The New Competitive Advantage: Creating Shared Value

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The Role of Business in Society

- Only business can **create prosperity**
- Healthy businesses need a **healthy community**

- There is an ever **growing awareness** of major societal challenges
- Government and NGO’s **lack sufficient resources and capabilities** to fully meet these challenges
- More of the public sees business as prospering **at the expense** of the society
- Despite growing corporate citizenship activities, the **legitimacy of business** has fallen
Philanthropy

- Donations to worthy social causes
- Volunteering
The Role of a Company in Its Communities

Evolving Approaches

- Philanthropy
  - Donations to worthy social causes
  - Volunteering

- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
  - Compliance with community standards
  - Good corporate citizenship
  - “Sustainability”
The Role of a Company in Its Communities
Evolving Approaches

- Philanthropy
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  - “Sustainability”

- Creating Shared Value (CSV)
  - Integrating societal improvement into economic value creation itself
Moving to Shared Value

Novartis

CSR

- **Donate drugs** to lower-income populations
- **Same products**, but free or at a discounted price
- Reach patients through **existing** health systems
- **Reduced revenue** at the same cost

CSV

- Implementing a new drug distribution model for low-income populations (Arogya Parivar)
- New quantity, packaging, patient education, and distribution
- Improvement in local healthcare delivery infrastructure
- Learning about non-traditional customer behavior and new business models
- **Expanded revenue** and a **profitable** business model
Societal Needs and Economic Value Creation

- **Social** deficits create **economic** cost
- **External** conditions shape **internal** company productivity
- Social needs represent the **largest market opportunities**
Levels of Shared Value

I: Reconceiving **products, needs, and customers**
   – Meeting **societal needs** and reaching **unserved** or **underserved customers**

II: **Redefining productivity** in the value chain
   – How the organization **better uses resources** across the value chain, including employees, to improve fundamental productivity

III: Enabling **local cluster development**
   – Improving available **skills, suppliers, and supporting institutions** in the region
Reconceiving Products and Markets

• Design products and services to **address societal needs**
  – E.g., environmental impact, safety, health, education, nutrition, living with disability, housing, financial security

• Open **new markets** by serving unmet needs in underserved communities
  – Often requires **redesigned products** or different **distribution methods**

• Businesses have the potential to be more effective than governments and NGOs in **creating** and **marketing** solutions to community problems

• New needs and new markets open up opportunities to **differentiate**, **innovate**, and **grow**

• A new generation of **social entrepreneurs** is capturing these opportunities, often faster than mainstream businesses
Creating Shared Value in Products
Dow Chemical Insect Control

The Spinetoram™ Family of insect control products are derived from a biological organism that provides control of a broad spectrum of insect pests in a variety of crops

• Natural degradation through UV light and soil microbes
• Low solubility in water
• Favorable toxological profile
• Carries lowest human hazard label

• Applied in lower quantities than conventional insecticides
• Low impact on beneficial insects
• Double-digit revenue growth since launch in 2010
Creating Shared Value in Products and Markets
Novo Nordisk in China

• **Product design** that reflects Chinese patient demographics and culture

• **Diabetes training programs for physicians** in partnership with government, NGOs, and opinion leaders to promote the latest thinking on diabetes prevention, screening, treatment, and patient communication
  – The program has trained **55,000 physicians** to date, each treating approximately 230 patients

• New types of **diabetes education programs for patients** focusing on prevention, lifestyle changes, and effective use of insulin products

• Market share in China increased from **0% to 63%**, and China became Novo’s third largest market with revenues of $935 million in 2011

• Company efforts saved **140,000 life years in China** by 2010, and $2,317 of total lifetime costs per patient
Redefining Productivity in the Value Chain

- Shared value purchasing
- Energy use
- Resource use

- Location of facilities / supply chain
- Logistical efficiency
- Productivity of employees, especially lower skill, lower income employees
Identifying Opportunities for Shared Value in the Value Chain

Mining

- Enhancing skill training and technology partnerships with local colleges and universities
- Value added purchasing practices with suppliers
- Local supplier development
- Energy and water use
- Limiting emissions and waste
- Low ecological and biodiversity impacts
- Minimizing use and effects of hazardous materials
- Recovering additional materials from “exhausted” mines
- Worker safety practices
- Recruiting from disadvantaged surrounding communities
- Diversity in the workforce
- Employee education and job training
- Onsite housing
- Employee health initiatives
- Compensation and benefit models to support a living wage
- Staff retraining and rehabilitation after mine closures
- Minimizing logistical and handling impacts
Enabling Cluster Development in a Company’s Major Locations

• A strong local cluster improves company productivity and growth
  – Local suppliers
  – Supporting institutions and infrastructure
  – Related businesses

• Companies, working collaboratively, can catalyze major improvements in the cluster and the local business environment

• Local cluster development strengthens the link between a company’s success and community success
What is a Cluster?
Tourism Cluster in Cairns, Australia

Public Relations & Market Research Services

Food Suppliers

Property Services

Maintenance Services

Travel Agents

Tour Operators

Hotels

Attractons and Activities
e.g., theme parks, casinos, sports

Restaurants

Airlines, Cruise Ships

Local Retail, Health Care, and Other Services

Local Transportation

Souvenirs, Duty Free

Banks, Foreign Exchange

Government Agencies
e.g., Australian Tourism Commission, Great Barrier Reef Authority

Educational Institutions
e.g., James Cook University, Cairns College of TAFE

Industry Groups
e.g., Queensland Tourism Industry Council

Sources: HBS student team research (2003) - Peter Tynan, Chai McConnell, Alexandra West, Jean Hayden
Local Cluster Development
Anglo-American

• Anglo American has established Anglo Zimele, a South African enterprise investment fund, for mining-related small and medium-sized businesses in South Africa

• As of 2010, the fund had invested in 509 businesses, which collectively employed 9,514 people with annual revenues of $215 million

Economic value
• Anglo-American has created reliable, high-quality local suppliers

• Local suppliers reduce costs and can improve service levels and product tailoring

Community value
• 10,000 new jobs created

• Significant increase in income for SME employees and owners

• Spillover effects of these new businesses on their communities
Creating Shared Value: Deciding Where to Concentrate

Nestlé

• Opportunities to create shared value are **inevitably tied closely** to a company’s particular businesses
Creating Shared Value
Implications for Government and Civil Society

• Government and NGOs often assume that social programs must come by taxing, regulating, and restraining business
• Government and NGOs will be most effective if they enable shared value by business

Implications for NGOs
• NGOs bring unique domain expertise, execution capacity, and trust by communities

A New Type of NGO
• TechnoServe Promotes the development of agricultural clusters in more than 30 countries
• Root Capital Provides financing to more than 400,000 farmers and businesses
• Gates Foundation Forms partnerships with global corporations to foster agricultural clusters

Implications for Governments
• Governments can make platform investments or co-investments in public assets and infrastructure to enable shared value by business
• Governments should regulate in a way that reinforces and rewards shared value in business, rather than working against it
  – Focus on outcomes
  – Enabling private sector innovation
Shared Value and Strategic Positioning
Whole Foods Markets

Value Proposition

• Natural, fresh, organic, and prepared foods and health items with excellent service at premium prices
• Cater to specialized nutritional requirements (gluten allergies, vegan, etc.)
• Educated, middle class, and affluent customers who are passionate about food and a healthy lifestyle

Distinctive Activities

• Well-lit, inviting supermarket store formats with appealing displays and extensive prepared foods sections
• Produce section as “theater”
• Café-style seating areas with wireless internet for meals and meetings
• Each store carries local produce and has the authority to contract with the local farmers. Company provides low-interest loans if needed
• Nutrition information and education provided to shoppers along with products
• High touch in-store customer service via knowledgeable, flexible, and highly motivated personnel
• Flat compensation structure
• Own seafood procurement and processing facilities to control quality, sustainability and price from the boat to the counter
• Heavy emphasis on environmental sustainability in all activities
• Emphasis on supporting community development

• Whole Foods is the most economically successful food retailer in North America
• Successful strategies in the future will embody a significant shared value dimension
## Transforming Strategic Positioning

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<tr>
<th>Traditional Positioning</th>
<th>New Positioning</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nestlé</td>
<td>• Food</td>
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<td>Nike</td>
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<td>IBM</td>
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<td>• Making the World Healthier, Cleaner, and Safer</td>
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- A **broader sense of purpose** motivates and attracts employees, consumers, business partners, shareholders, and the public
The Purpose of Business

• There is an opportunity to transform thinking and practice about the role of the corporation in society.

• Shared value gives rise to far broader opportunities for economic value creation.

• Shared value thinking will drive the next wave of innovation, productivity growth, and economic growth.

• Shared value will reignite a whole new generation of management thinking.

• Businesses acting as businesses, not as charitable givers, are arguably the most powerful force for addressing many of the pressing issues facing our society.

• A transformation of business practice around shared value will give purpose to the corporation and represents our best chance to legitimate business again.