

Ethical Consumerism

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TRENDS IN ETHICAL CONSUMERISM

A Briefing to the Asia Fair Trade Summit

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evidence and ideas. applied

Our Purpose: Helping to redefine what it means to be in business today.





Agenda

- Trust & Expectations
- Ethical Consumerism
- Purpose
- Aspirationals
- Consumer Engagement and Ethical Marketing
- Implications: Collaboration





Trust



Trust is a complex concept: from compliance-supporting thin trust, to opportunity-creating thick trust.



Thin trust

Thick trust - dynamic, supportive stakeholder networks



National governments, global companies, press / media are the least trusted institutions globally

Trust in Institutions

Net Trust,* Average of 25 Countries,** 2016





*"A lot of trust" and "Some trust" minus "Not much trust" and "No trust at all"

**Includes Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, India, Indonesia, Israel, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Turkey, UK, and USA



Implications of low trust



"Large Companies Pay Their Fair Share of Taxes in Our Country" Agree (1+2), Average of 16 Countries,* 2009–2015







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Growing support for regulations on business

Governments Should Require Large Companies to Work toward a Better Society "Agree,"* Average of 21 Countries,* 2016





Mind the Gap: Expectations vs Performance



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The global public holds companies responsible for fulfilling operational and societal responsibilities

Expectations of Companies

Companies "Held Responsible for," Net Expectations,* Average of 22 Countries, 2015

Ensuring products safe/healthy Providing fair wages to all employees Not harming the environment Ensuring responsible supply chain Treating employees fairly Providing quality products/services at lowest price Applying same high standards globally Vision to provide goods/services to make world better Providing long-term financial stability to employees Supporting charities / community projects Increasing global economic stability Reducing human rights abuses Helping reduce rich-poor gap Solving social problems Supporting progressive government policies



*(5+4) minus (1+2) where 5 means "Held completely responsible" and 1 means "Not held responsible"

Not asked in Russia and South Africa



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Large but shrinking gap between public expectations for CSR and perceived CSR performance

Expectations vs Performance

Average of 20 Countries,* 2001-2015



*Includes Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, France, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, South Korea, Spain, Turkey, UK, and USA. Not all countries were asked in all years. **Aggregate net expectations of up to ten responsibilities (not all responsibilities were asked in each country each year) ***Aggregate net CSR performance ratings of ten industries (not all industries were asked in each country each year)





Ethical Consumerism



Not enough attention paid to demand-side





Consumers – especially those in emerging markets – feel increasingly empowered to make a difference in how responsibly companies behave

I Can Make a Difference as a Consumer in Corporate Behavior "Agree," OECD vs Non-OECD Countries,* 2002–2015



*OECD countries include Australia, Canada, Chile, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Mexico, South Korea, Turkey, UK, and USA; non-OECD countries include Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Nigeria, Peru, and Russia.

**Includes Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, France, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, South Korea, Turkey, UK, and USA. Not all countries were asked in all years.



Globally, 'ethical consumerism' is now at its highest level since tracking began in 1999

Have Rewarded Companies Seen as Socially Responsible OECD vs Non-OECD Countries,* 1999–2015





But Consumers are stuck





Consumer Behavior is Stuck: Greendex: Overall Scores, Trends 2008-2014





NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC



Purpose



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The thick trust equation

COMPETENCY + HUMAN + PURPOSE = TRUST

(what you do)

(how you do it) (why you do it)



In its simplest form, purpose is about marrying business value with societal value







Two thirds of consumers value purpose

65%

of CONSUMERS globally try to support brands that are purposeful



of CONSUMERS in Asia try to support brands that are purposeful

What drives trust?

Drivers of Trust

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Performance vs Importance, All Companies, 2016

↑	Focus	Leverage						
nce								
Importance								
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		R						
	Manage	Maintain						
	3.1 Performance 3.7							

- Creating jobs
- Providing high quality products at a fair price
- Being environmentally friendly
- Treating employees well
- Supporting charities and good causes
- Being open and honest
- Being innovative
- Having a corporate purpose

GLOBESC

Purpose drives trust

Drivers of Trust

Performance vs Importance, All Companies, 2016





Top 5 purposeful brands

*No company receives more than 6% mentions in any region





A majority of people globally are unable to name a company that has strong purpose



of people globally are UNABLE to name a company with a strong purpose



of people in Asia are UNABLE to name a company with a strong purpose



Meet the Aspirationals



A BRIEF HISTORY OF SUSTAINABILITY MARKET RESEARCH



The Tyranny of 'OR'





CHANGING EXPECTATIONS

Consumer perceptions are changing FROM OR TO AND





The Opportunity: the Aspirational Consumer

WHY ASPIRATIONALS?



A FORCE FOR CHANGE

- + Culture Happiness beyond stuff
- Materialism Love to shop
- + Sustainability Consume less



A Purposeful Consumer segment

Consumer Segmentation

Average of 21 Countries, 2016





*Includes Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Spain, Turkey, UK, and USA Not all countries were asked in all years.



Aspirationals are everywhere, but are particularly prominent in the emerging markets





R15_Asp_map-data



Consumerism and Fair Trade

IDEAS - APPLIED Ways of Engaging Consumers



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Ethical Consumerism requires **Better Marketing**

- Segmentation is Key: ethical consumerism and sustainability traditionally target - and preach to the converted:
 - Advocates rewarding and punishing brands
 - and Practicals recycling, discounts

Global Consumer Segmentation





Ethical Consumerism requires **Better Marketing**

- These groups are not growing and are not the future (mostly baby boomers – born 1950-70)
- Aspirational consumers are the largest and growing group
- This group loves to shop, and consists for a large deal of Millennial's (born 1980-2000)
- Especially in Asia this is the group to target. Increasingly, companies are doing this



Segments and Values – Drivers and Behavior

	Aspirationals (39%)		Practicals (25%)	Advocates (26%)	Indifferents (10%)
Key motivator	Style	65% care a lot about how they look	Product efficacy	Responsibility and guilt	Convenience
Core Value	Product efficacy	82% would buy more sustainable products if they performed comparable to and/or better than their usual brand	Credibility, proof	It's worth paying for	Individualism
Signature behavior	Shopping	70% say "shopping for new things makes me happy"	Recycling	Rewarding and punishing brands based on practices	Skepticism
Important lever	Community of peers	53% would buy more sustainable products if this connected them to a community of peers with shared values	Rewards, promotions	Knowledge of positive impact	Word of mouth







G L O B E S C A N





So?

There is a growing market for ethical products, but this market is mostly reviewed from a supply side rather than a demand perspective

Most consumers are followers, not leaders

Empower change-agent leaders through collaboration

Education is not enough on its own, and civil society can't do it all

Resist price premiums: ethical consumers should not be responsible for compensating perverse subsidies / partial-costing

Change the rules of engagement from less to more, from sacrifice to success



Implications / Recommendations

Conduct Market Research and use Marketing – similar to successful companies

Treat the ethical consumer as any other consumer

- Segmentation
- Messaging
- Medium / channels leverage digital and mobile
- Follow successful brands copy what is relevant
 - Engagement
 - Something to believe in, to belong to
 - Platform for action

Partnerships

- Companies have the scale and money for successful marketing
- NGO's and ethical organization have the trust of the public
- Collaboration is a Win-Win



Destination, not the Journey

