This issue starts the fourth year of the *International Journal of E-Services and Mobile Applications*. The issue includes three different papers addressing different aspects of e-services and information systems. The articles are very different in terms of theories and methods used as well as empirical fields investigated reflecting the variety of the e-services field. The subjects covered include the added value of the web for online newspapers, business models in support of the elicitation and respect of agreements among agents engaged in open innovation, and finally the role that information systems might have in improving sustainable procurement.

The first article entitled “News as a Service: Thirteen Danish Online Newspapers Adapting to the Social Web” is written by Soley Rasmussen, Jyllands-Posten and Copenhagen Business School, Denmark, presents a longitudinal study of the utilization of Social Web features by the thirteen main Danish online newspapers during the period 2008-2010. The purpose of the study is to produce a baseline of information for media professionals and scholars engaged in identifying the added value of Social Web features in online newspapers. The research approach is mainly exploratory and descriptive and the empirical material consists mainly of content analysis of the newspapers’ websites. The theories are based on recently developed frameworks for studying interactivity and user participation in online newspapers. The analysis indicates that newspaper organizations are primarily interpreting the emerging “media-as-a-service” paradigm as a way to engage news users in the distribution and interpretation of news. The production of news remains controlled by the media. However, recent developments (e.g., Facebook tools, Google ads, mash-ups and mobile apps) indicate that major new changes are indeed on the way.

The second article is entitled “Respecting the Deal: Economically Sustainable Management of Open Innovation Among Co-Opeting Companies” and is written by Riccardo Bonazzi, Arash Golnam, Yves Pigneur, and Alain Wegmann from the Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Lausanne, Switzerland and Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland. The paper proposes and describes the business model of an organizational structure intended to support the elicitation and respect of agreements among agents engaged in open innovation, who have conflicting interests but that gain from cooperating together. By extending previous studies, the business model proposed in this paper takes into account the economic dimensions concerning the needs of knowledge share and mutual control to allow a third-party to sustainably...
reinforce trust among untrusted partners and to lower their overall relational risk.

The last paper entitled “Improving Sustainable Procurement: The Role of Information Systems” is written by Oihab Allal-Chérif Bordeaux BEM Management School, France, France. This article combines a literature review with a qualitative study to illustrate how information systems contribute to corporate sustainable purchasing policies. Using an exploratory approach and constructivist positioning, a business-forecasting method is implemented to suggest a possible sustainable purchasing management path and a new role for information systems. A scenario is then co-constructed from the data collected from the responses of 12 purchasing function experts who were asked about their practices and experiences, the effects of the rising wave of environmentalism, and the problems in implementing and optimizing information systems.

Ada Scupola
Editor-in-Chief
IJESMA

Ada Scupola is an associate professor at the department of communication, Business and Information Technologies, Roskilde University, Denmark. She holds a PhD in social sciences from Roskilde University, an MBA from the University of Maryland at College Park. In the last years she has participated to a number of national and international projects often requiring close collaboration with industrial partners mostly focusing on user driven innovation in service industries, innovation and outsourcing in software services, the role of ICTs supply chain in facility services, digitalization of services. Her research, counting circa 100 publications, has been widely published in several international journals among which Journal of Business and Industrial Marketing, Library Management, Technological Forecasting and Social Change, The Journal of Information Science, International Journal of E-Services and Mobile Applications, The Information Society, Journal of Enterprise Information Management, Journal of Electronic Commerce in Organizations, The Journal of Global Information Technology Management, Scandinavian Journal of Information Systems, The Journal of Electronic Commerce in Developing Countries and in numerous book chapters and international peer reviewed conferences.