Collective actions and collaborative arrangements emerge as solutions to market and government failures (Krueger, 1990; Besley, 1994). Collective action and cooperation have the potential to break the vicious circle of institutional endogeneity (Acemoglu, 2005). Public goods may be produced through collective actions (Olson, 1965). On the other hand, collective actions are key for avoiding Tragedy of Commons through restraining human behavior from overexploitation of resources (Hardin, 1968; Ostrom, 1990). It improves both economic efficiency and equity through participation and democratic decision-making. In this context, co-production of social goods though participation of individuals placed outside government organization deserves mention (Ostrom, 1996). Worldwide there are several instances of collective actions making positive changes in economic and social life of people (Markelova et al., 2009; Vanni, 2013; Padmanabhan, 2008). Organizations and industries have thrived and prospered due to beneficial collaborative arrangements under difficult conditions (Cunningham, 2009; Tewari & Pillai, 2005). However, impact of collective actions on efficiency and equity cannot be assumed. There are several conditions and leadership issues that determine the effect of collective action and cooperation (Bardhan, 2000; Vedeld, 2007).

The collaborative arrangements create value at the same time they impose a significant risk of failure and opportunism (Hamel and Prahalad, 1989; Gulati, 1998; Gomes, Barnes and Mahmood, 2016). One of the key challenges in the collaborative arrangement is controlling opportunism, i.e., refusal to honor the formal as well as informal agreements between parties (Hawkins 2008; Caniels et al., 2012). The literature is still struggling to identify the best means to augment performance in such collaborative arrangement (Peng et al., 2013). The challenges of collective arrangements in rural context amplifies due to economic, social and political differences (Bardhan, 2000). There is growth of similar arrangements in rural context and their governance has attracted attention in recent times (Koopmans et al., 2018; Wellbrock et al., 2013). The nature of complexity of governance and opportunity of value creation varies in other collaborative networks including business-to-business (B2B), public-private-partnership (PPP), business-to-NGO (B2N), etc. Formal and informal institutional arrangements safeguard collaborative arrangements and thus encourage value creation (Ostrom, 1990). In this context, is it important to discuss the design, institutional arrangements and governance of collaborative arrangements in rural context?

We welcome papers in broadly identified three areas for deliberation - design of collective arrangement, governance of collective arrangements and the impacts of collective arrangements.
Possible Research Questions:

1. What are facilitators and barriers to creating and capturing value in collaborative arrangements?
2. How organizations maneuver lack of capability, goal misalignment, differences in organizations orientation, and power imbalances?
3. How organizations adapt the governance in the face of partner opportunism?
4. Description of newer types of design arrangements in rural contexts that cannot be categorized into existing categories
5. How society, polity and heterogeneity play role in collective action?
6. What are the management challenges these emerging forms of design arrangements pose?
7. How formal and informal institutions determine the design of collaborative arrangements?
8. How formal and informal institutions affect the governance of such arrangements?
9. Instead of institutional voids, how organizations cope with partner opportunism?

Manuscript Submission

1. Manuscripts must be submitted electronically at https://peerreview.sagepub.com/ijrm where authors will be required to set up an online account in the system (please check whether you already have an account before trying to create a new one). All papers must be submitted via the online system. If you have any queries, please contact the journal administrator at isha.negi@sagepub.in
2. When making a submission for the special issue, please select the manuscript type ‘SI: Collective Actions and Cooperation: Design, Governance, and Institutions’.

References


