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# Corporate social responsibility and firm performance in the hotel industry. The mediating role of green human resource management and environmental outcomes

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# ABSTRACT

In this research two concepts of current relevance in the management literature are related, such as Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and green human resource management (GHRM). So far, research in both fields has been developed in parallel; However, we consider that it is necessary to deepen the connection between both variables and their impact on the environmental and financial outcomes of firms.

This paper aims to analyze the relationship between CSR and firm performance, considering on the one hand the direct relationship, and on the other hand, the possible mediation in said relationship of some variables such as GHRM and environmental outcomes.

A variance-based structural equation modeling (Partial Least Squares) was applied to a sample of Spanish hotel firms. The results obtained show the existence of a direct and positive relationship between CSR and performance. In addition, we have found an indirect effect on the aforementioned relationship through the mediation of GHRM and environmental outcomes.

The results of this study make several contributions to the CSR and GHRM literature, as well as practical contributions for managers.

# 1. Introduction

The recognition of the direct relationship between corporate social responsibility (CSR) and firm performance has garnered much interest among authors lately. Their findings (Margolis & Walsh, 2003; Mishra & Suar, 2010; Vogel, 2005) are rather inconclusive, though; while a positive association between CSR and firm performance constituted a dominant theme in numerous articles (Abu Bakar & Ameer, 2011; Orlitzky, Schmidt, & Rynes, 2003; Van Beurden & Gössling, 2008), others suggested either a negative correlation or simply that no such correlation exists (Aupperle, Carroll, & Hatfield, 1985; Lima et al., 2011). Scholars have recently started to examine CRS within the hospitality literature. A significant number of these investigations revolve around the direct effect of CRS on hotel performance (Inoue & Lee, 2011; Kang, Lee, & Huh, 2010; Kim, Song, Lee, & Lee, 2017; Lee, Kim, & Kim, 2018; Leonidou, Leonidou, Fotiadis, & Zeriti, 2013; Theodoulidis, Diaz, Crotto, & Rancati, 2017). However, their results are inconclusive too; the hospitality studies are largely atheoretical and there is need for both theory testing and theory elaboration (Rhou & Singal, 2020).

This positive, negative or neutral results obtained from analyzing the direct relationship between CSR and firm performance cannot be 100% reliable, since such a link may be affected by some other intervening factors neglected in many studies -as highlighted by several researchers (Galbreath & Shum, 2012; Griffin & Mahon, 1997; Wood & Jones, 1995). In this sense, Surroca, Tribó, and Waddock (2010) found no direct relationship between CSR and firm performance. However, the relationship was fully mediated via the firm's intangible resources. Therefore, the recent interest raised by employee-focused corporate social responsibility (CSR) and ethical aspects of human resource management (HRM) has gone hand in hand with an increased focus on research and practice linking CSR and HRM (Brammer, Millington, & Rayton, 2007; Cooke & He, 2010; Gond, Igalens, Swaen, & El Akremi, 2011; Morgeson, Aguinis, Waldman, & Siegel, 2013). HRM significantly influences the way in which CSR is understood, developed and enacted; similarly, how corporations approach social responsibility has implications for the treatment of workers.

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Received 16 June 2020; Received in revised form 23 September 2020; Accepted 23 September 2020 Available online 2 October 2020 0148-2963/© 2020 Published by Elsevier Inc. Furthermore, both CSR and HRM can be seen as relevant when it comes to understanding the assumptions about not only the corporation's role but also the relationship between employers and workers. Thus, it should come as no surprise to see that calls are made to do further research on the connection between CSR and HRM (DeNisi, Wilson, & Biteman, 2014); after all, although research has certainly been paying more and more attention to the CSR-HRM nexus, a more comprehensive examination of the relationship between these two constructs is yet to be undertaken, especially regarding the potential link between GHRM and CSR. Such an endeavor seems to us highly relevant and necessary, because several of significant interfaces exist between GHRM and CSR that have been neither sufficiently nor systematically explored.

The basis of this research is twofold. Firstly, an instrumental view of CSR-HRM; from this perspective, CSR-HRM research primarily considers CSR as a means to improve these practices insofar as they contribute to organizational goals; this is the reason why we consider that GHRM can act as a mediating variable between CSR and both financial and environmental performance. The second basis is an integrative view of CSR-HRM. The theoretical underpinnings of this perspective are stakeholder theory (Freeman, 1984) and theories of "soft" or relational HRM (Beer, Spector, Lawrence, Mills, & Walton, 1984). From this point of view, this study starts from the consideration of CSR as an antecedent factor in the implementation of a green human resource management system. Within this perspective, we find research into how CSR affects worker commitment and motivation. We employ the Ability-Motivation-Opportunity (AMO) theory to identify the critical areas of GHRM that can be developed with CSR policies and can have an impact on environmental outcomes (Cheema, Durrani, Khokhar, & Pasha, 2015; Pinzone, Guerci, Lettieri, & Redman, 2016; Guerci, Longoni, & Luzzini, 2016).

Recent studies (Jabbour, Santos, & Nagano, 2010; Taylor, Osland, & Egri, 2012; Zibarras & Coan, 2015; Kim, Kim, Choi, & Phetvaroon, 2019) recognize that GHRM promotes attitudinal and behavioral changes among employees which ultimately improve the company's environmental outcomes. Likewise, several studies found a positive relationship between environmental outcomes and firm performance (Li and Ramanathan, 2018; Journeault, 2016; Ambec & Lanoie, 2008; Russo & Fouts, 1997; Waddock & Graves, 1997).

For this reason, it is our intention to confirm whether a positive relationship exists between environmental outcomes and firm performance, additionally focusing on the extent to which the variables GHRM and environmental outcomes act as play a mediating role in the relationship between CSR and firm performance.

Therefore, the 'CSR-firm performance' relationship is arguably more complicated than what the results of many previous studies suggest; hence our decision to use this study as a means to broaden the scope of previous research works on the link between CSR and firm performance within the Spanish hotel sector. A new research question will be asked with this aim in mind: 'Do green human resource management (GHRM) and environmental outcomes (EOs) act as mediators in the relationship between CSR and hotel performance?'

Our findings make several contributions to the CSR and GHRM domains. Regarding the former, this study not only makes it easier to overcome some of the ambiguity surrounding the relationship between CSR and firm performance but also enlarges CSR knowledge by means of a framework which helps to explain the possible association of CSR with firm performance through the inclusion of GHRM and EOs as mediating variables. CSR additionally appears as an antecedent factor in GRHM —i.e. GHRM supports CSR activities through green skills development, green motivation and green involvement— thus providing empirical evidence of the way in which these two variables are interconnected (Voegtlin & Greenwood, 2016). A traditional gap in the literature about the effects of GHRM implementation on environmental performance was filled by verifying that GHRM positively influences environmental outcomes (Kim et al., 2019). Finally, this study extends the literature through the examination of the direct connection between environmental outcomes and hotels' performance.

This research work is structured as follows. An initial literature review of the constructs under study gives way to a model developed on the basis of the proposed hypotheses. A description of the methodology used and the resulting findings follows. The paper closes with the conclusions and discussion section.

## 2. Literature review and research hypotheses

## 2.1. CSR and performance

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) can be defined as contextspecific organizational actions and policies that take into account stakeholders' expectations and the triple bottom line of economic, social, and environmental performance (Aguinis, 2011; Rupp, 2011; Aguinis & Glavas, 2012).

From a theoretical perspective, the stakeholder theory (Freeman, 1999) sets the framework for the CSR-performance relationship; interest groups claim company resources, and in so doing implicitly require proper company behavior, such as consideration for the environment and concern for fair and just labor relations. A company's failure to act in a socially responsible way will most probably entail significant costs and a financial burden which is bound to reduce profits, making the company less socially aware. Conversely, if companies that adopt socially responsible policies turn out to be more profitable, then socially responsible investments will provide an incentive for businesses to increase investments in CSR programs (Pava, 2008; Lin, Ho, & Sambasivan, 2019).

As for the literature on the benefits and costs of CSR, many empirical studies have tested the nature of the CSR-performance relationship. The results were mixed, though. Some found a positive impact of CRS on firm performance (Bird, Hall, Momentè, & Reggiani, 2007; Griffin & Mahon, 1997; Orlitzky et al., 2003) while others checked that higher firm performances lead firms to devote more resources to CRS. In turn, several studies detected no significant relationships (Hillman & Keim, 2001) or even a negative relationship between CSR and performance (Lima et al., 2011). By contrast, Trumpp and Guenther (2017) found a U-shaped CSR-CFP relationship, suggesting a "too-little-of-a-good-thing" effect (the initial costs related to CSR exceed its benefits).

Hospitality scholars have also shown interest in CSR issues, including how its adoption influences hotel performance (Benavides-Velasco, Quintana-García, & Marchante-Lara, 2014; De Grosbois, 2012; Inoue & Lee, 2011; Kang et al., 2010; Levy & Park, 2011; Youn, Hua, & Lee, 2015). Opinions are divided: whereas some conclude that practicing CSR enhances performance (Garay & Font, 2012; Inoue & Lee, 2011; Lee & Heo, 2009; Margolis & Walsh, 2003; Rodríguez & Cruz, 2007; Rhou, Singal, & Koh, 2016; Ghaderi, Mirzapour, Henderson, & Richardson, 2019), others contend that no discernible relationship exists or that expenditure on CSR can prove financially harmful (Gil, Jiménez, & Lorente, 2001; Manaktola & Jauhari, 2007). In turn, according to Singal (2014), the relationship between CSR and performance can be bidirectional, supporting both the instrumental theory (better CSR leads to better financial performance) and the slack resources theory (better financial performance leads to better CSR). Table 1 gives a brief review of the different types of relationships reported among the study variables CSR and performance.

To our knowledge, the relatively small number of CSR studies specifically focused on the hospitality industry (Serra-Cantallops, Peña-Miranda, Ramón-Cardona, & Martorell-Cunill, 2018) is complemented by the inconclusiveness which characterizes the research about the relationship between CSR and hotel performance. This leads us to pose the following hypothesis:

Hypothesis 1: Corporate social responsibility positively affects hotel performance.

Some research emphasizes that many studies according to which CSR

#### Table 1

CSR :	and	performance:	а	review	of	research	artic.	les.
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Variables	Relationship	Authors
CSR and performance	Positive	Crifo, Diaye, and Pekovic (2016); Gallardo- Vázquez and Sanchez-Hernandez (2014); Orlitzky (2011); Madueno, Jorge, Conesa, and Martínez-Martínez (2016); Karaye, Ishak, and Che Adam (2014); Abu Bakar and Ameer (2011); Aragón-Correa et al., 2008; Bernal- Conesa, Briones-Peñalver, and De Nieves-Nieto (2016); Blasi, Caporin, and Fontini (2018); Cornett, Erhemjamts, and Tehranian (2016); Orlitzky et al. (2003); Van Beurden and Gössling (2008); Bird et al. (2007); Griffin and Mahon (1997); Zhu, Liu, and Lai (2016)
CSR and performance	Negative	Brammer, Brooks, and Pavelin (2006); Muñoz, Pablo, and Peña (2015); Waddock and Graves (1997); Wagner, Van Phu, Azomahou, and Wehrmeyer (2002); Lima et al. (2011)
CSR and performance	No effect	Aupperle et al. (1985); Chand and Fraser (2006); Chih, Chih, and Chen (2010); McWilliams, Siegel, and Wright (2006); Mulyadi and Anwar (2012); Surroca et al. (2010)

and performance are related focus on analyzing the direct relationship between both variables. Instead, some scholars (Alafi & Hasoneh, 2012; Galbreath & Shum, 2012; Saeidi, Sofian, Saeidi, Saeidi, & Saaeidi, 2015) claim that testing the direct relationship between CSR and firm performance only serves to obscure many influential factors in this relationship and that the final findings will be unreliable anyway. Therefore, those influential omitted and ignored variables should be considered and empirically examined in order to obtain reliable results. Suganthi (2019) determines that the indirect effect of CSR on performance through green practices is significant, indicating that CSR influences the adoption of green practices and in turn influences performance. Additionally, various studies conclude that adopting green HRM practices tends to enhance environmental outcomes (Obeidat, Al Bakri, & Elbanna, 2020; Kassinis & Vafeas, 2006; Guerci et al., 2016; Mousa & Othman, 2020). Therefore, this study incorporates these two interconnected variables ---GHRM and environmental outcomes--- thanks to which a reliable result can be obtained (Aguinis & Glavas, 2012).

## 2.2. CSR and green human resource management

Employees stand out as the most strategic of stakeholders, and their involvement in CSR initiatives significantly impacts on the organization's bottom line. It is suggested that employees are central CSR stakeholders (Wood & Jones, 1995) and also that individuals are actually responsible for the execution of CSR initiatives, bearing most of its consequences (Aguinis & Glavas, 2012). Thus, organizations cannot achieve their goals via rules and control measures alone —they also require their employees' acceptance and support of those goals (Mossholder, Richardson, & Settoon, 2011).

CSR policies demand that all functional departments undertake green initiatives (Jamali, El Dirani, & Harwood, 2015), and for any organization, observance of CSR activities cannot be imagined without the active participation of human resources.

The **instrumental view of CSR–HRM** is based on CSR as an HRM strategy; both having the ultimate purpose of enhanced organizational performance outcomes and concomitant shareholder value. With regard to HR practices, instrumental CSR–HRM research primarily considers CSR as a means to improve these practices insofar as they contribute to organizational goals and economic performance. For instance, CSR may be regarded as a way to improve recruiting practices to attract the best talent, to motivate employees and increase their commitment to organizational goals. Overall, research within the instrumental perspective on CSR–HRM can contribute to scholarly knowledge by identifying how

CSR and HRM aspects relate and how they can contribute to performance. CSR also contributes to the accumulation of human resources or human capital (Surroca et al., 2010). The accumulation of human capital derived from socially responsible practices can become a source of competitive advantage and result in improved financial performance (Becker & Gerhart, 1996; Huselid, 1995; Pfeffer, 1994).

Along with the instrumental view of CSR-HRM, this research is based on an integrative view of CSR-HRM. The theoretical underpinnings of this perspective are stakeholder theory (Freeman, 1984) and theories of "soft" or relational HRM (Beer et al., 1984). From this point of view, this study starts from the consideration of CSR as an antecedent factor in the implementation of a GHRM system. Within this perspective, we find research on how CSR affects worker commitment and motivation. Therefore, we use the Ability-Motivation-Opportunity (AMO) theory to identify the critical areas of GHRM that can be developed with CSR policies and have an impact on environmental outcomes (Cheema et al., 2015; Pinzone et al., 2016; Guerci et al., 2016). Voegtlin and Greenwood (2016) provide a theoretical review of the research aimed to connect CSR and HRM. Studies focused on analyzing how CRS contributes to HR practices include those by Cooke & He, 2010; Gully, Phillips, Castellano, Han, & Kim, 2013; Rupp, Shao, Thornton, & Skarlicki, 2013; Shen & Jiuhua Zhu, 2011; and Pless, Maak, & Stahl, 2012. In this sense, the interpretation of CSR as responsible HRM has surfaced in several studies (McCabe, 2000), suggesting that responsible HRM can be achieved through CSR. A topic currently seems to exist which arouses the interest of researchers, namely: the relationship between Green human resource management (GHRM) and CSR (Shah Ridwan Chowdhury & Asaduzzaman, 2017); so that, CSR requirements are the major reason for GHRM initiatives in many organizations (Amrutha & Geetha, 2020).

Employees' pro-environmental behavior (Graves, Sarkis, & Zhu, 2013) or sustainability-related behavior (Boiral, 2009), their attitudes, values, beliefs, skills and motivations will, to some extent, be based on the GHRM practices framed under the AMO theory. Employees' green behavior involves the degree to which employees take personal eco-friendly initiatives in an organization, which will be influenced by the degree of 'Ability', 'Motivation' and 'Opportunity' provided to them by their employer.

Environmental initiatives within the scope of HRM are a part of broader CSR programs because the role of HR is key to achieving financial and sustainability results in any business (Ahmad, 2015; De Souza Freitas, Caldeira-Oliveira, Teixeira, Stefanelli, & Teixeira, 2020). The growing demand for CSR leads to the application of GHRM tools (Cheema and Javed, 2017), so that future GHRM research should include CSR (Yusliza, Othman, & Jabbour, 2017).

GHRM practices thus tend to create green employees (Nishii, Lepak, & Schneider, 2008) who understand the green values of their organization and adhere to corporate social responsibility requirements (Rayner & Morgan, 2018).

It is through employees' actions and decision-making that many CSR strategies come to life. Human resource professionals stand in a unique position to nurture and foster CSR performance within their organizations.

According to the assumption proposed in the introduction: (a) GHRM comprises a set of management practices fully embedded in a social, political, and market context where a wide variety of stakeholders make specific claims to companies, and (b) at an organizational level, consistency between green HRM and that context leads to higher performance. More specifically, companies can use GHRM as a way to respond to stakeholders' pressures on environmental issues and, accordingly, to develop the firm's environmental outcomes. This assumption fits in with a number of recent theoretical (Ferrary, 2009; Delbridge, Hauptmeier, & Sengupta, 2011; Jackson, Schuler, & Jiang, 2014) and empirical contributions (e.g. Boon, Paauwe, Boselie, & Den Hartog, 2009; Guerci & Shani, 2013) which have broadened the scope of HRM research, moving beyond organizational boundaries to explore external pressures that shape the HRM system of a firm. In the specific field of GHRM, Jackson

and Seo (2010) called for empirical HRM studies to understand the relationship between stakeholders' pressures and HRM practices. Our study answers that call employing the stakeholder theory (implicit in the CSR construct).

Wagner (2013) refers to GHRM as 'a subset of sustainable human resource management where the latter also comprises corporate social responsibility issues.' Following the GHRM philosophy, managers play a critical role when it comes to making their organization more socially and environmentally responsible by applying the concept of CSR in every human resource policy (Alonso-Almeida, Fernández de Navarrete, & Rodriguez-Pomeda, 2015). This study meets the need for more research on CSR which can add other management concepts such as GHRM (Al Kerdawy, 2018).

Recent studies have shown a shortage in human resources' environmental orientation which represents a major obstacle to a successful CSR implementation (Odriozola, Martín, & Luna, 2015; Sampson & Ellis, 2015; Voegtlin & Greenwood, 2016). Therefore, organizations cannot fully attain the desired outcomes of their CSR practices without encouraging green human resource initiatives (Roeck & Delobbe, 2012; Al Kerdawy, 2018).

By adopting GHRM practices, the organization sends a clear message to its employees: it is committed to the social green cause beyond any financial benefits. According to AMO theory (Renwick, Redman, & Maguire, 2013; Moraes et al., 2018; Tang, Chen, Jiang, Paille, & Jia, 2018), three GHRM practice components —subsequently taken on and applied by other scholars— may be used: a) developing green abilities (recruitment, selection, training, and development); b) motivating green employees (performance management/appraisal; pay and reward system); and c) providing green opportunities (employee involvement and supportive climate/culture).

An attempt will be made in this research to disaggregate those three components into the following GHRM practices: recruitment and selection, training, performance management, rewarding, and involvement that aim to build green values as well as knowledge and skills related to green activities (Pless et al., 2012; Renwick et al., 2013; Tang et al., 2018). Green recruitment and selection involve recruiting and selecting candidates with green awareness through tests meant to ensure that employees have a positive attitude towards environmental issues complemented by questions related to environmental beliefs, values, and knowledge (Renwick et al., 2013; Tang et al., 2018). Green training programs are designed to enhance not only employees' awareness of, knowledge of, and skills in green activities but also a climate that spurs all employees to become involved in green initiatives (Fernández, Junquera, & Ordiz, 2003). Green training should focus on changing attitudes and emotional involvement towards green goals (Bissing-Olson, Iyer, Fielding, & Zacher, 2013; Zibarras & Coan, 2015). Green integrated training not only includes green comprehensive programs but also links them to performance management systems ---an approach which can help to create a green climate (Renwick et al., 2013; Tang et al., 2018). Green performance management involves assessing employees' performance in the green management process (Jabbour & Santos, 2008) as well as delivering feedback on their green performance (Zibarras & Coan, 2015). In line with green performance management, non-financial rewards should be offered alongside financial incentives in the form of green travel benefits, green tax, and green recognition (Tang et al., 2018). Finally, employees should be given opportunities to participate in environmental management via green involvement, including the articulation of a clear green vision, building a green learning climate and various communication channels, offering green activities, and encouraging green involvement as a whole (Tang et al., 2018; Luu, 2019).

All of the above leads us to establish the following research hypothesis.

Hypothesis 2: CSR positively relates to GHRM.

The AMO theory emphasizes that all HRM practices and policies that increase the human capital of a firm through enhancing the human capabilities result in better performance outcomes (Renwick et al., 2013). Jackson and Seo (2010) argue that performance is more likely to accrue in firms which enhance ability and motivation among their employees and provide them with the opportunity to help the firm in achieving a shared vision of environmental sustainability —thereby enabling that firm to grasp more fully the revenue raising and better cost management opportunities that proactive environmental management is likely to generate. In this regard, some research has shown that a GHRM can significantly contribute to improve the organization's financial performance. (Renwick et al., 2013; O'Donohue & Torugsa, 2016). Furthermore, the instrumental view of CSR-HRM suggests that the relationship between CSR and GHRM is aimed at increasing the performance of the organization. Such findings lead us to ask ourselves whether GHRM acts as a mediating variable in the CSR-performance relationship by putting forward our next hypothesis.

Hypothesis 3: Green human resource management positively mediates between CSR and hotel performance.

## 2.3. Green human resource management and environmental outcomes

As highlighted above, a recent stream of study has focused on the role played by human resource management practices aimed at developing firm environmental outcomes, providing empirical support to the idea that specific GHRM practices positively correlate with environmental outcomes. A number of studies, such as those authored by Jabbour and Santos (2008) and Jabbour et al. (2010), along with papers published in the special issue of *Human Resource Management* (Vol. 51, No. 6, 2012) use the AMO theory to examine the extent to which HRM practices contribute to organizations' environmental outcomes.

Environmental outcomes are described as the commitment assumed by firms to protect the environment and to demonstrate measurable operational parameters lying within the prescribed limits of environmental care (Paillé, Chen, Boiral, & Jin, 2014). The effects of GHRM practices on corporate environmental outcomes had already been explored in previous studies (Masri & Jaaron, 2017; Kim et al., 2019; Zhang, Wang, & Zhao, 2019), with a number of research works investigating issues such as: the links between GHRM practices and green supply chain management (Jabbour, Mauricio, & Jabbour, 2017; Nejati, Rabiei, & Jabbour, 2017); individual green behavior (Pinzone et al., 2016, 2019; Chaudhary, 2019; Pham et al., 2019b); and employees' green engagement (Pham et al., 2019c). Quantitative studies have been complemented by literature reviews on GHRM (e.g. Renwick et al., 2013; Ren, Tang, & Jackson, 2018).

Accordingly, GHRM can arise as an important dimension when it comes to improving environmental outcomes (Ren et al., 2018). This suggests the convenience of explaining the extent to which some GHRM practices impact on environmental outcomes. Based on the AMO theory, green training provides employees with the related knowledge, attitudes, and skills (Jabbour et al., 2010) which can help them to identify environmental issues and take suitable actions at the workplace for the purpose of improving their green performance (Vidal-Salazar, Cordón-Pozo, & Ferrón-Vilchez, 2012). Similarly, evaluating employees' green performance aligns behaviors, ensures responsibility, and places the emphasis on environmental objectives which in turn improves companies' environmental outcomes (Guerci et al., 2016). Organizations focused on the involvement of employees generate opportunities for the latter to apply their knowledge and abilities in green activities, to undertake green initiatives at work (Pinzone et al., 2016), and to give innovative solutions as far as waste reduction and resource usage efficiency improvement are concerned (Florida & Davison, 2001), which in turn boosts the organization's environmental outcomes. GHRM practices, when well implemented, can improve environmental performance (Singh, Del Giudice, Chierici, & Graziano, 2020; Pham, Thanh, Tučková, & Thuy, 2019; Teixeira, Jabbour, de Sousa Jabbour, Latan, & de Oliveira, 2016; Mousa & Othman, 2020).

Specifically concerning the hotel industry, our review also identified

several research studies according to which GHRM adoption improves environmental outcomes (Siyambalapitiya, Zhang, & Liu, 2018; Kim et al., 2019; Pham et al. 2019a, 2019b, 2019c), which encourages us to formulate the next hypothesis:

Hypothesis 4: Green human resource management has a positive influence on hotel environmental outcomes.

#### 2.4. Environmental outcomes and performance

Ever since Porter and Van der Linde (1995) and Hart (1995) proposed hypotheses suggesting the use of environmental management to achieve competitive advantage, support for such proposals has both increased and been challenged. For instance, many studies have confirmed that an increase in environmental outcomes will bring about an enhanced performance, which suggests a positive correlation between these two variables (Beurden & Gössling, 2008; Dixon-Fowler, Slater, Johnson, Ellstrand, & Romi, 2013; Journeault, 2016). More precisely, companies concerned with environmental outcomes will achieve greater legitimacy levels and succeed in meeting stakeholders' expectations (Pondeville, Swaen, & De Rongé, 2013; Sundin & Brown, 2017), thereby fostering a positive corporate image, tax reduction and environmental costs (Rodrigue, Magnan, & Boulianne, 2013).

However, this debate has still not afforded a conclusive result as to whether or not improvements in environmental outcomes will be followed by a corresponding rise in financial performance (Beurden & Gössling, 2008; Dixon-Fowler et al., 2013; Grewatsch & Kleindienst, 2017). On the one hand, achieving better environmental outcomes involves additional costs, such as risk management or extra funding for capital, operations and energy —which in turn causes a lower performance. On the other hand, improved environmental outcomes can lead to better market access and product differentiation, thus improving performance (Ambec & Lanoie, 2008).

Despite the extensive research devoted to examine the link between environmental outcomes and performance, the discussion remains unclear (Grewatsch & Kleindienst, 2017; Trumpp & Guenther, 2017). Depending on the different studies, relationships are positive (Journeault, 2016; Russo & Fouts, 1997; Waddock & Graves, 1997; Mousa & Othman, 2020), non-significant (Al-Tuwaijri, Christensen, & Hughes Ii, 2004; Henri & Journeault, 2010; Wagner, 2015) or negative (Qi et al., 2014; Tan, Habibullah, Tan, & Choon, 2017; Vastola, Russo, & Vurro, 2017). In turn, Hang, Geyer-Klingeberg, Rathgeber, and Stöckl (2018) conclude that the causality between environmental outcomes and performance depends on the time horizon (increasing environmental outcomes has no short-term effect on a firm's performance, unlike what happens in the long term).

The results obtained so far are inconclusive, and no studies seem to have analyzed the relationship between environmental outcomes and performance in the hotel sector; hence our decision to state the following hypothesis.

Hypothesis 5: Environmental outcomes positively affect hotel performance.

Some scholars (Alafi & Hasoneh, 2012; Galbreath & Shum, 2012; Griffin & Mahon, 1997; Margolis & Walsh, 2003; Wood & Jones, 1995) questioned the applied approach mostly followed by studies about the direct relationship between CSR and firm performance. In their opinion, the positive, negative or neutral results obtained by examining the direct relationship between CSR and firm performance cannot be 100% reliable, since this link may be affected by some other intervening factors which many studies have omitted —as highlighted in the introduction to this paper. This justifies our proposal: two variables such as GHRM and environmental outcomes may act as mediators between both constructs. In fact, a number of previous studies already suggested the possibility for environmental outcomes to serve as a mediating variable between CSR and firm performance in different industries (Pullman, Maloni, & Carter, 2009; Zhu, Sarkis, & Lai, 2012; Ağan, Kuzey, Acar, & Açıkgöz, 2016; Wang & Sarkis, 2017). Furthermore, Jackson and Seo (2010) argue that positive financial outcomes are more likely to accrue in firms which enhance the ability and motivation of employees and thus give them the opportunity to help the firm in achieving a shared vision of environmental sustainability. In other words, implementing a green human resource management enables an organization to grasp more fully the revenue raising and better cost management opportunities that can derive from proactive environmental management (O'Donohue & Torugsa, 2016; Longoni, Luzzini, & Guerci, 2018).

Saeed et al. (2019) examine how GHRM practices result in employees' pro-environmental behavior through pro-environmental psychological capital. In Canadian manufacturing plants, the mediating role of environmental practices has been empirically determined in the lean supply management-environmental performance relationship (Hajmohammad, Vachon, Klassen, & Gavronski, 2013), while Zhu et al. (2012) carried out a mediation analysis between internal and external green supply chain management practices with economic, environmental and operational performance.

Therefore, if there are studies that establish that GHRM practices act as mediators in the CSR-performance relationship and if Hypotheses H1, H4 and H5 are significant, it is expected that green human resource practices and environmental outcomes may mediate the relationship between CSR and performance.

The considerations above lead us to put forward the last hypothesis, according to which a double mediation of the GHRM and environmental outcomes variables takes place in the CSR-performance relationship.

Hypothesis 6: Green human resource management and environmental outcomes positively mediate between CSR and hotel performance.

Fig. 1 shows the theoretical model proposed along with the hypotheses to be tested.

## 3. Research method

## 3.1. Sample and data collection

The population under study were Spanish hotels belonging to hotel chains, to control the chain effect (Chung & Kalnins, 2001), with more than 50 employees, to avoid including organizations that lacked formal HRM procedures (Collins & Smith, 2006) and with a three-star category or higher. Our sample comprises one hundred and twenty Spanish hotels.

Several reasons justify our decision to focus research on this particular industry. Firstly, only few investigations have so far revolved around the study of CSR and its influence on the performance of Spanish hotels (Serra-Cantallops et al., 2018). Secondly, because aspects related to human resources (GHRM) are addressed in conjunction with CSR, the highly labor-intensive hotel industry seems interesting in this regard. And thirdly, CSR activities can serve to distinguish a firm from its competitors within an industry where strong competition characteristically prevail.

Data collection took place through an online survey developed between January and December 2018. The measurement of variables and collected data was temporarily separated at two different points in time seeking to avoid potential problems associated with single-informant and common-method biases.

The initial stage consisted in compiling the answers given by the human resource managers of hotels about the variables "green human resource management" and "environmental outcomes." Six months later, the hotel managers received a questionnaire referred to another two variables, namely: "performance" and "CSR." After three reminder rounds, the hotel managers and human resource managers of 120 out of 1000 accommodation establishments that shaped the population under study had sent us the complete set of responses. Such a sample size can be considered adequate since, according to Reinartz, Haenlein, and Henseler (2009), this number of observations would suffice to reach



 $H6=Corporate \ Social \ Responsibility \rightarrow Green \ Human \ Resource \ Management \ \rightarrow Environmental \ Outcomes \ \rightarrow \ Performance=a, *b, *b_a, *b_$ 

Fig. 1. Theoretical model and hypotheses.

acceptable levels of statistical power using the PLS technique.

An examination of the differences between respondents and nonrespondents followed seeking to test for non-response bias. The *t*-Test revealed no significant differences based on control variables (size and category) either. A comparison was also drawn between early and late respondents in terms of demographics and model variables. The absence of differences resulting from these comparisons (p < 0.05) provided clear evidence that non-response bias was not a problem.

## 3.2. Measures and scales

The scales used to measure each variable in our study came from prior studies and were pre-tested with 15 managers from the target respondents to ensure a proper understanding of the specific intent behind each question.

The utilization of reflective measures enabled us to operationalize the key constructs in this study. A decision was made to adopt multi-item scales strongly consolidated in the literature for construct operationalization purposes; our item measurements range on a scale from 1 (I strongly disagree) to 7 (I strongly agree). Appendix 1 provides a full list of the scales utilized and all the associated items.

*Corporate Social Responsibility.* The scales developed by Turker (2009), Bai and Chang (2015), Youn, Lee, and Lee (2018) and Su and Swanson (2019) were adapted to measure corporate social responsibility towards three primary stakeholders: employees; customers; and society (Aguinis & Glavas, 2012). The CSR variable thus appears as a second-order reflective construct made up of three first-order reflective constructs, namely: CSR Society; CSR Customers; and CSR Employees.

*Green Human Resource Management.* This study presents GHRM as comprising three components, based on the works of Renwick et al. (2013), Jabbour (2015), Pinzone et al. (2016), Masri and Jaaron (2017), Tang et al. (2018) and Pham et al (2019a,b,c). This variable was regarded as a second-order construct shaped by three first-order reflective constructs, more specifically: Green skills development (which includes recruitment, selection, training, and development practices); green motivation (which comprises performance management appraisal and reward system practices); and green involvement (which relates to the employee involvement and supportive culture).

*Environmental Outcomes.* This variable was measured through improvements in the use of the strength parameters developed by Kinder, Lydenberg, and Domini (KLD) to evaluate the full spectrum of a firm's environmental performance, thus making it possible to consider

different environmental impacts at the same time (Guerci et al., 2016; Walls, Berrone, & Phan, 2012; Longoni et al., 2018). This variable was seen as a first-order reflective construct in our model.

*Performance*. Perception measures served to capture organizational performance in this study. More precisely, eight items were used to try and capture, on the one hand, general performance criteria (market share growth, brand recognition, the company's market image, sales growth); and, on the other hand, performance variables more in line with hotel sector companies (income per room, average occupancy, customers' level of satisfaction and employees' satisfaction) (Úbeda-García, Claver-Cortés, Marco-Lajara, Zaragoza-Sáez, and García-Lillo, 2018; Longoni et al., 2018).

*Control variables.* Our research work additionally monitored possible alternative explanations for the relationships set forth in the theoretical model through the inclusion of the relevant control variables, i.e. hotel size and hotel category.

The PLS-PM method was chosen to analyze the data under examination. As seen in Table 2, the results reveal a Cronbach's  $\alpha$  value of >0.70, an average variance extracted (AVE) of >0.50 and a rho\_A of >0.70, along with a composite reliability >0.70 for each variable. All of this suggests a fit with the rule of thumb assessment of measurement models recommended in the relevant literature (Hair, Matthews, Matthews, & Sarstedt, 2017), meaning that all construct items in this model are reliable and valid. In addition to assessing convergent validity, the discriminant validity or divergent validity of all latent variables used within the model were tested using the Heterotrait-Monotrait (HTMT) ratio — a new procedure in the Partial Least Squares-Path Modeling (PLS-PM) method to test discriminant validity which outplays Fornell-Larcker's criterion according to Henseler, Hubona, and Ray (2016). Table 3 reveals an HTMT value below 0.90, which satisfies the recommended rule of thumb (Hair et al., 2017); confirmation is likewise

Table 2	
Summary	of measurement models.

	Cronbach's α	rho_A	Composite reliability	AVE
CSR GHRM ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES PERFORMANCE	0.761 0.908 0.874 0.944	0.798 0.926 0.889 0.954	0.858 0.942 0.909 0.952	0.669 0.844 0.669 0.689

#### Table 3

Correlations and discriminant validity results.

Fornell-Larcker's criterion				
	CSR	GHRM	ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES	PERFORMANCE
CSR	0.447			
GHRM	0.457	0.474		
ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES	0.439	0.444	0.447	
PERFORMANCE	0.404	0.336	0.446	0.474
Heterotrait-Monotrait Ratio (HTMT)				
	CSR	GHRM	ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES	PERFORMANCE
CSR				
GHRM	0.783			
ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES	0.566	0.485		
PERFORMANCE	0.472	0.343	0.466	

obtained for discriminant validity following Fornell-Larcker's criterion.

## 3.3. Common method bias

We minimize non-response bias through several techniques. Before data collection, participants were encouraged to reply by making the questionnaire more respondent friendly through shortening it or using incentives such as offering them an executive summary of the most relevant research results. Moreover, the independent-samples t tests results, as addressed above in the "Sample and data collection" section, indicated that non-response bias is not a major concern in the study.

Apart from controlling the common method variance by obtaining information from two different sources, considering the recommendations of Podsakoff &Organ (1986), Podsakoff, MacKenzie, Lee, and Podsakoff (2003) and Podsakoff, MacKenzie, and Podsakoff (2012), we have adopted a series of procedural and statistical remedies. First, interviewees remained anonymous and were told that they had to answer as sincerely and honestly as possible and that there were no 'good' or 'bad' answers. This approach was aimed at reducing the fear of being evaluated and preventing them from giving socially desirable or appropriate answers. Second, the items were very carefully constructed to avoid any potential ambiguities. The questionnaire included simple and concise questions in order to facilitate their understanding. Third, the interviewees were informed in detail about the object of the research and the importance of their participation in it. We also employed Harman's one-factor test (Podsakoff & Organ, 1986; Podsakoff et al., 2003; Podsakoff et al., 2012). All study variables were entered into an exploratory factor analysis. The results revealed that no single factor emerged; nor was there a general factor that could account for the largest proportion of variance in these variables. The above evidence suggests that the common method bias did not represent a major problem in our study.

In order to assess model quality, the following tests were used: Coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ) and the effect size ( $f^2$ ). The condition for  $R^2$  is that it should be greater than or equal to 10% (Falk & Miller 1992). The effect size ( $f^2$ ) for each path model was calculated. The  $f^2$  analyses of model quality have shown satisfactory results. Finally, the Stone–Geisser's predictive relevance ( $Q^2$ ) values were calculated in order to test if the data points of indicators in the reflective measurement model of endogenous construct can be predicted accurately. Chin (1998) suggested that a model demonstrates a good predictive relevance when its  $Q^2$  value is larger than zero. The results of blindfolding in Smart PLS has provided a good predictive relevance. The indicators of all the cited coefficients are presented in the next section. Overall, the issue of common method bias was tackled through the survey design, data collection methods, and the statistical assessment as discussed above.

## 4. Results

After confirming that the indicators of all variables were reliable and

valid in the first step, the time came to assess the results of our structural model and for hypothesis testing. Since PLS-PM algorithms use the iteration method, following multiple regression series, the path coefficient interpretation in PLS-PM is equal to the standardization of regression coefficients. Similarly, r-square, the variance inflation factor (VIF), and predictive relevance ( $Q^2$ ) (Hair et al., 2017), as well as PLS, were used for algorithm selection, the SmartPLS 3 program being applied for bootstrapping.

Structural model collinearity was tested prior to carrying out a more in-depth analysis of the results obtained during the second step. The same measure in multiple regression was utilized to assess collinearity, with the recommended VIF values <3.3 or <5 remaining acceptable for all variable predictors in the model (Hair et al., 2017). The results of our analysis (see Table 4) showed that collinearity did not interfere with the results. Our structural model was additionally evaluated by looking at the determination coefficient (R<sup>2</sup>), and Q<sup>2</sup>, insofar as that coefficient measures the predictive power of our model, and the latter represents the amount of variance in the endogenous variable that can be explained by all exogenous variables. Analyzing the results in Table 4 left us with R<sup>2</sup> values of 0.493 for GHRM, 0.197 for environmental outcomes, and 0.285 for performance.

 $Q^2$  was also assessed to predict  $R^2$  accuracy —where a  $Q^2$  value above 0 indicates that the model has predictive power. Based on our analysis results,  $Q^2 > 0$ , which confirms the predictive relevance of our model. As for the goodness of fit indices produced by the model through standardized root mean squared residual (SRMR), the value of 0.082 < 1.0 obtained means that no discrepancy exists between an implied model and the observed correlation.

# 4.1. Hypothesis testing

Direct hypothesis testing preceded that of mediation effects. Hypothesis testing was performed through a bootstrapping process, with a resample amount of 5000, and using a 95% bias-corrected confidence interval (CI). Table 5 shows the results of that analysis.

As shown in table 5, the effect of CSR on performance with a coefficient value ( $\beta$ ) of 0.302 is significant at p = 0.002, which provides support both for Hypothesis 1 and for the relevant theory proposed by Youn et al. (2015), Benavides-Velasco et al. (2014). The CSR  $\rightarrow$  GHRM relationship was likewise found to be positively significant, with a coefficient value ( $\beta$ ) of 0.702 (p = 0.000), meaning that Hypothesis 2 is also confirmed —as previous studies had already suggested (Al

Table 4		
Structural	model	results

Constructs	R <sup>2</sup>	$Q^2$	VIF	SRMR
CSR	-	-	2.171	-
GHRM	0.493	0.389	2.580	-
ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES	0.197	0.116	1.346	-
PERFORMANCE	0.285	0.150	_	0.082

#### Table 5

Relationships between the direct effects of variables.

Structural path	Coef (β)	S.D.	p-Values	95% CI	Conclusion
$CSR \rightarrow PERFORMANCE$	0.302	0.098	0.002*	[0.136–0.684]*	H1 supported
$CSR \rightarrow GRHM$	0.702	0.044	0.000**	[0.680–0.822]**	H2 supported
$GRHM \rightarrow E. OUTCOMES$	0.444	0.075	0.000**	[0.400-0.642]**	H4 supported
E. OUTCOMES $\rightarrow$ PERFORMANCE	0.338	0.090	0.000**	[0.291–0.588]**	H5 supported

Note: \*\*, \* statistically significant at 1 percent and 5 percent levels respectively.

Kerdawy, 2018). As regards the GRHM  $\rightarrow$  environmental outcomes effect, it turns out to be significant as well ( $\beta = 0.444$ , p = 0.000), which leads us to accept Hypothesis 4, thus corroborating the findings of previous research studies authored by Siyambalapitiya et al. (2018) or Pham et al. (2019a,b,c) among others. Finally, the environmental outcomes  $\rightarrow$  performance effect with a coefficient value ( $\beta$ ) of 0.338 (p = 0.000) evidences that Hypothesis 5 is confirmed too, a result which matches those previously obtained by scholars such as Journeault (2016).

# 4.2. The mediation analysis

The final stage of our analysis revolves around the mediating effects of the variables GHRM and environmental outcomes in the relationship between CSR and hotel performance and has as its aim to test Hypotheses 3 and 6. The results derived from the mediation analyses can be found in Table 6.

Table 6. Summary of the mediating effect test

The mediation exerted by the variable GHRM in the CSRperformance relationship with  $\beta=-0.075$  is not significant, since the zero value appears in the confidence interval —i.e. Hypothesis 3 cannot be accepted. Instead, the sequential mediation of GHRM and environmental outcomes in the relationship between CSR and performance gives us a result of  $\beta=0.106$  with p=0.001, which allows us to accept Hypothesis 6 (referred to sequential mediation).

# 5. Conclusions and discussion

The results of this study reveal the existence of a direct and positive relationship between CSR and performance within the context of three, four- and five-star hotels in Spain (Hypothesis 1). The current findings are aligned with analyses according to which CSR does increase hotel profits and value (Bird et al., 2007; Griffin & Mahon, 1997; Garay & Font, 2012; Inoue & Lee, 2011; Lee & Heo, 2009; Margolis & Walsh, 2003; Rodríguez & Cruz, 2007; Rhou et al., 2016; Orlitzky et al., 2003; Ghaderi et al., 2019).

Our findings are highlighted and discussed with respect to the main research question as follows. The empirical evidence obtained allows us to state that the partial mediation exerted by the variables GRHM (Renwick et al., 2013; O'Donohue & Torugsa, 2016) and environmental outcomes (Pullman et al., 2009; Zhu et al., 2012; Ağan et al., 2016; Wang & Sarkis, 2017) has an indirect effect on the relationship between CSR and hotel performance (Hypothesis 6). This study additionally confirms that CSR is an antecedent factor in GHRM practice implementation (Hypothesis 2); this result matches those of some research works which analyze how CSR contributes to human resource practices (Cooke & He, 2010; Gully et al., 2013; Rupp et al., 2013). Nevertheless, our work pioneers the consideration of the hitherto-neglected link between CSR and GHRM, thus answering the call to extend CSR research into the HRM domain (Morgeson et al., 2013; Al Kerdawy, 2018), since GHRM is a newly-adopted concept which has so far received limited empirical research attention as far as CSR is concerned.

Another of our findings enables us to verify the positive influence of GHRM on environmental outcomes (Hypothesis 4). This study consequently extends the GHRM literature by examining the effect caused by GHRM on environmental performance; in keeping with a number of previous studies (Paillé et al., 2014; Masri & Jaaron, 2017; Kim et al., 2019), our findings confirm GHRM implementation effectiveness. Within the green context, no scholar has yet demonstrated the interactive effects of GHRM practices on environmental outcomes; and only very few researchers have investigated the application of GHRM practices in hotel industry (Pham et al. 2019a,b,c).

It follows from the results obtained that environmental outcomes positively influence the performance achieved by the Spanish hotels included in our sample (Hypothesis 5). This supports the existing research in multiple industries that refer to positive links between environmental outcomes and firm performance (Aragón-Correa, Hurtado-Torres, Sharma, & García-Morales, 2008; Dixon-Fowler et al., 2013; Hang, Geyer-Klingeberg & Rathgeber, 2018).

Finally, in relation to Hypothesis 3, it was impossible for us to confirm the role of GHRM as a mediating variable in the relationship between CSR and hotel performance, when other studies do confirm the positive connection between GHRM and firm performance (Renwick et al., 2013; O'Donohue & Torugsa, 2016). Perhaps the explanation for this may be that the investigations which have analyzed the relationship between GHRM and performance have not included the environmental outcomes variable. It can be inferred from the analyses performed that GHRM positively influences environmental outcomes, and these, in turn influence, performance. This result leads us to consider a new line of research that asks whether environmental outcomes fully or partially mediate the GHRM-performance relationship.

The findings from this study make several contributions to the CSR and GHRM domains.

Regarding CSR-HRM literature, given the scarce theory that links the CSR and HRM constructs, following the recommendations of Voegtlin

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Summary of the mediating effect test.

Total effe Performa	ct of nce	Direct effe PERFORM	ect of CSR of IANCE	1	Indirect effect of CSR on PERFORMANCE		of CSR on PERFORMANCE		Conclusion
Coef (β)	T value		Coef (β)	T value		Point estimate	Percentil interval	e bootstrap 95% + Bias confidence	-
							Lower	Upper	-
0.302**	5.240	H1 = c'	0.271	3.089	Total H3 = $a_1 * b_1$ H6 = $a_1 * b_2 * b_3$	0.271** -0.075 <sup>ns</sup> 0.106**	$0.136 \\ -0.256 \\ 0.059$	0.687 0.121 0.175	H3 not supported H6 supported

Note: \*\* statistically significant at 1 percent level; ns not significant.

and Greenwood (2016), we have taken an instrumental view of CSR-HRM that has allowed us to support the hypothesis that CSR has to use GHRM strategically with the purpose of improving the organization's performance results (environmental and financial outcomes). We have also employed an integrative view of CRS-HRM, which has allowed us to use the AMO approach of HRM insofar as CSR affects workers' abilities, motivation and opportunities. The conjunction of both perspectives has allowed us to establish an integrative framework that has helped us to overcome some of the ambiguity surrounding the relationship between CSR and firm performance, and extends CSR knowledge by providing a framework which makes it easier to explain how CSR might be linked to firm performance with the inclusion of GHRM and environmental outcomes as mediating variables. The juxtaposition that has been made in this research of both study perspectives in relation to CSR-HRM could form part of the future research agenda.

Furthermore, CSR is shown as an antecedent factor in GRHM —or expressed differently, GHRM supports CSR activities through green skills development, green motivation, and green involvement providing empirical evidence of the way in which both variables are connected (Voegtlin & Greenwood, 2016). The positive effect of GHRM on environmental outcomes was verified as well, covering a traditional gap in the literature dedicated to examining the impact of GHRM implementation on environmental performance (Kim et al., 2019); thus, these results contribute to the GHRM literature by proposing an antecedent factor and a result of GHRM, as suggested by Ren et al. (2018). Finally, our research work also contributes to the current research because it further extends the GHRM literature research stream by seeking empirical evidence for the relationship between GHRM and environmental outcomes in the Spanish hospitality industry. This is important, since the aforesaid research stream has tended to focus on manufacturing industries (Paillé & Raineri, 2015) or service industries other than hospitality (Zientara & Zamojska, 2018).

From a practical point of view, the findings enhance the knowledge of hotel firms' executives about the important role that CSR plays in directly and indirectly promoting firm performance through improved GHRM and environmental outcomes. It would be advisable for human resources departments to incorporate green practices and responsibilities into their human resource management systems. Therefore, it becomes essential for hotel organizations to carry out pertinent GHRM as it helps employees to feel proud of their firms' role in environmental protection. This not only reinforces these employees' commitment to their organizations but also allows the latter to obtain successful environmental outcomes. This could be achieved by developing the practices considered in this study aimed at developing abilities, motivation and opportunities, such as attracting and selecting candidates with an interest in green issues. Additionally, organizations should focus on retaining, developing and improving employees' skills and knowledge, by providing green training programs. Green goals and objectives must be defined and linked with a green reward and appraisal system, which include green indicators that provide employees with financial and non-financial rewards, thereby increasing their interest, commitment and participation in green issues.

# Appendix A. . Measurement of variables

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (1 = I totally disagree; 7 = I totally agree) CSR towards society Our hotel implements special programs to minimize its negative impact on the natural environment. Our hotel participates in activities aimed to protect and improve natural environment quality. Our hotel targets sustainable growth which considers future generations. Our hotel emphasizes the importance of its social responsibilities before society. CSR towards customers Our hotel provides full and accurate information to our customers. Our hotel respects consumers' rights beyond legal requirements. Customer satisfaction is a priority for our hotel. CSR towards employees Our hotel supports employees who want to acquire additional training. Our hotel policies encourage employees to develop their skills and careers. Our hotel implements flexible policies to provide a good work & life balance for its employees. The management of our hotel is primarily concerned with employees' needs and wants. **GREEN HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT** (1 = I totally disagree; 7 = I totally agree) Green Skills Development We use green employer branding to attract green employees. Our hotel recruits employees who have a green awareness. We develop training programs in environment management to increase employees' environmental awareness, skills and expertise. We have green knowledge management (linking environmental education and knowledge to behaviors with the aim of developing preventative solutions). Green Motivation Our hotel sets green targets, goals, and responsibilities for managers and employees. In our hotel, managers are set objectives on achieving green outcomes included in appraisals We make green benefits (transport/travel) available rather than giving out pre-paid cards to purchase green products. Our hotel has recognition-based rewards in environment management for staff (public recognition, awards, paid vacations, time off, gift certificates) Green Involvement Our hotel has a clear developmental vision to guide employees' actions in environmental management. A number of formal or informal communication channels serve to spread green culture in our hotel. We offer practical activities for employees to participate in environment management, such as newsletters, suggestion schemes, problem-solving groups, low-carbon champions and green action teams. ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES. The actions developed in our hotel to look after the environment have had an impact on: (1 = I totally disagree; 7 = I totally agree) Reduction of total direct and indirect toxic emissions Increased volume of recycled materials Increased renewable energy consumption rate

Increased number of eco-friendly products/services developed Reduction of total direct and indirect energy consumption

(continued on next page)

#### (continued)

**PERFORMANCE** (1 = I totally disagree; 7 = I totally agree)

The growth in our firm's market share relative to competitors during the last three years has been  $\dots$ 

Our firm's brand recognition relative to competitors during the last three years has been ...

Our firm's image relative to competitors during the last three years has been...

The average growth in our firm's sales relative to competitors during the last three years has been ...

Our hotel's average occupancy rate relative to competitors during the last three years has been  $\dots$ 

Customers' satisfaction level relative to competitors during the last three years has been ...

Employees' satisfaction level relative to competitors during the last three years has been  $\dots$ 

Revenues per room in our hotel relative to competitors during the last three years has been ...

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