

CALL FOR PAPERS: *ADVANCING THE WEBAI PARADIGM IN INNOVATION RESEARCH*



RESEARCH PARTNER WORKSHOP 2025

Mannheim, Germany, Nov 12

OVERVIEW

For the 4th annual edition of our ISTARI.AI Research Partner Workshop, we invite scholars to explore the transformative potential of the WebAI paradigm in innovation studies. This approach conceptualizes how AI-based processing of organizational web data can reveal elusive aspects of economic systems, particularly regarding the application of technologies, intangible goods, and the distributed nature of modern innovation processes.

WebAI enables new insights into innovation activities, inter-organizational networks, and systemic patterns of change. Yet the reliability of web data for capturing substantive innovation activities remains to be validated at scale. The emergence of WebAI methods raise important questions about representativeness, biases, and indicator robustness across contexts. This workshop aims to deepen both theoretical and methodological foundations of WebAI, with a focus on sustainability transitions, emerging technologies, and economic development.

KEY THEMES

WebAI Foundations: new epistemological and theoretical lenses for studying innovation through WebAI

WebAI Methods: advances in AI/ML for robust, validated WebAI analysis

WebAI Applications: patterns in technology adoption, green innovation, and institutional change

KEY DATES

Submission Deadline: Sep 24, 2025

Notification of Acceptance: Oct 01, 2025

Workshop Date: Nov 12, 2025

SUBMISSION

Extended abstracts (300 - 500 words), max 2 pages incl. graphics & references

Submission and more info:

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EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Workshop participants will contribute to:

- special issue proposal for a leading innovation journal
- collaborative research agenda for WebAI community
- fostering research networks and partnerships

CONTACT

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