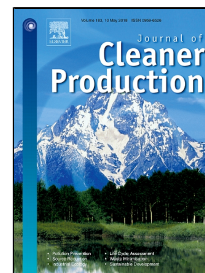


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Sustainable supply chain management in developing countries: An analysis of the literature

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to present an analysis of the academic literature addressing Sustainable Supply Chain Management (SSCM) practices in developing countries. A systematic literature review method was adopted; selected papers were reviewed from 2000 to 2016 that matched our inclusion criteria. Common themes across the literature were identified covering four factors regarding the adoption of SSCM: drivers, barriers, mechanisms and outcomes. A conceptual model integrating these factors and based on institutional theory was advanced to explain the adoption of sustainability practices along supply chains in developing countries. The paper concludes by identifying gaps in the literature that require further research on this topic, particularly for the context of developing countries. To the best of our knowledge this is the first paper reviewing the existing research on SSCM in developing countries that includes both social and environmental dimensions.

Keywords: Supply chain, developing countries; CSR; sustainability; systematic literature review; content analysis

1. Introduction

Sustainable supply chain management (SSCM) is defined by Seuring and Müller (2008: 1700) as “the management of material, information and capital flows as well as cooperation among companies along the supply chain while taking goals from all three dimensions of sustainable development, i.e., economic, environmental and social, into account which are derived from customer and stakeholder requirements”. Different authors emphasize different dimensions of sustainability. When dealing with environmental issues, companies and academics refer to green supply chain management or environmental management programmes that aim to reduce harmful effects to the environment (Brik et al., 2013; Mathiyazhagan et al., 2015; Zhu and Sarkis, 2004). Environmental initiatives include moves towards green

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