Editorial

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Biographical notes: Kostas Metaxiotis is Assistant Professor at the Department of Informatics of the University of Pireaus and member of the Decision Support Systems Laboratory. He is a member of the Executive Boards of Directors of World Capital Institute and of Organizers of the Knowledge Cities World Summit. He has experience in knowledge management, knowledge-based development, artificial intelligence, enterprise information systems and ERPs. He has published two books and more than 80 scientific papers in various journals and conferences. He is the Editor-in-Chief of the *International Journal of Knowledge Based Development* and has also served as guest editor in many journals.

The field of knowledge-based development (KBD) faces, nowadays, the big challenge of making concrete and relevant contributions to the amelioration of societies (i.e., creating a knowledge society) and not solely to the promotion of competitive advantage for businesses. The momentum in the field of KBD becomes evident through the wealth of initiatives that an urban (e.g., Singapore, Barcelona), regional (e.g., Veneto Valley, Basque Country), national (Denmark, New Zealand) and supranational (European Union) levels flourish day by day. Every initiative sets its own limits as long as it corresponds to some of the levels mentioned above and reaches those limits as it develops the required capacities.

This issue contains five contributions from industry, research institutes and academia on international level. More specifically:

The first paper 'Borderland telecentres: learning and connectivity at the edge' by Blanca C. Garcia, explores a regional Latin America telecentre development strategy from the KBD perspective and by focusing on the importance of knowledge for community development. This is achieved by mapping the nature, development and impact of collective knowledge on sustainability. The paper explores how conventional telecentres can be transformed into knowledge hubs, built on key strengths of a city-region.

The second paper 'City infrastructure supporting innovation', by Kirsten Martinus, considers the capacity of urban network and community-based planning to generate knowledge flows and human-scale environments. The paper studies five cities in terms of investigating the presence, relative density and distribution of innovation-supporting infrastructure surrounding major train stations. A main suggestion is that an analysis of localized spatial infrastructure and amenities of innovation indicate a region's propensity to fulfil new economy priorities.

The third paper 'Cities-benchmarking algorithm: a meta-ranking exercise', by Octavio González and Francisco Javier Carrillo, proposes an algorithm to compare cities using reliable and available information for all cities compared at the evaluation time. The proposed approach is based to the Most Admired Knowledge Cities (MAKCi) framework, with some enhancements to overcome some limitations related to availability of indicators.

The fourth paper 'Towards a comprehensive and integrated knowledge-based urban development model: status quo and directions' by Muna Sarimin and Tan Yigitcanlar, provides a comprehensive overview of the most popular KBUD models, based on the literature. The use content analysis technique so as to group the common characteristics of these models and integrate a comprehensive KBUD model which sets a valuable platform for planners and developers to achieve a more holistic urban outcome.

The fifth paper 'The knowledge city index: a case study of Mysore' by Raghav V. Sampangi et al., presents a framework (knowledge city index) developed in the context of a project that aims at studying the concept of a knowledge city, develop knowledge city framework applicable to developing nations and evaluate Mysore (in India) as a knowledge city. KCI analyses the position of Mysore as a knowledge city, involving various metrics (indicators and data of knowledge/intellectual capita) for the city of Mysore.