

## A Conceptual Model of Electronic Service for the Developing Countries: Iraq as a Case Study

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### Abstract:

*Across the world, the modernization of the public services through the adoption of information and communication technologies (ICTs) is in motion. Recently, almost all the developing and developed governments sought to shift toward modern electronic public services (e-services or e-government services). Electronic government services can increase the convenience and accessibility of government services and information to citizens and other stakeholders. Despite the benefits of e-government services, the failure of the utilizing the ICT in public sector is highly in the developing countries. In the same vein, Iraq is lagging behind in e-government and compared to neighboring countries, Iraq e-government initiatives (whether in federal level or local level) is one of the lowest amongst its neighboring countries. In order to investigate the issues behind this decline, this study first sought to propose a conceptual model based on the Diffusion of Innovations theory (DOI) and Technology Acceptance Model (TAM), plus additional factors. In the next research work, the researcher will seek to examine this model in the real world to highlighting on the significant factors that affecting on the intention to using this initiative.*

**Key words:** Electronic government, Iraq e-government, TAM, DOI, Conceptual Model

## Introduction

With the revolutionary changes that ICTs is bringing to our global society, government around the world continue to develop more sophisticated ways to digitize its routines and practices so that they can offer the public access to government services in more effective and efficient ways (Bohatyrets & Zoriy, 2014). 173 of 190 developed and developing countries across the world sought to utilize from the Information and communication technologies to deliver government services for their citizens (Shajari & Ismail, 2013).

Indeed, the governments across the world play a crucial role in administrating the societies and citizens' use of the ICTs in many aspects of their lives. Used the ICT in the public sector (or called e-Government) increases the convenience and accessibility of government services and information to public (Carter & Bélanger, 2005). In fact, utilizing electronic services in the public sector are beneficial to both citizens and government. Moreover, Furuholt and Wahid (2008) stated, the main opportunities for e-government in general, for instance cost reductions and improved efficiency for the government agencies, while citizens receive faster, more convenient services. In the developing countries the e-government services has become priority for them after reaching in developed countries (Ali & Sunitha, 2007). In the same context, Kanaan (2009) also said, e-government has become a popular focus of government efforts in many developed countries and, more recently, in several developing countries. Chaijenkij (2010) pointed out, the implementation of e-government has the potential to improve the lives of 80% of the world's population living in developing countries.

With all the benefits of e-Government implementation, in developing countries it is still facing many challenges (Alshehri, Drew & Alfarraj, 2012; AL-Naimat, Abdullah & Ahmad, 2013). Iraq is a one of these countries that are facing numerous of the

key barriers that would effective on the e-Government services (Al-Khafaji, Shittuline & Osman, 2012).

## Problem Identification

Heeks (2006) stated that, the rate of the failure e-government implementation is highly, especially in in developing countries. As well as, the vast majority of developing countries lag behind the developed countries in the use of online services in the public sector. Pudjianto (2009) also referred, approximately 60 percent of e-government implementation fail or cannot reach expected outcomes. Moreover, in the developing countries the take-up of e-Government services by citizens is low (Ionica, Edelhauser and Dima, 2013). According to Qamruzzaman (2014) the potential for e-government in developing countries, however, remains largely unexploited, even though ICT is believed to offer considerable potential for the sustainable development of e-government. In addition, Basu (2004) explained that developing countries can overcome the barriers with the help of new and innovative technology. Whereas, based on the recent survey conducted by United Nations E-Government (2012) the rank of the e-government in Iraq still in the bottom for the list among Western Asia countries, as shown in Table 1 below.

Country	E-gov. development index		World e-gov. development ranking	
	2012	2010	2012	2010
Israel	0.8100	0.6552	16	26
United Arab Emirates	0.7344	0.5349	28	49
Bahrain	0.6946	0.7363	36	13
Saudi Arabia	0.6658	0.5142	41	58
Cyprus	0.6508	0.5705	45	42
Qatar	0.6405	0.4928	48	62
Kuwait	0.5960	0.5290	63	50
Oman	0.5944	0.4576	64	82
Georgia	0.5563	0.4248	72	100
Turkey	0.5281	0.4780	80	69
Lebanon	0.5139	0.4388	87	93
Armenia	0.4997	0.4025	94	110
Azerbaijan	0.4984	0.4571	96	83

Jordan	0.4884	0.5278	98	51
Syrian Arab Republic	0.3705	0.3103	128	133
Iraq	0.3409	0.2996	137	136
Yemen	0.2472	0.2154	167	164

**Table 1: E-government development in Western Asia (source: United Nations E-Government Survey, 2012)**

Since 2004 some e-government policies has been issued by the government but in facts year by year, the global rank of e-government services as well as regional rank of Iraq still in low rank (United Nations E-Government Survey, 2012)

Additionally, there are very paucity of the publications and the empirical studies conducted on the electronic government in developing countries in general (Hassan, Mahdi, & Al-Khafaji, 2014) and in Iraq in particular. Thus, these arguments motivating the researcher to concentrate on the e-government services in Iraq, and also because nowadays Iraqi government seek to shift most of the services in the government agencies from the traditional means (papers) to use more sophisticated technologies to deliver the services for the citizens and also to sharing the information among the agencies.

## **Theoretical Background**

### **Electronic government Concept**

The fast development of the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) derived the rapid growth in the number of government websites and also the variety of services offered (Lee, Braynov & Rao, 2003). According to Davidrajuh (2004) nearly all countries across the globe, from the poorest countries to the most advanced ones, have some sort of Internet presence, or so-called e-government. E-government goes by different names in different countries (Bose, 2004; Kanaan, 2009; Farzali, Kanaan, Kanaan & Atieh, 2012). In Australia, for example, it is called “government online” (Mohammad & Lan, 2013), in Hong Kong it is called “electronic service delivery” (Ho, Calvin & Lai, 2014), and in India as well as in the UK and

Iraq it is called “electronic government” (Al-Dabbagh, 2013; Venkatesh, Sykes & Venkatraman, 2014; Waller, Irani, Lee & Weerakkody, 2014).

There are many variety definitions of e-government from many different perspectives. For instance, Cook, LaVigne, Pagano, Dawes and Pardo (2002) defined the e-government as: “E-government has four dimensions in relation to major functions and activities of governments: e-services (delivery of government information electronically), e-management (use of ICTs to improve management and communication within and outside government structures), e-democracy (use of ICTs to enhance citizen participation in democratic activities), and e-commerce (online transaction of goods and services).” Cook et al. (2002) define e-government in terms of the relationships between the government and different stakeholders (e-services, e-management, e-democracy and e-commerce).

With respect to technology perspective, World Bank (2007) defines e-government as “Utilising ICT for changing and improving the relationship between government, citizens, businesses and other government entities.” As well as, According to the United Nations (2003), e-Government is about “utilizing the Internet and the World-Wide Web for delivering for delivering government information and services to citizens” OJO (2014) define the e-government based on the government components. He said that “E-government is a generic term for web-based services from agencies of local, state and federal governments.” Similarity, Bashar Razael Grout (2011) based on the AOEMA report defined e-government as “Electronic government (hereafter e-Government) refers to a situation in which administrative, legislative and judicial agencies (including both central and local governments) digitize their internal and external operations and utilize networked systems efficiently to realize better quality in the provision of public services.” While Bhatnagar (2002) focused on the benefits of the e-government, Bhatnagar said “Sharing and delivering services

to citizens and businesses for the purpose of reducing corruption, strengthening accountability, reducing time and cost, and increasing transparency.” West (2001) and Deloitte Research (2000) also define e-government based on the technology point of view. Where, West (2001) refers to e-government as “the delivery of government information and services online through the Internet or other digital means” Deloitte Research definition focuses exclusively on the delivery of services and forgoes any aspirations of increasing citizen participation. He said that “Using the technology for delivering better services to the citizens, businesses, and employees.”

### E-government categories

As electronic government can be viewed as involving interactions and relationships between the government and different entities, there are four major but sometimes overlapping types of e-government, namely Government to Citizen (G2C), Government to Employees (G2E), Government to Business (G2B), and Government to Government (G2G). Figure 1 illustrate four categories of e-government (Huang & Bwoma, 2003; Al-khafaji, Shittu, & Osman, 2012; Al-khafaji, Shittu & Osman, 2014; Das, Patnaik & Misro, 2011).

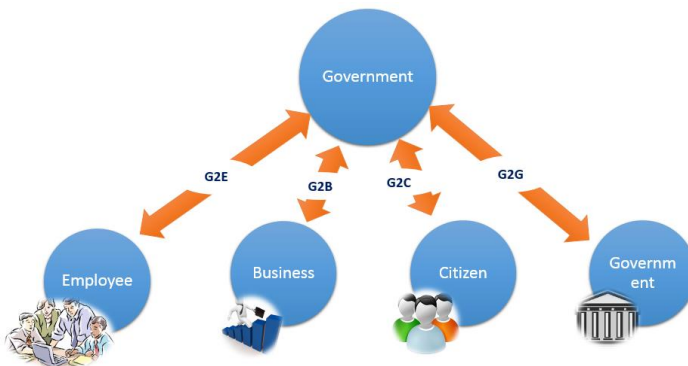


Figure 1: Types of e-government

## **Government to Citizen (G2C)**

In this type of e-government is keeps the relationship between government and citizens. The mission of e-government here is to provide appropriate support for citizens anywhere and at any time by allowing them to perform online activities, such as applying online for jobs, searching for contact detail of public departments, voting online, and participation in polls. Chaijenkij (2010) stated, with G2C services, public organisations provide information, contact details and general services online. Where the most important purpose of these applications is to offer people different options and communication channels for public transactions (AlShihi, 2006), in addition, some e-Government advocates suggest that one of the goals of implementing these initiatives should be to create a “one-stop shopping” site where citizens can carry out a variety of tasks, especially those that involve multiple agencies, without requiring the citizen to initiate contacts with each agency individually. A good example of G2C in Iraq is e-Iraq (<http://www.egov.gov.iq>), but this application not include all the important services for the citizens. As well as, low the interaction among the citizens and government. In sum up, the objectives of the G2C relationship can be summarised as follows (Kostopoulos, 2004; Pappa & Stergioulas, 2006; Yong & Koon, 2003):

- Individually provide one-stop online access to services and information. Citizens should be able to find what they require easily and quickly, and to access the information in minutes or seconds, instead of days or hours;
- Disintermediation of civil service staff delivering services directly to citizens;
- Making content and services available online;
- Providing services that are citizen rather than agency focused; and

- Building and enhancing trust.

### **Government to Government (G2G)**

In G2G, government bodies or agencies work together and provide services to one another. This kind of interrelationship may bring gains in the management and utilization of public resources. Indeed, G2G enables all the levels of government to work together more easily to better serve the needs of citizens and businesses. In 2004, Dhi-Qar Province with help from Italian government seeks to implement the information sharing (or so-called interaction) among the local agencies. But, still this initiative faces many challenges to complete and participate all the local agencies. In general, the objectives of G2G can be summarised as follows (Chavan & Rathod 2009; Heeks, 2006; Siau & Long, 2005):

- Enabling all levels of government to work together more easily to effectively serve the needs of citizens and businesses;
- Reducing the fractured nature of individual departments and agencies, moving towards a coherent and interconnected government organisation;
- Changing the culture of the civil service from reactive to proactive;
- Having an open and accountable government; and
- Providing cost-effective procurement.

### **Government to Business (G2B)**

In G2B, government interaction with the business community is essential to economic development. G2B initiatives receive a significant amount of attention, in part because of the high enthusiasm of the business sector and the potential for reducing costs through improved procurement practices and increased competition (Seifert, 2003). However, this aspect of interaction facing the absence in e-government applications in Iraq, and there is no study focusing on G2B theoretically or



practically yet. The overall objectives of the G2B relationship are summarised below (Awan, 2008; Miranda, 2000):

- Reducing the loads on the interactions between businesses and government;
- Providing a one-stop entry point of information to facilitate business development;
- Increasing the ability of businesses to identify, examine and remark on government regulations and rules;
- Reducing the time required of businesses to fulfill the obligations outlined in regulations, complete necessary paperwork etc;
- Eliminating the paper trail and reducing the number of steps required in the communication process between government and business; and
- Enhancing the national economy within global markets.

### **Government to Employee (G2E)**

This is an online relationship between government bodies and their employees. G2E services encompass G2C services as well as specialized services that cater only for government employees, such as the provision of human resource training and development that improves the bureaucracy's day to day functions and dealing with citizens (Al-rajehi, 2007). G2E in Iraq need more understanding, as well to highlights the activities between the government agencies or ministers and their staff. Additionally, there is very dearth of the studies concentrates on the point of view of the employees in Iraq to adoption or utilize the new technology in their work. In summary, basic G2E applications provide (Chanana, 2007):

- Information to compute retirement advantages;
- Access to essential content and applications;
- The ability to easily gather information from the field;
- Collaboration with other government employees anytime, anywhere;

- Opportunities for more effective cross-agency initiatives; and
- Improved intra-agency information-sharing and team collaboration.

### Electronic Government in developing Countries

It is now widely recognized the need of ICT to enhance opportunities for economic development and plays a great role in competitiveness enhancement and productive improvement in developing countries. The use of ICTs can connect government, citizens and businesses and support processes and activities. However ICT is also a high risk for developing countries in term of deepen the digital divide and to future marginalize with networking revolution. Countries which fail to use ICT tools for development will face some disadvantages and the gap between economics status and competitiveness. Table 2 depicted the former studies on e-government in developing countries.

**Table 2: Previous of studies on the e-government in Developing Countries**

Author (s)	year	Country	Objectives	Method (s)	Outcome
Abdalla	2012	Sudan	To examine the adoption of e-government at a national and organizational level, taking the public sector in sudan as a case study	Qualitative	the findings of the research contributed to the identification of the critical factors in Sudan, and to the development of an e-government adoption framework
Rokhman	2011	Indonesia	To find out how the acceptance of Indonesian Internet users to e-government services	Quantitative method (online survey)	In this study the researcher found, Relative advantage and compatibility variables were proven as useful factors to predict

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					intention of use of e-government
Al Hujran, Aloudat and Altarawneh	2013	Jordan	To develop a conceptual framework that is based on previous literature of TAM in order to examine the relationships between certain factors (trust of government, service quality and citizens satisfaction) and citizen adoption of e-government.	Quantitative method (survey)	The findings indicate that perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, citizen satisfaction and trustworthiness are significant predictors of the Jordanian intention to use an e-government service.
Tohidi	2011	Iran	This study prepares an overall description of e-government and the various aspects and concepts related to that and also criticizes the E-government using in Iran	Qualitative	The author offers some solutions for the full realization and implementation of e-government and related issues in Iran.
Alateyah, Crowder and Wills	2013	Saudi Arabia	To identify the factors that may affecting the Citizens Intention to Adopt E-government in Saudi Arabia	Qualitative	Identify the influential factors, such as quality of service, diffusion of innovation, computer and information literacy, culture, lack of awareness, technical infrastructure, website design,

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					and security, that affect the citizens' intention to adopt E-government services in Saudi Arabia.
Khan, Khan and Zhang	2010	Pakistan	To analyzes the Global e-Government Readiness with a focus on e-government readiness Index of Pakistan	Qualitative	The findings of this study, the researchers suggested numerous of the issues must focus on it by the government to improve the e-government initiative

Basu (2004) has notified that, no country can ignore the benefits of ICT either it developed or developing, small or large. Despite the advantages of e-government services in developed countries, many of the e-government projects in developing countries are fail. Heeks (2006) reported (based on analysis more than 40 e-government projects) that there has been a partial failure in 50 percent of e-government projects, 35 percent of total failure and only 15 percent of projects are successful. Also Rehman, Esichaikul and Kamal (2012) stated, the failure rate of e-government projects is even higher in developing countries. To understanding why the rate of failure e-government in developing countries higher than developed countries, we need explain the difference between developed and developed countries in various aspects of government. These major differences will be illustrated in Table 3 (Chen, Chen, Huang & Ching, 2006).

**Table 3: Main differences between developed and developing countries**

	Developed Countries	Developing Countries
<b>History and Culture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government and economy developed early, immediately after independence</li> <li>• Economy growing at a constant rate, productivity increasing, high standard of living</li> <li>• Relatively long history of democracy and more transparent government policy and rule</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government usually not specifically defined; economy not increasing in productivity</li> <li>• Economy not growing or increasing productivity; low standard of living</li> <li>• Relatively short history of democracy and less transparent government policy and rule</li> </ul>
<b>Technical Staff</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has a current staff, needs to increase technical abilities and hire younger professionals.</li> <li>• Has outsourcing abilities and financial resources to outsource; current staff would be able to define requirements for development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not have a staff, or has very limited inhouse staff.</li> <li>• Does not have local outsourcing abilities and rarely has the financial ability to outsource; current staff may be unable to define specific requirements.</li> </ul>
<b>Infrastructure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good current infrastructure.</li> <li>• High Internet access for employees and citizens.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bad current infrastructure.</li> <li>• Low Internet access for employees and citizens</li> </ul>
<b>Citizens</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Internet access and computer literacy; still has digital divide and privacy issues</li> <li>• Relatively more experienced in democratic system and more actively participate in governmental policy-making process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low Internet access and citizens are reluctant to trust online services; few citizens know how to operate computers.</li> <li>• Relatively less experienced in democratic system and less active participation in governmental policy-making process</li> </ul>
<b>Government Officers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decent computer literacy and dedication of resources; many do not place e-government at a high priority</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low computer literacy and dedication of resources; many do not place e-government at a high priority due to lack of knowledge on the issue</li> </ul>

## **Barriers to E-Government Implementation in Developing Countries**

E-government is a crucial application of the internet which is used by powers to promote extensive computerised functions and to facilitate interactions among citizens, businesses and government agencies (Foley & Alfonso 2009). Developing countries like many developed countries, including Arab countries (Kanaan, 2009), which represent 5% of the world population, now have initiatives for implementing e-government. Dubai, Jordan, Egypt, Kuwait, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and Iraq, for example, have such initiatives and have developed e-government services.

Developing the e-government may help these countries to promote accountability and transparency, and at the same time contribute to enhancing competitiveness. While the majority of e-government initiatives in developing countries fail, a scarce of them have achieved partial success (Heeks, 2006). In India for example, has a payment system of property taxes and issue of land registration which takes five minutes instead of 15 days (Schware & Deane, 2003). Also in Kuwait, it has a civil service recruitment portal. While, Bahrain is the first country to have held a successful Internet election (Moores, 2003; Mishrif & Selmanovic, 2010). Whereas, other countries faces a numerous of challenges to development of e-government and also continue to develop. However, there are variety of barriers that affect e-government in developing countries that are maybe similar to those in developed countries. For example, Lam (2005) has classified the barriers in to four stages.

**Strategy Barriers**, these barriers involve: (1) Lack of common goals and objectives; (2) Lack of ownership and authority; (3) Deficiency of implementation guidance; and (4) Financial Issues.

**Technology Barriers**, these barriers encompass: (1) Lack of architecture integration and Infrastructure; (2) Deficiency of data standards; (3) Deficiency of data standards; and (4) Lack of resources.

**Policy Barriers**, these barriers include: (1) Apprehension over citizen privacy; (2) Data possession; and (3) E-government policy execution.

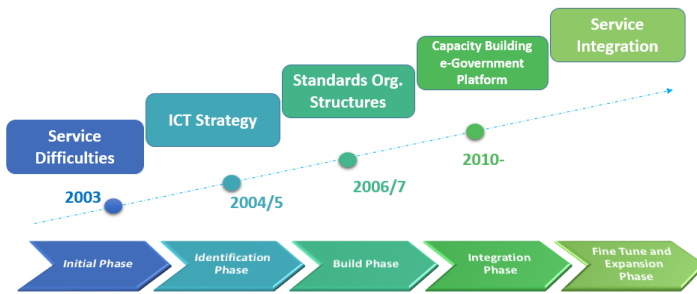
**Organization Barriers**, these barriers involve: (1) Lack of organization motivation; (2) Lack of organization motivation; (3) Lack of internal management and technical ability; and (4) Change Management.

Moreover, Ndou (2004) pointed out that, the lack of ICT skills in the public sector is a major challenge to an e-government initiative in developing countries, where the continual lack of qualified staff and inadequate human resources training has been a problem for years. While, Schware and Deane (2003) discuss the impact of infrastructure on the deployment and continuity of e-government programmes in developing countries. In Iraq, especially the currently the managing conflict and lack of financial support may also effect the development of e-government.

## **Electronic Government in Iraq**

In 2004, the United Nations calls on Member States to help the new Iraqi government for institution building. Italian Minister for Innovation and Technologies and the Iraqi Minister of Science and Technology sign a Memorandum of Understanding in which the Italian Government commits to provide technical and financial assistance for the construction of an Intranet linking the Ministries of the new Iraqi Administration and built an e-Government project. Dhi-Qar Province (Also called Dhi-Qar) was first local government applied this initiative (information sharing among local agencies). Based on the

strategy was put by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Iraq Ministry of Science and Technology to complete the e-government in 2010 as final date.



**Figure 2: Pathway to e-Government in Iraq 2007-2010 (Sharief, Graul, & Ian, 2007)**

After more than ten years from the beginning of the e-government project in Iraq, in spite of the efforts made by the concerned authorities to try to ensure the success of this project, but unfortunately, it is still taking its first steps (Ibrahim, 2014), whether in ministries level or local level. Compared with the efforts and the amount of money and the length of time spent by the Iraqi government in order to ensure the success of this project, this stage is not satisfactory stage. As well as, various government agencies and Ministries in developing countries provide information on website. Generally these websites are not design in proper manner, not updated, and Iraq not far from this disadvantage.

### **The Technology Acceptance Model (TAM)**

TAM was proposed by Davis (1989), who defined a TAM theoretical model based on “...the effect of system characteristics on user acceptance of computer-based information systems”. This theory expounded an understanding of why users accepted new information and communication technology such as the Internet, E-mail, and Mobile phones.



The development of TAM is examined by considering the relationship between two perceptual variables: Perceived Usefulness (PU) and Perceived Ease of Use (PEOU). Davis defines PU as “the degree to which a person believes that using a particular system would enhance his or her job performance” and PEOU as “the degree to which a person believes that using a particular system would be free of effort”. Legris, Ingham and Colletette (2002) claim that “TAM is used to provide a basis for tracing the impact of external variables on internal beliefs, attitudes and intention” and they also suggest that perceived ease of use and perceived usefulness are very important factors in system use. The basis for adopting the model of TAM was the Theory of Reasoned Action (TRA) as developed by Fishbein and Ajzen (1975).

## **Electronic Government and the Technology Acceptance Model**

There are different factors that determine the acceptance of e-government services from both the citizens and employees (Khasawneh, Rabayah and Abu-Shanab, 2013). One of the most important theories in this arena is Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) which states a means of using and adopting new technology by users by evaluating factors influencing the decision to accept new technologies. TAM is considered to be a well-established, well-tested, powerful, robust and parsimonious model for predicting user acceptance of technology (Venkatesh & Davis, 2000). According to Davis et al., (1989), the main goal of the model is to offer an explanation of the determinants of computer acceptance, which eventually transformed in to an explanation of user behaviour across a broad range of end-user computing technologies and user populations. According to Lin, Fofanah and Liang (2011) TAM have strong influences on user-intention towards e-Government services. There is many of the studies utilizing TAM for

investigating the factors that affecting on the acceptance of the e-government services, see Table 4.

**Table 4: Former studies used TAM with e-government**

Author (s)	Year	Method (s)	Factor (s)
Wangpipatwong, Chutimaskul and Papisratorn	2008	Quantitative method	Perceived Usefulness Perceived Ease of Use Computer Self-Efficacy
Vathanophas, Krittayaphongphun and Klomsiri	2008	Qualitative method	Prior experience, Educational level, Job relevance, Output quality, Result demonstrability, Trust, Commitment, Autonomy, Training, Organizational support, Image, Subjective norm, Perceived usefulness, Perceived ease of use
Suki and Ramayah	2010	Quantitative method	Perceived Usefulness, Perceived Ease of Use, Compatibility, External Influence, Interpersonal Influence, Self-efficacy, Facilitating Condition, Attitude, Perceived Behavioral Control, Subjective Norm and Intention to Use
Lin, Fofanah and Liang	2011	Quantitative Method	Information System Quality, Information Quality, Perceived Usefulness, Perceived Ease of Use
Al-Shibly and Tadros	2010	Quantitative Method	System Quality, Information Quality, Perceived Ease of Use, and perceived ease of use
Kumar, Mukerji, Butt and Persaud	2007	Qualitative Method	Perceived Risk, Perceived Control, Internet, Perceived Usefulness • Perceived Ease of use and Service Quality

## The Diffusion of Innovation theory

Diffusion of Innovation (DOI) theory is another popular model used in information systems research to explain user adoption of new technologies (Rogers, 1995). He defines diffusion as "the process by which an innovation is communicated through certain channels over time among the members of a social

society". An innovation is an idea or object that is perceived to be new.

According to DOI, the rate of diffusion is affected by an innovation's relative advantage, complexity, compatibility, trialability and observability. Rogers (1995) defines relative advantage as "the degree to which an innovation is seen as being superior to its predecessor". Complexity, which is comparable to TAM's perceived ease of use construct, is "the degree to which an innovation is seen by the potential adopter as being relatively difficult to use and understand". Compatibility refers to "the degree to which an innovation is seen to be compatible with existing values, beliefs, experiences and needs of adopters". Trialability is the "degree to which an idea can be experimented with on a limited basis". Finally, observability is the "degree to which the results of an innovation are visible".

On the other hand, Tornatzky and Klein (1982) conclude that relative advantage, compatibility and complexity are the most relevant constructs to adoption research. This element of the model is based on Roger's model of Diffusion of Innovation. Subsequently Carter and Bélanger (2004) have been made a modification by adopting compatibility, relative advantage and complexity, and excluding trialability and observability to replace it by image. Therefore, we will include these factors in this study.

## **Electronic Government and the Diffusion of Innovation**

According to numerous researchers, the diffusion of innovation (DOI) theory can be a powerful instrument to investigate the facilitating factors for adoption of electronic government by citizens (e.g. Carter & Bélanger, 2005; Moore & Benbasat, 1991; Rogers, 1995; Tornatzky & Klein, 1982). As well as, Table 5 below illustrate the previous studies used DOI theory with e-government as well as the addition factors.

**Table 5: Former studies used DOI with e-government**

Author (s)	Year	Method (s)	Factor (s)
Alateyah, Crowder and Wills, G. B.	2013	Qualitative Method	Computer and Information Literacy, Age, Gender, Education, Lack of Awareness, Security Issues, Transaction Security, Information Security, Perceived Risk, Privacy Issues, Trust Issues, Trust in Government, Trust In Internet, Quality of Service, Service Quality, Reliability, Availability, Speed of Delivery, Information Quality, Culture, Compatibility, Complexity, Image, Relative Advantage, Perceived, Usefulness, Perceived Ease of Use, Usability, Accessibility, Multilingual Website.
Nadi	2012	Quantitative method	Power, Achievement, Hedonism, Stimulation, Self-direction, Universalism, Benevolence, Tradition, Conformity, Security, Relative advantage, Compatibility, Complexity, Result Demonstrability, Truston Government, Trust in the internet, social influence and Perspective on communication
Singh, Sarkar, Dissanayake and Pittayachawan,	2008	Quantitative method	Knowledge and Technology Access, E-Gov services with relative advantage, Persuasion Factors (Benefits) and Problems
Carter and Weerakkody	2008	Quantitative method	Relative Advantage, Trust, Internet Accessibility and Internet Skill

## Conceptual Model for Electronic Government Services in Iraq

Electronic government is more than just a government website on the Internet. Especially in developing countries, there are many internal and external factors that may affect on the e-government initiative. With respect to this section, a numerous of the previous studies successfully integrated DOI into TAM to investigate users' technology acceptance behavior (Hardgrave, Davis & Riemenschneider, 2003; Wu & Wang, 2005; Chang & Tung, 2008). Therefore, based on the evidences mentioned earlier, this study sough to propose a conceptual model for e-government in Iraq building on these theories as well as add also factors that consider important for the intention to use e-government in developing countries. Figure 3 illustrate a conceptual model.

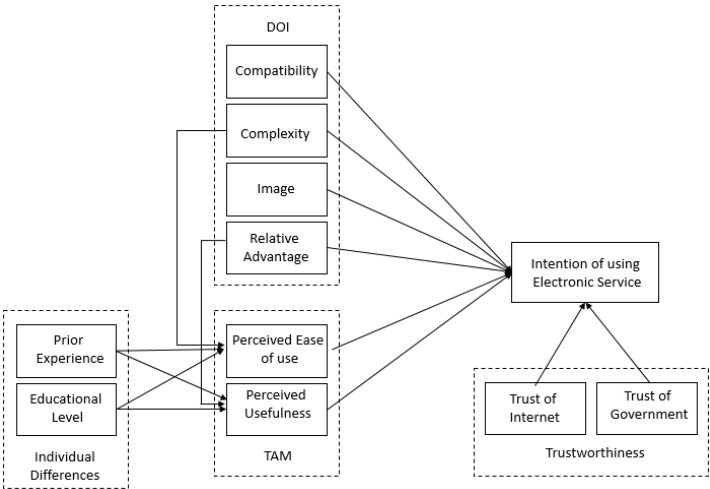


Figure 3: propose conceptual model for E-government initiative in Iraq

## Conclusion

This paper sought to propose a conceptual model for e-government services in Iraq based on the literature review and two theories (technology acceptance model and the diffusion of innovation theory). In the future research study, the researcher seek to empirical research. The questionnaires will be used to validation the proposed conceptual model and the structure equation modelling may be employed for statistical inference. Afterwards, we will find out the factors effective on the e-Government services in the public sector.

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