

Editor's Introduction

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Information systems (IS) research is often driven by new technology and platforms. The term SOLOMO (social-local-mobile) has been used to show potential directions of new ICT innovations. Mobile commerce as a trend has been the target of research for decades. Social media related issues gain the momentum recently due to the popularity of Facebook, LinkedIn, or renren.com in China. Social media provide a platform for information to flow quickly on the Internet and can be used for many purposes.

The first paper in this issue is a case study by Ahmed and Sinnappan to show the role of social media during Queensland Floods in 2010. They examined the issue using the communities of practice (CoP) approach and extended CoP to multiple CoPs. As effective and timely communication among involving parties is critical in disaster management, this paper analyzed three major parties - communities, disaster management agencies, and business organizations. Six levels of interactions and their communication tasks have been identified from media content analysis. It finds that social media can play a role as important as the traditional media.

The second paper by Acklesh Prasad, et al. investigates the value of collaborative technologies in facilitating regional integration. The proper use of IT is considered a factor for the success of regional integration in Europe. The paper takes the case study approach to examine IT-related issues for regional integration in the South Pacific. They found that key stakeholders they interviewed were positive about the role of IT in regional integration, but challenges did exist – including impeding IT infrastructure, marginal human IT skills, different levels of development, monopolized communication infrastructure, and trail political will.

The third paper by Amrollahi, Ghapanchi, and Talaei-Khoei is a review of literature in strategic information systems planning (SISP), a major issue in IS management. They analyzed 45 major papers from 343 items between 2002-2012 from keyword search to report the profile in three levels and six categories. Major factors and theories adopted in SISP are also identified. The paper is useful for scholars who are interested in SISP to have an overview of previous literature.

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