EDITORIAL

This time we are still living worldwide hardships due to COVID-19 impacts for which we were not prepared; however new more open strategic alliances are also coming out that give us hope like The Great Reset proposal of the World Economic; and also new Leaderships are emerging like Joe Biden in the US. A Global and more Open Innovations like the ones we are including on this issue may help to foster a new mind set for Sustainable Development. So, we start with an example regarding Political Ecology through the Amazon Fund; then considering the worldwide accelerated urbanization problems we do have a paper regarding a Case Study using a Sustainable Urban Mobility Index, that is complemented by another paper from Brazil on Urban Gardens. Actually, Sustainable Development Goal SDG 11 refers to Sustainable Cities and Communities; so next we have a paper from Gana regarding a study of the effects of green roofs on thermal performance of buildings in a tropical landscape using eight climate scenarios and a dynamic simulation using EnergyPlus software. Coming back to papers from Brazil next one refers to a Case study in the South of Brazil regarding Solid Waste Management and another one in the Northern part of Brazil regarding Bioremediation of the San Francisco river effluents since often the effluents from cities are dumped in inappropriate places, such as rivers, lakes, streams and the like; and finally, one dealing with assessing the natural vulnerability to erosion in the pasture areas of an important Region in Brazil. Next paper also about Sustainability and also from Brazil analyze the sustainable innovation practices adopted by small companies of vegan products in order to identify their contributions to each of the three dimensions of the Triple Bottom Line (TBL) showing that these practices, in general, increased revenues by attracting more consumers to their products and improving the company’s image generating environmental and social value, and not just obtaining economic gains. To reinforce the idea and already thinking on today’s Environmental Social and Corporate Governance (ESG) trends, next paper deals with a study of the interrelationship between the Product Development Process and the Sustainable Development Goals and aims to realize the pre-development of a product under the perspective of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) particularly regarding SDG 6 (drinking water and sanitation) and SDG 7 (accessible and clean energy) particularly highlighting the use of tools to structure and ensure the assertiveness of the proposal, such as IDEF0, SWOT analysis and FMEA. Next paper is a relevant study with respect to the internationalization process, showing that entrepreneurial actions and business incubators have a key role in increasing Brazilian exports. To complement these ideas regarding fostering entrepreneurship, next based on a survey of startups in Brazil showed that personal values related to openness to change, such as: self-determination, stimulation and hedonism or pleasure, are latent values in the entrepreneurs interviewed most likely because these values are related to freedom, creativity, audacity and pleasure in their projects. On the same spirit of improving structural conditions of developing countries next paper deals with the promising project of One Belt One Road (OBOR), China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) that may help to improve the future of Pakistan; and to continue regarding improvements in Pakistan next paper deals with a survey regarding critical success factors (CSF) for the implementation of Knowledge Management (KM) in the banking sector; and finally a last one from Pakistan deals with a study about the importance of Corporate Governance regarding Firm Performance that found that: firms with large and independent boards outperform their counterparts, those having the joint position of CEO and chairperson performs lower than counterparts, firms with foreign and institutional owners perform better than others and firms with a lower level of agency problem type II (ownership concentration contestability) also perform better.
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