

IFKAD 2026

21st International Forum on Knowledge Asset Dynamics
Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary

Intelligent Knowledge For Sustainable Organizations

CALL FOR EXTENDED ABSTRACTS - IFKAD 2026
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Special Track n.: 35

Evolving Competences for Managing Sustainable Projects in Knowledge Intensive Organizations

Description

The integration of sustainability into project management practices has gained significant traction in academic discourse and the professional environment (Avery & Bergsteiner, 2011; Contreras-Medina et al., 2021; Silvius, 2016). In particular, knowledge intensive organizations, marked by a reliance on specialized expertise and continuous innovation, operate in contexts where traditional project management paradigms are increasingly insufficient (Nieto-Rodriguez A., 2021). In such contexts, the evolution of managerial competences is critical to reconcile the pursuit of sustainability with the conventional constraints of project delivery. The complexity inherent in sustainable project management necessitates a reconfiguration of competences, moving beyond technical proficiency to encompass systems thinking, ethical sensitivity, and knowledge-driven adaptability. Project managers must be equipped to navigate tensions arising from competing temporalities, organizational resistance, and reduced control over external sustainability variables. In this regard, knowledge management plays a foundational role. Furthermore, this demands advanced coordination capabilities due to the high degree of task interdependence and the necessity for cross-functional collaboration. While project time constraints often accelerate execution, they may simultaneously limit opportunities for reflective learning and the deep exchange of domain-specific expertise (Suarez & Montes, 2020). To address this, project managers must develop competences related to facilitating knowledge integration through mechanisms such as collaborative planning, structured interaction, and socio-technical knowledge platforms (Bruns, 2013). Examining the interplay between evolving competences and intelligent knowledge practices offers critical insights into how sustainability can be operationalized in project contexts. Such inquiry contributes to a deeper understanding of organizational transformation and the development of sustainable capabilities in knowledge-driven environments (Lundin et al., 2015). We welcome submissions that explore how sustainability is being integrated into project management within knowledge-intensive organizations, particularly through the development of managerial competences and knowledge practices.

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to: the reconfiguration of project manager competences; the emergent competences: systems thinking, ethical sensitivity, stakeholder dialogue, adaptability, and reflexivity; knowledge management practices that support sustainability; mechanisms for coordinating across functional, disciplinary, and temporal boundaries to foster sustainable project outcomes; the role of organizational culture, resistance, and external pressures in shaping sustainability integration.

Keywords

project, competences, sustainability, knowledge management, project management practices

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Guidelines and Requirements

Researchers wishing to contribute are invited to submit an EXTENDED ABSTRACT (in doc/docx format) of min 500 and max 1000 words, not later than **31 JANUARY 2026**. 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

31 January 2026 – Extended Abstract Submission Deadline

24 February 2026 – Acceptance Notification to Authors

20 April 2026 – Early-Bird Registration & Payment Deadline

02 May 2026 – Full Paper Submission Deadline

31 May 2026 – Regular and PhD Students Registration & Payment Deadline

15 June 2026 – Conference Program Release

1-3 July 2026 – 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 extension 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