The role of green marketing in achieving sustainable development

Ivana Domazet, PhD and Milica Kovacevic, McS



Content

- Green marketing goals and sustainable development
- Using green marketing –reasons for and problems
- Differences in ecologically responsible behavior among consumers from the former Yugoslavia
- Conclusions

Green marketing

- ...is the marketing of those products that are presumed to be environmentally safe, organic and do not give adverse effect to the environment (AMA)
- ...environmental marketing, organic marketing, sustainable marketing
- ...refers to holistic concept
- ...term appeared at the end of the 1980's
- ...offers benefits to individuals, organizations and to the natural environment

Sustainable development

- ...means satisfying the contemporary needs without sacrificing the future generations' benefit.
- ...is a framework for shaping policies and strategies of sustained economic and social progress
- ...can be understood as maintaining balance between use, saving and renewal of all our resources

Goals of green marketing

- Eliminate the concept of waste
- Reinvent the concept of product
- Make prices reflect actual and environmental costs
- Make environmentalism profitable
- Bringing out product modifications
- Changing in production processes
- Packaging changes
- Modifying advertising



Green marketing and sustainable development

- Green marketing is pivotal to the sustainable development and there are many reasons for that:
 - reduced cost,
 - expanding export by broking down green barriers,
 - establishing the enterprise's green image,
 - being more competitive
 - avoiding green tax.



Reasons for using green marketing

- Opportunity for achieving objectives
- Moral obligation to be more socially responsible
- Governmental bodies are forcing firms to become more responsible
- Competitors' environmental activities pressure firms to change their environmental marketing activities
- Cost factors associated with waste disposal, or reductions in material usage forces firms to modify their behavior



Problems with green marketing

- Firms must be sure that there green activities are not misleading to costumers or industry and do not breach any of the regulations or laws
- There is lack of standardizations to authenticate claims in green marketing campaigns
- Protection of environment must be seen as long term investment
- Green marketing must be focused on customers benefits

Differences in ecologically responsible behavior among consumers from the former Yugoslavia

- There are differences in ecologically responsible purchasing between consumers from Montenegro and all other former Yugoslav countries.
- Consumers from Montenegro are significantly less ecologically responsible for purchasing.
- There are differences in the consumption of products in an environmentally friendly manner between consumers from Montenegro in relation to consumers from Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia and Macedonia.
- Consumers from Montenegro considerably less consume products in an environmentally friendly manner.

Differences in ecologically responsible behavior among consumers from the former Yugoslavia

- There are differences in the disposal of waste in an environmentally friendly way, among consumers who are from Macedonia in relation to consumers from all other countries in which the survey was conducted.
- Consumers from Macedonia considerably lower the waste in an environmentally friendly manner.



Conclusions

- Green marketing provides an opportunity to the companies to increase their market-share by introducing eco-friendly products
- Marketers have the responsibility to make the consumers understand the need for and benefits of green products as compared to non-green ones
- Green marketing is pivotal to the sustainable development
- Green marketing assumes even more importance and relevance in developing countries
- There are differences in ecologically responsible behavior between consumers from different ex Yugoslav countries
- The lowest ecological awareness is in Montenegro

THINK CLEAN! THINK GREEN! THINK ECO-FRIENDLY!



Authors

- PhD Ivana Domazet, Institute of Economic Sciences, Belgrade, Serbia - <u>ivana.domazet@ien.bg.ac.rs</u>
- McS Milica Kovacevic, University Mediterranean, Podgorica, Montenegro – <u>milica.kovacevic@unimediteran.net</u>

