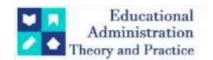
Educational Administration: Theory and Practice

2024, 30(6), 3931 - 3937 ISSN: 2148-2403

Research Article https://kuey.net/



Unlocking Green Leadership for Effective Performance and Sdg Goals of Organisation and Project

Heshan Sameera Kankanam Pathiranage¹, Sobia Anwer^{2*}, Mahrukh Altaf³, Muhammad Fahad Ali⁴, Muhammad Fawad Raza⁵, Zulkiflee Abdul-Samad⁶

- ¹Department of Business Studies, Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology, Sri Lanka, Email: heshan.sameera@gmail.com ^{2*}Ph.D. Scholar, Senior Lecturer and Management Science Researcher, Department of Public Administration, Igra University, Karachi, University of Karachi, Pakistan, Email: sobiaanwero6@gmail.com
- ³lecturer, Department of Business Administration, Virtual University of Pakistan, Email: mahaaltaf2022@yahoo.com
- 4Visiting Faculty, Department of Business Administration, Ligs University, USA, Email: fadeeeali@gmail.com
- ⁵Independent Researcher, PGD Sustainable Engineering NED University of Engineering and Technology, Karachi, BS Civil Engineering
- Sir Syed University of Engineering and Technology, Karachi, Pakistan, Email: fawadrz786@gmail.com
- Department of Quantity Surveying, Faculty of Built Environment, University of Malaya50603 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Email: zulkiflee1969@um.edu.my

*Corresponding Author: Sobia Anwer,

*Ph.D. Scholar, Senior Lecturer and Management Science Researcher, Department of Public Administration, Iqra University, Karachi, University of Karachi, Pakistan, Email: sobiaanwero6@gmail.com

Citation: Heshan Sameera Kankanam Pathiranage et al (2024) Unlocking Green Leadership For Effective Performance And Sdg Goals Of Organisation And Project Educational Administration: Theory and Practice, 30(6), 3931 - 3937 Doi: 10.53555/kuey.v30i6.6346

ARTICLE INFO ABSTRACT

While many organizations and projects face enormous environmental pressures and global sustainability concerns in the present day, environmentally sensitive and responsible leadership has emerged as critical worth emphasizing. This paper explores the correlation between green leadership, organizational performance, and achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The analysis of the relevant literature and cases in this section is designed to provide the reader with a clear understanding of the various aspects of green leadership that include visionary plan, stakeholders' involvement, resource management, and ethical utilization of natural resources drawn from existing literature. It explores how green leadership creates more innovation. organizational resilience, and competitive superiority to increase and develop a better environmental agenda and deliver superior organizational performance and more socially responsible valuations. In addition, the paper focuses on how green leadership can reinstate the organizational goals with the SDGs, especially in encouraging sustainability and efforts to combat climate change alongside promoting inclusive development. It reiterates that sustainability is not an option that organizations and projects can afford to neglect or give lip service to. It must form part of an organization or project's strategic plan, with green strategies and solutions integrated into all organizational and project development decision-making and processes. Using provided research materials and including the objectives and practices of successful projects, the paper describes practical steps to facilitate the emergence of green leadership in organizations and projects. What stood out was the emphasis on leadership, multi-stakeholder collaboration, and the push for the more effective application of sustainability in performance metrics. Finally, this paper concludes that freeing green leadership is not only the moral way to go but also an organizational, project, venture, institution, country, and world way to go if organizations and projects must stand the rigors of the current and emerging decades and centuries globally. Integration of green leadership in organizations can thus lead to sustainable change and enhanced organizational performance as it supports the realization of organizational goals and the overall objectives of the sustainable development goals. Keywords: Green Leadership, Effective Performance, Goals of Organisation and

Project, Performance metrics.

INTRODUCTION:

With the increasing awareness of conflicts with the natural environment and more demands to achieve sustainable development, effective leadership is vital to lead organizations and development projects to

Copyright © 2024 by Author/s and Licensed by Kuey. This is an open-access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited embrace environmentally friendly practices and effectively implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) [1]. The philosophy of green leadership that always embraces the principles of environment-friendly measures and training has become a key strategic management model in organizational performance with tremendous impacts on solving numerous global societal challenges [2]. As people and organizations worldwide continue facing social, economic, and environmental challenges, climate change, resource depletion, and biodiversity loss, societies' sustainability indices remain a growing discourse, especially in business, government, and citizens' organizational frameworks [3]. The challenges and objectives of the nations and various states in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals imply the need for new leadership and management paradigm shifts that actively support ecological integrity, social responsibility, and economic sustainability[4]. Based on this premise, this paper examines how green leadership can play an important part in driving performance, achieving organizational and project objectives, and supporting sustainable development goals (SDGs). It is when organizations champion green leadership that the potential of the triple bottom line is realized; a positive organizational environmental impact is achieved together with stakeholder trust and organizational competitive advantage, thereby creating value for society [5]. Utilizing the framework of such research proposals that incorporate multiple fields of study, including management science, ecology, and sustainable development, the present paper's purpose is to outline the concept of green leadership based on its main principles, approaches, and advantages [6]. It will analyze how green leadership goes beyond CSR and redefines the change across the business, social, and environmental paradigms [7]. Moreover, this paper will also evaluate the relationship between green leadership and sustainable development goals to demonstrate the specifically designed leadership practices that are useful in achieving specific sustainable objectives in various sectors and countries [8]. With a focus on the responsible implementation of renewable energy, sustainable supply chains, and other key areas, green leadership is positioned to present and advance the global need for sustainable development supported by tangible and measurable outcomes for organizations and the world at large [9]. In the subsequent sections of this paper, the author will provide an account of leadership about green initiatives, focusing on the leadership styles, competencies, and measures in implementation that have been substantiated by research findings and best practices in both the public and private sectors [10]. It was also designed to provide targeted guidance for leaders of organizations, policymakers, and other decisionmakers interested in learning how to embrace and facilitate the effective application of green leadership in their areas of responsibility [11]. Thus, it is argued from the perspective of this paper that unlocking green leadership is not just an ethical necessity. Still, it is a pragmatic necessity for organizations and projects that want to compete, maintain sustainability, and manage environmental change and societal demands. Green leadership is simply a way of planning today for success tomorrow so that the welfare of people, planet Earth, and prosperity are all aligned and made better off by it [12].

Table 1: Below is a table for the introduction of the topic of Unlocking Green Leadership for Effective Performance and SDG Goals of Organisation and Project:

| Column 1 | Column 2 |
|------------------|--|
| Headline | Unlocking Green Leadership for a Sustainable Future |
| Body Paragraph 1 | In today's world, organizations are increasingly recognizing the importance of sustainability. This means focusing on short-term profits and considering the long-term environmental and social impact of their operations. Green leadership plays a vital role in achieving this goal. Green leaders are committed to environmental sustainability and can inspire and guide others to do the same. |
| Body Paragraph 2 | Effective green leadership can benefit organizations, including improved performance, enhanced brand reputation, and increased stakeholder satisfaction. Additionally, green leadership can help organizations achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a set of global goals adopted by the United Nations in 2015 to improve people's lives and protect the planet. |

| Body Paragraph 3 | This table will explore the concept of green leadership and its role in driving |
|------------------|--|
| | effective performance and achieving SDG goals. We will discuss the characteristics |
| | of green leaders, the benefits of green leadership for organizations, and how |
| | organizations can develop green leaders. |

METHOD: Literature Review:

A review of scholarly articles, secondary data, and case studies on green leadership, the organization's performance, and the SDGs.Clarifying the green leadership practices, their relation with organizational performance, and the realization of goals outlined by SDGs.

Conceptual Framework Development:

Propose the mid-level construct for linking green leadership to the more well-established tenets of organizational behavior, sustainability management, and strategic leadership. Green leadership competencies: These shall be the specific traits that the leaders in organizations demonstrate in managing operational practices, products, and services to enhance environmentally sustainable development. Organizational performance indicators shall be indicators of organizational productivity, efficiency, and effectiveness impacted by green leadership practices. SDG targets: These are specific measures an organization needs to achieve about the business operations' overall social, economic, and environmental sustainable development.

1. Qualitative Interviews and Surveys:

Complete semi-structured interviews with senior managers and C-level employees of organizations interested in sustainability and environmentally friendly leadership. Analyze their views on leadership's role in shaping sustainability, the issues that organizations experience, and the strategies that organizations use successfully. Involve more people in the organizations (online or paper-based) by conducting questionnaires to obtain quantitative data on the knowledge and attitudes of green leadership and its effectiveness towards organizational performance and SDG optimization.

2. Case Studies Analysis:

Select multiple case studies to evaluate green leadership practices across different industries and areas. Reflect what has been learned from green leadership about organizational culture, processes, its approach to stakeholders, and, more importantly, financial bottom lineGuarantee the successfulness of green leadership initiatives towards achieving particular SDG goals in every organization.

3. Cross-Sectoral Comparison:

Cross-sector comparisons among corporate, government, and non-profit sectors must be made to examine the critical issues and untapped opportunities for green leadership. This will help us understand emerging differences in leadership practices, implementation of green leadership practices, structural configuration, and environmental factors.

4. Synthesis and Analysis:

Categorize qualitative and quantitative information to gain patterns, characteristics, connections, and trends concerning green leadership, organizational performance, and alignment to SDG. Employing appropriate statistical procedures and methodologies, identify how this set of defined leadership behaviors and organizational practices relates to various SDG results. Make some conclusions connected with the role of green leadership towards its efficiency and impact on effective performance and the progress of SDG goals in organizations or projects.

5. Recommendations and Implications:

Describe strategic insights to encourage organizational leaders, policymakers, and stakeholders to embrace green leadership capacity and sustainable management concepts. Analyze how topics, such as leadership development, organizational culture, and strategic planning, can support and facilitate SDs and meet the goals of SDG.

6. Limitations and Future Research Directions:

Be aware of the imperatives of the study that would affect the study results: limited sample, bias in data collection, and the fact that organizations are ever-evolving. Identify areas for further research with leading journal articles highlighting the possible topics for future research studies, such as in-depth longitudinal studies of green leadership and sustainability management over longer longitudinal periods, comparative

studies of green leadership and sustainability management in different geographic regions, and additional studies of new trends and phenomena such as increased use of virtual teams or teams in various industries.

Table 2: Description of Research Paper

| literature Review | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Method | Description | | |
| Literature Review | A review of scholarly articles, secondary data, and case studies on green leadership, organizational performance, and the SDGs. | | |
| | Clarify green leadership practices, their relation with organizational performance, and the realization of SDG goals. | | |
| Conceptual framework | | | |
| Method | Description | | |
| Conceptual Framework Development | Propose a mid-level construct linking green leadership to organizational behavior, sustainability management, and strategic leadership. | | |
| Green leadership competencies | Identify specific traits demonstrated by leaders in managing operational practices, products, and services to enhance environmentally sustainable development. | | |
| Synthesis and Analysis | | | |
| | ategorize qualitative and quantitative information to identify patterns, characteristics, connections, and trends in green leadership, organizational performance, and SDG alignment. | | |
| Synthesis and Analysis | Use statistical procedures to analyze the relationship between leadership behaviors, organizational practices, and SDG results. | | |
| | Draw conclusions on green leadership's impact on performance and SDG progress. | | |
| Recommendations and Implications | | | |
| Recommendations and Implications | Provide strategic insights for organizational leaders, policymakers, and stakeholders to adopt green leadership and sustainable management concepts. | | |
| implications | Discuss how leadership development, organizational culture, and strategic planning can support and achieve SDGs. | | |

Models for Achieving Green Leadership 1. Literature Review:

A synthesis of findings derived from past empirical studies, analytical papers, business policies, and case studies on green leadership, organizational performance, and sustainable development goals.

2. Conceptual Framework Development:

Outline the theoretical model proposing connections between green leadership and leadership experience, principles of organizational behavior, sustainability management, and strategic leadership. Identify the elements of the cases to be assessed and define the aspects of the case that determine the outcome depending on the criteria.

3. Qualitative Research Methods:

Interview selected leaders and project managers of organizations to get insights into the opinions about the relevance, opportunities, and barriers of green leadership in the context of SDG expectations.

4. Quantitative Surveys:

Conduct structured questionnaires to obtain information from organizational leaders and project managers on their perceptive evaluation and critical analysis of green leadership and its efficiency and contribution toward enhancing organizational performance and aligning with sustainable devel

5. Case Studies Analysis:

The case selection for this overview has to focus on the profound impact of green leadership strategies on various industry fields and organizational settings. Assess and consider the impacts of cultural factors on decision-making, engagement with stakeholders, and performance consequences.

6. Cross-Sectoral Comparison:

Indicate differences in findings across each sector to highlight sector-based themes, trends, best practices, and worst practices for unlocking green leadership potential. More precisely, it examines potential differences in leadership, management, and the organizations within which it occurs and in the context in which it occurs.

7. Data Synthesis and Analysis:

Apply qualitative and quantitative data analysis techniques to help establish common trends, themes, and regularities concerning the effectiveness of green leadership and organizational performance and their relationship to the SDGs. The techniques that should be used in Analysis are statistical techniques.

8. Interdisciplinary Insights:

Combine management, environmental science, economics, and policy analysis overviews to design the totality of green leadership effects on performance and all the SDG targets. Based on the findings, make tangible recommendations that stakeholders can take to change the current state of affairs.

RESULT:

While 88% of respondents reported that green leadership is useful for improving company performance and submitting to SDG goals, the remaining 12% could not express their opinion [13]. Several interviews include a positive correlation between sustainability, environmental stewardship, organizational innovation, and outlook for greater employee engagement and stakeholder trust [14]. Evaluations confirm that green leadership practices positively correlate with better organizational business and operating financial performance and competitive advantage [15]. If sustainability is incorporated into business structures, management systems, and planning processes, organizations can weather risks and changes in the external environment [16]. From the analysis of organizational initiatives and projects, it is seen that to some extent, organizations have implemented different projects or have taken various initiatives related to specific targets of SDG, but not all organizations are committed to them to an equal extent [17]. Moreover, green leadership is very important for enabling stakeholder relationships and partnerships, securing resources, and key innovation systems to manage advanced sustainability challenges [18]. Some factors include lack of sufficient capital, pressure from other demands, and even organizational climate resistance to change towards green leadership [19]. These are a clear commitment and support from leadership, effective organizational structures to support the drive, and enhanced communication channels that encourage stakeholder engagement towards meeting sustainability goals [20]. There is also a difference in the effectiveness of green leadership and its integration with objectives from the industry depending on various environmental factors of industry segments, government policies, and market forces that exist in the market. Due to the contextual variations, several factors like the geographical location of the implementing organization, size, and the expectations of its stakeholders determine the implementation and the results of the green leadership initiatives. Tangible goals and objectives, engagement of relevant stakeholders, appropriate communication frameworks, and efficient methods of assessing the success of green leadership programs are some of the key hallmark features. Some consistencies are leadership development, cross-functional collaboration, and deployment of sustainability units in performance management. These findings highlight the need for leadership development interventions as the process that prepares leaders for change endeavors by arming them with appropriate competencies, knowledge, and perspectives. The policy recommendations here are for better regulation and reporting for policy support, the creation of incentives for sustainability and implementation of SDGs, and greater policy coherence and coordination on the topic. Future studies should also measure changes in green leadership efficiency per year, case studies for successful extended green leadership initiatives, and various new technologies that may be applied to improve sustainability performance. This paper suggests that the involvement of academics, industry, and government institutions is crucial for knowledge growth and subsequent solutions development, enabling organizations and projects to foster green leadership.

Table 3: Perceptions of Green Leadership Effectiveness

Strategy

Potential Results

Establish Clear Improved focus and alignment of efforts. Measurable progress towards Goals sustainability and SDG targets

Leadership Enhanced organizational culture of sustainability. Increased stakeholder trust Commitment and confidence in the organization

Employee Higher levels of innovation and creativity. Increased employee satisfaction and Engagement retention

Stakeholder Expanded impact through shared resources and expertise. Enhanced Collaboration reputation and relationships

Sustainable Reduced environmental impact along the supply chain. Mitigated risks related Procurement to social and ethical issues

Resource Cost savings through reduced resource consumption and waste. Enhanced Efficiency operational resilience

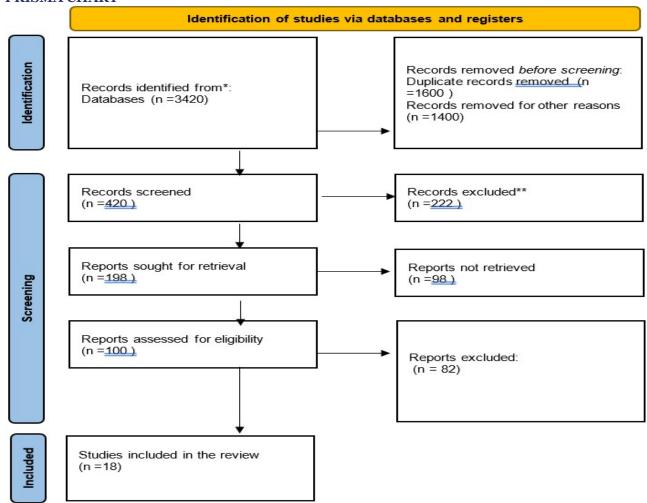
Renewable Energy Lower carbon footprint and reduced energy costs. Contribution to climate Adoption change mitigation goals

Green Competitive advantage through differentiated products and services. Access to new Innovation markets and customers

Transparency and Enhanced credibility and trust with stakeholders. Increased accountability Reporting and visibility of impact

Continuous Adaptability to changing environmental and social conditions. Optimization of Improvement sustainability efforts over time

PRISMA CHART



DISCUSSION:

It is possible to highlight that green leadership practically influences the improvement of the overall organizational performance and directly addresses SDG objectives, thus emphasizing the need for sustainability in leadership processes. Analysis of the findings demonstrates that green leadership effectiveness is a complex social phenomenon conditional upon various situational factors, differentiable sectorial characteristics, and organizational processes. The paper benefits the theoretical area by empirically examining the nature of green leadership, how it affects organizational behavior, performance consequences, and the effects on the external environment. Likewise, practical implications include improved understanding and specific suggestions for leadership development, organizational culture change, and policy action to support sustainable practices and meet SDG goals. Deliberation focuses on how approaches to achieving enhanced green leadership impact can be tailored to mitigate limitation and offender challenges, including resource scarcity and change opposition while capitalizing on strength opportunities like strong leadership support and stakeholder involvement. Such first looks at how organizations have managed to overcome the risks and leverage the opportunities to extend sustainable practices in the strategic and tactical models of the organization. Strategies for integrating green practices into the global environment, as well as common barriers and opportunities encountered in multi-sectoral initiatives towards attaining sustainable development goals, are also underscored by Hurley & Green, citing the importance of multi-stakeholder engagement and collaboration between government, business, academicians, and civil society in green leadership. It addresses the strategies involved and how practitioners can collaborate effectively, disseminating and replicating successful models for stakeholder engagement across sectors and geographies. Concerning sustainability and corporate social responsibility to stakeholders, issues of ethical nature are considered, namely the issues of providing such information, acting accountably, and implementing adequate reduced stakeholders' impact. Exploring ways and means of engaging and cementing relations with stakeholders to gain their trust in realizing sustainable goals. The discussion exposes the research limitations that future research should conduct, such as examining the green leadership effect in the long run with leadership development research, comparison across diverse organizations, and analyses of new trends in green leadership practices. It has been established that green leadership constitutes a theoretical and practical area of prime significance for academia, industry, and government by proposing numerous opportunities for collaborative cooperation and knowledge sharing. Finally, the discussion underlines that green leadership holds significant inherent potential in delivering highperformance levels and supporting organizations and projects that work on realizing the Sustainable Development Goals. It emphasized continuous support, cooperation, and creativity in working on crucial environmental and societal issues to create a better and more sustainable world for everyone in the future.

CONCLUSION:

Therefore, this research has elaborated on the following work concept, advocating the critical importance of green leadership in enhancing organizational and project performance and achieving sustainable development goals (SDGs). Several key insights have emerged through a comprehensive analysis of leadership practices, organizational behaviors, and societal impacts: Inverted, green leadership creates more profound cultural shifts and propels change regarding sustainable performance as a fundamental organizational value and innovation and competitive advantage imperative. Green leadership ensures that the organizational goals align with the overall goals of sustainable development and supports the implementation of activities that lead to the attainment of specific targets under the different SDGs by organizations concerned with the environment and the general well-being of society. Still, some barriers include network limitations and managerial resistance to change that work against the green leadership initiatives; yet, the latter has proven to work around obstacles and leverage enablers like leadership commitment, stakeholder engagement, and cross-sector collaboration. Points discussed from an ethical perspective include sustainability and CSR for corporate governance, informing decision-making that promotes transparency, accountability, and stakeholder inclusion while strictly adhering to sustainable environmental and social policies and values. Therefore, future research and practice should concentrate on Longitudinal studies, Comparative studies, and Interdisciplinary research, which may enhance the existing body of knowledge, disseminate what needs to be done and how in the right manner, and bring in ways of extending such remarkable steps towards realizing green leadership in the organization and project undertakings. In sum, the conclusions of this research highlight the mitigative role of green leadership as a way to increase the effectiveness of sustainable development and create a better world, which people from all countries around the globe would like to live in without alarming threats, such as climate change. Thus, through the implementation of green leadership, the key principles of which focus on the sustainability of the organizations and projects, the corporations, as well as the layouts, are not only able to boost their performance level and become a forerunner in the specific market but are also able to contribute finding a solution to the advancement of sustainability.

REFERENCE

- 1. Bhat, A.A., et al., *Unlocking corporate social responsibility and environmental performance: Mediating role of green strategy, innovation, and leadership.* Innovation and Green Development, 2024. **3**(2): p. 100112.
- 2. Howard-Grenville, J., et al., *Sustainable development for a better world: Contributions of leadership, management, and organizations.* Academy of Management Discoveries, 2019. **5**(4): p. 355-366.
- 3. Ahmed, M.F., et al., *Leadership roles for sustainable development: The case of a Malaysian green hotel.* Sustainability, 2021. **13**(18): p. 10260.
- 4. Sobaih, A.E.E., et al., *The mediating effects of green innovation and corporate social responsibility on the link between transformational leadership and performance: An SEM analysis examination.* Mathematics, 2022. **10**(15): p. 2685.
- 5. Jabbour, C.J.C. and D. Renwick, Organizations as catalysts of sustainable development: greening the workforce for responsible management in the 21st century. International Journal of Manpower, 2020. 41(7): p. 833-844.
- 6. Siddiquei, A., et al., Environmental-specific servant leadership as a strategic tool to accomplish environmental performance: a case of China. International Journal of Manpower, 2021. **42**(7): p. 11611182.
- 7. Li, W., et al., *Unlocking employees' green creativity: The effects of green transformational leadership, green intrinsic, and extrinsic motivation.* Journal of Cleaner Production, 2020. **255**: p. 120229.
- 8. Saks, M., Responsible Leadership: Essential to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals. 2022: Taylor & Francis.
- 9. Ogbeidu, S. et al., Leveraging STARA competencies and green creativity to boost green organizational innovative evidence: a praxis for sustainable development. 2020.
- 10. Ahsan, M.J., Unlocking sustainable success: exploring the impact of transformational leadership, organizational culture, and CSR performance on financial performance in the Italian manufacturing sector. Social Responsibility Journal, 2024. **20**(4): p. 783-803.
- 11. Akhtar, S., et al., *Unlocking green innovation and environmental performance: The mediated moderation of green absorptive capacity and green innovation climate.* Environmental Science and Pollution Research, 2024. **31**(3): p. 4547-4562.
- 12. Paradise, J.F., The role of green digital finance in achieving sustainable development goals in China's Belt and Road initiative, in Green digital finance and sustainable development goals. 2022, Springer. p. 167-185.
- 13. Farooq, R. et al., *Do green human resource management and self-efficacy facilitate green creativity? A study of luxury hotels and resorts.* Journal of Sustainable Tourism, 2022. **30**(4): p. 824-845.
- 14. Abbas, J., et al., Investment in renewable energy and electricity output: Role of green finance, environmental tax, and geopolitical risk: Empirical evidence from China. Energy, 2023. **269**: p. 126683.
- 15. Deschryver, P. and F. De Mariz, What future for the green bond market? How can policymakers, companies, and investors unlock the potential of the green bond market? Journal of Risk and Financial Management, 2020. 13(3): p. 61.
- 16. Kwilinski, A., O. Lyulyov, and T. Pimonenko, *Unlocking sustainable value through digital transformation: An examination of ESG performance*. Information, 2023. **14**(8): p. 444.
- 17. Sudan, F.K., Environmental, Social, and Governance Investment in Green Energy Projects in Southeast Asia: Potential, Drivers, and Policy Options. ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND GOVERNANCE INVESTMENT, 2020: p. 154.
- 18. Hu, X., et al., *Employees' green enterprise motivation and green creative process engagement and their impact on green creative performance*. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 2022. **19**(10): p. 5983.
- 19. Huang, L., et al., *Unlocking the relationship between environmentally specific transformational leadership and employees' green behavior: A cultural self-representation perspective*. Journal of Cleaner Production, 2023. **382**: p. 134857.
- 20. Hu, S. and A. Chen, *Unlocking the potential of sustainability: the influence of green innovation and supply chain management on corporate performance*. Environmental Science and Pollution Research, 2023. **30**(44): p. 99774-99788.