

SEMAT adopted by the China Software Industry

China announced a Quality Plan for the Software Industry

Introduction

China Software Industry Association (CSIA), a subsidiary of China Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, announced a national quality plan, code named as the National Q Plan for software industry. This plan is aimed to play a pivotal role in improving the quality of software engineering in the Chinese software industry. The objective is to improve the quality of software products in China and China's international competitiveness.

National Quality Plan – Q Plan (2012-2020)

Q Plan: Improvement of Software Ecosystem

Focus on quality, Redefine the software value, Recreate the software ecosystem

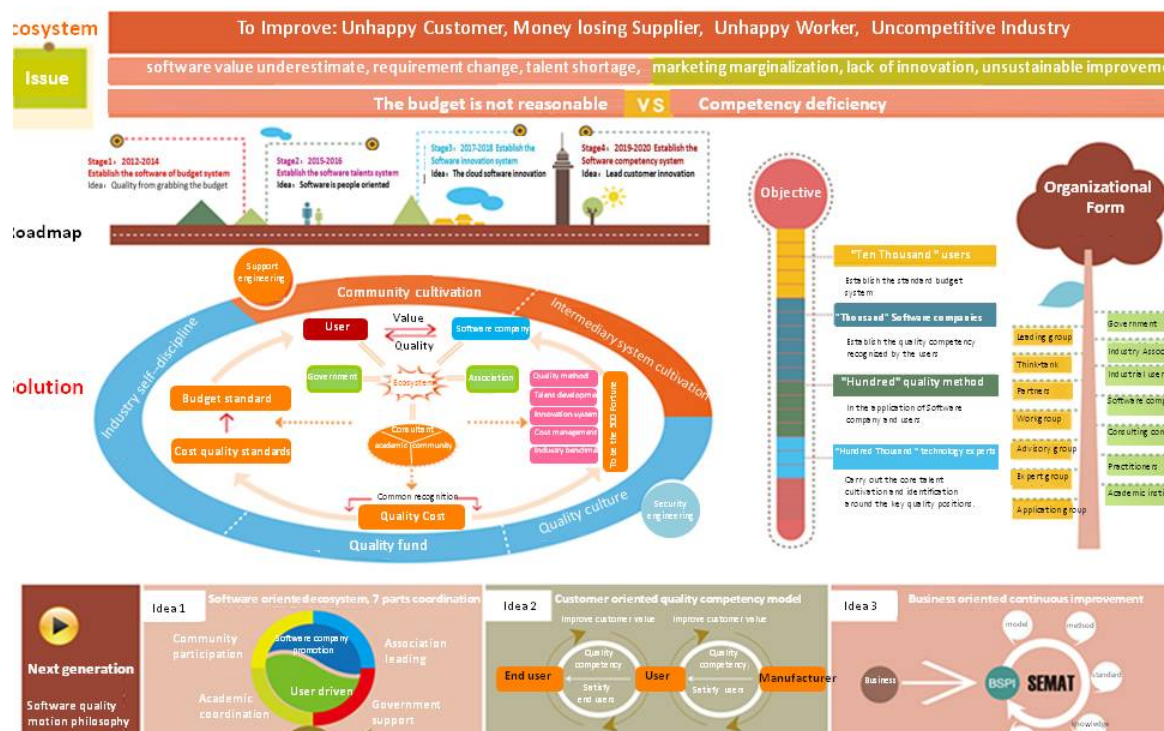


Figure 1: The Big Picture of China National Q Plan

Figure 1 illustrates the main components of the China National Quality Plan (Q Plan for short). The main goals of the Q Plan are to address the existing issues in Chinese software industry:

- The current ecosystem of software industry is not well positioned.
- The customers are not happy.
- The suppliers are not making money.
- Engineers and software professionals are not happy.

- Whole industry is not strong.

So four steps will be taken to address the problem:

1. 2012 - 2014 Establish a software budgetary system.
2. 2015 - 2016 Establish the software talents systems.
3. 2017 - 2018 Establish a strong software innovation system.
4. 2019 - 2020 Establish the software competency system

The objective is to reach hundred thousand technical experts, ten thousand user companies, one thousand software companies and hundred quality programs.

Next generation software quality movement include three ideas:

1. Coordination of software ecosystems.
2. Customer-oriented software quality assurance program.
3. Business-oriented continuous improvement (which is based on SEMAT Essence Program).

In this plan, SEMAT (in the form of the Essence specification) will be used to train developers in software development, improve software development practices, and measure the maturity and the quality of the Chinese software industry, on three levels - the enterprise level, the product level and the engineer level.

The Chinese government has paid great importance to the development of the software industry. The development of the Q Plan has been driven by CSIA with the Chinese companies SPI (Software Process Improvement Association) and Ivar Jacobson International in China as contributors. In this work, most of the prevalent, influential software methodologies have been evaluated, and at the end, SEMAT Essence (Kernel) was selected being the most complete, comprehensive and up-to-date method framework, which is able to strengthen any other method – agile or pre-agile by giving support to the software developers in their daily work.

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