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The influence of national culture dimensions on Agile roles in the South African Software Development Context

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Abstract— Culture influences how agile frameworks are implemented, and agility is said to be suitable in contexts where flexibility and spontaneity are emphasized. While past studies have investigated the influence of national culture on Agile implementations in Western and Eastern contexts, studies focusing on a South African software development context is limited. Furthermore, few studies have focused on the effect of cultural differences within software engineering in general. The purpose of this study is to describe how national culture influences Agile roles within the South African software development context. The study was interpretive and was executed using a qualitative, semi- structured interview research strategy directed at Agile practitioners in South African software development teams. The thematic analysis technique was used to analyze the data. Ten propositions have been formulated to highlight how national culture dimensions influence Agile roles.

Index Terms- Agile Software Development, National Culture, Agile Roles, South Africa.

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