

Editorial Preface

Vishanth Weerakkody, Bradford University, Bradford, UK

This issue of IJEGR offers five articles covering topics from the use of open data and the role of cloud computing in government to citizens' trust in e-voting systems and institutional arrangements that influence the successful implementation of e-government systems. The research presented in this issue has been conducted in diverse contexts.

The first article is by Sharadindu Pandey at the Indian Institute of Forest Management and this article is titled *Adaptive Learning in Deploying National E-District Plan of India*. This article develops a practical model based on adaptive governance literature and selects the context of the National e-district plan of the Government of India, launched in 2011, for analysis. The article discussed the three levels of this plan and examines how different states in India have implemented the plan in their local context. The author uses data from the minutes of the proceedings that took place over five years among the implementation agencies to develop his arguments. The article highlights how the plan has contributed to diffusing accountability and promoting efficiency in governance.

The second article in the issue is titled *e-Voting: An Investigation of Factors that Affect Public Trust in Kingdom of Bahrain*. The article is by Hayat Mohammed Ali and Hanan Al Mubarak at University of Bahrain. This article examines citizens' trust towards the use of ICT in voting by investigating the factors that affect trust toward e-Voting Systems. A model of Trust and Risk is adapted from previous research and several hypotheses are proposed and tested through a survey of 453 citizens in Bahrain. The findings of this research corroborate previous studies on trust in e-voting and confirms that irrespective of country context, governments should be aware that public trust in electronic systems, trust in government itself, perceived risk of using electronic systems, citizens' disposition to trust and intention to use electronic systems all influence the use of e-voting in government.

The third article is by Djoko Sigit Sayogo and Sri Budi Cantika Yuli at University of Muhammadiyah Malang in Indonesia. The article is titled *Critical Success Factors of Open Government and Open Data at Local Government Level in Indonesia*. This article explores the complexity of open government and open data implementation from the perspective of local government by addressing the challenges, success factors, lesson learned and the indicators of success. Using focus group discussions and in-depth interviews with public managers and other actors, the study identifies and discusses the major challenges and critical success factors driving the success of open government and data. Collaboration between stakeholders, the openness of government to accept criticism and suggestions, accommodating leaders, and the commitment of government agencies to engage in open government and open data are identified as the key factors for success.

The fourth article is by Nurdin Nurdin at the Institute of Agama Islam Negeri Palu, Indonesia. This article is titled *Institutional Arrangements in E-government Implementation and Use: A Case Study from Indonesian Local Government*. The article studies the institutional arrangements that influence e-government implementation and use within local government. The authors review the literature and discuss how institutional arrangements influence the success and failure of e-government. Through the lens of institutional theory, the study aims to explain how institutional arrangements emerge and influence e-government implementation and use within two local governments in Indonesia. The findings show how institutional arrangements (legitimacy, regulation, standards, and socio-economic environment) emerge and significantly influence the implementation and use of e-government.

The fifth article is titled *Modeling the ranking of evaluation criteria for cloud services: The government organization perspective in India*. This article is by Kshitij Kushagra and Sanjay Dhingra at the University School of Management Studies, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University in India. This article examines the cloud-based services market in India and discusses how vendors of all sizes compete for customers who have gravitated to the technology as a way to run their operations. The authors discuss how, at present, there are limited industry standards for cloud related business to assess their services and how, as an end-user, government departments face the challenge of which cloud service providers to select. The article argues that evaluation of cloud service providers should not only be driven by cost, but importance should also be given towards service provider ability and commitment to deliver the services. In the absence of a common framework to assess the evaluation criteria of CSP - combined with the fact that no two CSPs are the same, this article discusses the complexities that need to be considered when selecting a CSP. The article proposes a framework for ranking of evaluation criteria for CSPs.

I hope the articles presented in this issue adds further empirical evidence to the growing body of research that examines topics such as the role of trust, open data, cloud-based services and institutional challenges within e-government implementation and diffusion.

Vishanth Weerakkody
Editor-in-Chief
IJEGR