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SYNERGY AND DIVERSITY OF THE RESOURCES OF AN ENTERPRISE. KNOWLEDGE MANAGER – MODEL APPROACH

Shaping the development of an enterprise in a market economy based on competition requires a multi-faceted look at the management of an economic entity. The aim of the study is to present the problem of synergy and diversity of company resources together with the presentation of the author's concept of the knowledge manager model. Business management structures in a changing environment force employees to be flexible and open to new challenges. The basis of the company's operation are its resources, thanks to which an economic entity can shape its competitiveness (resource competitiveness) and competitive advantage (competitive advantage). The conceptual model of the knowledge manager is an original interpretation of the subject literature, which should be subjected to the empirical verification process. This model subjected to the contracting in enterprises will be the rightness of the value of the knowledge manager not only for the theory of science, but also the economic practice of various organizations.

Key words: *company resources, manager, knowledge.*

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ВЗАЄМОДІЯ І РІЗНОМАНІТНІСТЬ РЕСУРСІВ ПІДПРИЄМСТВА. ПІДХІД У МЕЖАХ МОДЕЛІ – МЕНЕДЖЕР ЗНАНЬ

Формування розвитку підприємства в умовах ринкової економіки вимагає багатогранної картини управління господарським суб'єктом. Метою дослідження є представлення проблеми взаємодії і диверсифікації ресурсів компанії разом із представлення авторської концепції моделі менеджера знань. Структура управління бізнесом за умов змінного середовища змушує працівників бути гнучкими і відкритими до нових змін. Основою діяльності компанії є її ресурси, завдяки яким суб'єкт господарювання може сформувати свою конкурентоспроможність (ресурсна конкурентоспроможність) і конкурентну перевагу. Концептуальна модель менеджера знань є оригінальною інтерпретацією наукової літератури, яку слід емпірично верифікувати. Ця модель, закріплена на рівні контрактів підприємств, буде справедливою цінністю менеджера знань не лише в науковій теорії, але також і в господарській практиці діяльності різноманітних організацій.

Ключові слова: *ресурси компанії, менеджер, знання.*

«All our knowledge has its origins in our perceptions»

Leonardo da Vinci

1. Introduction

Shaping the development of an enterprise¹ in a market economy based on competition requires multi-faceted view on the management of an economic operator. The *manager* and his *subordinates*, who are the *human resource of an organization*, are some of the basic problems connected with the management of an enterprise. The managers together with the subordinates, and especially the positive relations among them, build constructive foundation for the future of the company. What distinguishes managers and subordinates is the knowledge they have and the skills to use that knowledge (Mikula&Pietruszka-Ortyl, 2007, pp. 49–73). From the point of view

¹ In the following study the term *enterprise* is used interchangeably with terms: *economic operator, organisation, firm* in order to avoid frequent repetitions.



of the process of management it is the manager (decision-maker) who is the person leading the organization on the «roads» of operational and strategic development. The knowledge for a manager – using a metaphor – is like «water driving the mill wheel». The manager and knowledge should be treated as a complementary and synergistic system in an organisation. Each organisation which wants to be an active participant of the competitive market should have a knowledge manager within its ranks, for whom the synergy and diversity of the resources are permanently inscribed in the development of the company.

The aim of the study is to present the problem of synergism and diversity of the resources of an enterprise with the presentation of the original concept of the model of knowledge manager. The following hypotheses were adopted in the study: *knowledge manager is the creator of synergy and diversity of the resources of an enterprise; objectiveness of a manager is created by the knowledge and the ability to use it; knowledge manager can manifest himself in the form of material and immaterial concept.* The study is conceptual nature and is based on the method of interpretation of literature.

2. People in an enterprise that is manager and subordinates

Enterprise management structure in a volatile environment force the employees to be flexible and open to new challenges. The employees undergo permanent process of learning (knowledge acquisition). According to the guru of management, Peter Drucker, organisation, which consolidates the current level of vision, performance and achievements, loses the ability to adapt and will not be able to survive in the changing tomorrow, as change is the only destiny of a human being (Drucker, 1994, p. 71).

The answer of management to people (human) in an organisation (enterprise) is the management of human resources, which is defined as the activity of an organization aimed at the achievement, development and maintenance of the manpower functioning effectively (Griffin, 2005, p. 440). An enterprise is for the human and an economic operator would not be able to function without him. It can be said that man is the basic, primal resource of an organisation (enterprise) (Leśniewski, 2014, p. 62). Man is different in every aspect, range of his functioning, including, inter alia: needs, sensations, interpretations, intuition or skills and abilities etc. People are different just as different are the resources and situations, because no situation can be repeated twice, as it involves different people with different abilities and skills. Each situation, moment is inimitable and unique. If we approach each employee always in the same way, we will not give a chance to develop, to learn and to use one's abilities – neither to us, nor to him.

The existence of a man in an organization (Oczkowska, 2014, pp. 11–30) is related to a work, which should not be determined only by such factors as: material and family factors. The selection of work should be thought through and matched to the skills and abilities of each person, as well as to the level of his commitment. Then we can talk about the development and growth of knowledge, which may affect the increase of efficiency of work or other achieved measurands (i.e. increase of the level of education).

Knowledge concerns every person in the organization regardless of whether he is a manager or a subordinate. Human resources in an organization are divided into two systems²: *managers' system* and *subordinates' system*. Each of these systems is to represent a specified level of knowledge. The knowledge of a manager is not only the substantive knowledge (i.e. in the field of corporate finance, marketing or logistics, etc.), but also the knowledge in the scope of the process (Sułkowski, 2012) of impact on subordinates which is a part of the overall process of human resources management (Pocztowski, 2003) in a given enterprise³. Whereas, the knowledge of a subordinate is mainly the substantive knowledge connected with a given job position, work done. Both the manager and the subordinate are to be a complementary link of values (Jaki, 2012; Romanowska, 2001) of an enterprise. The manager and the subordinate may be defined as a task group⁴.

The issue of the level of appreciation of knowledge requires commitment and will to take challenges and achievements from the manager and the subordinate. A manager who works with a subordinate (task team) successfully and effectively requires full commitment from both sides. A task team is to contribute to the positive effect of synergy. In a task team, mutual understanding, when the employees understand the managers and the managers understand the employees, is very important. The task of the managers in the task force is to understand the needs and the intensity of occurrence of these needs in workers, the hierarchy of values, as well as the skills of the employees. The ability of the recognition and matching the employees to the work in a task team is a proof of the size of substantive level of a manager (Juchnowicz, 2009).

² Each of these systems is homogeneous or uniform consisting only of managers at different levels of management (system of managers) and subordinates (system of subordinates).

³ In this case, psychological or sociologic knowledge is also used.

⁴ In task team a manager and a subordinate create various interactions between each other. One of the manifestations of a task team is management through aims or management through partner relations. A manager and a subordinate are to be a well-matched pair of people in an organisation, who understand each other.



3. Resourcing and the resources in an enterprise—the variety of resources

The basis of the enterprise's functioning are its resources, thanks to which the economic operator may shape its competitiveness (Przybytniowski, 2013) (resource competitiveness) and competitive advantage (resource competitive advantage).

The resources of an enterprise are inseparably connected to the process (Cyfert, 2006) of resourcing. In order for the resources and the resourcing to successfully and efficiently shape the competitiveness and the competitive advantage of an enterprise they must be of complementary nature to each other. *Resourcing* is a qualitative and quantitative process of obtaining and shaping the resources by an organisation. *Obtaining* is understood as acquiring, purchasing resources by an organisation. *Shaping* is understood as creating goods (products/services) from the acquired resources by an organisation (Leśniewski, 2014, p. 59). It can be argued that resourcing and resources contribute to the development of competitiveness and competitive advantage of the company. Starting with an analysis of resources and resourcing of an economic operator, one must start from the resourcing, as the quality and quantity of resources in the organization depend on it. Considering the quality and quantity of resources, one should focus more on the quality of resources, because by the quality of the resources the organization will shape the quality of their goods (products/services).

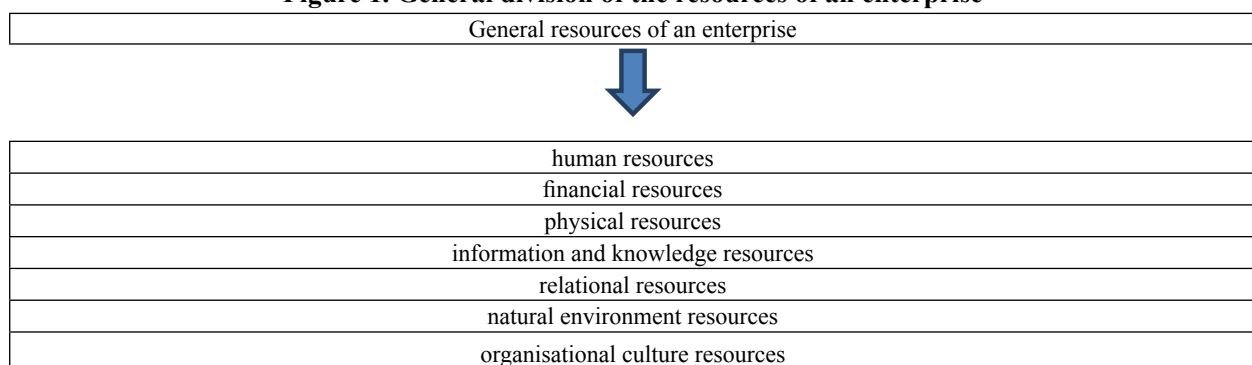
The resources of an enterprise are the assets of differential nature, that is to say a set of available factors controlled by a given enterprise. Resource approach stems from an interest in resources as a key centre of business activity. Since the 1990s it has been dominating approach towards the management of an enterprise, which the development of this theory known today come from, such as: the concept of key competences, learning organisation, knowledge management. Equipped with the unique resources the company is able to achieve a competitive position on the market, to obtain certain income, as well as to increase its value (Skowronek-Mielczarek, 2012, pp. 127–143). The development and market success are not guaranteed by only having the resources by the organization, but by the ability of their rational use in changing environmental conditions (Leśniewski, 2014, pp. 59–60).

The enterprises use various resources in their development, among which general resources include: *human, monetary (financial), physical, information, knowledge and relational resources*. *Human resources* are the people (employees) and what they stand for, *financial resources* refer to the financial capital, *physical resources* are the raw materials, buildings, machines, devices, etc., whereas *information and knowledge resources* are the news (information) and objectiveness (knowledge) of the employees, which are used by the organisations to the decision-making process. *Relational resources* refer to the relations among the employees in an organisation (endogenous relations) and the relations of an organization with other organisations operating in the external environment (exogenous relations).

General division of the resources may be also supplemented by *natural environment resources* and *organizational culture resources*. *Natural environment resources* are concerned with not only the natural resources or the atmosphere, hydrosphere and lithosphere, but also the approach (relation) of an organisation (enterprise) towards the natural environment, which is expressed by: *environmental awareness* and *eco-developmental awareness*⁵. *Environmental awareness* stands for the approach of an organisation to nature (organisation – natural environment) whereas *eco-developmental awareness* is simultaneous perception of the relationship between the organization and systems: social – economic – natural environment (organisation – society – economy – natural environment). *Environmental awareness* is the foundation of *eco-developmental awareness*. *Organisational culture resources* are the norms and values of the employees, which are shaped by the internal and external environment of an organisation⁶.

The general division of the resources of an enterprise is presented in figure 1.

Figure 1. General division of the resources of an enterprise



Source: own elaboration based on: (Skowronek-Mielczarek, 2012, p.130; Leśniewski, 2014, p. 62).

⁵ The author of the term and definition of *eco-developmental awareness* is Leśniewski Michał Adam. *Eco-developmental awareness* was first published in: (Leśniewski, 2013).

⁶ Other: internal and external surroundings.

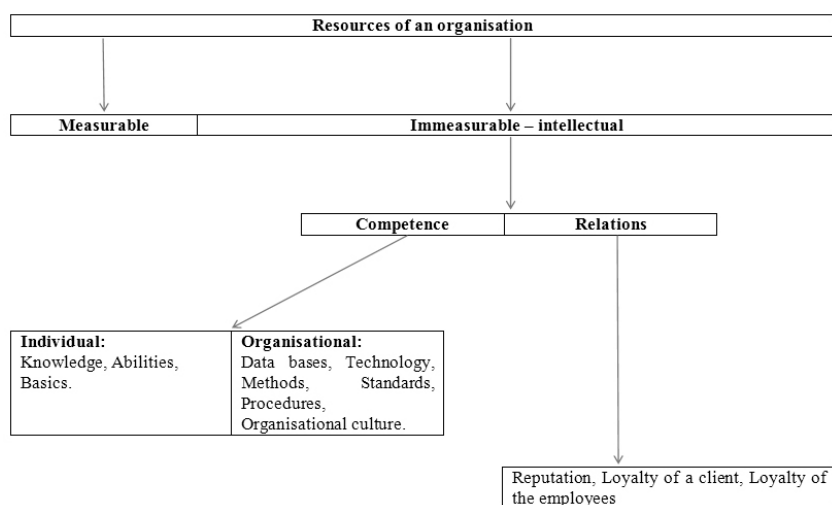


In order for the resources presented in figure 1 to shape the competitiveness of an enterprise efficiently and successfully they need to be complementary towards one another, they must generate positive effect of synergy, that is to say, they must interact with each other. Undoubtedly, the relationship between resources will contribute to the synergy and complementarity of resources. It should be kept in mind that it is the people (employees) in an enterprise who are the creators of the resources of an enterprise. Thanks to the employees, that is to say the human resources, the remaining resources have the nature and sense assigned in an enterprise. The human resource is the primary resource and the remaining resources are secondary resources (Leśniewski, 2014, p. 62). The quality of other resources depends from the quality of human resources.

In literature there are many divisions of the resources of an organisation. These resources are divided into not only i.e. *material* and *intangible* or *primary* and *secondary*⁷, but also into *measurable* and *immeasurable*. The division of the resources into *measurable* and *immeasurable* was created by K. Haanes and B. Lowendahl. They classify the immeasurable resources into *competence* (Kozina, 2014, pp. 69–81; Wojtczuk-Turek, 2008, pp. 471–483) and *relations*, and then they divide *competence* into *individual* and *organizational*, whereas relations are seen as: reputation, loyalty of a client, loyalty of the employees.

The division of the resources into measurable and immeasurable is presented in figure 2.

Figure 2. Division of the resources into measurable and immeasurable



Source: own elaboration based on: (Dobjija, 2003, p. 285).

The resources in an enterprise may be seen as measurable and irrational which is shown in figure 2. The measurability may be perceived as «something» that one can give a specific dimension to (it can be measured, can subject to dimensioning). The financial (monetary) assets are an example of measurability. In this case, the measurability may be included into the quantitative aspect of the resources, whereas the irrationality may be understood as «something» that cannot or is very difficult to be given a specific dimension. In this case, the irrationality may be included into the qualitative aspect of the resources. Intuition is an example of irrationality.

The literature provides a lot of divisions of resources which enhance the value of organisation's functioning. Multi-faceted approach to resources creates a view that enterprises cannot function without resources whereas having resources does not guarantee the achievement of success by an economic operator. To complete happiness one needs resources and abilities to use them rationally (resources + abilities = rational use of resources, rationality of an organisation)⁸.

One of the issues, problems connected with the functioning of resources in an enterprise is term *diversity*, which refers to everything that surrounds on the outside and which lies within and which contributes to the development of an organisation. *Diversity may be generally defined as distinctness, otherness, differentiation, which may refer to the human (employee) located in different situations and to an organisation having to deal with changing market conditions*⁹. Human traits that differ him from other people are, inter alia: sex, age, race, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, skills, education, work experience, life attitude, lifestyles, learning styles, human behaviourism or type of properness. The issue of diversity can be transposed from a general, wide grasp to the field of enterprise resources. Diversity of resources may be defined as distinctness,

⁷ The division of the resources into *primary* and *secondary* resources was created by Leśniewski Michał Adam. This division was first published in the study: (Leśniewski, 2014, pp. 57-68).

⁸ Entry in brackets was formulated by Leśniewski Michał Adam.

⁹ Definition of the term *diversity* was formulated by Leśniewski Michał Adam and was first published in this elaboration.



otherness, differentiation of particular resources in comparison to other resources within a given organisation and/or in relation to other organizations within the external surroundings (external environment)¹⁰. Some of the examples which confirm the diversity of resources are divisions, classifications of resources, i.e. division of the resources into material and intangible resources. Such division introduces the resources into the issue of diversity, because each resource has different features, attributes etc. It can be said that, how different is the staff so different are the resources; how different managers are so different are the styles of interaction etc. The diversity can be managed, therefore one can talk about diversity management. Diversity is very important for shaping the knowledge, because each enterprise has to deal with different knowledge.

4. Knowledge as a manifestation of objectiveness of employees and generating enterprise's resources

One of the aspects of functioning of resources in an enterprise is, inter alia, knowledge (Mikuła, 2006), which is the objectiveness of the employees (managers and subordinates) and the objectiveness of the whole organization.

Knowledge (Pacholarz, 2016, pp. 3-19) as a resource can be divided, classified which leads to the fact that knowledge may be divided into *formal* and *informal knowledge*¹¹. *Formal knowledge* is knowledge set and saved (settled in paper elaborations and electronic studies). *Informal knowledge* is not fixed and not saved, it is the opposite of formal knowledge. Informal knowledge may be called unofficial or gossip knowledge. This knowledge is passed on the principle of: «I've learned from a conversation with..., that...» and/or «I've found out informally that...» etc.

Development of effective methods of management of appreciation of the value of knowledge in the company has its reflection not only in competitiveness, but also in the competitive advantage of an economic operator.

Organisational creation of knowledge is an ability of a corporation as a whole to produce new knowledge, to spread it in an organization and to incorporate it in products, services and systems of an organisation (Nonaka & Takeuchi, 2000, pp. 81-98).

Human knowledge is an available knowledge and a hidden knowledge (Nonaka & Takeuchi, 2000, p. 14). Available knowledge is a knowledge which we have access to, which can be measured, studied, passed on in a formalized form. Hidden knowledge is difficult to formalize, it includes intuition, premonition, sensation and individual activity and experience (Nonaka & Takeuchi, 2000, p. 26). The value of knowledge in an organization may be reduced to the statement that people do not achieve new knowledge in a passive way: they interpret it and adapt it to their own situation and perspective (Nonaka & Takeuchi, 2000, p. 33).

At the beginning of the analysis of knowledge in the organization one must first answer the question: What way does the knowledge emerge in? According to the concept of the authorities in the field of knowledge, Nonaka I. and Takeuchi H., the process of knowledge creation is presented in six stages: *Dimension of knowledge creation*, *Types of knowledge*, *Ways of knowledge conversion*, *Spiral of knowledge*, *The essence of knowledge created in four ways* and *Spiral of organizational knowledge creation* (Nonaka & Takeuchi, 2000, pp. 82-84).

Dimension of knowledge creation. Nonaka I. Takeuchi H. propose two dimensions of knowledge creation: *epistemic* and *ontologic*. *Epistemic* dimension is a result of separating the object and subject of perception, in other words, separation of the available knowledge from the hidden knowledge. *Ontologic* dimension refers to organisational intensification and including individual knowledge in the system of organisation's knowledge. This process begins with a single member of an organisation, through group interaction reaches with its size to the processes inside an organisation, and then to international processes.

Within these two dimensions of knowledge it can be stated that each man (employee) receives and transmits the acquired knowledge in such a way in which he picked it up and interpreted it in his own way. Interpretation is a very important component of generating knowledge in both business science and practice.

Types of knowledge. Nonaka I., Takeuchi H. divide knowledge into *hidden knowledge* (subjective), which is a practice created simultaneously, that is to say «here and now», and *available knowledge* (objective), which is based on created theories and mind.

The analysis of this knowledge indicates that in the process of knowledge creation there is a process of transformation which is based on creating available knowledge – rational (in the mind) through the hidden knowledge – experimental (in the body).

Ways of knowledge conversion. Through a process of social conversion the hidden and available knowledge grow, both in terms of qualitative and quantitative sense (Nonaka & Takeuchi, 2000, p. 85). The process of conversion takes place when it happens between various people, not inside an individual.

Spiral of knowledge. It is based on the fact that interactions, which take place in the process of creating knowledge, are shaped by the movements happening between various types of conversion, which in turn are initiated by four forces, that is to say: building ground, dialogue, connecting available knowledge and learning in

¹⁰ Definition of the term *diversity of resources* was formulated by Leśniewski Michał Adam and was first published in this elaboration.

¹¹ It is one of main divisions of knowledge in an organisation.



action. It is a dynamic process between the hidden and available knowledge. This process is followed by another – creating the knowledge in four ways (Nonaka& Takeuchi, 2000, pp. 95–96).

The essence of knowledge created in four ways. Created knowledge is diverse. Each of its processes provides different knowledge, that is to say *socialization* provides co-felt knowledge; *externalization* – conceptual knowledge; *internalization* – operational knowledge, and *combination* – structured knowledge (Nonaka& Takeuchi, 2000, p. 96).

Spiral of organisational knowledge creation. The knowledge of each individual man that is to say the hidden knowledge of individuals is the basis of creating the knowledge resource in an enterprises. The task of an organization is to gather such knowledge, mobilising it and turning it into knowledge available to each employee. The spiral of organizational knowledge creation is concerned with coincident growth of knowledge at the ontologic level with the increase of the range of interaction between available and hidden knowledge.

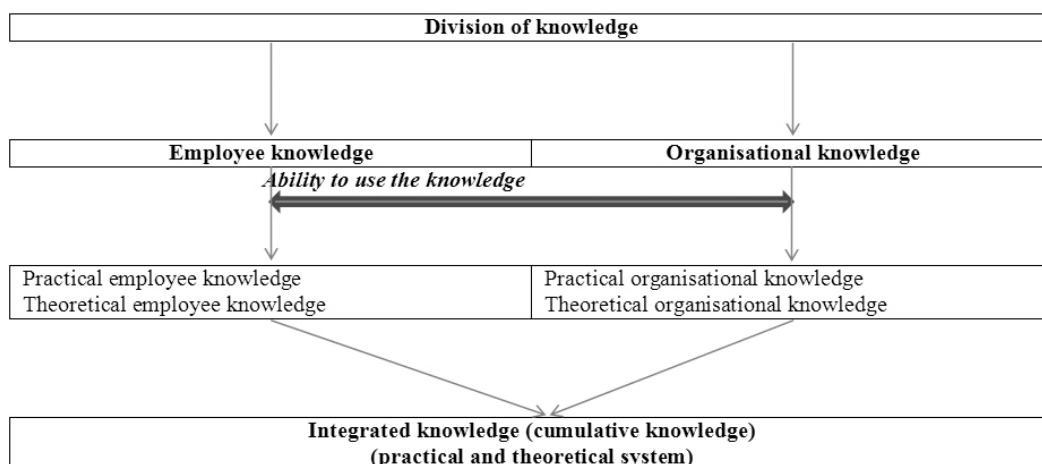
Knowledge (Rzepka, 2015, pp. 121–132; Perechuda, 2005, pp. 9–15) accompanies a man (employee) and an organisation (enterprise) not only in shaping the competitiveness, but also in achieving the competitive advantage on the market. Taking into account the level of an employee and of an organisation, knowledge may be divided into: *employee knowledge* and *organizational knowledge*.

Employee knowledge is a theoretical knowledge and the knowledge of work experience with the abilities to use these two types of knowledge together in the practice of functioning of an employee in an organisation. *Employee knowledge* is also the theoretical knowledge with the ability to further use it by an employee of an organisation. Taking such presentation of employee knowledge it can be stated that the employee knowledge with the advantage of knowledge of work experience (practical) over the theoretical knowledge may be defined as *practical employee knowledge* and employee knowledge with the advantage of theoretical knowledge over practical knowledge (or the lack of practical knowledge) may be defined as *theoretical employee knowledge*. What connects the practical and theoretical employee knowledge is *the ability to use knowledge* in an organisation. Each employee must be able to create his own «bridge», notice the dependency between the knowledge (types of knowledge) he has and the effects of that knowledge (these types of knowledge). Both theoretical and practical (work) knowledge must be complementary in order to generate positive effect of synergy.

Organisational knowledge is knowledge of all the employees used for operational and strategic functioning of an organisation on the market. Taking into account the fact that organizational knowledge is concerned with the knowledge of the employees and the organisation cares for it to be developing qualitatively, the organisation must employ and try to keep qualitative employees, because they are the proof of the whole organisation (enterprise) being substantial. A substantive employee is the core of the quality of an organisation. Such employee matches the organizational structure and the specificity of an enterprise. It can be stated that a substantive employee is a substantive organisation. Organisational knowledge may be divided into *practical organisational knowledge* and *theoretical organisational knowledge*. *Practical organisational knowledge* is the advantage of practical knowledge over the theoretical knowledge of all the employees of an organisation. *Theoretical organisational knowledge* is the advantage of theoretical knowledge over the practical knowledge of all the employees of an organisation.

In figure 3 the division of knowledge into employee and organisational knowledge was presented.

Figure 3. Employee and organisational knowledge – the division of knowledge¹²



Source: own elaboration based on: (Mikuła, 2006; Mikuła&Pietruszka-Ortyl, 2007, pp. 49–73; Leśniewski, 2015, pp. 171–187).

¹² This division was first published in the following study. The author of this division is Leśniewski Michał Adam.



The analysis of the division of knowledge presented in figure 3 states that in order for the employee and organizational knowledge to contribute to the development of an organization, they must take form of *integrated knowledge* (cumulative knowledge), in other words a *practical and theoretical system*. This system assumes that an organisation (enterprise) is of practical nature (practical knowledge) of functioning on the market whereas the development of an organisation is supported by the theory of learning (theoretical knowledge) transformed into practice (practical knowledge). It should also be taken into account that the practice of an organization also supports the development of the theory of learning (theoretical knowledge). The use both of theoretical and practical knowledge requires the possession of appropriate skills, which should be treated as a transformer of the theoretical knowledge into practical knowledge and vice-versa. It can be stated that the abilities are an adhesive which binds theoretical knowledge with practical knowledge, as well as employee knowledge with organisational knowledge. Mutual interpenetration of knowledge may be described as integrated knowledge.

Knowledge is the basis of existence of each organisation. Knowledge contributes to generating the resources of an enterprise. In the literature, the multitude of divisions of business resources origins, inter alia, from the development of the theory of learning (particularly economic sciences in the field of economics, economic sciences and humanities in the field of management), that is to say theoretical knowledge and practice – practical knowledge. Having the theoretical knowledge, practical knowledge or integrated knowledge give full grounds to generate new resources of an organization. The result of generating is the generator as a new resource of an organisation. *Generating* is a process of creating new resources of an organisation, whereas the *generator* is understood as the result of generating, in other words the new resource of an organisation¹³. Qualitative employees and qualitative organisation form a strong basis for the use of knowledge in the process of generating resources of an organisation.

5. Synergism and synergy versus the resources of an enterprise

In order for an enterprise to fulfil current and potential needs of the customers, it must be an active participant of the competitive market, it must have not only the resources, which are very important, but it also must be able to implement the process of synergism with a positive effect of synergy. *Synergism* may be defined as a process of cooperation, interaction of all the elements of an organisation in order to provide higher effectiveness and efficiency as a whole¹⁴. The result of synergism a synergy as «something» which is, which became a fact that it exists. Synergism and synergy must complement each other, because in such relations they will contribute to the growth of the value of an enterprise. In synergism and synergy, the knowledge plays a fundamental role, because the successes of an organisation is the knowledge that «something» can be done better than others do it and that «somebody» achieves better results than others. Without knowledge it would be impossible to consider synergism and synergy.

R. W. Griffin states that good interpersonal relations in the whole organisation may also be the source of synergy. People who support each other and who cooperate well may achieve much more than people who do not support each other and who do not know how to cooperate (Griffin, 2005, p. 440).

It can be said that each aspect of functioning of an organisation may be a source of synergy. Each synergism which is to generate a positive effect of synergy must have its source in a positive potential of an organisation.

A manager, who must be comprehensively oriented in the sources which can create positive effect of synergy, is of great importance to the synergism. It may be stated that a manager is to be a mentor of the implementation of synergism in an organisation. A manager who is a mentor may be presented as a knowledge manager.

The literature provides a lot of examples of achieving a positive effect of synergy both in terms of qualitative research and quantitative research. One of the examples is the fact that (Romańczuk, 2003, p. 141):

- sharing knowledge enabled to solve practical problems and to achieve business profits;
- staff are aware of the connection between the knowledge-sharing and business objectives, hence the initiative of the creation of teams of experts and discussion groups have had significant successes;
- knowledge-sharing is closely related to the core value of the company and enables its implementation;
- style of knowledge-sharing is matched to the style of work of the organization;
- the managers promoted cooperation and knowledge;
- the practice of sharing knowledge is integrated into the daily rhythm of work;
- the level of involvement of managers is closely related to the overall level of commitment of the organization to knowledge-sharing;

¹³ The term and definition of *generating* and *generator* in the context of knowledge was created by Leśniewski Michał Adam and first published in the following study.

Knowledge used in the process of *generating*. *Generator* as the result of generating. An example of a generator may be a resource, a factor, etc., which did not exist earlier, but exists now.

¹⁴ The definition of the term *synergism* was created by Leśniewski Michał Adam. This definition was first published in this publication.



– in organisations, which are thought to be the best, a process of informal human networks takes place, which have huge impact on organisations. The scope of their expertise knowledge refers to the relevant areas of the company;

– formal or informal teams have a moderator who cares for everyone to actively participate in the work of the team;

– the best companies see the need to link the system of awards and accolades knowledge-sharing.

The above examples are the proof that synergism and synergy cannot function without knowledge. Knowledge may be defined as the source of synergism. In this case, a manager is justified as a manager coordinating various sources, which eventually are to generate a positive effect of synergy.

The resources of an enterprise are connected with knowledge, which marks the resources into the issue of synergism. Complementary and synergetic approach to the resources provides full grounds to talking about *complementary-synergetic resources*. It can be stated that the resources which contribute to the development of an enterprise must be based on the complementarity and synergism. *Complementary-synergetic resources are the relations between the resources, which contribute to the mutual complementing of the resources and that the cooperation of several resources together give better benefits for an organisation than each separate resource*¹⁵. *The resources seen in that way introduce an organisation into the «road» of dynamic look on an enterprise in changing surroundings.*

6. Conceptual model of knowledge manager

Knowledge is inextricably linked with man (employee). Taking into account the relations in the organisations, including enterprises, we have to deal with managers and subordinates. One of the features, which characterize the employees is the fact that each of them has a different level of knowledge. While working together, the managers and the subordinates contribute to the synergism and the diversity of the resources of an economic operator. It is important to have such a level of knowledge which will enable the managerial staff to create the concept of mechanism contributing to the generating of synergism and the diversity of resources. Each enterprise is moving in the direction of being unique and unrepeatable on a competitive market. The knowledge constitutes the substance of both the manager and the subordinate.

Considering knowledge in the context of a manager (McKeen, & Staples, 2003, pp. 21–41) one can attempt to define the *concept of knowledge manager*, which may be a *material concept*, in other words, which concerns the physical, material position in an enterprise (included in the organizational structure – the position of knowledge manager having the scope of his responsibilities etc.), but it also may be an *immaterial concept* (there is no position in the organizational structure of an enterprise – there is no position of knowledge manager in an enterprise). Therefore, the concept of knowledge manager appear to be a dichotomous concept, that is to say, it has both material and immaterial form. Regardless of the adopted concept of the leading role of a knowledge manager is such use of his knowledge, which will lead the organization to the achievement of the benefits from the market.

A knowledge manager (Asllani, Luthans, 2003, pp. 53–66) would be responsible in an enterprise for, inter alia, the transfer of knowledge on the line, i.e.: business incubator (technology parks, academic business incubators, etc.) and an enterprise. A knowledge manager would contribute to drawing Business closer to Science or Science closer to Business (Mikula & Oczkowska, 2009, pp. 121–137). They both have a lot to offer. The knowledge manager is not only a person working in an enterprise, but also a person working at universities or other scientific organizations. *A knowledge manager may be defined as a relevant person who knows how to use his knowledge in various ways. A knowledge manager is able to develop the concept of the transfer of knowledge between different organisations*¹⁶. *In the era of knowledge-based economy it is reasonable to consider this concept of the manager in a long-term perspective of development of the organisation, both in companies and universities.*

In figure 4 the conceptual model of knowledge manager was presented.

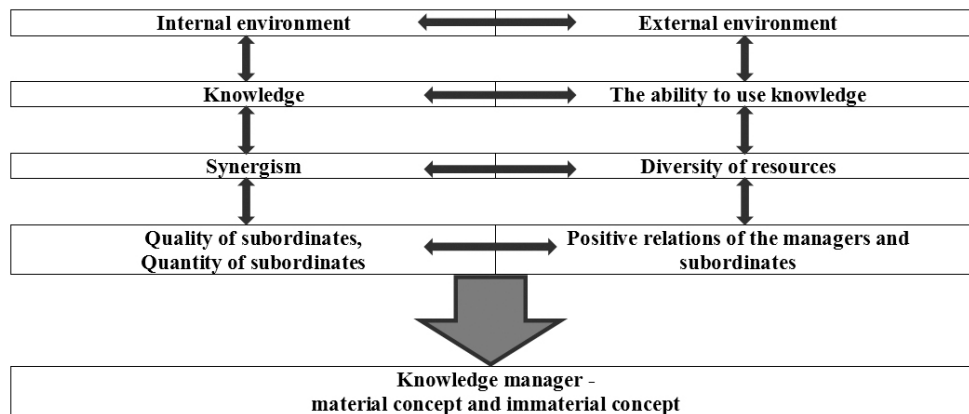
¹⁵ The resources may also be seen in the category of *relations*, in other words existing relations contribute to the creation of new, different resource.

The term and the definition of *complementary-synergetic resources* were developed by Leśniewski Michał Adam and first published in this study.

¹⁶ The definition of *knowledge manager* was developed by Leśniewski Michał Adam and was used first used in the following elaboration.



Figure 4. Conceptual model of knowledge manager



Source: own elaboration.

A knowledge manager is a managerial staff not only with a high level of relevance but also with a high level of responsibility for the transformations taking place in an economic operator. A model of knowledge manager which was presented in figure 4 is an interpretation of an individual approach of the author to this model. This model is to be fully adapted to the conditions of functioning of any enterprise. The starting point of the analysis of the model of knowledge manager is the interpenetration of the internal and external environment. In order for the knowledge to cause benefits for an organisation, a component of the ability of using the knowledge must be added (Krogh, 1998, pp. 133–153). The knowledge and abilities are a typical example of complementarity and synergism. In an organization, a manager must also implement the process of synergism and generate a diversity of the resources, which will increase the value of an organisation in its functioning on the market. In the diversity of the resources one can see – metaphorically speaking – so called «bottomless pit», where you can come across such resources which do not exist at present and after some time these resources appear (interpretative approach). Another element of the above model is the quality and quantity of subordinates. The subordinates as the employees of an organization are presented in two categories: quantity and quality. The author of the model is the supporter of the qualitative approach to the subordinates, assuming that it is not the quantity but the quality which is the proof of the value of an employee – subordinate. Taking into account the fact that the other side of the employees in an organisation is the quantity, then one should generate skilfully the quality of employees from their quantity. A quality employee gives more of himself than a quantity employee. The quality and quantity of employees shapes the relations on the line: manager – subordinate. These relations mainly refer to the creation of positive approach towards a man. A manager is to understand a subordinate and a subordinate is to understand a manager. All of the factors presented above are a part of the concept of the model of a knowledge manager understood in the categories of material and immaterial concept. Both these concepts present the value of the model of a knowledge manager.

7. Summary

The resources play an important role in shaping the widely understood development (Bratnicki, 2001, pp. 3–13), as well as they form the competitiveness of the enterprises. In order for the resources to «live» their life in an organization, they must have defined attributes which include, inter alia, synergism, diversity and a knowledge manager. A unit which generates the knowledge, synergism or diversity is the manager as a person who is the source of implementation of the process of organization management. In the process of management (Glinka, 2008, pp. 100–106), the subordinates also appear, with whom the manager creates a network of relations of different nature. A knowledge manager should know how to use his knowledge to the achievement of the intended target. The material or immaterial form of the knowledge manager presents the value of all the activity subordinated to the operational and strategic aim of an enterprise. The problem of synergism and diversity of resources is a challenge for the knowledge manager, who will be able to implement the processes in an organisation with his intellect in such a way, that they will lead to generating new resource/resources. The knowledge in an organisation may take various forms just as different are the forms of a knowledge manager as a material and immaterial concept.

The person of a knowledge manager is a unit of main interest of the research issue brought up in this study. He is a stimulator of any changes occurring in the enterprise also taking into account external conditions of the economic operator. Conceptual model of a knowledge manager, which should be subjected to the process of empiric verification, is an authorial interpretation of the literature of the subject. This model, which subjected to becoming practical in the companies, will provide the rightness of the value of the knowledge, not only for the theory of science, but also the economic practice of various organizations.

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