

IFKAD
International Forum on Knowledge Asset Dynamics

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IFKAD 2027

22nd International Forum on Knowedge Asset Dynamics

University of Basilicata, Matera, Italy

The Ecology of Knowledge in the AI Era

CALL FOR EXTENDED ABSTRACTS - IFKAD 2027
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Special Track n.: 10

Managerial Behaviour and Emerging Technologies under Systemic Uncertainty

Description

Firms are increasingly making strategic choices in an environment marked by geopolitical, climate, societal and technological disruptions. The World Economic Forum's Global Risks Report 2025 identifies geopolitical tensions, extreme weather events and cyber risks among major short-term threats, while environmental risks and adverse outcomes of AI become more prominent over long-horizons (World Economic Forum, 2025). These conditions affect how managers allocate attention, interpret weak signals and balance short-term pressures against long-term opportunities. Upper Echelons Theory (Hambrick & Mason, 1984) and Attention-Based View (Ocasio, 1997) resonate in the debate, helping to understand how managerial cognition shapes responses to external factors and emerging technologies (Bromiley & Rau, 2016; Kaplan, 2008). This Special Track investigates how managerial cognition and behaviour work in emerging technologies' adoption under systemic uncertainty in public and private sectors. It focuses on factors such as managerial myopia, temporal orientation, risk perception, ambiguity tolerance, attention allocation and cognitive diversity. Technology adoption is not a purely rational response to external pressures. Managerial short-termism can discourage long-horizon investment and innovation (Flammer & Bansal, 2017; Stein, 1989), while recent evidence links managerial myopia to weaker technological, digital and green innovation (Peng & Yan, 2025). Similar tensions characterize responses to long-horizon risks such as climate change and biodiversity loss (Li, 2025; Slawinski & Bansal, 2015; Wang et al., 2026). The track directly connects with IFKAD 2027's theme, "The Ecology of Knowledge in the AI Era". As AI enters organizational decision-making, technology adoption reshapes how knowledge is generated, interpreted, shared and used. Human and AI may complement or substitute one another, creating new forms of learning and control (Hillebrand et al., 2025; Jarrahi, 2018). AI adoption may also reshape managerial roles and the boundary between human judgement and algorithmic inference (Alekseeva et al., 2026). The track aims to bridge strategy, knowledge management, innovation and risk studies, examining how firms can govern emerging-technology adoption while avoiding both impulsive adoption and strategic inertia.

Indicative Topics

- Managerial myopia and strategic choices under uncertainty;
- Emerging technologies in the public sector;
- Managerial attention, salience and sensemaking in detecting technological opportunities and threats;
- Risk perception, ambiguity tolerance and uncertainty avoidance in technology-related strategic decisions;
- Cognitive biases, including overconfidence, loss aversion, confirmation bias and status-quo bias;
- Managerial cognitive styles, metacognition and paradoxical cognition in technologically turbulent environments;
- Neurodiversity as antecedent of strategic thinking;
- Human–AI augmentation, delegation, trust, algorithm aversion and algorithm appreciation in managerial decision making;
- Investor perceptions of AI and emerging technology investments under uncertainty;
- Dynamic capabilities and managerial sensing, seizing and reconfiguration under systemic uncertainty;
- Climate, geopolitical, cyber and societal uncertainty as contextual conditions affecting technology adoption;
- Governance, accountability and cognitive safeguards in AI-supported managerial decisions;

- AI adoption and the reconfiguration of organizational knowledge ecosystems;
- Managerial cognition, emerging technology adoption and financial market reactions.

Keywords

Emerging technologies; Managerial behaviour; Systemic uncertainty; Technology adoption; Governance

Organizers

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Follow this link to see the Special Track details on IFKAD website ››

Guidelines and Requirements

Researchers wishing to contribute are invited to submit an EXTENDED ABSTRACT (in MS Word format) of min 500 and max 1000 words, not later than **22 JANUARY 2027**. All submission must be done via dedicated form on our website. The abstract should address theoretical background, research objective, methodology, and results in terms of expected contribution to Knowledge Management theory and practice.
Authors are required to follow the guidelines and templates available on IFKAD website: www.ifkad.org

Important Dates

22 January 2027 – Extended Abstract Submission Deadline
19 February 2027 – Acceptance Notification to Authors
16 April 2027 – Early-Bird Registration & Payment Deadline
23 April 2027 – Full Paper Submission Deadline
28 May 2027 – Regular and PhD Students Registration & Payment Deadline
12 June 2027 – Conference Program Release
28-30 June 2027 – Conference sessions *(to be considered as 3 full working days)*

Please note that all above indicated dates are **CUT-OFF** deadlines. There will not be an extention to any of these.

Further Information

For any information related to the conference and/or any special track, please see the event website at www.ifkad.org or contact the conference manager at **info@ifkad.org**