The Impact of Emerging Market Firms' International Engagement on Product and Process Innovation

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Abstract

Emerging market firms are taking on an increasingly important role in the global economy, both through their internationalization and contributions to global innovation. However, our understanding about how emerging market firms' international experiences and innovative performance are related is quite limited. In this paper, we leverage a unique survey of firms from ten emerging markets to study the relationship between these firms' modes of international engagement and their product and process innovation performance. We theorize and find broad support for the proposition that context-driven organizational learning enables emerging market firms to enhance different types of innovative outcomes through different types of international engagement. Our study highlights the potential for future research that further examines connections between internationalization and innovation performance of emerging market firms.

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