GUEST EDITORIAL PREFACE

Special Issue on Open Innovation Strategies for SMEs Development:
Utilization of ICT Methods (Part-III)

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With the theme "Open Innovation Strategies for SMEs Development: Utilization of ICT methods" this issue finalizes the theme as the part three of the special issues. This issue extends further into various aspects of the innovative and informative information systems (IS) and showcases several research outcomes including a case study. As evident, innovation is inherited in every organization in terms of product, process, or service innovation, or even sometimes the entire organization takes an innovative form that can be termed as organizational innovation. As long as bonds among these parameters increase the organization tends towards better positioning in innovation. On the other hand, open innovation accommodates inbound and outbound knowledge across firms or industries for value addition.

The value addition could be in terms of finance or knowledge acquisition. However, among several, open innovation depends on factors like mobility (human aspect), global-ization, competition, emerging technologies, and newly evolved instruments, like venture capital investment, or intellectual property management. In the era of newly emerged information and communication technology, firms are no longer restricted within their own boundaries, and due to necessity, firms crosses the conventional boundaries of their own. They are looking for new markets, new partners, new products and other innovative ideas not only to be competitive in the global markets, but also for their own survival.

To wrap up the special issue that has been divided into three issues, this concluding issue comprises of five papers, with the following titles:

- **Article 1:** Objectified knowledge through social media: the case of a multinational technology and consulting corporation;
- **Article 2:** Reviewing business-IT alignment instruments under SAM dimensions;

- **Article 3:** Institutional Memory and ICT: Ingredients for Direct Democracy and Global Solidarity;
- **Article 4:** Web 2.0 Tools Adoption Model: A Study on Online Retailers; and
- **Article 5:** Challenges and Opportunities Related to Remote Diagnostics: An IT based Resource Perspective.

We expect that this series of special issue on Open Innovation Strategies for SME Development will become acceptable to the readers community as a necessary reading and resourceful guide. We also expect that this effort will bring knowledge to the stakeholders including the target community, such as the SMEs and firms at large.

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Hakikur Rahman, an academic over 25 years has served leading education institutes and established various ICT projects funded by ADB, UNDP and World Bank in Bangladesh. He is currently serving as a Post Doctoral Researcher at the University of Minho in Portugal. He has written/edited more than 15 books, 35 book chapters and contributed over 100 papers/articles in Journals, Magazines, News papers and Conference Proceedings on ICTs, education, governance and research. Graduating from the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology in 1981, he has done his Master's of Engineering from the American University of Beirut in 1986 and completed his PhD in Computer Engineering from the Ansted University, BVI, UK in 2001

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