

Are Architecture Principles Effective?

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Scientific and social impact

The aim of this research was to investigate the effectiveness of architecture principles. As described in section 5.3, we concluded that there are indications that architecture principles do contribute positively to the IS project success in Dutch governmental organizations. This outcome is expected to have both scientific and social impact.

The outcome of this research should direct the scientific research of enterprise architecture to the use of architecture principles. In which way can the use of architecture principles contribute to more successful IS projects, knowing that architecture principles are also a 'social construct' and some essential architecture principles might make a difference? Scientific research regarding Enterprise Architecture should be more than a "mathematical exercise".

Second, the fact that architecture principles are much more than merely an IT topic, implicates that the field of enterprise architecture covers more research fields than IT only. In that sense, you could even argue that there is no distinct separation of "IT" on the one hand and "Business" on the other. This implication will have both high scientific and social impact.

In 2020 there were 82 large IS projects running in the central Dutch governmental organizations, with a total budget of 2,547 million euro [127]. With an overrun of 37% in budget in 2020, a delay in time of 37% in 2018, improving the IS project success is necessary. The use of architecture principles might contribute to the current IS project success within the Dutch governmental organizations.

All kinds of stakeholders, like business owners, CIO, project managers and architects, should be aware of the possible added value of architecture principles. These stakeholders have a key responsibility in implementing IS projects successfully. As addressed in section 5.4, the measurement instruments are useful in managing IS projects. Valorization of these research results should take place informally via social media, associations and other social networks. More formal adoption of the research results should take place via official entities within the Dutch government, such as 'CIO Rijk', BIT and 'Manifestgroep'.