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## Editorial

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**Biographical notes:** Marcelo J. Meiriño is Professor at the School of Engineering in Fluminense Federal University, Rio de Janeiro. He is also a Professor at the Doctoral Program in Sustainable Management Systems and Master Program on Management Systems in the same university. He has a doctoral degree in Civil Engineering with emphasis in management, production, quality and sustainable development. He graduated as Architect and Urban Planner and has Master degree level in Civil Engineering. He is a specialist in occupational safety engineer and as sustainability and energy efficiency in buildings. He is a member of the Social Responsibility Commission of the Brazilian Institute of Oil, Gas and Biofuels (IBP). He is the main coordinator of the National Congress on Management Excellence (CNEG). He is a reviewer of journals and academic events and is a researcher and consultant at NITS/LATEC/UFF.

Sergio Luiz Braga França has PhD in Civil Engineering with emphasis in management, production, quality and sustainable development and graduated as Civil Engineer. He is a Work Safety Engineer, as well as a specialist on environmental management system (BVQI). He is an Associate Professor at Department of Civil Engineering at the School of Engineering in Fluminense Federal University, Rio de Janeiro. He is a Coordinator of the Center for Innovation and Technology for Sustainability (NITS/UFF). He is a Researcher and Project Manager. He is an accredited teacher in the Graduate Program in Management Systems.

Recent financial and economic instability in Europe and the USA has resulted in extreme market volatility as well as the possible generation of a global systemic crisis, exposing large organisations to highly competitive and complex environments. As a result, the business world needs to implement timely responses using management models that entail an appreciation of the business environment based on compliance with sustainable issues in order to minimise risks and impacts. However, sustainability interferes with power structures, apportioned evenly among governments, businesses and civil society organisations, and requires economic, environmental and social equilibrium.

Companies are currently analysing their business activities with responsibilities that go beyond the traditional perspective of profit maximisation. New factors are related to competitiveness, such as the promotion of image and reputation, increasing employee motivation and accountability with stakeholders. In this sense, various concepts and definitions of corporate sustainability have been proposed during the course of debates in academic and business circles in order to address a more humane, ethical and transparent way of doing business. Companies should transform their products and processes, so that the performance of their results can be evaluated and measured in the short, medium and long term, according to the expectations of stakeholders. The challenge now is to go beyond mere compliance with laws and build sustainable businesses. How should companies adopt sustainability practices in order to solve this problem, while at the same time considering the principles proposed by the main authorities addressing the issue?

The purpose of this special edition is to assemble a high-quality selection of contemporary research on management innovation and organisational development in the contemporary context, taking into consideration some of the specific conditions described above. We are particularly seeking to publish articles on empirical research with a clear theoretical contribution based on quantitative and/or qualitative data. The theoretical basis for submitted articles must be up-to-date and relevant in order to add value to the development stage of organisational management science.