
Editorial

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This special issue has aimed at exploring the areas of sustainability and the e-environment including related information and communication technology (ICT), quality, supply chain, business strategy and for example uncertainty issues in business. This understanding is that this will also contain the e-context from theoretical, methodological and disciplinary perspectives. The e-environment as part focus in this issue includes the use and promotion of ICT as an instrument for environmental and sustainable use of resources. Resources can obviously refer to tangible and intangible resources. In this edition, tangible resources in the e-environment context are addressed in papers such as the one on wine bottling facilities and the one on quality management in the manufacturing sector. Intangible resources such as human knowledge are addressed for example in the bibliometrics research paper on ICT and sustainability. This may further relate to the implementation of ICT-based systems. E-business seen as the point where economic value creation and information technology seem to converge is explored in many of the contributions in this edition. As examples of value creation in an educational context two submissions focus inter alia on investigating the relationship between the self-learning skills that students acquire and their attitude towards using e-learning systems effectively. In one submission, it is shown how the gap between secondary and higher education for students when faced with difficult study program choices may be eased in the digital space by creating a new e-business model undergraduate study program search system. Sustainability is also addressed in a paper using bibliometrics to explore recent and current research topics and trends from systematic analyses of sustainable development and information communication technology. Sustainable strategy is also addressed in this edition in for example a submission related to the public healthcare sector. Here, findings reveal that digital implementation as part of e-business, decision support and demand driven supply chain

management strategy can enhance efficiency in the supply chain. This already points to e-health as part of e-business and as such another submission focuses on sustained use of e-health that is influenced by the dynamic and nonlinear interactions of technological, social, organisational and economic factors. Furthermore, e-commerce is a very important element of e-business. This is also embodied in some papers in this edition. There is for instance a focus on many organisations that have implemented some form of e-business solution to increase performance efficiency or effectiveness. Interesting research results are presented here on consumer perception of innovations in e-commerce. The area of sustainable competitive advantage using e-commerce and e-business is also the focus in a paper on a framework of an electronic business development model.

This is just a brief overview of what may be expected in this special journal edition. We as guest editors trust that all the papers published in this edition may serve as further impetus for research in the field of e-business and all its implications for possible sustainable competitive advantage in a global context as well.