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KIBS and the Race for Knowledge

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What are KIBS?



Source: Photo by [Anete Lusina](#) on [Pexels](#)

- KIBS = Knowledge Intensive Business Services
 - Consultancy (marketing, legal, accountancy services etc.)
 - Technology (software development, scientific research etc.)
- Vectors of knowledge and innovation
 - Internally -> professional knowledge exploitation for own competitive advantages
 - Externally -> Knowledge innovation generators and distributors for clients in specific fields of activity

The abbreviation KIBS stands for Knowledge-Intensive Business Services. The expression refers to businesses whose activities are tightly intertwined with knowledge. Knowledge is utilized inside KIBS to obtain competitive advantages and stimulate advancement and innovation in certain spheres of operation, such as marketing, legal accounting services, software development, and scientific research.

To fulfill their innovation function, KIBS can either exploit and empower knowledge within their businesses or sell it to clients as their primary offering. Additionally, in some circumstances, a KIBS company employs a combination of both tactics.

Knowledge, knowledge management (KM) and intellectual capital (IC)

- **Knowledge**
 - Intangible asset for organizations
- **Knowledge Management (KM)**
 - The process of managing knowledge creation, knowledge acquisition, knowledge transfer, knowledge sharing, knowledge transformation and knowledge use.
- **Intellectual capital**
 - Knowledge managed within organizations
- **Knowledge management >> intellectual capital**
 - Human Capital (rational, emotional and spiritual knowledge, skills, motivations)
 - Structural Capital (regulations, procedures, organizational culture, intellectual property)
 - Relational Capital (partnerships, reputation, knowledge about clients and competition)
 - Renewal Capital (capacity to develop, learn, create and innovate)
 - Social Capital (networking capabilities)



Within learning organizations like KIBS, where new information is constantly being absorbed, knowledge is an invaluable yet intangible asset.

The term "knowledge management," or "KM," refers to the process of managing the creation of new knowledge, the acquisition of new knowledge, the transfer of new knowledge, the sharing of knowledge, the transformation of existing knowledge, and the use of existing knowledge. Knowledge management also encompasses the process of controlling the dynamics of knowledge inside an organization.

The knowledge that has been developed, amassed, and is being managed by the personnel of an organization is what is referred to as its intellectual capital, or IC. The evaluation of IC's components—human capital, structural capital, relational capital, renewal capital, and social capital—is one of the most important steps in evaluating the market value of a firm.

KIBS and the race for knowledge



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- KIBS = mediators of innovation within organizations
- KIBS competitiveness
 - Timely access to new information (amongst first if possible)
 - Timely interpretation and creation of knowledge
 - Efficient implementation or distribution to clients.
- By developing both internal and their clients' knowledge and IC, KIBS can ensure:
 - Resilience during large scale crises
 - Continuity and compliance in the fast-paced global business environment
 - Coping mechanisms within novel and significant changes



By enabling knowledge, KIBS become mediators of innovation within organizations. In this way, the competition between KIBS is fierce and advantages can be represented by timely access to new information, timely valuation of information and creation of relevant knowledge and efficient implementation or distribution to clients. To achieve this, access to different resources is required, such as experts in relevant fields, financial resources, absorptive capabilities, openness to innovations.

Nowadays, KIBS are onboarded in a race for knowledge, aiming to provide resilience during large scale crises, continuity and compliance to high performance standards in the fast-paced world and coping mechanisms within novel and significant changes of paradigm.

Sources to find out more!

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We recommend you to check these resources for additional information on KIBS and the race for knowledge.



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More about the project:
knowmanproject.eu

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