



Results of a comprehensive assessment of the quality of services to the population with the use of statistical methods

Nurlan Amanbek¹ · Laura A. Mamayeva¹ · Gaukhar M. Rakhimzhanova²

Received: 14 April 2021 / Revised: 19 May 2021 / Accepted: 16 August 2021 / Published online: 23 August 2021

© The Society for Reliability Engineering, Quality and Operations Management (SREQOM), India and The Division of Operation and Maintenance, Lulea University of Technology, Sweden 2021

Abstract Rendering of services to the population is always perceived as a function or obligation of the authorities to perform their activities. At the same time, the quality of services rendered by the authorities is not always properly controlled. The relevance of the study is determined by the fact that the quantity and structure of population satisfaction should be considered not only upon assessing the current activities of government bodies, but also when implementing socio-economic forecasting programs. The aim of the study is to determine the most client-oriented state body for the provision of services to the population. The main research methods are system analysis and hierarchy analysis. The novelty of the study is determined by the fact that the evaluation of the quality of services rendered to the population is performed not only by the statistical estimation method for the sample of respondents, but also by approximation models. The authors show that obtaining feedback has become a necessary condition for measuring the effectiveness of state bodies in the context of global interstate competition. The paper shows that the assessment of the rendering of services to the population will allow the formation of more accurate economic models for the formation and spending of budget funds. The practical significance of the study is determined by the

need for demonstration of budget expenditures in conjunction with the application of methods for assessing the improvement of the quality of services for the population. The formation of such a model is allowed subject to the continuity of the process.

Keywords Measurement · Relationship · Residents of the territory · Customer focus

1 Introduction

The authors believe that the formation of an assessment of the quality of services for the population is necessary provided that they determine what their assessment is. If the focus is on the development of the territory in which the population lives, then under the conditions of economic modeling, the management-subordination relationship undergoes a change (Zhao et al. 2021). In particular, it should be noted that from an economic standpoint, governing bodies become hired managers who work to improve the welfare of their employers (Amorim and Saghezchi 2014). Accordingly, this refers to the possibility of providing client-manager relations. Therefore, for this study, the authors accept the postulate that the inhabitants of the territory are customers who must be satisfied. Accordingly, the management bodies become a service department, which should increase the level of customer focus (Ahonen et al. 2018).

To enable conscious management and control of customer-oriented marketing, “customer focus” itself requires the creation of special measurement and control techniques (Lenka et al. 2010). Unfortunately, this question does not have a definite answer, both among scientists and

✉ Nurlan Amanbek
amanbek5354@murdoch.in

¹ Department of Technology and Safety of Food Products, Kazakh National Agrarian University, 8 Abai Ave, 050010 Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan

² Department of Management and Organization of Agribusiness, Graduate School of Business and Law, Kazakh National Agrarian University, 8 Abay Ave, 050035 Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan

practitioners, and determination of the level of customer focus of an organisation remains one of the most problematic issues in this concept (Harrison et al. 2021). To solve this issue, various indicators are widely used in practice that describe the attitude of consumers towards the enterprise, for example, the index of customer satisfaction, the index of net support, the coefficient of loyalty, etc. (Upreti and Chaudhary 2017). Basically, these methods are based on field marketing research of consumers, which is a highly cost-effective procedure and takes a long time to conduct (Chen 2019).

Among foreign researchers of this issue, the approach to assessing the organisation's customer focus prevails through a survey of employees and managers using a standard questionnaire followed by analysis of the data obtained using factor analysis. In particular, the most famous are the SOCO, MKTOR, MARKOR, and Custor scales. In the countries of the former USSR, these approaches are mainly adapted to the specifics of countries with economies in transition, leaving the methodological framework of these scales unchanged (Strapchuk 2021; Kuzmenko et al. 2021). It is noteworthy that these approaches to assessing customer focus have significant limitations, since they are based on a subjective assessment of the organisation by its employees (managers) and are based on a factor analysis, do not fully meet the features of economic management of countries with economies in transition (Liang 2010; Young et al. 2009).

Therefore, to solve this issue, the authors selected another method—the hierarchy analysis method, which should level the limitations and disadvantages of these approaches (Kim and Han 2013). The advantage of this technique is that the estimation of external experts in combination with powerful mathematical tools reduce the level of subjectivity in opinions and allow to assess customer focus quickly and with minimal financial costs (Diamond-Smith et al. 2018).

2 Materials and methods

In recent years, there has been a clear tendency towards the spread of the practice of attracting methods for solving marketing problems from other areas of knowledge, in particular from system analysis (Udo et al. 2010). System analysis allows to develop recommendations for optimal organisation, maintaining effective functioning and innovative development of a complex organisational and technical system (Xu et al. 2020). Within the framework of system analysis to solve the problems of this paper, it is advisable to use the hierarchy analysis method (HAM), since it corresponds to the purpose of the study—

determination of the level of customer focus of government bodies (Chen 2013).

The hierarchy analysis method is a quantitative method of system analysis, designed to justify the choice of the optimal solution under conditions of significant development uncertainty and the presence of a considerable number of criteria that a solution must meet (Pailey et al. 2017). The methodology considers the role of a person in the hierarchy, provides a basis for finding a compromise (reconciliation) of numerical human interests and aspirations, which contradict each other (Prentice et al. 2020). This methodology offers tools for ordering priorities in the system and measuring the intensity of interaction of components that are in the hierarchy (Granja et al. 2018). The analysis process can be applied to a sequence of hierarchies: the results of one level constitute the source of information for another (Strandberg et al. 2012). Solving a problem in systems analysis is seen as a process of phased prioritisation (Santmann 2013):

- Stage I: identification of the most important elements of the problem.
- Stage II: comparison and evaluation of elements.
- Stage III: development of a method for decision making and assessing its quality.

HAM comprises the following main stages: decomposition of the problem; building a hierarchical structure of the problem model; expert assessment of benefits; building local priorities, assessment of the consistency of conclusions; synthesis of local priorities; conclusions and suggestions for decision making. This technique is considered on the example of state bodies to determine the most customer-oriented state body for the provision of services to the population. The calculations were carried out in MS Excel. An analysis of consumer requirements and a survey of experts conducted as part of this work allowed to identify indicators. For each of which specific requirements were developed that allow to formulate selection criteria: A1 (location and infrastructure), A2 (time of rendering public services), A3 (quality of electronic services), A4 (comfort of indoor conditions), A5 (condition and serviceability of equipment), A6 (availability of information on the procedure for rendering public services), A7 (courtesy and competence of an employee), A8 (additional service) (De Oña and De Oña 2015).

The main purpose set in the study to solve the problem can be formulated as follows: determination of the most client-oriented state body for the provision of services to the population. This purpose is the focus of the problem, i.e., the element of the hierarchy of the highest (first) level. After constructing a hierarchical model, the issue of establishing priorities becomes urgent, the complexity of which lies in the fact that factors are measured in an ordinal

scale (since it is necessary to rank objects according to available criteria.

3 Results and discussion

According to the theory of system analysis, the name scale and the order scale (rank) are called weak. Therefore, to compare the elements of this hierarchy, it is advisable to determine the scale of relative importance (significance, superiority), proposed by the famous American system analyst T. Saaty. This scale was deeply theoretically substantiated and has been widely used in economic and social studies, which is conditioned by its effectiveness in practical applications compared to other similar scales. The Saaty scale is presented in Table 1, which shows the degree of preference of one element over others and a numerical measure of this advantage.

To compare items, HAM uses expert judgment according to pairwise comparisons method. When comparing n elements (A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n), the results of their pairwise comparisons are entered into a square matrix of advantages of order n (Eq. 1):

$$A = (a_{ij})_i^n, j = 1, \dots, n \quad (1)$$

where A is the square matrix of advantages; a_{ij} is the ratio of the i^{th} object (criterion) to the j^{th} object; n is the number of objects (criteria).

Elements of this matrix are calculated as follows:

For weak scales: a_{ij} (or a_{ji}) is chosen from the Saaty scale, the value a_{ij} shows the preference of the i^{th} object over the j^{th} one. An element symmetric to the already identified element of matrix A is found from the condition (Eq. 2):

$$a_{ij} = \frac{1}{a_{ji}}, \quad (2)$$

where a_{ij} —the ratio of the i^{th} object (criterion) to the j^{th} one.

The matrix of advantages built on the basis of strong scales is consistent, i.e., such where data do not conflict

with each other. Two types of consistency are distinguished: ordinal (transitivity of advantage \succ : if $A_i \succ A_j, A_j \succ A_k$, then $A_i \succ A_k$) and cardinal ($(a_{ij}a_{jk}) = a_{ik}$). If consistency is both ordinal and cardinal, then it is called complete consistency. It is impossible to construct a completely consistent preference matrix neither for strong scales (since measurements have errors), nor, especially, for weak scales (if ordinal consistency is fulfilled, then cardinal is not). Therefore, subsequent to expert evaluations according to the method of pairwise comparisons, the question of the degree of consistency of the obtained estimates becomes relevant. According to the extent of consistency, there are the following indicators: consistency index (IY); consistency ratio (BY).

According to the theory of matrices, the full consistency of the inverse symmetric matrix (which is the matrix of advantages) is equivalent to the equality of its maximum eigenvalue λ_{max} and the number of compared objects ($\lambda_{max} = n$). Therefore, according to the extent of consistency, the HAM uses a value called the “consistency index” (Eq. 3):

$$IY = \frac{\lambda_{max} - n}{n - 1}, \quad (3)$$

where IY —the consistency index; λ_{max} —maximum eigenvalue of the matrix; n —number of compared objects.

To obtain a conclusion on the acceptability of consistency, IY is compared to the value of the random consistency index (BI), which is calculated for a square matrix of the n order, which is positive and inversely symmetric, where elements are randomly generated and evenly distributed over the interval from 1 to 9, including the ends of the interval, integers. For a fixed n , the index is calculated as the average value for a sample of volume 100. Table 2 shows the BI values for n from 3 to 15 (for $n = 1$ and 2 $BI = 0$).

The consistency ratio (BY) is the fraction of IY (calculated according to formula 3) and BI taken from Table 2 for the same matrix order (Eq. 4):

$$BY = \frac{IY}{BI}, \quad (4)$$

Table 1 Saaty’s relative importance scale

Definitions of the advantage of one element over another	Measure of advantage (importance, significance)
Equal importance (significance), lack of advantage	1
Weak advantage with importance (significance)	3
Substantial or strong advantage in terms of importance (significance)	5
Very strong or substantial advantage in terms of importance (significance)	7
Absolute advantage	9
Interim importance rating between adjacent values	2, 4, 6, 8

Table 2 Random consistency index

n	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
BI	0.58	0.9	1.12	1.24	1.32	1.41	1.45	1.49	1.51	1.54	1.56	1.57	1.59

where *BY*—consistency ratio; *IY*—consistency index; *BI*—random consistency index.

If *BY* < 0.2, then the degree of consistency is considered to be acceptable. Otherwise, the expert revises their findings based on a deeper analysis of the issue. With that, the elements of the matrix which introduce the greatest inconsistency are identified, and which are changed as a result. Based on the matrix of pairwise comparisons (preferences), HAM allows to obtain the vector of priorities of the compared objects, which is done by calculating the main (for $(\lambda)_{max}$) eigenvector of the matrix, the normalisation of which provides the vector of priorities.

The exact method for calculating the main eigenvector and the priority vector is to raise the matrix to an arbitrarily large degree and divide the sum of each row by the sum of the elements of the matrix. This method is rarely used due to its mathematical complexity. An approximate method is sufficient, as it provides the necessary accuracy. For this, it is convenient to present data (matrices and vectors) in the form of a Table 3.

Approximately the components of the main eigenvector of the matrix are the geometric mean values of the corresponding rows of the matrix, that is (Eq. 5):

$$V_i \approx \sqrt[n]{\prod_{j=1}^n a_{ij}}, i = 1, 2, \dots, n, \tag{5}$$

where V_i —components of the main eigenvector of the matrix; a_{ij} —the ratio of the i th object (criterion) to the j th one; n —number of compared objects.

The maximum eigenvalue (value) of the matrix is found according to approximate formulas (Eq. 6):

$$\lambda_i = \left(\sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} V_j \right) / V_i; i = 1, 2, \dots, n; \lambda_{max} \approx \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \right) / n, \tag{6}$$

Table 3 Input for using the approximate method

	A_1	A_2	...	A_n	Main eigenvector	Priority vector
A_1	a_{11}	a_{12}	...	a_{1n}	V_1	P_1
A_2	a_{21}	a_{22}	...	a_{2n}	V_2	P_2
...
A_n	a_{n1}	a_{n2}	...	a_{nn}	V_n	P_n

where λ_i —matrix eigenvalue (value); a_{ij} —the ratio of the i th object (criterion) to the j th one; V_i —components of the main eigenvector of the matrix; λ_{max} —maximum eigenvalue (value) of the matrix; n —number of compared objects.

The components of the priority vector are obtained by normalising the numbers V_i , calculated according to (5), that is (Eq. 7):

$$P_i = \frac{V_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n V_i}, i = 1, 2, \dots, n, \tag{7}$$

where P_i —matrix priority vector components; V_i —components of the main eigenvector of the matrix; n —number of compared objects.

The authors shall give formulas for exact calculation $P_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Let $B = A^m$, where m —a large natural number (practically $m \approx 20$). Let b_{ij} be elements of B . Then (Eq. 8):

$$P_i = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n b_{ij}}{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n b_{ij}}, \tag{8}$$

where P_i —matrix priority vector components; b_{ij} —the ratio of the i th object (criterion) to the j th one; n —number of compared objects.

After this, the Matrix of advantages (pairwise comparisons) is formed (Table 4) and the degree of influence of the indicators of quality properties of objects on the selection target is calculated.

With that, the row and column of the element that prevails is filled. For example, 7 at the intersection of A4 line “room cleanliness” and A3 column “interesting events” means that the first factor on the Saaty scale has a significant advantage over the second (respectively, the inverse advantage of the second factor over the first is estimated as 1/7). From a formal standpoint, when the expert fills in the Table 5, it constitutes an analysis of the influence of factors of the 2nd level, while the purpose of the analysis is the first (top) level of the hierarchy. Thus, the calculations provide: $L_{max} = 9.97$; $IY = 0.28$; $BY = 0.20$. The authors shall note that this level of consistency ratio is satisfactory. The level of consistency should correspond to the risk that occurs when working with inconsistent data. Table 4 presents the calculated priorities of the selection criteria of objects relative to the purpose of selection. In particular, A5 “condition and serviceability of equipment” has the highest priority according to the results of analysis, modelling, and calculations—37.2%.

Table 4 Matrix of benefits of selection criteria

	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	Vi	Pi	Li	Pi, %
A1	1	2	1	0.33	0.11	0.14	1	2	0.6176	0.057	09.023	5.7%
A2	0.5	1	1	0.25	0.14	3	2	1	0.7564	0.070	15.232	7.0%
A3	1	1	1	0.14	0.11	0.2	0.25	1	0.4097	0.038	8.721	3.8%
A4	3	4	7	51	0.2	0.33	0.5	5	1.3908	0.128	9.674	12.8%
A5	9	7	9	5	1	1	5	5	4.0394	0.372	8.541	37.2%
A6	7	0.33	5	3	1	1	5	5	2.3321	0.214	10.207	21.4%
A7	1	0.5	4	2	0.2	0.2	1	2	0.8672	0.080	9.775	8.0%
A8	0.5	1	1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	1	0.4599	0.042	5.26	4.2%
									Sum Vi	Sum Pi	Sum Li	Sum Pi%
									10.873	1	79.7942	100.0%

Table 5 Advantages of the objects by location and infrastructure

	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5	O6	Vi	Pi	Li	Pi, %
O1	1	4	0.33	4	3	3	1.906	0.239	6.193	23.9%
O2	0.25	1	0.2	1	0.5	1	1.541	0.068	6.061	6.8%
O3	3	5	1	5	5	5	3.512	0.441	6.258	44.1%
O4	0.25	1	0.2	1	0.5	1	1.541	0.068	6.061	6.8%
O5	0.33	2	0.2	2	1	2	0.901	0.113	6.147	11.3%
O6	0.33	1	0.2	1	0.5	1	0.567	0.071	6.058	7.1%
							Sum Vi		Sum Li	
							7.967	1	36.78108	100.0%

In this case, it was calculated that: $L_{max} = 6.13$; $IY = 0.03$; $BY = 0.02$. Consistency index is satisfactory.

The authors shall define the advantage (significance weight) of each of the objects in relation to each of the factors of the 2nd level. This is carried out on the basis of the data of the problem by means of constructing 8 (according to the number of factors of the 2nd level) matrices of pairwise comparisons for six factors of the third level. Results—matrices and results of their analysis (vectors of priorities and degree of consistency) are shown in Tables 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12.

The calculated indicators are as follows: $L_{max} = 6.05$; $IY = 0.01$; $BY = 0.01$. Consistency index value is satisfactory. Priority vectors of the lower hierarchy are called

local priorities. The next step is the synthesis of local priorities (assessment of generalised (global) priorities). As a result of multiplying the matrix of local priorities of the 3rd level (Tables 5–12) by the vector of local priorities of the 2nd level (Table 4), the global priorities of the objects relative to the goals of the upper level are determined – determination of the most customer-oriented governing body (Fig. 1, Table 13).

The authors shall calculate the generalised measure of consistency (for the entire hierarchy). The consistency index of the 2nd level is calculated as the product (scalar)

Table 6 Advantages of the objects in terms of rendering public services

	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5	O6	Vi	Pi	Li	Pi, %
O1	1	3	0.33	3	0.33	1	1	0.12883	6.1298	12.9%
O2	0.33	1	0.2	1	0.2	0.33	0.4055	0.05224	6.1092	5.2%
O3	3	5	1	5	0.33	2	1.9194	0.24728	6.3048	24.7%
O4	0.33	1	0.2	1	0.2	0.33	0.4055	0.05224	6.1092	5.2%
O5	3	5	3	5	1	3	2.9618	0.38157	6.4098	38.2%
O6	1	3	0.5	3	0.33	1	1.0699	0.13784	6.0283	13.8%
							Sum Vi		Sum Li	
							7.762	1	37.091	100.0%

The corresponding indicators for the “popularity” criterion are as follows: $L_{max} = 6.18$; $IY = 0.04$; $BY = 0.03$. Consistency index value is satisfactory.

Table 7 Advantages of the objects for the quality of electronic services

	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5	O6	Vi	Pi	Li	Pi, %
O1	1	5	0.33	7	0.2	7	1.5929	0.18406	7.2405	18.4%
O2	0.2	1	0.2	3	0.11	1	0.487	0.05627	6.33	5.6%
O3	3	5	1	9	0.5	7	2.7908	0.32248	6.4481	32.2%
O4	0.14	0.33	0.11	1	0.14	0.5	0.2689	0.03107	6.2499	3.1%
O5	5	9	2	7	1	1	2.9279	0.33832	6.9666	33.8%
O6	0.14	1	0.14	2	1	1	0.5868	0.0678	6.8034	6.6%
							Sum Vi		Sum Li	
							8.6542	1	38.039	100.0%

As a result of calculations, the authors obtain: $L_{max} = 7.17$; $IY = 0.23$; $BY = 0.19$. Consistency index is satisfactory.

Table 8 Advantages of the objects on the comfort of indoor conditions

	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5	O6	Vi	Pi	Li	Pi, %
O1	1	0.5	3	2	0.5	2	1.2009	0.17281	6.1414	17.3%
O2	2	1	3	3	1	3	1.9442	0.27976	6.2034	28.0%
O3	0.33	0.33	1	0.33	0.2	0.33	0.3676	0.0529	6.2969	5.3%
O4	0.5	0.33	3	1	0.5	1	0.7937	0.11421	6.1276	11.4%
O5	2	1	5	2	1	2	1.8493	0.26611	6.0608	26.6%
O6	0.5	0.33	3	1	0.5	1	0.7937	0.11421	6.1276	11.4%
							Sum Vi		Sum Li	
							6.9495	1	36.958	100.0%

The calculated indicators are: $L_{max} = 6.06$; $IY = 0.03$; $BY = 0.03$. Consistency index value is satisfactory.

Table 9 Advantages of the objects on the status and serviceability of equipment

	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5	O6	Vi	Pi	Li	Pi, %
O1	1	0.33	1	0.33	0.25	0.33	0.4582	0.0644	6.0724	6.4%
O2	3	1	3	1	0.5	2	1.4442	0.20269	6.2627	20.3%
O3	1	0.33	1	0.33	0.25	0.33	0.4582	0.0644	6.0724	6.4%
O4	0.33	1	3	1	0.33	0.5	1.0699	0.15037	6.2666	15%
O5	4	2	4	3	1	2	2.4019	0.33756	6.1335	33.8%
O6	3	0.5	3	2	0.5	1	1.2849	0.18058	6.3011	18.1%
							Sum Vi		Sum Li	
							7.1154	1	37.109	100%

As a result of the matrix analysis, the authors obtain the following: $L_{max} = 6.40$; $IY = 0.08$; $BY = 0.06$. Consistency index is satisfactory.

of the 2nd level consistency index vector and the 1st level priority vector (Fig. 2).

The authors calculate the generalised consistency index M as the sum of the indices of consistency of the 1st and 2nd levels: $M = 0.28 + 0.05 = 0.33$. The total random index $\tilde{M} = 2.65$ and the consistency ratio for the entire hierarchy are calculated similarly: $M/\tilde{M} = 0.33/2.65 = 0.12$. This indicates that calculations across the hierarchy have an acceptable level of consistency. The given adaptation of the hierarchy analysis method indicates wide opportunities for expanding marketing tools through system analysis. The described study testifies to the reality and

expediency of applying the hierarchy analysis method to solve specific tasks of managing and evaluating the quality of services.

Measuring the level of customer orientation of enterprises on the basis of HAM can become an important indicator of competitiveness and identify the most critical areas for improving the operation of enterprises. The advantage of this method lies in the fact that it allows to improve the accuracy of assessing the level of customer focus with minimal time and financial resources. Such an identity of the results of various studies indicates that the marketing activities of this organisation are effective and

Table 10 Advantages of the objects on the availability of information on the procedure for rendering public services

	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5	O6	Vi	Pi	Li	Pi, %
O1	1	0.2	0.33	1	5	3	1	0.11973	6.537	12.0%
O2	5	1	3	5	7	5	3.7141	0.44468	6.3667	44.5%
O3	3	0.33	1	3	5	3	1.886	0.2258	6.3066	22.6%
O4	1	0.2	0.33	1	4	1	0.8023	0.09605	6.0997	9.6%
O5	0.2	0.14	0.2	0.25	1	0.2	0.2566	0.03073	6.6381	3.1%
O6	0.33	0.2	0.33	1	5	1	0.6934	0.08301	6.4665	8%
							Sum Vi		Sum Li	
							8.3524	1	38.415	100.0%

As a result of calculations, the authors obtain the following: $L_{max} = 6.04$; $IY = 0.01$; $BY = 0.01$. Consistency index value is satisfactory.

Table 11 Advantages of the objects on benefits of employee courtesy and competence

	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5	O6	Vi	Pi	Li	Pi, %
O1	1	0.5	1	1	0.33	0.5	0.6609	0.09821	6.0083	9.8%
O2	2	1	2	2	0.5	1	2.599	0.18722	6.0147	18.7%
O3	1	0.5	1	1	0.33	0.5	0.6609	0.09821	6.0083	9.8%
O4	1	0.5	1	1	0.33	0.33	0.6177	0.09179	6.0647	9.2%
O5	3	2	3	3	1	2	2.1822	0.32427	6.0564	32.4%
O6	2	1	2	3	0.5	1	1.348	0.20031	6.0799	20.0%
							Sum Vi		Sum Li	
							6.7297	1	36.232	100.0%

The calculations yield the following results: $L_{max} = 6.05$; $IY = 0.01$; $BY = 0.01$. Consistency index is satisfactory.

Table 12 Advantages of the objects for additional service

	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5	O6	Vi	Pi	Li	Pi, %
O1	1	0.5	1	1	0.2	0.33	0.5673	0.0747	6.0128	7.5%
O2	2	1	2	2	0.33	0.5	1.0491	0.13813	6.0407	13.8%
O3	1	0.5	1	1	0.2	0.33	0.5673	0.0747	6.0128	7.5%
O4	1	0.5	1	1	0.2	0.33	0.5673	0.0747	6.0128	7.5%
O5	5	3	5	5	1	3	3.225	0.42463	6.1205	42.5%
O6	3	2	3	3	0.33	1	1.6189	0.21315	6.114	21.3%
							Sum Vi		Sum Li	
							7.5949	1	36.314	100.0%

can act as a model for other enterprises. To implement this approach successfully, it is necessary to use a number of tools that stem from the organisational and methodological support for customer-oriented marketing from related functional areas of management, in particular project management, operational management, personnel management, which are presented in Table 14.

These tools cover the main aspects of introducing customer-oriented marketing and allow achieving high efficiency in the implementation of this complex of organisational changes. The process of introducing customer-oriented marketing begins with setting goals in front of this process. At the analysed objects, goal setting was

available only financially, which significantly narrows the decision-making field and is poorly suited to justify customer focus. The system for handling complaints and suggestions is closely related to relationship marketing. The construction of a system for dealing with complaints is not widespread, although the experience of enterprises in developed countries indicates its economic feasibility. Based on the analysis of various approaches of scientists and practitioners, the authors offer the following approach to dealing with complaints and suggestions for servicing:

- encouraging clients to file complaints (they must be convinced that possible complaints will be normally accepted and appropriate actions will be taken

Fig. 1 Calculation of global priorities

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
O1	0.239	0.129	0.184	0.173	0.064	0.120	0.098	0.075	
O2	0.068	0.052	0.056	0.280	0.203	0.445	0.187	0.138	
O3	0.441	0.247	0.322	0.053	0.064	0.226	0.098	0.075	
O4	0.068	0.052	0.031	0.114	0.150	0.096	0.092	0.075	
O5	0.113	0.382	0.338	0.266	0.338	0.031	0.324	0.425	
O6	0.071	0.138	0.068	0.114	0.181	0.083	0.200	0.213	0.057
									0.070
									0.038
									0.128
									0.372
									0.214
									0.080
									0.042
									0.1122
									0.2368
									0.1445
									0.1102
									0.2556
									0.1407

Table 13 Selection results

Object	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5	O6
Share	11.22%	23.68%	14.45%	11.02%	25.56%	14.07%
Place in share	5	2	3	6	1	4

Fig. 2 Consistency index calculation for the 2nd level

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
IY	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.08	0.01	0.01	0.057
									0.070
									0.038
									0.128
									0.372
									0.214
									0.080
									0.042
									0.05

accordingly, for which it is necessary to form feedback channels);

- quick response (a dissatisfied client should see that the appropriate actions for the complaints submitted will be implemented promptly, preferably in the service process itself, and if this is not possible, the client should be informed about the progress in solving the problem);
- openness and goodwill in communicating with the client (dissatisfied customers are in a negative emotional state (sometimes openly aggressive), therefore, employees of the organisation should be especially polite and attentive, demonstrate patience, and willingness to solve a problem);
- accumulation of experience in each case of resuming service (the results of successful solution of problem situations should be accumulated and used as experience in the future);
- reduction of risks of failures in the provision of services (accumulated data as a result of analysis of customer

complaints should become the basis for improving the process of providing services).

Study of organisations within the framework of this paper proved that they lack common criteria for the technology of service delivery, a vision of an ideal service, and clear requirements for personnel work. The rules of customer service are transmitted orally and are based on the personal presentation of each employee on the essence of the “ideal” service. In such a situation, the process of providing services is poorly controlled, and the quality of services is unstable. An effective method to solve such problems is to standardise the quality of service. The essence, benefits from implementation, the main list of issues, and the general algorithm for the development and implementation of quality-of-service standards were disclosed. At present, it is advisable to propose a service standardisation plan for government agencies, which can be extended to other government agencies.

Table 14 Methodological and organisational tools of customer-oriented marketing

Tools	Content	Goals
Target identity	Formation of target identity, transmission of target identity through cognitive determinants, audit of target identity	Formation of the target image of the organisation in cognitive ether
Relationship marketing	Organisation of high competitiveness and market offers, formation of a scope of regular customers, development of relations with customers to increase loyalty	Creation and maintenance of long-term relationships with customers
Work with complaints and suggestions	Formation of a system for collecting complaints and suggestions, determining forms of response to them, ensuring the improvement of the service process based on the analysis of complaints and proposals	Formation of an effective system of customer feedback and registration of their complaints and suggestions in the work of the organisation
Service standardisation	Formation of requirements for an ideal service process. Description of the reference service process. Implementation of a service standard, monitoring compliance with the standard	Implementation of a reference process of service rendering
Kaizen	Identification of reserves for improving the process of servicing, identifying the causes of deficiencies in servicing, creating a system for collecting, evaluating, and implementing improvements to servicing	Ensuring continuous improvement of the service process
Internal marketing	Development of an internal marketing program, the formation of a staff selection system, the construction of a personnel training system, the determination of forms and methods of motivation and control	Education of a customer-oriented personnel
Management of points of contact	Audit of contact points, assessment of contact points, identification of corrective measures, implementation of improvements	Ensuring a positive customer experience, management at all possible points of contact
Service design	Description of the existing service delivery process, redefining the service delivery process, making changes to the service delivery process	Planning the optimal service rendering process
Design approach	Creation of a consolidated project plan, acquisition of a project team, project implementation management, project implementation monitoring	Ensuring the implementation of a customer-oriented approach in due time and within the budget

The proposed algorithm for the development and implementation of quality-of-service standards in government is given below.

- Choose a competitive advantage and formulate an ideal vision of the service delivery process. For this, the quality of service has to be maximised to the level proposed by competitive formats. The information obtained as a result of the research carried out as part of this project is enough to single out the most important complaints and suggestions and consolidate them. For this, it is advisable to create a task force, which should include employees directly in contact with customers, managers, and external invited specialists.
- Identify blocks of requirements that apply to all employees (general standards of behaviour, customer requests and complaints, etiquette of communication by phone and social networks, relationships with colleagues, and management). Each block, if necessary, can be divided into components that describe the main most common situations and standard procedures. After that, it is worth highlighting the blocks of standards for each position and service process in accordance with the constructed structural scheme for the provision of services. Processes both visible (the state of the service environment visible to the client and the methods of interaction with the service personnel) and invisible for customers are standardised separately.
- The organisation of work on the direct writing of standards within the framework of the working group should occur by means of identifying those responsible for individual blocks, approving a work schedule, a schedule of regular meetings, and monitoring methods. Those responsible for individual blocks describe the current situation, formulate an ideal vision based on information received from customers, contact personnel and mystery shoppers, and submit their vision of the standard to the consideration of the task force. The task force works out all the blocks and brings them into common standards.
- The finished standard is subject to audit, the purpose of which is to verify the reality and feasibility of its implementation in real conditions. For this, external experts, clients or “mystery shoppers” may be involved.

After the audit, the standard is brought to the final version, which is submitted for approval to management. At this stage, the adoption of this standard by all decision makers is important, because it will depend on their commitment and determination to introduce the standard whether it will be implemented or will remain only a formal document. The implementation of the quality-of-service standard in the organisation's work should not be limited to a formal order of management. An explanatory work should be carried out among employees so as to inform them that these innovations are aimed at better serving the population, and that it is in the interest of all employees that these standards be implemented and properly observed. It is also extremely important to develop and implement a motivation system aimed at observing these standards. For a better understanding of the essence of the implemented standards by employees, training should be conducted in the form of training or directly at the workplace. If employees understand and accept these standards, there will be no problems with their implementation and compliance, otherwise they can sabotage this process, and in this case the management will need to take decisive steps (fines, reprimands, partial or full replacement of personnel, organisation). Monitoring compliance with standards, periodic audit, and improvement of standards should be carried out continuously and systematically. For control, internal (supervision by the management) and external methods (interrogation of the consumer of services, visits of "mystery shoppers") should be applied. It is at this stage that real results are achieved and the greatest problems emerge.

It is worth emphasising that the developed service standards are not a dogma, but can and should be reviewed and improved over time. The logic of such gradual continuous improvements is well conveyed by the Japanese concept of kaizen. Tools of this concept were developed for industrial production, but were successfully adapted for use in the service sector. A key factor in the success of kaizen events at the enterprise lies in the commitment of managers to the idea of continuous improvement and their willingness to make changes in the organisation. One of the key recommendations of kaizen for managers is the need to understand the real situation in the place of creating value for the consumer. Another recommendation that the kaizen concept promotes for managers is to analyse problems, understand their root causes, and find solutions directly at the place where the problem emerged. In particular, according to this concept, to identify the real cause of the problem, the manager needs to ask five consecutive questions "Why?" about the emergence of the problem and get answers from subordinates. Another tool that service managers should use for service managers is the fight against the "chillouts", that is, with all actions that do not

carry value to the consumer of services and indicate inefficiencies in time management, material and intangible resources. In particular, during the study, such "chillouts" were identified in the process of servicing the consumer of services, the behaviour of personnel.

An important source of improvement in government can be suggestions for improvements that employees submit. This practice is appropriate from several points of view. Firstly, no one knows better than the workers themselves how to better organise their work, furthermore, personnel working with a consumer of services have the opportunity to collect suggestions for improvements from real visitors. Secondly, employees understand the fact that management pays heed to their suggestions, has a motivating effect on them and helps increase their loyalty to the employer. The use of kaizen techniques can provide a significant strategic advantage in terms of a high level of the organisation's service process. At the same time, such competitive advantages are difficult to copy, and their "pure" transfer to another company rarely yields significant results, since the specifics of a particular organisation are not taken into consideration. It is advisable to consider the applied aspects of the implementation of internal marketing in government. The authors offer the following algorithm for the development and implementation of an internal marketing system in service organisations: development of an internal audit program; presentation of the program to employees—it is extremely important to convey the importance, purpose, and key components of this program; the introduction and control should be systemic; periodic performance analysis and revision of the system should be carried out at least once a year.

4 Conclusions

An important element of internal marketing lies in the creation of a training system for employees, which should include the following blocks: the study of quality-of-service standards; training in methods of effective communication with clients; training in technical aspects, training methods, and safety measures. For staff training, it is worth using various techniques that best fit the essence of the material being taught, for example: lectures, business games, modelling of real-life service situations. The level of mastery and use of acquired knowledge and skills by employees should be checked in real working conditions, for example, by observations from the management or by "mystery shoppers".

Another important aspect that directly affects the quality of service is the existence of a motivation system that is tied to the quality of service. For this, it is worth combining the methods of material (bonus for completing a task, a

percentage of the sale of a certain service) and non-material motivation (the ability to choose the most convenient work schedule). The following indicators can become the basis for such a system: the results of the employees' work verification by "mystery shoppers" (the level of compliance with the quality-of-service standard); the number of served clients and the level of their results—for department heads; comparison of performance within the framework of temporary tasks. At the same time, it is important to prevent the conventional attitude of the personnel towards work, taking credit for the results of other employees, falsifying the results, and resorting to other "dishonest" practices. Employee motivation for quality service should amount to 20–40% of the variable wage share. The formula for calculating motivation should be simple, transparent, and understandable for employees.

Building a corporate culture aimed at providing quality service is the most difficult aspect in the implementation of the internal marketing system. Modern concepts of personnel management are based on the recognition of the growing role of the employees, on the study of their motivational attitudes, the ability to form and direct the latter in accordance with the tasks facing the enterprise. Leading organisations introduce a service culture that excludes flaw in any form, where all employees of the organisation are carriers of a high level of service. A sincere belief of a consumer of services in the quality service is shared by all employees: from the director to the janitor. An important element of the author's approach to the implementation of customer focus in government is to create a comfortable and unique environment for the provision of services. To organise effective work in this direction, the authors applied methods that have proven their effectiveness among researchers and practitioners.

Conflict of Interest The authors confirm that they have no conflicts of interest to disclose.

Funding None

References

- Ahonoje EQ, Fujishiro K, Cunningham T, Flynn M (2018) Work as an intricate part of population health inequities research and prevention. *Am J Public Health* 108(3):306–311. <https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2017.304214>
- Amorim M, Saghezchi FB (2014) An investigation of service quality assessments across retail formats. *Int J Qual Serv Sci* 6(2–3):221–236. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJQSS-02-2014-0015>
- Bailey ZD, Krieger N, Agénor M, Graves J, Linos N, Bassett MT (2017) Structural racism and health inequities in the USA: evidence and interventions. *Lancet* 389(10077):1453–1463. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(17\)30569-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(17)30569-X)
- Chen C-M (2019) The indirect effect of perceived value for the assessment of mobile service quality on customer loyalty. *J Qual* 26(5):273–295. [https://doi.org/10.6220/jqo.201910_26\(5\).0001](https://doi.org/10.6220/jqo.201910_26(5).0001)
- Chen S-H (2013) Devising appropriate service strategies for customers of different value: an integrated assessment model for the banking industry. *Int J Hum Res Manag* 24(21):3939–3956. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09585192.2011.610935>
- De Oña J, De Oña R (2015) Quality of service in public transport based on customer satisfaction surveys: a review and assessment of methodological approaches. *Trans Sci* 49(3):605–622. <https://doi.org/10.1287/trsc.2014.0544>
- Diamond-Smith N, Warnock R, Sudhinaraset M (2018) Interventions to improve the person-centered quality of family planning services: a narrative review. *Reprod Health* 15(1):144. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12978-018-0592-2>
- Granja C, Janssen W, Johansen MA (2020) Factors determining the success and failure of ehealth interventions: Systematic review of the literature. *J of Med Int Res* 20(5):e10235. <https://doi.org/10.2196/10235>
- Harrison R, Jones B, Gardner P, Lawton R (2021) Quality assessment with diverse studies (QuADS): an appraisal tool for methodological and reporting quality in systematic reviews of mixed- or multi-method studies. *BMC Health Ser Res* 21(1):144. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-021-06122-y>
- Kim P, Han J (2013) Effects of job satisfaction on service quality, customer satisfaction, and customer loyalty: THE case of a local state-owned enterprise. *WSEAS Trans Bus Econ* 10(1):49–68
- Korotkiy OV, Kashcha MO, Marchenko RV (2021) Structural modelling of the relationship between the vulnerability of Ukrainian regions to COVID-19, environmental status and factors of readiness of the medical system. *Scient Bull of Mukachevo State Univer. Ser Economics* 8(2):123–130
- Lenka U, Suar D, Mohapatra PKJ (2010) Soft and hard aspects of quality management practices influencing service quality and customer satisfaction in manufacturing-oriented services. *Glob Bus Rev* 11(1):79–101. <https://doi.org/10.1177/097215090901100105>
- Liang G-S (2010) Applying fuzzy quality function deployment to identify service management requirements for customer quality needs. *Qual Quant* 44(1):47–57. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s1135-008-9178-7>
- Prentice C, Dominique Lopes S, Wang X (2020) The impact of artificial intelligence and employee service quality on customer satisfaction and loyalty. *J Hosp Market Manag.* <https://doi.org/10.1080/19368623.2020.1722304>
- Sandmann W (2013) Quantitative fairness for assessing perceived service quality in queues. *Operat Res* 13(2):153–186. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12351-011-0111-9>
- Strandberg C, Wahlberg O, Öhman P (2012) Challenges in serving the mass affluent segment: bank customer perceptions of service quality. *Manag Serv Qual* 22(4):359–385. <https://doi.org/10.1108/09604521211253478>
- Strapchuk SI (2021) Level of ecological and economic diversification: A methodology for assessing the sustainability of agricultural enterprises. *Scient Bull of Mukachevo State Univer. Ser Economics* 8(2):101–107
- Udo GJ, Bagchi KK, Kirs PJ (2010) An assessment of customers' e-service quality perception, satisfaction and intention. *Intern J Inform Manag* 30(6):481–492. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijinfomgt.2010.03.005>
- Uprety I, Chaudhary A (2017) Tri-service model: a concept of service quality. *Int J Syst Assur Eng Manag* 8:823–835. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13198-016-0530-3>
- Xu Y, Zhu S, Zhang T, Wang D, Zhou Z, Hu J, Gao J (2020) Explaining income-related inequalities in dietary knowledge: Evidence from the China health and nutrition survey. *Int J*

- Environ Res Public Health 17(2):532. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph17020532>
- Young GJ, Meterko MM, Mohr D, Shwartz M, Lin H (2009) Congruence in the assessment of service quality between employees and customers: a study of a public health care delivery system. *J Bus Res* 62(11):1127–1135. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbusres.2008.08.004>
- Zhao Y, Zhou Z, Fan X, Nawaz R, Zhao D, Xu T, Su M, Cao D, Shen C, Lai S (2021) Comparison of inequity in health-related quality of life among unemployed and employed individuals in China. *BMC Public Health* 21(1):52. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-020-10038-3>

Publisher's Note Springer Nature remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.

RETRACTED ARTICLE