we do not have a significant statistical association. As a result, between the two cross-linked variables there is no significant statistical association, which means that we have a negative result of the empirical testing of the implication 2.1.

Implication 2.2 *"If the current constituency of the city of Tirana perceives that there is a change in corrupt behavior in the public administration after using e-government-type application procedures, it is expected that the electorate's opinions on reducing corruption in Paying taxes from businesses. "*

Q 4: What is being said about you (family, relatives, friends, acquaintances, neighbors, etc.), can it be considered that "online services" in the public administration have brought:

- A huge reduction in corruption. . .

Q. 16: According to you, did the introduction of online services (in whole or in part) bring to the state administration an easing tax on business taxes?

Symmetric Measures			
		Value	Approx. Sig.
Nominal by Nominal	Phi	.605	.043
	Cramer's V	.247	.043
N of Valid Cases		219	

From this table we can see that we have a companion force of .247, which is greater than the lower allowed limit of .20. Which means that for this indicator there is moderate or moderate strong statistical association between the two crossed variables. On the other hand, the indicator of the meaning of the statistical association has an acceptable value of 0.043, which means that for this junction of the variables we have a significant statistical association. As a result, between the two cross-linked variables there is significant statistical association, which means that we have a positive result of empirical testing of the implication 2.2

Conclusions

From the examination of cross-tabulations that empirically tested the basic assumption (for the survey conducted in the city of Tirana), it turns out that 10 out of 11 combinations of them testify to significant statistical association. This means that it can be considered that we have a positive result of empirical testing of the implications deduced from the basic assumption. We have only the implication 2.1 which is not confirmed by the results obtained from the citizen's perception and implication 2.2 that doesn't have the strong significance.

Finally, it can be said that the empirical test is more likely to confirm the basic assumption of work, thus giving a positive answer to the research question "Does the current electorate of the city of Tirana perceive a change in corrupt behavior in the public administration after using the "e-government" application procedures? The empirical test in this case confirms that there is a different perception and this is for a reduction of corruption in the Albanian public administration after the implementation of e-government procedures, which gives us the right To propose to the scientific community to consider as acceptable the solution we gave to the research problem in the form of a basic assumption.

So it can be said that this study most likely shows that there is not only a changed perception about public administration and the level of corruption in it, but there is also an increase in the use of e-government procedures. These data tell us the reality of using e-government procedures and the results that it has brought.

References

Kocani, A. (2013) *Një Qasje Plotësuese Epistemologjike në Metodologjinë e Kërkimit të Shkencave Sociale,* Tiranë: Albanian University Press.

Popper, K.R. (1992) *The Logic of Scientific Discovery*, London and New York: Routledge 1992.

Bernstein, R .A., Dyer, J.A., (2014) *An introduction to Political Science Methods,* New Jersy: Prentice Hall Engleëood Cliffs.

*United Nations e-government Survey 2014, e-government for the future we want***.** Department of Economic and Social Affairs: United Nations, New York, 2014.

Raport Vjetor Përmbledhës – 2016. Agjencia kombëtare e Shoqërisë së Informacionit. Tiranë:

http://akshi.gov.al/images/raporti%20vjetor%202016.pdf

Specifikime Teknike "Sistemi i Ndërveprimit të Bazave të të Dhënave Shtetërore"(2013), *A*gjencia kombëtare e shoqërisë së i nformacionit autoriteti rregullator koordinues i bazave të të dhënave shtetërore.

https://akshi.gov.al/Standarde%20Teknike/specifikime_teknike_sistemi_i_nderveprimit_te_db.pdf

“INVESTIGATION OF THE CRIMINAL OFFENSE OF TRAFFICKING OF MOTOR VEHICLES IN ALBANIA”

Dr. Myzafer ELEZI

University College “Pavarësia Vlorë” – Albania
E-mail: myzafer.elezi@gmail.com

Abstract

Trafficking and theft of motor vehicles is one of the forms of organized crime spread all over the globe. This form of crime results in many benefits for the perpetrators and without much risk for them. In Albania, vehicle trafficking dates back to the 1990s, a period that was followed by the collapse of the dictatorial system and the opening of borders with its neighbors. State institutions, including the police organization, were inexperienced in matters related to the trafficking of motor vehicles. Generally the number of vehicles in the country was very low, while private vehicles almost did not exist at all. Initially, the perpetrators favored the lack of police experience, the lack of specialized structures in this area, and the lack of legislation since the Criminal Code did not foresee this activity as a criminal offense. The criminal offense appears to be manifested in two forms, first, by trafficking the stolen vehicles in Albania and, secondly, by smuggling stolen cars outside Albania. Generally, the authors cross the state borders without difficulty, benefiting from the fact that the stolen cars are in most cases not registered in the police database as stolen cars, as the registration procedure requires the time needed. A criminal report is required from the possessor of the vehicle to be declared in search. The current experiences of the investigative structures have shown some ways of trafficking of stolen cars abroad and introduced into the territory of Albania, such as: simple street theft on the territory of another state and entry into Albanian territory; a deal between the seller and the buyer who was later prosecuted to receive reimbursement from the figurative companies; as well as the theft and trafficking of a vehicle with forged documents or documents of another vehicle.

This paper will focus on the forms of motor vehicle trafficking in Albania, the methods of investigation implemented by law enforcement structures, and the level of international co-operation in this phenomenon, reflecting official statistics of the investigative institutions. The paper will conclude with some recommendations for improving the work to prevent and detect these criminal offenses.

Key words: *criminal punishment, motor vehicles, trafficking, criminal offense, organized crime.*

1. Introduction

Trafficking and theft of motor vehicles is one of the most profitable forms of organized crime. This phenomenon was born in Albania after 1992, since until that period the ownership of vehicles was unknown, even was prohibited by domestic legislation. Traffickers act through two means of realizing this crime, first by trafficking stolen motor vehicles in Albania, and secondly, by trafficking those stolen from abroad. These vehicles after being stolen are sent out of the country where they were stolen using various ways to avoid contracting police structures at or near the territory, such as changing chassis numbers, forgery of vehicle documents, or in cases of it is noticed that co-operation between the seller and the buyer is found, which aims to denounce the motor vehicle crossing the state border. This phenomenon generally requires the owner of the vehicle to gain reprisal from the car insurance companies.

2. Methods of study

For the realization of this paper, various scientific methods have been used, such as case study methods, comparison, descriptive statistics of data, etc., regarding the prevention, investigation and impact of the motor vehicle trafficking phenomenon in Albania for the period 2011 - 2017, comparing the empirical data collected by law enforcement institutions in the country, and seeing the evolution that has undergone this cooperation over the years.

3. Discussion

Albania is a country that does not produce vehicles, but like all other countries market requirements for motor vehicles are huge. This is also for the fact that anyone who has a driving license specified in the Road Code can have vehicle. As the vehicle's financial value is high, and the market is lucrative, individuals or criminal organizations aim at the criminal activity of vehicle trafficking to enrich easily and in a short time. In order to succeed in the fight against this phenomenon, it is the duty of the law enforcement forces to recognize the phases in which motor vehicles trafficking, the forms and methods used by traffickers to avoid operational police operations.

4. Conclusions

Cooperation between members of the criminal organization or the criminal group is an essential element to be assessed by the crime investigation structures for documenting these criminal offenses. Judicial police employees should be well acquainted with the schemes and forms of recruitment and transportation of motor vehicles, in order to enable the search and finding of evidence and facts that document the criminal activity of traffickers. For this goal is needed continuous training in order to increase the professional level and the ability of investigators to engage in preventing and combating illegal trafficking

Bibliography

- Kushtetuta e Shqipërisë.
- Kodi Penal i Republikës së Shqipërisë, i ndryshuar.
- Kodi i Procedurës Penale të Republikës së Shqipërisë, i ndryshuar.
- Ismet Elezi, "E drejta penale (pjesa e posaçme)", botimet KUMI, Tiranë 2014.
- "Konventa e Kombeve të Bashkuara kundër Krimit të Organizuar Ndërkombëtar" ratifikuar me Ligjin nr. 8920, datë 11.07.2002.
- Ligji nr. 10192, datë 03.12.2009, "Për parandalimin dhe goditjen e krimit të organizuar dhe trafikimit nëpërmjet masave parandaluese kundër pasurisë".
- Statistika të strukturave kundër trafiqeve të paligjshme në Policinë e Shtetit.

THE INTER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PENSION FUND, FAMILY WELFARE AND FISCAL POLICIES

Dr. Albana Demi[1]
[1]Lecturer and head of CIRD Economy, Canadian Institute of Technology
PhD.Cand. Mimoza Agolli[2]
[2]Lecturer at Canadian Institute of Technology
Prof.Ass.Dr. Skënder Uku[3]
[3]Lecturer at "Agriculture University of Tirana"

Abstract

State expenditures and taxes have a direct impact on overall economic performance, as they represent a large part of the activity in the national economy. Financial Policies and Monetary Policy are two basic components of national economic policies that use macroeconomic goals: overall impact on the domestic product, employment rate, and income and price levels. During the process of drafting social policies, policymakers set the goals they are aiming for and the means by which they become sustainable targets. For humanity, in addition to the great challenges of life, a considerable problem is maintaining the equilibrium of human resources development. In this context, it is worth mentioning that the administration and financing of the system of payment of social schemes as well as of social security contributions for the benefit of the pension directly affects the economy of each country. Social and health insurance are concepts introduced late in our country and as a rule there was no late knowledge of how they function. But nowadays, the concept for them has come into power and their relevance has begun. They have evolved and are constantly changing in line with the best European changes. The protection afforded by social security is very important because they provide individuals who, when they are unable to work, have an economic base for themselves to meet their basic needs. Social Contribution is a payroll obligation at a percentage that is paid to them by economically active persons. The social insurance administration is carried out by the Social Insurance Institute (ISSH). Social security is a legal obligation of constitutional character for the employees. Social security plays an important role not only in the well-being of an individual but also in the economic development of a state.

***Key words**: Social and health insurance, employment rate, income, macroeconomic goals.*

1. Introduction

This paper aims to present the integration of social and pension policies into the household and their inclusion in the state budget. It is already known that factors affecting middle-class households in poverty versus poverty are mainly related to labor market resources, social care and support. The purpose of this study is to treat social support schemes in accordance with the criteria for benefiting the particular layers of society.

2. Methods of study

The study aims to gather evidence and test two key hypotheses:

Ho: The first hypothesis is to confirm the legal, institutional and social applicability aspects of social policies as comparable to international experiences.

H1: The second hypothesis aims to build evidence on the effectiveness of social policies, arguing that social support policies have improved the level of poverty.

3. Discussion

The study is based on a comparative analysis of the legal framework and social support policies by providing detailed economic aid and pension schemes. The comparative analysis is based on the review and comparison of social policies, the legal and institutional framework of social support in Albania compared to international experiments. Functionality and achievement of social policy objectives were assessed in relation to the targeting and provision of services to vulnerable groups.

In order to carry out comparative analysis for families with different levels of income statistical data is needed, but for Albanian families we can say that this data is scarce.

This study is based on the "synthetic panel" methodology to explore the transition to family income before and after the intervention of social policies. Methodology for the construction of synthetic panels follows Dang et al. (2014) which enable the household consumption assessment in the next year based on secondary family information.

The consumer equation includes variables over the age and years of schooling for the head of household, region and employment status, supplemented by sources of non-working household income such as remittances, capital incomes and any social transfers received by the household.

4. Conclusions

The social insurance and funding issues for specific social assistance programs are wide-ranging and complex. This also for the fact that these instruments are directly or indirectly linked to the entire population. The right solution to social problems through reforming the pension system has the ultimate goal of increasing the prospect of a more peaceful financial life of the population. Social security is a legal obligation of constitutional character for the employees. Social security plays an important role not only in the well-being of an individual but also in the economic development of the country.

The tax forms and the amount of the tax burden have a direct effect on the amount and structure of consumption and savings of citizens, on the quantity and structure of foreign and domestic investments as well as on production and trade.

The results of the study show that the economic and social reforms pursued in Albania have an impact on households and the state budget. This is because the indicators have the same trend of development.

5. Bibliography

www.instat.gov.al. Retrieved from http://www.instat.gov.al/al/themes/konsumi-i-familjeve.aspx

Institute for Development Research and Alternatives and DPK Consulting. Tirana, 2. “. (2008). *“Corruption in Albania: Perception and Experience Survey 2008 Summary of the Results”.* Tirana.

Albania, M. o. (2016). *www.financa.gov.al*. Retrieved from http://www.financa.gov.al/al/legjislacioni/aktet-ligjore-dhe-nenligjore-per-taksat.

http://taxesvault.com/. (2016). *www.taxesvault.com*. Retrieved from http://taxesvault.com/articles/us-state-taxation-where-youll-pay-the-most-in-state-and-local-taxes/

www.tatime.gov.al. (2015). *Law Nr. 8438, Date 28.12.1998.*

Enterprise structural survey 2000 - 2013 . (2014).

www.instat.gov.al. Retrieved from www.instat.gov.al: http://www.instat.gov.al

Finance, M. o. (2014).

www.minfin.gov.al.

THE ROLE OF THE STABILITY PACT IN REGIONAL COOPERATION

Dr. Jeta Goxha[1], MSc. Fabiola Deliaj[2]
[1]"Pavaresia" University Colleg, Vlore-Albania
jeta.goxha@unipavaresia.edu.al
MSc. Fabiola Deliaj
[2]"Pavaresia" University Colleg, Vlore-Albania
fabiola.deliaj@unipavaresia.edu.al

Abstract

In the first decade, after the fall of communist regimes the international community for the Western Balkan Countries does not have a coordinated and long-term strategy, particularly the EU. In this part of the region had been individual actions, mostly humanitarian, but there was a common attitude that come to help these countries. The Kosovo crisis served as a catalyst for such a finding.

Political, economic and social instability in Southeast Europe urged the European Union not to stand aside as it really did in previous crises. Is exactly in this difficult and turbulent moment for the region, was founded the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe.

The Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe has also highlighted the fact that regional cooperation is inevitable to integrate the Western Balkan countries in the EU and in the European.

Keywords: *Stability Pact, economic development, Integration.*

1. Introduction

The Stability Pact was seen as a fruitful instrument for dialogue and stabilization of region. Faced with these problems, an immediate solution should be found. For this reason, on May 17, 1999 EU foreign ministers approved a common position regarding the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, in which the EU declared ready to take the lead. Under the leadership of the German Presidency of the Council of the EU Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe was established. The date 10 June 1999, marks an important moment for the Balkan region, was launched the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe. This was a preventative approach of international diplomacy, the EU, the OSCE, the NATO, G8 and a number of other countries, which in this way tried to find the missing answers of the first decade.

2. The subject of your work

The subject of this paper is to underline the role that has had the stability pact in the economic, development and in cooperation of the Western Balkan countries.

3. Proposed method

Relying on historical analysis, this paper tries to deal with scientific objectively the role of the PSS in this important process. The methodology of the study is based on the analysis of historical events.

4. Results and discussion

The countries of Southeast Europe because of their past, transition and consecutive conflicts had inherited a weak economy without standards and low living standards. For this reason, was needed an intervention in the economic sphere. Priority was the promotion on economic and social welfare.

According to EU leaders, it was a finding to calm the public opinion concerned by NATO's intervention in Kosovo. More specifically, the European Commission aimed at expanding the consensus of international actors for the European integration of the Balkan countries, although this process would continue depending on the fulfillment of the required conditions, individual integration for each of these countries.

While for the Western Balkan countries, this initiative was seen as a way of salvation, because, thanks to it, it would be able to enjoy the benefits provided by the Pact, economic and financial aid.

5. Conclusion

The Stability Pact was based on the previous experiences of managing international crisis, based on three main sectors: the creation of a secure environment, the promotion of sustainable democratic systems and promote economic and social welfare. Despite the different attitudes, all the countries confirmed the fact that this was the only way to achieve peace and sustainable development in this area.

The Pact played a key role in helping coordinate regional reconstruction efforts. "The main need was for a sustainable economic growth." This was thought to be the key to success in preventing war and violent conflicts, strengthening peace, security, and involving these countries in the international arena.

6. References

[1] 2177a *sessione del Consiglio, Affari Generali* . Bruxselles, Belgium, 17 Maggio, 1999.

[2] Doninovska, Frosina. (2015). *Vështrim në të ardhmen: Sfidat e Bashkepunimit Rajonal per sigurine e Ballkanit Perendimor*. Revista-Ceshtje te Sigurise, Istituti per Demokraci dhe Ndermjetesim , Tirane 2013.

[3] Ettore, Greco, *Il Patto di Stabilita e la Cooperazzione Regionale ne Balcani.* Roma: Istituto Affari Internazionali, 2000.

[4] Jacobsen, Hans Dieter, *Economic Security and the Stability Pact for the South East Europe*. *"*International Economic Security for Europe" , pp. 3-4.

[5] Milo, Paskal. (2009). *Paskal Milo, Ditari I një ministri të jashtëm, Konflikti I Kosovës 1997-2001*, Botimet Toena, Tirane 2010.

[6] *Regional Coperation in Southeast Europe: The post stability pact period*, *Analytica*, (2009)

[7] Riunione dei Presidenti dei Parlamenti degli Stati membri dell''Iniziativa Centro-Europea. (2000). *Il Patto di Stbailita' per l'Europa Sudorientale*, Varsavia, (2000).

CORPORATE RESTRUCTURING POLICIES AND PRIVATIZATION PROCES IN ALBANIA

Ph.D. (c). Jona Puci[1]
Msc. Klodiana Mosho[2]

Abstract

Corporate Restructuring is the process that involved in changing the organization of a business making dramatic changes by cutting out or merging departments. These changes often have the effect of displacing staff members. Corporate governance is the way a corporation polices itself and intends to increase the accountability of the company and to avoid massive disasters before they occur. A company can hold meetings with internal members, such as shareholders and debt holders - as well as suppliers, customers and community leaders, to address the request and needs of the affected parties. Corporate restructuring include: stakeholder, consultative decision making, data information. Stakeholders can affect or be affected by the organization's actions, objectives and policies. Some examples of key stakeholders are creditors, directors, employees, government (and its agencies), owners (shareholders), suppliers, unions, and the community from which the business draws its resources. Not all stakeholders are equal. A company's customers are entitled to fair trading practices but they are not entitled to the same consideration as the company's employees. An example of a negative impact on stakeholders is when a company needs to cut costs and plans a round of layoffs.

Keywords: *stakeholders, shareholders, government, Corporate, restructuring, policies*

1. Introduction

The purpose of this study is to recognize corporate restructuring process. Through this study we will be familiar with a clear view of corporate restructuring. Also, concrete examples will be given to the corporate restructuring in Albania. It will be evident that the corporate restructuring process in our country has gone through the privatization process. During this analysis, we will identify the measures taken by the Albanian government to draft policies and strategies. This process started with the privatization of the trade and services network, continued with some small and medium enterprises until the beginning of mass privatization for large enterprises by achieving the following objectives: Ensuring sustainable long-term economic development and increasing economic efficiency, Increase market efficiency by promoting competition and market regulation, The attraction of private foreign capital in the sector of the country's economy.

2. Methods of study

The privatisation's methods include:

a) "The divesting" from ownership's method such as: Direct selling, Selling at leaders and employees, Public auction, the liquidation, Mass privatisation, Strategic investor.
b) "Non-divesting" from property methods such as: Transformation, Restructuring, Leasing, Joint venture companies, Service contract, Concessionaire Contract.

3. Discussion

In the early 1990's, the economic units operating in all sectors of the Albanian economy were in a very difficult situation, with: backward technology, excessive labor force, high debtor status, low management level; unclear objectives for the future. All these difficulties were in contradict competition for a free economy. During the economic transformation of our country from a centralized economy into a free market economy, the privatization process of state-owned enterprises was accompanied by several social, micro and macro economic and legal problems. In the process of privatization of enterprises during the period 1991-2000 are used: the contract of the EOT (Electronic Optics Technology), leasing, transfer of the right of use. In the framework of economic reform for the transformation of the economy, the privatization process started in the early 1990s with the adoption of Law no. 7512 date 10.08.1991 "For the sanction and protection of private property, free initiative, private activities and privatization".

4. Conclusions

The aim of the restructuring is to increase the value of state-owned enterprises so that they become more attractive and privatized. Restructuring of enterprises in Albania is seen in organizational, financial and technical aspects. An effort in this direction was made with the creation of the Enterprise Restructuring Agency (RNA), proposed, set up, organized and financially supported by the World Bank. The RNA portfolio consisted of 32 enterprises, but because of the conception, which was fundamentally inadequate, the RNA was unsuccessful and merged in 1996.

5. Bibliography

Commission of the European Communities. 2004. Commission Staff Working Paper. Albania. Stabilisation and Association Report 2004, SEC (2004) 374/2. Brussels.

Cungu, A. and Swinnen, J. (1997) "Agricultural Privatization and De - collectivization in Albania: A Political Economy Perspective" in Swinnen (ed.) Political Economy of Agrarian Reform in Central and Eastern Europe

Dimitrov, M. ed. (1997), State Enterprise Restructuring in Bulgaria, Romania and Albania, Gorex Press, Sofia

GoA (1997), "Albania - Post Conflict Rehabilitation: A Framework of Economic Policies 1997-2000", The Government of Albania, Sept. 1997, Tirana, Albania

Hatziprokopiou, M., Karagiannis, G. and Kostas Velentzas (1996), "Production Structure, Technical Change, and Productivity Growth in Albanian Agriculture", Journal of Comparative Economics, 22, 295-310.

Jarvis, Christopher. 2000. The Rise and Fall of Albania's Pyramid Schemes, Finance and Development, 37 (1): 46-49

Mema F. (2001). "Post privatization in Albania: Success or Failure", International Conference "Integration and transformation in Albania, Hungary and Macedonia" Bamberg, Germany.

Menzel, U. (1996) New Images of the Enemy: The Renaissance of Geopolitics and Geoculture in International Relations. *International Journal of Political Economy.* 70-90.

OSCE - Presence in Albania. 2004. Semi-annual OSCE report on activities in Albania, Report delivered by the Head of the OSCE Presence in Albania, Ambassador Osmo Lipponen, to the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna, 30 September 2004

Xhamara, I. (1995), "Land Reform in Albania and Its Macroeconomic and Social Impacts", Unpublished Report, Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Tirana, Albania

ICT TECHNOLOGY FOR MONITORING AND MODELING OF FOREST FIRES EXTREME EVENTS IN ALBANIA

Miranda Deda Kalaja, Ph.D(1), Holta Komino (2)
[1]*Canadian Institute of Technology - St. Andon Zako Cajupi, Zayed Center, Tirana, Albania*
miranda.deda@cit.edu.al
[2]*General Directorate of Fire and Rescue Services, Ministry of Interior, Tirana, Albania*
holta.komino@mb.gov.al

Abstract

The purpose of this work is to analyze the role and the importance of ICT systems in the prevention, monitoring and forecasting of extreme events in Albania.

Weather conditions with high temperatures, long droughts and strong winds have created the optimal conditions for a rapid spread of forest fires. The situation created this year due to the large number of fires and their frequency has created a national emergency situation that the civil emergencies and the fire and rescue service structures with its human and material capabilities are unable to manage. Referring to the risk assessment map in Albania, fires are the ones that cause major problems in the summer period and consequently the needs for managing this situation require additional organizational measures, especially in coordination, cooperation, information between line ministries and institutions dependency, as well as the indispensable provision of human, logistical and financial resources necessary. This means that the prevention, monitoring and forecasting forest fires risk is the most appropriate action, for the minimization of their impact.

The Albanian Civil Protection and Fires services are using web-GIS System called MyDewetra from 2011, in the framework of the cooperation program between Albania and Italy. This system it was implemented at national level as

an Early Warning and Decision Support System aimed to multi-risk mapping, forecasting and monitoring of extreme events (floods, forest fires, ect) for the entire territory.

Keywords: *web-GIS, emergency management, real-time data, forest fires.*

1. Introduction

The forest fires are the most problematic events with destructive impact in the ecosystems, environment, and also property. The prevention, monitoring and forecasting is the issue of the future for the Civil Emergencies and forest fires services. This work describes an integration analysis between meteorological factors and modeling of the fire prevention through the ICT system MyDewetra http://adriatic-ionian.mydewetra.org and the observations data. The number of forest fires and their impact are directly linked to the meteorological conditions, which can influence to the extension of the burned area.

MyDewetra Albania, is the evolution of the DEWETRA platform from CapRadNet project (Deda.M.at al 2017). This system is since 2008 a fully operational used by the Italian Civil Protection Department and designed by CIMA Research Foundation to support operational activities at national or international scale. In 2012, the platform has been officially endorsed by the World Meteorological Organization, and now the platform it was in fully operatively at National Operational Center of Ministry of Interior, form 2011.

2. Related work

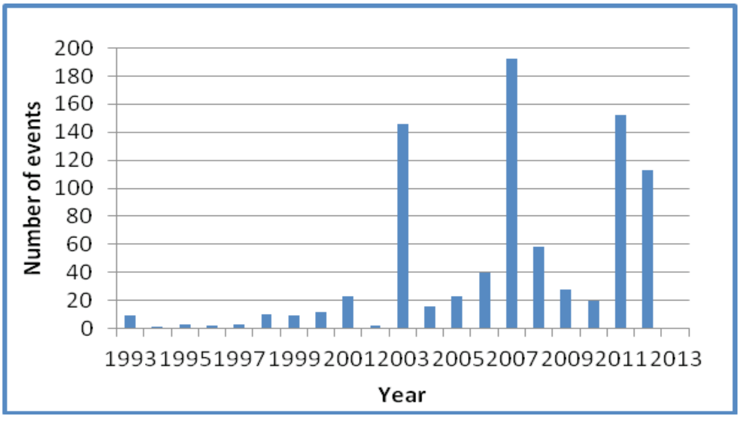
Beginning from first days of July to September, Albania it was affected from more than 1240 forest fires in the whole country. The massive forest fires that occurred during this period, has make in risk people's lives, but also private and public property. The MyDewetra System as multi-risk web-Gis application, contain inside the model for prevention of forest fires that are called RISICO model. This model can combine a daily analysis using the meteorological conditions done by ECMWF and COSMO-LAMI model, meteorological observed data, and also GIS data through the licensed Google map application, in order to predict one to three days in the future. This detailed analysis can reorganize the forest fires and civil emergency resources for the monitoring of risk areas in order to mitigate the impact of these events.

3. The subject of your work

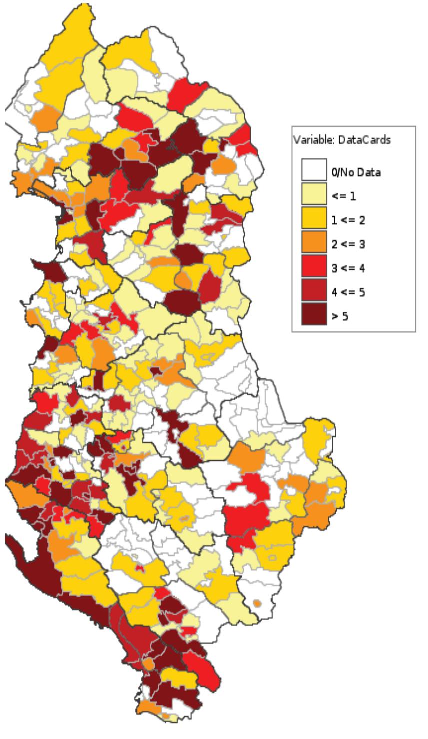
The subject of the work it was to analyze the correlation between the fire index prevention model RISICO thought ICT system MyDewetra and the number of forest fires observed during the summer period of 2017 in Albania. The model RISICO (Fiorucci, at al. 2004) can be coupled with different meteorological forecasts models and uses forecasts products and observations in order to estimate the dead fine fuel moisture content, and the potential behavior of a fire ignited, in terms of potential rate of spread and potential linear intensity of the fire front. On this basis, a fire danger index is provided, highlighting the areas subject to high risk for the current day, the day after and the day after tomorrow. The model RISICO is operational at the National Operational Center – Ministry of Interior from 2011, it is able to use different data sources in order to provide fire danger indexes at different spatial and temporal scales. The decision support system helps the decision makers of civil emergency and fire rescue services to manage better their human and operational structures capacities in order to reduce and to minimize the impact in the country.

4. Proposed method

The methodology of this work it was based on detailed analysis related to the outputs of fire forecast model - RISICO and the observed number of forest fires in the country. The average number graphic in the following demonstrate the temporal trend of forest fires (1993 – 2013) (E.Toto. at al 2014), but the 2017 it was catastrophic year with more than 1240 fires in the whole country, just for the summer season.



Graphic 1. Temporal trend of forest fires (1993 – 2013) - DesInventar Albania,



Map 1. The spatial distribution of forest fires (1946-2014) at commune level - DesInventar Albania,

5. Results and discussion

Using the ICT system and the modeling for the prevention and forecasting can be an opportunity for the estimation of fire danger provides a valuable support for the designing of strategies related to the use and the distribution of the available firefighting resources, which can prevent or at least as minimize fire effects. The main advantage of a dynamic hazard assessment is that of identifying, within the considered territory, the areas affected by the highest hazard, and the time intervals within the considered time horizon in which this hazard takes place. The purpose of dynamic hazard assessment is that of getting reliable information useful to take a number and a variety of preventing actions that can reduce the impact of potentially lighted fire over the considered territory, within the considered time horizon. Such actions may include, for instance, re-locating the available resources over the territory, recalling day-off resources to service, alerting local authorities or emergency managers, issuing prohibitions of some dangerous agricultural practices (such as stubble burning), and patrolling the areas affected by the highest hazard.

Mitigation actions:

- re-locating resources
- recalling day-off resources to service
- alerting local authorities
- issuing prohibitions of dangerous agricultural practices
- patrolling the areas affected by the highest hazard

6. Conclusion

The information provided by RISICO model through MyDewetra system can be aggregated in space and time in order to provide Fire Risk Index maps for the incoming days. High-resolution vegetation cover maps, remote sensing data and real time observations can improve the performances of the system at local level, but also common database of the activities performed has to be defined in order to perform a cost benefit analysis for better policies in this fluid.

7. References

1. M.Deda, L.Molini, P.Tepsich, P.Campanella, M.Massabo MyDewetra CapRadNet: the evolution of the DewetraNet platform for hydrometeorological risk management and marine ecosystems monitoring.
2. P. Pagliara, A. Corina, A.Burastero, P.Campanella, L. Ferraris, M.Morando (2011)- Dewetra, Coping with Emergencies, International ISCRAM Conference – Lisbon, Portugal.
3. Fiorucci et al.,2004 – Fiorucci P., Gaetani F., Minciardi R., (2007). Development and application of a system for dynamic wildfire risk assessment in Italy. Environmental Modelling & Software.
4. Fiorucci P., Gaetani F., Minciardi R. (2008) - Development and application of a system for dynamic wildfire risk assessment in Italy. Environmental Modelling &Software , 23, 6, 690-702
5. M.Deda, E. Toto, M. Massabo (2014) - Historical collection of Disaster Loss Data In Albania, CIMA Research Foundation
6. Albania's Third National Communication to the Conference of Parties under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

INVESMENT IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING IS CRUCIAL FOR BOOSTING YOUNG PEOPLE'S PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND JOB PROSPECTS

MSc.Fabiola Deliaj
University Collage "Pavaresia" Vlore, Albania
fabiola.deliaj@unipavaresia.edu.al
Dr.Jeta Goxha
University Collage "Pavaresia" Vlore, Albania
jeta.goxha@unipavaresia.edu.al

Abstract

Investing in education and training is the key of future for young persons. Learning a second or third language will not only make easy for young people to know other countries , their people and different ways of life; it may also enable for they to study or train abroad and improve the prospects of a fulfilling and well-paid job in the future. Studies show that highly skilled people are twice more likely to be employed and almost three times more likely than to earn an above – average income than poorly skilled people. In a world which is becoming increasingly interdependent, national economies will only achieve their full potential if they are underpinned by strong education and training systems. The purpose of this paper is to highlight the priorities of education; EU-funded education and training projects focused on young people all around the world, as a good example. How this EU policy is functioning in Albania, not only to help young people for quality education but also as an impact on education policies drafted by the Albanian government to achieve European standards. Because a country that invests intelligently in education and training will prosper in business, science and the arts. Moreover, ensuring educational opportunities for everyone will help to seruce social justice and social cohesion.

In view of the key role of education for the future well-being of citizens, nations and Europe as a whole, the EU has developed an ambitious programme: Erasmus +. The programme aims to boost people's personal development

and job prospects. The global economic crisis has exposed structural weaknesses with serious consequences for millions of young people. The youth unemployment rate stands at more than 20% for the EU as a whole, and is above 50% in member states, the highest percentages are in Albania. However, the crisis is not the only cause of unemployment. Poor education and a lack of skills also contribute to joblessness.

Keywords: *investment, education, training, development, young persons*

1. Introduction

Investing in education and training is the key of future for young persons. Learning a second or third language will not only make easy for young people to know other countries , their people and different ways of life; it may also enable for they to study or train abroad and improve the prospects of a fulfilling and well-paid job in the future. Today we live in the age of globalization. Studies show that highly skilled people are twice as likely to be employed and almost three times more likely than to earn an above – average income than poorly skilled people. In a world which is becoming increasingly interdependent , national economies will only achive their full potential if they are underpinned by strong education and training systems.

2. The subject

The purpose of this paper is to highlight the priorities of education; EU-funded education and training projects focused on young people all around the world, as a good example. How this EU policy is functioning in Albania and in the western balkan, not only to help young people for quality education but also as an impact on education policies drafted by their government to achieve European standards. Because a country that invests intelligently in education and training will prosper in bussines, science and the arts. Moreover, ensuring educational opportunities for everyone will help to seruce social justice and social cohesion.

3. Related work

In view of the key role of education for the future well-being of citizens, nations and Europe as a whole , the EU has developed an ambitious programme: Erasmus +. The programme aims to boost people's personal development and job prospects. The Europe 2020 strategy highlights the completion of upper secondary education as the minimum level of educational attainment for young people in today's society. If referring to Albania and the Western Balkan region, the respective governments have implemented educational reforms in order to develop capacity. The purpose of these reforms is to focus not only on the alleviation of illiteracy and compulsory education for children up to the age of 15, but also to guide these young people towards vocational education and continuous training. Data show that young people in Albania and in the region are becoming more and more part of the European Union program, Erasmus +.

4. Proposed method

The methodology used for this paper focuses on qualitative and quantitative data related to the subject of education. This paper is a comparative approach. Researchers generally agree that investing in early education has the highest returns. As the Nobel laureate James Heckman has shown, early investments enhance equal opportunities and higher achievement at the same time.

5. Results and discussion

The global economic crisis has exposed structural weaknesses with serious consequences for millions of young people. The youth unemployment rate stands at more than 20% for the EU as a whole, and is above 50% in member states, the highest percentages are in Albania. However , the crisis is not the only cause of unemployment . Poor education and a lack of skills also contribute to joblessness**.** But Europe is not a closed shop- particularly when it comes to educations, training and youth policy. Education can put people on a path towards good health, empowerment and employment. It can help to build more peaceful societies.

6. Conclusion

Yet, there's an education crisis. Right now, in 2017, more than 120 million young people are out of school, but they are some solutions which can help to soften this reality. The first the <u>governments should invest in embedding technology into pedagogical concepts to enable interactive learning experiences. For an effective use of technology, give teachers training and rewards</u>**.** The second is to <u>focus education policy on providing rewards and sanctions for achieving better performance to energize local capacity and</u>

knowledge instead of trying to improve outcomes through general regulation. Education is a fundamental right for everyone and key to the future of any country. Education has its price everywhere—but the only thing more expensive than investing in education is not investing in education.

Keywords: *investment, education, training, development, young persons*

References:

1. D. Sébastien. "Human Capital and Growth: the Recovered Role of Educational Systems." 18- 22.(2001)
2. European Commission/EACEA/Eurydice, 2013. Education and Training in Europe 2020: Responses from the EU Member States. Eurydice Report. Brussels: Eurydice.
3. K.L, Alexander, D.R, Entwisle, & N.S, Kabbani, N.S. 'The dropout process in life course perspective: Early risk factors at home and school', Teachers College Record, v.103, n.5, 760-822. (2001)
4. L, Robinson, & S, Lamb, How young people are faring : A general report on the learning and work situation of young people, report prepared for the Foundation of Young Europeans. (2016)
5. P. Ryan, "The school-to-work transition: A cross-national perspective." Journal of Economic Literature 34-42 (2001)
6. UNESCO.World Science Report. Paris: UNESCO.(2015)
7. https://blogs.unicef.org/blog/education-the-most-powerful-investment-in-our-future/

E-COMMERCE: SECURITY ISSUES

MSc. Launora Bilalaj[1] and Dr. Esmeralda Hoxha[2]
University College "Pavarësia", Vlorë, Albania
[1]launora.bilalaj@unipavaresia.edu.al
[2]esmeralda.hoxha@unipavaresia.edu.al

Abstract

Developments in information and communications technology has changed the way we live and also provided new opportunities for businesses and consumers. An increasing number of consumers have access to the Internet and engage in e-commerce, which provides faster and easier access to products and services. It also presents some challenges for consumers, because any transaction becomes potentially subject to interception or attack and thus requires the use of cryptography for security and privacy. There is a risk to consumers from unauthorized transactions made by third parties. It is crucial the use of digital certificates to establish the authenticity of on-line users and a Public Key Authentication Framework for security. These security measures must be implemented so that they do not interact to the on-line transactions. This paper will present the power of e-commerce which making all consumers and business on earth to be potential suppliers and consumers, and all requirements of security for a reliable e-commerce operation. We will analyze the security infrastructure as an essential part of any transaction that takes places over the Internet. Privacy and social welfare are also discussed.

Keywords: *E-commerce, Encryption, Authentication, Integrity, Confidentiality.*

1. Introduction

E-commerce is recognized for its ability to allow business to communicate and to form transaction anytime and anyplace. eBay is a good example of e-commerce business individuals and businesses are able to post their items and sell them around the globe. Security is the critical issue for the e-commerce operation, so has received little attention.

2. Related Work

Acording to United Nations at [1] e-commerce can be defined as "the sale or purchase of goods or services, conducted over computer networks by methods specifically designed for the purpose of receiving or placing of orders. Acording Izzat Alsmadi, Ikdam Alhami and Hisham Alsmadi at [2] a successful e-commerce or e-business infrastructure will help several public or private sectors benefit from it. Sh. Shahriari, M. Shahriari, S. Gheiji at [3] represent e-commerce impact on global trend and market. S. Krishnan, I. Sentosa, S. Nurain, N. Amalia, S. Syamim, W.N.Hafizah at [4] represent e-commerce issues on customer's awareness on market.

3. The subject of your work

Successful e-commerce depends upon proving the identity of persons on-line and linking them to a transaction without repudiation. It is crucial to establish a good Internet infrastructure for e-commerce to provide e-commerce transaction with a level of protection. To ensure the reliability and security of on-line payments regardless of the payment method and protect consumer privacy and data.

4. Proposed Method

Security is the critical issue for the e-commerce operation, so has received little attention. We will analyze the security infrastructure as an essential part of any transaction that takes places over the Internet. The methodology used is theoritical and statistical.

5. Results and discussion

Using e-commerce organizations can expand their market to national and international markets with minimum capital investment. It improves the brand image of the company, helps organization to provide better customer services. E-commerce will continue to rise in impact, will truly take human beings into the information society. As the table below shows, the online retail sales have grown in the period 2012-2016.

Countries	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016 (f)
China				**$766.5bn**	
USA				**$595.1bn**	
UK				**$174.2bn**	$192.5bn
Japan		$92.8bn		**$114.4bn**	
France				**$71.9bn**	
Germany	$41.0bn			**$66.2bn**	
South Korea				**$64.8bn**	
Canada			$31.7bn	**$35.7bn**	
India				**$25.5bn**	
Russia				**$22.8bn**	

Figure 1 – Online Retail Sales and Growth Rates 2016 and 2017 [5]

6. Conclusion

The easy way of doing business will be a fundamental requirement in this new world. Now, the industry needs to embrace new business models and play its role with efficiency through ecommerce in the future. Technology will propagate through all commercial activity, prices will rise to cover the real cost of doing business. E-commerce margins and profits will rise to levels more typical of all retailers. New startup ventures will emerge with new products and services.

7. References

[1] United Nations. Consumer protection in electronic commerce. *United Nations Conference on Trade and Development*, Geneva. (April, 2017)

[2] Alsmadi.I, Alhami.I, & Alsmadi.H. (). The Requirements for Builing an E-commerce Infrastructure. *International Journal of Recent Trends in Engineering and Technology*, (November 2009)

[3] Shahriari.Sh, Shahriari.M, Gheiji.S.E-commerce and It Impacts on Global Trend and Market. *International Journal of Research-GRANTHAALYAH*. Vol.3, No.4, 49-55 (April, 2015).

[4] Krishnan.S, Sentosa.I, Nurain.S, Amalia.N, Syamim.S, & Hafizh.N.W. E-commerce Issues on Customer's Awareness in Malaysia. *International Journal of Finance and Accounting* (2017).

[5] Ecommerce Foundation. Global B2C E-commerce Report 2016. Retrieved 11th 2017 from https://www.ecommercewiki.org/wikis/www.ecommercewiki.org/images/5/56/Global_B2C_Ecommerce_Report_2016.pdf

ETHICAL ISSUES IN A REFORMING PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
(VLORE REGION)

MSc. Blerina Dhrami and Doct. Saniela Xhaferi
University College "Pavaresia Vlore", Vlore, Albania
blerina.dhrami@unipavaresia.edu.al
University College "Pavaresia Vlore", Vlore, Albania
saniela.xhaferi@unipavaresia.edu.al

Abstract

This paper focuses on issues raised during management of ethics in PA in a specific Albanian region (Vlore), reflecting the community point of view. In particular it should identify the key elements which should be respected in order to have an ethical behavior from public servants.

It is not easy to define the term "ethics", especially when this is linked with public administration. In everyday life we think about ethics as values and moral, but public administration which is based mostly on actions and decision making processes, needs another kind of ethics, ethics of structure or ethics of neutrality. Which factors influence ethics in general and in particular ethics in PA? Does public servants behavior (in offering required public services) match with the community expectancies? If not, what causes this gap between the community and the public servants?

In order to inquire on this relationship, we conducted a survey where citizens were asked randomly about their personal experience with public administration. Elaborated data shows that there is a lack of trust of the community in PA. The main assumptions of this lack derive from the absence or the deficiency of a clear framework of public administration ethics, since all the studies point out the same logic: to have a good administration of ethics in PA, firstly we should have a good knowledge on the historical, cultural, legal, political and socio-economical context of a country.

The civic experience in Vlore region helps to raise awareness of both public servants in local and central government and it can be object of study for further detailed papers.

Keywords: *public administration ethics, accountability-responsibility, trust-expectancies, efficiency, governance.*

Introduction

This paper comes as a reflection of the actuality, regarding the objective of the Albanian government in the name of the citizens. The co-governance with citizens will be an instrument that will guarantee the continuity of this relationship, that is, citizen-governance. The fact that this relationship is seeking to be put into reality shows its emphasized lack, a lack of it in 25 years democracy. This lack is not noticed only by politicians or lawmakers, but also an immediate need, especially from the community. Precisely, the attitude and perception of citizens over this relationship, in confront with the services provided by the public administration, has been the main point of our research.

The relation citizens – public administration is inevitable, regardless of the political-economic context, the development of technology or the evolution of socio-cultural relations. Despite the importance of this topic, little has been done to understand or explain why there is a gap in meeting the expectations of citizens in the way of receiving public administration services, the gap that creates dissatisfaction among citizens. Mostly this mismatching between expectancies and services provided comes as a result of an unethical behavior of public servants in confront with the community.

The subject of the work

The first step to set the basics of a clear ethics is formulating a PA ethics framework. In order to have the right approach we should identify the elements which conduct to an unethical behavior. We cannot consider completed this approach having only legal framework or institutional code of ethics, but what is more important is the embracement of them, not only by enforcement but mostly as a process of inner normative of every single employee in PA.

Methodology

In the region of Vlore there was conducted a survey, where citizens were randomly asked about their experience in receiving services from the public administration. The cross tabulation of two variables shows the listed main results were their dissatisfaction, a low trust, a miss and a lack of accountability from PA servants, a missed divulgation of information.

Results and discussion

Although the community's awareness of making public cases of unethical behavior in the PA has been increased, the process of services addressed to the community has been clarified, transparency has also increased due to digitalization, this has not led to a reduction in the number of unethical in the PA and one of the reasons is that there are no clear statistics on these cases. Often the guidelines for ethical behavior at work are theoretical and not well-defined and also lack directives especially for dilemmas that arise during an ethical decision-making (e.g. choosing between efficiency and law enforcement).

Conclusion

The use of awareness and guidance tools to ensure an ethical behavior in the PA must, in the first place, serve to prevent and promote non-corrupt behavior, notably through training and presentation of codes of ethics.

Employees should be remembered on a regular basis about these codes, because their effectiveness should be implanted in the minds and hearts of the employees.

Other factors that can soften unethical behavior are: the proper selection of human resources, criteria for promoting, rotation at work, clear job description etc.

References

1. *Demmke, Ch., Bossaert, D. (2004) Ethics in the Public Sector of the European Member States* [Accessed 1st September 2017] Available from www.eupan.eu
2. *Krekel, P. Ethics and Integrity in the Public Sector.* [Accessed 1st September 2017] Available from from https://www.google.al/search?q=integrity_Ethics_and_Integrity_in_the_Public_Sector_eupan_site&rlz=1C1CHMO_enAL681AL681&oq=integrity_Ethics_and_Integrity_in_the_Public_Sector_eupan_site&aqs=chrome..69i57.2399j0j8&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8
3. *Methasani, E. Etika ne Administraten Publike: Analize e Ligjit Vendas per Etiken*. [Accessed 1st September 2017] Available from http://www.academia.edu/1230853/Etika_ne_Administraten_Publike
4. *Cooper LT (2001). The emergence of administrative ethics as a field of study in the United States*. A handbook on Administrative Ethics, pg 1-36.
5. Radhika, D. (2012) Ethics in Public Administration, *Journal of Public Administration and Policy Research Vol. 4(2) pp. 23-31 March,* 2012
6. Thompson, D. The Possibility of Administrative Ethics, *Public Administration Review*, Vol.45. Nr.5 (Sept- Oct 1985) pg 555-561.

SPOTLIGHTING THE ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF ACCOUNTING INFORMATION SYSTEMS IN SMEs

Dr.Rudina Lipi[1], Associate Prof. Dr.Ilirjan Lipi[2]
[1] University College "Pavarësia Vlorë"
lipi.rudina@gmail.com
[2] University of Vlora, "Ismail Qemali"
lipi.ilirjan@gmail.com

Abstract

Studies on the importance of business information systems in Albanian SMEs are generally rare, despite the essential role that SMEs have in the economy, but also the role that technology itself has in their development. The value chain is an instrument developed to analyze, and evaluate the activities and performance of the firm. Under the perspective of the Value Chain model, which is based on the process view of organization, accounting systems are ranked as part of the infrastructure of the organization's activities, as one of the supporting activities of the firm which are important to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the firm. Acounting information systems through generating accurate information contribute in many aspects by adding value to business organizations. The value of information systems is an important factor for decision-making and the implementation Accounting Information Systems at the firm level. This article aims also to present the main differences between the Accounting Information System and the Management Information System as part of Business Information System.

Keywords: *Value chain, Accounting, Management, Information, System, SMEs.*

1. Introduction

It is commonly known that Albanian SMEs have many organizational shortcomings, as well as a weak or lack of finance and management functions, as a result they do not generate even the most needed financial information for different decision-making needs, and for their efficient management too. All of these reasons make the role of an AIS more important, and because of its development and implementation, the business organization would formalize the infrastructure activities in the value chain perspective.

2. Related work

An instrument that helps the firm to determine its competitive advantage as well as to understand the importance of information systems in the strategic aspect is Porter's value chain model (Information Resources Management Association, 2015). According to this perspective, the organization or firm is considered as a whole process that is categorized in primary and secondary activities (O'Brien & Marakas 2011, p.56; Laudon & Laudon, 2012, p.135, as cited in IRMA, 2015). In this sense, the value chain enables the organization to look at business processes in the perspective of consumer value in manner to apply competitive strategies where information systems are thought to have even more effect (IRMA, 2015). An accounting information system (AIS) consists of several subsections that mainly process financial and non-financial transactions that provide very important information for processing financial transactions. According to Hall (2010), an AIS consists mainly of three subsystems: the transaction processing system (TPS), the general ledger / financial reporting system (GL/ FRS), and the management reporting system (MRS).

3. The subject of your work

If we refer to the accounting function we should say that its role and its relation to the information is important, because of the accounting function is primarily to record the financial effect of the firm's transactions and to disseminate information about transactions to the operating employees of the firm in manner to perform their daily work (Hall, 2010). In every organization, accounting is the largest user of information, so accountants should definitely be considered as an important factor in designing the information system in the organization, and clearly specifying the general AIS framework.

4. Proposed method

The purpose of this article is to describe the role of accounting information systems in the business value chain perspective, spotlighting so the importance of infrastructure according to this approach.

5. Results and discussion

Despite the general and non-scientific opinion of many accounting specialists, of business owner-managers, certified public accountants, and employees, which perceive that AIS is not a necessity, if we refer generally most to the information that an AIS provides to external and internal users of information, about the primary and secondary activities referring to the value chain in the organization, renders the AIS role and impact indisputable in value chain of a small and medium enterprise.

6. Conclusion

Accounting information system as part of the information system of business organization support the organization's decision-making and its administration, which affects the enhancement of the value chain of business and achievement of its performance goals too.

7. References

1. Information Resources Management Association (USA). (2015). Economics: Concepts, Methodologies, Tools, and Applications: Concepts, Methodologies, Tools, and Applications. IGI Global.
2. Hall, J. A. Accounting Information Systems. 7th edition, Mason: Cengage Learning, 2010, ISBN 978-1-4390-7857-0
3. Lipi, I., Lipi, R., & Agaraj, Xh. (2015). Implications of Accounting Information System Implementation in SMEs: A study on Retail Business in Vlora Region. Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences 6(3):553-563.
4. Lipi, R., & Lipi, I. 13th International Conference of ASECU, "Social and Economic Challenges in Europe 2016-2020", Definitions of Small Firm Failure Signs and Financial Distress,19-20 May, 2017, pp.478-485.
5. Tang. A. (2015). Accounting information systems for SME survivability. Business Notes and Briefings, DLSU. 3(3)
6. Qatanani, K.M., & Hezabr, A.A. (2015). The Effect of Using Accounting Information Systems to Improve the Value Chain in Business Organizations – Empirical Study. European Journal of Accounting Auditing and Finance Research 3(6):1-11.

ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION, FOR A TOURISM SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE VLORA REGION

PhD Veronika DURMISHI
PhD Candidate Argita LAMAJ
Department of Economics/ KUPV
Department of Economics/ KUPV
e-mail: veronika.durmishi@unipavaresia.edu.al
e-mail: argita.lamaj@unipavaresia.edu.al

Abstract

Political risk and instability in the region, unresolved land ownership conflicts, high corruption and informality, are factors that negatively impact the flows of tourists in Albania. South Coast there is no real development of the tourism sector. Neighboring countries such as Croatia, Greece and Italy are far ahead, with regard to the flow of foreign tourists and the quality of tourism offered. The current market on the South Coast is based exclusively on local Albanian or regional tourists.

The purpose of this paper is to assess the environmental capacity of the Vlora Region. This assessment focuses on the analysis of the social situation economic and environmental impact of the area under study, in determining the potential for development of the area and for assessing the territorial capacity of the area.

For the achievement of the objective, a research and observation study was carried out for the assessment of the Ionian coastal conservation capacity, which relates to the assessment of: physical and ecological holding capacity, economic holding capacity and social holding capacity.

Conclusion: For the future development of this area, three long-term objectives must be ensured:

- Generating income, economic growth and employment
- Good management of environmental resources
- Social regeneration of the region and poverty reduction.

To achieve these long-term objectives, substantial changes are required in the existing economic, environmental and social conditions. The objective is to create a new tourist destination and this is why the following tourist assets are needed: an image that attracts tourists, accommodation structures that attract the operators, a long season to have a good return on investment, choice of activities that you make visitors spend as much money on the Albanian Riviera.

Key words: *Environmental assessment, sustainable development, tourism economy, environmental carrying capacity*

1. Introduction

The development of the tourism sector in Albania faces a number of challenges. Tourism, although it has many negative impacts and leads to various economic, social and environmental problems, has a positive impact on the community and contributes to its sustainable development. This paper shows how tourism contributes to the sustainable development of the local community, using as an example of comparison with Albania, Dubrovnik in Croatia, and identifying possible threats to long-term economic sustainability.

2. Related work

New economic policies for sustainable development will focus more directly on people, as active citizens and recycle a portion of public income directly to citizens. [4]

Trade tourism product in order to increase respect for the natural, social and cultural environment of the destination area and increase customer satisfaction. [7]

Sustainable development represents attractive opportunities for economic development that does not exceed the economic, socio-cultural and environmental capacity of land. [8]

Development should be planned and managed within environmental constraints and with the appropriate long-term use of all resources. [9]

3. The subject of your work

This paper assesses the environmental sustainability capacity of the Vlora Region in all aspects of it: - Physical and ecological holding capacity, which determines the allowed number of visitors. - The economic holding capacity, which sets the boundary on which the quality of the tourist experience falls and makes it less attractive to visitors.- The social holding capacity, which determines the number of visitors that can keep a certain area. Assessing and analyzing the environmental holding capacity and addressing the need for investment in tourism on the basis of this holding capacity, this paper compare the Vlora Region with similar regions such as Dubrovnik in Croatia.

4. Proposed method

The study is based on an empirical research, which consists of a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods. Using the Butler Model are defined the tourism development phases of Vlora Region. The study area extends for 194 km (45% of the Albanian coast) ranging from Karaburun Peninsula to Orikum Bay in the north and finishing south near Butrint. To make the study, the coastline width was analyzed by dividing it into three zones: 500 m, 2 km and 5 km away from the water line.

5. Results and discussion

The geological and geotechnical conditions of the study area countries are generally good. This area is rich in water resources and is sufficient to meet the demands of future consumption growth, such as the development of tourism. According to a simple calculation, making an estimate of 10-15 buildings per hectare, there are about 2000 to 3000 illegal constructions. [5]

The population in the area surveyed compared to 1989 has doubled. Settlements in these 836 square kilometers mainly rural region are isolated villages, with the exception of two cities: Orikum and Himara.The current market is exclusively based on Albanian tourists.Saranda, which is closer to the border and Corfu, is the main gate that attracts more tourists by about 30%, Vlora attracts about 10% and Himara 5%.Water resources have secure capacities, for more than 1 million people who can stay in the environment. The sea water capacity is sufficient for the entire registered population.

6. Conclusion

Vlora is characterized by 3S tourism, while in Dubrovnik dominates cultural tourism. Both communities have recognized the importance of infrastructure quality and therefore have invested in upgrading existing infrastructure and building new infrastructure. In Dubrovnik, about 85% of the total number of tourists is foreign, while in Vlore only 10%. We can say that both Regions have gone through the exploration phase. Vlora is still in the inclusion phase, while Dubrovnik is in the development phase.

7. References

1. Ana Beban, Huseyin Ok “Contribution of Tourism to the Sustainable Development of the Local Community”, 2006.
2. Dimitrios Buhalis “Tourism on the Greek Islands: Issues of Peripherality, Competitiveness and Development.
3. Igor Mladenović, Aleksandar Zlatković “Some aspects of financial crisis influence on tourism industry in west Balkan countries “, 2008.
4. James Robertson A Report for the European Commission” The new economics of sustainable”,2005.
5. Vlora Regional Council “Progress Report on the Regional Development Strategy of Vlora District”, December 2014.
6. Rhodri Thomas, Marcjanna Augustyn “ Tourism in new Europe
7. Stabler, Tourism and Suistainability, Principels and Practice 1997 Wallingford, CABI International
8. MeKercher, 2003, Sothgate & Sharrpley, 2002.

IS THE BINOMIAL ENVIRONMENT - ECONOMY CHALLENGE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?

Adelajda Fejzaj
Pavaresia University College/ Vlore / Student
adelajda.fejzaj@unipavaresia.edu.al

Abstract

This paper started as an attempt to bring to the agenda one of the most important issues that disturbs the entire worldview. The environment, the importance it carries itself, the degradation that has undergone coming today and the way it has started to scorn frightfully. It is inevitable that we will agree with the assertion that: When we harm the environment we have created the conditions of damaging everyday life, health, development and future itself. We have broken the balances by violating the continuity of the generations which will come. From here the question arise : Do we really respect the environment ? Have we worked hard enough for him? How the role played awareness in his defense, could he overcome the theoretical framework?

Naturally there is a new hypothesis of another vital cost for humanity. The economic cost that sets the starting point for the development of human society. As long as our country has an economy in the conditions of so- called developmental endeavors, without high levels of industrialization and modernization, as most countries in region and the world this concern is reasonable. This is due to the fact that this infrastructure and practical deficit significantly reduces efforts for environmental care to support the economy. Today we see that the vastness and space in nature that are potentially usable in the economic sectors, are untapped and left out. If they would become functional with government policies, this would bring double profits to economic and environmental development. Would shift revenue to the state budget and avoid the environmental catastrophe that is happing today. So long as this relationship of the economy and its development is not reciprocal, it hinders the sustainable development of each.

Keywords: *environment, social awareness, protection, economic*

development, priorities.

Introduction

Man and environment are placed in mutual relation between them. Human connection with environment is an inseparable dichotomous connection. This necessary relationship between both of them comes as a response to the individual's need, to interact with the environment wich he lives. The directions in wich this report is displayed are as well as the consequences of these actions and omissions:

First, when the individual has special care for the environment and protects it effectively, the environment will provide the best conditions that translate into favorable economic, social and political conditions for a normal and healthy lifestyle.

Secondly when man disperses barbarianly and strups away from the values, he carries for selfish and abusive purposes of profit, he has damaged the sustainable development of the generations to come. This is because much damage to the environment is difficult to recover.

Third, there is a very good alternative: When the individual reaches the level of awareness and understand environmental response to Humanity, with the fullness of their social economic problems, then we will have well-honored but simultaneously implemented environmental policies, special care by state and an efficient use of what the environment provides in the economy.

Related work

My study is referring to the situation presented by the Regional Environment center, the Environment Ministry, the situation in the city where I live (Vlora) and different studies. These institutions and studies have extended the field of activity to the protection, development of the environment, its efficient use and the education of citizen for its necessity.

Methodology

This paper has been designed in such a way as to give a clear picture of the environmental issues today, how we can prevent and avoid those, who are the key factors for the development of this process. The main purpose is the importance of the environment itself and in our daily life.

Proposed method

Real reasoning according to environmentalists must include far- reaching calculations for how the personal interests of mankind is weakened by a greedy desire to exploit nature. This implies that despite the costs it causes to itself, the man again chooses to injure him. Even when we face the phenomenon of his abuse and do not react, we become part of his degradation (inaction)

Results and discussion

Let's put up two more discussion point here: *'If people possess inherent preferences for some native-born landscapes that focus on life and the lively process, (Wilson 1984) why we should damage our habitat?*

'An irrationality beyond the mistakes, a kind of insanity (Shepard) that is directly related to process of alienation , being subjected , to a loss of human conscience.'

Is it enough for awareness raising to respect and protect the environment? Can we say that civic awareness is incomplete to understand its importance , at a time when the response of the environment to human actions is the same for everyone ?

Conclusion

The two main actors that can change this alarming result are: **Individual** with upbringing education, training and actions and **the state** with environmental investment policies to protect it and increase the punishments.

References

Lundberg, A. *The environment and mental health*, Lawrence Erlbaum Associates: 1998, New Jersey.

Goldstein ,Joshua S. *International Relationship,* American University , Washington D.C . 200, Dituria.

Shepard, P (1982) . *Nature and madness*. San Francisco : Sierra Club.

Wilson, E.O. (1984) . *Biophilia*. Cambrige, MA : Harvard University Press.

Sourcies from the internet :

www.albania.rec.org

http://www.econet.apc.org/econet

http://www.envirolink.org

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPENT GOALS WHERE DOES ALBANİA STAND?

Edmira Cakrani[1], Briseida Çakërri[2]
[1]University College "Pavarësia Vlorë"
E-mail: edmira.cakrani@unipavaresia.edu.al
[2]University College "Pavarësia Vlorë"
E-mail: briseida.cakerri@unipavaresia.edu.al

Abstract

Sustainable Development means that development meets the needs of current generation without compromising the ability of future generation to meet their own needs. Sustainable Development Goals shape the common future of the world in ending poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. They are considered as target to be achieve in international development until 2030. Among other priorities, these 17 Goals include innovation, economic inequality, sustainable consumption, climate change, peace and justice. Sustainable Development Goals fulfillment requires partnership and pragmatism to make the right choices now to improve life, in a sustainable way, for future generations. Sustainable Development Agenda was adopted by all United Nations Member States in September 2015, and officially came into effect in January 2016. Since then countries around the world are adjusting their national development plans with the new goals.

The purpose of this paper is to analyze the current situation, and the progress made in Albania toward accomplishments of selected goals, and to make prediction for the future. Analysis of poverty level, employment, sustainability of economic growth, shows that Albania has made very little progress towards the accomplishments of sustainable development goals, and that year 2030 is farther than it seems.

***Keywords**: sustainable development goals, common future, fulfillment*

1. Introduction

Sustainable development is the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It contains within it two key concepts: 1.the concept of 'needs', in particular the essential needs of the world's poor, to which overriding priority should be given, and 2.the idea of limitation imposed by the state of technology and social organization on the environment's ability to meet present and future needs" [1]. There are three dimensions of sustainable development: environmental, economic and social sustainability. On September 25th 2015, these dimensions of sustainable development were formulated as 17 goals with 169 targets to be achieved over the next 15 years, to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all. All the countries adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The purpose of this paper is to analyze two of these goals, and the possibility of their fulfillment by 2030.

2. Analysis of selected Sustainable Development Goals and the possibility of their fulfillment in Albania.

Goal 1 aims to end poverty in all its forms everywhere: by 2030, extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than $1.25 a day[1] should be eradicated; etc. Goal 8 of Sustainable Development claims the promotion of sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all; sustain per capita economic growth at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries; by 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training; by 2025 end child labour in all its forms, etc.

The level of poverty in Albania is very high. In 2016, 45.5% of population was living at national poverty level with $5/day [2]. The country has grown steadily, but the growth was not inclusive [3]. The level of unemployment remains high, especially among youngest [4]. Child labor is a challenging issue for Albania, because children in Albania engage in worst forms of child labor [5].

[1] As of October 2015, the global line for extreme poverty is updated to $1.90/day (2011PPP), instead of $1.25/day (2005PPP)

3. Conclusions

Sustainable development means meeting the needs of today without compromising the ability for meeting the needs of tomorrow. Three dimensions of sustainable development, environmental, economic and social sustainability, are organized into 17 goals to be fulfilled by all countries by 2030. Goal 1 aims to end poverty in all its forms everywhere. In Albania, nearly half of the population continues to live in poor conditions. Although there has been economic growth, this has not been accompanied by a fair distribution of income, as the inequality in the country has increased. Albania has experienced a slight decline in the level of unemployment, which unfortunately continues to remain at very high levels, especially among young people. To ending poverty, social protection programs are essential. Social insurance, social assistance, labor market policies are necessary to secure adequate protective redistribution of income. The existing model of economic growth in Albania is unlikely to fulfill the goal of ending poverty. Target interventions and adequate policies are required to help people left behind.

Goal 8 claims the promotion of sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth. Economic growth in Albania has not been inclusive. Despite the continuous rise in per capita income, the target of 7% is still far away. Child labor is a very big problem. To end the problem, it is necessary to strengthen the legal framework related to the employment of children and monitor its implementation. Very important issue is the improvement of social protection programs for children.

4. References

1. World Commission on Environment and Development (WECD), *Our Common Future*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1987, pp.37.
2. World Bank Group. *South East Europe. Regular Economic report No.9. Rebalancing for Stronger Growth.* Washington D.C: The World Bank, 2016
3. World Economic Forum. *The Inclusive Growth and Development Report 2017*.Geneva, 2017.
4. INSTAT. *Labor Market 2016*. Tirana, 2017.
5. United States Department of Labor

AGRICULTURE AS ALTERNATIVE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF MALLAKASTRA MUNICIPALITY

Dr. Engjëllushe ZENELAJ [1], **MSc. Anduel Mehmeti** [2]

[1] *Lecturer & Director of Research Center of Human Scientific , Kolegji Universitar "Pavaresia Vlore"*

enxhizenelaj@gmail.com

[2] *Lecture, Department of Computer Engineering, Kolegji Universitar "Pavaresia Vlore"*

anduel.mehmeti@unipavaresia.edu.al

Abstract

Administrative division according to Law 114/2015 "On Administrative Territorial Division in the Republic of Albania", which came into force in 2015, brought the creation of new local government units. The new units of local self-government were created as a result of the unification of many other local government units, and some of them over the boundaries of the administrative boundaries of the '92's districts. This territorial administrative organization is accompanied by a series of legal changes, including on the issue of local government competencies, but the essence and efficiency of legal changes must necessarily reflect in development and progress. The article deals with the case of the Mallakaster Municipality, which is one of the 61 local self-government units created after the local elections of 2015. The scientific methods of achieving the article are interplay between research, synthesis and statistics. An alternative to determining the development priorities of each should be oriented on the basis of assets within the territory of the local self-government unit. The exploitation of assets and resources owned by the local self-government unit should be such as to guarantee sustainable development. The article aims to illustrate analytically how the development of agriculture can be a priority for the sustainable development of the Mallakaster Municipality.

Keywords: *local government, agriculture, sustainable development,*

Mallakastra Municipality

1. Introduction

The administrative-territorial organization of Albanian lands has left its mark in Mallakastra. One of the consequences of changing the political system in 1992 was the new administrative division. The territorial administrative organization of the Republic of Albania was made with the change of the system on 22.09.1992 from which was created Mallakastra Dictrict. In the composition of the district, were created 6 communes and 40 villages. Thereafter Mallakastra has 1 municipality, 8 communes and 40 villages. From 1992 until June 2015, Mallakastra consisted of these local government units: Ballsh Municipality, Aranitas Commune, Centar Commune, Hekal Commune, Ngraçan Commune, Fratar Commune, Kute Commune, Selitë Commune, Greshicë Commune.

2. Local government, sustainable development challenges and development alternatives

Over the last few years, the concept of sustainable development has a great influence not only in the world and academic studies, but also in plans, projects of development and their implementation. Drafting development strategies on the concept of sustainability has become a legal necessity. The local government is responsible for the social and economic development of the governing area. Government through plans, strategies, projects, orients, assists, residents to make the right choices for economic activities. Design based on the principle of sustainability avoids chaos and collapses for the future. The local government is the first promoter for the sustainable development of the area.

3. Challenges of development

Given the physical-geographic and geo-population data, Mallakastra Municipality is a local government unit that presents management difficulties. Some of the challenges of Mallakastra Municipality are: fragmented relief and large geographic distribution of settlements, the distances from the center of Ballsh; the lack of large businesses, etc.

4. Results and discussion

Removing the population from rural settlements to urban centers or even outside Albania creates the opportunity for those farmers or those entrepreneurs who want to invest in agriculture to raise the land of agricultural land in use by buying or renting it. The creation of large plots cultivated with different agricultural crops, in addition to increasing the quantity of production, will increase the need for manpower, which even if not met by residents of rural settlements, will be supplemented by residents of the urban center unemployed jobseekers who have the lowest level of education. Seasonal farming jobs will mitigate the effect of unemployment, both in urban centers and in rural areas. Growth of agricultural production, among other things, especially if the products can be certified for production standards and product quality will be an added value for economic development in general. The fact that most of the Mallakastra Municipality's territory is mostly rural, and agricultural products are of a quality, will increase the possibility of developing rural tourism and agro-tourism. Specifically, along the River Vjosa, or in local units where there are archaeological sites like Hekali, the combination of archeology, nature, and quality food products further increases the chances of increasing tourist turnover, which generates income for locals.

5. Conclusion

Mallakastra Municipality has many assets and resources that, if used as needed, on a strategic sustainable development plan can generate economic sustainability for residents and bring further development. The fact that most of Mallakastra's settlements are located in rural areas, agriculture remains a strong alternative to economic development. The natural and physical conditions greatly favor the development of agriculture.

References

1. Carbon", I. ". (Spring 2009, Fq.17). *"Tranzicioni në prodhimin dhe transportimin e ushqimeve: drejt një të ardhmeje pa burime fosile",.* Washington : Instituti "Post Carbon" http://www.postcarbon.org.
2. Hana, L. (Tirane, 2003). "Reforma Ekonomike dhe Privatizimi i i Ekonomisë". *Revista Ekonomia dhe Tranzicioni* , 53-69.
3. INSTAT. (2013). *'CENSUSI 2011, Rajoni Rier,* . Tiranë , pg.84: instat.gov.al.
4. Rapporto Finale del Istituto Agronomico Mediterraneo di Bari per il Progetto SIS-Albania, Sistemi Informativi sui Suoli (SIS) della Regione Puglia (Italia) e della Repubblica d'Albania "*Sviluppo di un Database Georeferenziato dei suoli dell'intero territorio della Repubblica d'Albania in scala 1:250.000*, Contratto N° 17097 – 2000 – 11 – F1SC ISP IT Luglio 2001, (financuar nga Komisioni Evropian)

"TRANSNATIONAL CRIME THREATENING NATIONAL SECURITY"

Dr. Neshet Ngucaj[1],
[1] *Lecture, Department of Justice and Political Sciences,*
Kolegji Universitar "Pavaresia Vlore"
n.nucaj_av@hotmail.com

Abstract

Transnational crime has aggressively expanded during the last quarter of the last century, since the end of the Cold War opened new opportunities for criminal enterprise. Globalization has facilitated not only the development of new criminal markets but also new forms of organization. Available data show us that organized crime is becoming increasingly difficult to cope because adapt quickly and resists strategies available to law enforcement. The ability of organized crime nowadays to form tactical or strategic alliances more easily should give governments reason to worry. While promoting greater political, economic and individual freedom, at the same time these expectations facilitate the ability of criminals to drift away from national jurisdictions. The threat posed by transnational crime to entire regions, be it African or Balkan countries, means that even those governments that have relatively robust law enforcement capabilities are facing the widespread effects of transnational crime from the misguided regions of the globe. However, this threat to national security does not justify the use of military and intelligence weapons. Countries like Albania where voters believe that the rule of law and individual security are disappearing will increase the pressure on politicians to aim for tougher solutions, especially in cases where the link between transnational crime and terrorism is made. This can lead to support for forms of authoritarian governance and restrictions on free markets as it is happening in Russia. The question is what governments, the private sector and civil society can do to reduce the damage caused by transnational crime before addressing extreme measures outside militarization. Referring to the US, Western

Europe, etc., which assess democracy and free markets, they should assist in the capacity building process in order to strengthen the rule of law in those countries such as Albania experiencing double transition. This suggests a range of preventive measures for transnational crime.

Keywords: transnational crime, national security, globalization, convent, government

2. Introduction

Transnational crime traditionally refers to criminal activities, going beyond the violation of laws of two or more countries.The categorization of the nature of the activities called transnational crime transcends the borders of a state. Such may be called money-laundering, drug trafficking, corruption of state officials, illegal business penetration, pseudo bankruptcy, insolvency fraud, electronic crime, theft of intellectual property, illegal arms trafficking, terrorism, piracy of aircraft, piracy in the seas, land retaliation, human trafficking, human body parts trading, theft of art and culture objects, etj (Gerhard.O.W. Mueller(2001:14). Just as businesses operate in a legitimate economy, transnational criminals try to harmonize and balance the supply with demand, and benefit from differences in benefits, adjustments, and levels of risk between the markets. Such are the differences that arise from the supply of supply sources in some regions that fit the demand of others, such as the flow of narcotics from Albania to Europe, or money laundering cases, which exploit the fluctuations in the banking secrecy of traditional banks. The risk of transnational crime in carrying out its activities affects its geographic extent, in the sense that they can transfer criminal enterprise to low-risk countries, as it may be our country, where strong drugs come from most development countries.

These criminal activities can take place in host countries, where high risk is compensated by the attraction for greater profits. Other things are less important as markets for transnational crime groups, but contribute to the illegal economy, as intermediaries' countries, when they allow the passage of foreign goods or as service states, in the case of money laundering. Is the same thing transnational crime with organized crime? No, they are not the same thing. Not all transnational crimes are committed by organized crime groups and not all organized crime groups are involved in transnational crime.

3. Challenges of development

The double transitions towards free market economies and democracy in the 1980s and 1990s contributed to increasing the circulation of people, goods and money, which provided great opportunities for transnational crime. In many places, these double transitions have contributed to the spread of transnational crime by creating distorted transitions, leaving behind a state that is often unable to protect the rule of law, even to exercise control over its territory, thus creating "unencumbered spaces", which have been transformed into housing for a wide range of groups engaged in transnational criminal activities

4. Results and discussion

The arguments that emerged after the September 11 attacks in the United States, about a supposed network of terrorism and organized crime, seem to conquer governments rightfully the militarization path of law enforcement. Non-governmental organizations also play an important role in dealing with organized crime along with a wide range of other important issues on the international agenda, such as reaction to conflict situations, peace keeping, promotion of the rule of law and protection of the human rights (Godson & William 1998).

5. Conclusion

Transnational crime has expanded aggressively during the last quarter of the century and after the end of the Cold War opened new opportunities for criminal offenses. Globalization has greatly facilitated not only the development of new criminal markets, but also new forms of organization. The global trends of the developed nations - globalization, democratization and economic liberalization - also have a weak side: the capacity to create new spaces for the spread of transnational crime. While promoting greater political, economic and individual freedom, at the same time, they facilitate the ability of criminals to steal national jurisdictions. Even if the idea is that the costs of globalization outweigh its benefits, these expectations are largely beyond the control of any specific government. It is the content of this phenomenon and the reduction of the damage it causes. The threat to transnational crime for the whole of the regions be they the Cape of Africa or the Balkans, means that even those governments that have relatively strong capacities in the implementation of law and legal order with strong foundations but face the pervasive effects of crime transnational from the misguided regions of the globe.

References and literature

1. A.National Segurity strategy of Enlagementand Egagement "The White Hause" shkurt 1996.
2. Willians dhe Savona 1998.
3. Bare Margaret E (ed.2003) "Critical Reflectations onf Transnacional Organized Crime Money Laudring end Corruption". Përmbledhje kritike e koncepteve kryesore të krimit të organizuar transnacional dhe kostot dhe pasojat e paparashikuara të strategjive të imponimit të ligjit për tu përballur me problemin.
4. Zyra e Kombeve te Bashkuara per Krimet dhe Droges, Programi Global Kunder Krimit te O rganizuar Transnacional (2002), "Rezultatet e një Stludimi Pilot i Dyzetë Grupeve të Perzgjedhura të Krimit të organizuar në Gjashtëdhjetvënde. Raporti paraqet të dhënat e një studimi të vitit 1999 mbi zbatimin e ligjit, kryer nga eksperte akademike të krimit të organizuar që përpigen të grumbullojnë informacion sistematik mbi pritjet e krimit transnacional dhe format organizativeqë marrin grupet e krimit transnacional.
5. Williams, Phil (2001), "Transnacional Criminal Netëorks", në J. Arquilla dhe D . Ronfeldt (eds.), "Neworks and Netwars: The Future of Terror; Crime and Militancy", Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation 61-97.
6. Williams, Phil dhe Vlassos, Dimitri (eds.) (2001), "Combating Transnacional Crime: Concepts, Activities and Responses", Londër: Frank Cass Publishers. Nje studim gjithëpërfshires i gjëndjes së krimit transnacional dhe përpjekjeve të qeverive për të reaguar ndaj këtij kërcënimi.
7. www.unodc.org-Zyra e Droges dhe Krimit prane Kombeve te Bashkuara (UNODC):
8. www.interpol.int -Interpol-Organizata Ndërkombëtare e Policisë Kriminale.
9. www.american.edu/tracc/ qëndra e Studimit të Krimit Transnacional dhe Korrupsionit -Universiteti Amerikan.
10. www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/internationallëelcome.hrml -Instituti Kombëtar për Drejtësinë i Shteteve të Bashkuara.
11. www.europo!.eu.int -EUROPOL -Zyra Policore Evropiane.

E-GOVERNMENT IN ALBANIA, POSSIBLE OR NOT

Lindita Liçaj[1], Anila Fega[2]
[1]University College Pavaresia Vlore
lindita.licaj@unipavaresia.edu.al
[2]University College Pavaresia Vlore
anila.fega@unipavaresia.edu.al

Abstract

The scope of the digital transformation of government is to benefit citizens and businesses in all the states. Albania is new states that have a e-government. It is still new in created some e-service applications. The aim of this study is to show if e-government even new is possible for helping all the Albanian citizens. The methodology is based on the describing and searching technique of the existing legislation also in the official data of the Albanian government. Today the e-government of Albania functions only in same e-payment, same e-services, a little one e-property and e-consulate only for Italy. Public administrations have often faced numerous obstacles, including budget constraints, legal, procedural, semantic and technical interoperability problems between services and administrations and access to technical know-how for citizens and businesses.
Keywords: *e-service applications, e-service applications, e-government*

1. Introduction

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) play a special role in the development of a competitive economy to provide a higher quality of life for citizens, to facilitate and streamline business processes and to increase efficiency and transformation of governance.

The European Union has prepared the Digital Agenda for Europe (DAE) strategy [1], which is related to the Information and Communication Technology field. ICT development and digital agenda are also part of the Albanian government's program 2013-2017. The program sees the development of ICT and e-services closely related to the country's economic and social development. The government program has determined that the government intends to: increase and promote electronic services for citizens, business and administration, use ICT in education to overcome the digital gap and train youth and to consolidate digital infrastructure throughout the territory of the Republic of Albania. ICT and digitalization processes support modernization in economic processes, social processes and institutional and administrative processes:

Crosscutting Strategy on Information Society 2008-2013 adopted by the Council of Ministers Decision, defined the main directions and development objectives in the information society area during 2008-2013. This strategy took the first steps to improve and develop the legal and institutional framework, develop ICT infrastructure, develop e-governance, education and ICT knowledge, promote e-business.

Purpose of the work

The aim of this study is to show if e-government is new to the Albanian citizens. The research question is: Can Albania be relegated to these legal acts or should changes be made in legislation and in the development of technology?

Methodology

The methodology is based on the describing and searching technique of the existing legislation also in the official data of the Albanian government. This is a work that silent research has been carried out through research, description and comparison in primary and secondary sources. The primary resources used are the legislation in force and the secondary resources are the prorogatives of the Albanian government.

E-government

The government to fulfill all the needs that citizens want, could have to create public service.

Albania has improved the legislation by adopting a number of laws regulating electronic communications in the Republic of Albania [2], Electronic Signature [3], Electronic Document [4], Electronic Commerce

[5], Personal Data Protection [6] [8], the organization and functioning of the National Geostation Information Infrastructure in the Republic of Albania [9], Notification and Public Consultation [10], For the Right to Information [11] and others. But even though legislation is met, we cannot say that e-government is at its maximum. Problems are many. The UN Public Administration Network's periodic reports [12] make an assessment of the e-government readiness index, and e-participation. These indicators are also comprised and consider infrastructure and surveys on the web. The following tables show the performance of these indicators for Albania.

year	2003	2004	2005	2008	2010	2013	2014
e-gov, index	0.311	0.340	0.3732	0.4670	0.4519	0.5161	0.5046

Conclusion

Data obtained from the UN report indicate that Albania is making progress in e-government but its path is long enough to reach other states in the region.

Today, the e-government of Albania functions only in the same e-payment, same e-services, a small e-property and e-consulate only for Italy. Even the technology to achieve smarter, joined-up administrative e-services is in the same way in Albania. Public administrations have often faced numerous obstacles, including budget constraints, legal, procedural, semantic and technical interoperability problems between services and administrations and access to technical know-how for citizens and businesses. These issues have limited the roll-out of digital e-service aplications and make the same time the work impossible.

References

1. http://eur-lex.Evropa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2010:2020:FIN:EN:PDF
2. Law no. 9918, dated 19.05.2008 "On Electronic Communications in the Republic of Albania", as amended by Law no. 102/2012 in line with the most recent developments of the EU acquis;
3. Law no. 9880, dated 25.2.2008 "On Electronic Signature";
4. Law no. 10273, dated 29.4.2010 "On the Electronic Document";
5. Law no. 10128 dt. 11.5.2009 "On electronic commerce", as amended by law no.135/2013;

6. Law no. 9887, dated 10.3.2010 “On the Protection of Personal Data”, as amended by law no.48 / 2012 and law no. 120/2014;
7. Law no.10325, dated 23.09.2010 “On the State Data Basis”;
8. Law no. 9380, dated 28.4.2005 “On copyright and related rights with him”;
9. Law No. 76, dated 28.6.2012 “On the organization and functioning of infrastructure National Geospatial Information System in the Republic of Albania “;
10. Law no. 146/2014 “On Notification and Public Consultation”;
11. Law no. 119/2014 “On the Right to Information”;
12. http://unpan3.un.org/egovkb/ProfileCountry.aspx?ID=2

THE IMPACT OF GLOBAL AND EUROPEAN BANKING REGULATION ON THE NON-ACCESSION COUNTRIES: A CASE STUDY FROM ALBANIA

Adelajda Matuka
adelajda.matuka@yahoo.com

Abstract

In the past decade the Albanian state and the society have witnessed a long transition period, from 50 years communism to a democratic free market economy regime. Changes from one regime to another, brought radical structural transformations, followed by the famous ‘ Pyramid Schemes’, fiscal reforms such as the creation of Central Tax Department and it’s informatization. All the features mentioned above, made Albania with a low level of international financial integration with the world and have contributed to have an impact in the country’s financial and economic health. From one hand, the existing literature defines capital adequacy, but it does not reflect the risk of having too much or too small capital. From the other hand, the reason why there are not private banks in Albania’s banking regulation needs further research. The need to improve the loan quality remains the main challenge. (Bank of Albania, 2016). I aim to make an analysis of the banking and global regulation, in the banking sector, trying to analyze the legal and financial impact. The crisis history in banking system is always seemed a connection between the decline of the regulatory framework of financial institutions and loan portfolio. Even though the urge to adopt banking regulation based of the Basel Committee standards is required. While other countries are started the implementation of Basel iii, in the Albanian market is Basel ii that is still on call. To prevent financial crisis, it is important to evaluate the role of regulators on supervising banking system of Republic of Albania.

Reference

5. Andoni, A. (2013) Basel III challenges in the Albanian banking system*, The Macrotheme Review A multidisciplinary journal of global macro trends*
6. Bank of Albania, Annual Report of 2016
7. Cani, Sh. , MuCani, Sh. , Muço, M. & Baleta, T. 'Banking system in Albania, problems of it is development, executive summary'
8. European Commission, 'Albania Report 2016, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions'
9. Pajaj, Roden. & Ferzaj, R. 'Corporate governance framework and practice in Albanian banking sector'
10. Teqja, E. 'The integration of Western Balkans, an optimistic road but with a lot of dilemmas '
11. Internaional Monetary Fund, '25 Years of Transition Post-Communist Europe and the IMF'
12. The people's Assembly of the Republic of Albania
13. Cani, Sh. , MuCani, Sh. , Muço, M. & Baleta, T. 'Banking system in Albania, problems of it is development, executive summary'
14. Mili, Determinants of the capital adequacy ratio of foreign banks subsidiaries: The role of interbank market and regulation, February 2016. Research in International Business and Finance

ROOF TRUSSES SIZE OPTIMIZATION WITH GENETIC ALGORITHMS.

Ersılıo Tushaj [1], Mandi Karocieri [2]
[1,2] Kolegji Universitar "PAVARËSIA", Vlorë,
email: ersilio.tushaj@gmail.com, mandi80@gmail.com

Abstract

The optimal design is an important aspect of any engineering and architectural design problem. This is studied in terms of energy consumption, performance, time, total weight and costs. In many cases, there are multiple solutions to a problem and you should select the one which satisfies better the criteria. This engineering process is known as optimization. Optimization plays an important role in various engineering applications. Engineers are in continuity, challenged to design structures that use the least amount of resources and satisfy the structural requirements. The optimal design of structures can be decomposed into three mayor categories: topology, shape and size optimization. These methods have evolved with time and they may be divided in two maxi-groups: deterministic and non-deterministic algorithms. Size optimization of non-deterministic methods with genetic algorithms are investigated in this article and applied to some steel trusses in MATLAB soft R2017a. This is done by building an algorithm consisting in scripts and sub-functions, which are applied to the trusses for different constraints on stresses, displacements and buckling, depending on the case analyzed. Different values for the (GA) parameters are analyzed in such way to achieve the best design. The results are put in comparison with previous studies.

Keywords: *steel trusses, structural optimization, genetic algorithms*

1. Introduction

Reducing costs while meeting performance standards is a common challenge in structural design. Architectures and Engineers typically rely on experience and standardized design procedures to make their structures more efficient [1]. A lot of systematic methods based on mathematical algorithms and grouped under the generic name of *Structural Optimization* are available to help designing efficient structures. Optimization of steel trusses has been largely investigated by authors from the beginning of structural optimization. The first who gave a mathematical formulation of nonlinear optimization of steel trusses was Schmit in 1960 [2]. Later, others introduced better performant algorithms which can offer more reliable solutions [3].

2. Related work

Genetic algorithms are part of the evolutionary optimization techniques. The first to introduce these algorithms was Holland [4] in 1975. (GA)s have been largely used in optimization by Goldberg, 1989 [5]; Lin, Hajela 1994 [6]; Chan and Liu, 2000 [7]; Pezeshk, 1998 [8]; Kameshki and Saka, 2001 [9], Petrucci, 2009 [10] and others.

3. The subject of your work

Optimization in the structural design for architectural building roofs.

4. Proposed method

The optimization of steel schemes is done applying a genetic algorithm to the matrix analysis equations of the deformation method, with stresses, deformation and buckling constraints. The analysis is done in MatLab soft R2017a. Three algorithms are built with stresses, buckling and displacement criteria. Results are reported in comparison with other previous studies.

5. Results and discussion

Different values of (GA) parameters were analyzed in a such way to achieve better results in terms of efficiency and efficacy. GA parameters 'PopulationSize', 50-200, 'MaxGenerations', 200, 'EliteCount', 20-50 and convergence criteria 'MaxStallGenerations', 10-20, have reported satisfying results for the given truss problem. Optimal value was achieved in the first 100 generations before the algorithm reaches the imposed value of 'MaxGenerations'.

6. Conclusion

The GA as metaheuristic show advantages in terms of efficacy in finding the optimal value. In this study were reported better total weight designs up to 5% in comparison to other studies, for some truss schemes. In contrast further studies are neccesary in order to improve the efficiency in terms of time consuming of the algorithmic process.

7. References

1. P. E. Christensen, An introduction to structural optimization, Ontario, Canada: Springer, (2009).
2. A. L. Schmit, "Structural design by systematic syntesis," in *2nd Conference on Electronic Computation*, Pittsburgh, PA, (1960).
3. F. Bontempi, *Phd course in structural optimization,* Rome: Dottorato in Ing. Strutt. e Geotec. Universita' degli Studi di Roma "La Sapienza", (2016).
4. J. Holland, Adaptation in Natural and Artificial Systems, USA, (1975).
5. D. E. Goldberg, "Genetic algorithms in search optimization and machine learning.," (1989).
6. C. Y. Lin and p. Hajela, "Design optimization with advanced genetic search strategies," *J. of Advances in Eng. Software,* vol. 21, pp. 179-189, (1994).
7. C. M. Chan and P. Liu, "Design optimization of practical tall concrete buildings using Hybrid Optimality Criteria and Genetic Algorithms.," in *8th International Conference on Computing in Civil & Building Structures*, CA, USA., (2000).
8. C. V. Camp, S. Pezeshk and G. Cao, "Optimized Design of Two-Dimensional Structures Using a Genetic Algorithm," *ASCE Journal of Structural Engineering,* vol. 124 (5), pp. 551 - 559, (1998).
9. E. Kameshki and S. Saka, "Genetic algorithm based optimum bracing design of non-swaying tall plane frames," (2001).
10. M. Petrucci, *Structural optimization: an approach based on genetic algorithms and parallel computing,* PhD Thesis, Universita' degli studi di Trieste, (2009).

THE ROLE OF THE GOVERNMENT IN THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN ALBANIA

Marinela Selmanaj[1], Merita Murati[2]
[1]marinelaselmanaj@gmail.com
[2] merita.murati@unipavaresia.edu.al
Department of Economy
University College Pavaresia - Vlore

Abstract

Purpose: The main purpose of this article is to show how tourism contributes to sustainable development in Albania as well as to explore potential threats to long-term economic sustainability. The article aims to determine the government's role in tourism and to focus on determining negative and positive government influence on tourism. What tourism is expected to develop in the future in Albania?

Method: Qualitative data analysis.

Conclusion: At a time that is widely discussed about a boom in our tourism, this year is telling what all genuine tourism specialists feared, the fact that things are not as good as it was anticipated or expected. We are witnessing a situation that has gone out of control in many coastal cities and seriously jeopardizing the future of the most potential sector of tourism in our country, holiday tourism.

Furthermore, the paradox continues: Albania, a genuine Mediterranean country, even with one of the highest averages of sunny days per year, pays more attention to a sector of tourism not natural for Mediterranean countries. Albania is probably the only Mediterranean country which does not expect chartering tourists, simply because there are no serious investments in the coast such as resorts with over 150 rooms.

On the other hand, the time has come for those who work in the tourism industry, their associations, and civil society to no longer tolerate the non

oriented developments that are rising anywhere in the most beautiful areas of our shores, if we want to save what is left.

Keywords: *Sustainable development, Sustainable tourism, Government, Albania*

1. Introduction

The purpose of this article is the study of tourism in Albania and its policies. How is tourism today?

The Criteria of Global Sustainable Tourism are an attempt to explain the nature of tourism in an understandable way, and are the minimum that the tourism industry has to aspire to meet. Albania can develop its image as a new tourist destination. Potential analysis showed that Albania could use its resources in the interest of tourism much more than currently.The attractiveness of foreign tourists will influence Albania to utilize the tourist capacities to guarantee a maximum benefit and will affect the functioning of the tourism sector in Albania with the same principles that the world's tourism industry operates Although there are many negative impacts on tourism which leads to various economic, social and environmental problems, tourism still has a significant positive impact on the community and contributes to its sustainable development.

2. The subject of your work

The relationship between tourism & the environment has taken a central place in tourism studies these past few years. Tourism is a major component in the economic development, particularly in the seaside areas where it is a stimulant for sustainable development. Seaside tourism and general tourism is dependant in the main on the attractive environment for the visitor. Even though there are many aspects of tourism that have a negative impact that lead to different economic, social & environmental problems, tourism still has a positive impact on the community and contributes in its sustainable development. The main purpose of this essay is to show how tourism contributes to the sustainable development of Albania, as well as to analyze any possible adverse effects on the long term economic sustainability. The essay's objective is to determine the government's role in regards to tourism and focuses on the pros & cons of government's input in regards to tourism. **What tourism is expected to develop in the future in Albania?**

3. Proposed method

In this article we have used the qualitative analysis of the data obtained from the existing literature.

4. Conclusion

At a time that is widely discussed about a boom in our tourism, this year is telling what all genuine tourism specialists feared, the fact that things are not as good as it was anticipated or expected. We are witnessing a situation that has gone out of control in many coastal cities and seriously jeopardizing the future of the most potential sector of tourism in our country, holiday tourism.

Furthermore, the paradox continues: Albania, a genuine Mediterranean country, even with one of the highest averages of sunny days per year, pays more attention to a sector of tourism not natural for Mediterranean countries. Albania is probably the only Mediterranean country which does not expect chartering tourists, simply because there are no serious investments in the coast such as resorts with over 150 rooms.

On the other hand, the time has come for those who work in the tourism industry, their associations, and civil society to no longer tolerate the non oriented developments that are rising anywhere in the most beautiful areas of our shores, if we want to save what is left.

5. References

1. Aas C., Ladkin A. e Flethcer J.(2005) - "Stakeholder collaboration and heritage management", in *Annals of Tourism Research*, vol.32, n.1
2. Andreotti S. e Sacco F.(2011) - "Evoluzione del concetto di turismo responsabile". In *Turismi responsabili,* a cura di P.Grigolli, op.cit.
3. Beritelli P.(2011) - "Cooperation among prominent actors in a tourist destination", in *Annals of Tourism Research*, vol.38, n.2
4. Cammelli M.(2005) - "Considerazioni minime in tema di arene deliberative", in *Stato e mercato*, n.73
5. Corvo P.(2005) - "Il turismo sostenibile: tra teoria e prassi". In *Comunità, ambiente e identità locali*, a cura di A.Agustoni, Franco Angeli, Milano
6. Goodstein J.D. e Wicks A.C.(2007) - "Corporate and stakeholder responsibility: making business ethics a two-way conversation", in *Business Ethics Quarterly*, vol.17, n.3

7. Goodwin H.(2009) - "Taking responsible for tourism", in *ICRT occasional paper,* n.12
8. Gorica Klodiana., "The Role of Local Government in Sustainable Development" Acta Universitatis Danubius Economica, Vol 8, No 2 (2012), Print ISSN: 2065-0175 Online ISSN: 2067–340X,", vol 8 nr (2) 2012
9. Gorica Klodiana, International Conference: "Fostering Development of Agriculture in Albania through Improved Use of Agricultural Resources", June 16-17, 2011, Tirana, Agricultural University in Tirana, "Sustainable Tourism Management - An comprehensive Critical View of Principles";
10. Grigolli P. (2011) - (a cura di) - *Turismi responsabili*. Franco Angeli, Milano
11. Laurent A(2003) - *Caractériser le tourisme responsable facteur de développement durable.* DGCID, Parigi
12. Nogués Pedregal A.M.(2009) - "Tre momenti epistemologici nella relazione fra antropologia e turismo". In *Scenari turistici*, a cura di C.Cipollari, CISU, Roma
13. Picard M.(2008) - "Balinese identity as tourist attraction: from `cultural tourism' (pariwisata budaya) to `Bali erect' (ajeg Bali)", in *Tourist studies*, vol.8, n.2
14. Regonini G.(2005) - "Paradossi della democrazia deliberativa", in *Stato e mercato*, n.73
15. Savoja L.(2009) - "La stakeholder responsibility nel turismo. I turisti oltre il confine della sostenibilità", in *Notizie di POLITEIA*, vol.XXV, n. 93
16. Somoza A.(2009) - "Prefazione". In *Turismondo*, a cura di A.Berruti e E.Delvecchio, Effatà, Torino
17. Goodstein J., Wicks A. (2007), "Corporate and Stakeholder Responsibility:Making Business Ethics a Two-Way Conversation", *Business Ethics Quarterly*, vol.17, n° 3.
18. Savoja L. (2005), *La costruzione sociale del turismo*, Giappichelli, Torino.
19. Savoja L. (2007), "Turismo sostenibile e Stakeholder Model", *Notizie di Politeia*,XXIII, n. 85-86.

SMART CITIES TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Elda Robi[1], Jezerca Hodaj[2]
[1]University College"Pavarësia Vlorë",Vlora, Albania
e-mail: elda.robi@unipavaresia.edu.al
[2]University College"Pavarësia Vlorë",Vlora, Albania
e-mail: jezerca.hodaj@unipavaresia.edu.al

Abstract

A smart city in urban and architectural planning is a set of urban planning strategies aimed at optimizing and innovating public services in order to connect the material infrastructure of the cities with the human, intellectual and social capital of those living in them thanks to the widespread use of new technologies for communication, mobility, environment and energy efficiency, in order to improve the quality of life and meet the needs of the citizens, businesses and institutions.A city can be defined as a smart city when investments in traditional communication, transport (transport) and modern (ICT) communication infrastructure, related to human and social capital, ensure sustainable economic development and high quality of life, a management wise way of natural resources, through engagement and participating actions. Advanced mobility management solutions, both in terms of transport infrastructure, as well as in information and monitoring systems, have been added as the second aspect of technology in an intelligent city. This article aims to focus more on the importance of these intelligent cities especially for developing countries and the solutions they offer. The purpose of this paper is to provide a solution to one of today's most common problems: road traffic which is still a problem for developing countries.

Keywords: *smart city,traffic solutions,innovation,developing countries.*

1. Introduction

Traffic is the main concern in developed and developing countries. Many traditional methods are used for traffic control, such as placement of traffic lights, traffic signs, and traffic cops. But these methods are getting outdated day by day. In the era of technology, intelligent and adaptive devices must be used to control traffic. "Smart City" offers a solution to making cities more efficient and more sustainable. A solution to the problem of traffic in developing countries is the construction of more transport infrastructure, although this option is at a great cost and impossible in these countries. So developing countries around the world are looking for alternative ways to deal with this problem. Such an alternative is a set of practices called Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS).

2. The subject of your work

The subject of this paper is the traffic in developing countries and the introduction of some ideas that use technology as the most efficient solution to this problem. The method used in this article is to analyze the literature from where we got the motivation to work around a solution to this problem.

3. Results and discussion

The fast-paced development of technology in developing countries as well allows the use of the ITS system in these countries. The expected results from the implementation of such system are: (1) Increased circulation fluidity, greater efficiency and comfort, improved safety. (2) Greater transport efficiency, reduced travel times and therefore transport costs, and reduced environmental impacts. (3) Increased efficiency of the transport network, security, optimized crisis management and minimization of emergency services. (4) Increasing the efficiency of the parking system, reducing travel times, reducing congestion, modal rebalancing.

4. Conclusion

The world population growth in these last decades is concentrated more in urban areas. This automatically increases population mobility and hence traffic growth. "Smart City" offers a solution to making cities more efficient and more sustainable. This paper has presented a first contribution to a national strategy for ITS. The objective is to provide the Institutions with a forum for discussion and confrontation to initiate a decision-making process aimed at providing developing countries with a national ITS policy that will enable us to respond to the challenges posed by continued demand growth and the interoperability requirements of the national and worlds systems and the growth of the markets, so that transport is not a hindrance or a critical one but a powerful engine for the growth of the country.

5. References

1. Gurdit Singh *et al* "*Intelligent Transportation System for Developing Countries –A Survey*" International Journal of Computer Applications (0975 –8887),Volume 85,No3,January 2014.
2. Navigant Research,"*Urban Mobility in Smart Cities: Smart Mobility Technologies, Infrastructure, Services, and Solutions in the Smart City: Business Drivers, City and Supplier Profiles, and Market Analysis and Forecasts*",2015.
3. Rudolf Giffinger *et al*,"*Smart cities Ranking of European medium-sized cities*", Centre of Regional Science (SRF), Vienna University of Technology, Final Rep, October2007.
4. Peter Viechnicki *et al*, "*Smart mobility: Reducing congestion and fostering faster, greener, and cheaper transportation options*", 2015
5. Denise Lee, "*Africa is ready to leapfrog the competition Through Smart Cities Technology*", Deloitte & Touche,2014.

METABOLITE PROFILING OF GYMNOSPERMIUM MALOI AND GYMNOSPERMIUM SCIPETARIUM USING NMR AND BIOLOGICAL TESTS

Dorisa Çela[1], Ridvan Nepravishta[1], Maurizio Paci[1], Sokol Abazi[2]
[1] Department of Chemical Sciences and Technologies,
University of Rome "Tor Vergata", Rome, Italy;
[2] Faculty of Engineering, CIT University,
Rruga Sulejman Delvina, Tirana, Albania.
sokol.abazi@cit.edu.al

Gymnospermium maloi and *Gymnospermium scipetarium* are two endemic species located in the south region of Albania, respectively in Gjirokaster and Elbasan [1]. Most of the work done until now was directed to their botanical and biological characterization while little is known about the metabolic profile and chemical composition of these closely related species [2]. The purpose of this study is to observe the chemical differences of these species from their spectra using software like **PCA, PLSDA, OPLSDA**.

The macroscopic view of both metabolomes was obtained by the bucketing technique of ^{1}H NMR spectra of bulbs. The analysis indicated that it is possible to differentiate these species from their different spectra profiles. This study is focused on different classes of primary and secondary metabolites, including: amino acids, carbohydrates, and alkaloids.

Substantial metabolites differences were shown even for the same specie of *Gymnospermium*. These differences could be related to the environmental factors such as the region of collection, temperature, height etc. Moreover, the biological activity of the crude extracts was evaluated *in vitro* on human chronic myeloid leukemia cell line K562 and the results report that the crude extracts exerts an inhibitory effect on human K562 cell growth.

Keywords: *NMR, PCA, human cell K562, Gymnospermium*

References:

1. Tan K., Shuka L., Siljak-Yakovlev S., Malo S. Pustahija F. (2011) The genus Gymnospermium (Berberidaceae) in the Balkans Phytotaxa 25: 1–17.
2. DorisaÇela and al, (2017) Report on maloine, a new alkaloid discovered from G. maloi: Structural characterization and biological activity, Journal of Molecular Structure, Volume 1129, Pages 121-127

A CITIZEN PERSPECTIVE ON THE CHANGES IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY IN ALBANIA

MSc. Saimir Mansaku & MBA Isida Mansaku
Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania
Email: saimir.mansaku@cit.edu.al ; Tel: (+355) 67 22 24 939
Email: i.mansaku@cit.edu.al ; Tel: (+355) 67 20 16 170

Abstract

Considering the fact that one of the most important priorities of the Government of Albania (GoA) is to fundamentally change the way how the public services are provided, we have conducted an empirical research study on the variety of interventions made during the period October 2015- February 2017 in order to increase quality and integrity of public service delivery, provide transparency and combat corruption, foster a culture of customer care and enhance access to those services, as well as increase efficiency in the Albanian public administration.

The main purpose of this study is to provide evidence of the performance of one of most important public institutions, thus Immovable Property Registration Office (IPRO), through the measurement of citizen satisfaction with respect to the citizen-centric approach followed by the government. We determined key performance indicators on the delivery of public services and analysed the results gathered from the conduct of citizen satisfaction surveys. Moreover, we compared the citizen satisfaction from this institution before (September 2015) and after (November 2015-February 2017) the multi layered reform is applied.

The analysis conducted on these indicators reflects the great progress of the public administration in improving the manner and the channels through which citizens receive public services. The trends indicate standardization, simplification and transparency on public service delivery by using innovative solutions including ICT for the benefit of both citizens and businesses.

Keywords: *public service delivery, fundamental changes, citizen satisfaction, key performance indicators.*

1. Introduction

For many years, the Government has identified among others, Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) as an important enabler for the social and economic development of Albania and it strives to enhance the overall administrative capacity of the country through the utilization of ICT and application of new standards for the modernization of the Albanian public administration, in particular the delivery of public services. The main purpose of creating and applying standards is to ensure a high level of delivering public services to the citizens and businesses and to attain general rules of conduct and communication.

It is a well-known fact that citizens view corruption and the poor quality of public services as a significant problem, especially in health services, property registration, and social insurance. There are several reasons for this. Citizen trust in the services provided by the state has been historically low and bribes or facilitation payments to be provided with these services is common.

The strategy followed by the government aims to reform the public service concept by contributing to the modernization of the public service delivery, by simplifying, integrating procedures and unifying the service delivery in the Public Service Malls overall Albania. The reform includes the separation of front office and back office activities in public service delivery. The main objective of the reform is to fight against corruption.

Starting from first of October 2015, and independent agency under the ministry of Innovation and Public Administration called ADISA (the Agency for Delivery of Integrated Services Albania) has taken over the management of front office at the Immovable Property Registration Office of Tirana. The necessar changes have been made for the better functioning of the service windows in order to improve the delivery of services, the delivery of accurate and sought-after information by the citizens, the improvement of the reception environment, the management of the reception queue, and also there have been identified the main issues for which ADISA has been taking and continue to take measures to resolve.[2]

After that, other One Stop Integrated Centers are opened throughout Albania. There are a several number of institutions that provide almost all respective services at these centers. This new service model aims to save citizens time and energy, and provide them with the right quality of service, closing off the paths for corruption.

---

[2] http://www.adisa.gov.al/en/adisa-fo-in-tirana/

We find that very interesting to conduct a research on the influence of all these interventions to the citizens and businesses, if the changes are already visible and tangible from their point of view. This study is designed to be an objective, fact-based analytical report and it is organized as follows: The next part provides a literature review highlighting mixed findings. The third section gives a general overview of the subject of our work and its main objectives. Section 4 describes briefly methodology applied and data collected. Section 5 and 6 analyze the data with regard to our topic for the time period considered and present the empirical results of this study. The contents of this report and the statements attaching to it, strive to achieve better understanding of role of new public service model implementation and also of transparency. The final part draws the conclusions and recommendations and discusses the implications of our research findings

2. Literature review

According to Bratton 2007; Bouckaert and Van de Walle 2003, the delivery of public services leads to satisfaction and trust in the government. Different studies have been conducted to investigate the quality of the service delivery.

The two main approaches on the measuring of service quality are the expectation disconfirmation paradigm; and the performance paradigm. The first considers service quality as the extent to which service delivery meets expectations while the second argues that expectations are not relevant and only performance should be taken in consideration. We opted for the first approach in our study based in the assumption that the quality of such services is considered the comparison of expectations of the customers with what they perceive of service delivery by the suppliers (Zeithaml et al., 1990). A gap is created if customers' perceptions of service delivered fails to meet their expectations (Ramseook-Munhurrum et al., 2010). The bigger the gap between the expectations and the performance in the delivery of services the lower the perceived quality which brings to consumer dissatisfaction (Parasuraman et al., 1985; Lewis and Mitchell, 1990). This gap can be closed by identifying and executing strategies that affect perceptions or expectations, or both (Parasuraman et al., 1985; Zeithaml et al., 1990).

3. The subject of the study

The process of separation of the front office from one institution and transferring the management to an independent agency is considered one of the great steps of the reform toward the enhancement of public service delivery. The subject of our work is to observe the impact of modernization of public services through the separation of front and back offices and the progress of fight against the corruption from the citizens' point of view. The main objective is maximize the value of the study by achieving a regular performance measurement through their satisfaction level with the overall process.

We aim to show the importance of information gathered, more deeply through analysis of performance indicators which enable respective authorities and all stakeholders involved to better understand the progress of the reform, but also the issues that are still to be taken into consideration for ensuring continuous improvement of quality of service delivery in public service workflow. According to this, an attempt is made to collect as much as possible unbiased and accurate data.

4. Methodology and data

In order to come up with concrete findings, first of all we identified the proper key performance indicators and we defined the measurement instruments. After that, we built up a concept to apply instruments in order to support our research topic. We chose one of several institutions where the separation of front and back office has been completed, as a pilot phase to undertake thorough field work. We measured the performance of front office (FO) staff of Immovable Property Registration Office Tirana (IPRO) through the comparative performance analysis method, thus compering the situation before and after the citizen centric service delivery model is applied at this institution using three instruments, citizens' satisfaction survey, focus groups and self-assessment study. We presented in this research paper only the results of a paper and pencil, face-to-face citizen satisfaction survey, making use of a questionnaire administered by the interviewer during the interview. Furthermore, the data are processed and stored using the "google forms". The questionnaire is designed to evaluate citizen experience with the whole procedures of front office, to determine how much time and effort citizens spend in getting the required services and to ensure that the new model service delivery attains its aims and objective. The first wave of the survey was conducted at IPRO Tirana office one month before ADISA started managing the front office of this institution. In the first year, we tracked the performance by implementing after-three month-long series of comparable surveys, afterwards it has been implemented less frequently (biannual). At each phase of the survey, there have been interviewed more than 150 citizens and business representatives. During the field execution of this study, data are collected in accordance with the ethical rules and responsibilities to the respondents such as right not to answer, confidentiality or interview length.

5. Descriptive analysis

Demographic data about the sample drawn from the population of citizens visiting the IPRO offices is the table below according to the time of the observation.

Case Summaries			
Age			
Month	Gender	N	% of Total N
SEP 15	Female	61	6.1%
	Male	119	12.0%
	Total	180	18.1%
NOV 15	Female	62	6.2%
	Male	138	13.9%
	Total	200	20.1%
DEC 15	Female	62	6.1%
	Male	88	8.8%
	Total	150	15.0%
JAN 16	Female	55	5.5%
	Male	95	9.5%
	Total	150	15.1%
JUN 16	Female	69	6.9%
	Male	91	9.1%
	Total	160	16.1%
FEB 17	Female	51	5.1%
	Male	105	10.6%
	Total	156	15.7%
Total	Female	359	36.1%
	Male	636	63.9%
	Total	995	100.0%

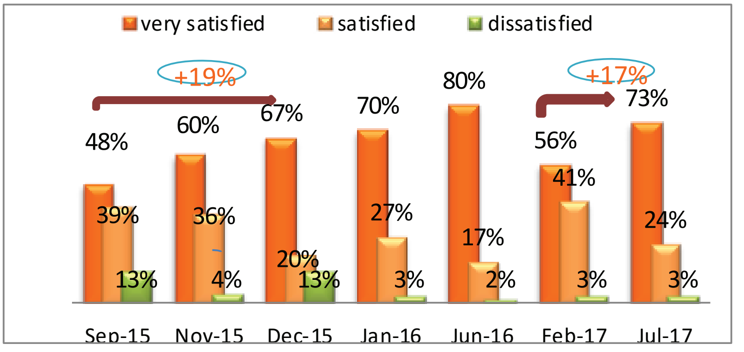
6. Results and discussion

In general the findings indicate significant improvement of front office performance measured in several dimensions.

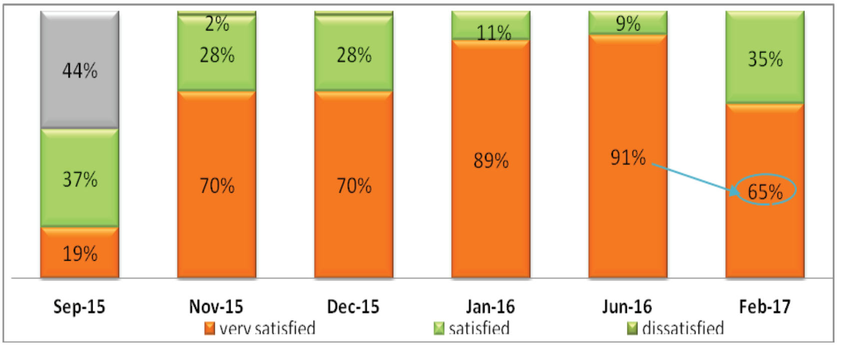
6.1 Analysis of data

We analyzed the whole process of serving the citizen at front offices starting from his/her entrance to the IPRO Tirana office until the application process is accomplished. We divided in three phases/objectives. Below we present a part of the results achieved from the survey.

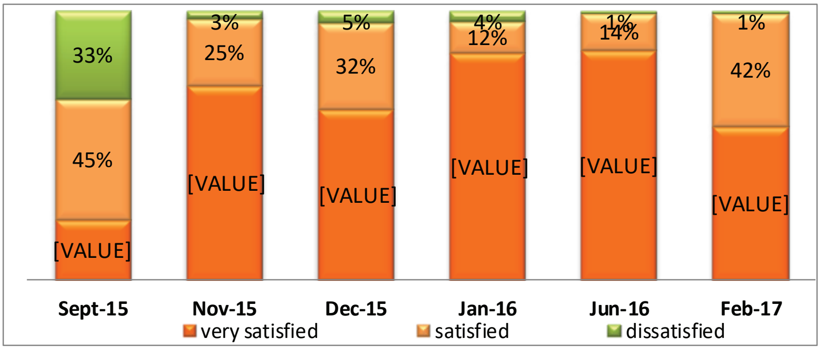
Objective 1: Being informed before the application
Indicator 1: Information provided at Info Point/ Citizen Satisfaction



Objective 2: Waiting in the que and accommodation
Indicator 2: Accommodation/ Citizen Satisfaction

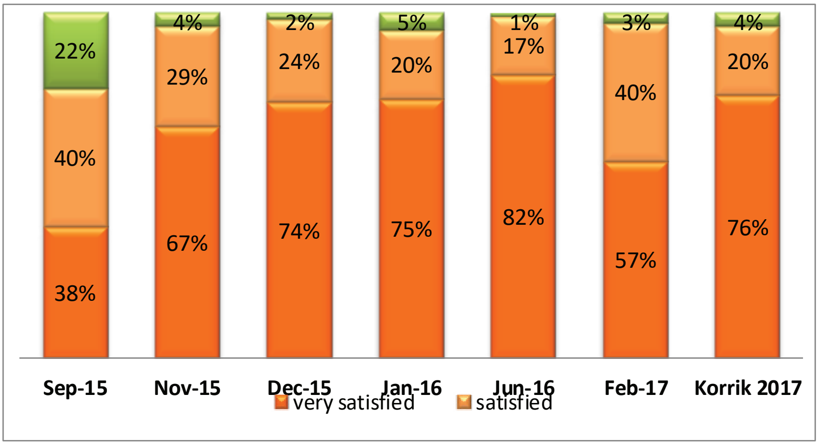


Indicator 3: Que Management/ Citizen Satisfaction

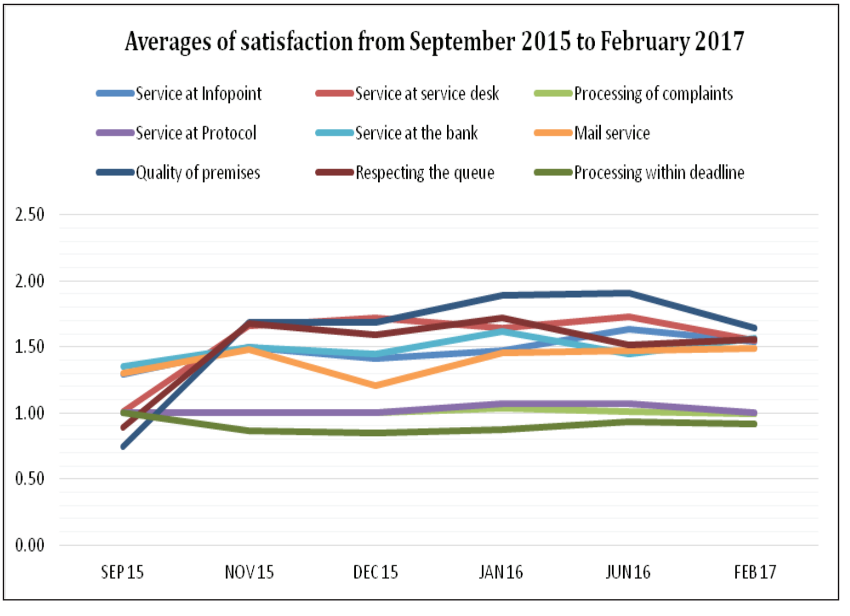


Objective 3: Application process

Indicator 4: Average of all front desk officers' performance implied in application process/Citizen Satisfaction



6.2 The general evaluation of changes after applying the new model



Reported satisfaction levels with the service at IPRO Tirana during the period of 2015-2017. (0 not satisfied, to 3 very satisfied).

In order to figure out whether the changes in the satisfaction levels are statistically significant over time after the application of new service model, we have conducted a multilevel modeling through Mplus 7. Variables measuring satisfaction have been observed in six different times. This is henceforth conceptualized as a multilevel model, where the variable time is level 1 variable coded from 0 to 5 and nested within individuals. The intercept is the predicted value when time is 0. Each subject has their own intercept and slope, expressed as random effects at level 2, which is person level data. From data, we can see that the predicted value (in s) increases 0.05 units over time. The intraclass correlation varies from 0.01 to 0.023. The lowest level of satisfaction is when tackling the issues of complaints and those of the record keeper, this variable has also remained stable over time.

Table 1: Multilevel model for measuring increase of satisfaction over the period of 2015-2017

Variable	Estimate (SE)
Individual level	
8. How satisfied are you with? a) Info point	1.36*** (0.032)
8. How satisfied are you with? b) Service desk	1.54*** (0.019)
8. How satisfied are you with? c) Complaints desk	1.01 *** (0.004)
8. How satisfied are you with? d) Protocol	1.02*** (0.005)
8. How satisfied are you with? e) Bank	1.49*** (0.02)
8. How satisfied are you with? f) Post office	1.58*** (0.018)
8. How satisfied are you with? g) Premises	1.48*** (0.02)
Second level - Observations	
Time of measurement	0.05*** (0.011)
Variances between observations	0.002*** (0.002)
Variances between individuals	0.329 (0.016)

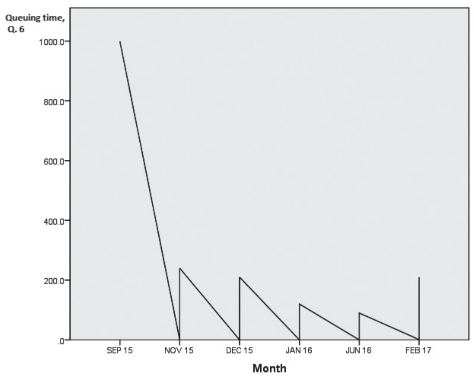
Standard errors are in parenthesis. The significance level for *** is p<0.001

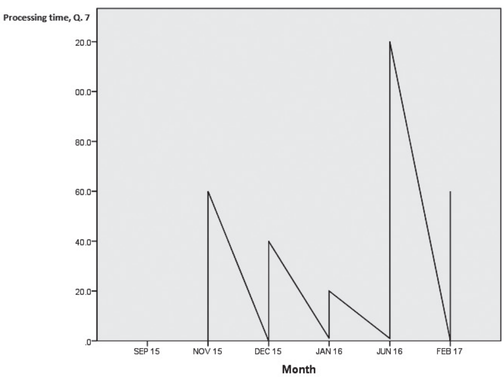
The effect of time spent at the premises in the que and the time of application process is negative on the satisfaction levels with the service, the greater the time spent the smaller the satisfaction level. Satisfaction with the Info Point ($p<0.003$, starting point -84.15, standard error 27.58, for time spent before meeting someone at the application desk, application process time, $p<0.002$, starting point -14.1, standard error 4.5 points). When we measure the effect of Q. 6 and Q. 7 on all questions, the model is not significant, but the effect of time is still negative on all questions measuring satisfaction. We can observe this by looking at the Pearson Correlation between time spent and satisfaction levels in SPSS, the longer the time the lower the satisfaction levels.

	Q. 6	Q. 7	K8a	K8b	K8c	K8d	K8e	k8f	K8g	K8h	K8i
Q. 6	1	.169**	-.226**	-.144**	-.035	-.062	-.169**	-.097**	-.245**	-.128**	-.143**
Q. 7	.169**	1	-.087*	-.002	-.003	-.008	-.023	.014	-.093**	-.013	.002

Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).**
Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).*

Therefore, one of the best predictor to look in time is whether the time has improved throughout the period of our observation, and by looking at the graphic below we see the time spent at the premises has been reduced, but the application processing time has increased.





7. Conclusion and recommendations

Generally, during the survey conducted in September 2015, the time observed before the reform, the citizens complained about many issues regarding their time spent at IPRO offices, such as not having enough service windows, badly managed ques, slow processing by staff, network connectivity failure and so on. We found out that most of these problems have been significally reduced and in some cases, they have been totally eliminated after the new service model applied.

Firstly, we found out that citizens have still difficulty identifying the service name they are interested in. We suggest a review of naming the services and a more accurate explanation from the information desk.

Based on the results, in February 2017 Call Center (11800) although in very small percentage (1%) served as a source of information. In January 2016, the official website of ADISA was used for the first time as the source of information (1%). During December 2015 (5%) of the citizens used the IPRO official web site to be informed on the appropriate documentation and only (3%) in September 2015 despite the fact that we already have a high internet usage in our country. Although (97% - February 2017, 70% -Janar 16) of respondents are satisfied with the Information desk, they again seek more complete and accurate information, brochures and leaflets. Also, the results show that citizens are now more aware that they have to be informed beforehand at information desk before they go to apply on the service they are seeking at application desk. We suggest a more user-friendly, on-line information on ADISA official website so that citizens do not wait at the application desk (24%-September 2015, 9% - November / December 2015, 10% - January 2016, 15% - February 2017) only to be informed about the necessary documentation.

On average, the waiting time before appearing at the application desk is 26.4 minutes for the period from November 2015 to February 2017, a noticeable decrease compared to declaring of the citizens that 58% of them had to wait more than one hour during September 2015. In June 2016, on average, the waiting time before the application is 13.27 minutes, most probably due to the smaller flow compared to other periods of the survey.

During February 2017, there is no dissatisfied citizen with accommodation compared to (44%) in September 2015. Based on data, citizens' satisfaction from management and respecting of que has been very increased from 33% in September 2015 to 99 % in February 2017. However, some of citizens still express their complaints about long ques. We recommend additional front desks, the system to be functionally during all processing time without disconnections and also a machinery for water, coffee or any refreshment.

From our observations as well as based on the results , the duration of application / information for a given service is on average 8 minutes for the period November 2015-February 2017. However, the average duration of the application / information process is 10 min (November 2015), 7.8 min (December 2015), 6.8 (January 2016), 7.7 min (June 2016) and 7.9 min (February 2017). We suggest a re-engineering of the entire application process, with respect also to respondents' request for shortening the time (13%) in February 2017.

Regarding the satisfaction of citizens on the performance of entire front desk officers in January 2016, on average only (5%) were not satisfied and

(75%) of respondents were very satisfied, a significant increase compared to September 2015 (38%). The data presented indicate progress of the new staff performance. We recommend the improvement of service quality provided by the front desk officers, both on communication and on professional skills. We also would suggest further training for them.

In the future, further studies are projected to include also other institutions where the new service model is applied. Furthermore, a deep analysis will be conducted with the focus on citizens expectations for further improvement on several indicators.

Overall, we conclude that all indicators observed reflects the great progress of the public administration in improving the manner and the channels through which citizens receive public services. To summarize, we come up with the positive impact of modernization of public services through the separation of front and back offices and the progress of fight against the corruption. The findings indicate standardization, simplification and transparency on public service delivery by using innovative solutions including ICT for the benefit of both citizens and businesses.

7. References

1. F. Smith and W. Bauer "title of article", Jour. Of xxx **37**, 187-193 (2015).
2. Bouckaert, G. & Van de Walle, S. "Quality of Public Service Delivery and Trust in Government", In: Governing Networks: EGPA Yearbook, Ed. Ari Salminen. Amsterdam: IOS Press. pp. 299-318, 2003.
3. Bratton, M., "Are you being served?: Popular satisfaction with health and education services in Africa". Afrobarometer Working paper No. 65, 2007.
4. Zeithaml, Valerie A., Parasuraman, A. and Berry, L.L., "Delivering Quality Service", The FreePress, New York, 1990.
5. Ramseook-Munhurrum, P., Lukea-Bhiwajee, S. and Naidoo, P., "Service Quality in the Public Service", International Journal of Management and Marketing Research, Vol. 3 No. 1, pp. 37-50, 2010.
6. Parasuraman, A., Zeithaml, V.A. and Berry, L.L., "A Conceptual Model of Service Quality and its Implications for Future Research", Journal of Marketing, Vol. 49, pp. 41-50, (1985).
7. Lewis, B.R. and Mitchell, V.W., "Defining and Measuring the Quality of Customer Service," Marketing Intelligence and Planning, Vol. 8 No. 6, pp.11-17, (1990).
8. ADISA dataset 2015-17
9. www.adisa.gov.al

ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND THE COMMERCIALIZATION OF UNIVERSITIES

Prof. Assoc. Dr. Vasil Qano,
MsC Ergers Qano
[1]Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania
Vaso.qano@cit.edu.al
[2]University Aleksander Xhuvani, Elbasan, Albania
ergersqano@hotmail.com

Abstract

Purpose: This paper explores the cultural and organizational dimensions of academic life that lay the foundations for academic freedom.

Method: Collection of information and performance comparisons on the geopolitics of knowledge and how the hegemony of Western thinking frames imposes constraints on academic freedom. We will also explore the ways in which Cartesian rationalism underpins contemporary understanding of what constitutes valid knowledge, and how this can and does act as a constraint in what we come to know and study.

Results: To briefly review the relationship between university autonomy and academic freedom and freedom and the impact of increased commercialization on scholarly independence, particularly how the increasing casualization of employment limits the freedom of academics to teach critically and publish freely.

Conclusion: We examine the social class biases in how higher education is organized, and how class exclusions are themselves constraints on being an academic or a student in a university. Finally, the paper illustrates the importance of distinguishing between the institutional autonomy of the university, the personal and professional freedoms of individual academics, and each of these from subject autonomy, namely the freedom of scholars to create and maintain new disciplinary fields, especially fields of scholarship that are critical and challenging of prevailing academic doctrines.

Keywords: *academic life, academic freedom, university autonomy*

1. Introduction

The expansion of higher education over the last 30 years has not only radically altered the intake into higher education, but it has also changed the character of higher education itself. Greatly increased participation rates have been accompanied by institutional stratification, both intra- and internationally, not only between universities and other degree- and diploma-awarding institutions, but also between universities themselves. University colleges and universities are differentiated in terms of both their educational and research status, differentiations that are worsen with the growth of global ranking systems. While the differentiations between universities, and between these and other colleges of higher education, are socially significant, the issue of academic freedom arises in all cases. It is not the exclusive concern of those working in universities.

2. Related work

While countries vary in the degree to which they sell their higher education services internationally, with the UK and Australia being especially direct in their marketization (Marginson 2007, Ball 2012), private higher education is big business: it was worth an estimated $400 milliard globally, and approximately 25% of all higher education students were in private colleges in the late 2000s (Nuthall 2008). Even when universities are publicly funded and regulated, there is a growing expectation that they will destroy their state income from the sale of educational services (US Department of Education and Skills 2011). Not surprisingly, therefore, recent private higher education expansion is overwhelmingly in the private-for-profit higher education sector, especially in the USA, but also in countries as diverse as Brazil, Korea and Poland (Douglass 2012). When university autonomy is championed, as it is in Europe, it is a bounded autonomy subject to political accountability (Nokkala & Bacevic 2014).

3. The subject of your work

The privilege of academic freedom is granted to scholars on the assumption that they will be guided by an ethical imperative to pursue the advancement of knowledge, while recognizing the contested character of what constitutes 'truth' or 'knowledge' in scientific terms (Harding 1991, 2006, Kuhn 1962).

The mores of science possess a methodologic rationale but they are binding, not only because they are procedurally efficient, but because they are believed right and good. They are moral as well as technical prescriptions (Merton 1973, p. 270).

To realize its purposes of advancing knowledge, Merton identified 'four sets of institutional imperatives' which should govern the operation of scientific and scholarly research: 'universalism, communism, disinterestedness and organized skepticism' (Merton 1973, p. 270).

…it is clear that graduates in the natural sciences increasingly can find employment only in corporate labs; mostly, they are working for defense contractors, for pharmaceutical companies, or in electronic or biotech industries. And the university science departments, which historically isolated themselves from commercial interests and now and then from national state interests, today can claim little such autonomy. Their values are commercial and national state values (Harding 2006, p. 8).

Moreover, universities are big business, and education and research are tradable commodities. In research terms, universities provide opportunities to develop patents and commercialize products as scientific discoveries are increasingly defined as private properties (particularly since the passing of the Bayh- Dole Act in the USA in 1980). Scientific achievements are seen as opportunities for creating a competitive advantage rather than a means of serving the public good in a disinterested manner (Münch & Schäfer 2013).

Moreover, state funding to public universities is increasingly conditional on meeting government targets and demands, both directly in terms of the types of student education prioritized, and indirectly in terms of grant aid for highly selective fields and market-led research (Department of Education and Skills 2011, Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation 2011). Academics who have the 'freedom' to research new ideas or to introduce new subjects are increasingly confined to fields of scholarship that are supported by government, which, in turn, are strongly influenced by business interests, especially those in science and technology. The impact of commercial interests is reflected especially in the funding of research. None of the subjects in the Arts Humanities and Social Sciences were listed as priority funding areas in the Research Prioritization report for Ireland in 2011. Not only are science and technology prioritized for research funding, but within these fields, very specific areas are targeted.

The positioning of higher education as a net contributor to the economy rather than a public service was accelerated by the austerity plans imposed by the International Monetary Fund, European Central Bank (ECB) and European Commission. Private bank debt was translated into sovereign debt under pressure from the ECB in particular, the net effect of which was to greatly reduce funding to higher education for both students and staff. This led to a series of increases in student fees (which are the second highest in Europe next to the UK; European

4. Proposed method

Collection of information and performance comparisons on the geopolitics of knowledge and how the hegemony of Western thinking frames imposes constraints on academic freedom. We will also explore the ways in which Cartesian rationalism underpins contemporary understanding of what constitutes valid knowledge, and how this can and does act as a constraint in what we come to know and study.

5. Results and discussion

To briefly review the relationship between university autonomy and academic freedom and freedom and the impact of increased commercialization on scholarly independence, particularly how the increasing casualization of employment limits the freedom of academics to teach critically and publish freely.

6. Conclusion

We examine the social class biases in how higher education is organized, and how class exclusions are themselves constraints on being an academic or a student in a university. Finally, the paper illustrates the importance of distinguishing between the institutional autonomy of the university, the personal and professional freedoms of individual academics, and each of these from subject autonomy, namely the freedom of scholars to create and maintain new disciplinary fields, especially fields of scholarship that are critical and challenging of prevailing academic doctrines.

7. References

1. Harding SG (1991) Whose science? Whose knowledge? Thinking from women's lives. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, NY
2. Kuhn TS (1962) The structure of scientific revolutions. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, IL
3. Merton RK (1973) The sociology of science: theoretical and empirical investigations. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, IL
4. Lieberwitz R (2004) The corporatization of academic research; Whose interests are served? Akron Law Review 38 (4) 759–770
5. Münch R, Schäfer LO (2013) Rankings, diversity and the power of renewal in science. A comparison between Germany, the UK and the US. European Journal of Education 49: 60–76
6. Walsh BJ (2012) Turning knowledge into money: Ireland's universities and free-market alchemy. Studies 101: 215−226

THE EUROPEAN UNION AND TURKEY RELATIONS: REFUGEE PROBLEM

MSc. Joana Ruçi
[1]*Institute of Social Sciences, Gazi University, Ankara, Turkey (M.Sc.)*
[2]*Faculty of Law, University of Tirana, Tirane, Albania (BA and M.Sc.)*
E-mail: joana.ruci@yahoo.com

1. Introduction

In this paper we will discuss the relations between EU and Turkey. The efforts of Turkey to join the Union. Its road toward integration is difficult and with ups and downs. The Arab Spring, the Syrian conflict, refugee crisis and the war against terrorism have affected the process. In this paper we will treat one of the main problems today for the EU and Turkey: Refugee Crisis. How the EU response to refugee crisis? What have Turkey done by his own? Has the deal between the EU and Turkey on the refugees resolved the problems?

2. Related work

"The Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities. These values are common to the Member States in a society in which pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men prevail."[3]

"Peace at home, peace in the world."[4]

"Almost 5 million people have fled Syria since 2011, seeking safety in Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan and beyond. Millions more are displaced inside Syria. Turkey hosts over 2.9 million registered Syrians. The majority

---

[3] Article 2 of Lisbon Treaty, at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/228848/7310.pdf, (Access date: 20.03.2017).

[4] Ahmet Özcan, *İnsalığımız ve Jeo-Stratejik Gerçekler Işığında Somali*, Arı Hareketi, İstanbul, 2011, s.30, at: http://www.academia.edu/1833114/Insanligimiz_ve_Jeo-Stratejik_Gercekler_Isiginda_Somali, (Access date: 20.03.2017).

of them live in urban areas, with around 260,000 accommodated in the 21 government-run refugee camps."[5]

"All new irregular migrants crossing from Turkey into Greek islands as from 20 March 2016 will be returned to Turkey. This will take place in full accordance with EU and international law, thus excluding any kind of collective expulsion. All migrants will be protected in accordance with the relevant international standards and in respect of the principle of non-refoulement."[6]

3. The subject of your work

We will treat shortly the EU, its members and its institutions. The attempts of Turkey to join the union take part in the other section. The roots of refugee crisis, the response of the EU and Turkey to the crisis, the EU-Turkey deal on refugees and its indication in Turkey-EU relations will be analyzed in the last part.

4. Proposed method

In this paper we will use concept as: EU, refugee crisis, islamophobia etc.; analysis and comparison.

5. Results and discussion

The EU Member States are facing with one of the biggest refugee crisis after the Second World War. After the beginning of the Syrian conflict around 5 million people moved from Syria to neighbouring states or EU countries. Turkey, Greece, Macedonia, Serbia, Libya are transit countries in the road to Europe. Among the refugees are Syrians, Afghans, Palestinians and other nationalities.

Seeing the big problems facing by the EU and Turkey from the refugee crisis on 18 March 2016 they made a joint statement where regulated the procedures for the refugees who come from Turkey to Greece. For every Syrian returned to Turkey another Syrian will be send from Turkey to the EU through a mechanism, which will be settled with the help of Commission, EU agencies and other Member States, as well as the UNHCR. The EU takes the responsibility to disburse 3 billion euros under the Facility for Refugees in Turkey and ensure funding of further projects for persons under temporary protection identified with swift input from Turkey before the end of March.

[5] *Syria Emergency*, UNHCR, at: http://www.unhcr.org/syria-emergency.html, (Access date: 22.04.2017).

[6] *EU-Turkey Statement on 18 March 2016*, European Council, at: http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2016/03/18-eu-turkey-statement/, (Access date: 24.04.2017).

6. Conclusion

One year after the deal the relations between the EU and Turkey are not in their best moment. Between parts have doubts and charges. Also it is done not so much to implement the deal in practice. If the Syrian conflict will not be resolved in near future, Turkey will be obligated to deal with this problem for some more time. The prolonging of the war can lead to new waves of refugees. Turkey will not be able to handle with all of them and the solution can be seen in the opening of doors and letting them go out of Turkey. Then the EU will be constrained to find new solutions and to take other measures. In order to avoid the worst scenario the EU must play active role on the field.

7. References

1. ARMAOĞLU Fahir, XX. Yüzyıl Siyasi Tarihi: 1914-1995, 18. Edition, Alkım Yayınevi, İstanbul, 2009.
2. AYBEY Ali, "Turkey and the European Union Relations: A Historical Assessment", Ankara Avrupa Çalışmalan Dergisi, Vol. 4, No. 1, Güz 2004.
3. *Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees*, at: http://www.unhcr.org/protect/PROTECTION/3b66c2aa10.pdf, (Access date: 23.04.2017).
4. *EU-Turkey Statement on 18 March 2016*, European Council, at: http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2016/03/18-eu-turkey-statement/, (Access date: 24.04.2017).
5. HAVLOVA Radka and TAMCHYNOVA Kristyna, "The Uncertain Role of the EU Countries in the Syrian Refugee Crisis", *Insight Turkey*, Vol. 18, No. 2, Spring 2016, p. 85-106.
6. *History of Turkey-EU Relations*, Republic of Turkey Minister for EU Affairs, at: http://www.ab.gov.tr/index.php?p=111&l=2, (Access date: 26.03.2017).
7. HOF Frederic C. Hof and SIMON Alex, *Sectarian Violence in Syria's Civil War: Causes, Consequences, and Recommendations for Mitigation*, The Center for the Prevention of Genocide, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, at: https://www.ushmm.org/m/pdfs/20130325-syria-report.pdf, (Access date: 30.03.2017).

TRANSFORMATIONAL AND TRANSACTIONAL LEADERSHIP AND FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF COMMERCIAL BANKS IN ALBANIA: A CORRELATIONAL STUDY

Arber Ademi MSc. (CIT)
Artur JAUPAJ Prof. Assoc. (CIT)

Banking industry in Albania is relatively new, if we do not consider some pre-banking developments at the eve of market economy initiation in the post-communist country. The first commercial banks were a direct product of privatization of state-owned banks after the financial crisis of 1996 – 1997. The Austrian group Raiffeisen privatized the Savings Bank in 2003, while a Turkish Holding took over the Agricultural Bank in 2004. Other private local and foreign financial institutions have established their branches or founded their banking institutions only over the last two decades. As such, 16 commercial banks have been licensed by Bank of Albania, which is the regulatory authority in the financial markets and banking, several of them being part of international financial groups such as ProCredit, Societe Generale and Pireaus Group.

From a regulatory perspective, commercial banks are the most systematic and systemized institutions, applying best practices of management and cutting-edge technological solutions. Nevertheless, due to the difficulties in the academic research, banking institutions have not exhaustively researched aspects of their work related to social sciences and management studies. Few quantitative research projects have been conducted on the performance of the commercial banking in Albania (Musta & Shehu, 2015), and even less scientific investigation has been carried out on leadership and its correlation with performance of banking institutions throughout the country (Xhakolli, 2011).

Though the advancement of academic research on leadership in Albanian banking sector shows poor publication levels, researchers have persistently proven the impact leadership traits produce on various aspects of job performance, job and employees' satisfaction, organizational performance or financial performance throughout the world. Awamleh (2005) has tested a theoretical framework that measured the influence of transformational leadership styles on job satisfaction and employee's performance in the banking sector of UAE. The study found that transformational leadership traits positively and significantly predict both the job satisfaction and employee's performance. In a study investigating the banking sector in the Lahore district of Pakistan, Bushra et al (2011) checked for any probable predictive power of transformational leadership style on job satisfaction. The relationship between the bank managers' leadership traits on the job satisfaction variable was found positive and statistically significant. Banking industry has been the focus of recent research even in one of the fast growing economies of the world, such as Turkey. Çetin et al (2012) measured the influence of leadership styles and communication traits on lower-level employees' work ethic motivation. According to the results of this research, transactional leadership style and communication skills significantly influenced job satisfaction, while transformational leadership did not show a significant predictive power on job satisfaction. Baysak and Yener (2015) found weak correlation between leadership styles and perceived job satisfaction among hospital personnel in Istanbul.

More complex conceptual models have also shown significant relationships between leadership styles and performance and satisfaction perception in the presence of mediating or intervening variables. Such has been a study of Saleem (2005), who checked for the impact leadership styles put on job satisfaction, this effect being mediated by perceived organizational politics. The results of this investigation showed that transformational and transactional leadership traits produced opposite effects on job satisfaction through the mediation of perceived organizational politics. According to the data results, transformational leadership boosted job satisfaction among the employees, while transactional leadership traits reduced the job satisfaction as perceived by the human resources. Another study of the relationship between leadership traits and job satisfaction among respondents working in the banking industry is that of Obuobisa – Darko (2015). Both transformation and transactional leadership styles were proven strong and statistically significant predictors of perceived job satisfaction, with transactional leadership style slightly outperforming the transformational.

Problem discussion

Leadership plays a proven significant role in the overall success of a for-profit or non-for-profit organization. As such, leadership style could either boost, or constrain the performance, efficiency and effectiveness of the business. Having the awareness of such impact of leadership patterns on the long-term results of the organization provides with a competitive advantage over the competition in the marketplace (Riaz & Haider, 2010). Nowadays leaders need to supply their company's human resources with enthusiasm, trust, and strong imagination of how success will look like in the future (Bass, 1990). The classical transactional leadership views have been questioned and widely replaced by the new transformational leadership patterns, which inspire in employees creativity and critical thinking, as well as feeling of significance about their work.

Our dependent variable, financial performance of the banking institutions in the domestic market, has not extensively been measured in relation to the leadership style applied by the managers/leaders of the banking organizations. In a rare research of minority owned depository institutions (MODI's), Cole (2009) has checked for probable correlation between the leadership traits found among the MODI's CEO's and the respective financial performance as measured by Return on Assets (ROA). Gautam and Malla (2013) have investigated the existence of correlation between the leadership styles of Bank Branch Managers and subordinates' job satisfaction and branch performance, employing a performance evaluation matrix that combined indicators of deposits, advances, and non-fund based incomes and non-performing assets. The researchers themselves evaluated the performance of the bank branches based on the data they collected from the later. From a more generic perspective, Geyer and Steyrer (1998) have examined the relation between two types of leadership, i.e. transformational and transactional, and performance indicators. Given the limited research about leadership – financial performance of banking institutions, we are confident about the originality and value added by our study, especially in the local context.

Our research problem reflects similar academic interest patterns on the aspects of leadership in the banking industry in Albania: what would be the impact of a commercial bank adopting a certain type of leadership for its management body? Is there any correlation between the self-perceived traits of leadership and financial performance of commercial banks in Albania? What is the nature of correlation, if any, between leadership styles and financial performance of a banking institution in Albania? In the wake of the global financial crisis, the financial performance ratios in commercial banks are constrained and the top-management is distressed of simultaneous crisis management in each and every department. Therefore, our research may add value to better information of decision making process in the framework of strategic financial and human resources management, organizational behavior and values of a banking institution operating in the domestic market.

Purpose of the Study

This study aims to track the probable relationships between the leadership patterns found in second level banks branch managers and the respective banks financial performance as measured by the most extensively used financial performance indicator, return on equity (ROE) of Albanian second level banks. The most reliable instrument used in measuring correlations between leadership styles and various aspects of organizations performance, Multifactor Leadership Questionnaire (MLQ, 5x-Short Form) developed by Bass and Avolio (1995) was employed to collect data from the branch managers of second level banks in the city of Tirana. The collected data are analyzed on statistical platforms (SPSS) to investigate the Pearson's correlation coefficient of the relationship of branch managers' leadership patterns and ROE values. Our expectation from this quantitative study was to gather sufficient reliable responses that allow for valid results and conclusions about the reality of a possible connection between the independent and dependent variables of the actual study.

Research Questions

R1: Is there a relationship between the return on equity (ROE) of second level banks in Albania and idealized attributes of the leadership pattern scores of the branch managers?

R2: Is there a linkage between the return on equity (ROE) of second level banks in Albania and the idealized behaviors of the leadership pattern scores of the branch managers?

R3: Is there a connection between the return on equity (ROE) of second level banks in Albania and the inspirational motivation leadership pattern scores of the branch managers?

R4: Is there a relationship between the return on equity (ROE) of second level banks in Albania and the intellectual stimulation leadership pattern scores of branch managers?

R5: Is there a relationship between the return on equity (ROE) of second level banks in Albania and the individualized considerations leadership pattern scores of branch managers?

R6: Is there a relationship between the return on equity (ROE) of second level banks in Albania and the contingent rewards leadership pattern scores of branch managers?

R7: Is there a relationship between the return on equity (ROE) of second level banks in Albania and the management-by-exception leadership pattern scores of branch managers?

R8: Is there a relationship between the return on equity (ROE) of second level banks in Albania and the laissez faire leadership pattern scores of branch managers?

Significance of the Study

It might be said that the Albanian banking sector has not been sufficiently researched in terms of the factors influencing their performance, behavioral patterns affecting the organizational development or socio-psychological variables at the core of their overall success / failure. The generic approach towards assessing the performance indicators is entirely monolithic, with top-management exclusively relating the organization performance with the market developments. Though the financial results of a business organization are generally dependent on a symbiotic effect of a multitude of social, psychological, economic, legal and market factors, the behavior of the leadership traits among the middle and top-managers may have a statistically significant predicting power on the performance indicators trends. Continuous quantitative research of these correlations provides the banks' management bodies with useful information commonly relied upon in their decision-making processes.

Specific Contribution of the Actual Study

A plethora of research linked to leadership styles and traits in its composing aspects, such as transformation and transactional leadership, has been conducted by academics, research practitioners and management bodies/ entrepreneurs in the course of the recent decades. Studies have been carried out in the local market (Xhakolli, 2011) measuring the relationship between the leadership styles and certain aspects of human resources performance. However, there exists a gap in research relevant to the local banking sector measuring the probable predictive power of the leadership styles on the domestic banks financial performance.

Significance of the Actual Study to Leadership

The actual study is a first attempt to investigate the correlation or the association between the bank managers' leadership traits scores and the financial performance of the institutions they work for, as presented by ROE. Top-management throughout the second level banks may consider it a useful source of information in the framework of their strategic decision-making processes, human resources planning and management, as well as training and development programs. Even the regulatory institutions of the banking and financial industry may rely on such quantitative scientific research to fine-tune the profile requirements for banks' CEO's.

Nature of the Study

We have employed quantitative research methods due to the nature of the relationship between the variables of the actual study's conceptual model. Epistemologically, quantitative methods enable hypotheses testing with measurable data about behaviors which are regular and predictable, under controlled conditions (Creswell, 2012). It also serves as a unified approach of the researchers towards the phenomena, sharing the same ontological stance about the leadership. The research design was non-experimental, as there was no manipulation of the independent variables to measure the informing power of the change in controlled variables on the behavior of the dependent variable.

Among the non-experimental research designs, correlational research was selected based on the researcher's assumption that a causal-comparative design would not be able to measure the cause-effect relationship between the independent and dependent variables without an accepted theory explaining it. The conditions for existence of causality between the variables are relationship, temporal order, and lack of alternative explanations (Palinkas, 2014). In correlational design the researchers are able to investigate for the existence of relationships through statistical calculating the correlation coefficients (Creswell, 2012). Therefore, if the sign of the correlation coefficient's value is positive, the researcher can conclude that there exists a positive predicting power of the independent variable on the dependent variable. On the other hand, a negative sign of the correlation coefficient is an indication of the existence of a correlation between the two variables, a correlation that is negative.

A sample size of 55 respondents was selected, comprising 100% of the Tirana county branch managers, which allows for less error and higher degree of accuracy. Eight independent variables of transformational and transactional leadership styles pointing to the leadership traits of the respondents were measured for their correlational intensity with the financial performance measured by ROE. The MLQ instrument adopted to measure the independent variables requires for the scales being continuous with a range of 0 to 4. The scores of each predicting variable reflected the branch managers' self-perception of each leadership trait.

Limitations and Delimitations of the Study

Our research has been limited to the branch managers that have voluntarily accepted to participate through completing the MLQ. As the researcher has used only 21 items from the MLQ developed by Bass and Alovio (1992), our study's validity is confined to the reliability of this part of questionnaire. Demographic questions were added to the original MLQ, which designed as a Google form was sent to 55 Branch Managers of Raiffeisen Bank, BKT, ALPHA Bank, NBG Bank, and Intesa Sanpaolo Bank located in the District of Tirana. It was assumed participants will answer questions faithfully and freely. The study has examined the independent variables of transformational and transactional leadership traits, operationalized in full accordance with Bass and Alovio (1990, 1992, 1994, 1999) theoretical framework.

SOCIAL MEDIA, A STRATEGIC TOOL FOR THE RECRUITMENT PROCESS

Dr. Amalia Tola[1], MSc. Erjona Deshati[2]
[1]Agricultural University of Tirana, Faculty of Economy and Agribusiness
atola@ubt.al
[2]Canadian Institute of Technology, Faculty of Economy
erjona.deshati@cit.edu.al

Abstract

The social media phenomenon has opened up new paths of engagement and revolutionized the way people exchange information. As social media technology continues to evolve and becomes more widespread, it presents an exciting opportunity for the recruitment industry.

Given the growing practice of social recruitment, this paper presents an exploratory investigation, highlighting the potential of recruitment of prospective emoplyees through social media. We also discuss how to effectively use social media as a recruiting tool in order to take full advantage it can offer.

This paper is prepared based on desk research methodology, reviewing relevant articles, textbook chapters and other research in this area.

The findings of this research indicate that the social recruitment method has a lot of benefits and a social media strategy is a must, especially for the private sector. Having set out the core findings of this paper, we have formulated a number of recommendations to assist businesses in applying social media to the recruitment process.

Keywords: *social media, firms, recruitment process, human resources management, social recruitment.*

1. Introduction

This paper reflects on issues concerning social media recruitment in private sector and it aims to raise the awareness of businesses and HR professionals in Albania on how the use of social media can positively impact the recruitment process, and how social media could serve as a potential tool for recruitment. In the context of the contemporary global business environment, the role of social media has increased drastically and recruiters find that they need to be more proactive in their approach, by engaging with talent across a wide range of social networking platforms. The take-up of social media has naturally led companies to consider its use as a recruitment tool. Considering that social media has entered the business landscape and particularly the recruitment landscape, leads to a demand for knowledge about recruitment trends regarding social media. The paper's contribution is its discussion on the need for utilizing an iterative approach to the inclusion of evolving social networks for optimized recruitment and in offering an analysis how to effectively use social media as a recruiting tool in order to benefit from it.

2. Related work

There are several authors that have researched the use of social media in recruitment process. Blacksmith and Poeppelman (2013) state that "Social media sites are no longer just a place to keep in touch with friend and family. They have entered the workspace and are influencing the way recruitment and hiring is implemented. Hauptman and Steger (2013) emphasize that: "In terms of professional work, social media can be said to be relatively easy and inexpensive to introduce. Social media can be especially helpful to human resource management when it comes to facilitating personnel recruitment, promoting learning processes on an individual, team and organizational level". Redman and Wilkinson (2009) believe that the main reason for the transition to social media as a recruitment tool is "cost and speed". Hunt (2010) states that "companies that do not embrace social media as a recruitment tool might risk losing qualitative candidates to their competition that is focused on such outreach".

As social media has a great number of users, making use of it during recruitment can provide companies with a large number of potential employees, at a low cost compared to traditional advertising through media or employment agencies. Due to the large number of social media users, companies have greater access to talent, and therefore more potential on attracting the desired candidates for the job.

3. The subject of your work

The recruitment process is considered key to the success of a company. Recruitment is the process of attracting and encouraging potential employees to apply for a position, while selection is the process of making fair and relevant assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of applicants with the intention to hire them (Sutherland and Wőcke, 2011), therefore companies would be more than interested on identifying methods to help them hire the most skilled and talented employees in the market. Since the use of social media is largely increasing, it is crucial for the businesses to use such tool for the recruitment process. Social media could be a powerful tool for a company that could be used to advertise jobs, and create a competitive advantage since it can reach a greater pool of potential candidates.

4. Proposed method

The paper draws on existing research to examine the subject of social media recruitment. Since the purpose of this paper is to raise awareness for the HR professionals or companies in Albania on the benefits of social media as a tool for recruitment, a desk research method would be sufficient.

5. Results and discussion

Since the beginning of the social media era, communication has become extremely convenient and effective. The traditional ways of putting out a job vacancy and waiting for people to come to you are a thing of the past in most industries. Nowadays companies focus more on social media, rather than using newspapers, media, word of mouth, or recruitment agencies. However in the past years the use of social media has transformed the recruitment process for many companies worldwide. "Social media can be a powerful tool a company can use to its advantage" (Russel and Stutz, 2014). But what are social Medias? Social media platforms can be defined as information technologies which support interpersonal communication and collaboration using internet-based platforms. Such social medias have actually changed the way how people nowadays communicate and interact with each-other. Social Medias such as Facebook, Twitter and Linked-In are used by hundreds of millions of people every day all over the world. According to a 2015 Society for Human Resources (SHRM) study that surveyed recruiters, LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter are the most popular social networks for recruiters. Google+, YouTube, Instagram and Pinterest are runner-ups, but are still strong niche recruiting options.

According to Hootsuite, a social media management platform, in January 2017 there have been registered:

Worldwide: 3.773 *billion internet users* (10% growth from January 2016)

2.789 billion users are active social media users (21% growth from January 2016)

Referring to the same source, Facebook is the most highly used social media with 1.871 million users, followed by Whatsapp with 1.000 million and Twitter with 317 million and Linked-in with 106 million users.

In Albania: *1.84 million internet users* (1% growth from January 2016)

1.5 million users are active social media users (15% growth from January 2016).

Therefore, the potential for Albanian companies to reach a greater number of potential employees is very high and at low cost, or at no cost at all, since the mostly used social media has no registration fee.

6. Conclusion

One of the fastest-growing recruiting trends in recent years has been social recruiting, using social media networks such as Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter to source and recruit candidates. Recruitment through social media can offer many benefits to companies, as it allows them to reach a larger pool of potential candidates. Compared to traditional tools, social media recruitments can generate a higher interest on the job posting as the announcement is seen by a great number of individuals. Another benefit of using social media is the low/no cost for placing the announcement for the vacant position, always compared to the high costs of announcements through media. The speed of response would also be a benefit of recruitment through social media, since the time for making the announcement visible to the public is really short, compared to traditional announcement placed in the newspapers, TV, radio or employment agencies. While levels of awareness and adoption continue to develop both for recruiters and job applicants, organizations must consider adding social media to their overall recruitment strategy to meet the goals of being cost effective, right on target, and strategic; remaining competitive; and sourcing top talent. Social media is a great tool for recruitment and it should be further explored by the business sector and HR professionals.

7. References

1. Blacksmith, N. and Poeppelman, T. "Application of Modern Technology and Social Media in the Workplace", Jour. The industrial-Organizational Psychologist 51, 69-73 (2014).
2. Hauptmann, S. and Steger, T. "A brave new (digital) world. Effects of in-house Social Media on HRM", Jour. Zeitschrift Fur Personalforschung, 27, 26-46 (2013)
3. Hunt, K. "Finders Keepers: Social Media Strategies Help Find Top Talent", Jour. of Property Management, 75, 36-40 (2010)
4. Sutherland, M. and Wőcke, A. "The Syptomps and consequences to selection errors in recruitment decisions", Jour. South African Journal of Business Management, 42, 23-32 (2011).
5. Russell, R. and Stutz, M. "Social Media: What employers need to know", Journal of Internet Law, 17, 3-6 (2014).
6. Redman, T. and Wilkinson, A. Contemporary Human Resource Management Text and Cases, Third Edition. London: Pearson Education (2009)
7. Digital in 2017: Southern Europe, Hootsuite, https://www.slideshare.net/wearesocialsg/digital-in-2017-southern-europe

THE “1 BILION $ PROJECT”
OF ALBANIAN GOVERNMENT
THE FISCAL POLICY IN THE FRAMEWORK
OF PRIVAT-PUBLIC PARTNERITY

MSc. Besarta Tafa
MSc.Gjergji Tafa
b.tafa@cit .edu.al
gjergjitafa@gmail.com

Abstract

This paper is an analysis of the most recent project proposed by the Albanian Government, the so-called “1 billion $ project”. We bring this issue in order to help for a better comprehension of the case. It is of a great relevance with regard the actuality and also in terms of an alternative approach viewpoint.

The method used in this paper is the analysis of the project, based on governmental information. We start with the explanation of the case, aiming to illuminate with relevant information. Then, an analysis is done in terms of the relevance of the existing fiscal policy in the implementation of the project. We take hypothetical figures in order to compare the current policy with alternative policies, to find the solution that better fits the project.

The analysis will show that the current fiscal policy doesn’t fit the project in terms of private-public partnership. The alternative policy consists on reduced taxation in order to better implement the project. This policy consists on lower costs for the private investors.

The private-public partnership is a good choice for the prosperity of a country. If the government props the private investors up and lowers the taxation, the investment will be more attractive. The public benefit will be higher too.

Keywords: *fiscal policy, public-private partnership, reduced taxation*

1. Introduction

We have been motivated to make the research in this field by the recent actions taken by the government of our country. The project aimed to be implemented is the main issue mentioned recently in the media. It attracted our curiosity not only because it seems to be very interesting but also too much hopeful for the future of the investing activity.

We are talking about the so called "1 Billion Project" proposed by the Albanian prime minister in cooperation with the minister of Finance. This paper makes an analysis of the project in the viewpoint of public-private partnership by taking the fiscal policy as a frame. Even though it is a much promising project, we observe that the existing fiscal policy doesn't fit the project. It is believed that, if it will be implemented in the frame of this fiscal policy it will not have success. That is why we make a detailed analysis in order to show the inconsistency between these two. The findings are original because they are based on our own analysis by taking into consideration real data by the government. We believe that this research will be very helpful for a better implementation of the project by the government.

2. Related work

ATRAKO, the Agency of the treatment of the concessions, which is a state institution, issued a manual for the users in order to give them large information of how the concessions work and what are their costs and benefits. It includes all the steps and rules for a public-private partnership to take place. This is the frame where our research has been based in order to generate the deep analysis.

A detailed analysis is done by the minister of finance, explaining the entire project and stressing its strong points and profits. But this analysis doesn't take into consideration a change in the fiscal policy at list for four years. Our study makes a deep analysis of these conditions and also gives an alternative approach for the project to be implemented.

There are also skeptics who believe that this type of contract is not convenient because it will increase the corruption. They can rather use a pure concession, says Mr. Fratari for MAPO magazine, where the investor uses their funds for the total value of the project and can use the taxation of these public goods for a given period as their revenue.

3. The subject of your work

The Albanian government, in terms of crediting the economy in general, and especially the infrastructure, has presented the "1 billion $ projects" in the form of public-private partnership. Its aim is to activate the frozen founds of the private business through this project. For a period of four years, the government intends to keep unchanged the fiscal policy, especially the value added tax, personal income tax, net profit tax and the dividend.

The question is; could this project be implemented with the existing fiscal policy?

The project is a contract between the government and the business. These funds will be taken as a loan by investors, in the financial institutions. The role of the state in this case will be as a warrantor. Thus, as soon as the investor takes the loan it doesn't need to have collateral rather than the letter of the warranty by the state.

In order for this concession to take place, the government has put some limits and conditions.

- First of all the investor must have its own 20% of the total value of the contract. So, unless the investor disposes the 200 million dollars cash, he cannot enter in this contract. Given that they have the liquidity, the 80% of the value of the contract will be taken as a loan step by step and will be subject of other restrictions.
- The government issues letters of warranty for the repayment of the debt for a period not less than ten years and not more than fifteen years. This decision takes into consideration the risks related to the longevity of the debt, in order keep the interest expenses as smooth as possible.
- The government will continue to pay back the investor only after the second year of the implementation of the project, and only if the 50 % of the work have been completed. If after two years, the work is not finished up to 50% the investor doesn't take money back until accomplishes with the terms of the contract.
- Given that the above conditions are fulfilled, the government starts to pay back the investor the installment of the loan, principal plus interest. This amount will be transferred by the investor to the financial institutions.
- By the termination of the project, which could be a shorter time than the repayment of the debt, two alternatives can be used
  - A) The government lets the concession in investors' management. All the profits by the use of the project can be used to cover the debt.
  - B) In case the project doesn't generate enough profits to cover the debt, the government itself will continue to pay it back as in the beginning.

This project is supposed to be profitable for many parties. First of all it will result in a public good; infrastructure which will be used by the public for many years. Second, the investor will have its profit higher than depositing the money in bank. The financial institutions will have their interest gains. The government will secure a public good with no added public debt.

In general terms it seems to be a good decision but the below analysis will show that there are some changes to take place, in order for the project to be more profitable for all the parties.

4. Proposed method

This paper is conducted as an analysis of the given project. It takes in to account two hypothetical cases of the implementation of the project. It uses real figures as regards the fiscal policy and the total value of the project, but hypothetical ones as regards other costs.

The first case is based on the current fiscal policy. The calculations indicate a low profit by the implementation of the project.

Then, a hypothetical case is suggested in order to increase the profits. A correction in the fiscal policy could make the investment more attractive to the business and also more profitable for the public. The below tables show the calculations based on the existing and proposed fiscal policy:

First case	Column1	Column2	Column3
	Description of cost/profit elements	**Percentage**	**Analysis**
1	The value of contract	100%	1,000,000,000
2	Cost of work	59%	590,000,000
3	Wages + personal income tax	20%	200,000,000
4=2+3	**Total cost**	**79%**	**790,000,000**
5=1-4	**Gross profit**	21.0%	210,000,000
6	Interest	12.7%	126,652,529
7	Income tax (15%)	3.15%	31,500,000
8=6+7	**Total**	15.8%	158,152,529
9=5-8	**Net profit**	**5.18%**	**51,847,471**
10	Dividend (15%)	0.78%	7,777,121
11=9-10	**Net Cash Flow**	**4.41%**	**44,070,350**

The cost of work up to 59% has been taken hypothetically in order to generate a gross profit margin of around 40%. The wages + personal income tax has been taken at the value of 20 % based on the state regulations that the personnel wages must be around 26 % of the project costs. Taking into account that the technology has been developed, this lowers the need for work force. That is why a value of 20 % is justified. The value of interest has been generated by the loan amortization plan, which uses excel formulas to find different elements of a loan plan, given some of its elements.

Given values	
Total loan value	€ 800,000,000.00
Yearly interest rate	2.00 %
Number of years	15
Number of periods in a year	12

Required elements	
Installment per year	€ 5,148,069.60
Number of installments planed	180
Actual number of installments	180
Total of previous installments	€ 0.00
Total of interest paid	€ 126,652,528.80

In this case we choose the 800 millions of dollars which is to be taken as loan. If we suppose to repay this loan in 15 years and take the average yearly interest rates of the banks 2%, the total interest to be paid during all the period will be 126.652.528.8 dollars. This is 12% of the total value of the contract.

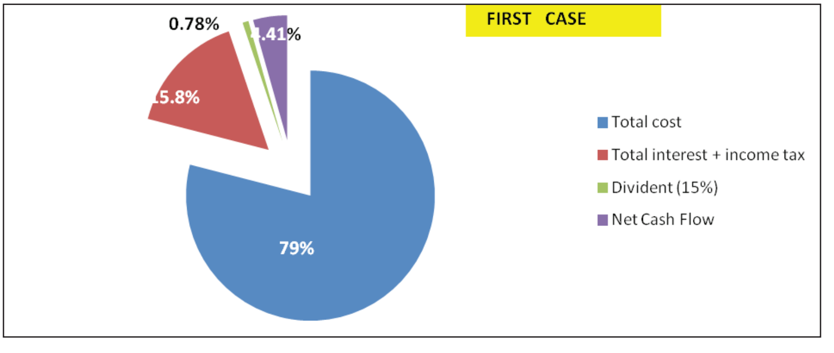
Income tax, in the existing fiscal policy of Albania is 15% of the gross profit. It takes 3.15 % of the total value of the project.

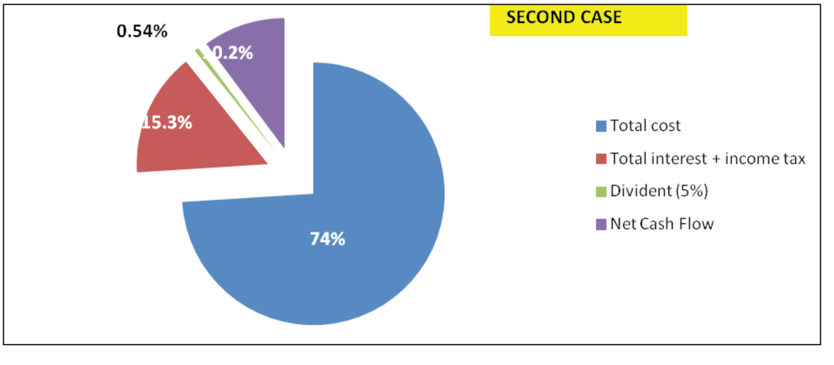
The dividend is 15% of the net income which represents 0.78% of the total contract.

The proposed case decreases the Wages + personal income tax from 20% to 15 % due to a reduction in personal income tax. The net profit tax is supposed to decrease from 15% to 10% and the dividend is supposed to decrease from 15% to 5%. This hypothetic change in the fiscal policy will generate the net profit from the activity as it is calculate below:

Second case	Column1	Column2	Column3
	Description of cost/profit elements	**Percentage**	**Analysis**
1	The value of contract		1,000,000,000
2	Cost of work	59%	590,000,000
3	Wages + personal income tax	15%	150,000,000
4=2+3	**Total cost**	**74%**	**740,000,000**
5=1-4	**Gross profit**	26.0%	260,000,000
6	Interest	12.7%	126,652,529
7	Income tax (10%)	2.60%	26,000,000
8=6+7	**Total**	15.3%	152,652,529
9=5-8	**Net profit**	**10.73%**	**107,347,471**
10	Dividend (5%)	0.54%	5,367,374
11=9-10	**Net Cash Flow**	**10.20%**	**101,980,097**

5. Results and discussion





We can observe a decrease in the total costs of the project in the hypothetical case, which indicates an increase in profits from 4.41% to 10.2%

If the investors undertake the project in the ground of the existing fiscal policy they will have a gain of 4.41% which is very low if we take into consideration the time value of money, since the return period in this case would be fifteen years. The investors could rather put their money in bank and gain from the interest.

The gain from 200 million dollars put in bank as deposit for fifteen years, with an interest rate of 1% would be:

Given values	
Total loan value	€ 200,000,000.00
Yearly interest rate	1.00 %
Number of years	15
Number of periods in a year	12

Required elements	
Installment per year	€ 119,698.90
Number of installments planed	180
Actual number of installments	180
Total of previous installments	€ 0.00
Total of interest paid	€ 1,545,802.52

1.545.802, 52 / 200.000.000 = 7.7 %*(1-0.23[7]) = 5.9%

If the hypothetical case would be taken into account the gain would be much higher, justifying the risks and efforts undertaken in the project.

As result we can confirm that the concession in infrastructure can take place and result in profits for all the parties but there is an emergent need for a change in the fiscal policy. By reducing the fiscal costs, the government makes the investment more profitable. This change will attract more investors because of higher profits. Even more, they can reuse these profits in other projects with high profitability, thus increasing the economic welfare.

[7] Personal income tax

6. Conclusion

The public-private partnership is a god solution for the prosperity of a country. In Albania it is a good choice which gives life the frozen funds of the private investors. All the parties take profits by this cooperation between the private business and the government.

The first party which has gains in these types of contracts is the public. In a short period we have a public good which doesn't affect the taxpayers. The project is better implemented by better experts in a shorter time.

The government takes advantages too because it is not obliged to increase the public debt. They gain the credibility of the public and secure them a public good. It is glad to increase the number of jobs and public services. This will be accompanied with economic growth.

The investor has the opportunity to invest in large project with a limited amount of initial investment. They can take loans with no risk because of the warranty letter issued by the government. Moreover, all the profits of the projects are theirs and they can even reinvest them in other profitable projects.

The financing institutions have the gain from the interest rates, accompanied by the warranty letter of the government. So, the risk of return is zero.

7. References

1. **Blerina Hoxha** "One billion, two sides of the coin", Monitor. (2017)
2. Oranews.tv (2017)
3. Respublica (2017)
4. AlMaKos (2017)
5. https://www.bankofalbania.org/
6. https://www.raiffeisen.al

CYBER - SECURITY FOR SMALL BUSINESS AND PERSONAL CLASS OF USERS AFFECTED FROM CYBER-ATTACKS

Adisa Daberdini[1]; Ibrahim Cekiri[2]
[1]Canadian Institute of technology,
Department of Software Engineering
Email: adisa.daberdini@cit.edu.al

Abstract

This paper shows some of conceptions of security in contemporary concerns over the vulnerability of computers and networks to hostile attack. Nowadays cyber security has become a very necessary element. This is because almost every communication for simple users and business is connected to internet networks. We studied two classes of users who are more affected by the attacks, personal users and small business users. The level of security of this users is lower than the level of security that is used by corporates users, government or larger groups. Based on the type of attacks that these two users may have, we have built a model for improving their security. Some of the protection methods are common to both classes. But the impact is more visible in business users for the information that they use, than in personal users. Some of the personal users are more affected from public networks because the security is very low. One of the elements that has damaged more is the fact that the society doesn't have much knowledge on how to protect the information they possess. We made a scenario that has simple personal users and business users, the way they can use and protect their information. They can use different software and we choose some of them, studied the way they are used in different networks and the way they act. We have also presented the advantages and disadvantages of both groups we have used in the scenario.

Keywords: *cyber-security, securitization, cyber-attacs, bussines users.*

1. Introduction

The Internet is one of the fastest-growing areas of technical infrastructure development. Today, information and communication technologies (ICTs) are omnipresent and the trend towards digitization is growing. [3] The demand for Internet and computer connectivity has led to the integration of computer technology into products that have usually functioned without it, such as cars and buildings. Electricity supply, transportation infrastructure, military services and logistics – virtually all modern services depend on the use of ICTs.[13] With the development of the internet as a global infrastructure for business and as a new tool for politics, espionage and military activities, cyber security has become central topic for national and international security.[1] In our days cyber security and cyber warfare have become an unavoidable element in any discussion of international security. Informational advantage and networks attack play a large role in modern strategy. [12] Defending computer networks is a concern for many countries. Most major military powers have developed cyber warfare capabilities and doctrine and more countries will acquire these capabilities in the future. [2] Since corporate or government users have given the right importance to technical security. Then the most vulnerable are users of lower categories. Lower categories include simple users and small businesses. These types of users in very rare cases have information on cybercrime. The networks that use these, mainly wireless networks, are much more vulnerable. In this article we will present some sofware ways with which users can control their computers. [14]

2. Cybersecurity and cybercrime for small business and personal class of users

Cybercrime and cybersecurity are issues that can hardly be separated in an interconnected environment especially for this two class of users that we have study. [3] Cybersecurity plays an important role in the ongoing development of information technology, as well as Internet services. Enhancing cybersecurity and protecting critical information infrastructures are essential to each nation's security and economic well-being. [1] Making the Internet safer (and protecting Internet users) has become integral to the development of new services as well as government policy. Detecting cybercrime is an integral component of a national cybersecurity and critical information infrastructure protection strategy. In particular, this includes the adoption of appropriate legislation against the misuse of ICTs for criminal or other purposes and activities intended to affect the integrity of national critical infrastructures. [13] At the national level, this is a shared responsibility requiring coordinated action related to prevention, preparation, response and recovery from incidents on the part of government authorities, the private sector and citizens. At the regional and international level, this entails cooperation and coordination with relevant partners. The formulation and implementation of a national framework and strategy for cybersecurity thus requires a comprehensive approach. [10] Cybersecurity strategies – for example, the development of technical protection systems or the education of users to prevent them from becoming victims of cybercrime – can help to reduce the risk of cybercrime. The development and support of cybersecurity strategies are a vital element in the fight against cybercrime. [7] The legal, technical and institutional challenges posed by the issue of cybersecurity are global and far-reaching, and can only be addressed through a coherent strategy taking into account the role of different stakeholders and existing initiatives, within a framework of international cooperation. But for small business and personal class of users is not the same, they are not protected. The information of these users is more at risk because of the facilities they work on the Internet. Private user networks are very unsafe and very vulnerable to possible interferences and attacks.

3. Computer security and cyber security in small business

When we talk about security in small businesses, most of us start by mentioning computer security. Computer security and cyber security, however diverse elements, are very close to each other. Considering what was said before, over the past few years, about the mission of computer security, two conceptions seem dominant. [9] One of the concepts ‘‘technical computer security,’’ has roots in the scientific and technical field of the same name. Technical security includes all the necessary physical devices, servers, firewalls, and also the software used to protect data and interfaces. [4] The other concept ‘‘cyber-security,’’ a more recent entry to the public sphere, is typically articulated by government authorities, corporate heads, and leaders of other non-governmental sectors. It links computer security to traditional notions of national security. The two conceptions, while not strictly incompatible on all points, emphasize different issues and, as a result, pull in different directions.[5] The work of technical experts in the field of computer security has generally focused on protecting computer systems in three general categories: attacks that render systems, information, and networks unavailable to users; attacks that threaten the integrity of information or of systems and networks by corrupting data, destroying files or disrupting code; attacks that threaten the confidentiality of information and communications. [7] In the conception that we will call cyber-security, the issues of greatest danger fall roughly into three categories: Threats posed by the use of networked computers as a medium or staging ground for antisocial, disruptive, or dangerous organizations and communications; threats of attack on critical societal infrastructures, including utilities, banking, government administration, education, healthcare, manufacturing and communications media [6]; Threats to the networked information system. A foundational assumption of both conceptions is that the material concerns they raise are rightly construed as security concerns.[8] The contrasts in the conceptions of security informing technical computer security and cyber-security, respectively, goes beyond that of scope. One is to be found in the degree of severity and nature of the threats. The former acknowledges a broader variation in both degree of harm and the type of harm, including damage to property, incursions on autonomy, privacy, and productivity. The latter, in securitizing threats, assumes the threats to be dire, and possibly existential. [9] A second contrast is in the prototypical referent object. The former seeks security primarily for individual nodes (people, agents, institutions) the latter focuses on collective security (state or nation) In laying out some of differences between the two conceptions of security, we tried to show what is at stake in the selection of one over the other. If those who subscribe to a conception of security as cybersecurity are right, particularly if the magnitude of threat is as great as those on the extremes claim, then an extraordinary response is warranted despite its chilling effects. [11]

4. References

1. Cyber security aspects during the work in information technology systems and devices (2016); Dr. Fatmir Basholli[1]; Dr. Adisa Daberdini[2]
2. Understanding cybercrime: phenomena, challenges and legal response; Telecommunication Development Sector (2012).
3. Cyber threats in social networking websites; Wajeb Gharibi[1] and Maha Shaabi[2]
4. Benjamin S. Buckland, Fred Schreier and Theodor H. Winkler, "Democratic Governance and the Challenges of Cyber Security"

5. Center for Strategic and International Studies Cybersecurity and Cyberwarfare
6. CyberSecurity Malaysia "Corporate Overview"
7. Felix Knote, "De Maizière priest neue Cyber-Zentrale"
8. Helen Nissenbaum Department of Culture and Communication, New York University, NY, USA
9. John Goetz, Marcel Rosenbach and Alexander Szandar, "National defense in cyberspace"
10. Nicola Berkovic, "Defence on a cyber war footing"
11. Shafi'i M. Abdulhamid, Sulaiman Ahmad, Victor O. Waziri and Fatima N. Jibril: Privacy and National Security Issues in Social Networks
12. United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)
13. UK Office of Cyber Security: Cyber Security Strategy of the United Kingdom
14. US Department of Homeland Security: "National Cyber Security Division"

ON THE FRESHNESS OF RELATİONAL DATABASES DEPLOYED ON CLOUD

Bledar Kazia
Dept. of Electrical Engineering and IT
Canadian Institute of Technology
bledi.kazia@cit.edu.al

Abstract

Relational Databases deployed on Cloud with semi-honest database administrators have cost and maintenance benefits. This deployment increased the deployment of databases into the cloud. While deploying the database reduces the general costs, security, privacy, row integrity, query completeness, and freshness issues are raised. Except the freshness, other problems are extensively searched and have proposed solutions in the literature. In this work, firstly, the freshness problem is under investigation. We provided the freshness by storing some local information from the cloud hosted database in the application server. As a second contribution, we investigated the on-line attacks on the multiplication server. The single and multiple applications servers' case are investigated.

Keywords: *query integrity; database Freshness; HSM; CryptDB*

1. Introduction

Integrity has gotten consideration from the examination group just as of late. Respectability is the confirmation that data must be gotten to or altered by those approved to do as such. Trustworthiness is connected with the exactness and consistency of put away information, demonstrated by a nonattendance of any adjustment in information between two upgrades of information record. Measures taken to guarantee trustworthiness incorporate controlling the physical environment of arranged terminals and servers, confining access to information, and keeping up thorough validation hones.

2. Related work

Merkle's tree

When the data outsourced, a non-line attacker and malicious manager of the outsourced site can manipulate the data. In cloud setting it called the integrity of the deployed data on the cloud.

The first solution to this is pioneered by Merkle in 1989, and his works open new direction to many.

Merkle proposed using binary trees to check the integrity of the data. In Merkle's tree, every non -leaf node is labeled with the hash of the labels of its children nodes. Merkle's tree is extremely valuable in cryptography in light of the fact that they permit efficient and secure check for expansive information structures. This sort of tree can be utilized to confirm put away information, took care of and exchanged between two machines. The fundamental utilization of Merkle's tree is to verify that amid the information exchange the information squares are undamaged and unaltered.

Encrypted database integrity in database service provider model

Hacigumus, H., Iyer, B. and Mehrotra, S. proposes encrypted database uprightness conspire that permits the information's proprietor to guarantee the database's honesty facilitated at the administration supplier site, notwithstanding security of the put away information against pernicious assaults. In their work, they take a gander at another imperative issue. In spite of the fact that the customer's information is shielded from the both outcasts and ASP it is misty by what means can the customer guarantee the database's uprightness and consequences of the inquiries reported back by the ASP. They propose two-level encoded database trustworthiness plan, which comprises of Record Level Integrity and Table Level Integrity ideas, as an answer for this issue. Their plan is joined with encrypted database stockpiling model. In resultant framework gives security of the put away information against vindictive assaults and in addition database honesty highlights, which guarantee the realness and legitimacy of the information put away at the administration supplier site.

Efficient data integrity checking for untrusted database systems

Anderson Luiz Silverio et al, in their work consider the issue of guaranteeing information honesty and legitimacy in outsourced database situations. They give effective and secure method for guaranteeing information trustworthiness and legitimacy while causing negligible computational overhead. They offer a few strategies in light of Message Authentication Codes (MACs) to identify pernicious and unapproved insertions, redesigns and cancellations of information. Their systems concentrate on procedures for recognizing unapproved activities (insertions, cancellations and redesigns) from a helpless database server. Their systems offer two essential focal points:

- DBMS is free and can be effortlessly sent in existing situations.
- They concentrated on utilizing a more straightforward and effective cryptographic calculation to give the respectability check.

They trust that the straightforwardness and autonomy of our strategy makes it effectively deployable and good with genuine requests.

3. The subject of your work

We expect here that you detail the subject that you handled.

4. Proposed method

Silvirio et. al, at the end of their work on the integrity and the authentication, addressed the rollback (freshness) problem of RDBMSs as a future discussion [2]. In this article we talk about how the RDMBSs can have freshness on Cloud. We used and modified the Silverio et. al's implementation that they provided us generously. The freshness (rollback) problem of cloud hosted DBs occurs when a successful on-line attacker or a malicious client at cloud downloads at least all of a table from a database and in a later access they can replace the downloaded table with the current table. The integrity and authentication approaches cannot prevent this rollback attack. We begin with a series of theorems to show the case. For simplicity instead of the entire table we consider a single data storage S.

5. Results and discussion

The impact of using each method is affected by two main factors: i) the number of SQL operations; ii) the number of cryptographic functions performed. The number of SQL operations performed by every type of action (ex: an update when using CHMAC requires two SQL operations) clearly has a bigger impact on the performance. The cryptographic-only operation has shown very low impacts.

6. Conclusion

The defined framework will be a tool for who wants to protect their database systems deployed on the cloud. According to query requirements and application settings, they can use the results to apply their system or adjust to fit. DB freshness is an important issue these days in the DB world. We think that this work will be useful for anyone or any company that will need to provide data freshness. By using the local storage as we mentioned we can easily check the DB freshness by saving row id and HMAC and by checking if they are the same as in DB. Of course there is a small disadvantage of our used method because it needs some extra local memory for saving the information locally. Using HMAC MD-5 for storing the information decreases a bit the storage needed. This also is a secure model for the data stored in DB because locally there is only stored the HMAC and row id so the message cannot be decrypted locally as long as we don't store locally the key.

7. References

1. H. Hacıgumus¸, B.R. Iyer, and S. Mehrotra. Encrypted database integrity in database service provider model. In Certifica-tion and Security in E-Services, volume 255, pages 165–174. Kluwer, 2002.
2. Anderson L.Silverio and Ricardo F.Custodio "Efficient data integrity checking for untrusted database systems".DBDKA 2014.
3. Merkle. Protocols for public key cryptosystems. In SIMMONS: Secure Comm. and Asymmetric Cryptosystems, 1982.
4. R.A. Popa, C.M.S. Redfield, Z. Zeldovich, and H. Balakrish-nan. CryptDB: Protecting confidentiality with encrypted query processing. In 23rd SOSP'11, pages 85–100, 2011.

DEVELOPING ECONOMY OVERCOMING SMARTPHONE ADDICTION

MSc. Ditjon Dafa
University College "Pavarësia Vlore" – Albania
ditjon.dafa@unipavaresia.edu.al

Abstract

From the birth of 3rd generation of mobile communication and on, smartphone became popular. 3rd generation smartphone have internet connection of 14.4 Mbps. With that speed, users can make phone calls, video calls, as well as communicating via e-mail. Besides the applications installed on device, there are many applications available online which can be downloaded to the device.

Smartphone applications can be useful, but some users may become attached to them. The youth, which is a source of power in economic development, ironically is more affected than the population with age over 35 years old. Smartphone addiction has psychological consequences. Users affected with smartphone addiction become tolerant to smartphone use and showed signs of withdrawal. Students and employee get distracted by smartphone respectively during studies and work hours with loss of productivity as a result. A negative impact on leisure activities is related with long hours of private smartphone use.

The article aims to analyze how a person can fight against smartphone addiction. Like all addictions, a therapy must be started. Treatment can start with reducing gradually the time of smartphone use, and then engaging in social meeting, reading books, watching a film, doing fitness etc. The above activities have a positive effect on persons affected with smartphone addiction, which in turn give them the possibility of being more productive.

Keywords: *mobile platforms, smartphone addiction, young people*

1. Introduction

Although smartphone use has been increasing in all economic and age sectors, university students are considered as one of the most important target markets and the largest consumer group of smartphone services. Smartphone usage is so strongly integrated into young users' behavior that symptoms of behavioral addiction, such as interrupting their day–to-day activities.

2. Related work

According to Mustafa Ozkan, Betul Solmaz at [1] generation Z is the most known group of smart phone users. According to Hasmida Jamaluddin, Zauwiyah Ahmad, Mazni Alias, Maimun Simun at [2] 42% of people claimed that they used mobile Internet devices while at work for personal use, and 29% used it for both personal and official use. According to Janiffa Saidon, Rosidah Musa, Mior Harris Mior Harun and Ainul Azreen Adam at [3] is presented the hypotheses that smartphone pathology may positively affect person wellbeing to be a smart consumer. According Olatz Lopez-Fernandez at [4] the Spanish have more smartphones and use their smartphones three times longer on average compared with Belgians; however, potentially excessive Belgian users tend to use smartphones more addictively compared with Spanish ones.

3. The subject of your work

Use of the smartphone has dramatically altered how we communicate, navigate, work and entertain ourselves. While the advantages of this new technology are clear, constant use may bring negative consequences, such as a loss of productivity due to interruptions in work life.

4. Proposed method

Smartphone addiction is not a personal problem. Addiction to smartphone has induced serious problems to students and employees. We will find the way to be rehabilitated from the smartphone addiction at the national level. The methodology used is analytical.

5. Results and discussion

The fact that such people continue to use their smartphones, despite having knowledge of potential harmful consequences, should concern researchers in terms of the behavioral and psychological mechanisms that play a role in defining the problem of smartphone addiction. The reasons that relate to students include: (a) Using smartphones extensively to entertain themselves and escape from academic pressure; (b) Using smartphones in self-expression, especially through SNs and (c) Chatting via SNs to maintain and develop social relationships.

6. Conclusion

It becomes apparent that smartphones have both positive and negative impacts. There are several ways that we can control and minimize the negative impacts of smartphone in society. The solutions that people can adopt to get rid of the problem of smartphone addiction are as follows: delete the programs that cause addiction; reducing the use of smartphone gradually; performance of some positive self-fulfilling activities and increased social networking; asking a friend for help or a specialists for treatment of smartphone addiction.

7. References

1. Mustafa Ozkan, Betul Solmaz "Mobile addiction of generation Z and its effects on their social lifes", *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences* 205 92 – 98 (2015).
2. Hasmida Jamaluddin, Zauwiyah Ahmad, Mazni Alias, Maimun Simun "Personal Internet use: The use of personal mobile devices at the workplace", *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences* 172 495 – 502 (2015).
3. Janiffa Saidon, Rosidah Musa, Mior Harris Mior Harun and Ainul Azreen Adam "The Conceptual Framework of Pathological Smartphone Use (PSU)", Procedia Economics and Finance 37 426 – 431 (2016).
4. Olatz Lopez-Fernandez "Short version of the Smartphone Addiction Scale adapted to Spanish and French: Towards a cross-cultural research in problematic mobile phone use", *Addictive Behaviors* 64 275–280 (2017).
5. Éilish Duke, Christian Montag "Smartphone addiction, daily interruptions and self-reported productivity", *Addictive Behaviors* 6 90–95 (2017).

TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS COMPUTERS AND INTERNET INFLUENCE IN FIRMS

Klaudia Mersini
Student Canadian Institute of Technology
Eralba Maci
Student Canadian Institute of Technology
Reliana Shehaj
Student Canadian Institute of Technology
Msc. Ilir Çekirri
Canadian Institute of Technology

Abstract

When we talk about firms we should know that in order for them to keep up with productivity and growing process, it's necessary to look on efficiency of firm which is powerfully used to evaluate performance of firms and also the performance of markets and whole economies. Regarding to firms efficiency if we try to do a correlation study between it and technology innovation, we see that those two variables are strongly connected together just by the fact that that technology innovation push the firm to develop.

Innovation development is considered a necessary factor for the administration business and also for the assembling business as administration industry, for example, money related administration, business benefit, media benefit, and so on. Also, world pattern demonstrates that it will develop insofar as there are firms searching up for better and creative approach to develop their benefits.

Also nowadays a big impact on firms productivity is played by computer and internet which are becoming a essential and used for many different usage like online marketing, advertising, online support and also a compact way to get the buyers feedback in order to adopt with their requirement

1. Introduction

Before we see how firm efficiency is related with technology innovation and how its productivity is influence by computer and internet, it's better to firstly know what a firms efficiency and productivity is.

The assess of efficiency of firms is a powerful means of evaluating performance of firms, market and whole economies , there are several types of efficiency which include allocative and productive efficiency, technical efficiency, 'X' efficiency, dynamic efficiency and social efficiency. Allocative efficiency occurs when consumers pay a market price that reflects the private marginal cost of production.

2. Methods of study

The condition for a locative efficiency for a firm is to produce an output where marginal cost (**MC**) just equals price (**P**). Productive efficiency occurs when a firm is combining resources in such a way as to produce a given output at the lowest possible average total cost. Costs will be minimized at the lowest point on a firm's short run average total cost curve. This also means that **ATC = MC**, because **MC** always cuts **ATC** at the lowest point on the **ATC** curve. Technical efficiency relates to how much output can be obtained from a given input, such as a worker or a machine, or a specific combination of inputs. Maximum technical efficiency occurs when output is maximized from a given quantity of inputs.

X productivity is an idea that was initially connected to administration efficiencies by Harvey Leibenstein in the 1960s. The concept can be applied specifically to situations where there is more or less motivation of management to maximize output, or not. X efficiency occurs when the output of firms, from a given amount of input, is the greatest it can be. It is likely to arise when firms operate in highly competitive markets where managers are motivated to produce as much as possible.

When markets are less than perfectly competitive, as in the case of oligopolies and monopolies, there is likely to be a loss of 'X' efficiency, with output not being maximized due to a lack of managerial motivation.

Social efficiency exists when all the private and external costs and benefits are taken into account when producing an extra unit. Private firms only have an incentive consider external costs into account if they are forced to internalize them through taxation or through the purchase of permit to pollute.

3. Discussion

In order for firms to be efficient they should grow their profit and amount of quantity brought to buyer but also try keeping low costs of production and also provide a popper market price and quality of their product for the buyers. In the other side the technology innovation brings new things to wide audience some innovation might also have a specific purpose , in a narrowed specter technology innovation is the need of human to provide simplified solution for the difficult process that we can find during our daily routine.

On the second case the influence of computer and internet on productivity it's just matter of making much more work and process with less effort but with same result on productivity or more. A brief explain is that computer and internet are now accessible almost everywhere and they are used for many proposes and that their key point of strength because you can easily access many different information and also stay connected with your social or work circle at just a press of button. IT resources can enhance organizational capabilities, which can then improve firm performance. In other words, organizational performance is enhanced by the integration and synergy between organizational capabilities and IT resources. As both models have been widely used in performance-related research, it would be interesting to examine whether the indirect-effect model can better interpret the relationship between IT resource and firm performance. Common definitions and measurements of the three constructs are provided below. Firm performance Firm performance refers to organizational effectiveness in terms of its financial and operational performance (Venkatraman and Ramanujam1986; Saraf et al., 2007).

4. Conclusions

In the end, it's very good to have technological innovation implemented on firm because it's proven that on most of cases it boosts the efficiency and the growth but there should probably be some limitation in order that labor force never lose its worth because it's one of the base of economy, and it's very delicate we have seen them in past too after the industrial revolution there have been big crisis on the labor force and without the labour force eventually the economy will collapse. But also the computer and internet offer a bright future for a better economy.

5. References

1. Crook et al. (2008) – RBV, Li and Ye, 1999; Subramani,
2. 2004,Banker et al., 2006;Straub et al,
3. 2004; Lai et al., 2008, Goo et al., 2007; Han et al., 2008,
4. Venkatraman and Ramanujam, 1986; Saraf et al., 2007.

Working Extended abstracts published by:

ISBN:978-9928-4434-3-4

Printing house: EXPO VISION ALBANIA

Web sites of the International Conference on Economics, Business Trends and Technologies, ICEBTT'2017:

http://cit.edu.al/en/icebtt-2017-conference/
http://unipavaresia.edu.al/al/kerkimi-shkencor/konferenca

e-mail of the International Conference on Economics, Business Trends and Technologies, ICEBTT'2017:

icebtt17@cit.edu.al

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ECONOMICS, BUSINESS TRENDS AND TECHNOLOGIES

ICEBTT'2017
on 02-03 November 2017

CIRD
CENTER OF INNOVATION
RESEARCH & DEVELOPEMENT

ISBN 978-9928-4434-3-4
9 789928 443434 >