

## CALL FOR PAPERS

*International Journal of Emerging Markets*

### **Special Issue: “Knowledge Management in Emerging Economies”**

Guest Editors

Dr Huan Zou (Loughborough University, UK)

Dr Jean-Michel Viola (Central European University, Hungary & Rennes School of Business, France)

.....

Knowledge management and its role in firm strategy and performance has gained increasing recognition in the management literature over the last decades (Bruton, Dess, & Janney, 2007, Easterby-Smith, Lyles, & Tsang, 2008, van Wijk, Jansen, & Lyles, 2008). From the resource-based and knowledge-based perspectives, much academic effort has been directed at identifying different types of knowledge as well as mechanisms that facilitate or constrain inter- and intra-organizational knowledge learning and transfer with a particular focus on developed economies. Although the current body of research is fruitful in understanding the impact of different knowledge types on organization performance, and the process of knowledge management in different contexts (i.e. partnership, innovation and internationalization), there are still a number of underexplored issues in knowledge management, especially in emerging economies.

Nonaka and Takeuchi (1995) have shown that managers approach knowledge creation in different ways depending on their intellectual traditions and fundamental assumptions about what knowledge is and how knowledge comes about. Moreover, it is believed that knowledge management in emerging economies exhibits different features (Bruton, Dess, & Janney, 2007), given the fact that characteristics of technology products and markets, national business systems and enduring cultural influences are different from those in developed economies. Therefore, the question of whether the existing conceptualization and frameworks in knowledge management can be applied to emerging economies is an area waiting for further investigation. In particular, how to approach the concept of knowledge and the processes whereby knowledge is created and managed in order to contribute to the growth of emerging economy firms is an important issue. We also know little about the link between different mechanisms of knowledge acquisition and learning, strategic alternatives and the performance of emerging economy firms. The processes of how knowledge is created internally or obtained externally and applied in new business situations over time need further research. The recent rise of multinational enterprises from emerging economies also provides a fascinating context to explore the nature of knowledge management and the impact of knowledge learning across country boundaries, especially when knowledge is acquired from developed markets (Luo & Tung, 2007). Importantly, it is widely recognized that emerging economies are different from developed ones in terms of economic development and institutional frameworks, which may impact substantially on industry competition and firm practices in knowledge management.

For this special issue on knowledge management in emerging economies we welcome conceptual and empirical papers that advance the theoretical understanding of knowledge creation and transfer with a particular focus on emerging economies, addressing a range of topics/issues, which includes, but is not restricted to, the following:

- the importance of knowledge for competitive advantage and performance

- the link between knowledge management and firm growth
- the role of knowledge learning in the internationalization behavior of emerging economy firms
- how knowledge is acquired and managed in the internationalization process
- types and mechanisms of knowledge acquisition and learning
- the impact of institutional and contextual factors on knowledge learning and transfer
- knowledge transfer and economic development
- knowledge clashes and knowledge enablers in the global economy

This call is open and competitive, and submitted papers will be reviewed in accordance with the *International Journal of Emerging Markets* review process. Submitted papers must be based on original material not under consideration by any other journal or outlet. Manuscripts should be formatted in accordance with the *International Journal of Emerging Markets* publication guidelines available at <http://www.emeraldinsight.com/ijoem.htm>

Authors should submit their manuscripts as a Word attachment which does not reveal their identity in the document. A separate cover page revealing the author's name and affiliation should also be submitted. The deadline for submission is **30 September 2010**. The Special Issue will be published as issue 3, 2011.

Submissions and general requests for information should be sent to both of the guest editors:

- Dr Huan Zou, Loughborough University Business School, UK.  
Email: [h.zou@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:h.zou@lboro.ac.uk)
- Dr Jean-Michel Viola, CEU Business School, Hungary.  
Email: [ViolaJM@ceubusiness.org](mailto:ViolaJM@ceubusiness.org)

## References

- Bruton, Garry, Gregory Dess, & Jay Janney. 2007. Knowledge Management in Technology-Focused Firms in Emerging Economies: Caveats on Capabilities, Networks, and Real Options. *Asia Pacific Journal of Management*, 24(2): 115-30.
- Easterby-Smith, Mark, Marjorie A. Lyles, & Eric W. K. Tsang. 2008. Inter-Organizational Knowledge Transfer: Current Themes and Future Prospects. *Journal of Management Studies*, 45(4): 677-90.
- Luo, Yadong & Rosalie L. Tung. 2007. International Expansion of Emerging Market Enterprises: A Springboard Perspective. *Journal of International Business Studies*, 38(4): 481-98.
- Nonaka, Ikujiro & Hirotaka Takeuchi. 1995. *The Knowledge-Creating Company*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- van Wijk, Raymond, Justin J. P. Jansen, & Marjorie A. Lyles. 2008. Inter- and Intra-Organizational Knowledge Transfer: A Meta-Analytic Review and Assessment of Its Antecedents and Consequences. *Journal of Management Studies*, 45(4): 830-53.