

Sustainable Furniture Manufacturing: Exploring Challenges and Opportunities in the Cambodian Market

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Abstract

The furniture sector holds considerable importance in the global economy as this sector has a direct influence on related industries such as companies operating in forestry, the textile industry and the raw material sector (e.g. metal, fabric, or plastic). Besides having a major impact on the economy, it also has a negative impact on the environment, due to the high volume of needed raw materials, a significant need for energy in the production process and large amounts of waste resulting from the manufacturing procedures. This research examines the furniture supply chain with a particular emphasis on Cambodia and focuses on potential sustainable solutions. The purpose is to explore the incorporation of environmentally friendly and socially responsible principles across all stages of the furniture manufacturing process. By examining the current practices, the challenges and opportunities in Cambodia's furniture industry are explored and recommendations to relevant stakeholders are provided.

Keywords: *Sustainability, Furniture, Production Lifecycle*

1 Introduction

Due to the world's expanding population and heavy reliance on products made from fossil fuels, a variety of social, economic, and environmental problems are resulting. Under societal and political pressure to reach environmental protection targets, governments during the past few decades have more and more actively promoted the use of green energy sources, and organic, and wood-based products. Due to this, the demand for wood has grown quickly, and there is now more competition worldwide for logs and lumber by-products. [1]. The furniture manufacturer is an important component of modern civilization and relies heavily on natural materials like wood for household items. However, due to urbanization and deforestation, the global areas with forests are decreasing. This has significant impacts on climate change, biodiversity conservation, water security and human well-being. Therefore, optimization of wood consumption, waste reduction and recycling are crucial in furniture manufacturing [2]. Wood is an important resource for the furniture industry, but its sustainable use is imperative to mitigate environmental impacts. The depletion of forests not only affects the availability of raw materials but also contributes to various ecological challenges. Implementing strategies for responsible wood sourcing and efficient utilization can help address these issues and promote sustainability in the furniture sector, this involves selecting appropriate wood types, accurate measurements, cutting techniques and utilizing advanced technologies for processing and manufacturing. This primary challenge for the wood sector is to meet consumer demands while producing and recycling wood efficiently and economically [2]. Also, the furniture manufacturing sector in Cambodia has experienced significant growth and development in recent years. This industry has in the meantime become an important contributor to the country's economy, providing employment opportunities, and attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) [3].

In the history of furniture manufacturing in Cambodia, the industry experienced a decrease from 1975 to 1979, when the Khmer Rouge dictatorship was in power, leading to a period of political instability and conflict. Following this period, Cambodia started a process of recovery and reconstruction. It was not until the 1990s that Cambodia initiated economic liberalization and gained an increased amount of foreign investment. This led to the establishment of various industries, including furniture manufacturing. Initially, the industry focused on producing basic wooden furniture for the domestic market. In the early 2000s, Cambodia began drawing more attraction to international investment thanks to the adoption of economic reforms and advantageous investment regulations. These investors brought advanced technology, expertise, and capital to the country's furniture manufacturing sector [4]. As a result, Cambodia's furniture exports began to grow rapidly. Additionally, the diversification into higher value-added products, such as customized and designer furniture, increased Cambodian competitiveness in global markets. Nevertheless, obstacles related to technology, skills, and sustainability remained [5]. Many small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the furniture industry of Cambodia are facing a lack of knowledge, skills, and resources to adopt sustainable practices. This includes issues such as inefficient usage of raw materials, inadequate waste management systems, and limited access to sustainable technologies [6].



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Moreover, the high costs associated with implementing sustainable practices create a barrier for SMEs, hindering their ability to improve their supply chain operations. This research explores the weaknesses of the furniture manufacturing sector in Cambodia and aims to provide strategic advice to implement environmental friendliness in the wood supply chain in Cambodia and suggest improvements with respect to (1) sustainability, (2) skills and (3) technology. Additionally, it aims to provide recommendations to tackle issues related to technological progress, skill deficiencies, and sustainability considerations. This includes adopting sustainable forest management practices, promoting education and training programs, and setting ambitious sustainability goals.

2 Literature Review

2.1 Key Characteristics of the Furniture Manufacturing Industry

Furniture manufacturing is a complex industry that involves various key characteristics such as skilled labour, and advanced technology. These factors are vital in determining the furniture manufacturing process, quality requirements, and environmental impact. The combination of skilled labor and advanced technology not only influences the overall quality of furniture products but also affects the sustainability practices within the industry. Furniture manufacturers rely heavily on skilled labour to ensure quality and craftsmanship. Skilled artisans and craftsmen are indispensable in furniture production due to their specialized skills and knowledge in woodworking, upholstery, and finishing techniques. Another key characteristic of the furniture industry is the advancement of technology. Technology has revolutionized the way furniture is designed, manufactured, marketed, and sold. Computer-aided design (CAD) software like AutoCAD, Sketchup, SolidWorks allow designers to estimate the quantity of material in design products. Especially, it creates intricate and complex furniture designs with precision and efficiency. However, Advanced manufacturing technologies such as CNC (Computer Numerical Control) machines enable automated production processes that increase productivity and accuracy while reducing waste. Additionally, technology has transformed the retail sector with online platforms and virtual showrooms offering customers personalized shopping experiences and customization options [7].

Additionally, sustainability concerns have become a significant characteristic of the furniture industry. With growing awareness of environmental issues and climate change, consumers are increasingly demanding eco-friendly and sustainable furniture options. Furniture manufacturers are adopting sustainable practices by selecting sourced of materials with environmental certification, reducing waste through recycling and upcycling, and minimizing carbon emissions in production processes. In order to reduce the negative influence that furniture production and consumption have on the environment, sustainable furniture design places a strong emphasis on durability and recyclability. [8].

2.2 Sustainability in the Furniture Manufacturing Industry

The furniture manufacturing industry is also known as an important sector that covers the design, production, and distribution of various types of furniture for residential, commercial, and institutional use, with a high consumption of resources and the generation of waste. Sustainability in the furniture manufacturing industry focuses on addressing these issues by applying methodologies that mitigate environmental effects and enhance long-term sustainability. One of the key aspects of sustainability in the furniture manufacturing industry is the responsible use of raw materials. This includes the efficient utilization of energy and wood resources to reduce waste and to lower the environmental footprint. Additionally, the industry faces challenges related to the use of chemicals containing volatile organic compounds (VOCs), which can negatively impact human well-being and the environment. Implementing eco-friendly alternatives and practices can help mitigate these risks [9].

Another critical area for sustainability in the furniture manufacturing industry is improving production processes to enhance efficiency and reduce waste generation. By implementing lean manufacturing principles, such as optimizing material usage and streamlined operations, companies can minimize their environmental impact while improving overall productivity. Furthermore, sustainable practice in the furniture manufacturing industry also involves considering the entire product lifecycle, from design and production to distribution and end-of-life disposal. Embracing concepts such as the circular economy can help companies develop products with focus on durability, repairability, and recyclability, all aimed at reducing waste and enhancing resource conservation [8]. Table 1 contains the environmental design aspects that were created focusing on the furniture sector:

Table 1: Environmental design aspects in the furniture sector (Source: César, 2017)

Category	Refers to
Reduce	Minimizing raw material consumption levels, optimizing furniture structure designs for simplicity, reconsidering cutting methods, and integrating reuse and recycling practices for residues into operation.
Facilitate	Innovation systems to facilitate easier furniture assembly with a decreased amount of parts and tools.
Extend lifespan	Extend the longevity of the furniture by offering maintenance packages.
Select	Use of alternative wood type such as composite wood and the use of certificate wood sources.
Valorize the difference	Inform the customer about the eco-friendly features of the furniture to emphasize the commitment to sustainability.

2.3 The Characteristics and Status of Sustainability of the Furniture Manufacturing Industry in Cambodia

The furniture industry in Cambodia has been experiencing significant growth in recent years, although it is still ranked behind its neighbouring country, Vietnam, in terms of size and development. Cambodia's furniture industry is primarily focused on the production of wooden furniture, with a strong focus on handcrafted and artisanal products. Vietnam has a more diverse and advanced furniture industry, encompassing both wooden and non-wooden furniture production (NWFP) using materials such as metal, plastic, glass, and composite materials [10]. Cambodia's furniture industry has seen steady growth over the past decade. The country's abundant supply of timber resources, particularly hardwoods like Teak and Rosewood, has attracted major investments in this sector [11]. Many local artisans employ traditional woodworking techniques to create unique and high-quality furniture pieces. This emphasis on craftsmanship gives Cambodia's furniture industry a distinct appeal in the global market. By comparing the situation of the furniture industry in Cambodia to Vietnam, Cambodia faces various challenges that have both direct and indirect effects on its operation and growth. One significant challenge is the lack of sustainability, a skill gap and limited access to technology. These shortages have a direct effect on the amount and quality of furniture produced, as well as the industry's ability to innovate and remain globally competitive. Additionally, the lack of technical expertise hampers the industry's capacity to adopt modern technologies and production methods, which are essential for efficiency and cost-effectiveness [12]. One reason related to the sustainability concern is the forestry sector in Cambodia which has historically been an important part of the country's economy. The nation is home to various types of forests from evergreen to deciduous, which provide wealth and rich raw material resources. The timber industry involves the felling of trees, processing them into logs or sawn wood, and then exporting them to international markets. One rational approach to assess the adverse consequences of Cambodia's exportation of raw materials, such as timber, is to examine the environmental implications. The process of deforestation associated with timber extraction can result in the loss of habitats, soil degradation, and disturbance of ecosystems, ultimately leading to enduring repercussions for biodiversity and ecological equilibrium.

On the other hand, the lack of skilled technicians, engineers, and skilled workers will prevent the nation from applying modern technological advances for industrial development, forcing it to hire expensive foreign expertise instead. A mix of skilled technicians, engineers, scientists, and labourers is essential to advance the development of an industrial sector. The industrial sector continues to receive little support from skills training, which results in low productivity. Since the majority of workers in Cambodia are employed in the service and agricultural sectors, significant reforms to the labor market are necessary for the country to make the transition to an economy with a stronger industrial sector. This affects hiring practices, training programs, the development of work habits and discipline. It requires an extended period to train employees who lacking in fundamental education which leads to insufficient results. Consequently, it's important to fortify the official hiring procedure and provide employees with the necessary training. The intention is to assist employees in staying out of an unofficial working system, which can leave them imprisoned, in debt, and vulnerable to dishonest unions [6]. Lastly, the present-day societal climate in Cambodia has still not mainstreamed the values of science and technology. It is important to motivate and encourage students to study sciences and technology. High technical standards are crucial for ensuring accuracy in the production process and to gain customer confidence in

production, whether it be at the level of factories, businesses, or handicrafts [12]. Additionally, using technical standards considerably promotes enhanced trust in the marketplace by prioritizing quality and safety. It builds stronger consumer confidence while lowering costs and adding significant value to the production process. Most domestic wood processing businesses are small low-tech companies and operate with old machinery. The technology employed in domestic wood manufacturing in Cambodia is still underdeveloped, resulting in low-quality goods that are only utilized within the country's borders.

2.4 Conceptual Frameworks

Based on the literature review of the integration of environmentally friendly manufacturing in the furniture industry in Cambodia, the following hypotheses and conceptual framework are proposed, as shown in Figure 1.

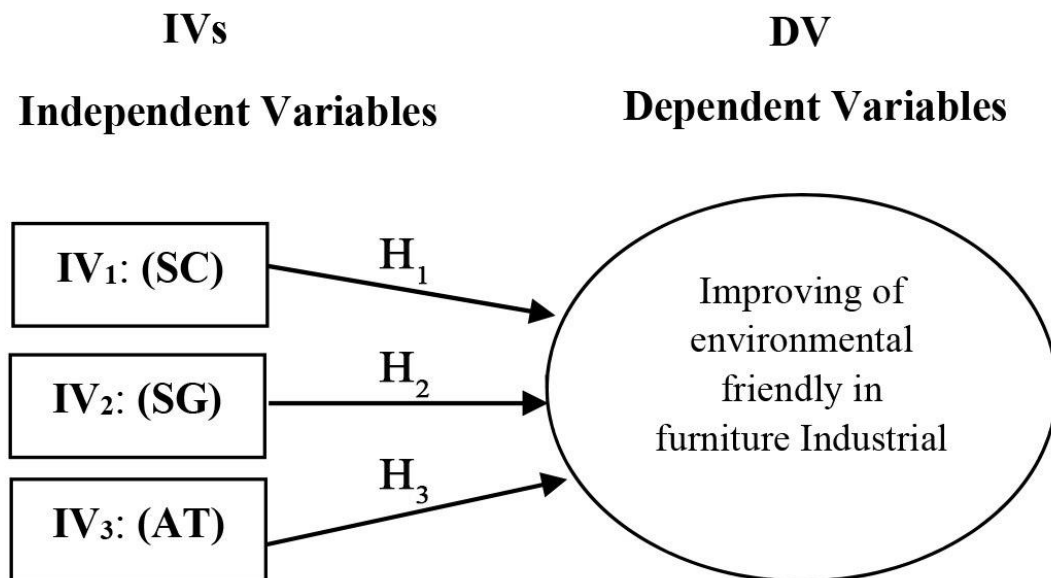


Figure 1: Variables used in this research

Where:

H₁: (SG) Sustainability Concerns have a significant impact on the integration of environmentally friendly manufacturing in the furniture industry in Cambodia.

H₂: (SG) Skill Gaps in the labour force have a significant impact on the integration of environmentally friendly manufacturing in the furniture industry in Cambodia.

H₃: (AT) Advancement Technology has a significant impact on the integration of environmentally friendly manufacturing in the furniture industry in Cambodia.

3 Methodology

3.1 Research Design and Approach

In this research study, the researcher adopts a mixed-methods design by merging quantitative and qualitative methodologies. The goal of using multiple approaches is to have a more thorough and deeper insight into the subject. This integration allows for the exploration of existing theories while also being open to new insights that may emerge from the data. In an initial approach, the specific hypotheses are tested using quantitative surveys. Subsequently, qualitative methods such as expert interviews gather in-depth insights that can lead to new theoretical development through an inductive process [14]. This method offers flexibility to combine data from several sources, providing a deeper understanding of the research topic. Additionally, it allows flexibility in adapting the research process based on emerging insights while still maintaining a structured approach to theory testing [15].

3.2 Research Method

The study is based on questionnaires completed by a broad range of consumers aged 18 to 50 and additionally on interviews conducted with three managers from the furniture industry. To explore the perceptions on production and material usage, a qualitative approach using interviews with industry experts has been chosen

[16], as it provides greater context, deeper knowledge, and insights. The "why" and "how" aspects can be analyzed in a stronger form, which would less likely be possible using quantitative data. For the quantitative research questions, questionnaires will be performed with consumers. [17].

3.3 Data Collection

Hypotheses have been created to test and answer specific research questions. Representatives from three companies in the furniture industry or related fields have been interviewed as part of the data-collecting process. Based on the company’s accessibility, interviews were conducted by telephone or in person. All interview questions are linked to the research objective and designed to provide sufficient data to answer the research questions. Interview partners were chosen with different managerial backgrounds within various furniture enterprises in Cambodia [18]. In order to gather data from reliable and pertinent sources, the current study also uses a secondary strategy. This research is utilizing secondary data in an attempt to provide a more in-depth understanding and information about the subject. Research published in papers, research reports and other publications is reviewed, gathered and analyzed. These documents were accessed through online databases, libraries, governmental and non-governmental organizations, and websites. This research has defined a sample from the population which provides representative insights to the consumers. It reflects the characteristics of the larger population to ensure the findings are generalizable. After data collection, the researchers sort and organize the data by checking errors or missing values, then apply statistical analysis to interpret the data and draw conclusions to support the research topic.

3.4 Data Survey

The questionnaire responses collected via Google Forms can cover a wide range of topics, and the analysis aims to extract valuable information from the gathered data [19]. The survey questions are formulated to prompt responses that can be examined to obtain an understanding of the attitudes and actions of the intended audience. This analysis is based on key variables including concerns about sustainability, the existing skill gap in furniture manufacturing, and limited technological advancements. They are divided into 4 different sections such as Section I General Information, Section II Sustainability Concern in the current situation, Section III Skill Gap in the current situation and Section IV Limited technology advancement in the current situation.

4 Findings

A pilot study is used to check the reliability of the used method. In the second step, the correlation between the variables is tested using the IBM SPSS Statistic-25 software. The pilot study test was performed with a sample size of 48. The results concerning reliability and correlation using Cronbach’s Alpha criteria are shown in Tables 2 and 3.

4.1 Reliability Test & Correlations

Table 2: Cronbach’s Alpha Criteria (Source: Taber,2017)

Alpha Coefficient	Strength Of Association
<0.6	Poor
0.6 to < 0.7	Moderate
0.7 to < 0.8	Good
0.8 to < 0.9	Very Good
0.9	Excellent

Where:

EFF: Environmentally friendly in Furniture

SC: Sustainability Concerns

SG: Skill Gap

AT: Advancement Technology

Table 3: Results from IBM SPSS Statistic-25 (Source: this research)

Variable	Cronbach's alpha	Cronbach's alpha base on SI	No. of items	Comment
EFF	0.741	0.744	6	Good
SC	0.768	0.773	4	Good
SG	0.816	0.816	4	Very Good
AT	0.725	0.727	4	Good

4.2 Pearson's Correlation Test

The correlation analysis in this study was used to determine the correlation between the variables. The most significant findings for every test conducted are shown in Tables 4 and 5 below.

Table 4: Scale of Correlation Coefficient (Source: Taber,2017)

Scale of Correlation Coefficient	Value
$0 < r \leq 0.19$	Very Low Correlation
$0.2 \leq r \leq 0.39$	Low Correlation
$0.4 \leq r \leq 0.59$	Moderate Correlation
$0.6 \leq r \leq 0.79$	High Correlation
$0.8 \leq r \leq 1.0$	Very High Correlation

Table 5: Correlation (Source: this research)

Correlations					
		EFF	SC	SG	TA
EFF	Pearson Correlation	1	.779**	.850**	.885**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.000	.000
	N	48	48	48	48
SC	Pearson Correlation	.779**	1	.715**	.655**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000		.000	.000
	N	48	48	48	48
SG	Pearson Correlation	.850**	.715**	1	.818**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000		.000
	N	48	48	48	48
AT	Pearson Correlation	.885**	.655**	.818**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	
	N	48	48	48	48

** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

As a result, the test the researcher can describe the correlation of the link between SC is 0.779 in the EFF aspect. It indicates a high correlation in the relationship. Second, the results of the association analysis between EFF and SG show that the two variables have a strong relationship, with a significant value of 0.850 indicating that both are related. As a consequence, the link between EFF and AT is highly correlated based on the results. The major score of 0.885 implied that the two variables are highly correlated and connect to one another as well.

4.3 Coefficient

Table 6: Coefficients (Source: this research)

Coefficients								
Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Std. Coefficients.	t	Sig.	Collinearity Statistics	
		B	Std. Error	Beta			Tolerance	VIF
1	Con.	2.9	1.230		2.395	.021		
	SC	.33	.097	.277	3.478	.001	0.474	2.110
	SG	.27	.124	.231	2.206	.033	0.274	3.644
	AT	.67	.127	.514	5.300	.000	0.30	3.121

Dependent Variable: EFF_b. *sig at 0.05

Based on Table 6 above the following equation is generated:

$EFF = 2.964 + 0.339[SC] + 0.273[SG] + 0.671[AT]$. Coefficient of according to Table 6, a unit increase in SG results in an increase in EFF of 0.273, a unit increase in AT corresponds to an increase in EFF of 0.671, and a unit increase in SC contributes to an increase in EFF of 0.339. Table 6 indicates that because the p-value is less than 0.05, all of the variables are relevant. The significant factors that predicted the EFF are SC, SG, and AT, with p-values of 0.001, 0.033, and 0.00, respectively. This indicates that every one of the variables is satisfactory. In the coefficient table, in order to rule out multi-collinearity, the VIF value needs to be less than 10. According to the chart above, 8.875 is less than ten. As a result, it may be said that there isn't a multi-collinearity issue. Table 6 presents the definitive outcome of the hypothesis test, which was conducted using multiple linear regression and correlation analysis.

4.4 Hypothesis Result

Table 7: Hypothesis Result (Source: this research)

Hypothesis		Sig	Result	β
H ₁	There will be a direct significance and relation reflected between sustainability concerns (SC) toward the improvement of environmental friendliness in furniture manufacturing (EFF)	0.001	Accepted	0.339
H ₂	There will be a direct significance and relation reflected between the kill gap (SG) toward the improvement of environmental friendliness in furniture manufacturing (EFF)	0.033	Accepted	0.273
H ₃	There will be a direct significant relation reflected between advancement technology (AT) toward the improvement of environmental friendliness in furniture manufacturing (EFF)	0.00	Accepted	0.671

Based on Table 7, the significance and relationship between variables will be described below:

The first variable which is Sustainability Concerns (SC) has a positive link with the dependent variable (EFF) as its significance level is 0.001 which is less than 0.05. Furthermore, with significant values of 0.033 and 0.00 <0.05, the second independent variable, Skill Gap (SG), and the last independent variable, Advancement Technology (AT), likewise have a positive connection with the dependent variable, EFF. Advancement technology (AT) is the most important component of this study since its (Beta β) value, which is 0.671, is the highest. Sustainability concerns (SC), for which the (Beta β) value is the second highest at 0.339, are the second crucial component in this investigation. Finally, because the (Beta β) value is the third highest in this study (0.273), the skill gap is a crucial component.

4.5 List of Companies Interview

The selection process focuses on managers of furniture manufacturers who show a willingness to participate in interviews. An overview of companies explored in this research and the managerial level of the interview partner can be found in Table 8.

Table 8: List of companies interviewed in this exploration (Source: this research)

Companies	Select Managers	Date of Interviews	Medium
1. An SME furniture operating in Cambodia	Manager	07 November 2023	F2F
2. An SME design firm operating in Cambodia	Founder	23 November 2023	F2F
3. An SME furniture operating in Cambodia	Design Director	3 December 2023	F2F

5 DISCUSSION

Improving sustainability in furniture manufacturing is a crucial aspect of the broader sustainability movement. It aims to reduce negative environmental effects, maintain resource sustainability, and encourage ethical social practices. It emphasizes the need for more sustainable furniture manufacturing, which can be gained by sourcing eco-friendly materials, increasing energy-saving production methods, waste reduction, and ethical labour practices. On the other hand, this research found a weakness in the furniture manufacturing sector in Cambodia which causes an impact on the environment. One significant factor is the absence of a proposed framework, without a structured framework in place, the growth and development of the furniture sector may be hindered. A proposed framework would provide guidelines and manufacturing standards to follow and ensure sustainable practices and growth within the industry. Additionally, a framework could help address problems such as natural resource management, waste reduction, and natural impact. All of these are crucial for the long-term sustainability of the sector. Moreover, improving the environmental impact of furniture in Cambodia requires a collaborative effort from various stakeholders. These stakeholders include the government, furniture manufacturers, suppliers, consumers and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Each group plays a crucial role in implementing sustainable practices and mitigating the environmental impact of the industry. It has been discovered in this study that the variables listed in the research framework are important for understanding the factors that contribute to sustainable practices within the industry. These factors are critical for evaluating how different tactics, innovations, and regulations affect the sustainability of the environment in the furniture manufacturing industry. Through the examination of these variables, researchers can gain a better understanding of how to improve environmentally friendly methods, lessen the influence on the environment, and advance sustainability in the furniture manufacturing industry.

5.1 Recommendations to the Cambodian Policymakers and Authorities

The Cambodian government can have a key role in the process of improving the environmental impact of furniture manufacturing by implementing and enforcing stringent environmental regulations and standards. This can include setting limit emissions, promoting sustainable forestry practices and incentivizing eco-friendly technologies through tax breaks. Additionally, the government can invest in infrastructure for waste management and recycling facilities to handle the products of furniture manufacturing. Additionally, it can facilitate networking events and conferences focused on sustainability in the furniture industry to encourage knowledge-sharing and collaboration. Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) can play an important role in advocating for sustainable practices within the furniture manufacturing industry. They can provide support and resources for manufacturers

in a transition towards environmentally friendly processes. Furthermore, NGOs can engage in public awareness campaigns to highlight the significance of sustainable furniture choices and advocate for policies that promote environmental responsibility.

5.2 Recommendations to the Cambodian Society

Providing education or advertising to consumers about the importance of choosing sustainable furniture is essential and could be done via channels of social media platforms (such as Facebook, Website, Instagram, or YouTube). Consumers should be encouraged to opt for furniture made from recycled or environmentally friendly materials. Additionally, promoting a culture of repairing and upcycling furniture rather than discarding it can contribute to reducing waste. Engaging local communities is essential for the success of any sustainability initiative. By involving community members in the decision-making process and raising awareness about environmental issues, furniture manufacturers can foster a sense of shared responsibility for protecting the environment. Additionally, community involvement can lead to the development of localized solutions that align with cultural and social values.

5.3 Recommendations to Industry

Furniture manufacturers should prioritize sustainability in their operations. They can achieve this by adopting eco-friendly production processes such as using renewable materials like bamboo or reclaimed wood, implementing energy-efficient manufacturing techniques, and reducing water consumption. Moreover, invest in research and development for innovation. Sustainability can lead to the creation of environmentally friendly furniture products. Suppliers of raw materials to the furniture industry should adhere to sustainable sourcing practices. This involves ensuring that timber and other materials are sourced from responsibly managed forests or certified sustainable sources. Collaboration with certification bodies such as the Forest Stewardship Council (FCS) can help ensure that raw materials meet environmental and social standards.

6 Conclusion

Sustainable furniture manufacturing in the Cambodian market presents both challenges and opportunities that are important for policymakers, Cambodian society, and the local industrial sector to address. Policymakers play a significant role in creating and enforcing regulations that promote sustainable practices within the furniture manufacturing industry. By implementing policies that incentivize eco-friendly production methods and materials, policymakers can encourage companies to adopt sustainable practices. Additionally, policymakers can support research and development initiatives aimed at improving sustainability in the industry. For Cambodian society, there is a growing awareness of the importance of sustainability and environmental conservation. Consumers are increasingly seeking out products that are ethically produced and environmentally friendly. This shift in consumer preferences presents an opportunity for furniture manufacturers to differentiate themselves by embracing sustainable practices. Manufacturers can attract environmentally conscious consumers and contribute to a more sustainable future by investing in sustainable manufacturing processes. Within the local industrial sector, there are challenges related to implementing sustainable practices, such as high initial costs and limited access to resources. However, there are also opportunities for growth and innovation through the adoption of sustainable technologies and practices. By investing in training programs and infrastructure improvements, local manufacturers can enhance their competitiveness in the global market while reducing their environmental impact. Overall, addressing the challenges and opportunities of sustainable furniture manufacturing in Cambodia requires collaboration between policymakers, society, and the industrial sector. By working together to promote sustainability, Cambodia can position itself as a leader in eco-friendly furniture production while contributing to global efforts to combat climate change.

7 Declarations

7.1 Competing Interests

There are no conflicts of interest to be declared.

7.2 Publisher's Note

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