

Call for contributions

MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL

"Communities, Ecosystems and Innovation"

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Guest Editors

Véronique Schaeffer (University of Strasbourg, BETA)

Claude Guittard (University of Strasbourg, BETA)

Fanny Simon (IAE Rouen)

David Wolfe (University of Toronto)

In an innovation ecosystem, the success of innovation depends not only on the firm, but also on its external partners. The question of strategy then arises differently (Iansiti, Levien, 2004, Teece, 2007). It is no longer just a question of positioning in a competitive environment to capture value, but also of acting on this environment, as an actor engaged in a process of co-creation of value within an ecosystem of innovation (Adner, 2006, Adner, Kapoor, 2010). The central role of interactions between stakeholders within an ecosystem has led to the development of various studies integrating the question of the geographical proximity of stakeholders and highlighting the territorial dimension of the dynamics of innovation (Gertler et al, 2000, Bramwell et al, 2008, Spigel, 2017). These interactions involve formal actors (political institutions, large companies, research centres, higher education institutions, etc.) as well as different informal groups (Saxenian, 1994, Gertler, Wolfe, 2004, et al, 2009, Autio, Thomas, 2014). The notion of community is central to understanding these informal collectives (Grandadam et al., 2013, Sarazin et al., 2017).

In analyzing the dynamics of creative activities in the territories, a number of authors (Simon, 2009, Cohendet et al., 2010, Avdikos, 2015, Lange & Schlusser, 2018) suggest that the creative capacity of agglomerations rests on an institutional process that connects an informal "underground" of talented individuals and an "upperground" that includes formal public and private institutions (Caves, 2000). The informal collectives, individuals and communities that constitute the "underground" develop links with the formal actors of the "upperground" through intermediate platforms that constitute the "middleground". These platforms allow the construction of cognitive spaces that contribute to the dynamics of creative activities, participate in the permanent circulation

of knowledge and promote interaction between communities. New spaces and times of collective creation are emerging in territories ("living labs", "fab-labs", co-working spaces, "jams", co-design sessions, hackathons, etc.), to encourage the emergence of ideas, their circulation and their enrichment, which feed the capacity for innovation of formal actors (Capdevila, 2015, Fabbri, Charue-Duboc, 2016).

Social relations support the exchanges and the creative recombination of knowledge and thus allow the emergence of a line of innovations (Sydow, 2009). However, the persistence over the long term of relational structures inhibits the ability of actors to explore new paths of development and embed them in trajectories that have become inefficient. This can affect the ability of stakeholders to perceive threats from other ecosystems and thus affect the sustainability of the ecosystem.

The emergence of actors with multiple identities and the place of interactions between formal and informal actors within ecosystems bring new challenges for research on local innovation dynamics. They will be at the heart of this special issue. Various aspects may be addressed, including:

- What are the conceptual and theoretical advantages of the innovation ecosystem framework over competing approaches in the literature, such as clusters, local innovation systems and industrial districts?
- What are the properties of innovation ecosystems: their emergence, their resilience, their power of attraction, their dynamics in time and space
- What are the differences and possible linkages among business ecosystems, innovation ecosystems and entrepreneurial ecosystems?
- What are the organizational conditions for innovation in an ecosystem approach?
- What are the driving forces of entrepreneurial dynamics within innovation ecosystems?
- How to develop creative/entrepreneurial capacities of cities? What is the role of new places, and new forms of partnerships?
- How does the artistic sector contribute to local innovation dynamics? Interaction mechanisms between formal, informal and virtual ecosystem actors
- What is the role of intellectual property in ecosystems and communities?
- How do knowledge is transferred and recombined in communities over long periods of time?
- Which mechanisms favor the emergence of innovation or, on the contrary, the inertia of a territory?

Proposals should be sent by 30 November 2018 by e-mail to schaeffer@unistra.fr They must respect the publication standards of Management International (<http://www.managementinternational.ca/en/authors-section/im-style-guide/>).

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