

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.: 42

Translating Knowledge Ecology for Sustainable Products, Processes and Value Chains

Description

The growing complexity of sustainability-related decision-making increasingly requires the integration of knowledge generated across distinct scientific, technical and organizational domains. In this context, the concept of knowledge ecology offers a useful perspective for examining how heterogeneous forms of knowledge coexist, interact and evolve within interconnected systems of actors, practices and technological infrastructures. Knowledge concerning products, materials and production systems is rarely produced within a single disciplinary or professional context; rather, it emerges through distributed processes involving different forms of expertise, evaluative criteria and modes of representation. The analytical challenge is to understand how different knowledge domains can be connected, interpreted and used effectively to support collective action (Latino et al., 2025).

This Special Track examines these dynamics with particular attention to the translation and recombination of knowledge across disciplinary, practical and organizational boundaries. Sustainability-related information often originates in highly specialized contexts and must be transformed before using it for coordination and decision-making. Environmental performance, resource efficiency, circularity and traceability can therefore be understood not only as technical issues, but also as knowledge-intensive organizational challenges (Menegoli et al., 2026).

Organizations constitute a key setting in which these processes take place. Specialized knowledge must move across functions and professional communities while preserving its scientific reliability and acquiring operational relevance. Organizational routines, coordination mechanisms and inter-organizational relationships become central in this process, as they shape how knowledge is exchanged, interpreted and incorporated into action.

Artificial intelligence and digital technologies further reshape these dynamics by changing how knowledge is generated, processed and validated. Their role is not limited to expanding access to information, but also affects the relationship between codified knowledge, expert judgement and organizational interpretation. This raises new questions about the reliability, governance and practical use of knowledge in increasingly data-intensive environments (Neri et al., 2025).

In line with the IFKAD 2027 theme "The Ecology of Knowledge in the AI Era", the Special Track invites contributions that investigate how knowledge is translated and recombined within organizational contexts and how these processes support more sustainable products, production systems and value chains. Particular interest is given to the conditions that allow heterogeneous knowledge to remain scientifically robust while becoming actionable for organizations. The track welcomes theoretical, empirical and practice-oriented contributions at the intersection of knowledge management, organization studies, sustainability and commodity sciences.

Indicative Topics

- Knowledge ecology and the integration of scientific, technical and organizational knowledge;
- Product and process knowledge within organizational knowledge ecology;
- Integration of environmental and sustainability knowledge into managerial decision-making;
- Knowledge ecology in sustainable and circular value chains;
- Standards and certifications as mechanisms for knowledge codification;
- Inter-organizational knowledge exchange in sustainable supply chains;

- Digital infrastructures for connecting distributed knowledge;
- Artificial intelligence within organizational knowledge ecology;
- Interaction between human expertise and AI-generated knowledge;
- Knowledge recombination for sustainable product and process innovation;
- Knowledge ecology and organizational learning in sustainability transitions.

Keywords

Knowledge Ecology; Knowledge Translation; Sustainability; Environmental Assessment; Organizational Learning; Life-Cycle Information

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**