

## **Evaluation of the Adoption and Level of Implementation of Cleaner Production Strategies: An Empirical Study on Star-Rated Hotels in the Kandy District of Sri Lanka**

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### **Abstract**

Hotels make negative externalities on both physical and socio-economic environments. Most of the interventions traditionally used to address these impacts do not offer long-term solutions. Adopting and implementing Cleaner Production (CP) can be accepted as an innovative approach to addressing these problems holistically and sustainably. With that background, this study aimed to evaluate the adoption and level of implementation of CP strategies by star-rated hotels in the Kandy district of Sri Lanka. There were five specific objectives and two hypotheses. A stratified random sampling method was used to choose five hotels from the Kandy district. Online surveys and telephone interviews were used to collect primary data from hotels while extensive literature reviews and National Cleaner Production Centre (NCPC) reports were used as secondary sources. Microsoft Excel and the Statistical Package for Social Sciences were used for data analyzing purposes such as for conducting descriptive and correlation analyses. According to the findings of this study, 60% of the surveyed hotels were fairly aware of the concept of CP. Further, both internal and external factors were found that affect drive or deter the implementation of CP, such as CP enhancing compliance with government laws and regulations, availability of expertise to always consult and contract, high cost of investing in environmentally friendly technologies, the inadequate government-led incentives to encourage hotels to adopt CP options, etc. In addition, correlation test results indicated that there is a high negative correlation between CP and compliance ( $p = -0.836$ ) and there is a high positive correlation between CP implementation and hotel occupancy ( $p = 0.872$ ). As recommendations, educate hoteliers about the concept of CP through capacity-building training programs, provide financial assistance, transform the linear economy into a circular economy, and recognize the importance of CP implementation and sustainable development can be used to enhance the effective implementation of CP options in star-rated hotels in Sri Lanka.

**Keywords:** Cleaner Production, Circular Economy, Sustainable Development, Environmentally Friendly, Environment

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