Knowledge economics describes the financial impact of the creation, modification, distribution, and use of knowledge. In essence, knowledge economics covers knowledge-related processes and encompasses economies, organizations, and individuals. Information Technology (IT), principal enabler and catalyst for knowledge-related processes, changed the ways knowledge is created, modified, distributed, and used.

In the current times, knowledge creation, modification, distribution, and use is gaining importance in research and practice, since the growth of economies is increasingly more reliant on the economic exchange of knowledge. Traditional economic and conventional business models often lack the ability to describe and understand the complexity resulting from knowledge economics. Thus, the contributions to this minitrack are intended to close this understanding gap and clarify how the economic impact of knowledge-related processes can be measured and explained so that society can benefit from appropriate knowledge management. This minitrack is offered at this Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS) for second time and has one paper session with three contributions that have passed the rigorous double-blind peer-review.

The first paper, “Enhancing the Quality of Information in Inter-Organizational Environmental Reporting Information Systems,” by Hans Thies, discusses the state of the art in environmental reporting and proposes an approach in which the quality of environmental information in Inter-Organizational Environmental Reporting Information Systems can be enhanced by following the design science research cycle. The paper deals mainly with issues related to knowledge creation and modification and proposes ways how problems related to information quality can be addressed.

The second paper, “The Significance of Knowledge Transfer in Strategic Green IS Alignment: An Analysis from the Knowledge-Based View,” by Fabian Loeser, Koray Erek, Felix Limbach, and Ruediger Zarnekow, claims that knowledge sharing between business, information systems (IS), and sustainability domain is a premise for achieving “Green IS” alignment. Moreover, the importance of effective internal knowledge transfer between different organizational units and relevant organizational roles and responsibilities are discussed. Overall, the paper deals with issues related to knowledge distribution.

The third paper, “To Share or Not to Share,” by Gergana Vladova and Julian Bahrs, presents two opposite approaches on the design of knowledge transfer, highlighting these different practices and interpretations and indicating the possible benefits and risks of both. Similar to the second paper, this paper also deals with various issues related to knowledge distribution.