**Call for Papers**

**Special Issue of Journal of Asia Business Studies- Theme:** Digital Transformation for Societal Sustainability and Human Betterment in Asian Coutnires: Strategies, Challenges, and Impact

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**Background**

Societal sustainability and growth are pressing issues that require the collective efforts of individuals, organizations, and governments. In recent years, information systems (IS) and information technology (IT) have been recognized as key enablers of sustainable development (Fosso Wamba et al., 2024; Johnson et al., 2023; Singh et al., 2006), with the potential to drive economic, social, and environmental progress (Singh et al., 2023). Digital transformation can drive organizational innovation and growth and contribute significantly to societal sustainability and the betterment of humanity (Dennehy et al., 2021; Harfouche et al., 2022). Digital transformation is widely recognized as a critical catalyst for socioeconomic progress, offering significant enhancements in both the social and economic realms for individuals, businesses, and entire economies (Dabbous et al., 2024). The technological advancements of the Fourth Industrial Revolution have permeated into everyday life, encompassing cloud computing, artificial intelligence, mobility, analytics, and the Internet of Things (Collins et al., 2021; Patyal et al., 2022; Tarhini et al., 2022). These technologies are already demonstrating their potential to facilitate digital transformation efforts to address and adapt to the latest challenges for a better and sustainable society (Dabbous et al., 2023; Wamba-Taguimdje et al., 2020; Harfouche et al., 2019).

This special issue aims to explore how digital transformation strategies can be harnessed to address pressing societal challenges, promote sustainability, and enhance human wellbeing. It aims at finding answers to questions like: What are the critical success factors in fostering community engagement and social impact through digital platforms, and how can such initiatives be scaled or replicated? How can digital platforms and crowdsourcing mechanisms be utilized for effective disaster response, humanitarian aid, and community resilience-building efforts? What ethical considerations and best practices should guide the development and deployment of AI technologies for social good, and how can potential biases and risks be addressed? What role can digital technologies play in monitoring and mitigating the impacts of climate change, and how can they facilitate the transition to a more sustainable and resilient society? How can digital financial services contribute to economic empowerment, poverty reduction, and financial inclusion for marginalized or underprivileged populations? The objective of this special issue is to collect, process, examine, and circulate diverse issues related to the above questions.

**Topics of Interest**

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

* Digital Solutions for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
* Civic Tech and E-Governance for Inclusive Societies
* Digital Health and Telemedicine for Improved Healthcare Access
* Education Technology (EdTech) for Lifelong Learning and Skill Development
* Smart Cities and Urban Innovation for Sustainable Living
* Digital Financial Inclusion and Economic Empowerment
* Climate Change Mitigation and Environmental Sustainability through Digital Technologies
* Ethical and Responsible AI for Social Good
* Digital Humanitarianism and Disaster Response
* Community Engagement and Digital Platforms for Social Impact
* Emerging Technologies and Their Role in Digital Transformation (e.g., AI, IoT, Blockchain)
* Big Data and Social Media Analytics for Business Intelligence and Digital Marketing Strategies
* Innovative applications of IS for sustainable agriculture, energy, transportation, water management, and other domains.
* Designing IS artifacts for sustainability, such as green software engineering, eco-feedback systems, and circular economy platforms.

**Submission Guidelines:**

* Manuscripts should adhere to the journal's formatting [guidelines](https://www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/journal/jabs) and submitted via the online submission system.
* All submissions will undergo a rigorous peer-review process to ensure quality and relevance to the special issue theme.
* Submitted manuscripts must not be concurrently under consideration for publication elsewhere.
* Please clearly indicate that your submission is intended for the special issue on "Digital Transformation for Societal Sustainability and Human Betterment.

We invite researchers to contribute original research articles, empirical studies, and theoretical perspectives that explore the role of digital transformation in advancing societal sustainability. We look forward to receiving your contributions and to the impactful insights that will emerge from this special issue on digital transformation for societal sustainability and human betterment.

**Important Dates (Tentative schedule)**

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| From June 1st, 2024 to Sep 1st, 2024  | Deadline for submission of papers to the Special Issue |
| Oct 1st, 2024 | Authors advised regarding paper acceptance for review |
| Dec1st, 2024 | The first round of reviews was completed, and authors advised regarding review outcomes. |
| Feb 1st, 2025 | Deadline for revised papers |
| April 1st, 2025 | The second round of reviews was completed, and the authors advised regarding review outcomes. |
| June 1st, 2025 | Deadline for revised papers |
| July 1st, 2025 | Final editorial decision on papers accepted for the Special Issue |
| Aug 1st, 2025 | Special Issue papers submitted to JABS for publications |

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