

Preface

Businesses play an important role in society and impact communities, regions, as well as individuals and the environment. The processes and consequences of globalization and the economic crisis have repositioned business approaches and growth toward more inclusive, competitive, sustainable, resource- and energy-efficient, and environment-friendly management. Business management models should adequately address the key objectives of inclusive and sustainable management, integrating economic, social, and environmental elements and considering the inter-linkages and collective impact in all three dimensions. There is an urgent need to formulate sustainable management frameworks addressing interactions and dependencies as well as trade-offs in various focus areas. The challenge that these adjustments present calls for the alignment of corporate social responsibility (CSR) with business strategy to create a truly sustainable approach.

In a global economy, no business or form of commerce is an island unto itself. Rapid and dynamic changes in technology, markets, political and legal institutions, and indeed cultures have all created new challenges. In order to overcome the myopia of limited perspectives, a new organization has been created: Global Corporate Governance/Corporate Social Responsibility. The intention is to bring together scholars from many fields along with business, academic, cultural, religious, and political leaders to form a global alliance dedicated to rethinking and integrating value issues into management practice, education, and development.

Toward this end, series conferences, seminars, and workshops are organized worldwide. The first annual conference in this regard was organized in London, UK, in 2014 by launching the newly born CGC/CSR organization. The second year's conference was held in Nanjing, China, in 2015. The next two annual conferences will be held in Cologne, Germany, and Perth, Australia, respectively. For each conference, the best papers will be selected and published in a Springer book.

The conference, seminars, and workshops will showcase current CSR models and practices, as well as the next generation of issues that business leaders and society will face. It provides a platform for the sharing of expectations, aspirations,

and responsibilities. It highlights state-of-the-art topics and how issues are being addressed around the world. In addition, we aim to develop new frameworks, tools, and techniques essential for the integration of socially responsible management in business operations, in an effort to achieve sustainability at all levels of business management.

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