



## Special Track

### Resilient SMEs in turbulent times -Implications for Knowledge management and organizational learning

#### Organizers:

Klaus North | *Wiesbaden Business School, Germany*

Susanne Durst | *University of Skövde, Sweden*

Isabel Ramos | *University of Minho, Portugal*

Gregorio Varvakis | *Federal University of Santa Caterina, Brazil*

Stefan Güldenbergl | *University of Liechtenstein, Liechtenstein*

#### Description:

To sustain competitiveness in turbulent environments SMEs face major challenges due to their limited human, organizational and financial resources and capabilities. On the other hand, family-like structures and informal decision-making enable adaptation to turbulent environments. Therefore, SMEs need to develop resilience to withstand current crises and agility to exploit and explore opportunities provided by changes in the business environment. The track will explore the specific challenges of and possible solutions to resilience of SMEs. We invite theoretical papers, cases and pragmatic approaches from practice.

Contributions are invited to address - amongst others - the following questions:

- What makes SMEs resilient?
- What is the interrelation of resilience, agility, and dynamic capabilities of SMEs?
- Which competitive strategies contribute to resilience?
- How to measure resilience or vulnerability of SMEs?
- How can knowledge management practices and organizational learning contribute to resilience?
- How can collaboration and networks enhance resilience of SMEs?

#### Keywords:

Resilience, SMEs, turbulent environments, dynamic capabilities, agility, competitive strategies, knowledge management practices, organizational learning

#### Guidelines:

Researchers wishing to contribute are invited to submit an extended structured abstract (in MS-Word format) of 500-700 words by January 15, 2017. The abstract should address theoretical background, research objective, methodology, and results in terms of expected contribution to Knowledge Management theory and practice. Authors are encouraged to follow the guidelines for both extended abstracts as well as full papers available on IFKAD site [www.ifkad.org](http://www.ifkad.org)

**Important dates:**

- 15 January 2017 - Abstracts Submission Deadline
- 20 February 2017 - Acceptance notification to authors
- 15 March 2017 - Early-Bird registration deadline
- 10 April 2017 - Full paper submission deadline
- 10 May 2017 - Registration deadline
- 7-9 June 2017 - Conference sessions

**For further information**

For any further information, please contact the conference manager at [info@knowledgeasset.org](mailto:info@knowledgeasset.org)