GUEST EDITORIAL PREFACE

Nonprofit Organizations and Information Technology

Saqib Saeed, Department of Computer Science, Bahria Univesity Islamabad, Islamabad, Pakistan

Nonprofit organizations are an important part of every society. These organizations differ from traditional business and governmental organizations in their structure and operations. As state organizations are cutting benefits of citizens, the role of these third sector organizations have become more important as they do advocacy on behalf of poor citizens. Modern Information and Communication technologies can benefit this sector as well, but it is very challenging due to inherent weaknesses of such organizations. Keeping in view their societal importance and scientific challenges in system design, we have focused on technology involvement in such settings. Information technologies can facilitate the working processes of nonprofit organizations but this sector traditionally lack funding and technical resources to setup and maintain technology infrastructures in their settings. Due to these challenges there is a recent interest by researchers in investigating the role of information technology in nonprofit organizations. In this special issue, the focus is on to understand the issues behind failure and success of technology usage in nonprofit organizations.

The articles published in this special issue were received as a result of open call and accepted after careful review. The realization of this special issue would have not been possible without the kind support and help of Prof. Christopher G. Reddick, editor in chief of International Journal of Public Administration in the Digital Age, IGI Global staff and publisher. I would also like to thank members of reviewing committee for helping in review process. Furthermore we are also thankful to the authors for submitting valuable manuscripts in this special issue.

In the first article Cristina Torrecillas and her colleagues have looked at the intermediary organizations in Europe to understand their role in providing digital literacy to excluded groups and in using Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to support social inclusion.

Eleni-Revekka Staiou and Dimitris Gouscos have focused on self-organized social solidarity (SoSS) initiatives in Greece to understand their online media usage and specifically social media.

In the third article Tariq Zaman and his colleagues discuss how nonprofit organizations

manage knowledge created in their settings. The authors have used balanced scorecards approach for this indigenous knowledge management.

In the next contribution, Anwar Rahman and Abu Raihan have provided a detailed analysis that how nonprofit organizations can benefit from modern information technology infrastructures in their organizational settings.

In the last contribution, Saqib Saeed and Safia Shabbir look at the websites of different Pakistani nonprofit websites and highlight usability related weaknesses.

Saqib Saeed
Guest Editor
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