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**The institutional logic of sustainable organisation: the case
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The institutional logic of the sustainable organisation: the case of a chocolate supply network

Purpose

This paper examines how, and by whom, institutional logics are determined in the action of sustainable organisation. We analyse a supply chain network structure to understand how multiple stakeholders' perceptions of sustainability emerge into a dominant logic and diffuse across an organisational field.

Methodology

Stakeholder Network Theory provides novel insights into emerging logics within a chocolate supply chain network. Semi-structured interviews with 35 decision-makers were analysed alongside 269 company documents to capture variations in emergent logics. The network was mapped to include 63 nodes and 366 edges to analyse power structure and mechanisms.

Findings

The socioeconomic organising principles of sustainable organisation, their sources of power, and their logics are identified. Economic and social logics are revealed yet the dominance of economic logics creates risks to their coexistence. Logics are largely shaped in pre-competitive activities, and resource fitness to collaborative clusters limits access for non-commercial actors.

Research implications

Powerful firms use network structures and collaborative and concurrent inter-organisational relationships to define and diffuse their conceptualisation of sustainability and restrict competing logics.

Originality/value

This novel study contributes to SSCM through presenting the socioeconomic logic as a new conceptual framework to understand the action of sustainable organisation. The identification of sophisticated mechanisms of power and hegemonic control in the network opens new research agendas.

Introduction

Sustainability is increasingly positioned as the 'new normal' in business and operations management (OM) (Roy, Schoenherr, & Charan, 2018), although it remains a deeply political and socially constructed concept. The complexity and scale of sustainable supply chains require interorganisational actors to coordinate operations, strategies, goals, and critically - institutional logics (Sayed, Hendry, & Bell, 2017). Institutional logics shape beliefs and behaviours, and are defined as "the socially constructed, historical patterns of material practices, assumptions, values, beliefs, and rules by which individuals produce and reproduce their material subsistence, organize time and space, and provide meaning to their social reality" (Thornton & Ocasio, 1999; 804). Logics bring order to a field and explain its structure and action (Friedland & Alford, 1991). Institutional logics are a useful lens to reveal *how* organisations understand and implement sustainable operations across their supply networks. However, what remains unanswered in the literature is an understanding of how, and to what extent, dominant firms lead and influence these shared logics across a field, and more crucially, how might this matter?

This research identifies the institutional logics of sustainable supply chain management (SSCM) and explores the power structures that contribute to the development and diffusion of its logics. The empirical case context is a global chocolate supply network. Our focus on institutional logics responds to the call for further research of SSCM ideologies (Smart et al., 2017). Institutional logics have a wide application in OM and have been used to: explain stakeholder behaviours (Beer & Micheli, 2017); assess inter-organisational relationships (Azadegan, Napshin, & Oke, 2013); and to map a field's maturity (Rabetino et al., 2018). The potential diversity of logics for SSCM is evident in the breadth of business models (Bocken et al., 2014) and varying attitudes to stakeholders (Alvarez, Pilbeam, & Wilding, 2010; Busse et al., 2017; Rowley, 2017), yet it is an under-developed area of research. Institutional logics contribute understanding and explanatory power to urgent societal

concerns, including sustainability (Gümüşay, Claus, & Amis, 2020). However, progress in our field is hampered as extant research has not made explicit the underpinning logics and ideologies of SSCM. By exploring institutional logics, we identify socioeconomic dimensions created from mechanisms of power that deepen our conceptual understanding of SSCM.

This paper considers how, in a global supply network, the core values and organising principles that frame sustainable organisation are shaped. We define *sustainable organisation* as the action of organising sustainability within the institution. Specifically, we examine how the logics that govern the definition and approach to sustainability are institutionalised across a supply network. The study is grounded in Stakeholder Network Theory (SNT) to examine the structure of relationships, diffusion of practices, and mechanisms of power (Rowley, 1997, 2017), that manifest the underpinning assumptions and values among multiple stakeholders in the supply network. For this study, the institution is the supply chain network encompassing the field of expertise and activities to organise sustainably therein.

We contribute to the conceptual development of SSCM by identifying the institutional logics of the action of sustainable organisation and revealing how logics act as a sophisticated mechanism of power shaping network behaviour beyond economic assumptions. The focus on institutional logics identifies the “paradigmatic core” of SSCM, which results from the evolution of institutional logics across the network (Fuenfschilling & Truffer, 2014; 772). From this vantage point, we show how alternative logics are restricted by the network position of powerful actors. Our study highlights the importance of what we have termed ‘concurrency’ whereby groups cluster *pre-competitively* to define sustainability principles, and further, to orientate the network in their favour. This new concept is critical to the institutional logics of sustainable organisation as the perspectives of multiple stakeholders, commercial and non-commercial, require consideration, but risk being impeded through dominant but narrowly framed economic logics. In the study we aim to explore how, and by who, are institutional logics determined in sustainable organisation. Therefore, the research questions are: (1) What are the organising principles that underpin the institutional field? (2) Who are the powerful actors that define these? And (3), how is network structure used to define and diffuse institutional logics?

The paper is organised as follows. The literature review outlines the current research on institutional logics and SSCM’s organising principles and sources of power. A conceptual framework is developed using SNT to posit how organisations leverage their network position through centrality and density mechanisms to influence institutional logics. The methods adopted are explained and detailed. Empirical findings from the case study are presented and these are discussed against the features of institutional logics and dimensions of SNT. The theoretical contributions establish how organisations are fundamentally altering the organising principles of SSCM, and we reappraise the sources of power of multilateral, inter-organisational relationships derived from a socioeconomic rationale.

Literature review

Institutional logics

Institutional logics consist of organising principles and sources of power (Thornton & Ocasio, 1999). For the purpose of this study, we differentiate between logics as practice and logics as organising principles, and our focus is on the latter, covering values, beliefs, rules, and assumptions. We believe this distinction necessary, as practices, commonly the focus for SSCM research, are the behaviours formed by the organising principles. Logics as organising principles are the frameworks for reason that govern belief systems (Scott, 2001), and their sources of power shape a networks’ practices and structure (Thornton & Ocasio, 1999). The organising principles that underpin SSCM practices, have had scant attention in the field.

1
2 Dominant logics are those that take precedence in an institutional field (Gümüşay et al., 2020). As
3 the boundaries of institutional fields (which in this instance is the supply network) interplay and
4 overlap, a paradigm shift can occur if alternative logics form and transform the dominant logics of
5 another field. Institutional logics are inextricably linked to power and control as they can legitimise
6 profound change across a field (Suddaby & Greenwood, 2009). In commercial situations, dominant
7 logics might predetermine the balance of value appropriation afforded to each party in a contract, but
8 in broader contexts, including sustainability, there are consequences to this power play, particularly
9 if the assumptions of the dominant logics are not acknowledged and considered.
10
11

12 The urgency and scale of the sustainability challenge, coupled with the lack of prior attention in the
13 SCM field, necessitates change to SCM (Pagell & Shevchenko, 2014). The suggestion here, is that
14 the need for fundamental change to achieve SSCM, requires the adoption of alternative logics. In
15 dynamic and complex environments, multiple logics that are fragmented and contradictory are likely
16 to co-exist (Suddaby & Greenwood, 2009), or they may be divergent or incompatible (Friedland &
17 Alford, 1991; Thornton & Ocasio, 1999). Alternative logics become apparent during periods of
18 transformation, which are characterised by heightened uncertainty, heterogeneity of fields, inter-
19 organisational co-evolution, shifts in belief systems, and new organisational forms (Lounsbury,
20 2002).
21
22

23 *Institutional logics of SSCM*

24 Sustainability's ideology necessitates shared value among social and economic actors (Silva &
25 Figueiredo, 2017) as an instrumental precondition (Burger & Christen, 2011). It is within this context
26 that multiple stakeholders with diverse heterophilous values and practices, operating within a
27 network, redraw a system boundary to create sustainable stakeholder value. Scholars have long
28 recognised the need for sustainability to adopt a change of mindset from competitive to collaborative
29 advantages for multiple stakeholders across supply chains (Vachon & Klassen, 2008), yet insufficient
30 attention has been paid to its conceptual foundations. Organising principles, as an element of
31 institutional logics (Thornton & Ocasio, 1999), are situated a step back from practice, as the values
32 that shape SSCM practice. It is at this deep, often unseen level of organising principles, that tensions
33 between SSCM and 'traditional' SCM priorities and metrics are situated. A lack of synergy between
34 SCM and ethics-based research and theories (Quarshie, Salmi, & Leuschner, 2016), and misaligned
35 core logics between socially-oriented and commercial stakeholders (Longoni et al., 2019), adds
36 weight to the call for fundamental change in priorities and practice to enable SSCM (Pagell &
37 Shevchenko, 2014).
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41

42 Sustainability ideology, as a transformative logic across organisations, industrial networks, and
43 societal fields, is resulting in the emergence of a new organisational form – *sustainable organisation*
44 – the action of organising sustainability within the institution (Fuenfschilling & Truffer, 2014). In
45 organising sustainably, stakeholders' needs are not points to be resisted by individual firms (Rowley,
46 1997), or reconciled into their economic logics (Margolis & Walsh, 2003). Rather, sustainable
47 organisation represents the collaboration of multiple stakeholders on sustainability initiatives with
48 logics beyond the commercial realm (Laasch, 2018; Schneider, 2015). Non-commercial actors can
49 impose normative demands on the system, and have been shown to advance the social dimensions of
50 SCM through acting as a bridge between business and society (Rodríguez et al., 2016), to broaden
51 the spectrum of social issues that are considered and mainstreamed (Kelling et al., 2020).
52
53
54

55 An emergent body of research recognises the importance of logics in the SSCM field (c.f. Nath,
56 Eweje, & Sajjad, 2020; Pullman, Longoni, & Luzzini, 2018; Sayed et al., 2017), with the complexity
57 of competing or multiple logics being a common focus. The multiple logics related to sustainability
58 in SCM are evident within the breadth of business models represented (Bocken et al., 2014), the
59 diversity of stakeholders (Miemczyk, Johnsen, & Macquet, 2012; Seuring & Müller, 2008), and how
60 environments are shaped through focal firms' attitudes towards stakeholder (Alvarez et al., 2010;

Busse et al., 2017; Rowley, 2017). As logics partly determine which stakeholders are attended to (Crilly & Sloan, 2012), it is important that these are revealed and understood. While multiple stakeholders can facilitate the development of alternative logics that are essential for sustainability, organising complex supply chains with multiple logics exposes a gap in the SSCM research base around which actors define the organising principles that underpin the institutional field, and the role of the network structure in diffusing these logics.

While progressive research has set out to show the different approaches to the logics of sustainable organisation (Nath et al., 2020; Sayed et al., 2017), two critical issues remain. Firstly, while heterogeneous value logics are co-shaped by SCM and organisations (Laasch, 2018), privilege is given to economic theory and the role of business in understanding sustainability (Johnston et al., 2007). Nascent discourses transcend the economic focus, in particular in the value-laden debates (Fuenfschilling & Truffer, 2014; Schneider, 2015), and applications of institutional theory (Pullman et al., 2018; Sayed et al., 2017). Therefore, SSCM research cannot assume economics as the defining force, despite the dominant hold it has had (Margolis & Walsh, 2003). Secondly, while the dimensions of sustainability are addressed in relation to practices, the implicit values and mechanisms that determine how the dimensions are handled remain under-scrutinised in supply chain and OM research. The theoretical development of SSCM is limited by the implicit economic assumptions in extant research; thus by continuing to study SSCM within the logic of SCM we fail to capture and understand the fundamental differences of sustainability (Pagell & Shevchenko, 2014).

Sources of power in SSCM

Given the tensions of accommodating sustainability under an economic logic (Longoni & Cagliano, 2015), and the potential for alternative values, understanding how organisations gain and sustain power over logics is a critical gap in SSCM's development. While the seminal work of French and Raven (1959) has provided a foundation for understanding the bases of social power in intra-organisational settings, SCM literature develops our knowledge on sources of power to direct inter-organisational commercial practices (c.f. Gold, Seuring, & Beske, 2010; Marshall et al., 2016; Meehan & Wright, 2012; Touboulic, Chicksand, & Walker, 2014). Supply chains are increasingly complex structures requiring vertical (Pagell & Wu, 2009) and horizontal alignment (Carter & Rogers, 2008) of multiple commercial and non-commercial stakeholders through the supply network (Alvarez et al., 2010). Yet, SSCM typically focuses on focal firms (Golini & Gualandris, 2018; Meinschmidt, Schleper, & Foerstl, 2018) who are considered, at least commercially, to hold the locus of power, orientation, and decision-making across the supply chain (Seuring & Müller, 2008).

The power discourse has evolved beyond transactional and dyadic relationships bounded by hierarchical organisation, to a more nuanced view of social organisation (Hearnshaw & Wilson, 2013). Networks are increasingly seen as the "foundational unit of analysis" to understand the global economy and supply chains (Dicken et al., 2001: 91), and research is moving the focus from dyadic to network power (Johnsen, Lacoste, & Meehan, 2020; Meqdadi, Johnsen, & Johnsen, 2019). In networks, decentralised social mechanisms and institutionalising organising principles, allow for broader concepts of benefit, with gains accruing beyond channel leaders (Hearnshaw & Wilson, 2013).

The power dynamics between dominant and dependent actors determine a network's organising principles, and power imbalances shape economic practices for how sustainability standards are diffused (Gold et al., 2020). Power to influence a network's organising principles bring institutional logics to the fore as they play a key role in setting the rules, values, and success criteria within the system. Hegemonic stakeholders are able to use dominance, authority, and mastery to shape the legitimating ideas and norms within a network, whilst simultaneously limiting the articulation of alternative ideologies (Johnsen et al., 2020). Control over logics can become hegemonic if a dominant firm's strategic agenda is accepted in the common interest through a lack of attention on values (Ben-

1
2 Porat, 2005). Stakeholders' values can influence the mainstreaming of sustainability logics across an
3 institution (Kelling et al., 2020), although if these do not sufficiently accommodate the wellbeing of
4 both human and environmental resources, progress is questionable (Silva & Figueiredo, 2017). In
5 broader institutional contexts where there are misaligned social and commercial logics, relational
6 mechanisms can contribute to managing tensions (Longoni et al., 2019) adding further weight to the
7 importance of reconceptualising SSCM in the context of sustainable organisation by accounting for
8 power beyond that which is embedded in dyadic commercial contracts.
9

10 11 *Stakeholder Network Theory (SNT)*

12 Stakeholder Network Theory (SNT) considers how network configurations affect power dynamics
13 between a firm and its stakeholders (Rowley, 1997). As a source of pressure, the network constitutes
14 the stakeholders who shape institutional rules. In doing so, SNT helps explain how the organisation
15 relates to its institution. Supply chain networks represent the configuration of members and their links
16 beyond dyadic ties of trading partners (Zhu, Krikke, & Caniels, 2018). There are calls for studies to
17 use network-orientated mapping (Fabbe-Costes, Lechaptois, & Spring, 2020), and a recognition that
18 in supply networks, influence emerges and diffuses, rather than being determined by more directed,
19 linear power mechanisms of any one party (Meehan & Bryde, 2015).
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22 Network analysis allows power and the influence of multiple and interdependent relationships on
23 logics to be studied (Law, 1990; Rowley, 2017). Power forces at play, within the network structure,
24 affect behaviour (Rowley, 1997). The structural dominance of a firm within a supply network is a
25 long-identified critical component of power (Cox, 1999). Yet, what is missing from the SCM
26 literature is a recognition and understanding of the deep structures – the space where rules are
27 historically and socially shaped (Thornton & Ocasio, 1999), and the protected spaces that allow for
28 transformation and maturation of the institutional context (Fuenfschilling & Truffer, 2014). The
29 complex array of actors and their interactions in SSCM requires exploration from a network
30 perspective. Stakeholder relations are commonly examined in SSCM with interesting insights into
31 governance (Alvarez et al., 2010) and visibility (Busse et al., 2017), but the network foci are still
32 viewed, ultimately, through an economic focal company perspective (Svensson et al., 2018).
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36 SNT uses centrality and density as a schema to examine power through the structure of relationships,
37 diffusion of practices, and the influence on outcomes (Roy, Nollet, & Beaulieu, 2006). Centrality
38 refers to an actor's relative position in the network based on direct and indirect ties and control over
39 others (Rowley, 1997). The relative importance of a firm's reputational quality and informal power
40 are indicative of the regime that constructs the logics. High centrality enables information to flow or
41 be restricted, providing a source of power through controlling liaison between disparate players
42 (Vurro, Russo, & Perrini, 2009), and accessing information sources from multiple actors in the
43 network (Meehan & Bryde, 2015). Density describes the network's overall structure and connections
44 (Lambert & Cooper, 2000). High-density links allow the diffusion and conformity of institutionalised
45 norms (Vurro et al., 2009). The diffusion of institutionalised norms increase efficiencies as denser
46 links enable flow, communication, and knowledge exchange; and the more central an organisation,
47 the greater their ability to diffuse influence (Rowley, 1997). However, by increasing density to
48 achieve these gains, this can conversely have a constraining effect on diversity as norms are
49 institutionalised limiting the development of alternative logics. Network analysis provides a
50 framework for understanding the degree of institutionalism of dominant logics, and the variable
51 degrees of centrality and density suggest transformative structures that enable alternative logics
52 (Fuenfschilling & Truffer, 2014).
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56
57 In sum, for SSCM, alternative sustainability principles and value propositions beyond an economic
58 focus require examination. While extended boundaries of responsibility and the importance of multi-
59 stakeholder collaboration are recognised in extant literature, our knowledge of the foundations and
60 values upon which sustainable organisation rests, is scant. This leads us to our first research question:

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2 What are the organising principles that underpin the institutional field? Here we aim to identify the
3 business models, stakeholder relationships, and inter-organisational activities across the supply
4 network, that manifest the assumptions and values at play among multiple stakeholders. The
5 inclusion of non-commercial stakeholders in the analysis provides opportunities for a richer
6 understanding of network relationships and power, and the impact these may have on shaping logics
7 for sustainability. This leads us to our second research question: Who are the powerful actors that
8 define the organising principles? Given that logics are antecedent to SSCM practice, power is deeply
9 embedded in how, and by whom, these develop. Rather than focusing on focal firm or contractual
10 influence, our final research question asks: How is network structure used to define and diffuse
11 institutional logics? The adoption of SNT captures measures of centrality and density to reveal wider
12 relationship structures that may shed light on how the network enables institutional logics to be
13 shaped and diffused.
14
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16 17 **Methods**

18 This study explores the institutional logics of the chocolate supply chain. Case research is common
19 in OM (Voss, Tsikriktsis, & Frohlich, 2002) and is used in this study to understand how institutional
20 logics related to sustainability emerge and diffuse within a supply network. In a mixed method
21 approach, we use interviews, documentary evidence, and social network analysis to examine the
22 organising principles and sources of power within the chocolate supply network. Social network
23 analysis is an analytical method for SNT (Hansen, Shneiderman, & Smith, 2011) and is gaining
24 popularity in the OM/SCM field as a method to analyse patterns of connectivity (Alinaghian, Qiu, &
25 Razmdoost, 2020; Kim et al., 2011; Wichmann & Kaufmann, 2016). Social network analysis is
26 adopted to uncover the network structure and associated mechanisms of power.
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29 *Empirical context - the chocolate supply network*

30 The world consumes over seven million tonnes of chocolate annually and the global chocolate
31 confectionery market is worth over USD 114.33 billion with the top 5 companies representing 52.4%
32 of the market share in 2019 (Euromonitor International, 2020). The concentration of power has led
33 to uneven value distribution across the supply chain (Barometer Consortium, 2016). To meet growing
34 consumer demands, global cocoa production rose by 15% to approximately 4.6 million tonnes in
35 2017/18 (Fountain & Hütz-Adams, 2018). Over 70% of production is in the West African countries
36 of Cameroon, Ghana, the Ivory Coast and Nigeria, approximately 17% in the Americas, i.e. Brazil,
37 Columbia, Dominican Republic and Ecuador, and 9% from Asia and Oceania (Franchise Help,
38 2020). It is within these developing countries that sustainability issues come into relief. Climate
39 change and socio-political effects have put a strain on production, farmers, communities, and the
40 environment (Fountain & Hütz-Adams, 2018). More than 5 million farmers and nearly 50 million
41 workers are dependent on cocoa, a highly volatile commodity, and many workers are among the 2.01
42 billion people living on less than £1.48 a day (Fairtrade International, 2018).
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46 The chocolate supply chain has five broad tiers through which the core commodity, cocoa, is grown,
47 processed, manufactured, packaged and retailed as chocolate (Figure 1) (Fountain & Hütz-Adams,
48 2018). Despite a relatively simple and linear product flow, the network consists of multiple
49 commercial and non-commercial organisations. The primary commercial companies are classified as
50 farmers/farming associations, traders/processors, manufacturers, and retailers. The secondary
51 commercial companies are classified as packaging, third-party logistics providers, and warehousing.
52 Non-commercial partners consist of non-government organisations (NGOs), certifiers, national and
53 local governments, international governmental organisations, and trade unions.
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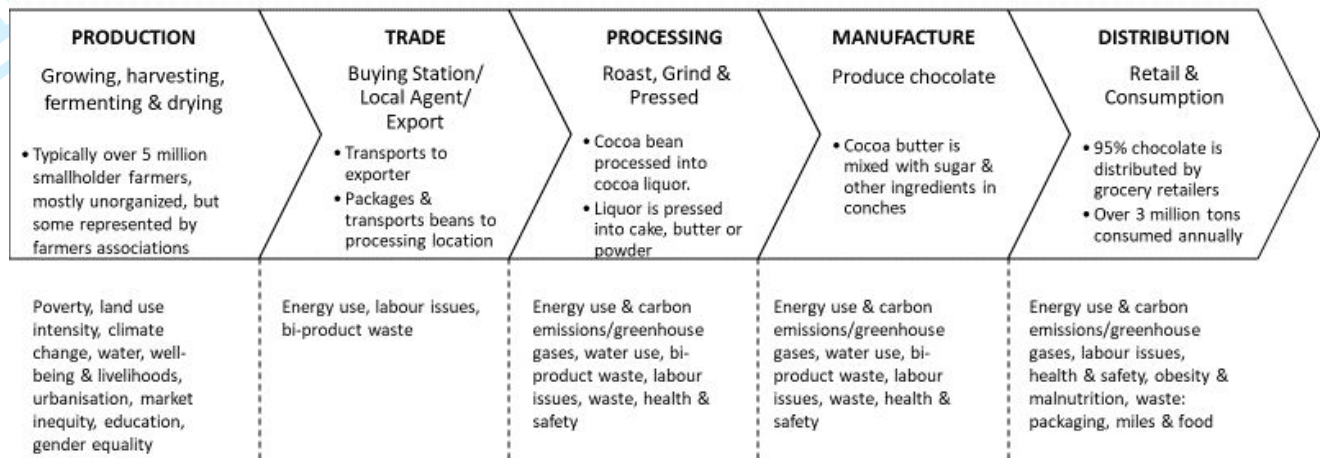


Figure 1: The chocolate supply chain and primary sustainability impacts

Data collection and analysis

Phase 1. Network mapping

The mapped network included connections among 63 stakeholders collaborating for sustainable organisation. The research design is summarised in table 1. The population parameter was network stakeholders, representative of organisations that capture commercial and non-commercial values. The inclusion of non-commercial stakeholders in the research design was essential to capture multiple logics. National governments, while playing regulatory and fiscal roles were not within the scope of this study, although their role has been studied by others (c.f. Annala, Polsa, & Kovács, 2019). The units of observation were purposely selected due to (1) their activities or expertise with the phenomenon of sustainable organisation in the institution and (2) the values of sustainable organisation represented by the range of organisational types. FAME and Euromonitor databases provided comparative profiles of organisations including size, industry, location, and corporate structure.

Table 1: Research design summary

Research design	Example in study	Rationale
Unit of analysis	Chocolate supply chain network	The supply chain network is the institution to determine the institutional logics of sustainable organisation
Units of observation	63 organisations: (i) 28 commercial: - 9 retailers - 8 manufacturers - 5 farming associations - 5 traders/processors - 1 packager (ii) 35 non-commercial: - 19 non-profit organisations - 9 trade associations - 7 certifiers	Captures the diversity of organisational types and varying sustainability values
Level of analysis	Sustainable organisation	Enables analysis of the logics of sustainable organisation among diverse units of observation
Data collection	Snowball sampling	Network of organisations mapped from sources emerging from interviews/secondary data. Nodes and edges define network boundaries
Data sources: (i) Primary (ii) Secondary	(i) 35 semi-structured interviews (ii) 269 documents -148 internal organisational documents -121 external documents from	Data sources used to: (i) Map the network using snowball sampling by identifying relationships. (ii) Collect data

	websites, project reports, action plans, guidelines, announcements, and training literature	
Data analysis: (i) Axial coding (ii) SNT	(i) Thematic analysis of data sources into 1 st and 2 nd order codes and aggregate constructs (ii) Centrality and density measures	(i) To identify the organising principles and logics of sustainable organisation (RQ1). To identify mechanisms of power within the network (RQ2, RQ3) (ii) To examine network configurations affecting the power dynamics (RQ2 & RQ3)

Nodes are treated as discrete structural objects and were examined to map network relationships. A snowballing technique, as recommended by Rowley (1997), was used to map the nodes and edges that defined the network boundaries, and capture the institutional field's organisations and relationships. Node ties explained the organisational activities of interorganisational relationships. It was not within the resources of this study to examine every discrete event/interaction occurring over a period of time and the focus was on establishing the quality of ties (Borgatti, Everett, & Johnson, 2018). A total of 63 network nodes and their 366 edges were mapped. Further mapping followed the coding phase.

Phase 2. Qualitative data collection

Pilot interviews were held with four representatives of a major brand manufacturer to test and refine an interview protocol. Two rounds of interviews examined how stakeholders determine and construct institutional logics. The first round (December 2015-January 2016) was with key contacts in the chocolate network. Key contacts identified other actors engaged in SSCM and the network was mapped. Participants in the second round of interviews (July 2016-April 2017) were directors or held senior commercial roles (buying, selling, marketing) within their organisations.

A total of 35 semi-structured interviews with key decision-makers from 13 commercial and 22 non-commercial organisations were conducted, each lasting approximately an hour. Participants were primarily based in the UK and Europe but included others from China, America, and South America. Interviews outside of the UK were completed by video call or telephone. All interviews were audio-recorded and transcribed verbatim. Sustainability activities that denote ties within the institutional field were obtained from secondary sources. Secondary data is commonly used in sustainability (Meehan & Pinnington, 2021). A total of 269 documents captured the diversity of organisational types and sustainability priorities. Table 1 outlines the data sources and research design.

The global sustainable cocoa supply chain was selected because it had prior history in SSCM, public scrutiny of sustainability principles, and provided a context that was within the resources of the researcher to collect data from. Multiple data sources enabled triangulation of interpretations and to establish chains of evidence. To ensure rigour and relevance through the research process, the four evaluation criteria were adhered to (Yin, 2014), see table 2.

Table 2: Case Study Tactics for Four Design Tests

<i>Tests</i>	<i>Design considerations</i>	<i>Phase of research</i>
Construct validity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extant literature to inform research questions and interview questions • Pilot interviews • Multiple sources of primary and secondary data • Informants corroborate findings and evidence • Establish chain of evidence 	<p>Research design</p> <p>Data collection</p> <p>Data analysis</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data triangulation through use of multiple sources of evidence 	
Internal validity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interviewees well informed on sustainability Pattern matching between data in NVivo to achieve data saturation for congruence with predicted patterns in the conceptual model, without threats being found to accomplish literal and theoretical replication Explanation building of sustainable organisation given multiple interpretations of sustainability Address rival explanations 	Research design Data analysis
External validity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Augmenting study design with ‘how’ questions to develop theoretical propositions or whether rival explanations are necessary Scope of case study, unit of analysis, and context confirmed 	Research design Research design
Reliability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of a case study protocol Audio recording and transcribing of interview data All data held electronically in NVivo for coding Develop case study database Data analysis and interpretation of findings by more than one author, and who did not gather data 	Research design Data collection Data collection Data analysis

Phase 3. Axial coding

The multiple data sources were transcribed and arranged systematically. All data, primary and secondary, were treated as one dataset. The dataset was coded using NVivo software against sensitising concepts in the literature relating to SSCM logics and sources of power. To capture how institutional logics shape the network, the data were analysed against business model value, stakeholder value, and inter-relational activities, as outlined in Table 4 (findings section). From these themes, units of meaning were developed into first-order codes and analysed for patterns. The codes were reduced and abstracted further (Strauss & Corbin, 1998) to define and develop the structures and mechanisms in the emerging conceptual framework (Neuman, 2014), see figure 2 in findings section. These patterns are captured as categories in second-order codes, from which aggregate constructs were theorised to describe the institutional logics of sustainable organisation and its sources of power.

Phase 4. Network measures

The dataset was exported to NodeXL analytic software to map the edges in the network using social network analysis (Rowley, 1997, 2017). The 63 nodes and their 366 edges were cross-examined, using the constructs outlined in table 3, to understand how institutional logics are diffused across the network structure using power mechanisms (Rowley, 1997). Axial coding identified two value co-creation activities, *collaborative* and *pre-competitive activities* that were used as ties/edges to map connections among nodes. Social network analysis explored relationship patterns and their implications (Wasserman & Faust, 1994), allowing for different levels of collectively, such as organisations, associations, clusters, industries, and sectors (Borgatti et al., 2018). We analysed stakeholders’ positions of influence to pursue their interests through the network (Rowley, 2017). The relational environment and organisational values were used to explain the interplay between activities that institutionalise the logics of sustainable organisation. Centrality and density illustrate the network determinants and enable analysis beyond economics-based theories (Rowley, 2017).

Table 3: SNA constructs

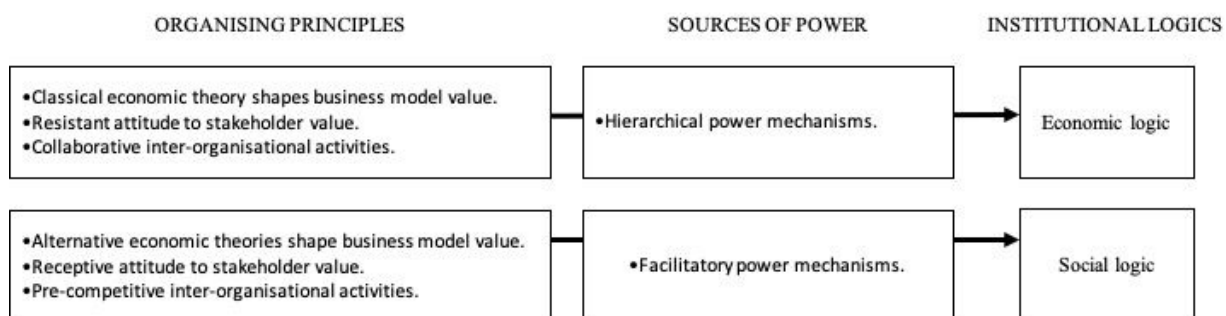
Construct	Definition	Measure
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Node (Borgatti & Li, 2009)	An actor/entity in the network	Commercial and non-commercial stakeholders
Edge/Ties (Borgatti et al., 2018)	Relationship quality along multiple dimensions e.g. duration and frequency	Connection activity between two nodes
Centrality (Rowley, 1997)	An actor's network position relative to others, based on direct and indirect ties	The number of direct ties to other actors, interdependent access to others, and control over other actors
- Degree centrality (Vurro et al., 2009)	The relative importance of reputational quality and informal power	Counts the number of connections a node has
- Closeness (Hansen et al., 2011)	Level of importance in the network	The average shortest distance between nodes, indicating a central position
- Betweenness (Hansen et al., 2011)	Describes how a node acts as a gatekeeper or bridge to control the flow of information.	All the shortest paths to calculate the nodes' frequency i.e. closeness, and then calculating how many times a node falls on one, therefore depicting it as a bridge between nodes. The higher the score, the higher the node's importance.
- Eigenvector ratio (Hansen et al., 2011)	Depicts influence scores for strategically connected actors.	The total number and degree of connections
Density (Lambert & Cooper, 2000)	Overall structure and connections of the network	The number of links as a ratio to the number of relationships
Clustering coefficient (Hansen et al., 2011)	A group of transitive nodes closely interrelated	The degree to which organisations tend to cluster together

Findings

SNT and axial coding were used to identify institutional logics representing economic and social dimensions of sustainability. The organising principles and sources of power develop a new understanding of sustainable organisation, evident in the range of traditional and alternative archetypes, power dynamics and practices, as illustrated in our conceptual framework (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Conceptual framework of the socioeconomic logics of sustainable organisation



Organising principles of institutional logics

The organising principles of institutional logics identified are summarised and categorised in table 3 and explained below.

Table 3: Organising principles themes and categories

Organising principles			Institutional logics Aggregate Construct	Indicative respondent quotes
Theme	First-order codes	Second-order codes		

Business model value	<p>Triple Bottom Line Creating Shared Value Profit for Purpose B-Corp</p> <p>Co-operative Fairtrade Value at Source Indigenous</p>	<p>Classical economic theory</p> <p>Alternative economic theory</p>	<p>Economic logic</p> <p>Social logic</p>	<p><i>“As a member of the World Cocoa Foundation, we share the ambition to create a sustainable and profitable cocoa economy, thereby improving the lives of cocoa producers and their families.”</i> Retailer</p> <p><i>“The economic part is how really where we think. We are quite different from other schemes or others who are talking about sustainability because we also feel that price in the way that prices are set, and the way valuers distribute it across the supply chain is a key component to sustainability.”</i> Non-profit organisation</p>
Stakeholder value	<p>Business impacted by stakeholder Business capture value from stakeholder Align stakeholders with organisational conceptualisation Business impact on stakeholder Business creates & captures stakeholder value Consider stakeholder orientation & priorities</p>	<p>Resistance</p> <p>Receptivity</p>	<p>Economic logic</p> <p>Social logic</p>	<p><i>“We work with thousands of suppliers, consultants and business partners around the world. We are taking steps to align what they do for us with our values and goals.”</i> Manufacturer</p> <p><i>“We can achieve more through other people doing the same as we do and miming as much as possible to our approaches and also us learning as well to be honest. I don't want to be totally arrogant about this. We can learn from other parties being involved as well.”</i> Retailer</p>
Inter-relational activities	<p>Goal alignment Coordination & cooperation Enhanced communication & information sharing Joint development</p> <p>Common language, principles & goals Knowledge & information exchange Engage in workgroups, programmes & activities</p>	<p>Collaboration</p> <p>Concurrence - Pre-competitive Collaboration</p>	<p>Economic logic</p> <p>Social logic</p>	<p><i>“Typically, the branded companies will have their sustainability initiatives and activities that touch farmers in origin...They're working directly with a certain number of farmers and a certain number of geographies but at the same time, they're still on the commercial side sourcing their raw materials or their semi-finished products through suppliers, right. A branded company isn't typically out there sourcing beans in a completely vertically organised way. So, what that means is if they really want to reach their entire supply chain they necessarily need to carrel and co-ordinate this with all of their suppliers.”</i> Trade association</p> <p><i>“The context of the trade association or a sector body is that there are areas which are common to all and where it's feasible and desirable to work pre-competitively. Very often with sustainability issues, it comes into that pre-competitive area, in some way at least, because we're often all looking for the same thing. There's no point in one company reducing the climate change impact in its supply chain if all the others don't. Because that means that the sector as a whole will still be contributing, and it, therefore, means that we're not</i></p>

			<p>going to be helped to mitigate the problem. Therefore, we'll all be equally vulnerable in the long-term. So, there is a lot of good discussion about what are the areas where we can work collaboratively together.” Manufacturer</p>
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Business model value

All business models identified across the 63 organisations in this study capture some aspect of sustainability, yet patterns occur. The classical business models, including the triple bottom line, and B-Corp models, categorise business models whose logic is founded on fitting sustainability into existing firm-level economic theory, in line with the predominant framing in the extant SCM literature. The second category captures business models including fair trade and co-operatives, whose logic is founded upon alternative, socially oriented logics, as to how the wider economy should organise and rebalance. Despite the presence of alternatives, classical economic models represented the dominant logic across the organisational field.

Inequitable value distribution is reported between upstream farmers and downstream multi-national corporations (MNC) traders, manufacturers, and retailers. The interviews illustrate tensions. A manufacturer, aligned to the classical business model, describes how “we seek to integrate [sustainability] as closely as possible within our business model”, while another said: “there is a challenge in putting plans into practice given differing sustainability perspectives”. In contrast, a respondent from a non-profit organisation, aligned to the alternative business model stated, “There is no definition unless people can add value at source. Sustainability is about capturing optimal amounts of value at source. We don't talk of 'supply chains' in our awareness-raising work but of 'value chains' as it puts the focus on who is creating value and who is getting paid how much. Supply chains are about supplying big companies”. Tensions are felt as margins are squeezed upstream in commodity markets with the living wage considered particularly problematic.

Stakeholder value

Stakeholder value captures sustainability's social imperative through attitudes to stakeholders. Two streams of discourse were identified, which we categorise as resistance and receptivity. Resistance assesses the impact of stakeholders on the business in relation to the value they can create and manifests from an economic logic. In receptivity the business considers its impact on stakeholders. It represents the value of partnerships with commercial and non-commercial organisations, and as such manifests from a social logic.

Inter-relational activities

Inter-relational activities reveal how, and when, network collaboration takes place. The data describe alignment, implementation, and maintenance of inter-relational activities that develop and sustain relationships for mutual advantage. Organisations experienced in collaboration are moving beyond traditional dyadic partnerships and focusing on sectoral-level partnerships. An interesting and unexpected finding is that socially driven, non-commercial collaboration is identified, and crucially, this is *pre-competitive* collaboration. We term these activities ‘concurrency’. Concurrency requires high collaborative capacity. Firm-led initiatives, such as those by Unilever and Danone to scale-up the B-Corp business model to MNCs are seen, as well as sectoral partnerships such as the merger of UTZ and Rainforest Alliance to create a single sustainability standard adopted by 85 member companies. The leading cocoa and chocolate companies are strategically forming agreements for sustainability stewardship programs under the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF). The WCF's *Cocoa Action* scheme attempts to accelerate sustainability through ten of the largest traders and manufacturers working with governments and key stakeholders.

Sources of power

Table 4 outlines ties used as mechanisms of power by members of the network. SNA illustrates how powerful actors leverage their centralised position in social networks, through pre-competitive concurrence activities that legitimise and mainstream their expertise within the institutional field. Sophisticated social practices are observed whereby experience and resource fitness enables dominant firms to have network influence that is more subtle, oblique, and hegemonic than dyadic or directed actions. Alternative logics are marginalised because less powerful organisations do not have the resources to leverage access, for example multi-stakeholder collaborative events whereby smaller organisations were not present.

Firms develop multi-stakeholder approaches to harness sophisticated and complex relational power mechanisms. Practices frequently take the form of leadership and focus on changing mindsets and behaviours. Two types of influence approaches were displayed, which we label as hierarchical and facilitating. Practices are tempered by an organisation's attitude to stakeholders as an organising principle, which serves as a central variable in determining stakeholder relationships.

Table 4: Sources of power themes and categories

Sources of power		Institutional logics	Indicative respondent quotes
<i>First-order codes</i>	<i>Second-order codes</i>	<i>Aggregate constructs</i>	
Power over vertical integration Consolidation of power in collaborative partnerships Direct or indirect influence of supply Economic power relative over stakeholder Scaling up/down depending on demand Leveraging certification Use the market to scale Leveraging sustainability to be market leaders Changing the business model Restructuring supply chains and operations	Hierarchical	Economic logic	<i>“When we’re looking upstream at supplier management, because of a lot of what we’re achieving around raw materials, which is where we think the biggest impacts are, is to do with engaging our suppliers to say, “You know it’s all outside our direct control. What we’re looking for is progress in these areas. Increasingly, how can you help us with driving progress in these areas? And we’re looking to embed these discussions into our commercial ways of doing business, our normal contracting process so that it becomes part of the way that we buy and procure raw materials. And again, that becomes most effective because again it’s mainstreaming it within our supplier relationships.”</i> Manufacturer
Perceived as leader Leveraging soft power to develop relationships Social power relative to stakeholder Consolidation of power in pre-competitive partnerships Business functions collaborating Leveraging resources to incentivise Leveraging partners to strengthen network position	Facilitating	Social logic	<i>“The nature of the type of companies involved is that some are leaders... It’s good for us to align with those leaders. We want to learn from them but also become leaders ourselves and encourage others to get involved. It was an easy decision for me and others to make in some way. We obviously had to convince the business of why it’s important, but those really big kinds of collaborative forums are the ones that we want to be involved in.”</i> Retailer

Hierarchical

Hierarchical approaches centre on economic position including scale, brokerage, purchasing power, and contract terms were used by dominant, typically downstream firms, to influence supply chain orientation towards their conception of sustainability. For example, firms perceived as legitimate market leaders hold privileged central positions of influence on pre-competitive platforms, roundtable events, inter-governmental initiatives, and across media. Resource and scale are used to consolidate power in clusters, such as the WCF trade association. Clusters are considered hegemonic because these communities are populated with downstream MNC manufacturers and retailers, and except for a co-operative retailer, all operate within the organising principles of classical economic theory, potentially impeding the development of alternative logics. Various structural activities drive their sustainability agenda, including mergers and acquisitions, transparency and traceability systems, resource sharing and investment, incremental and radical systemic change, and organisational reorientation.

Facilitating

Facilitating approaches build relational ties, through which firms aim to shift from mandate to legitimacy, accountability to trust, openness to honesty, and recognition to validation. The commercial and pre-competitive collaborations revealed in the organising principles involve social practices that define, align, implement, and develop a sustainability agenda. Firms use alliances through clusters and strategic communities to shape sustainability logics. Legitimacy is furthered across a wider society as the firms' CEOs have central roles on global platforms such as DAVOS. However, these collaborations are imbalanced. Actors representing alternative organising principles, such as farmers and their representative associations, have a diminished voice as they often cannot afford access, do not have the resources to initiate or direct structural activities, are represented by a third-party NGOs, or are dependent on dominant firms. Thus, members with a peripheral position in the network structure have no means of leveraging structural mechanisms of power, limiting their influence and the voice of alternative values.

Stakeholder networks as a source of power

The inter-relational collaborative and concurrent activities rely on ties generated in the institutional field to enable the shaping of legitimating ideas and norms, outlined in table 5. The mapping reveals highly centralised actors operating within a low-density network, characteristic of greater agency for independent behaviours, an increased ability to resist external pressure and lower levels of isomorphism of institutional logics. To overcome issues of isolation and individual behaviour, organisations are responding through collaboration and pre-competitive clusters. As a retail respondent reported: *"You've got to get that kind of thing where we can actually achieve more for businesses through this not being a competitive space and by this being a collaborative space. A lot of this is around, right we can all do one thing, and we know that it will cost us much more individually, and will we get better quality out of this by doing our own thing, by individually managing that? And that's a really useful question and if the answer to that is no, then the answer is very often, most usually, some kind of pre-competitive alliance or collaboration, and would be a more sensible way to approach this."*

Table 5: Network metrics

<i>Metric</i>	<i>Average value</i>	<i>Maximum value</i>	<i>Minimum value</i>
Number of nodes	63	-	-
Number of unique relationships	366	-	-
Density	19%	-	-
Mean degree centrality	11.629	27	1
Mean closeness centrality	0.008	0.010	0.005
Mean 'betweenness' centrality	35.571	288.339	0.000

Mean Eigenvector centrality	0.016	0.037	0.000
Clustering coefficient	0.354	1.000	0.000

Interestingly, however, our results reveal that in this low-density network, this shift in mindset, from individual to collective action, requires resource fitness to enable increased centrality or access to clusters. 49% of organisations analysed have below-average degree centrality and 62% below-average clustering coefficient. This explains why commercial farmers' associations remain isolated as they reported limited resources to develop ties. Conacado, a union of cocoa cooperatives integrated with Fairtrade partnerships, being the only exception found in our study. In comparison, within the non-commercial cohort, four (out of nine) trade associations have below-average centrality but are able to compensate with above-average clustering coefficients owing to their high levels of resource fitness.

To counteract the polarised power dynamics, organisations with aligned strategic priorities related to materiality impacts have created clusters. The first set of clusters occur within collaborative partnerships but are structurally rooted in commercial organisations' direct supply chains. A critical and unanticipated result is the identification of the second set of clusters that occur *pre-competitively* through trade associations and these exhibit dense interconnections. To compensate for the increased challenge of compromising in a dense cluster, companies have kept the definition of sustainability broad with a focus on dimensional priorities rather than ethical values.

The network has a low number of connections, but their quality denotes high-density links illustrated by greater levels of graph density (36%-50%). The institutionalisation of sustainability norms and practices is illustrated by the degree of concurrent interaction. Of the 366 unique connections, 129 are concurrent, of which, 66 are with trade associations. The average clustering coefficient in the network is 35% indicating cohesion and high local transitivity. Pre-competitive collaboration institutionalises organising principles, as an MNC retailer explained, "*The key message is leverage. Can we grow our leverage by joining in with others? You can find similarities, but they will apply differently. So you need the indicators, the KPIs, the measures, the language to be the same.*" Peripheral industries, such as retailers, leverage the betweenness and Eigenvector centrality of network members to gain access to farmers to collaborate with.

The mapping identifies two significant communities. The first is upstream focused on sustainable agriculture (representing 69% of all relationships), and the security and stability of commodity supply. The second community is downstream focused on waste, carbon, and energy. An indicative example is Ceflex, a consortium of European companies and associations including Amcor, Marks and Spencer (M&S), Nestlé, and Unilever. Ceflex is engaged in developing a circular economy for packaging, with similar initiatives being adopted across the network by trade associations and NGOs, such as WRAP, the Carbon Trust, Institute of Grocery Distribution (IGD) and the Consumers Goods Forum (CGF). These communities enable organisations to position themselves centrally within the cluster while remaining on the periphery of the network. Examples include Tesco and M&S's participation in the WCF downstream to strategically sustain cocoa production and, upstream, IGD to tackle waste and the CGF to drive consumer change.

As an inverse measure of centrality, the network's low closeness score (0.008) suggests that partners are directly connected with high centrality. The organisations lacking centrality were retailers and trade associations, for whom cocoa was not the primary commodity or those who represented an alternative paradigm, such as Traidcraft and Proudly Made in Africa. Retailers committed to embedding sustainability, optimise clusters and place themselves in central positions within communities of strategic interest, with one retailer commenting "*Most supply chains, particularly commodity supply chains, are kind of hourglass-shaped and there's nearly always a certain point in that supply chain where there are a relatively small number of actors. We recognise that we do have*

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2 *a leadership role within a retail sector, and we have chosen to participate with almost every forum*
3 *that you can think of".* For example, M&S has higher-than-average connections (degree
4 centrality=18), and while this denotes a relatively low central position in the overall network, the firm
5 uses sophisticated connections to influence. Their higher-than-average Eigenvector value (0.023)
6 and betweenness centrality (49.46) suggests it controls flows through strategically important nodes
7 and clusters, evidenced through their lead role in trade associations allowing them to act as
8 gatekeepers in collaborative and pre-competitive activities.
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11 Across the network, 29 organisations have an above-average Eigenvector score of 0.016, suggesting
12 influential positions. As a more sophisticated representation of degree centrality, Eigencentality
13 assumes that not all connections have equal value in terms of quantity and quality. The groups that
14 tend to lack influence are retailers, non-agricultural trade associations, and NGOs. However, there
15 are exceptions, such as Cocoa Barometer (0.029), Solidaridad (0.037) and Oxfam (0.023).
16

17 18 **Discussion**

19 We contribute to the nascent area of logics research in SSCM (Nath et al., 2020; Pullman et al., 2018;
20 Sayed et al., 2017), by identifying the socioeconomic organising principles of sustainable
21 organisation, their sources of power, and their logics. Sustainable organisation produces alternative
22 logics for SSCM that go beyond the traditional economic logic of SCM to transform network
23 dynamics. Extant SSCM research builds largely on the modification of economic logic to integrate
24 sustainability into existing business models (Carter & Rogers, 2008; Longoni & Cagliano, 2015). Our
25 findings support prior research that suggest that the economic logic is dominant (Johnston et al., 2007;
26 Margolis & Walsh, 2003), as this is manifest within the organising principles of sustainable
27 organisation.
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31 Although economic logics remains dominant, we find evidence of alternative business models
32 (Bocken et al., 2014), social responsibility, and an emerging logic that is receptive to diverse
33 stakeholders (Miemczyk et al., 2012; Seuring & Müller, 2008). Sustainability requires logics beyond
34 commercial dimensions (Laasch, 2018; Schneider, 2015), and we build on prior work by revealing
35 the critical role of collaboration with non-commercial stakeholders in seeding and diffusing
36 alternative values. These variant logics characterise the transformative logic of sustainability
37 ideology resulting in new forms of socioeconomic organisation and new facilitatory sources of power.
38 By revealing the new logics of sustainable organisation, our results add further weight to the call that
39 sustainability requires fundamental changes to traditional economic-oriented conceptions of SCM
40 (Pagell & Shevchenko, 2014).
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44 Scholars have long reported that efforts to “resolve” sustainability are difficult to accommodate under
45 an economic logic (Johnston et al., 2007; Longoni & Cagliano, 2015). We reveal the coexistence of
46 logics, rooted in heterogeneous business and sustainability principles, which provide explanatory
47 power to SSCM theory by exposing *why* it is not possible to fully integrate sustainability into SCM
48 unless the social logic is also weighted rather than being treated as a trade-off. Yet, it is here we
49 expose hidden tensions and potential risks from the dominant economic logic. While stakeholder
50 engagement can advance social logics across a field (Kelling et al., 2020; Longoni et al., 2019;
51 Rodríguez et al., 2016), the prevailing economic framing of power asymmetries, common in business
52 relations, create stakeholder resistance (Touboulic et al., 2014). Our results confirm that economic
53 logics are associated with stakeholder resistance, and crucially, also maintain a focal company
54 perspective, in line with the common positioning in the literature (Svensson et al., 2018), rather than
55 adopting a network view. This latter point is important as it reinforces dyadic economic power bases
56 and the primacy of a firm’s outcomes, rather than wider, shared, social and environmental benefits.
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60 Our concept of receptivity, emerges from a social logic and reframes sustainability priorities by
considering the impacts of a business on stakeholders, rather than how a business is impacted by

1 stakeholders. The extant literature focuses on economically oriented mechanisms for managing in
2 multi-stakeholder environments, notably through structural alignment (Alvarez et al., 2010), that can
3 potentially lead to reductive approaches for fields with competing or multiple logics (Nath et al.,
4 2020; Pullman et al., 2018; Sayed et al., 2017). Our results demonstrate that misaligned core logics
5 between socially-oriented and commercial stakeholders (Longoni et al., 2019), are not necessarily
6 incompatible and they need to coexist as socioeconomic logics for sustainable organisation. Further,
7 we posit that non-commercial stakeholders play a larger role than purely brokering issues from
8 society to business (Rodríguez et al., 2016), which can assume the fitting of social logics ‘into’
9 economic logics. We extend the theoretical discourse on the value of non-commercial actors as they
10 have agency in shaping new and emergent logics across an institutional field. Recognising the
11 importance of the coexistence of logics, as opposed to focusing on competing logics, may help to
12 address the lack of integration between ethical theories and SCM (Quarshie et al., 2016).

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17 Our study highlights the importance of ‘concurrency’ whereby groups cluster *pre-competitively* to
18 define sustainability principles, and further, to orientate the industrial network in their favour. The
19 practice of concurrency is indicative of the need for shared responsibility, and collective action, which
20 demand the inclusion of non-commercial stakeholders. These mechanisms matter as it is in the
21 precompetitive space where values and logics are built and legitimised, thus are antecedents of SSCM
22 practice. Concurrency demands sophisticated inter-relational activities and social logics, and yet the
23 broader organising principles at play are still frequently grounded in economic assumptions. This is
24 evidenced as *access* to these activities remains predicated on resource fitness and structural power.
25 We contribute here to SSCM by identifying how institutional logics act as a sophisticated mechanism
26 of power to provide a deeper understanding of the values that shape network behaviour.

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29 The focus on institutional logics identifies the “paradigmatic core” of SSCM, which result from the
30 evolution of organising principles across the network (Fuenfschilling & Truffer, 2014; 772). From
31 this vantage point, we show that powerful actors have hegemonic potential (Johnsen et al., 2020)
32 through influencing sustainability values that are accepted as in the common interest, and the
33 restrictive access simultaneously constrains the logics of particular stakeholders, often non-
34 commercial parties. Through the use of SNT (Rowley, 1997, 2017), and social network analysis
35 (Alinaghian et al., 2020; Kim et al., 2011; Wichmann & Kaufmann, 2016), we reveal how this is
36 achieved by strategically positioning themselves in collaborative and concurrent inter-organisational
37 relationships. Thus, whilst logics can co-exist and are transformed in sustainable organisation to
38 socioeconomic logics, they are at risk of being dominated by powerful firms, whose status in a
39 network, and its legitimacy and ability to leverage facilitatory mechanisms of power, is a critical
40 source of social power.

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44 An important contribution from our study is recognition of the network in SSCM. While the network
45 approach gains momentum in supply chain research (Fabbe-Costes et al., 2020; Zhu et al., 2018), we
46 extend the knowledge on network power. Network mapping in the institutional context of sustainable
47 organisation draws attention to the role of centrality and density. Within centralised positions of
48 power dominant actors use economic and social mechanisms. The transformation from hierarchies
49 with economic value to networks with socioeconomic value requires control of the logics across the
50 institution. An understanding of power-based diffusion mechanisms through the lens of commercial
51 contract, direct or indirect, is too reductive for the logics of sustainable organisation in SSCM. As
52 with the principle of resource dependence in markets as a theoretical construct to understand
53 commercial control, we see that the principle of social dependence in sustainable organisation is a
54 necessary construct to fully understand power in SSCM. Therefore, the work of French and Raven
55 (1959) that has shaped much of our discipline’s understanding of dyadic power, is insufficient for
56 true network perspectives.

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2 Similarly, stakeholder research that takes a focal firm perspective (Alvarez et al., 2010; Busse et al.,
3 2017; Svensson et al., 2018), while illuminating various stakeholder issues, risk obscuring other
4 power factors at play. Our findings support emerging research that identifies the criticality of network
5 approaches to power (Hearnshaw & Wilson, 2013; Johnsen et al., 2020; Meehan & Bryde, 2015;
6 Meqdadi et al., 2019). Clusters identified across the network provide interaction opportunities and
7 the frequent communication within these groups leads to a convergence of ideas, opinions,
8 behaviours, and language. In this sense, power is not owned by a firm but becomes embedded within
9 the network through the legitimisation of dominant logics.
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12 **Conclusion**

13 Our study reveals the institutional logics of sustainable organisation that are creating a paradigm shift
14 in the institutional field of SCM. We contribute to SSCM through presenting the socioeconomic logic
15 as a new conceptual framework to understand sustainable organisation. Socioeconomic logics act as
16 a sophisticated mechanism of power. Logics align through the supply network, accounting for value
17 beyond the economic logics of financial rationales, corporate size, or market dominance. Extant
18 literature understands the necessity of the social logic in extending our understanding of ‘boundaries
19 of value’ for greater responsibility stakeholders (Pagell & Wu, 2009; Seuring & Müller, 2008;
20 Vachon & Klassen, 2008) and collaborative advantages (Gold et al., 2010; Gunasekaran,
21 Subramanian, & Rahman, 2015; Miemczyk et al., 2012). Our study contributes to this discourse by
22 explaining the institutional impact of socioeconomic logics that are co-located in both economic and
23 social mechanisms of power.
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27 Sustainability, dictated by an emergent social-economic logic, requires a new *modus vivendi*, that
28 demands the collaboration of multiple stakeholders. Logics have an enduring quality as they establish
29 as unchallenged social “facts” (Ocasio, Loewenstein, & Nigam, 2015). Shared responsibility and
30 multilateral stakeholder engagements require us to understand the emerging logics of SSCM as new
31 mechanisms of power. The results demonstrate that sustainability needs different mechanisms of
32 power because of the different institutional logics of SSCM.
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35 In sustainable organisation, power is co-located - structurally and relationally - outside of contractual
36 relationships. And yet, we draw attention to potential hegemony of concurrent pre-competitive
37 collaboration act as it demonstrates the power of social relations to shape institutional logics while
38 restricting alternative logics. Our study also highlights the importance of concurrence whereby groups
39 cluster pre-competitively to define sustainability principles, and further, to orientate the industrial
40 network in their favour. Access to clusters is based on stakeholders’ capability to exercise social and
41 financial capital across the network, and is grounded in an economic logic, creating tensions. This
42 new concept is critical to the institutional logics of sustainable organisation as the perspectives of
43 multiple stakeholders, commercial and non-commercial, requires consideration. Our focus on logics,
44 as an antecedent to practice, highlights the need for all parts of the network to be more inclusive and
45 accessible.
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49 **Implications for practice and further research**

50 There is a normative imperative to our findings that highlights how dominant firms are using
51 resources and sophisticated mechanisms of power across the social network to influence the
52 institutional logics. If practitioners (and researchers) are to have an accurate understanding of how to
53 manage supply chains sustainability then the concepts, theories, and models, that support this must
54 stem from the institutional logics of sustainable organisation, and not traditional SCM, which we
55 argue is insufficient. Organisations need to pay attention to the subtler forms of power that they create
56 and maintain within the network activities and its clusters and identify ways to enable access to non-
57 commercial stakeholders. Alternative logics from multiple stakeholders may create tensions within
58 the network, but suppressing them, or diluting them through integration into economic logics, does
59 not remove them. Organisations should surface tensions across the network rather than treat them
60

only as trade-offs. In practice, we see the limitations of mediated power within the context of pre-collaborative social relations that are non-competitive by law, highlighting the potential importance of considering differentiated logics of sustainable organisation in its entirety.

The notion of tensions/trade-offs within the institutional field is alluded to in the extant literature and was raised by interviewees. We observed the dichotomy between social and economic logics through the emergence of patterns in the analysis, such as resistance versus receptivity, but as this study explored the mechanisms that shape logics, rather than practices and decisions, it has not looked at the trade-offs between social and economic logics. However, we recommend this potentially rich line of enquiry for further research, and how these may differ across different industry contexts and networks. Different empirical contexts offer opportunities to include policy and government actors into research of the institutional field. Of potential interest here could be research into the sustainable organisation of complex social-ecological supply chain systems to explore institutional logics through policy frameworks including the United Nations Social Development Goals, or the planetary boundaries framework. Further research on the tensions between centrality and density and the implications of these could help us understand how socioeconomic logics are actualised in practice. Finally, we recognise a theoretical gap in the extant literature where studies are systematically bounded by economic and linear/dyadic frames. We call for critically oriented research to reframe the paradigm of SSCM, and for a broader consideration of power and hegemony beyond the boundaries of contractual relationships, and economic systems.

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