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# APPLICATION OF HADI-CYCLE FOR PROVIDING SUSTAINABILITY OF PROCESSES OF KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION\*

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**Abstract.** The main problems of modern business are related to the processes of creating knowledge and introducing innovations, which form the basis of the "innovation economy". To keep positions in the market, modern enterprises and organizations need continuous creation and production of new products. A constant search for new technologies, methods of personnel management and methods for implementing projects is necessary to ensure sustainable development of the enterprises and business. The article proves a hypothes explaining the process of creating and stimulating innovation within the framework of modern enterprises and organizations and its relationship with the processes of knowledge creation and HADI-cycle. The main scientific research methods are bibliographic analysis, content-analysis, formal logic methods and methods of analogies. The verification with the help of formal logic methods showed the universality of the proposed model for the innovative enterprtnership. The result of this article indicates that the mechanism of interaction between the standard and non-standard cycle of creating new organizational knowledge in the organization management system allows to accelerate the process of creating and introducing innovations, increases the effectiveness of marketing and management in general and sustainability development of the enterprises.

Keywords: sustainability development; innovative enterprtnership; innovations and technology transfer; stimulating innovation; HADIcycle; processes of knowledge creation; knowledge conversion

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## 1. Introduction

The modern economy is undergoing significant changes. Competitive organizations should take the initiative, act in accordance with the future needs of society and trends in the market, anticipate changes in society, thereby creating advantages over competitors (Lumpkin & Dess, 2001). The reactions to the problems that arise in a changing society are new types of knowledge and new ways of organizing their production, which can arise as generators of knowledge (Fogerberg et al., 2012).

In conditions of a low level of knowledge, in the absence of new ideas, enterprises will not generate innovations. "Creativity, innovation and divergent thinking are routinely expected to help people envision and implement alternative practices to the status quo" (Sandri et al., 2013; p.765). The innovative activity of organizations depends entirely on knowledge management and creativity. It is creativity that gives the most important applied implications for managing innovation (Brem et al., 2016). Structuring and defining the transformation of organizational knowledge makes it possible to more accurately pick up management tools for the organization's innovative potential. Innovative organizations support new ideas and create new knowledge more actively, creating a mechanism for the continuous development of new products, services or processes (Lumpkin & Dess, 1996). Transformation of knowledge in the organization provides its value to its customers and helps to achieve a high competitive position in the market (Griffith et al., 2006).

However, there is considerable literature which attempts to define knowledge-based innovation and suggests that the process of innovation itself relies heavily on innovation knowledge that is usually created and transferred or disseminated within a company, between companies, or between companies and innovators (Nonaka & Kogut, 2009; Tehseen et al., 2019; Bublienė et al., 2019). R.M. Grant (Grant, 1996), D.F. Teece (Teece, 2000), Y. Li, X. Liu, L. Wang, M. Li and H. Guo (Li et al., 2009) observed correlation with innovation and creation of knowledge through its collection and use within the enterprise (Schulze & Hoegl, 2008). R. Puente-Diaz explored the consequences of creative self-efficacy in the work domain (Puente-Diaz, 2015) and X. González, D. Miles-Touya and C. Pazó studied the worker training and innovation on the firm level (González et al., 2016).

## 2. Theory and Hypotheses Development

Studying the practice of competitive struggle in the modern economy shows that innovation, the development of new products and services involves extensive and intensive activities in the field of knowledge. "Research & development has been identified as a key element to achieve competitive advantage, particularly in contexts of change and especially for technology-based companies" (Bigliardi & Galati, 2014; p.157). The transformation of knowledge provides value to its customers and helps to achieve a competitive position in the market (Griffith et al., 2006). The organization creates a new mix of resources and products designed for the upcoming changes, opportunities and market entry, taking advantage of opportunities (Lumpkin & Dess, 2001). Creativity and innovation are at the core of important outcomes such as economic and sales growth, the creation of new product (Puente-Diaz, 2015; Relich, 2015).

Innovative firms may have a tendency to support new ideas and novelty, and further increase the engagement in development of new products, services, or processes (Lumpkin & Dess, 2001). They must be proactive, anticipate and act on future demands and needs in the marketplace, thereby creating first-mover advantage vis-a-vis its competitors (Lumpkin & Dess, 2001). The development of new products and services involves extensive and intensive knowledge activities. New types of knowledge and new ways of organizing the production thereof may emerge as knowledge generators' response to the challenges posed by a changing society (Fogerberg et al., 2012).

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R. F. Hurley, G. T. M. Hult and M. Tomas found a correlation between high levels of innovation and a culture of learning (Hurley et al., 1998). This affects the use of knowledge in the workplace (Li et al., 2009). O.J. Sandri, S., Holdsworth and I. Thomas proved the importance of measuring the creative abilities of university graduates as an important part of the cycle between workplace expectations, graduates' learning outcomes, teaching and learning, and curriculum development during degree programs (Sandri et al., 2018). Organizations with innovative tendencies are more likely to exchange and use information (Williams & Lee, 2009). In entrepreneurial firms that shared knowledge within the company, new knowledge and their distribution throughout the enterprise were created (Cohen & Levinthal, 1990; Mavrina & Mingaleva, 2017). "Previous researches of knowledge management chiefly focused on qualitative approaches, and largely stressed key success factors of knowledge management, such as the infrastructure of information technology, the design of the knowledge management system, deployment of motivation schemes, and the like" (Korposh et al., 2011; p.225).

Modern researchers test hypotheses and put forward concepts about the transformation of knowledge in organizations (Krenz et al., 2014; Chang et al., 2014; Felin & Hesterly, 2007; Jian & Wang, 2010). They study the role of international knowledge and the creation of new knowledge in multinational company subunits (Cantwell & Piscitello, 2015; Pan & Zhang, 2012). These studies have revealed the importance of cyclical phenomenon of knowledge management.

On the basis of theoretical approaches to the concept of knowledge transformation and introduction of innovations available in the modern scientific literature (the knowledge spiral of socialization, externalization, connection, and internalization is the core of discussions and researches), we have formulated a number of hypotheses describing the process of implementing and stimulating innovations through the concepts of the theory of knowledge. *Hypotheses* 

- H1. The creation of innovation involves several successive stages in the transformation of existing knowledge. The mechanism for creating innovation consists of the following stages: the creation of personal knowledge, the creation of codified knowledge, the creation of competence knowledge, the creation of materialized knowledge.
- H2. An innovative economy requires the creation of mechanisms that increase the accuracy of testing new ideas and accelerate the process of innovation. Such a mechanism is the HADI-cycle. HADI-cycle assumes the reverse order of passing the stages of transformation of existing knowledge.

HADI-cycle is a mechanism for introducing innovations. The mechanism of knowledge transformation in the process of implementing innovation activity on the basis of HADI-cycle application consists of the following stages: creation of materialized knowledge, creation of competence knowledge, creation of codified knowledge, creation of personal knowledge.

**H3.** *HADI-cycle is the accelerator of idea verification, innovation in the enterprise. HADI – cycle helps to increase the effectiveness of the process of creating knowledge and innovation* 

## 3. Method

The main research methods were:

- content-analysis of scientific literature to identify information on the basic scientific approaches to the creation and transfer of knowledge in various areas of scientific, innovative and industrial activity;
- system analysis to generalize and systematize information about the processes of creating and transferring knowledge and its transformation into innovation;
- structural analysis to reflect the basic relationships between the elements and processes of creating and transferring knowledge and its transformation into innovation;

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- methods of formal logic - for the theoretical justification of hypotheses and their verification.

Theoretical and methodological verification of the formulated hypotheses was carried out on the basis of the approaches to the management of knowledge and innovations developed in modern science, the theories of individual creative action and innovation management, the theory of organizations and the social cognitive theory. We used the classification of the forms of knowledge of I. Nonaka and H. Takeuchi (Nonaka & Takeuchi, 1995) the research of P.M. Leonardi and D.E.Bailey about the making implicit knowledge explicit in task-based offshoring (Leonardi & Bailey, 2008), the approach to the creation of new knowledge in organizations of H. Tsoukas (Tsoukas, 2009) and the PDSA cycle by W. Edwards Deming (Deming, 1986). Also we used the theoretical and practical results of our previous research (Mingaleva et al., 2016) and the quantitative method of the creation of new knowledge and upgrade current knowledge (Korposh et al., 2011).

## 4. Results and Discussion

**H1.** The creation of innovation involves several successive stages in the transformation of existing knowledge. The mechanism for creating innovation consists of the following stages: the creation of personal knowledge, the creation of codified knowledge, competence knowledge, the creation of materialized knowledge. Generation and reproduction of innovations is one of the key foundations for the development of organizations in the knowledge economy (Spender, 1996; Minbaeva et al., 2014). Creation of new knowledge, intellectual product consists of 4 stages: 1) creation of personal knowledge; 2) the creation of codified knowledge; 3) creation of competence knowledge; 4) creation of materialized knowledge (Korposh et al., 2011). The main stages of creating knowledge in the process of intellectual activity in turn form a system of circulation of knowledge, including with the external environment, where new knowledge is disseminated and where people get new information for expanding their personal knowledge (Figure 1).

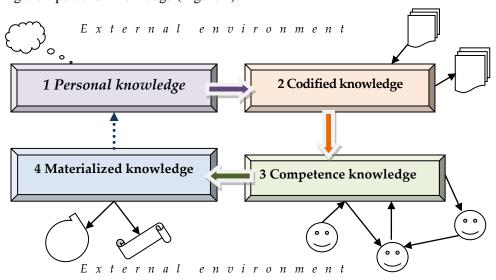


Fig. 1. The cycle of creating of new knowledge

Source: Autors (2019)

Personal knowledge is a person's knowledge, accumulated as a result of the formation of a creative personality, the creation of human capital. Codified knowledge is knowledge accumulated in the knowledge bases and databases of the enterprise, as a result of the coding and dissemination of personal knowledge. Competent knowledge is the knowledge of employees realized in the process of intellectual labor, accumulated as a result of

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the development and maintenance of social capital. Materialized knowledge is materialized new knowledge in products and services. The materialization of knowledge is the transformation of knowledge into information that can be transferred to other people for further use (Corredoira & Preeta, 2015; Roper & Hewitt-Dundas, 2015).

Stages of knowledge transformation provide the circulation of new knowledge in the company. Through the process of transformation, knowledge from the category of personalities through coding is transformed into an intellectual product capable of marketing. The transformation of knowledge is due to the intellectual work of man. The process of transformation of existing knowledge in the creation of new knowledge begins with a comprehension of the problem and determination of ways, methods and tools for its solution (Otsuki & Okada, 2009). Awareness of the idea and the possibility of realization is already a new personal knowledge. Creation of a drawing, technical documentation of a new product, work schedule, etc. is a newly created codified knowledge. The implementation of new activities and the development of new skills of innovation are the competence knowledge of the enterprise or organization. The end result of intellectual and material labor is a new product. A new design solution, innovation is a newly created materialized knowledge.

In turn, these four groups of knowledge include specific types of knowledge, which also differ in the way they are obtained and how they are fixed. Figure 2 shows examples of the content of personal, codified, competence and materialized knowledge.

Personal knowledge: Personal opinion. Common sense. Collective knowledge. Traditions of unknown origin.	Codified knowledge:  Declarative knowledge.  Statutory knowledge.  Knowledge that depends on the specific position.
Materialized knowledge: Objective / scientific knowledge. Technical solution, documentation. Intellectual product. Patent.	Competence knowledge: Procedural knowledge. Random learning. Automatic knowledge. Practical knowledge. Irrelevant behavior.

Fig. 2. Variety of knowledge in the organization

Source: Autors (2019)

Figure 2 illustrates the internal diversity of all types of knowledge, which together make up organizational knowledge. Organizational knowledge exists in any organization always.

H2. An innovative economy requires the creation of mechanisms that increase the accuracy of testing new ideas and accelerate the process of innovation. Such a mechanism is the HADI-cycle. HADI-cycle assumes the reverse order of passing the stages of transformation of existing knowledge.

In practice, to accelerate the process of approbation of a new idea, the enterprise uses the HADI-cycle (Mingaleva & Deputatova, 2017). Four letters mean four words - "Hypothesis" - "Action" - "Data" - "Insights". This means testing the hypothesis through an action, with the subsequent collection of analytical information and the formulation of the relevant conclusions.

The HADI cycle is a cyclically repeated process of testing ideas that affect the improvement of key project projects, startups, businesses. These key indicators can be a message, the number of customers per month, the

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number of returning customers, the conversion of the landing, etc. Each project needs its set of key indicators. The hypothesis can be confirmed or not. Its takes about a week to test the hypothesis in IT companies and small businesses. In organizations and enterprises in other areas of activity, as well as at large enterprises, this period may be longer.

In order to test the feasibility and possibility of applying the HADI-cycle to innovation, we will disclose the content of its main components and the stages of its implementation.

PDSA cycle by W. Edwards Deming is taken as a basis of HADI-cycle (Deming, 1986; Moen & Norman, 2009). The Deming's PDSA Cycle («Plan-Do-Study-Act») cycle is a cyclically repeating decision making process used in quality management (Deming, 1950; Ishikawa, 1985).

Stages of the HADI cycle. At the first stage of the HADI cycle, we generate a hypothesis that will improve the key indicator of the project, business. It is important that this hypothesis meets the SMART principle, that is, it is specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound. The hypothesis should solve the existing problem of the project and give a concrete result, which allows to improve the economic performance of the organization. For example: we assume that if we introduce the technology of improving the engine to improve the quality of the car, it will increase the number of new customers by X per month.

By the second stage of the cycle, we mean a concrete action aimed at changing the characteristics of the project, which allows us to prove or disprove the hypothesis. For a certain period, it is necessary to implement this event. In the cases with our example, the specific action will be: the release of a car with a new engine, informing customers about new quality characteristics of the product, etc.

At the third stage of the HADI cycle, we begin collecting data on key indicators that will be affected by the change. In our example this is: the number of new customers.

At the last stage of the HADI cycle, analysis and summing up takes place. If the hypothesis is confirmed, we develop our actions and scale them to other similar projects.

The mechanism of knowledge transformation in the process of implementing innovation activity on the basis of HADI-cycle application consists of the following stages: creation of materialized knowledge, creation of competence knowledge, creation of codified knowledge, creation of personal knowledge.

The innovation process begins with practical implementation in the form of a new product, service, management method, mode of operation, etc. materialized knowledge, which must be implemented in the organization's activities (organize production). The application of HADI-cycle in the innovation activity of the enterprise (organization) allows to organize the mechanism of transformation of the whole complex of knowledge to support and accelerate the process of innovations introduction.

The order of knowledge transformation within the HADI-cycle is shown in Figure 3.

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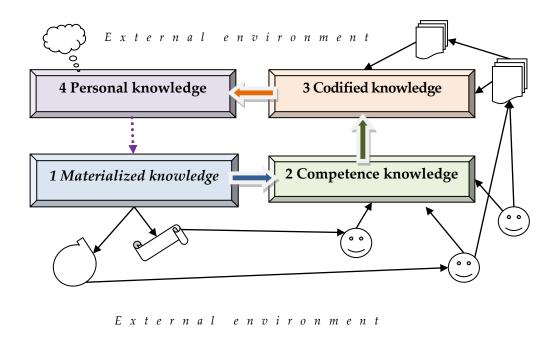


Fig. 3. HADI-cycle of knowledge transformation within the process of innovation implementation

Source: Autors (2019)

The cycle of introduction of innovation presented in Figure 4 has the reverse order of motion along the stages of transfer and transformation of knowledge in comparison with the standard cycle.

In the beginning, a new product is being created, the introduction of a new methodology, etc. - the practical implementation of materialized knowledge based on the prototype, the developed methodology, the patent, etc. (Dai & Chen, 2016). The verification of this new product by actions in the external environment (on the market) allows to create competence knowledge about the applied value of this new product (service, mode of operation, management method) for consumers and other counterparties (Vidic, 2013). The collection of data from the external environment forms the database and the knowledge base of the enterprise (organization), creating and supplementing the codified knowledge.

Perception of statistical and analytical information on the results of the introduction of a new idea of improving the company creates personal knowledge. Human cognitive abilities based on the accumulation of personal knowledge can allow to form materialized knowledge, a new idea, innovation.

Thus, the introduction of innovation is accompanied by the creation of a new materialized, competence, codified and personal knowledge, and the HADI-cycle is a non-standard cycle of creating knowledge, moving counterclockwise.

**H3.** *HADI-cycle is the accelerator of idea verification, innovation in the enterprise.*  $HADI-cycle\ helps\ to\ increase\ the\ effectiveness\ of\ the\ process\ of\ creating\ knowledge\ and\ innovation$ 

The system of management of innovations and intellectual labor, ensuring the continuity of the innovation process and aimed at creating a new intellectual product, materialized knowledge implies the transition from element to element according to the standard scheme. HADI-cycle, aimed at improving the key parameters of the organization's activities, involves moving from element to element in the opposite direction. The non-standard

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cycle is an important driving force for the standard cycle of creating new knowledge and innovations. At the same time, the speed, uniformity and rhythmicity of the passage of the basic cycle for the creation of new knowledge essentially depend on the number, as well as the synchronism and consistency of the individual HADI-cycles ensuring the implementation of projects at the enterprise (in the organization). The mechanism of interaction of the standard cycle of creating innovations and several non-standard HADI-cycles is shown in Figure 4.

The study showed that for the successful operation of the cycle of creating a new intellectual product and a continuous innovation process, it is necessary to have several HADI-cycles that affect competitive key performance indicators of the organization (enterprise). Larger enterprise has more diverse and diversified its activities. And the more complex and diverse the innovation processes are, the more HADI-cycles are needed to continuously support and accelerate innovation.

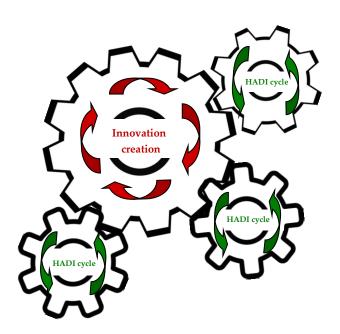


Fig. 4. The mechanism of interaction between the standard and non-standard cycle

Source: Mingaleva & Deputatova, 2017, p.82

The mechanism of interaction between the standard and non-standard cycle of creating new organizational knowledge in the organization management system allows to accelerate the process of creating and introducing innovations, improves the manageability of personnel, creates conditions for the development of its intellectual capital, improves the quality of products and services, and increases the effectiveness of marketing and management in general. This mechanism also explains and confirms the need to create project or working groups to address the current problems of the organization (Danilina et al., 2016; García-Cruz et al., 2018). The proposed mechanism positively influences the intellectual work management system, accelerates the process of creating an intellectual product and innovative activity.

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### **Conclusions**

The results of the research show the close interrelation and correlation between the main elements of the system of stimulating innovation in organizations and the competitiveness of organizations, manifested in the growth of their income. Theoretical and empirical analysis confirmed all hypotheses: the creation of innovation involves several successive stages of transformation of existing knowledge (H1); innovative economy requires the creation of mechanisms that help to improve the accuracy of testing new ideas and accelerate the process of innovation, which is the HADI-cycle. HADI-cycle assumes the reverse order of passing the stages of transformation of existing knowledge (H2); HADI-cycle is the accelerator of idea testing, innovation in the enterprise (H3).

The conclusions obtained as a result of the research make it possible to understand the dynamics of the process of creating and implementing innovations that ensure the growth of the competitiveness of organizations, the prospects for innovative development, the directions of action necessary to create new knowledge and their successful transfer within the organization to ensure reliable operation of the enterprise in a dynamic and competitive environment.

From a scientific and practical point of view, the study showed that managers of enterprises and organizations, research workers, innovators should be aware of the importance of the process of creating knowledge and its close connection with the innovation process. Managers of enterprises and organizations should contribute to creating a forming environment for creating an organization of a dynamic and effective process of creating knowledge.

The verification by using the methods of formal logic of the universality of the proposed model is confirmed by its applicability for building the system of knowledge management and innovations in enterprises and organizations of all types and spheres of activity.

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