

## Intellectual Capital for Communities in the Knowledge Economy Nations, Regions, Cities and Emerging Communities





World Conference on Intellectual Capital for Communities
- Fourth Edition -



#### **Evaluating IC dynamics in firms**

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#### **Background**

- IC has become the main driver of competitiveness
- In turbulent environments, the ability to continuoustly renew knowledge-based assets is the key to sustained competitive advantage
- However, most IC research focuses on identifying the existing knowledge assets
- => Need for a more "dynamic" approach to IC = innovation, learning and change!!



#### Research gaps

- How knowledge-based value is created in changing environments?
- What is organizational renewal capability?
- How should renewal capability be measured?



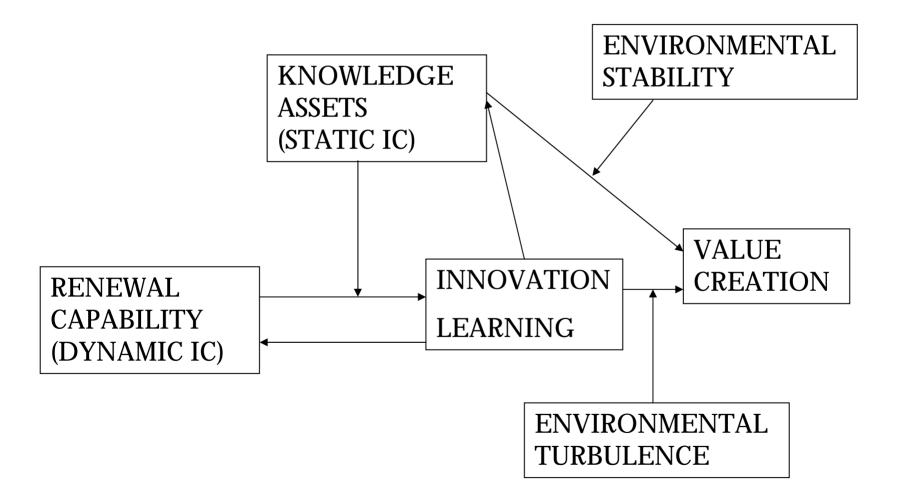
#### Static vs. dynamic IC

- Knowledge as a static asset, stock
- Can be managed
- What the organization owns
- Identification and valuation of existing intangible assets

- Knowledge as socially constructed emergent process
- Can be enabled
- What the organization does
- Capabilities for using, developing and modifying assets



## Knowledge assets + renewal capability = sustained competitive advantage





#### Organizational renewal capability

- Ability of the organization to develop and change its resources and capabilities through continuous learning and innovation
- Demonstrated as f. ex. new products and processes, operational and strategic flexibility, adaptive service processes
  - Incremental and radical change
  - Top-down and bottom-up change
  - Planned and emergent change
  - Organization-wide process
  - Continuous
  - Cannot be completely controlled => creating an enabling and supportive organizational context



#### Complexity of organizational renewal

#### Some related concepts:

- Organizational change
- Innovation, innovativeness
- Organizational learning
- Knowledge creation
- Dynamic capability
- Strategic flexibility
- Organizational agility
- Organizational flexibility
- Continuous improvement
- Business process redesign
- Self-organization
- Autopoiesis
- Mindfulness

#### Perspectives:

- Cognitive
- Strategic
- Relational
- Cultural
- Economic
- Performative
- Systemic
- Communicative
- Processual
- Political



## The 6-factor model of organizational capability for renewal



(Pöyhönen, 2005b; 2006a; 2006b;

Kianto, 2008a; 2008b)



#### 1. Strategic competence

- Clear, shared, comprehended and valued strategies and goals
- Comparing to the best
- Strong identity and culture
- Innnovativeness, risk taking, future orientation
- Pro-activeness, courage to make quick decisions
- Customer focus
- Market and competitor awareness
- Emergence, semi-coherence
- Strategic innovations



#### 2. Exploiting time

- Seizing the moment
- Co-timing operations
- Resourcing time
- Understanding bifurcation points in creative process
- Balancing different time dimensions
- Internal rhythm of changes



#### 3. Learning orientation

- Employees as the key resource
- Appreciating learning
- Openess to alternative viewpoints
- Feedback
- Constructive critique
- Learning from failures
- Support for development activities
- Experiments, prototypes
- Learning to learn



#### 4. Connectivity

- Knowledge processes are fundamentally social
- Collaboration
- Group relationships
- Intra-organizational interaction
- Inter-organizational relationships
- Know-who
- Team and organizational climate
- Passion, inspiration



#### 5. Managing knowledge

- Awareness of strategically significant knowledge
- Knowledge strategy
- Management and protection of explicit knowledge
- ICT systems
- Tacit knowledge
- Routines and activities
- Acquiring and accomodating knowledge from extraorganizational sources
- Knowledge creation



#### 6. Leadership

- Low hierarchy
- Empowering, democratic leadership style
- Managers committed to listen and learn
- Participation in decision making
- Clear goals, operative autonomy
- Ability for holistic innovation management:
  - Structured innovation processes and project management
  - Inspirational leadership

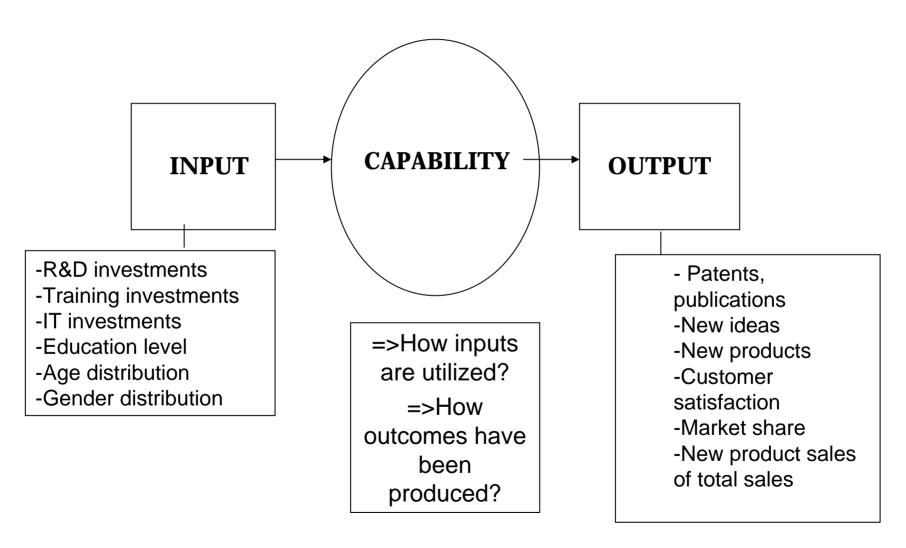


#### Why to measure renewal capability?

- Measuring organizational capability to operate in changing environments
- Predicting organization's future potential
- Identifying the main challenges in continous innovation and learning
- Enabling effective and focused management and development of renewal processes
- Enabling monitoring and comparison of renewal capability



#### How has RC been measured?





#### Criteria for assessing renewal capability

- Activities vs. inputs
  - From identifying financial resources and tehnological tools to whether and how they are actually used in practice
- Processes vs. outcomes
  - From mapping existing intangibles to studying the capabilities for changing them
- Knowledge system vs. individual knowledge
  - From measuring individual competencies to looking at the innovating social unit as a whole



#### **ORCI (1)**

- Organizational Renewal Capability Inventory
- Measures organizational capability for continuous development, learning and innovation
- Produces clear and comprehensive diagnosis of organizational renewal capability
- Provides in-depth analysis of the components of renewal capability
- Can be tailored to various analytical levels (e.g. project, department, SBU, firm level)
- Enables comparison between different groups within the firm
- Enables external benchmarking
- Main indices: strategic competence, exploiting time, learning orientation, connectivity, managing knowledge and leadership



#### **ORCI (2)**

- Developed in LUT based on the 6-factor model of renewal capability
- 167 items 6 components, 34 subcomponents
- 1-7 Likert scale (1-5)
- Minimizing measurement error through composites
- Minimizing response-set bias through reversed items
- Response time 15 mins
- Web or paper questionnaire
- Finnish and English versions (German, Spanish, Hebrew)
- Data from a representative sample of organizational members
- Background information questionnaire (1 person /organization)



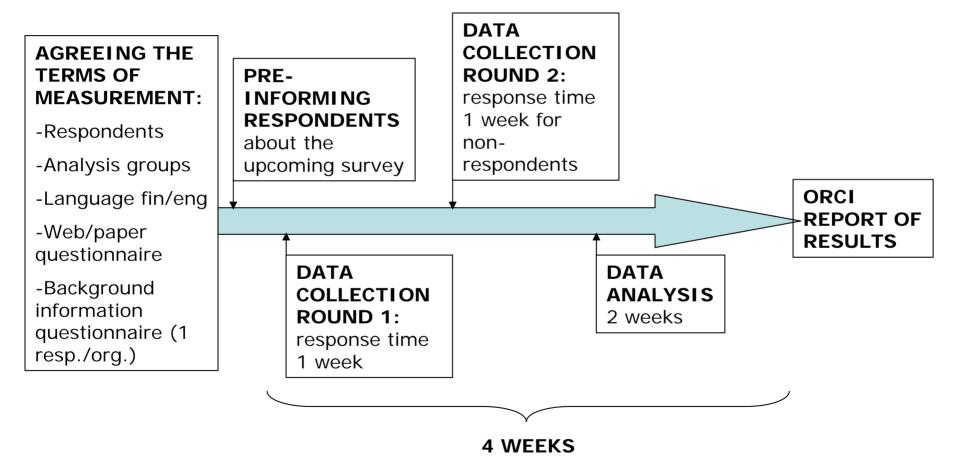
#### Validating the ORCI

- Pilot data, 4 organizations, N = 258
- Content validity: adequate coverage of the theoretical domain
  - Eextensive theoretical grounding
  - Items from earlier studies
  - Expert Q-sort
- Construct validity: measuring the right concept
  - Exploratory FA
  - Discriminant validity: ANOVA
- Predictive validity: relation with hypothesized external variables
  - Correlation
  - Regression analysis
- Reliability: consistency
  - Cronbach's alpha

(Kianto, 2008a)



#### **Typical measurement process**





#### Future development of the ORCI

- Currently data from >70 organizations
- Case studies in various Finnish organizations
- Survey
  - SEM/LISREL
    - Construct validity of the 6-factor model
    - predictive validity
  - further development of report of results
- International data (Switzerland, Israel, Russia, Spain, Netherlands, Italy?)
  - cross-cultural analyses



#### **Contributions**

- Clarifying connections between the static and dynamic dimensions of IC
- Providing a multi-faceted theoretical model of organizational renewal capability
- Introducing a method for measuring renewal capability