



# Management international International Management Gestión Internacional

## **International Management Research and Africa**

**Deadline for submission: December 31, 2017**

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While multiple indicators reveal the economic awakening of Africa and several analysts predict that the world's strongest economic growth over the next few years will take place in Africa, this continent is experiencing a growing interest from both political and economic actors, and management researchers, such as the editors of the Academy of Management Journal, who consider Africa to be a particularly promising context for management research (George et al., 2016). In certain specific areas of management (strategy, HR, organizational behavior), this perspective is attracting increasing interest from researchers (Zoogah, 2014, Kamoche et al., 2012, Zoogah, & Beugré, 2012).

In this general context of increasing attractiveness, it may seem appropriate to ask two interrelated questions: What can international management research bring to Africa and what can the managerial practices in Africa bring to international management research?

This dual question is the hinge of this special issue of the International Management journal entitled 'International Management Research and Africa'. Clearly, Africa, a vibrant continent from a variety of perspectives relevant to management (outstanding economic and demographic opportunities, persistent political and social threats, original and pioneering strategies in areas such as mobile banking, specific interactions of modern

institutions resulting from colonization as administrative structures and traditional structures such as pre-colonial chiefdoms...) constitutes an exceptional analysis laboratory for research in international management.

More specifically, this special issue 'International Management Research and Africa' aims to address the following questions:

- • What is the state of management research in Africa?
- • Is there an 'African culture'?
- • What would be the impact of this 'African culture' on the performance of organizations in Africa?
- Beyond the cultural variables, what factors explain the differences in performance between African organizations operating in the same cultural context?
- What is the impact of major changes in the African environment (mass schooling, digital and social networks development, influx of foreign investors, massive returns of Africans from the Diaspora ...) on management in Africa?
- What is the role of management research in Africa in combating poverty, armed conflict, disease, injustice, corruption, etc., in the management of public policies (health and Hygiene, education, environment, agriculture, justice, peace, security, defense ...), in promoting good governance and the rule of law, in understanding decentralization and proximity cooperation, in analyzing the relationships between Africa and international economic and financial institutions, capacity building and knowledge management, the rehabilitation and rearmament of public administration and values, public-private partnerships ...?
- What can be the contribution of management research to these many issues, which to date have mainly been dealt with from the perspective and with the methods of other disciplinary fields (law, political science, economics, anthropology, sociology, statistics ...)?
- How is 'universal' knowledge in management translated into the African context?
- What are the broader management issues (innovation, learning, entrepreneurship, finance, production, human resources management, marketing, strategy, etc.) in the African context?
- What do we know about leadership, motivation, negotiation, justice, diversity ... in the African context?
- How can managerial practices in Africa advance the state of 'universal' knowledge in management?

All these and many other questions naturally have their place in this special issue 'International Management Research and Africa'.

The contributions expected in this special issue 'International Management Research and Africa' can be state-of-the-art in management research in Africa, as is the case with recent studies in the English-speaking sphere of sub-Saharan Africa (Zoogah, 2014, Zoogah,

2014, Zaogah, 2012, Zaogah, & Pitt, 2011, Walumbwa, Avolio, & Aryee, 2015), state-of-the-art management research relevant to Africa, testimonies from practitioners, empirical research illustrating managerial practices in Africa (or relevant to Africa), or conceptual, speculative or normative analyses on perspectives of management research in Africa (or relevant to Africa). It will be particularly welcome to attempt to theorize how managerial practices in Africa contribute to universal debates in international management research and, more generally, to the development of knowledge in the field of management.

### **Key dates**

- July 2017: diffusion of the call for contributions
- December 31, 2017: manuscripts submission deadline
- End 2018: publication of the special issue ‘International Management Research and Africa’

### **Submission process**

Manuscripts for this special issue should include the following mention: ‘submission for the special issue’ International Management Research and Africa ‘.

Manuscripts should be sent by email to Prof. Ababacar MBENGUE (corresponding guest editor): [ababacar.mbengue@univ-reims.fr](mailto:ababacar.mbengue@univ-reims.fr)

Articles must comply with the standards outlined in the editorial policy of the International Management Review: <http://www.managementinternational.ca/en/authors-section/submit-an-article/>.

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