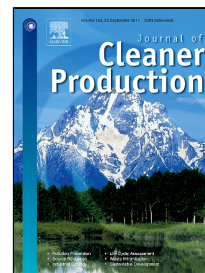


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Freight villages: A literature review from the sustainability and societal equity perspective

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to present a state-of-the-art literature review on Freight Villages from the sustainability and equity perspective, and discuss their impacts and place in the supply chain and logistics networks while focusing on the core concepts of freight transportation. With an understanding of the structure of freight villages, it is clear that they have potential for a number of merits with the increase in freight transportation activities. However, our review shows that current literature does not present satisfying evidence that these villages fulfill their purpose in terms of sustainability and social equity.

1. Introduction

A Freight Village (FV) is an area within which all activities relating to transport, logistics, and distribution of goods both at the domestic and international level are carried out by various operators (EUROPLATFORMS, 2000). Established outside the cities, these (logistics) complexes let the stakeholders perform value-added logistics activities not only by hosting them under the same roof, but also by creating a synergy between them; enabling coordination and collaboration. Current literature clearly states that addressing sustainability and equity issues are the starting points for establishing FVs (Wu et al. 2003, Boile et al. 2008, Higgins et al. 2011).

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