Improving the investment potential management system of a construction company

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Abstract. The purpose of this paper is to improve the methodological provisions for managing the development of the investment potential of a construction company. As a result of the study, the characteristics of the main components of the investment potential of a construction company were determined, factors influencing its condition were identified and systematized. The key indicators and elements used in the study, including objectives, resources, abilities, opportunities and results, allow characterizing private potentials and provide maximum accuracy and reliability of the assessment. On this basis, a system for assessing the state, forecasting and managing the development of the investment potential of a construction company has been developed.

1 Introduction

After analyzing the state of the construction market in a separate region using the tools of the theory of industrial organization, it was found that the construction market is conditionally divided into two approximately equal groups. The first group includes the 10 largest companies, occupies 50% of the construction market and receives 90% of the industry profit. The second group includes the rest of the companies and occupies the same 50% of the industry market, but receives only 10% of the profit [1, 2]. In this regard, in the market of imperfect competition, construction companies have to combine in their activities the functions of various participants in the regional investment and construction cluster (hereinafter ICC), which leads to the need to ensure their competitiveness through the development of internal potentialities, including investment ones.

2 Materials and Methods

Table 1 shows a system of identification signs of a construction cluster, supplemented by a sign that determines the possibility of developing investment potential (hereinafter IP) of participants in a regional ICC.

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Table 1. Cluster system of the regional ICC

| Identification signs | Investment and functional cluster | Management cluster | Production cluster |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| **Definition**      | a group of entities focused on the process of investing in an object under construction (reconstruction) | a group of entities focused on solving problems of managing the investment and construction process | a group of entities directly implementing the process of construction (reconstruction) of an object |
| **Cluster leader**  | Investor                          | Client             | General Contractor |
| **Leader function** | makes investments in the object and bears the basic market risks due to the functionality of the object, the purpose of its construction (reconstruction) and operation | acts as a representative of the investor and is responsible for the organization and management of the entire investment and construction project | is responsible for the construction (reconstruction) process, bears the technical, technological and economic risks of the production process |
| **IP development opportunities** | enables the subjects of ICC to implement IP through participation in an investment and construction project | selects participants in an investment and construction project, focusing on the existing IP | gets the opportunity to develop IP based on the use of available resources in the process of project implementation |

Investment potential of a construction company is considered as an integral part of its economic potential, which is the real ability of an economic entity to ensure its long-term functioning and achievement of strategic objectives, taking into account the combined capabilities of the internal and external environment through the use of the system of available resources.

In other words, IP is an organic combination of resources at the disposal of a construction company, the company's ability to achieve certain goals based on the rational use of available resources, the company's ability to maximally satisfy the needs for goods and services in order to implement an investment project [3].

Structurally, IP is represented by a set of private potentials, among which one can single out: production, financial, intellectual, innovative, informational, reputational, marketing, social and other private potentials.

For the purposes of our study, we will consider the production, financial, intellectual and innovative components of IP of a construction company [4].

The production potential of a company is determined by the availability of material resources and the possibilities of their effective use; financial one - by the availability of financial resources and the company's ability to structure them into special purpose funds intended for investment activities; intellectual one - the availability of intellectual resources and the ability to use them through the application of knowledge and work skills of the personnel; innovative one - the availability and possibilities of using information resources in order to implement an investment and construction project [5].

Summing up the characteristics of the potentials that form IP of the construction company, it seems appropriate to characterize the main components of IP of the construction company in the system “tasks-resources-abilities-opportunities-results” (Table 2).

Research and presentation of IP in the system “tasks-resources-abilities-opportunities-results” provides an opportunity for effective management of its development.
It seems appropriate to characterize the main components of IP in order to implement an investment and construction project [5].

The study of the theoretical foundations of the formation and functioning of IP of the companies of the regional ICC made it possible to identify and bring into a certain system the factors that affect its state. Previously existing systematizations were based on the identification of the following classification features: formation environment (internal and external), features of construction as a type of activity. From the point of view of achieving the goals of our study, it seems necessary and expedient to introduce into the system one more classification feature, namely, the feature of the objectivity of the emergence of the action of an individual factor or their group.

It is proposed to distribute the factors into the following groups: objectively acting factors, i.e. the degree of influence of the management entities on them is almost equal to

### Table 2. Characteristics of the potentials of a construction company in the system “tasks-resources-abilities-opportunities-results”

|                                               | Production potential | Financial potential | Intellectual potential | Innovative potential |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| **System of strategic objectives**            | formation and       | optimization of     | provision of all areas  | transition of a      |
|                                               | maintenance of a    | financial flows     | of the construction    | company from one     |
|                                               | balanced structure   |                     | company with highly    | state to another,    |
|                                               | of all components    |                     | qualified workers      | much higher,         |
|                                               | of production       |                     |                         | necessary to        |
|                                               | potential           |                     |                         | achieve the goals   |
| **Cash resource system**                      | set of inventories and fixed assets | cash income, savings and receipts at the disposal of an economic entity | the total number of personnel working in a construction company, managers, specialists, workers, maintenance personnel, etc. | intangible assets |
| **Owning a set of abilities**                 | technical, qualitative and other properties of machines, equipment, materials, on which the quality and quantity of products manufactured, works and services provided directly depend | the ability to promptly form, direct and accumulate financial flows, as well as the ability to accelerate the development of investments, a sharp increase in the capital value of a business and a quick capital turnover | a set of abilities, professional skills of the company's employees, necessary for them to fulfill their professional duties, as well as the ability to formulate and solve new creative tasks, create something qualitatively new, distinguished by its originality and uniqueness | subjective conditions for the use and transformation of the company's resources in all types of innovative activities |
| **Real opportunities**                        | objective conditions for attracting and using fixed assets and inventories | features of financial, accounting and investment policies, financial strategy, refinancing rate, etc. | a set of conditions of the external and internal environment of a company that allow improving and developing the skills and abilities of personnel: organizational culture, personnel policy, motivation system, etc. | objective conditions for attracting resources and realizing abilities in scientific, scientific and technical, production and commercial activities |
| **Results as a reflection of the system of strategic objectives** | implementation of the production program | maximizing positive financial results | creation of a team capable of changes, development, renewal | reaching companies of a higher level of development |

### 3 Results

The study of the theoretical foundations of the formation and functioning of IP of the companies of the regional ICC made it possible to identify and bring into a certain system the factors that affect its state. Previously existing systematizations were based on the identification of the following classification features: formation environment (internal and external), features of construction as a type of activity. From the point of view of achieving the goals of our study, it seems necessary and expedient to introduce into the system one more classification feature, namely, the feature of the objectivity of the emergence of the action of an individual factor or their group.

It is proposed to distribute the factors into the following groups: objectively acting factors, i.e. the degree of influence of the management entities on them is almost equal to
zero; objective-subjective - these are factors, the reasons for which do not depend on the
management entities at the level of the construction company, however, these entities have
the opportunity to reduce the strength of the influence of this factor by making a specific
management decision; subjective factors, namely, those factors whose action directly
depends on the person making the managerial decision [6,7].

The process of managing the development of IP of a construction company is presented
by the author in a formalized form. The calculation of the integral indicator of IP of a
construction company is made according to the formula:

\[ I_t = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i \delta_{it} = (\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \ldots \lambda_n) \begin{bmatrix} \delta_{1t} \\ \delta_{2t} \\ \vdots \\ \delta_{mt} \end{bmatrix} = (\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \ldots \lambda_n)(\delta_{1t} \delta_{2t} \ldots \delta_{mt})^{'} \]  

(1)

where \( I_t \) – the current state of IP in the period of time \( t \);
\( \delta_{it} = (\delta_{1t} \delta_{2t} \ldots \delta_{nt}) \) – vector of normalized values of indicators characterizing the state of IP in the period of time \( t \);
\( \lambda_i = (\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \ldots \lambda_n) \) – vector of coefficients of significance of IP components;
i = 1, n – numbers of indicators characterizing the state of IP;

Obtaining an integral indicator of IP of a construction company makes it possible to
manage the development of IP based on the data of its monitoring.

The relationship between the new and the current state of IP of the construction
company in general can be represented as follows:

\[ I_{t+1} = f(I_t; U_{jt}; Z_{kt}; t) = I_t + \Delta f(I_t; U_{jt}; Z_{kt}; t) = I_t + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i \delta_{it}(I_t; U_{jt}; Z_{kt}; t) \]

(2)

where \( I_{t+1} \) – new state of IP in the period of time \( t+1 \);
\( U_{jt} = (u_{1t} u_{2t} \ldots u_{mt}) \) – vector of developmental changes characterizing the targeted
effects of change agents on IP in a period of time \( t \);
j = 1, m – numbers of developmental changes that characterize the impact of change
agents on IP;
\( Z_{kt} = (z_{1t} z_{2t} \ldots z_{nt}) \) – vector of development factors affecting the state of IP in the period
of time \( t \);
k = 1, p – numbers of development factors characterizing the influence of the internal
and external environment on the state of IP;

Model (3) describes the current state of IP at any moment of time on the interval \([t0;T]\),
and together with equation (2) - the new state of IP in the same time interval.

\[ I_{t+1} = I_t + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i \delta_{it}(I_t; U_{jt}; Z_{kt}; t), \]  

(3)

\[ \max \sum_{i=1}^{p} \lambda_i \delta_{it} \]
\[ I_t \in A_i \]  
\[ U_{jt} \in B_i \]  
\[ Z_{kt} \in C_i \]
(4)

(5)

where \( \Delta \delta_{it}(I_t; U_{jt}; Z_{kt}; t) \) – an increase in the normalized values of indicators
characterizing the state of IP during a period of time under the influence of developmental
changes and development factors;
$A_t$ – range of admissible values of the vectors of IP of the construction company;

$B_t$ – range of admissible values of vectors of developmental changes;

$C_t$ – range of admissible values of vectors of development factors.

Equation (1) in model (3) represents the functional dependence of the new state of IP of the construction company on its current state, developmental changes, development factors, and time. In this model, expressions (2) - (4) are the mathematical formulation of constraints.

To implement the model for managing the development of IP of a construction company, an algorithm for managing the development of IP of a construction company was developed, consisting of five stages, in accordance with the management functions [8].

IP development management is based on its quantitative assessment, which allows tracking its actual state based on monitoring data, taking into account the influence of external factors.

Based on the complete system of indicators of potentials, an integral indicator of IP of a construction company is formed, which is schematically shown in Figure 1.

![Diagram of IP development management process](image)

**Fig.1. Formation of the integral indicator of IP of the construction company**

However, the described method does not establish the principle of selecting one indicator from two correlated indicators. To solve this problem, we propose to be guided by: first, the principle of maximum variability accepted in statistics, according to which one should choose among the correlated variables with the highest coefficient of variation, i.e. $\arg \max (\nu(x_i))$; second, the principle of economic expediency, choosing from two correlating indicators the one that is more important for assessing economic activity [9].
4 Discussions

The modified methodology for assessing the state of IP of a construction company allows us to give its quantitative characteristics, which is important from the point of view of assessing the influence of external factors. It was revealed that the most significant among such factors is the regional IP, i.e. it can be assumed that when assessing the influence of a region's IP on a company's IP, the influence of external factors will be taken into account. Assessing the impact and determining the tightness of the relationship between IP of the region and the company allows predicting the state of IP of a construction company for the period of implementation of its development strategy. This procedure is performed in the following sequence, in accordance with the provisions of the general theory of statistics: the trend of a region's IP is determined; the trend of a company's IP is determined; the reliability of setting trend parameters is assessed; the closeness of the connection between the indicators characterizing the state of IP of a company and a region is established; forecasting IP of a construction company for the period of implementation of its development strategy.

5 Conclusion

Investment activity is generally recognized as the basis for the effective functioning of any economic system, from an individual company to the national economy. The results of this study make it possible to expand the traditional essential boundaries of this type of activity in the direction of the possibility of implementing IP of companies in ICC. It is recommended to use production, financial, intellectual and innovative potentials as the main components of the potential of enterprises. The formation, state of development and efficiency of IP functioning are influenced by factors of the external and internal environment of varying degrees of controllability. The described methodology allows predicting the state for the period of implementation of the development strategy and provides an increase in the competitiveness and efficiency of the company as a whole.

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