

### **Knowledge acquisition strategies for corporate and national competitiveness**

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## Agenda



Knowledge Acquisition

Corporate knowledge acquisition strategies

National knowledge acquisition strategies

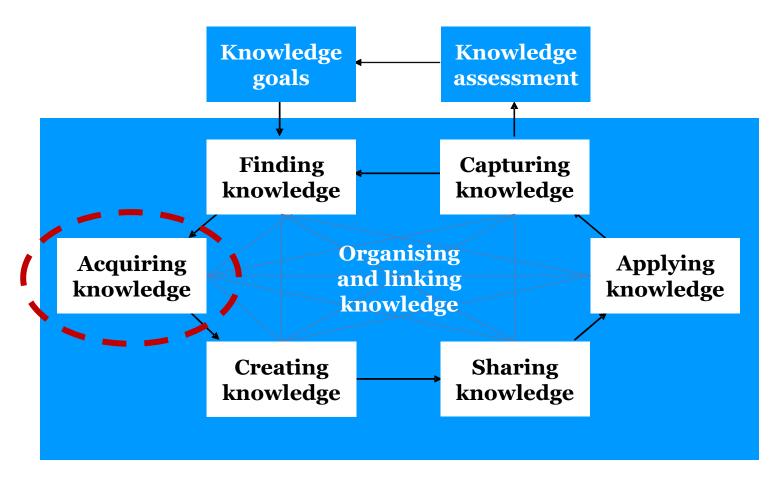


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## **KNOWLEDGE ACQUISITION**

# Knowledge Management





# Three categories of knowledge



#### Knowledge is ..

- Human knowledge
  leaving the organization every evening
- Codified knowledge
   remaining in the company when people leave
- External knowledge staying outside but being relevant to operations

#### **Knowledge Management for Development**

# KM4D Model



#### **Knowledge Leadership and Governance**

Finding Acquiring

**Creating Sharing** 

Using Capturing

KNOWLEDGE LIFECYCLE **Human Assets** 

**Structural Assets** 

**Relational Assets** 

KNOWLEDGE ASSETS Operational Processes

Services and Products

PROCESSES and OUTPUTS

Organisational Development

Sectoral, national development incl. knowledge ecosystems

SDGs - Global Development

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**Monitoring and Learning** 



# 2

# KNOWLEDGE ACQUISITION ON ORGANISATIONAL LEVEL

## ISO 9001:2015



#### 7.1.6 Organizational knowledge

- The organization shall determine the knowledge necessary for the operation of its processes and to achieve conformity of products and services.
- This knowledge shall be maintained, and made available to the extent necessary.
- When addressing changing needs and trends, the organization shall consider its current knowledge and determine how to acquire or access the necessary additional knowledge."
  - Note 1: Organizational knowledge can include information such as intellectual property and lessons learned.
  - Note 2: To obtain the knowledge required, the organization can consider:
- internal sources (e.g. learning from failures and successful projects, capturing undocumented knowledge and experiences of topical experts within the organization);
- external resources (e.g. standards, academia, conferences, gathering knowledge with customers or providers).

# Three steps in knowledge acquisition



Knowledge assessment

Planning the knowledge acquisition process

Implementing the plan

# Knowledge categories include



**Products Technologies** Clients Services **Topics Functions** People Market **Funding** Marketing Sectors

### **Knowledge assessment along processes**



Process steps:	Human Resources (Human Assets)	Codified Knowledge (Structure Assets)	External Knowledge (Relationship Assets)
Step 1			
Step 2			
Step 3			
Step 4			
Step 5			

### **Knowledge resource matrix**



<b>Project steps:</b> Example Consulting	<b>Human Resources</b>	Codified Knowledge	External Knowledge
Presales	Sales experts, market experts, product experts	Customer data, Sales kit, CRM-Tool, Presentations,	Market intelligence, Business data
Make a proposal	Technical experts, calculation experts, legal experts, etc.	Proposal templates, legal documents, References, CVs, etc.	Legal advisors, partner companies, insurances, etc.
Staff the project	HR experts, Technical experts,	Personal profiles, Assessment tools, Expert Networks,	Expert networks, communities of practice,
Define procedure	Technical experts, implementers, project managers,	Processes, procedures, guidelines, checklists, lessons learned,	Consultants, trainers, certification bodies,
Solve problems	Supervisors, mediator, coaches, community of practice, etc.	Creativity techniques, mediation procedure, etc.	Coaches, external mediators, legal advisors,
Close down	Project managers, LL facilitators, Librarians, document managers,	Project documentation procedure, Document Management System,	Conferences, auditors, academic partners,

### **EoA: Extent of Availability indicator**

- o = to an extent insufficient for the operation in the process
- 1 = to an extent sufficient for operation, but ounsatisfying in time r cost or quality
- 2 = to an extent sufficient for operation on a satisfactory level
- 3 = to an extent as needed for excellent operations



Project steps: ExampleConsulting	Human Resources	EoA	Codified Knowledge	EoA	External Knowledge	EoA
Presales	Sales experts, market experts, product experts	2	Customer data, Sales kit, CRM-Tool, Presentations,	2	Market intelligence, Business data	1
Make a proposal	Technical experts, calculation experts, legal experts, etc.	2	Proposal templates, legal documents, References, CVs, etc.		Legal advisors, partner companies, insurances, etc.	1
Staff the project	HR experts, Technical experts,	2	Personal profiles, Assessment tools, Expert Networks,	2	Expert networks, communities of practice,	1
Define procedure	Technical experts, implementers, project managers,	3	Processes, procedures, guidelines, checklists, lessons learned,	3	Consultants, trainers, certification bodies,	1
Solve problems	Supervisors, mediator, coaches, community of practice, etc.	1	Creativity techniques, mediation procedure, etc.	2	Coaches, external mediators, legal advisors,	1
Close down	Project managers, LL facilitators, Librarians, document managers,	1	Project documentation procedure, Document Management System,	2	Conferences, auditors, academic partners,	2

# Planning knowledge acquisition in corporations



Knowledge transfer plan

3 knowledge domains

Integrated strategies

### K-Transfer plan



Critical knowledge	Measures to transfer	Who?	When?

### Three domains for knowledge acquisition



Domains	Methods
Acquiring knowledge to strengthen Human Capital	Recruiting individuals or teams; exchange programmes with partner organisations; trainings, simulators; computer-/video-based training; on the job training; External experts can facilitate the learning process
Acquiring knowledge to strengthen Structure Capital	Acquire technologies, licences, patents (with guidance in application) Standards; documentation & procedures; checklists handbooks; guidance documents/videos, instructions, etc. External consultants can provide and adjust standards and processes
Acquiring knowledge to strengthen Relation Capital	Partnership management; knowledge partnerships and networks, Communities of Practice, contractual agreements with experts or organisations; alliances, joint ventures

## Integrated approaches



- Organic growth: building on or adjusting existing processes in a systematic, integrated way. Slow, but stable, low risks.
- Partnership growth: Contractual arrangements, strategic alliances, joint ventures. Faster, but requiring excellent management and handling of many risks
- Acquisition growth: Selecting the best of two (or more) worlds and integrating them into one. Fastest, but the integration is challenging and can fail.



# 2

# KNOWLEDGE ACQUISITION ON NATIONAL LEVEL

# Four steps in knowledge acquisition



Forming a knowledge partnership

• Knowledge assessment within market value chains

Planning the knowledge acquisition process

Implementing the plan

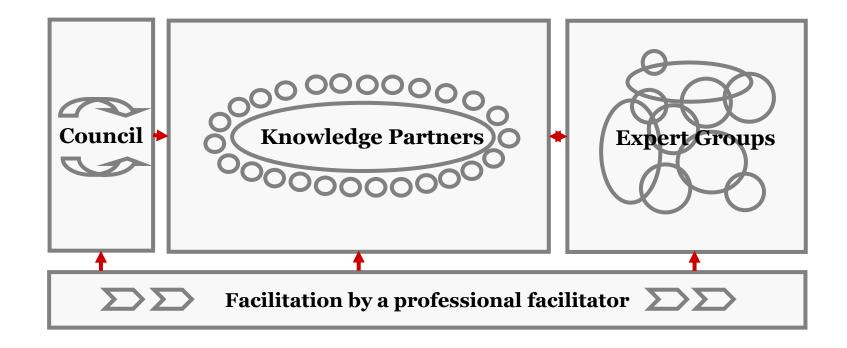
## Knowledge partnerships



- On the market/sectoral/national/regional level, many stakeholders are involved. Only through communication and collaboration, a successful knowledge acquisition strategy can be developed.
- Mapping of market participants, enablers, and supporters helps to involve the right organisations and experts.
- Objectives, governance, structures, processes, need to be defined.
   Professional facilitation is the key to success.

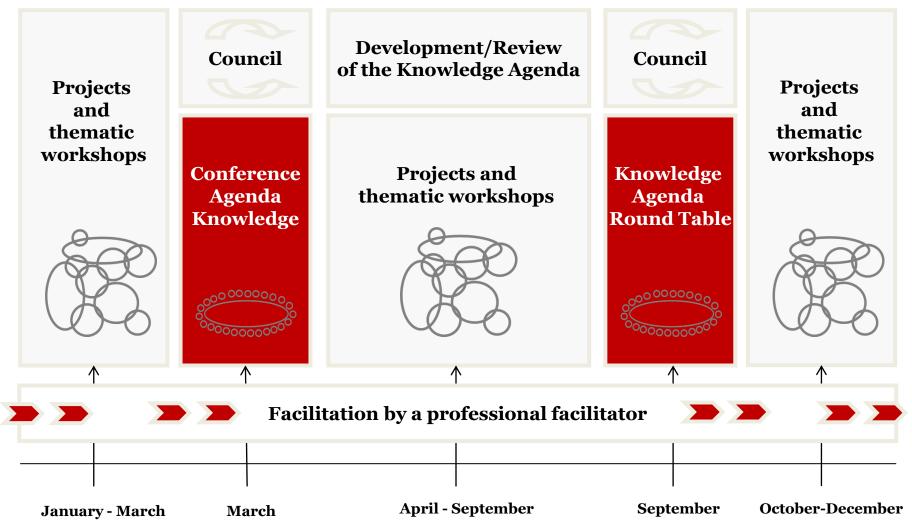
### Structure of a Knowledge Partnership





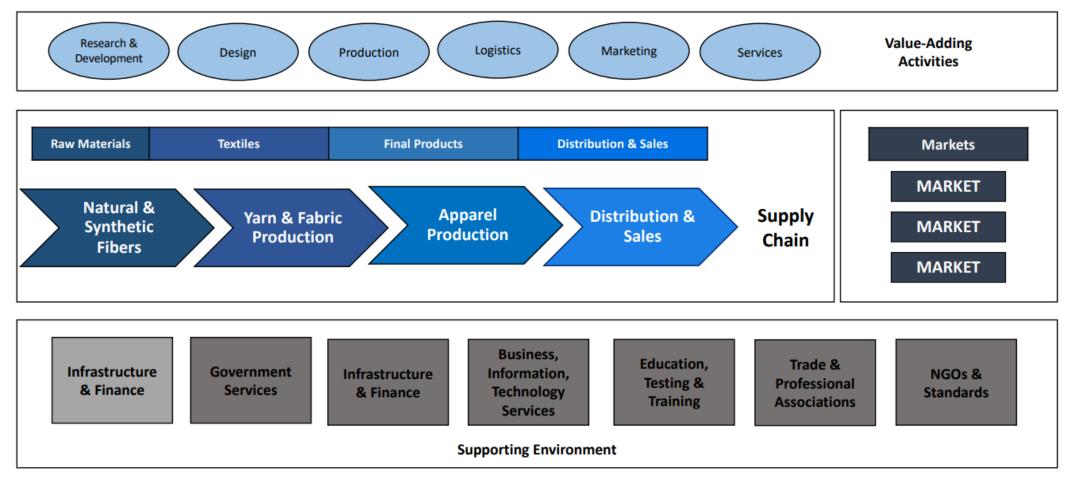
### Knowledge partnership process





# Value chain example: Textiles and apparel





### Three domains for knowledge acquisition



Domains	Methods
Acquiring knowledge to strengthen Human Capital	Recruiting and localization of knowledge; Partnerships with educational institutions, eg international universities; Exchange programmes with partner countries (academic, business,); Incentives for expats to work/stay in the country – quality of living; facilitate home-based work for international experts; Establishing an open, international culture; language challenges; diaspora knowledge management; Incentives for international companies to hire local people
Acquiring knowledge to strengthen Structure Capital	National investments in technology acquisition and innovation Incentives for companies to fill gaps in the value chains or national investments; Infrastructure investments; knowledge transfer as an obligation in national procurements; national acquisition of companies
Acquiring knowledge to strengthen Relation Capital	Regional, global economic partnerships and knowledge networks; joint research and development programmes; diplomacy; diaspora; safe and welcoming environment for international partners and investors; travel and tourism

## Integrated approaches



- Organic growth: Developing technologies and solutions within the country by learning from outside. Slow, low competitiveness because delayed innovation, low dependancies.
- Partnership growth: Contractual arrangements, strategic alliances, joint ventures with specific partners. Faster, requiring excellent management and handling of risks and dependencies.
- Global market integration: Open culture of international cooperation and diversity; global trade rules; attractiveness for investors and their staff. High international dependancies

# Challenges in the implementation



- Money cannot buy knowledge
- Ability to learn/absorb knowledge within existing processes
- Willingness to transfer knowledge and to learn
- Cultural, contextual differences
- Local/traditional/indigenous knowledge
- Finally, ALL knowledge resources need to work together to perform a process and to deliver services or products and to create functional market value chains!

# UNDP: Global Knowledge Index (1)





GKI RANK

104/154

GKI 42.4
SCORE 42.4
WORLD 48.4

#### COUNTRY PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

Iran (Islamic Republic of) is a modest performer in terms of its knowledge infrastructure. It ranks 104th out of 154 countries in the Global Knowledge index 2021 and 36th out of the 39 countries with high human development.

#### AREAS OF STRENGTH

- + Trademark applications (per 100 billion GDP)
- Tertiary graduates from STEM programmes.
   (%)
- Industrial design applications (per 100 billion GDP)
- Patent applications (per 100 billion GDP)
- Research institutions prominence

#### AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT

- Female-to-male ratio in parliament
- Trade in digitally deliverable services (% total trade)
- Ease of starting a business
- Female-to-male labour force participation
- Chinn-ito financial opennese

# UNDP: Global Knowledge Index (2)



#### **SECTORAL INDICES**

	RANK	VALUE
PRE-UNIVERSITY EDUCATION	98	57.2
TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING	54	55.2
HIGHER EDUCATION	137	33.1
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION	56	33.1
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY	89	39
ECONOMY	125	42.5
ENABLING ENVIRONMENT	147	34.1

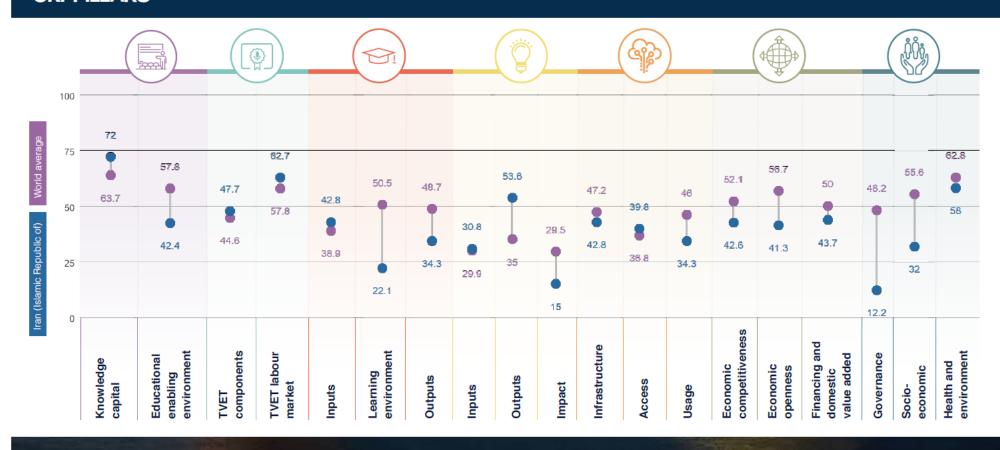


### **UNDP**:

# Global Knowledge Index (3)



**GKI PILLARS** 



# Outlook: Knowledge export



- Iran has a high level of knowledge in many domains.
- Developing and emerging countries need such knowledge and seek partnerships.
- Many emerging and developing countries are among the fastest growing markets globally.
- African and Asian markets are around the corner.
- Digitalization helps export of knowledge services and build international relations.
- Knowledge export is an attractive instrument of global partnership management and a sustainable entry point into fast growing markets.







### **Contact**



Knowledge for Development Partnership

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## My background



- Founder, owner, Managing Director of KMA Knowledge Management Associates and KM Academy
- Managing Director, Knowledge Management Austria
- Executive Director, Knowledge for Development Partnership (www.k4dp.org)
- Managing Director, Knowledge City (Vienna, Kampala, Nairobi, Lomé, Lagos, Lusaka, Berlin, Accra, Gaborone)
- Core team member, km4dev Community (km4dev.org); Member of The New Club of Paris and GfWM
- Director, Knowledge for Development Centre, Makerere University Business School, Uganda
- Adjunct Professor at Makerere University Business School in Kampala, Uganda
- Director, Joint Centre for Knowledge Sciences, International University of Management, Namibia
- Headquartered in Vienna/Austria, acting globally