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## Editorial

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This second issue of Volume 10 is substantiated by the most distinctive topic of knowledge-based development: knowledge cities. This category of analysis encompasses both the most critical developmental challenges and the best research opportunities for the knowledge society of the 21st century.

Knowledge cities as well as knowledge city-regions have been the topics that captured the imagination of researchers and practitioners interested in knowledge-based value dynamics at the social level. The turn of the century witnessed the dawn of the knowledge society, where knowledge-based capital became the most distinctive developmental leverage. Also, for the first time in history, a majority of humans became city dwellers. These two circumstances combined to produce the knowledge city as the leading arena for global development.

The *International Journal of Knowledge-Based Development* emerged as a natural platform for researchers and practitioners to disseminate their work at the urban and regional levels. Most issues have carried papers on knowledge city issues and *IJKBD* has become the journal of choice for such specialised area. The close association of *IJKBD* with the World Capital Institute, its annual international conference (Knowledge Cities World Summit – KCWS) and its annual Most Admired Knowledge City Awards – MAKCi, have consolidated a distinctive R&D and innovation ecosystem.

This issue contains contributions on urban KBD and innovation from authors across several countries. First, the contribution by Van Winden focuses on how European urban and regional entrepreneurial ecosystems can be boosted through smart specialisation strategies. Looking at ten member cities of the InFocus Project (sponsored by the EU's URBACT program) it examines knowledge exchange about smart specialisation strategies. The study concludes that alignment between urban and regional policy levels fosters the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Next, the paper by Olcay, Narci, Gürler and Bulu provides an account of innovation in medical surgery from a management perspective. This work identifies how surgeons of a major hospital network in Istanbul build upon their experience in identifying surgical innovations. The authors ground their analysis at the broader level of healthcare system impact and contributions to social well-being.

In turn, the article by Castro-Ramírez, Gadille, Gallego-Bono and Ramírez-Carmona look at knowledge management components involved in innovation governance at a developing region. The cosmetics cluster at the Valle de Aburrá, Colombia, aims at tapping on the rich biodiversity of this region. Results highlight the importance of institutional leadership for the construction and evaluation of a KM model relevant to all cluster stakeholders. The article highlights the importance of an endogenous development model that mobilise available resources to promote effective KBD.

The paper by Ponto and Inkinen approaches KBD in three locations of the Helsinki Metropolitan Area from the perspective of design and urban form. The study aimed at finding out how KBD environments are composed as physical spaces and how urban design qualities can be identified and interpreted in those environments. Results suggest that the physical organisation of KBD environments involved the concentrations of distinctive sets of companies. The authors conclude that spatial characteristics and location advantages should be considered in planning new business environments. They also conclude that unlike creative urban precincts, knowledge-intensive environments are not overly dependent on the social-spatial design and mobility.

Finally, the perspective paper by Tomé provides a reflection on a broader issue regarding KBD. Adding to the prominent contribution of Thomas Piketti in establishing the dynamics of capital concentration at the turn of the century, this work asks whether intellectual capital might be helping billionaires participating in political elections. The paper looks at a number of billionaires elected to office in the 21st century. The findings suggest that while intellectual capital does have a major impact in the political process and results, it only becomes decisive when coupled with strong knowledge management. This line of research is relevant in view of the growing role that capital concentration is playing in the democratic processes of the 21st century.