

Abstract:

Determining executive information requirements is the first and the most important step in developing executive information systems. In this step, increasing the quality and quantity of extracted information requirements has a fundamental role in a successful implementation of the system. In despite of inherent differences between public and private sectors, executive information systems are widely used in both, though in their own ways. The ultimate goal of this research is to detect effective factors and their importance in determining executive information needs in public sector. In order to achieve it, the theoretical basis and research backgrounds were firstly studied to figure out the effective factors. According to academic experts' opinion, a questionnaire was developed and distributed among experts to gather their opinions about evaluating the degree of importance of each factor in form of pair-wise comparisons matrix. The final model was produced by combining these opinions based on group hierarchical analyzing process. According to the results, effective factors in determining executive information needs in public sector, priority ordering, are: Manager's commitment to present information, prototyping and continuously feedback to managers, familiarity of analyst with the organization and its processes, main services and satisfaction of stakeholders, strategic processes, financial resources, strategic goals, and critical success factors and related activities. In the second phase, the importance of these factors was measured in Ferdowsi University of Mashhad by distributing the questionnaires among the executives of this public organization. The result of this measurement shows that the factors are as follows respecting the priority: Manager's commitment to present information, strategic goals, familiarity of analyst with the organization and its process, strategic processes, prototyping, continuously feedback to managers. Other factors were evaluated as unimportant.

Keywords: Executives, Executive Information System, Information Requirements, Public Sector