

14th International Forum on Knowledge Asset Dynamics
IFKAD 2019

Knowledge Ecosystems and Growth

Matera, Italy | 5-7 June 2019

Special Track

Open Innovation Platforms Fostering Knowledge Ecosystems

Research Area: Business Model and Innovation

Organizers

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Description

The Open Innovation approach underlines combinations of “internal and external ideas in architectures and systems, whose requirements are defined by a business model. The business model utilizes both external and internal ideas to create value, while defining internal mechanisms to claim some portion of that value” (Chesbrough, 2003, p. 24). Therefore, innovation arises from knowledge flows both within and outside the company, generated and distributed within the complex relationships that connect a wider range of strategic actors for developing new ideas, products and technologies. In this context, firms can be aided by Open Innovation Platforms, recently defined as “knowledge- and value-accretive” (De Falco et al., 2017) platforms in a way that realizes a durable value-creation mechanism. Open Innovation Platforms, provided by Innovation Intermediaries (Sawhney et al. 2003; Howells, 2006; Sieg et al., 2010; Aquilani et al., 2017), offer new ways for organizations to collaborate with the external environment for ideas, technologies, and knowledge (Hossain and Lassen, 2017; De Silva et al., 2018). They enable organizations to bring knowledge from outside to solve many problems organizations cannot accomplish internally.

As a result, Open Innovation Platforms have a far-reaching impact on how parties innovate together through alliances, networks and ecosystems (West and Bogers, 2014). However, the shift towards a more digital arena implies a new way of sharing knowledge internally and across organizational boundaries. As the knowledge sharing via digital platforms entails more and more frequent interactions between the two sides, Open Innovation Platforms need new skills, tools and management structures to integrate external

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knowledge into the organizations (Hossain and Lassen, 2017). Therefore, this interpretation requires revising the role and services offered by Open Innovation Platforms (Howells, 2006; Lopez-Vega and Vanhaverbeke, 2009; Dalziel, 2010; Sieg et al., 2010; Tran et al., 2011; Agoguè et al., 2013; Colombo et al., 2014) bearing in mind the knowledge mechanisms created and implemented by the companies. Adopting this perspective, it has been proposed the idea of Open Innovation Platforms as “co-creators” (Aquilani et al., 2016) “oriented to activate co-creation processes in the dispersed innovation network, by integrating and combining knowledge and capabilities and by supporting interactions and relationships through technological open services”.

So, while Open Innovation Intermediaries have been already studied using a knowledge-based perspective (Randhawa et al., 2017; De Silva et al., 2018), to our knowledge there are no studies that have adopted this perspective investigating the Open Innovation Platforms. Furthermore, this track invites contribution that provides some valuable managerial implications for Open Innovation Platforms and firms that use online communities to acquire and integrate knowledge from external sources. Contributions focusing on the services offered by Open Innovation Platforms, aimed to trigger knowledge co-creation in a specific business ecosystem are encouraged.

Papers could embrace each perspective and research domain, adopting either theoretical and conceptual or empirical analysis (qualitative or quantitative methods) using the most suited methodology.

Keywords

Open Innovation, Digital Platform, Business Ecosystem, Knowledge Co-creation

Guidelines

Researchers wishing to contribute are invited to submit an **extended structured abstract** (in MS-Word format) of **500-700 words** by **15 January, 2019**. The abstract should address theoretical background, research objective, methodology, and results in terms of expected contribution to Knowledge Management theory and practice. Authors are encouraged to follow the guidelines for both extended abstracts as well as full papers available on IFKAD site www.ifkad.org

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Important dates

15 January 2019	<i>Abstract submission deadline</i>
20 February 2019	<i>Acceptance notification to authors</i>
15 March 2019	<i>Early-Bird registration cut off</i>
15 April 2019	<i>Full paper submission</i>
15 May 2019	<i>Registration deadline</i>
5-7 June 2019	<i>Conference sessions</i>

For further information

For any further information, please see the event website at www.ifkad.org or contact the conference manager at info@knowledgeasset.org