

innovations

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Call for papers – Special Issue

International Approches and Cases of Collaborative Innovation

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Since the early 1980s the role of inter-organisational collaborations in the innovation process has attracted significant attention in the literature. During the recent years, the interest in collaborative innovation has been accelerating among a large variety of actors including scholars, policy makers, SMEs and other types of organisations. For example in 2015 the World Economic Forum published a report on collaborative innovation, considering it as one of the most promising approaches in the field of innovation, to foster competitiveness in Europe.

As early as 1980s, Allen (1983) analysed the role of collective action between firms historically in developing the concept of "collective invention", and Oliver (1990) identified the main factors that lead organisations to collaborate with each other. Later on, the work by Chesbrough (2003) on open innovation gave a new impetus to the field. Demil and Lecoq (2012) define "collaborative innovation" as inter-organisational relations dedicated to the joint development of innovation. Collaborative innovation involves combining knowledge, technology and other resources across organizational as well as national boundaries. Collaborative innovation is accompanied by the creation of communities among a variety of public and private actors (Amin and Cohendet, 2004) that create, share, and disseminate different knowledge.

The analysis of collaborative innovation processes raises several questions concerned with issues like the governance practices conducive to collaboration, fostering effective

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collaborations between diverse actors like engineers, marketing professionals, lawyers, and consumers, the characteristics of actors practicing collaborative innovations and so on.

These issues are not only related closely with the industry in which collaborative innovation is practiced, but also depend on the geography of innovation. Indeed the geographic dimension has been taken as an important factor for the success of the open model of innovation (Guellec and Van Pottelsberghe de La Potterie, 2001). Previous research focused on the elements that prevent this international collaboration (Savitskaya et al., 2010), the design of the collaboration (Baldwin, C., and EA Von Hippel, 2011) and its specificities in the public sector (Mandard, M. (2013). As Li-Ying and Wang (2014) point out that the research on the collaborative innovation model would benefit from further explorations at the international level. This would be especially beneficial in order to better understand these processes in different countries and in particular emerging countries with strong growth. This international perspective leads to analyze the concept of collaborative innovation in complex innovation networks (networks of alliances, networks of national and international institutions, network of actors favouring international collaborations, etc.).

Based on the above considerations we agree with a growing number of researchers who emphasize the need to further explore the various dimensions of collaborative innovation at the international level. Recent initiatives in this field demonstrate an increasing interest and have contributed significantly to our understanding of collaborative innovation. These initiatives include, special issues in the *Journal of Innovation Economics* (July 2011), in *Management International* on the paradoxes of collaborative innovation (forthcoming in 2019), and special issue on collective innovation in *Revue Française de Gestion* (forthcoming in 2019). Scientific events have also been organised on the subject, like the 13-minutes Conference series in 2016, 2017 and 2018, thematic sessions of the Abbe Gregoire days during 2017 and 2018, and thematic session at the EURAM during 2016, 2017 and 2018.

This special issue addresses the following question:

What are the specific processes through which collaborative innovation practices depend on countries, the geographical location of firms, institutions and research orientations?

It aims to shed light on collaborative innovation in different countries that are not adequately captured in existing literature. In so doing, a non-exhaustive list of issues addressed is as follows:

- International collaboration patterns in innovation networks (actors, success factors, determinants of performance, creation of value, evaluation of risk, etc.)
- The governance of collaborative innovation at the international level (coordination, control, sharing of responsibilities and value, etc.)
- International comparative analysis of collaborative innovation practices.

- Human relations in the context of collaborative innovations (power relations within teams and between different stakeholders, process of creating meaning of the different actors)
- The roles and strategies of international actors
- Intellectual property rights regimes in the context of international collaborative processes
- Public policies in international collaboration practices

In this special issue we aim to present multiple perspectives on collaborative innovation initiatives in different countries and contexts. Researchers are invited to contribute to this special issue with theoretical or empirical contributions, exploring different contexts (collaboration in an internationalization process, international impact of collaborative innovations, collaborative innovation between different countries, collaborations in a country, etc.) to strengthen existing research on the international dimension of collaborative innovation.

Timetable for submission and acceptance of papers:

- **1st February 2019** : Deadline for complete manuscripts through online paper submission: <http://www.editorialmanager.com/innovations/default.aspx>

Guideline for authors: http://www.cairn.info/docs/Instructions_for_authorsGB110816.pdf

- **30th July 2019** : Final notification for acceptance:

Submit abstracts or questions to: rricollabinnov2019@gmail.com

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