

Sustainable chain management maps out all the economic, ecological and social effects that occur during the life cycle of a product and focuses on measures that improve sustainability. This book explores how chains with partners in developing countries can be managed more sustainably and is based on experience in numerous projects involving stakeholders in The Netherlands and Costa Rica and Benin.

The chains leading from a coffee bean to a cup of coffee, from a cacao bean to a bar of chocolate and a cotton plant to baby clothing have links within links. Raw materials are transformed, change ownership and cross international frontiers before they reach consumers. Frequently a world of difference exists between producers in the South and end-users in the North. Each chain partner has own motives and interests, but in the end sustainable chain management is primarily 'the success of working together'. Through cooperation producers, processors, retailers and external stakeholders are able to achieve more than they could working alone.

This book describes how a process of sustainable chain management can be structured, identifies critical success factors and conditions and lists the threats and opportunities. It gives practical tips based on concrete experience as well as background information on sustainable chain management as an instrument of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). It helps you to understand what sustainable chain management is and how it works.

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International Sustainable Chain Management

Lessons from the Netherlands, Benin, Bhutan and Costa Rica

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