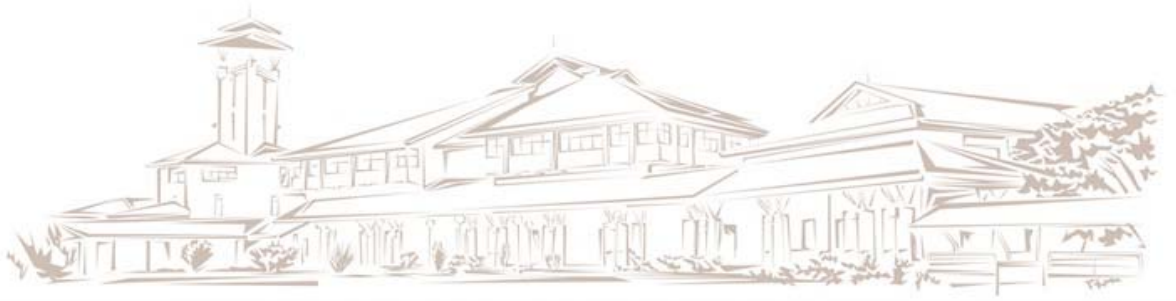


"A man is
great by
deeds, not by
birth"

-Chanakya

Welcome to IIMK



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT KOZHIKODE



Working Paper

IIMK/WPS/492/ITS/2022/01

March 2022

**Sharing Economy and Sustainable Development:
Evidence from Food Delivery Apps**

Abhipsa Pal¹
Taiane Ritta Coelho²
Md. Rakibul Hoque³

¹Assistant Professor, Information Systems Area, Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode, IIMK Campus PO, Kunnamangalam, Kozhikode, Kerala 673 570, India; Email - abhipsapal@iimk.ac.in, Phone Number - 0495-2809682

²Federal University of Paraná Paraná, Brazil; Email: taianecoelho@ufpr.br

³University of Dhaka, Bangladesh; Email: rakibulmisdu@gmail.com

Abstract

Sharing economy platforms like food delivery apps connect local businesses to consumers within a certain range of physical distance. These platforms not only enable local restaurants and entrepreneurs but also provide job opportunities to unskilled laborers in the role of delivery persons. With the promises of job opportunities and local businesses thriving, we suggest that food delivery platforms are an example of sustainable technology. But the question is – do we consider the environment? Using the theoretical lenses of Schumacher’s appropriate (sustainable) technology and Sen’s capability approach, we analyze how food delivery apps have (or have not) developed into sustainable technology. We plan to collect interview data from consumers, restaurants, and delivery persons spanning three developing economies – India, Brazil, and Bangladesh. The contribution of this study is in the platform economy literature within the ICT for development domain. This study informs us to change focus from economic and outcome-driven benefits of technology to sustainability and human development perspectives.

Keywords: Sharing economy; food delivery platforms; sustainable development; capability approach

Research Office

Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode

IIMK Campus P. O.,

Kozhikode, Kerala, India,

PIN - 673 570

Phone: +91-495-2809237/ 238

Email: research@iimk.ac.in

Web: <https://iimk.ac.in/faculty/publicationmenu.php>

