

GREEN HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: AN OVERVIEW

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Abstract:

Green Human Resource Management (GHRM) has emerged as a vital aspect of sustainable business practices in response to growing environmental concerns. This article provides an overview of GHRM, exploring its principles, strategies, challenges, and benefits. By integrating environmental considerations into HRM processes, organizations can foster a culture of sustainability and contribute to environmental preservation while enhancing their competitive advantage. Through effective implementation of GHRM practices, companies can achieve not only environmental sustainability but also social and economic sustainability.

Keywords: Green HRM, Strategies, Principles

Introduction:

In the face of increasing environmental degradation and climate change, organizations worldwide recognize the importance of integrating environmental sustainability into their business strategies. Green Human Resource Management (GHRM) has emerged as a strategic approach to address environmental concerns within human resource management (HRM). GHRM encompasses practices and policies that promote environmental sustainability within organizations by engaging employees, fostering environmental awareness, and aligning HR processes with environmental goals.

Understanding Green Human Resource Management:

GHRM focuses on integrating environmental considerations into various HRM functions, including recruitment, training, performance management, and employee engagement. This involves creating policies and practices that encourage environmentally responsible behavior among employees and aligning HR strategies with broader sustainability objectives.

Principles of Green Human Resource Management:

1. Environmental Awareness: Green HRM starts with increasing awareness of environmental issues among employees. Employers should inform their employees about the effect of human activity on the environment as well as the significance of implementing sustainable methods. This concept highlights the necessity for ongoing education and training to ensure that employees are aware of environmental issues.

2. The process of selection and recruitment for sustainability: The recruitment process in Green HRM will prioritize those who have a strong commitment to sustainability in the environment. This means evaluating their technical abilities and their knowledge of and alignment with the company's sustainable goals. When selecting employees who align with the company's environmental goals and values, companies can develop an employee base that is committed to sustainable methods.

3. Engagement and Participation of Employees: Green HRM encourages employees to be involved with sustainability efforts. This involves involving employees in the decision-making process related to the environment, encouraging an attitude of ownership, and establishing a culture in which everyone is accountable for the environmental footprint of the organization. Employees who are engaged are more likely to share creative ideas for sustainable practices.

4. The Green Metrics Program and Performance Management: Green HRM integrates environmental performance indicators in this performance management process. Employees are evaluated, not just using traditional metrics but also on how they contribute towards sustainability goals. This ensures that environmental accountability is incorporated into the assessment of team and individual performance.

5. Training and development for sustainability: Learning continuously is vital for employees to be able to adjust to changes in environmental standards and practices. Green HRM emphasizes training and training programs that equip employees with the capabilities and understanding required to apply sustainable practices to their daily jobs. This is a principle that supports the integration of sustainability into an organization's overall strategy.

Strategies for Implementing GHRM:

- 1. Green Recruitment:** Organizations can integrate environmental criteria into the recruitment process by seeking candidates with a demonstrated commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship.
- 2. Training and Development:** GHRM involves providing training and development opportunities to employees to enhance their environmental knowledge and skills, enabling them to contribute effectively to sustainability initiatives.
- 3. Performance Management:** GHRM incorporates environmental performance metrics into performance appraisal systems, recognizing and rewarding employees who demonstrate environmentally responsible behavior.
- 4. Employee Engagement Programs:** Organizations can implement employee engagement programs focused on environmental sustainability, such as green teams, eco-awareness campaigns, and volunteering opportunities.
- 5. Green Supply Chain Management:** GHRM extends beyond internal processes to encompass the management of external stakeholders, including suppliers and business partners, to ensure environmental responsibility throughout the supply chain.

Challenges and Barriers:

Despite the potential benefits of GHRM, organizations may encounter several challenges in its implementation:

- 1. Resistance to Change:** Employees and management may resist adopting environmentally friendly practices due to inertia or perceived costs.
- 2. Lack of Awareness:** Limited awareness of environmental issues or the benefits of GHRM may hinder its adoption within organizations.
- 3. Resource Constraints:** Organizations may face resource constraints, such as financial or human resources, that impede the implementation of GHRM initiatives.
- 4. Complexity of Integration:** Integrating environmental considerations into HRM processes may be complex and require significant organizational change.

Advantages of Green Human Resource Management:

- 1. Enhanced Corporate Image:** Adopting GHRM practices can enhance an organization's reputation as an environmentally responsible employer, attracting environmentally conscious customers, investors, and employees.
- 2. Cost Savings:** GHRM initiatives, such as energy conservation measures and waste reduction programs, can lead to cost savings through improved resource efficiency.
- 3. Employee Motivation and Engagement:** Engaging employees in sustainability initiatives can increase morale, motivation, and job satisfaction, leading to higher levels of employee engagement and retention.
- 4. Compliance and Risk Mitigation:** By proactively addressing environmental issues, organizations can reduce the risk of non-compliance with environmental regulations and mitigate reputational and operational risks associated with environmental harm.

Disadvantages of Green Human Resource Management:

- 1. Preliminary costs:** Perhaps the most significant disadvantage of becoming environmentally friendly is that it often needs a high starting cost. For instance, introducing a new roof or new protection to keep heat from escaping the home would be considered a green home improvement. However, it would cost a considerable amount of money to get the work accomplished.
- 2. Insufficient investment funds:** The objective of practicing environmental safety by and large, for example, developing an energy-efficient home or buying a half-and-the-half vehicle, is to decrease environmental effects while setting aside cash in the long haul. Green structures and vehicles are inclined to use less energy, so commence costs can often be earned over time through energy reserve funds. The trouble is that the investment funds produced by making strides toward environmental friendliness are often less than expected; they do not make up for the underlying cost quickly enough to make them economically doable.

3. Increased capital expenditures: Few green conversions need an underlying money expenditure that reduces the firm's primary concern performance while the investment pays for itself. This can reduce the income or yearly profits of an organization.

4. Irregular competition: In the commerce world, becoming environmentally friendly can be an attractive objective to acquire generosity and consumer uphold. Unless green improvements are economically doable, they can put a business at a competitive disadvantage.

5. Minimal effect: While becoming environmentally friendly aims to reduce mischief to the environment, the effect that a specific individual can have on the environment by practicing environmental awareness is often irrelevant. The understanding is that if everyone somehow managed to practice environmental awareness, it would have a noteworthy and noticeable effect. However, not everyone can be convinced to practice environmental awareness, and many believe that doing so has no real effect outside of economics. This makes practicing environmental awareness a personal choice for some.

6. Employee lethargy and reluctance: Several employees feel that it is not their job to conserve the environment while they are at work. However, the currently educated workforce is featuring environmental management awareness while picking their employers.

Conclusion:

Green Human Resource Management (GHRM) represents a strategic approach to promoting environmental sustainability within organizations. By integrating environmental considerations into HRM processes and practices, organizations can foster a culture of sustainability, achieve cost savings, enhance their corporate image, and contribute to environmental preservation. Despite the challenges associated with its implementation, the benefits of GHRM outweigh the costs, making it a valuable tool for organizations committed to sustainability and responsible business practices. As the importance of environmental sustainability continues to grow, GHRM will play an increasingly significant role in shaping the future of work and business.

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