

## **Exponential Technologies and Innovation – A Focus on Nanotechnologies**

**Alessandro Margherita**

*DII – Dipartimento di Ingegneria dell'Innovazione, Università del Salento, Lecce, Italy*

Exponential technologies, such as Advanced Materials, 3D Printing, Cognitive Automation, Biomanufacturing, Blockchain, and Internet of Things, are characterized by disruptive technical performance and are rapidly shaping major industries and almost all aspects of human life. In such scenario, nanotechnology plays a crucial role as a general-purpose, cross-disciplinary and pervasive *innovation driver* in a vast array of endeavours like food, health, environment, electronics, and energy. The development of purposeful innovation processes and business models is thus a huge opportunity and a critical concern for companies and techno-entrepreneurs dealing with nanotechnology. After an introduction on nanotech as a driver of exponential innovation, the talk uses specialised literature and illustrative cases to provide the audience with a general framework of innovation management, business modelling and business engineering in the nanotechnology domain.