Special Issue Call for Papers

Responsible Economy: A Stakeholder Interactionist Perspective on Policy, Technology Development, and Business Models

Guest Editor
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Introduction
Since human entered the 20th century, the linear, one-way value-addition models of production and consumption have caused too much waste and inefficiency, posing grand challenges against fundamental moral and ethical principles of human societies. Due to resource scarcity and self-interest competitions, zero-sum game thinking has dominated the journey of overall industrial and societal development. As a result, our earth and human communities have started to suffer from pollution and other kinds of environmental problems and damages (Costa, Fuerst, Robinson & Mendes-da-Silva, 2016; Kaartemo & Gonzalez-Perez, 2020).

Against such background, the concept of responsible economy, which embraces a broad set of concepts such as circular economy, green economy, sustainable economy, etc., has risen as a promising way to respond to such global crisis (e.g., Borda, Morales, Teegen, Rees & Gonzalez-Perez, 2021). Responsible economy emphasizes achieving economic success (profit, sales growth, etc.) under the premise of protecting environmental welfare, health, and happiness of human groups in the whole
society (Park, Chidlow & Choi, 2014). Practitioners and researchers have increasingly committed themselves, in practice designs and scholarly studies, to make progress of knowledge development in this area.

Ironically, however, many of such developments are still limited to the linear and one-way logic. In academic world, as two mainstreams, researchers either adopt a bottom-up approach to study from an end-users' perspective, or they rely on a top-down approach to investigate from a government or enterprise perspective. While appreciating the knowledge heterogeneity (cf. Tsai et al., 2014; Tsai, 2016; Tsai et al., 2020) of this research stream and the phenomena behind the literature, more integration and exploration are needed to advance the intelligent contents and structure. In this regard, there is a need for more meso-level studies to form a clear view for the landscape where all of those key stakeholders openly ‘assemble’ and interact for co-creating a successful future for a responsible economy (Lazzarini, 2022; Tsai et al., 2022). The even more important questions are why and how they can abandon the not-invented-here mindset and go towards value co-creation.

Based on such rationale, we are putting together this special issue on meso-level phenomena, to call for thought-leading articles, empirical research reports, simulation models, case studies, etc., to shed light on the stakeholder interactionist theories and practices. The major purpose of this special issue is to bring together outstanding studies that ask impactful questions of important phenomena, whether the nature of the data analyzed is qualitative or quantitative (Graebner, Knott, Lieberman, & Mitchell, 2022; Reuber, Alkhaled, Barnard, Couper & Sasaki, 2022). The interested phenomenological grounds cover a wide range, including energies (solar, winds, biomass, geothermal, ocean, etc.), foods, natural resources, etc. Of course, we are also interested in issues concerning various kinds of wastes and in seeing how resources and wastes are in mutual transformations. All in all, responsible economy is responsible for multilevel and multi-aspects of a better human life and development -- better as it could be physically, economically, socially, psychologically, and environmentally defined. Suggested topic include (but are not limited to) the following sub-topics (regarding responsible economy):

- Value co-creation and stakeholder management
- Public-private partnerships (PPPs) / Cross-sector collaborations
- Social capital and business networks
- Policy-making by and for stakeholders
- Power and interest relations and dynamics
- Human group (social) psychology and behaviors
- Environment, Social, and Governance (ESG) and CSR
- Emergent technologies and systems
- Creative business models and industrial practices
- Green supply chain management
- Knowledge management and intellectual capital
- Multinational Corporations and international collaborations

Keywords
Responsible economy; Stakeholders; Value co-creation; Environments; Resources/Wastes; Better Business life

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References


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