REVIEWING STUDIES ON SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT IN VIETNAM DURING THE 2008-2020 PERIOD

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There are seven papers discussing the sustainable aspect of supply chains in Vietnam during the period 2008-2020. This number, while not astonishingly high, indicates a growing interest in sustainable supply chain management. By definition, sustainable supply chain management is the incorporation of pro-sustainability mindset into supply chain design (Panigrahi et al., 2019) that ensures every stage of a product on the supply chain is environmentally sound and financially viable. The seven studies presented the supply chain structure of multiple industries, nobly in the food industry (rice paper, coffee, dairy, and additives), tourism industry, and textile-apparel industry (Dzung & Viet Khoi, 2014; Hai et al., 2020; Hampton et al., 2018; Khoi, 2013; Khoi et al., 2016; Le & Wang, 2017; Nguyen & Sarker, 2018).

A study by Hai et al. (2020) presented a case study of rice-paper production, in which an environmentally sustainable design of rice-paper producing system and livestock farms is proposed. The system highlighted the mitigation of pollutants in the production processes that are based in small-scale villages, thus contributing both to the greening of production chain and the livelihood of the community. Another case study by Nguyen and Sarker (2018) analyzed the current stage of sustainability in the coffee supply chain of Daklak, Vietnam. With the establishment of sustainable coffee program and certified coffee production, the financial sustainability of the coffee supply chain can be achieved. On the other hand, when examining every stage of the coffee supply chain, there are needs for cooperation among the stakeholders to improve the farming practice, to efficiently manage the supply chain network as well as reverse logistic issues. On the dairy industry, Khoi (2013) identified the current logistic issue between

dairymen and processing plants and suggested measures for promoting sustainable development of the dairy sector. The essential measures focus on the self-supply capability of domestic farmers and unification on the product's assessment standards. In general, the research of sustainable supply chain targeted the unsustainable issues in adopting and adapting to new practices and provided new frameworks for a comprehensive supply chain system.

These studies, while all included the discourse of sustainable supply chain, often stressed on the aspect of financial and social sustainability. Thus, we found the literature of green supply chain management (GSCM) (Dzung & Viet Khoi, 2014; Khoi et al., 2016) to be very promising in the future discourse of sustainable supply chain. In details, these studies on GSCM covered all environmental aspects of the supply chain system and presented a comprehensive system including the green product design, green material assessment, green manufacture, green marketing/distribution, and reverse logistic. In addition, it is noticeable that the practice of GSCM emphasizes the integration of new green technologies and green business strategies and endeavors for environmental protection and sustainable living while not compromising economic benefits (Dzung & Viet Khoi, 2014; Khoi et al., 2016). Here, it is worth considering the cultural barriers of adopting this new mindset of not seeing green practices as compromising business profits (Vuong, 2021; Vuong, 2016; Pham & Vuong, 2009). It is important to consider how this new mindset can be incorporated within a social context where Confucianism and cultural additivity are dominant (Vuong et al., 2018; 2019, 2020). These aspects of business mindset changes deserve further investigation and attention of the academic community in the future (Vuong, 2018; Vuong, 2020).

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