
Editorial

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Biographical notes: Kostas Ergazakis is an Electrical and Computer Engineer, NTUA and also holds a PhD in Knowledge Management and Decision Support Systems. He has a long professional experience as a Consultant/Project Manager for projects funded by EU and Greek national bodies in different fields: formulation of digital/knowledge cities strategies, e-participation, e-organisation techniques, monitoring and evaluation, design and development of management information systems, business development activities. He has published extensively in scientific journals and presented his research outcomes in international conferences. He is an Associate Editor of the *International Journal of Knowledge-Based Development*.

Kostas Metaxiotis is an Assistant Professor at the University of Piraeus. Since 2004, he has been undertaking a Senior Advisor role at the Secretary for the Information Society, Greek Ministry of Economy and Finance. He has extensive experience in the fields of knowledge management, artificial intelligence, enterprise information systems, and e-government. Since 1996, he has been participating in numerous European Commission-funded projects as Senior Information and Communication Technology Consultant and Manager. He is an Associate Editor of the *International Journal of Knowledge-Based Development*, an annual special issue co-Editor of the *Journal of Knowledge Management*, and the Chair of the 'World Capital Institute Publication Program'.

Recent major technological developments pose great challenges but also create significant opportunities for the whole knowledge-based development (KBD) field in general but also for the knowledge-intensive employment in particular. New technologies offer a global link for workers, which in many cases resulted to significant organisational changes and way of work. A significant research question is if teleworkers fit the profile of creative and knowledge workers, who are essential for the competitiveness of cities, especially for those who have adopted KBD strategies so as to become knowledge cities. In parallel, the design and creation of technology districts is emerging as a key-lever to

activate and support KBD. However, since many of the technology district activities and policies have been conducted quite recently, the performance of the technology districts and the policy measures' impact still needs time to show up and be evaluated.

On the other side, the concepts and principles of KBD have gradually started to become relevant and applicable to smaller geographical entities, such as villages, where significant sections of global population lives. The concept of 'knowledge village' has been recently emerged, exploring the blending of KBD and KC concepts for sustainable development of villages (Carrillo and Batra, 2012). A significant challenge is that there are no established approaches (frameworks/methodologies) that would help to evaluate and support comparison of the efficacy of KBD processes in villages.

Finally, today's global economic context is characterised by the need to fully overcome the financial crisis on the one side and by the increasing importance of intellectual capital and knowledge-based activities for countries. Intangible assets are fundamental sources of wealth and progress that can be used to overcome the challenges of the global financial environment. Thus, approaches to measure intellectual capital at national level are very important and needed.

In this context, the first paper of this issue 'Creative and knowledge-intensive teleworkers' relation to e-capital in the Helsinki metropolitan area', by M. Merisalo, T. Makkonen and T. Inkinen, examines the extent to which teleworkers in the Helsinki metropolitan area fit the profile of knowledge and creative workers. For this purpose, they conducted a postal survey and gathered the related data from 971 participants. A main indication is that there is no difference in terms of knowledge intensity, creativity and e-capital between 'home-anchored' workers and mobile or part-time teleworkers. However, the study revealed the complexity of telework in both a theoretical and empirical context.

The second paper 'Knowledge village capital framework in the Indian context', by S. Batra, R. Payal and F.J. Carrillo, has a purpose to explore the development of a knowledge capital framework for Indian villages. The authors firstly study the literature on KBD and the relevance and applicability of these concepts in the context of socio-economic conditions in the villages of India. Then, they develop a knowledge village capital framework and they conduct an exploratory factor analysis to test the initial framework on data collected from 280 villages of the country. The paper also presents a discussion on the expected added-value of the proposed framework.

The third paper by C. Yeh-Yun Lin and L. Edvinsson 'National intellectual capital in Israel and financial crisis impact' expands on a previous work of the authors on national intellectual capital research and also examines the financial crisis impact. Based on their model of 29 national intellectual capital indicators, the paper present Israel's national intellectual capital rankings among 41 countries, using data from 2000 to 2009. In addition, they calculate the sustaining and boosting effect of NIC on GDP growth.

The fourth and final paper 'Technology districts (TDs) as driver of a knowledge-based development: defining performance indicators assessing TDs' effectiveness and impact', by A. Lerro and F.A. Jacobone, analyses the role of TDs for supporting KBD dynamics. The authors also provide a set of indicators to assess TDs' effectiveness and impact on these dynamics. After a short introduction on the TD concept, the issues related to the importance of defining the performance frameworks and indicators assessing TD's effectiveness and impact are analysed. Then, the performance prism is introduced and adopted as working framework leading the design of the set of specific TDs' performance indicators.

References

- Carrillo, F.J. and Batra, S. (2012) 'Understanding and measurement: perspectives on the evolution of knowledge-based development', *International Journal of Knowledge Based Development*, Vol. 3, No. 1, pp.1–16.