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Organizing Firm-Community Collaboration for Growth

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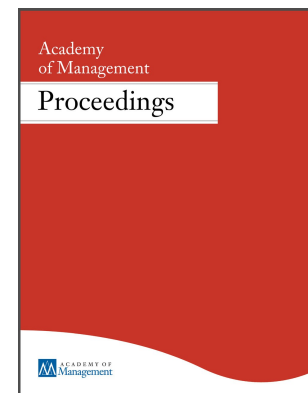
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Abstract

This paper focuses on collaborations among firms and communities for obtaining better outcomes from open source projects. In specific, we aim to disentangle how organizational design may affect the performance of an OSS project. Project’s management model and employee involvement in the project are treated as potential mediators that may have an effect on the aforementioned relationship. The empirical analysis is undertaken on a sample of OSS projects hosted on the platform SourceForge.net from December 2006 to December 2008. The findings of this study are three fold. First, being directly involved in a project with a specific policy on OSS has a positive effect on project’s performance. Second, coordination by firm has a negative effect on performance. Third, admin as an employee on main duty does not have a direct positive effect on performance. However, it positively moderates the aforementioned relationship. The findings contribute to the knowledge on benefits of collaborations between firms and communities.





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