

THE PURPOSE-OBJECTIVES-ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED TO OBJECTIVES- RESOURCES FUNCTIONAL CORRELATION IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH SPECIFIC TO SPORTS MANAGEMENT

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Abstract

The process of functional correlation in a research project ensures the balance and interdependence among the management process variables (purpose — objectives — activities associated to objectives - resources), allowing the achievement of efficient scientific research in the domain of sports organization management.

Keywords: correlation, purpose, objectives, resources, research, management, sports

Introduction:

The process of explaining an economical or social phenomenon consists of a stage in which the phenomenon is related to its individual causes and a stage in which we attempt to determine the reasons for the individual behaviors that led to the phenomenon.

The explanation involves two terms: what needs to be explained and what explains (what demonstrated the nature of the subject).

The practice of scientific knowledge uses different types of explanations:

- Causal explanation: linear, multi-variant, dynamic, statistic, probabilistic causality;
- Theological explanation: referring to the reasons that determine a specific behavior;
- Functional explanation: implies the mental reconstruction of a functional correlation among phenomena and processes.

General discussion:

Logical reasoning represents an important component in the process of explanation:

- The deductive-nomological model, based of explaining by using coverage laws for the phenomenon being explained.
- The hypothetical-deductive model, that starts from a set of premises and assumptions that generate observable predictions to be subsequently tested.
- The retroductive model, which has the discovered abnormalities as premises, correlated with an ensemble of initial conditions, and as conclusion - a new hypothesis.

Managerial scientific research requires a systematic approach of management processes, as the system represents the unitary ensemble of elements that are functionally correlated.

The process of functional correlation in a research project ensures the balance and interdependence among the management process variables (purpose — objectives — activities associated to objectives - resources), allowing the achievement of efficient scientific research in the domain of sports organization management.

Within the correlation process, efficient operation appears as a goal, determined either by result maximization or by effort and resource consumption minimization.

Analysis of the management system in sports is capable to capture both existing relationships - between management and sports organization - internal structure, goal, objectives, activities associated to objectives, resources, and their specific interactions.

We can say that research in the domain of management is addressed through a functional correlation of activities which serve the purpose, objectives, resources for activities associated to objectives, necessary for the completion of a research project in the domain.

Achieving goals is labor intensive, this work should not be done randomly, it must represent the best work for the current goal. This leads to organized research, as it allows researchers to decide what methods and techniques must be used in order to fulfill the purpose of the research, although “it can be assessed from earlier observation that in management, the objective is preferred as a tool, to the detriment of the purpose”.

Stage planning for projects estimates the activities, taking into consideration the proposed objectives and the availability of resources and means necessary to achieve them, requiring the correlation of all these variables.

Functional correlation within a research project also aims to manage the resources necessary in the research activity for rendering the level of satisfaction for the current objectives. Under these conditions, providing resources is a prerequisite for fulfilling such a project.

The research itself is done through a qualitative research project for testing hypotheses. It will describe how to plan and conduct an empirical and quantitative research, oriented on testing assumptions and executed by collection and analysis of data through a questionnaire.

The planning includes:

- definition and description of objectives;
- description of necessary activities for the production of different results that can act as deliverables for the project, and setting up the working team and personal responsibilities;
- planning of necessary resources, both human and material;
- comparison of available means to the necessary means;
- determination of milestones that need to be met: identification of dependencies among activities (their order), estimation of the duration and timing of activities, setting the date of completion for the project, identification of imposed quality standards;
- estimation of the necessary costs for each type of activity;
- establishing the project management plan, as an ensemble of all planned processes, identifying risks and how they are managed.

Successful project management requires careful planning in order to meet the technical objectives, satisfy time requirements and respect the project budget.

The project will be accompanied by a schedule implemented in a Gantt format, with temporal succession estimation of output phases and of resources used for each individual phase.

The project presentation document includes the following explicit sections:

- activity identification;

- time and resources estimation;
- identification of relationships and activity dependences;
- identification of constraints (resources, time) for scheduling;
- schedule creation.

Project planning defines and refines the project objectives (time, cost) and selects the best activity succession alternative in order to achieve the proposed objectives.

The purpose of the project management plan is to document the result of the planning process and provide a reference document for managing the project.

The formulation of project objectives and developed goals used to support them, is used to describe the project as a set of activities. An activity is a work element performed during a project, whose implementation can be entrusted to a competent human being.

However, in many applications, activities are considered to be subdivided into tasks.

Tasks are characterized by durations, determined by a beginning and an end, identifiable, and by estimated costs. Tasks can be programmed to be executed in sequence or in parallel, according to their mutual dependencies.

Dependencies between project activities present the order relation between two successive activities, and express the link between them. The most common type of link is End-Start, where the ending event of the preceding activity is linked to the starting event of the next activity. Logical dependencies among activities can be defined by using networked diagram of activities, which allows the identification of a critical path.

Tasks need to be associated with so-called reference points — an important intermediate event that occurs during an achievement, associated with obtaining an important result characterized as being critical.

Conclusions and perspectives:

The practical implementation of a scientific management strategy in a sports organization, whose purpose is the improvement of some dysfunctions, is performed during a longitudinal management experiment that aims to achieve purpose — objectives — activities associat-

ed to objectives — resources functional correlation in sports management specific scientific research.

Through this project, the evolution and dynamic of existing and expressed variables in a sports organization can be determined.

The experiment provides a sequence of images, through which information on the changes that occur during the execution of projects will be obtained, reflecting itself in the sports result. In order to achieve scientific management and to elaborate a coherent strategy, these exogenous components must be taken into account, in addition to the effects generated by the intensity, evolution and interdependencies among the action of these factors, their correlation and the activity of a sports club.

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