

Alternation African Scholarship Book Series (AASBS)
Call for Book Chapters

Title: “Information and Knowledge Management for Social,
Economic and Political Development”

Edited By

**Prof. Priti Jain, Prof. Nathan Mnjama and
Prof. Olugbade Oladokun**

Department of Library and Information Studies
University of Botswana

Introduction

In the fast moving world of globalisation, information and knowledge are vital and becoming the mainstay of every facet of our lives. The two and related concepts have positive impact on the development of all spheres of life. In the 21st century, achieving sustainable development is crucial and relies upon access to information and knowledge. Information and knowledge provide opportunities in several ways: as eminent input for education, means to scientific research, advancement of knowledge, development of civilization, sustainable competitive advantage and catalyst for social change, leading to social, economic and political development. According to Donna Scheeder, former President of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) “there is no truly sustainable development without access to information”. Conversely, knowledge is instrumental to overcoming and solving problems. The management of the two concepts join forces together to boost efficiency in carrying out tasks.

Recognising the importance of sustainable development, the United Nations General Assembly on September 25, 2015, adopted the post-2015 development agenda termed “Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” as a Plan of Action for the people, the planet and prosperity of people. The agenda comprises 17 SDGs and 169 targets that span through three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental (UN, 2015). Access to information and knowledge is

fundamental to attain all the 17 goals. Accurate, reliable and relevant information and knowledge are fundamental in all walks of life from daily chores to socio-economic and political development.

Both the emerging and the developed economies are eager to advance their pace through timely and prompt information and appropriate knowledge. The global economy is evolving into a new economy known as the knowledge-based economy, which relies more on the quantity, quality, and accessibility of information and intellectual capabilities through than means of production. Knowledge is now recognized as the driver of productivity and economic growth. Both developed and developing economies require information and knowledge. Hence, it is imperative to manage them as crucial resources for development.

Against the above background, the purpose of this book is to explore and deliberate on the role of information and knowledge management in socio-economic and political development; discuss recent trends, challenges experienced and solutions proffered in both the developed and the emerging economies. The proposed book would provide a platform for researchers, educators and practitioners from various information and knowledge management establishments to share their knowledge and experience related to the social, economic, environmental, and political development in their respective countries.

Objectives of the book: The specific objectives are:

- Create awareness of the importance of information/ knowledge management for socio-economic and political development;
- Present case studies on the recent trends towards information/ knowledge management to support modern economies for development;
- Discuss and explore recent challenges encountered in ensuring continuity of social, economic, environmental, and political development; and,
- Develop strategies aimed at enhancing the management of information and knowledge to boost the overall development of global economy.

Suggested Topics/ Areas: The areas covered in this publication include, but are not limited to:

- Information Management
- Knowledge Management
- Records Management, good governance, transparency, accountability and human Rights
- Information and Socio-economic development
- Library and Information Science
- Information and Socio-political Development
- Knowledge Management for Development
- Economic and Social challenges
- Information Systems and Socio-economic Development
- Social Media in Knowledge Management and Development
- Ethical Issues in Information and Knowledge Management
- Case-studies on the Role of Information and Knowledge Management on Social, Economic, Environmental, and Political Developments
- Cross-cultural Knowledge Management Practices
- Knowledge Sharing Practices
- Information and Knowledge Management in High-growth Organisations
- Information/ Knowledge Management for Strategic and Competitive Intelligence
- Open Distance Learning (ODL) for Socio-economic Development.
- Other related topics on the theme

Target Audience and Potential Uses: The book will provide valuable material for study and further research, reading for administrators and policy makers, educators and students, practising librarians and other information professionals, information professionals, such as, librarians, archivists, records and knowledge managers, media practitioners.

Uniqueness of the book: The uniqueness of this book lies in the fact that this edited book will be an edited collection of well researched chapters drawn from distinguished

scholars including librarians, media studies educators, knowledge managers and records managers, also involving discipline specialists.

Important Dates to note

- 14 December, 2021 – Submission of abstracts
- 07 January, 2022 – Feedback to authors and notification of acceptance
- 7 March, 2022 – Submission of Full paper
- 1st April, 2022 – Feedback to authors on full papers
- 15 May, 2022 – Camera-ready papers
- 30 June, 2022 – Book Publication

Submission procedure

Each submission should contain the following information:

- Title of the proposed chapter
- Abstract (350 words)
- Brief comment on which of the recommended topics the proposed contribution is addressing (100 words)
- Contact information (last name, first name, title, organizational affiliation, e-mail and telephone contact.)
- Abstracts should be sent to the following e-mails: jainp@ub.ac.bw; mnjamanm@ub.ac.bw; OLADOKUN@UB.AC.BW before 14 December, 2021,



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Alternation is an interdisciplinary DoHET accredited South African scholarly book series with an established local and international readership in the Arts, and Human and Social Sciences.

1. In the interdisciplinary domain, *Alternation* provides a peer reviewed research space for the interface between the Arts, Human and Social Sciences, with Informatics, as well as the Management and Governance Sciences. This focus seeks to address the numerous knowledge production opportunities as well as challenges that arise within this space. As such, it aims at advancing peer reviewed research on these intersecting issues, that might be perceived to be peripheral to core scientific disciplines, but are significant, with regard to the human – social – digital scientific interfaces and uses of digital technologies, when considered across disciplines, and the management and governance sectors of African societies and communities.
2. Contributions must report the results of original research, based on the analysis of primary data, with the exception of Economics and Finance where researchers often analyse secondary data available in the public domain. Researchers could also present the results of research on conceptual models, based on a critical analysis of existing published researched literature. Such conceptual models should be able to form the basis of subsequent empirical research.
3. All contributions must pass a double-blind peer review process, by at least two independent peer reviewers, before publication. If a submission receives one positive and one negative review it is sent to a third reviewer.

4. *Alternation* website: <http://alternation.ukzn.ac.za/>
5. Initiated in 2020, the *Alternation* African Scholarship Book Series (AASBS) is available at: <http://alternation.ukzn.ac.za/archives/book-archive.aspx>
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