
Editorial

Vanessa Ratten

A.J. Palumbo School of Business Administration,
Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA
E-mail: vanessaratten@gmail.com

Biographical notes: Vanessa Ratten's main research areas are alliances, international entrepreneurship and technology management. She is particularly interested in how entrepreneurship is fostered by culture and government policies around the world. In addition, having majored in Chinese linguistics at university and studied Bahasa Indonesian and Japanese at university, she is particularly interested in Asian languages and the role that they have in international business. She has published in numerous journals including the *International Journal of Entrepreneurship and Small Business*, *Journal of Enterprising Communities: People and Places in the Global Economy*, *Journal of Management and Organisation*, *European Journal of Innovation Management*, *International Journal of Educational Management* and the *Asia Pacific Journal of Marketing and Logistics*.

This issue of the *International Journal of Business and Globalisation* focuses on the theme of 'Asia in the Global Environment'. Asia has catapulted in the past decade to be a region with high economic growth rates, which has the rest of the world captivated by the rise of superpowers in the region including China and India. This issue includes a number of exciting papers that showcase the illuminating research that is being conducted by scholars in the region. The papers in the issue are on a diverse range of countries that have influenced Asia's rise in the global environment and include discussions on Singapore, Malaysia, Korea, the UAE, the Kyrgyz Republic, Iran and India.

The first paper is by Chew Soon Beng and Rosalind Chew and highlights the importance of language for entrepreneurs in the global environment. As English is now considered the international language for conducting business, this paper investigates how graduates who studied in Chinese instead of English, drew on their experience to establish entrepreneurial ventures. The second paper by Raduan Che Rose, Arfah Salleh and Naresh Kumar examines the factors that have influenced Malaysian entrepreneurs to increase their growth rate. The paper highlights how the Malaysian governments focus on Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) has been impacted by the Malay national culture and the growth of the knowledge economy.

The third paper by Estelle Waechter and Vanessa Ratten, examines similarities despite differences between North and South Korea. The paper stresses that there are a number of similar characteristics that are shared between the two countries, such as high education rates and language, which contrast with the strength of South Korea in having a highly developed technology business environment and amount of human capital with North Korea's large natural resource reserves.

The fourth paper is by Tatsuyoshi Masuda and examines how external support policy affects new Japanese founders. The paper finds that new founders with prior related business experience and financial assistance achieve a higher sales rate. The paper stresses the importance of public agencies in supporting managers.

The fifth paper by Jyldyz Aknazarova is on how privatisation has affected the Kyrgyz Republic. Due to the limited business research on the Kyrgyz Republic, this paper helps to address the research gap on how deregulation has affected countries in Asia and surrounding areas. The sixth paper is by Ahmad Khatoonabadi, who discusses entrepreneurs success in rural areas of Iran. Thus, this paper is novel in terms of addressing rural economies and how rural developments have affected Iran. The seventh contribution by Pardip Singh Shehrawat investigates the importance of rural developments by examining agro-processing industries in India. In particular, the paper includes an empirical study on entrepreneurs in the Haryana district in India, in terms of how their characteristics have affected the development of the agriculture industry. Overall, this issue addresses a diverse range of countries that are especially important to developing Asia's increasingly high presence on the global stage. The papers included in this issue provide a unique perspective on 'Asia in the Global Environment'.