

EFFECTUATE THE ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION THROUGH KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

This paper aims to shed the light on the necessity of a well-established knowledge management system to support the right to access public information, through identifying the related principles and the exceptions of the right to access public information, which forms the legislative foundation for public information disclosure in many countries. This paper explores the measures to which Egypt is applying the right to access information and it recommends a set of commitments to support the knowledge management process to effectively regulate the access to public information; along a principle aim to effectuate the right to access public information in Egypt.

This paper includes interviews using the collaborative interactive action research method. The analysis focuses on identifying the application of the right to access public information in Egypt and the improvement of its effectuation. At the level of implementation, the Egyptian government is working on the information disclosure and administrative reform through many programs developed by the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, and the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology. However, it remains to consolidate the programs in an integrated solution on the level of local and international societies, adding to legislate the right to access public information to fully comply with the requirements of the open government.

Keywords: Knowledge Management, Right to Access Public Information, Governance, Open Government, E Government, Public Administration

1. INTRODUCTION

While strengthening the fundamentals of open government is more focus on empowering the citizens, there is a need to study transparency, accountability, anti-corruption, civic participation, and collaboration to prioritize the citizens in the public policy. Several international instruments concerned of good governance emphasizing and facilitate the access to public information which is one of the main principles of open government, among which the human right declaration in "article 19", as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted in Paris in 1948, the principles of access to public information.

While we can monitor the increase in public information disclosure around the world, we realize the urge of application and legislative of this right in Egypt to improve its rank in international organizations like the international transparency classification. Accordingly, the study highlights the importance of the right to access public information in promoting transparency and facilitating the flow of information, as well as combating corruption and empowering accountability, where the right to know is one of the ways to improve trust between governments and citizens, all of which require essentially as well the ability to manage efficiently the flow of knowledge through the proper channels at the right time as a crucial requirement of knowledge management (El Bedawy, 2018).

The objective of the study is to explore what is the theoretical frame for the right to access public information, to what extend it is applied in Egypt, adding to recommend the required tools to activate this right through a well-established process of knowledge management. Along the knowledge era, the ability to effectively manage the flow of knowledge becomes a crucial requirement to regulate the access to public information as one of the main principles in open government. Knowledge management along with public information