

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MANAGEMENT OF INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Conference Theme

PARALLEL TRANSFORMATIONS:

Responding to the AI Revolution and Global Crises through innovation and Entrepreneurship

Special Track Proposal

Track Title <i>Please provide a concise and engaging title for the proposed track</i>	Project Management in the Age of Disruption: AI, Resilience, and Adaptive Execution
Track Description <i>Please provide a detailed description of the proposed track (approximately 800–1,000 words), outlining:</i> • Motivation and relevance of the track; • Key research challenges and emerging issues addressed • Track's contribution to the conference theme • Examples of topics and research questions that would fit within the track	This track aligns with MINE 2027's theme of Parallel Transformations by examining how AI and global crises are reshaping project management—a key driver of innovation and entrepreneurial success. AI may handle 80% of routine project tasks by 2030 (PMI, 2021), yet over 90% of large projects still exceed time or budget targets (Flyvbjerg, 2021). For entrepreneurs, such failures can jeopardise startups or stall corporate innovation. We reframe project management as a strategic capability for managing uncertainty, scaling ventures, and capitalising on disruptive change. We welcome theoretical, empirical, and practice-based research on socio-technical, cognitive, and governance challenges at the intersection of AI, resilience, and adaptive execution. Motivation and Relevance to MINE 2027 Two forces are transforming innovation. Generative and analytical AI are changing how projects are planned, tracked, and executed (Davenport & Ronanki, 2018). Meanwhile, geopolitical tensions, climate shocks, supply chain instability, and workforce shifts make linear project models ineffective (Brynjolfsson & McAfee, 2017). Despite AI's potential, only half of all projects succeed, and the main obstacle is not resistance but lack of understanding of how to integrate AI meaningfully (PMI, 2024). The "intelligence paradox"—where AI generates overwhelming risk scenarios—can weaken human judgment (Raisch & Krakowski, 2021). This track responds to the need for frameworks supporting adaptive execution. Adopting AI requires new governance, human–AI collaboration, and resilience-by-design—the ability to learn from disruption and emerge stronger (Zhang et al., 2023). Zhang et al. identify anticipating threats, coping during crises, and adapting afterwards. Fey and Kock (2022) show innovation projects build resilience, turning adversity into advantage. Key Research Challenges AI–Innovation Value Gap. Many organisations struggle to turn AI insights into tangible value, requiring deeper understanding of AI-enabled sensemaking (Jarrahi, 2018; Schwartz et al., 2022). Cognitive Security. AI decision support can overwhelm managers and weaken critical thinking. Cognitive security—protecting judgment from bias and over-reliance—is a fifth pillar of AI governance (Schwartz et al., 2022). Agentic AI. Human–AI interaction takes three forms: tool, copilot, and autonomous agent. As AI gains autonomy, questions arise about accountability, trust, and decision authority (Raisch & Krakowski, 2021). Resilience-by-Design. We propose designing resilience into projects. Zhang et al. (2023) identify anticipation, coping, and adaptation. Fey and Kock (2022) show feedback loops and empowered teams strengthen resilience. Naderpajouh et al. (2023) emphasise governance that turns disruption into learning (Bredillet & Tywoniak, 2016).

	Governance of AI Portfolios. Research focuses on using AI in portfolio management, not managing portfolios of AI initiatives. Gaps include exploration–exploitation balance, AI-specific risks, and model lifecycle management (Kock et al., 2021). Socio-Technical Barriers. AI integration faces skill shortages, bias, privacy concerns, and erosion of expertise (PMI, 2024). We examine how innovation ecosystems can promote inclusive, ethical AI use. Contribution to MINE 2027 This track links AI and global crises through project execution. AI Revolution: We investigate how AI reshapes planning, risk, communication, and performance tracking, addressing benefits and unintended consequences (Brynjolfsson & McAfee, 2017). Global Crises: We explore how projects thrive amid disruptions, turning constraints into innovation through adaptive governance (Flyvbjerg, 2021). Drawing on Zhang et al. (2023), we examine how anticipation, coping, and adaptation can be developed. We emphasise a human-centred approach: project professionals as value integrators, preserving human work and ethical responsibility (Brynjolfsson & McAfee, 2017). For entrepreneurs, this track offers frameworks for AI-enhanced governance without losing agility. Topics and Research Questions • AI-Enhanced Project Intelligence: How can AI improve entrepreneurial decision-making across project phases? • Resilience and Bouncing Forward: How can governance and team strategies strengthen anticipation, coping, and adaptation (Zhang et al., 2023)? • Adaptive Governance: What models suit AI-driven innovation portfolios? • Human–AI Collaboration: How are project managers' roles shifting to value integrators? • Socio-Technical and Ethical Dimensions: How can cognitive security be built into governance? What ethical issues arise with agentic AI? • Emerging Frontiers: What does "agentic project management" look like, and what skills are needed? Potential Outcomes We aim to assemble high-quality papers for the MINE 2027 Special Issue and plan a roundtable to develop guidance for entrepreneurs, innovation managers, and policymakers. We look forward to connecting with innovative thinkers in Lipari!
Keywords <i>Please provide 4–6 keywords that best characterize the proposed track. Separate keywords using a semicolon (;)</i>	Artificial Intelligence; Project Resilience; Adaptive Execution; Innovation Management; Entrepreneurship; Human–AI Collaboration; Cognitive Security; Project Governance; Global Crises; Parallel Transformations.
References <i>Please include the key references supporting the relevance and positioning of the proposed track</i>	Bredillet, C.N. and Tywoniak, S. (2016) 'Special Issue on uncertainty, risk and opportunity, resilience and anti-fragility', <i>International Journal of Project Management</i>, 34(7), pp. 1322–1327. Brynjolfsson, E. and McAfee, A. (2017) 'The business of artificial intelligence', <i>Harvard Business Review</i>, 95(4), pp. 3–11. Davenport, T.H. and Ronanki, R. (2018) 'Artificial intelligence for the real world', <i>Harvard Business Review</i>, 96(1), pp. 108–116. Fey, S. and Kock, A. (2022) 'Meeting challenges with resilience – How innovation projects deal with adversity', <i>International Journal of Project Management</i>, 40(8). doi: 10.1016/j.ijproman.2022.10.006. Flyvbjerg, B. (2021) <i>How Big Things Get Done: The Surprising Factors Behind Every Successful Project</i>. New York: Crown Business. Jarrah, M.H. (2018) 'Artificial intelligence and the future of work: Human–AI symbiosis in organizational decision making', <i>Business Horizons</i>, 61(4), pp. 577–586.



	Kock, A., Gemünden, H.G. and Hutzschenreuter, T. (2021) 'Managing exploration and exploitation in innovation projects', Journal of Product Innovation Management, 38(2), pp. 234–256. Naderpajouh, N., Matinheikki, J., Keeys, L.A., Aldrich, D.P. and Linkov, I. (2023) 'Resilience science: Theoretical and methodological directions from the juncture of resilience and projects', International Journal of Project Management, 41(8), p. 102544. Project Management Institute (2021) The Project Manager of the Future: Digital Skills for the Age of AI. Newtown Square, PA: PMI. Project Management Institute (2024) Pulse of the Profession 2024: The AI-Ready Project Manager. Newtown Square, PA: PMI. Raisch, S. and Krakowski, S. (2021) 'Artificial intelligence and management: The automation–augmentation paradox', Academy of Management Review, 46(1), pp. 192–210. Schwartz, R., Dodge, J., Smith, N.A. and Etzioni, O. (2022) 'Cognitive security in AI-augmented decision making', Communications of the ACM, 65(8), pp. 42–48. Zhang, S., Zhang, F., Xue, B., Wang, D. and Liu, B. (2023) 'Unpacking resilience of project organizations: A capability-based conceptualization and measurement of project resilience', International Journal of Project Management, 41(8), p. 102541. doi: 10.1016/j.ijproman.2023.102541.
Track Chairs Please identify between 2 and 5 Track Chairs. For each Track Chair, provide: • Full Name • Affiliation • Country • Email address • Research interests (optional)	Mitra Arami QA Ltd / Northumbria University United Kingdom Mitra.arami@pardis.eu Ali Aburaia, University of Applied Sciences Technikum Wien, Austria aburaiaa@technikum-wien.at Parisa Saadati, University of West London, United Kingdom Parisa.Saadati@uwl.ac.uk
Short biography of each organizer Please provide a short biography for each Track Chair (maximum 200 words per biography)	Dr Mitra Arami is a passionate project management educator and researcher, affiliated with QA Ltd and Northumbria University UK, where she focuses on project management, digital business, and AI in education. She also serves as an external examiner at Bournemouth University. She holds a PhD in Management Information Systems with Distinction, alongside an MSc and BSc in Computer Science from the Technical University of Vienna. With over 25 years of hybrid expertise across academia and industry, she has held roles including Solution Architect, Consultant, Programme and Project Manager, Partner, Head of Institute, and Managing Director, spanning the Telecom, Financial Services, IT, Education, and Gaming sectors across three continents. She is a Full Member of the Association for Project Management (APM), the Project Management Institute (PMI), and the International Project Management Association (IPMA), and serves as an APM judge for the best PhD award in Project Management. Her research interests encompass Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Project Management, Information Systems, Digital Transformation, and Higher Education. Dr Ali Aburaia is an academic, entrepreneur and industry consultant serving as Programme Director of the Master's in Industrial Engineering & Business and Head of the Technikum Digital Factory at UAS Technikum Wien, Austria. He studied Industrial Engineering and Business and holds a doctorate in Mechanical Engineering and Economics. His professional experience spans academic leadership, applied research, entrepreneurship and consulting for industrial companies. At the Technikum Digital Factory, he brings together Industry 4.0, artificial intelligence and advanced manufacturing in collaboration with leading industrial partners, connecting education and applied research with industrial practice. Alongside his

	academic leadership roles, he lectures at universities internationally and advises industrial companies on technological and organisational development. His teaching and professional interests encompass industrial engineering, innovation and technology management, digital transformation, and the translation of emerging technologies into business value. Dr Parisa Saadati is a Senior Lecturer in Information Technology and Course Leader for the MSc Applied Project Management at the University of West London. She holds a BSc, MSc, PGCE, and is a PhD Candidate, and is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA). With over two decades of experience across academia and industry, her career spans roles at Roehampton University and Ulster University, blending teaching with practical project management. She is a certified practitioner in PRINCE2 and Agile methodologies, with additional certifications in Agile Project Management, Design Thinking, and User Experience. Her research focuses on digital transformation, innovation, and the intersections of technology, human interaction, and project management, with her PhD work developing a socio-technical design framework to enhance collaboration and user engagement within automation and Industry 4.0. Her work as an entrepreneur and consultant complements her academic contributions, and she is committed to bridging theoretical knowledge with real-world application in IT and project management education.
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