Call for papers – Special Issue

Crowdfunding: Toward New Paradigms of Innovation?

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As conventional financial institutions have significantly decreased funding of innovative projects and start-up ventures since the financial crisis 2006-08, alternative finance and in particular crowdfunding have emerged as innovative sources for financing entrepreneurial ventures and social projects.

Crowdfunding derives from crowdsourcing, which refers to aggregation of many small contributions to support solutions. Similarly, crowdfunding refers to a process by which a project initiator launches an open call for soliciting and collecting small amounts of money from a large number of individuals (crowd) around the world without the intermediation of conventional financial institutions.

Crowdfunding is a combination of information technology and economics and many other social sciences. Its advent coincides with that of the Web 2.0 technologies (social media), which enables people to interact, and exchange at lower transaction costs, if not free. Consequently, actors, such as artists, charitable organizations, civic groups, creative or entrepreneurial ventures, firms, political parties, etc. whose projects do not fit the pattern required by conventional financiers, can resort to the crowdfunding platforms to raise funds.

The idea is the same as that behind many fundraising campaigns: convincing enough individuals to contribute to reach a target figure. Contributors usually get something in return (interest on loan, profit on equity, reward in nature and recognition).

A notable reason of the publicly observable popularity of crowdfunding resides in its innovative ability to converge reflections from different social and technological disciplines.

A JIEM’s special issue on crowdfunding

JIEM prepares a special issue on crowdfunding “Crowdfunding: Toward new Paradigms of Innovation?” and welcomes conceptual, qualitative and empirical research papers that demonstrate original and critical reflection on crowdfunding in general and its impact on social and lucrative innovations in particular.

Innovations started around 20 years ago in French and 10 years ago in English and publishes 6 issues per year. It is co-edited by “The Research Network on Innovation (RNI)” and De Boeck Université. The journal Innovations is indexed by HCERES (High Research
Assessment Board and higher education), by the CNRS (National Centre for Scientific Research), FNEGE (National Foundation for Teaching Management companies), Econlit, Scopus, ERIH (European Reference index for the humanities) and Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) WoS.

**Objectives**
The ultimate objective of this issue is generating alternative views on economic and social innovations by engaging increasingly connected individuals through networks of social media. Although the research literature on crowdfunding is growing, our knowledge in this area is still perfectible regarding many issues such as suitability of classical managerial concepts and theories, regulation, impact on entrepreneurial value and job creation, impact on conventional financial system, impact on social and environmental issue, motivation of contributing, etc. This special issue aims to enhance practical and theoretical insights on crowdfunding’s potential for social and lucrative innovative projects. This special issue aims to improve the skills and knowledge on the potential of crowdfunding for innovative projects.

We welcome submissions of articles in the fields of economics and management of innovation, entrepreneurship and financing of projects of economic and social innovations.

**Topics**
While innovation remains the central topic of this special issue, we welcome contributions that enrich theoretical development and empirical examination. Both conceptual and empirical research works are considered and welcomed. In addition, we encourage contributions on topics such as:

Theoretical and empirical research are equally considered. We encourage contributions on topics such as:

- The impact of crowdfunding on entrepreneurial value creation, employment and empowerment
- Adaptability of classical economic and managerial concepts and theories to crowdfunding
- Areas and geographical extents of crowdfunding
- Evaluation of paradigms of crowdfunding evolution in different economic sectors (art, realtory, social, etc.), and regions (developed and developing countries)
- Regulation and regulatory complexities of different modes of crowdfunding
- Case studies of innovative experiences in crowdfunding
- Crowdfunding platforms’ mediatory strategies
- Inventive models of crowdfunding
- Role of supportive institutions to crowdfunding
- Multidisciplinary aspects of economy and management crowdfunding: sociology of networking, anthropology of social inks, geography of contributions, psychology of motivation, economic and institutional foundation of peer-to-peer interactions
- Comparative analysis of modes of alternative such as crowdfunding, microfinance and slow money
- Issues of power between protagonists in crowdfunding
Submission procedure
We expect to publish this special issue in the first semester of 2018. Papers must be original and comply with the instructions for authors of the journal Innovations. Please refer to the following for recommendations to authors:
http://www.cairn.info/docs/Instructions_for_authorsGB110816.pdf

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Indicative Bibliography

Crowdfunding & General Issues
ASSADI, D. (Ed.). Strategic Approaches to Successful Crowdfunding. IGI Global, Hershey, PA.

Crowdfunding & Geography funding

Crowdfunding, Entrepreneurship & Innovation
DINGER, J.; VEDULA, S. Venture capital and crowdfunding: Competition, complementary or Independent, Edwing Marrion Kauffman Foundation University of Colorado-Boulder, July 12-13, 2013


Crowdfunding & Social Innovation


Crowdfunding & Social Ties and Networks
Crowdfunding & technological innovation


Crowdfunding, types of


**Crowdsourcing**