

Foreword

Managing information technology (IT) on a global scale presents a number of opportunities and challenges. IT can drive the change in global business strategies and improve international coordination. At the same time, IT can be an impediment to achieving globalization. IT as an enabler of and inhibitor to globalization raises interesting questions. To what extent does IT facilitate globalization? In what ways can IT be a constraint to globalization? Is managing IT in a global context largely the same as managing IT in a domestic context? If it is not, then what aspects are different? How are differences in culture important to the implementation of information systems?

Research into these and other related topics has grown tremendously over the last 15 years. Journals focusing on global aspects of IT (i.e., global IT) were established driven by the need to understand the relationship between IT and globalization. New research tracks on global IT were created at international conferences in order to generate interest and permit research to be disseminated as soon as they are completed. Similarly, there is a growing number of books on the subject.

This book, therefore, is a very good addition to this growing collection of books. It brings together experiences from academics in countries such as Brazil, England, France, Greece, India, China, the United States, Canada, and Australia. In sharing their research and findings relating to the challenges and strategies in information resources management in the global context, I hope you will find this book a useful resource in developing further research into the subject.

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