

Chapter 1 : Project Management | Decision Making Models in Project Management

Unlike the rational view, several non-rational models of managerial decision-making suggest that it is difficult for managers to make optimal decisions due to the limitations of information-gathering and processing.

If one particular alternative is clearly better than the rest, your choice will be obvious. However, if you still have several competing options, there are plenty of tools that will help you decide between them. If you have various criteria to consider, use Decision Matrix Analysis to compare them reliably and rigorously. Or, if you want to determine their relative importance, conduct a Paired Comparison Analysis. Decision Trees are also useful when choosing between different financial options. These help you to lay options out clearly, and bring the likelihood of your project succeeding or failing into the decision-making process. When anonymity is important, decision-makers dislike one another, or there is a tendency for certain individuals to dominate the process, use the Delphi Technique to reach a fair and impartial decision. This uses cycles of anonymous, written discussion and argument, managed by a facilitator. Finding This Article Useful? But now, more than ever, is the time to "sense check" your decision. Your final decision is only as good as the facts and research you used to make it. This will help you avoid confirmation bias, a common psychological bias in decision making. Discuss your preliminary conclusions with important stakeholders to enable them to spot flaws, make recommendations, and support your conclusions. Listen to your own intuition, too, and quietly and methodically test assumptions and decisions against your own experience. Use Blindspot Analysis to review whether common decision-making problems like over-confidence, escalating commitment, or groupthink may have undermined the process. And consider checking the logical structure of your process with the Ladder of Inference, to make sure that a well-founded and consistent decision emerges at the end. Get them involved in implementing the solution by discussing how and why you arrived at your decision. The more information you provide about risks and projected benefits, the more likely people will be to support your decision. There are many tools and techniques that you can use as part of making a good decision. If you use them all, however, you could wind up spending a very long time making a very small decision. Pick and choose tools appropriately, depending on the nature and scale of the decision you want to take. Key Points Although problem solving and decision making are different processes, it is often necessary to combine them when making a complex decision. Systematically incorporating problem-solving and decision-making tools can help you make fully-informed decisions, either individually or as part of a group. The seven-step strategy is: Create a constructive environment. Investigate the situation in detail.

Chapter 2 : Decision Making Techniques and Skills from calendrierdelascience.com

The decision-making process though a logical one is a difficult task. All decisions can be categorized into the following three basic models. (1) The Rational/Classical Model. (2) The Administrative or Bounded Rationality Model. (3) The Retrospective Decision-Making Model. All models are beneficial.

Rationality[edit] Since the development of public administration , scholars have assumed that people make decisions rationally. Max Weber , in the early part of the 20th century, suggested distinguishing two types of economic rationality: The "formal rationality of economic action" referred to "the extent of quantitative calculation or accounting which is technically possible and. He defined substantive rationality, stemming from the concept of rationality within economics , as behavior that "is appropriate to the achievement of given goals within the limits imposed by given conditions and constraints". Procedural rationality, based in psychology , refers to behavior that "is the outcome of appropriate deliberation". Facts are important in deciding the appropriate means to take to achieve higher ends. They may not be readily known by administrators but need to be acquired through extensive research and analysis. Rationality is defined in terms of appropriateness for the accomplishment of specific goals. Van Wart, Besides setting goals for their plans, decision-makers make priorities, interpret facts and act upon objective situations according to their values. Besides balancing conflicting values within an individual, government has to weigh and balance values embodied in different departments Van Wart, , Means[edit] Means are the instruments to satisfy a higher end Simon, Although they are used to achieve a higher end, they are not neutral in value. When policy makers devise their strategies, they choose their means according to their internal values and consequences Ends[edit] Ends are the intermediate goals to a more final objective. In a means-end hierarchy , the concept of means and ends is relative. However, in this hierarchy, an action is more value-based when moving upwards in the hierarchy but more fact-based when moving downwards. There are several models of decision-making: In this, following conditions are assumed. The decision will be completely rational in means ends sense. There is a complete and consistent system of preferences that allows a choice among alternatives. There is a complete awareness of all the possible alternatives Probability calculations are neither frightening nor mysterious There are no limits to the complexity of computations that can be performed to determine the best alternatives Social model[edit] At the opposite extreme from the economic rationality model is the social model drawn from psychology. Sigmund Freud viewed humans as bundles of feelings, emotions and instincts, with their behavior guided by their unconscious desires. These processes have even an impact in the international arena as they provide some basic rules of protocol. He felt that management decision-making behaviour could be described as follows: Examples of satisfying criteria would be adequate profit or share or the market and fair price. They recognize that the world they perceive is drastically simplified model of the real world. They are content with the simplification because they believe the real world is mostly empty anyway. Because they satisfy rather than maximise, they can make their choices without first determining all possible behaviour alternatives and without ascertaining that these are all the alternatives. The managers treat the world as empty, they are able to make decision with simple rule of thumb. These techniques do not make impossible demands upon their capacity for thought. Neuroscientific neurocognitive model[edit] In cognitive neuroscience decision-making refers to the cognitive process of evaluating a number of possibilities, and selecting the most appropriate thereof in order to further a specific goal, or task. This faculty is a fundamental component of executive functions, although recent studies show that a complex brain network is involved including motor areas.

Chapter 3 : Decision Making Models: Rational and Behaviour Model

What distinguishes our review is the focus on biases in managerial decision-making. We organize the paper around two broad themes: alternative utility functions and non-equilibrium models.

I promise to use it only to send you Leader Newsletter. Decision making success depends on both: Decision quality Execution effectiveness Note One: I am talking about strategic decisions " as opposed to tactical decisions that executives make every day, where the effect on the organization is relatively minor. On the contrary, a strategic decision has a considerable impact on the performance of the company. I am talking about a managerial decision making process as a tool for executives " together with their corresponding teams " to help them make the best possible strategic decision every time. We define a team as a group of people made up by the boss and her direct reports within an organizational context. Hence, the quality of a strategic decision depends on the diversity of ideas considered to make such decision. However, the more ideas and perspectives are considered to make a strategic decision, the more conflict is likely to emerge in the managerial decision making process. If the people in charge of executing the decision made commit themselves to such decision, the execution is more likely to be effective. On the contrary, if the people in charge of executing the decision made do not commit themselves to such decision, the execution is less likely to be effective. Candor feeds the richness and diversity of ideas. There is more diversity of ideas if candor is part of the culture of the people in charge of making the strategic decision. However, if candor is not part of the culture, it is less likely that there will be diversity of ideas, and as a consequence of this, the quality of the strategic decision is likely to be poorer. Three ingredients feed commitment: Clarity of understanding that the managerial decision making process is ethical " team members must perceive that the decision making process is both fair everybody in the team has an equal chance to participate and influence the final decision , and clean not corrupted " team members must perceive that the decision making process is for the good of the organization, not for the good of just a few members of the organization. Clarity of understanding of the decision made " team members need to clearly understand what was agreed what, when, who, how, etc. When people clearly understand all these three dimensions of the decision making process, they are more likely to commit to the decision made. Nevertheless, the more conflict there is because of the diversity of ideas , the less likely it is that people will clearly understand the decision made, which will in turn reduce the commitment to whatever it is decided. Decision making success depends on both decision quality and execution effectiveness. Decision quality depends on diversity of ideas. Execution effectiveness depends on commitment. Diversity of ideas depends on candor. Commitment depends on clear understanding. On one hand, more diversity of ideas increases the likelihood that there will be conflict; on the other, conflict decreases the likelihood that there will be understanding " and commitment. So how do you resolve this dilemma? You resolve this dilemma by making a distinction: You must distinguish between affective conflict and cognitive conflict. Cognitive conflict is rational and constructive it lives in the world of ideas, it is not personal. Cognitive conflict helps you seed breakthrough ideas " it facilitates both candor diversity of ideas to improve the quality of the decision and clarity of understanding to build commitment to the decision made. You, as the boss of your direct reports " especially if you are the CEO " you must do two things simultaneously in your managerial decision making process: If you want your team to take the best possible decision, you must earnestly nourish cognitive conflict within your team " you must make sure everybody speaks up, particularly if there are disagreements within your team. Before you use this decision making process, and for the health of your own team you and your direct reports , make sure everybody understands both: Ground rules refer to the agreements your team must make before your team uses this decision making model. Ground rules are extremely important. If you like this site, you will find " Leader Ezine " very useful too. Enter your email to subscribe: But how do you facilitate engaging cognitive conflict and the creation of legitimate candor within the culture of your team? The answer my friend is inside yourself as the boss of your direct reports " the answer is found within your own behaviors: You must be authentic, you must have integrity, and you must be humble. Authenticity, integrity, humility, trust, frankness, etc. Managerial Decision

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Chapter 4 : Decision-making models - Wikipedia

The first step in the decision making process is to establish the objective of the business enterprise. The important objective of a private business enterprise is to maximise profits. However, a business firm may have some other objectives such as maximisation of sales or growth of the firm.

Decision making is crucial for running a business enterprise which faces a large number of problems requiring decisions. Which product to be produced, what price to be charged, what quantity of the product to be produced, what and how much advertisement expenditure to be made to promote the sales, how much investment expenditure to be incurred are some of the problems which require decisions to be made by managers. The five steps involved in managerial decision making process are explained below: The first step in the decision making process is to establish the objective of the business enterprise. The important objective of a private business enterprise is to maximise profits. However, a business firm may have some other objectives such as maximisation of sales or growth of the firm. But the objective of a public enterprise is normally not of maximisation of profits but to follow benefit-cost criterion. According to this criterion, a public enterprise should evaluate all social costs and benefits when making a decision whether to build an airport, a power plant, a steel plant, etc. The second step in decision making process is one of defining or identifying the problem. Defining the nature of the problem is important because decision making is after all meant for solution of the problem. For instance, a cotton textile firm may find that its profits are declining. It needs to be investigated what are the causes of the problem of decreasing profits. Whether it is the wrong pricing policy, bad labour-management relations or the use of outdated technology which is causing the problem of declining profits. Once the source or reason for falling profits has been found, the problem has been identified and defined. Identifying Possible Alternative Solutions i. Alternative Courses of Action: Once the problem has been identified, the next step is to find out alternative solutions to the problem. This will require considering the variables that have an impact on the problem. In this way, relationship among the variables and with the problems has to be established. In regard to this, various hypotheses can be developed which will become alternative courses for the solution of the problem. For example, in case of the problem mentioned above, if it is identified that the problem of declining profits is due to be use of technologically inefficient and outdated machinery in production. The two possible solutions of the problem are: The choice between these alternative courses of action depends on which will bring about larger increase in profits. Evaluating Alternative Courses of Action: The next step in business decision making is to evaluate the alternative courses of action. This requires, the collection and analysis of the relevant data. Some data will be available within the various departments of the firm itself, the other may be obtained from the industry and government. The data and information so obtained can be used to evaluate the outcome or results expected from each possible course of action. Methods such as regression analysis, differential calculus, linear programming, cost- benefit analysis are used to arrive at the optimal course. The optimum solution will be one that helps to achieve the established objective of the firm. The course of action which is optimum will be actually chosen. It may be further noted that for the choice of an optimal solution to the problem, a manager works under certain constraints. The constraints may be legal such as laws regarding pollution and disposal of harmful wastes; they way be financial i. The crucial role of a business manager is to determine optimal course of action and he has to make a decision under these constraints. After the alternative courses of action have been evaluated and optimal course of action selected, the final step is to implement the decision. The implementation of the decision requires constant monitoring so that expected results from the optimal course of action are obtained. Thus, if it is found that expected results are not forthcoming due to the wrong implementation of the decision, then corrective measures should be taken. The five steps in the decision making process are shown in Fig.

Chapter 5 : RATIONAL DECISION MAKING: Models of Decision Making Principles of Management Business

Managerial Decision Making 1. By: Qadeer Ahmed BS(CIS) 2. Presentation Layout • *Definition* • *The nature of managerial decision making* • *Types of problems decision makers face* • *Differences in decision making situations* • *Models of decision making* • *Steps in an effective decision making process* • *Overcoming barriers to effective decision making* • *Managing diversity: group.*

People agree on criteria and weights. All alternatives are known. All consequences can be anticipated. Decision makers are rational. They are not biased in recognizing problems. They anticipate present and future consequences of decisions. They search for all alternatives that maximizes the desired results. Decision-making involve the achievement of a goal. Rationality demands that the decision-maker should properly understand the alternative courses of action for reaching the goals. He should also have full information and the ability to analyse properly various alternative courses of action in the light of goals sought. There should also be a desire to select the best solutions by selecting the alternative which will satisfy the goal achievement. Simon defines rationality in terms of objective and intelligent action. It is characterised by behavioural nexus between ends and means. If appropriate means are chosen to reach desired ends the decision is rational. Bounded Rationality model is based on the concept developed by Herbert Simon. This model does not assume individual rationality in the decision process. Instead, it assumes that people, while they may seek the best solution, normally settle for much less, because the decisions they confront typically demand greater information, time, processing capabilities than they possess. This model is based on certain basic concepts. Sequential Attention to alternative solution: Normally it is the tendency for people to examine possible solution one at a time instead of identifying all possible solutions and stop searching once an acceptable though not necessarily the best solution is found. These are the assumptions that guide the search for alternatives into areas that have a high probability for yielding success. It is the tendency for decision makers to accept the first alternative that meets their minimally acceptable requirements rather than pushing them further for an alternative that produces the best results. Satisficing is preferred for decisions of small significance when time is the major constraint or where most of the alternatives are essentially similar. Thus, while the rational or classic model indicates how decisions should be made i. Retrospective decision model implicit favourite model: This model has been developed by Per Soelberg. He made an observation regarding the job choice processes of graduating business students and noted that, in many cases, the students identified implicit favorites i. However, students continued their search for additional alternatives and quickly selected the best alternative. The total process is designed to justify, through the guise of scientific rigor, a decision that has already been made intuitively. By this means, the individual becomes convinced that he or she is acting rationally and taking a logical, reasoned decision on an important topic. Some Common Errors in Decision-Making: Since the importance of the right decision cannot be overestimated enough for the quality of the decisions can make the difference between success and failure. Therefore, it is imperative that all factors affecting the decision be properly looked into and fully investigated. In addition to technical and operational factors which can be quantified and analyzed, other factors such as personal values, personality traits, psychological assessment, perception of the environment, intuitional and judgemental capabilities and emotional interference must also be understood and credited. Some researchers have pinpointed certain areas where managerial thinking needs to be re-assessed and where some common mistakes are made. These affect the decision-making process as well as the efficiency of the decision, and must be avoided. Some of the errors re: Decision-making is full of responsibility. The fear of its outcome can make some people timid about taking a decision. This timidity may result in taking a long time for making a decision and the opportunity may be lost. This trait is a personality trait and must be looked into seriously. The managers must be very quick in deciding. Postponing the decision until the last moment: This is a common feature which results in decision-making under pressure of time which generally eliminates the possibility of thorough analysis of the problem which is time consuming as well as the establishment and comparison of all alternatives. Many students, who postpone studying until near their final exams, usually do not do well in the exams. Even though

some managers work better under pressures, most often an adequate time period is required to look objectively at the problem and make an intelligent decision. Accordingly, a decision plan must be formulated; time limits must be set for information gathering, analysis and selection of a course of action. A failure to isolate the root cause of the problem: It is a common practice to cure the symptoms rather than the causes. For example, a headache may be on account of some deep-rooted emotional problem. A medicine for the headache would not cure the problem. It is necessary to separate the symptoms and their causes. A failure to assess the reliability of informational sources: Many a time, the opinion of the other person is taken, so that if the decision fails to bring the desired results, the blame for the failure can be shifted to the person who had provided the information. The method for analysing the information may not be the sound one: Since most decisions and especially the non-programmed ones have to be based upon a lot of information and factors, the procedure to identify, isolate and select the useful information must be sound and dependable. Usually, it is not operationally feasible to objectively analyse more than five or six pieces of information at a time. Hence, a model must be built which incorporates and handles many variables in order to aid the decision makers. Also, it will be desirable to define the objectives, criteria and constraints as early in the decision-making process as possible. This would assist in making the process more formal so that no conditions or alternatives would be overlooked. Following established procedures would eliminate the efforts of emotions which may cloud the process and rationality. Do implement the decision and follow through: Making a decision is not the end of the process, rather it is a beginning. Implementation of the decision and the results obtained are the true barometer of the quality of the decision. Duties must be assigned, deadlines must be set, evaluation process must be established and contingency plans must be prepared in advance. The decisions must be implemented whole heartedly to get the best results.

Note: Before you use this decision making process, and for the health of your own team (you and your direct reports), make sure everybody understands both: the benefits of this managerial decision making process, and the ground rules. Ground rules refer to the agreements your team must make before your team uses this decision making model.

Next Page Concept of Decision-Making Decision-making is a cognitive process that results in the selection of a course of action among several alternative scenarios. Decision-making is a daily activity for any human being. There is no exception about that. When it comes to business organizations, decision-making is a habit and a process as well. Effective and successful decisions result in profits, while unsuccessful ones cause losses. Therefore, corporate decision-making is the most critical process in any organization. In a decision-making process, we choose one course of action from a few possible alternatives. In the process of decision-making, we may use many tools, techniques, and perceptions. In addition, we may make our own private decisions or may prefer a collective decision. Usually, decision-making is hard. Majority of corporate decisions involve some level of dissatisfaction or conflict with another party. Decision-Making Process Following are the important steps of the decision-making process. Each step may be supported by different tools and techniques. There are a couple of questions one should ask when it comes to identifying the purpose of the decision. What exactly is the problem? Why the problem should be solved? Who are the affected parties of the problem? Does the problem have a deadline or a specific time-line? In addition, there can be dozens of factors involved and affected by the problem. In the process of solving the problem, you will have to gather as much as information related to the factors and stakeholders involved in the problem. When it comes to defining the criteria, organizational goals as well as the corporate culture should be taken into consideration. As an example, profit is one of the main concerns in every decision making process. Companies usually do not make decisions that reduce profits, unless it is an exceptional case. Likewise, baseline principles should be identified related to the problem in hand. Before the idea generation step, it is vital to understand the causes of the problem and prioritization of causes. For this, you can make use of Cause-and-Effect diagrams and Pareto Chart tool. Cause-and-Effect diagram helps you to identify all possible causes of the problem and Pareto chart helps you to prioritize and identify the causes with the highest effect. Then, you can move on generating all possible solutions alternatives for the problem in hand. In this step, experience and effectiveness of the judgment principles come into play. You need to compare each alternative for their positives and negatives. In addition, the selection of the best alternative is an informed decision since you have already followed a methodology to derive and select the best alternative. Execute your plan by yourself or with the help of subordinates. See whether there is anything you should learn and then correct in future decision making. This is one of the best practices that will improve your decision-making skills. Examples of such models include - decision matrix analysis, Pugh matrix, SWOT analysis, Pareto analysis and decision trees, selection matrix, etc. The normative model of decision-making considers constraints that may arise in making decisions, such as time, complexity, uncertainty, and inadequacy of resources. Judgmental heuristics - A person may use shortcuts to simplify the decision making process. Satisfying - A person may choose a solution that is just "good enough". Dynamic Decision-Making Dynamic decision-making DDM is synergetic decision-making involving interdependent systems, in an environment that changes over time either due to the previous actions of the decision-maker or due to events that are outside of the control of the decision-maker. These decision-makings are more complex and real-time. Sensitivity Analysis Sensitivity analysis is a technique used for distributing the uncertainty in the output of a mathematical model or a system to different sources of uncertainty in its inputs. From business decision perspective, the sensitivity analysis helps an analyst to identify cost drivers as well as other quantities to make an informed decision. If a particular quantity has no bearing on a decision or prediction, then the conditions relating to quantity could be eliminated, thus simplifying the decision making process.

Chapter 7 : Top 5 Models of Managerial Decision Making

2 evidence from the field. Because the application of formal behavioral models to managerial decisions is a relatively new area of inquiry, we also discuss several promising avenues for future research.

Whenever you come upon a problem on the job that seems to have you stumped, it is likely that a model exists to help you work through the issue. In this case, we are going to be talking about models that help you make smart decisions. Of course, decision making is a critical part of any business, so these models should be considered a valuable piece of your operational toolbox. Below, we have listed five decision-making models which have served countless businesses over the years. Take a few moments to get familiar with each model, and consider putting one or more of them into use the next time you need to make a key decision. With the assistance of this model, you can customize your approach to decision making based on the situation at hand. There are three factors which this model uses to analyze the decision that needs to be made. Those factors are listed below

Decision Quality. Simply put, this is where you think about how important it is to come up with the right decision. Sure, you always want to make the right choice, but some circumstances are more important than others in the context of business as a whole. Committing a large number of resources to each and every decision you make would be inefficient, as many decisions just are not important enough to warrant that kind of investment. Pick and choose your spots and only invest a large amount of time and energy into the decisions that are truly going to shape your organizational future. Some decisions that you make are going to have a strong impact on your team, while others will not affect them at all. When thinking about each decision, consider how much of an affect it is going to have on your team and others within and around the organization. If not, you may be able to make the decision on your own with very little input from others below you. Obviously, the timeline that you have in front of you for a given decision is going to impact the process that you can use to make your choice. If you are in no particular rush to make the decision, there will be plenty of time to include others, conduct research, and more. On the other hand, if the matter is time sensitive, you might not really have the option of going to others for help. Develop a clear timeline right up front for your decision and then chart out whether or not you are going to have time to get input from various areas. Once you have held up the decision you need to make to the light that is offered by each of these three points, you should have a much clearer picture of the path needed to make a quality choice. Moving on, you will then decide which leadership style will be best for making this decision. You can pick from three options

autocratic, consultative, and collaborative. You can read more on the specifics of this model for more detail on these three, but their titles largely speak for themselves. By thinking about the factors that make up each decision, and the type of leadership style best-suited for the decision, this model can lead you to a wise choice in the end.

The OODA Loop As an owner or manager, it is up to you to make the tough choices that steer the business in the right direction. This model is relatively simple and straightforward, but it can be highly effective. When you think about the operations of your organization in the frame of the OODA Loop, you will quickly see that you are never going to be finished making decisions. This model is a loop for a reason

it continues with no end in sight, for the life of the organization in question. It is a simple model, yet it says so much about how you are going to make decisions in business. Three of the four stages

observe, decide, and act

are pretty straightforward, and will be familiar to any business professional. That second stage, however, orient

might be foreign. The idea here is that you need to orient yourself correctly with the information at hand in order to make a good choice. Sometimes, you have to act quickly based upon the information that you have available. Within this model, there are three steps that you are going to work through as you make your decision. Those steps are as follows

Experiencing the situation. One of the best things you can do at this stage is to listen. Listen to the people who are directly involved in the situation and will be able to tell you exactly what is going on, why it is a problem, and how they think it may be fixed. Once you have a basic understanding of what is going on and why it is a problem, you next need to move into the analytical process to start to work toward a solution. You can ask yourself a number of different questions at this stage in order to trigger potential solutions based on past experience. For example, what about

this situation is surprising, and what parts of it might you have seen coming? Is this something that has happened previously, even if in a slightly different way? Finally, once a decision has been made, it will need to be implemented in a timely manner in order for it to be able to actually take effect. It does no good to quickly make a decision if you are then going to take your time implementing your choice – so get right down to business on putting this decision to work once you have gone through the first two steps of the model. As you are thinking about the various decisions you can make, the implementation phase is something that should always be in the back of your mind. Only those choices that are going to work in the practical application of implementation will be successful in the end. Paired Comparison Analysis Understanding priority is an important part of making good decisions. The Paired Comparison Analysis model is a great way to make tough choices that have many complexities to consider. The process of using this model involves first creating a table which is going to layout all of your various options. Every option you have at hand with regard to the decision that needs to be made should be listed in the chart, both across the top and down the side. Now, you have a chart that will let you compare options directly against one another. You are going to compare one option against another, and determine a winner. Repeat this process until all options have been compared against all other options. In the end, the option which has won the most head-to-head showdowns should be considered the winner. The Ladder of Inference The idea behind the Ladder of Inference is to help you avoid making poor judgments based on your past experiences, biases, or other factors. You should be aiming to set aside as much personal influence as possible in order to make choices that are simply in the best interest of the organization as a whole. Those rungs are as follows – listed from bottom to top as they would be seen on the ladder.

Chapter 8 : MIS Managerial Decision-Making

Top 5 Decision Making Models eBook (40 Pages) This free eBook describes the top 5 popular decision making models. These models can help you to use facts, analysis, and a step-by-step process to come to a rational decision.

In the 1950s, an economist, Herbert Simon studied the actual behaviors of managerial decision makers. On the basis of his studies, Simon propounded the concept of bounded rationality. This concept suggests that the managers may not always be perfectly rational in making decisions. Their decision-making ability may be limited by certain factors like cognitive capacity and time constraints. The concept of bounded rationality was offered as a framework to facilitate better understanding of the actual process of managerial decision-making. According to the concept of bounded rationality, the following factors commonly limit the degree to which managers are perfectly rational in making decisions: They may also not possess enough information about possible alternatives and their strengths and weaknesses. Simon argues that instead of searching for the perfect or ideal decision, managers frequently settle for one that will adequately serve their purpose. He contends that managers accept the first satisfactory decision they uncover, rather than searching till they find the best possible decision. The satisficing model holds that managers seek alternatives only until they identify one that looks satisfactory. The satisficing approach can be considered to be an appropriate decision-making approach when the cost of searching for a better alternative or delaying a decision exceeds the potential gain that is likely by following the satisficing approach. Another approach to decision-making is the incremental model. The incremental model states that managers put in the least possible effort “only enough to reduce the problem to a tolerable level. The manager here is concerned more with finding a short-term solution to the problem than making a decision that will facilitate the attainment of goals in the long-term. The incremental model does not require managers to process a great deal of information in order to take a decision. The garbage-can approach to decision-making holds that managers behave randomly while making non-programmed decisions. That is, decision outcomes are chance occurrences and depend on such factors as the participants involved in the decision-making process, the problems about which they happen to be concerned at the moment, the opportunities they happen to identify and their favorite solutions or the solutions they use the most to solve most problems. The garbage-can strategy is effective in the following situations: This approach can have serious consequences. The garbage-can approach is often used in the absence of strategic management.

Chapter 9 : How to Make Decisions - Decision Making Tools From calendrierdelascience.com

Project Management has emerged as a discipline of high level decision making with the help of analogue and digital tools which would help augment the intuition of a Project Manager and his team for taking decisions in favour of the future of the project. These decision making tools are general, they.

Rational and Behaviour Model Article shared by: Rational and Behaviour Model! A manager has to make decisions under different conditions and situations. While taking a decision how does a manager perceive the things, how does he react and how does he try to resolve, all this is human behaviour. Two models or approaches explain the behaviour of the decision maker. The economic man is completely rational. It states how a manager should behave in the process of decision making. This approach, besides rational, is also idealistic because it cannot be fully applied to a practical situation. This approach is supported by scientific and logical methods. This economic man model has the following features: The economic man model is applicable to routine and repetitive decisions which are programmed. Economic man is always in search of an optional solution or best way of doing things for maximising his benefits. He is governed by economic considerations and uses mathematical and statistical tools for solving problems. Rationality approach may not always be applicable in practical situations. This approach is pragmatic and holds the view that a manager is a human being and cannot be fully rational because he is confronted with many constraints, problems, limitations and inadequacies. Taking into consideration various factors of real-life decision-making. This theory states that the real-life decision maker must cope with inadequate information about the nature of problem and its solution. In real situation time available to a decision maker may not be sufficient to go through the rational process. A decision may have to be taken immediately without going through various formalities, iii There may be a situation where multiple and conflicting objectives may be involved, a process of compromise and adjustment becomes necessary for taking decisions rather than rationality, ADVERTISEMENTS: The future environment is full of complexities and uncertainties and cannot be predicted with a high degree of accuracy. A manager may have to accommodate the changing situations in decision making process, v The problem requiring a solution may be complex and unstructured, it may not be defined with rationality. In such situations a manager may rely on intuition than on rationality, vi The organizational variables such as philosophy, multiplicity of goals, existence of informal goals, power structure may be taken into account while taking decisions. A manager may have to make certain adjustments while taking decisions, even defying the norms of rationality. In real life situation decision-making is sub-rational, fragmented and pragmatic activity.