

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910254953103321
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Titolo	The MERge Model for Business Development : The Amalgamation of Management, Education and Research // by Orit Hazzan, Ronit Lis-Hacohen
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Springer, , 2016
ISBN	3-319-30225-6
Edizione	[1st ed. 2016.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (120 p.)
Collana	SpringerBriefs in Business, , 2191-5490
Disciplina	650
Soggetti	Strategic planning Leadership Knowledge management Technological innovations Science - Study and teaching Business Strategy and Leadership Knowledge Management Innovation and Technology Management Science Education
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references at the end of each chapters and index.
Nota di contenuto	Chapter 1 Introduction -- Chapter 2 How to Use This Brief -- Chapter 3 Management -- Chapter 4 Education -- Chapter 5 Research -- Chapter 6 Industry – Management -- Chapter 7 Industry – Education -- Chapter 8 Industry – Research -- Chapter 9 Academia – Faculty Members – Management -- Chapter 10 Academia - Faculty members – Education -- Chapter 11 Academia - Faculty members – Research -- Chapter 12 Academia – Administrative staff – Management -- Chapter 13 Academia – Administrative Staff – Education -- Chapter 14 Academia – Administrative Staff – Research -- Chapter 15 First Sector – Management -- Chapter 16 First Sector – Education -- Chapter 17 First Sector – Research -- Chapter 18 Implications of the MERge Model for Academic and Beyond Academic Education -- Chapter 19 The MERge

Sommario/riassunto

This Brief presents a new model for business development—MERge—to be implemented in practitioners' professional development in general and in the context of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) initiatives, particularly, in industry, educational institutions and public sector organizations. The authors aim to contribute to the field of innovation and entrepreneurship by merging and consolidating different methodologies and insights borrowed from the "meta-professions" (referring to skills that can be expressed meaningfully after one has gained disciplinary and professional knowledge) of management, education, and research. Targeting three key groups—practitioners in industry, academic institutions and public sector organizations—this model proposes that all practitioners can further develop their unique expertise, as well as new skills, while acknowledging and applying the three meta-professions in their initiatives, on-going work and personal lives. The authors acknowledge that in the postmodern era, where barriers between disciplines are falling in every aspect of professional life, managerial, educational and research skills are becoming increasingly essential and interdependent. Featuring case studies that illustrate how the MERge model is implemented in practice, this volume presents practical tools for integrating these key skills in a wide variety of initiatives in business, teaching and research contexts.
