

# Sustainable growth in the agro-food cooperatives of Castilla-La Mancha (Spain)

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The present study aims at analysing the sustainable growth in the agro-food cooperatives of Castilla-La Mancha (Spain). To this end, the study examines the impact of the corporate social responsibility (hereinafter CSR) on the performance of the agro-food cooperatives. CSR is analysed based on the three dimensions suggested by the triple bottom line approach: Economic dimension, social dimension, and environmental dimension. Results are analysed using a partial least squares regression (PLS-SEM). The main contributions are as follows: (1) The measurement of the CSR through the triple bottom line approach has proven to be appropriate for the agro-food cooperatives of Castilla-la Mancha, as it presents adequate values of reliability and validity; (2) these dimensions make up the CSR, although the environmental dimension is the most relevant one for the agro-food cooperatives of Castilla-La Mancha; and (3) CSR positively and significantly affects the performance of agro-food cooperatives, as it explains 39.2% of their variance, thus confirming a sustainable growth model for the agro-food cooperatives of Castilla-La Mancha. © 2020 by the authors.

Agro-food cooperatives

Corporate social responsibility

Economic dimension

Environmental dimension

Performance

PLS

Social dimension

Sustainable growth

agronomy

corporate social responsibility

food availability

growth modeling

model validation

performance assessment

reliability analysis

sustainability

Castilla-La Mancha

Spain