## آيـــة

### بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

قال تعالي:

( ويَسئَلونَكَ عَنِ الرُّوحِ قُل الرُّوحُ من أمرِ ربِّي وما أُوتيْثُم من العلمِ إلاَّ قليلاً ).

> صدق الله العظيم. سورة الأسراء ، آية (85 ).

#### **DEDICATION**

To

My beloved parents, a precious thought to me.

To my brother and sisters, whose cheerful patience and constant encouragement made this project possible.

To my friends and all students who are interested in the field of software quality.

I dedicate this work to them all for the support, encouragement, love and prayers that they have always had for us.

My Allah blesses them all and grants them happiness all through.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Firstly I would like to thank Allah.

My supervisor Dr. Mohamed Awad - The Deputy Dean of College of Computer Science and Information Technology / Sudan University of Science & Technology , for all the help I received over the research project. Without his guidance and experience I would not have been able to continue.

To Dr. Saif Eldin Osman, and Dr. Awad Mohamed, for giving their own time to proof-read and critique various parts of my thesis.

To my parents for their guidance which helped me to be focus on this research from the beginning up to the end of the research process.

To my brother, sisters and especially to Mr. Omer Ahmed for their support, encouragement and love that helped me during the process of this research.

To my friends and the Sudanese software organizations for the time taken to fill out the questionnaire.

### This thesis would not have been possible without them and I hope I have made them proud. Really, I sincerely thank them for their support.

## المستخلص

منذ زمن بعيد أصبحت البرمجيات تلعب دوراً مهم في حياتنا. و نجد أن البرمجيات هي عبارة عن منتجات صعبة في التطوير والاختبار ولذلك فإن البرمجيات ذات الجودة المتدنية تواجه مشاكل قد تتسبب في خسائر كبيرة، ولهذه السبب نجد أن اهتمام الباحثون بدا يتزايد في عملية تحسين جودة البرمجيات بطرق مختلفة أهمها التحسين في عملية إنتاج البرمجيات.

هذه الأطروحة تناولت تحسين مراحل انتاج البرمجيات كطري قة لزيادة جودة البرمجيات, وفيها تم منا قشة انواع واهداف و طرق ادارة تحسين مراحل إنتاج البرمجيات. ذكرت هذه الأطروحة بعض من معاير تحسين عملية إنتاج البرمجيات بصورة واضحة. أثناء هذه الأطروحة تم زيارة عدد من مؤسسات البرمجة السودانية لأجراء م قابلات مع بعض محترفي البرمجيات فيها, وملاحظة كيف تحسن هذه المؤسسات عملياتها لإنتاج البرمجيات, والتعرف علي المشاكل التي تواجه هذه المؤسسات أثناء تنفيذ معاير تحسين عمليات إنتاج البرمجيات و ملاحظة هذه الشركات في تصميم استبيان وتم توزيعه علي عدد من المؤسسات السودانية لتجمع الشركات في تصميم استبيان وتم توزيعه علي عدد من المؤسسات السودانية لتجمع مؤسسات صغيرة ويعت قد أكثرها أن تطبيق معاير تحسين عملية إنتاج البرمجيات يزيد في جودة البرمجيات. ووجد أن أكثر المشاكل التي تواجه هذه المؤسسات هي قلة الخبرة لدي الأشخاص الذين يتبعوا تنفيذ هذه المعاير, و ضعف الدعم من الدارة, وعدم تعاون الزبائن مع هذه المعاير وحجم المشاريع والأشخاص المنفذين لهذه المشاريع لا تتنافيذ هذه المعاير.

هذه الأطروحة أوصت ببعض المواضيع للبحث في المستقبل, تتضمن هذه المواضيع دراسة عملية لحل المشاكل التي تواجه مؤسسات البرمجة السودانية عند محاولة تنفيذ

معاير تحسين عملية إنتاج البرمجيات. تقديم معيار جديد خاص بالشركات السودانية يأخذ في الاعتبار الصفات الخاصة بالشركات السودانية والزبون السوداني, هو موضوع أخر قابل للبحث.

#### **ABSTRACT**

Software plays an essential and critical role in our society. Software applications are complex products that are difficult to develop and test. Very often, software exhibits unexpected and undesired behaviors that may even cause severe problems and damages. For these reasons, researchers and practitioners have been paying increasing attention to understanding and improving the quality of the software being developed.

This thesis studies the Software Process Improvement (SPI) as a way of increasing software product quality. Also SPI types, goals and management are discussed. Some of Software Process Improvement Standards are presented in particular. During this thesis some Sudanese software organizations were visited, to interview software professionals and observe how these organizations can improve their software process and to identify problems that can face these organizations during implementation of Software Process Improvement Standards. The results from interviews and observations were used to design questionnaire to collect data from different views and analysis this data. It was found that Sudanese software organizations are small, most of them believe that implementations SPI standards increase software quality. The problems that can face the small organizations are Lack of skilled people who can follow standards, Lack of Top Management Support, Lack of Customer Collaboration, Project Size/Complexity, Project Team Size, and Cost.

This thesis also presents some issues for future work that's including the empirical studies to solve the problems facing the Sudanese software organizations during the implementation of SPI standards. Introducing standards standard for Sudanese software organizations is an interesting topic for further study.

#### LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

**ACM** Association for Computing Machinery.

**SIGSOFT** Special Interest Group on Software.

**SPI** Software Process Improvement.

**CMM** Capability Maturity Model.

**CMMI** Capability Maturity Model for Integration.

**ISO** International Organization for Standardization.

**SPICE** Software Process Improvement and Capability dEtermination.

**SEI** Software Engineering Institute.

**PSP** Personal Software Process.

**TSP** Team Software Process.

**DSCS** DataStream Content Solutions.

**KPA** Key Process Area.

**SME** Small and Medium Enterprise.

**SPC** Software Process Capability.

**SPP** Software Process Performance.

**SPA** Software Process Assessment.

**SCE** Software Capability Evaluation.

**SEPG** Software Engineering Process Group

**CEO** Chief Executor Office.

**IT** Information Technology.

**UK** United Kingdom.

## **LIST OF FIGURES**

Figure 3.1	Software Process Improvement Type	2
		6
Figure 3.2	The Five Levels of Software Process Maturity	3
	$1\lambda$	

		1
Figure 3.3	Common Steps in the SPA and SCE	3
		4
Figure 4.1	Organization Established	3
		۶

# **LIST OF TABLES**

Table 3.1	The key Process Areas and Maturity Level	3
		3
Table 4.1	Organization Established.	3
		7
Table 4.2	Organization Type.	3
		8
Table 4.3	Number of Staff	3
		9
Table 4.4	Adopting New Technologies And Methods	4
		0
Table 4.5	Knowledge of SPI.	4
		0
Table 4.6	Knowledge of SPI Standards	4
		1
Table 4.7	Knowledge of CMM Quality Model	
		2
Table 4.8	Effect of SPI Standards on Software Quality	
		2
Table 4.9	Implement SPI Standards	
		3
Table 4.10	Ability of Implement SPI Standards	4
		3
<b>Table 4.11</b>	Effect of SPI Standards on Software Quality for Small	
m 11 442	Software Scale	
Table 4.12	Effect of SPI Standards on Software Quality for Medium	4

	Software Scale	5
Table 4.13	Effect of SPI Standards on Software Quality for Large	4
	Software Scale	5
Table 4.14	Average Size of Teams that Work on Small Software	4
		5
Table 4.15	Average Size of Teams that Work on Medium Software	4
		6
<b>Table 4.16</b>	Average Size of Teams that Work on Large Software	4
		6
<b>Table 4.17</b>	Common Problem for Small Organization	4
		7
<b>Table 4.18</b>	Common Problem for Medium Organization	4
		8
<b>Table 4.19</b>	Common Problem for Large Organization	4
		9
<b>Table 4.20</b>	Most Suitable of the SPI Standards for the Small	5
	Organization	0
<b>Table 4.21</b>		
	Organizations	0
<b>Table 4.22</b>	5	
	Organizations	1
<b>Table 4.23</b>	Suitable Level of CMM for Small Software Organization	5
		2
<b>Table 4.24</b>	Suitable Level of CMM for Medium Software Organization	5
		3
<b>Table 4.25</b>	Suitable Level of CMM for Large Software Organization	5
		3
<b>Table 4.26</b>	Receive the Report Summarizing this Study	5

		6
<b>Table 4.27</b>	Position of the Employee in the Organization	5
		5

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Problem Statement	2
1.3 Aims	2
1.4 Objectives	3
1.5 Thesis Scope	3
1.6 Methodologies	3
1.7 Thesis Organization	3
CHAPTER 2: SOFTWARE PROCESS	
2.1 Introduction	5
2.2 Definition of Software	5
2.2.1 Type of Software	5
2.2.2 Software Attributes	6
2.2.2.1 Important Attributes	6
2.2.2.2 Other Attributes	7
2.3 Software Process	8
2.3.1 Software Process Definition	8
2.4 Software Development Process	9
2.4.1 Software Development Activities	9
2.4.1.1 Requirements Analysis	10
2.4.1.2 Specification	10
2.4.1.3 Architecture	10
2.4.1.4 Implementation, Testing and Documenting	11
2.4.1.5 Deployment and Maintenance	11
2.5 Personal Software Process	12
2.5.1 PSP Objectives	12
2.6 DataStream Content Solutions (DSCS)	13
2.6.1 Process Asset Library (experience base)	14
2.6.2 Impact on DSCS	14
2.6.3 Lessons Learned	15
2.7 Software Process Improvement in Small Organizations study	15
2.7.1 Context and Motivation	16
2.7.2 The OWPL Approach	17
2.8 Process Improvement Towards ISO 9001 Certification in a Small	18
Software Organization	
2.8.1 Organizational Background	18
2.8.2 Model for Software Process Improvement	19

2.8.3 Addressing the Smallness Issue	21
CHAPTER 3: Software Process Improvement	
3.1 Introduction	23
3.2 SPI Overview	23
3.3 SPI Management	24
3.4 SPI Types	25
4.5 SPI Goals	26
3.5.1 Increase Product Quality	27
3.5.2 Shorten Project Cycle Time	28
3.5.3 Decrease Project Costs	28
3.5.4 Decrease Project risks	29
3.6 Software Process Improvement Standards	29
3.6.1 Capability Maturity Model (CMM)	30
3.6.1.1 The Framework	31
3.6.1.2 Structure of CMM	32
3.6.1.3 CMM Applied	34
CHAPTER 4: Study Analysis	
4.1 Introduction	35
4.2 Questionnaire Format	35
4.3 Questionnaire Sample Size	36
4.4 Questionnaire Results	36
4.4.1 Discussions of the Results on Organization Characteristics	37
4.4.2 Discussions of the Results on Software Process Improvement	40
4.4.3 Discussions of the Results on Software Quality	44
CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE WORK	
5.1 Conclusions	56
5.2 Future Work	57
REFERENCES	58
APPENDEX A	60
APPENDEX B	66