



“Digitalisation and Economic Performance: Applied Evidence from Firms, Markets and Economies”

Special Issue Overview

Digital technologies are now part of everyday economic activity. Firms use artificial intelligence to improve decisions and productivity, consumers increasingly buy and pay through digital platforms, financial services are becoming more automated, and global trade and supply chains are being reorganised around data, connectivity, and new technologies. Yet digitalisation does not produce the same economic outcomes everywhere.

This Special Issue asks a straightforward but important question: when, how, and under what conditions does digitalisation improve economic performance? We are particularly interested in research that connects technological change with measurable economic outcomes rather than treating digitalisation as an end in itself.

The Journal of Applied Economic Sciences (JAES) welcomes original research examining these relationships at firm, market, sectoral, regional, or macroeconomic level. Contributions may explore productivity, competitiveness, innovation, investment, financial behaviour, trade, employment, resilience, or other dimensions of economic performance influenced by digital technologies.

We welcome evidence from both developed and emerging economies and encourage comparative, cross-country, sectoral, firm-level, and longitudinal studies. Papers using robust econometric, quantitative, computational, or mixed-method approaches are especially welcome where the economic contribution is clearly identified.

Topics of Interest

The Special Issue is intentionally broad enough to capture different dimensions of the digital economy. Relevant topics include, but are not limited to:

- Artificial intelligence, digital transformation, and firm productivity;
- Digital capabilities, innovation, and competitive performance;
- FinTech, digital banking, digital payments, and financial inclusion;
- Robo-advisory, AI-supported investment, and financial decision-making;
- E-commerce, platform economies, digital business models, and consumer behaviour;
- Blockchain, transaction costs, and market efficiency;

- Digitalisation of international trade, supply chains, and global value chains;
- Digital technologies, SMEs, entrepreneurship, and regional development;
- AI, skills, human capital, employment, and labour-market change;
- Digital divides, inequality, and access to economic opportunities;
- Digital governance, institutions, regulation, and economic resilience;
- Economic policy responses to technological and digital change.

Interdisciplinary submissions are also encouraged, provided that the manuscript develops a clear applied-economic research question and demonstrates the economic relevance of its findings.

What We Are Looking For

We are looking for papers that offer more than a description of new technologies. Strong submissions should explain what digitalisation changes economically, provide credible evidence, and discuss why the results matter for firms, markets, policymakers, or economies. Both country-specific studies and broader comparative analyses are welcome when their contribution extends beyond the immediate empirical setting.

Submission Guidelines

Manuscripts must be original, must not be under consideration elsewhere, and should follow the [JAES Author Guidelines and formatting requirements](#). Submissions should clearly state their research question and contribution to applied economics, describe the data and methodology transparently, and include appropriate JEL classifications and keywords. All manuscripts will undergo the journal's standard double-blind peer-review and publication-integrity procedures.

Important Dates

Accepted papers will be published in a *Special Issue of JAES (2026)*.

Important Dates

Submission deadline: 30th of November, 2026

First review decision: 20th of December, 2026

Revised submission deadline: 10th of January, 2027

Final editorial decision: 25th of January, 2027

Expected publication: 15th of February, 2027

Submission

Authors should submit their manuscripts through the JAES submission channel indicated on the journal website and identify the manuscript as a submission to the Special Issue “Digitalisation and Economic Performance: Applied Evidence from Firms, Markets and Economies”.

Guest Editor

To be announced.