

Exploring the Potential of Green Finance: A Pathway to Sustainable Development

Rahul Kanaujiya¹

Research Scholar, Department of Business Management & Entrepreneurship,
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Avadh University, Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, India

Prof. Himanshu Shekhar Singh²

Head of Department, Department of Business Management & Entrepreneurship,
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Avadh University, Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, India

Abstract

This paper reviews green finance and takes more consideration in ongoing writing with developing worldwide movement towards environmental changes and making green speculation advancing green funding utilizing innovation and strategy. A few countries have faced the difficulties of green money issues in the climate, society, and environmental change relief, yet, for example, the absence of mindfulness with respect to green finance. Globally, leaders tracked down an overall agreement on this issue. Additionally, we investigate how green finance regulations address the financial limitations faced by companies in funding environmentally friendly innovations. Firms experiencing more financial limitations have been seen to have less capacity for green innovation. Furthermore, privately held organizations are more susceptible to this limitation compared to state-owned enterprises. While green finance rules may successfully alleviate financial constraints on green innovation as a whole, privately held firms are less likely to have access to green credits. Nevertheless, these businesses, which are significantly impacted by limitations in obtaining funds, possess rather strong talents to innovate. We recommend that the government increase its assistance for privately held firms to facilitate their investment in environmentally friendly initiatives. In addition, it is imperative that both financial institutions and privately held firms be mandated to provide more comprehensive disclosure about green loans and green initiatives, respectively.

Keywords: Finance, Climate Change, Green Financing, Technology.

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I. Introduction

At the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 21) in 2015, 195 nations reached a consensus on the Paris Agreement, which seeks to limit the increase in global temperature to less than 2 degrees Celsius over pre-industrial levels. Several countries have launched programs to encourage the growth of environmentally friendly enterprises and new green technology. These programs are being implemented in order to achieve the long-term climate goals that have been set. Firms' potential for environmentally conscious innovation is hindered by limits on financing. Their investments in environmentally friendly technology might be greatly hampered by the fact that they do not have access to financial resources (Andersen, 2017). In most cases, the high degree of unpredictability and low return that is associated with green innovation is the primary reason why financing constraints provide a substantial hurdle to green innovation in businesses. According to the Global Framework for Sustainable Development (GFSD), green finance is a product of the international consensus on climate action. Green finance refers to investments and loans that encourage environmentally sustainable development. In recent years, there has been a substantial increase in the use of this kind of funding. The establishment of a financial environment that is favorable to the promotion of sustainable development is the objective of this organization. However, it is still unclear whether green finance legislation will be able to adequately solve the financial constraints that businesses face and, as a result, drive green innovation. In order to achieve sustainable economic growth, green finance is an essential task that must be undertaken. According to Carroll (1979), green environmental management is an activity that would fall under the category of corporate social responsibility (CSR), which is something that businesses should engage in for the betterment of society. According to Koo (2010), green finance is another kind of corporate social responsibility activity that is carried out by financial institutions such as banks, mutual fund companies, and stock companies. Even if it is not presently profitable from a financial standpoint, green finance should be prioritized by financial institutions as a kind of corporate social responsibility activity.

The objective of green financing is to concurrently accomplish economic growth, environmental betterment, and the expansion of the finance sector. A kind of targeted finance, it is characterized by the intervention of governmental bodies in the market process with the purpose of ensuring that adequate money flows into environmentally responsible economic activity. Due to the fact that it is projected that the mechanism of the autonomous market would not provide sufficient funds for these activities, this intervention is required. Additionally, this kind of financing is frequently referred to as targeted finance due to the fact that it substantially encourages economic operations that are environmentally friendly while placing limits on economic activities that are not environmentally friendly (Noh 2010b: 10). A significant amount of India's efforts are focused on advancing sustainable development. There has been a significant increase in the amount of money invested in environmentally friendly businesses, which has helped the nation establish itself as the leading worldwide destination for green investments. It was only recently announced that India would make a promise to become carbon neutral by the year 2060. To achieve this objective, a substantial amount of money must be invested in environmentally friendly projects and technology (Polzin and Sanders, 2020). It is necessary to have policy support in order to achieve either prior successes or future goals. In order to combat the degradation of the environment and the pollution that it causes, the Chinese government has implemented stringent restrictions. In an effort to foster environmentally responsible development, green finance policies have been purposefully created. These policies include substantial restrictions and administrative enforcement. As a result of these suggestions, financial institutions are required to restrict or completely stop financing to industries that are considered to have an excessive capacity for production and are in danger of causing damage to the environment. Credit category management that takes into account the impact that projects have on the environment is another requirement that banks must adhere to. "Green Credit Guidelines" were made available to the public by the CBRC in the year 2012. This piece of law ensured that resources would be allocated to low-carbon, recycling, and ecological industries, and it specified the core framework of the green credit system. Since that time, a growing number of measures pertaining to environmentally responsible funding have been implemented. An assortment of environmentally friendly finance strategies is shown in Table A1, which was obtained from the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) in the year 2019.

In recent years, there has been a developing acknowledgment of the pressing requirement for a reasonable turn of events and the conservation of our planet's regular assets. As worries about environmental change, natural debasement, and social imbalance increase, the idea of "green money" has arisen as a promising pathway toward accomplishing maintainability objectives. Green money includes different monetary instruments, procedures, and drives that are expected to help the ecosystem and socially dependable activities and organizations. The goal of this examination paper is to investigate the capability of green money as a way to cultivate practical turn of events. By analyzing the standards, components, and effects of green money, we try to comprehend its job in tending to squeeze worldwide difficulties while advancing financial development and social prosperity. One vital part of green money is an accentuation on supporting ventures and exercises that add to ecological manageability. This remembers ventures for sustainable power sources, energy-efficient framework, feasible horticulture, and eco-accommodating advancements. Such ventures not only assist with diminishing ozone-harming substance discharges and relieving environmental change yet in addition advance asset proficiency, biodiversity preservation, and contamination decrease. Also, green money goes past natural contemplations by integrating social and administration perspectives into its structure. It intends to help projects that focus on friendly incorporation, neediness decrease, orientation balance, and fair work rehearses. By coordinating ecological, social, and administration (ESG) factors into venture choices, green money elevates a comprehensive way to deal with feasible improvement that thinks about both the planet and its occupants. The capability of green finance lies in its positive effect on manageability as well as in its ability to activate significant monetary assets. Legislatures, global foundations, and confidential area entertainers are progressively perceiving the business's amazing open doors and financial advantages related to green ventures. Green money can draw in capital from different sources, including public assets, improvement banks, institutional financial backers, and individual financial backers, directing it towards earth and socially mindful ventures. All through this examination paper, we will dig into the components of green money, investigate the difficulties and amazing open doors it presents, and survey its adequacy in driving feasible turn of events. By looking at contextual analyses and dissecting existing writing, we plan to give experiences into the capability of green finance as a transformative force in shaping a more sustainable future. In conclusion, the exploration of green finance as a pathway to feasible improvement holds critical commitment in handling worldwide difficulties. By adjusting monetary streams to feasible goals, green money can advance ecological stewardship, social advancement, and financial thriving. Grasping its standards and looking at its effects can help policymakers, financial backers, and society at large harness the force of money to fabricate an additional supportable and strong world.

Objectives of the Study

1. To study the theoretical underpinnings and systematic literature of green finance.
2. To assess the impact of green finance on India's emerging economy.

II. Review of Literature

The Green Economy refers to an economic system that experiences growth in revenue and employment as a result of investments made by both the public and private sectors. These investments are focused on reducing carbon emissions and pollution, improving energy and resource efficiency, and protecting biodiversity and ecosystem services. Green development refers to a strategy approach that aims to encourage economic development by aligning current economic processes with ecological principles. This approach also seeks to provide new prospects for employment and revenue production while reducing the negative influence on the environment. Green Finance refers to the deliberate integration of the financial sector into the transition towards economies that are low in carbon emissions and efficient in resource use. It also includes efforts to adapt to climate change. One hundred ninety-four governments established the Green Environment Asset in 2010 to provide the financial means for reducing nursery discharges worldwide (Cui and Huang, 2018). The resource's objective was to extend the developing worldwide fame of the idea by progressing and supporting green money drives. Since the resource was laid out, the standards of venture and green money have generally been talked about at the most elevated levels of state-of-the-art economies and the UN General Get-together (Opoku et al., 2019).

Furthermore, green secret funding has been incorporated by the UN as a piece of the Legitimate Improvement Targets. Global associations and monetary trades have definitively answered the question of the arrangement of green support in some significant countries. Nonetheless, specialists and respectable associations from everywhere around the globe frequently banter about what green money is. While some material contends that green money is equivalent to genuine cash (otherwise called green striking or green theorizing) as far as use and setting, others, on a very basic level, vary. While The Overall Cash Association characterizes green money as a monetary arranging device pointed toward saving normal resources and guaranteeing biological security (IFC, 2009), Wang and Zhi (2016) characterized it as an inventive monetary instrument zeroed in on protecting the environment and utilizing assets sparingly. Instances of green money incorporate, among others (Sachs et al., 2019), green protections, town saves, green stocks, and green banks. Giving practicality endeavors to better advance circumstances, making imaginative monetary items, and growing the market by scattering data on the advantages of acceptable activities are effective purposes of green money (Volz, 2018).

Furthermore, when green designs arrive at the improvement stage, green money fills in as long-haul capital for reworking them (Dikau and Volz, 2018), and it is feasible for different monetary patrons, whether public or private, to acquire adequate green protections to help green designs (Zhang et al., 2019). As indicated by Taghizadeh-Hesary and Yoshino (2019), rising monetary developments (fintech), including large information, blockchain, adaptable trades, advanced twins, and the web of things, are being integrated into green money models. The significance of green support for fintech models in controllable exercises, feasible power, carbon credits, and the battle against ecological change was shown by Deng et al. (2019) and Croutzet and Dabbous (2021). Green money centers around long haul, generally safe monetary ventures, improvement, and the leading group of properties in the primary area (Szumilo, 2015). Lately, the arrangement for natural protection, exercises on ecological change, and the achievement of the UN SDG by 2030 (Amidjaya and Widagdo 2019) stand sufficiently apart to be seen in green money. Green money is once in a while alluded to by the terms viable supporting, natural money, climate money, and "green endeavor."

The significance of green money crested during the eleventh G-20 culmination in China (2016), when it was widely examined and pushed. Various ways to deal with green money address parts of the idea that are vital to the master, prompting varieties in the comprehension and worth of green money. IFC (2009) characterized green money as the impediments of speculative items that safeguard the climate, maintain social liberties, and advance monetary thriving. The idea of arrangements from the monetary establishments that advance the green economy was made sense of by Lindenberg (2014). The thought's 'finance' part centers around capital distribution and adventure by means of financial structures (Berensmann et al., 2017). To guarantee a positive monetary result, banks capability as a go between, holding and moving idle resources all through society (Andreeva et al., 2018). As per Metropolitan and Wójcik (2019), the 'green' part of green money requires the dispersion of monetary assets to be extended to incorporate corporate administration, clean energy, green designs, natural change, and social thought in all circles of the economy. The requirement for green money is filling in the monetary area because of the work to shield banks and society on the loose from unanticipated monetary challenges that might emerge because of whimsical worldwide financial occasions, natural crises, social distress, and corporate humiliations (Ziolo et al., 2019). Also, as per Dikau and Volz (2020), the traditional monetary perspective is

moving for the association of eco-accommodating products. Public banks and significant players in the worldwide monetary area genuinely promised to help the improvement of harmless the ecosystem monetary instruments at the Paris One Planet Zenith in December 2017 (Kim 2017).

The World Bank likewise noted plans to suspend financing organizations, and countries put less accentuation on safeguarding the climate (Zhang and Managi 2019). A few banks have revealed a change in their essential business procedures to take on eco-accommodating items. They need to stop supporting people and business elements whose activities harm the climate. Like the Chinese Public Bank, a couple of public banks have formed and tried principles to oversee green money trades in the monetary area (L. He et al., 2019). Inquisitively, in spite of the significance of these commitments, a few banks all around the globe have not shown any excitement for advancing money-related items with an emphasis on green support. Accordingly, worldwide green funding right now has not been directed with such an attitude. It is confronted with various issues, including no generally acknowledged principles, serious dangers, and a limited extension and perspective.

Green Financial Instruments

The study and creation of green financial products are categorized into four main sections:

1. Retail finance which refers to financial services provided to individual consumers for their own financial needs, such as loans, credit cards, and mortgages.
2. Asset Management that involves the professional management of investments and other financial assets on behalf of individuals or institutions.
3. Corporate finance that deals with financial activities and decisions related to corporations, such as raising capital, mergers and acquisitions, and financial planning.
4. Insurance which refers to the business of providing coverage and protection against potential financial losses or risks.

In general, governments aim to achieve the following objectives via the implementation of green funding measures:

- Obtain and provide financial resources for environmentally friendly industries and sustainable economic development.
- Support the advancement of low-carbon green development via the creation of innovative financial solutions.
- Encourage the influx of private capital to construct and maintain environmentally friendly infrastructure.
- Enhance the transparency of corporate reporting on environmentally sustainable management strategies and provide more financial assistance to enterprises that use such methods.
- Establish markets for environmental products and services, such as carbon markets, that include carbon credits.

How does green financing operate?

According to Schmidtheiny et al. (1996), green industries and technologies vary in their degree of maturity, which implies that they need different amounts of financing from a variety of sources of capital. First, there are three main sources, which are as follows: (1) The administration of a nation's available financial resources inside its boundaries is what is meant by the term "domestic public finance." (2) International public finance refers to the administration of monetary resources that are distributed across borders of various nations. (3) Funding that is supplied by organizations that are not-for-profit. The expression "homegrown public finance" alludes to the cash that is provided straight by a government, while the expression "global public finance" alludes to the monies that are obtained from worldwide associations, such as multilateral development banks. There are both neighborhood and worldwide wellsprings of cash that are remembered for private-sector funding. Green finance might be coordinated and introduced in various ways, and it tends to be executed through an extensive variety of venture instruments (Figure 1).

Green Finance

Financial Sector	Enhancement of Environment	Growth of Economic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of fresh financial goods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trading the carbon market actively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laws to improve the environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green industries and technology contribute to a better environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouragement of environmentally sustainable enterprises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of profitable trading plans
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of novel technologies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of risk management methods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective functioning of the market for emission trading
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding additional sectors and technological advancements 		

Table 1. Benefits of Green Finance
Source: Noh (2010)

III. Methods and Materials

A search strategy was created for the purpose of conducting this systematic review in order to locate literature that is pertinent to the matter at hand. Scopus and Web of Sciences were the primary databases employed in the search technique. The particular search phrase that was chosen was “green finance.” In spite of this, many authorities have provided a variety of interpretations of the phrase “green financing.” However, the definitions are comparable in terms of both their extent and their substance. Green finance, carbon finance, green fund, green credit, and climate financing are some of the phrases that we have been focusing on within the realm of green finance. We have selected and focussed on these terms. These keywords were chosen not just because they were helpful but also because they were relevant to the articles. The end result was that we were able to determine which subset of green finance was the most relevant to our inquiry. Keywods including “green finance” OR “green financing” AND “climate” OR “climate finance” OR “carbon finance” AND “green bond” OR “green credit” OR “green fund” used in order to get the resource from the databases. The search was primarily centered on the systematic investigation of contemporary research on green finance in the domains of social sciences, business and economics, environmental sciences, and other topics that include a wide range of disciplines. According to the findings of the study, Table 1 displays the total amount of green money that was taken into consideration throughout the systematic review. Our analysis has led us to determine the most relevant subgroup of green finance, which we have identified.

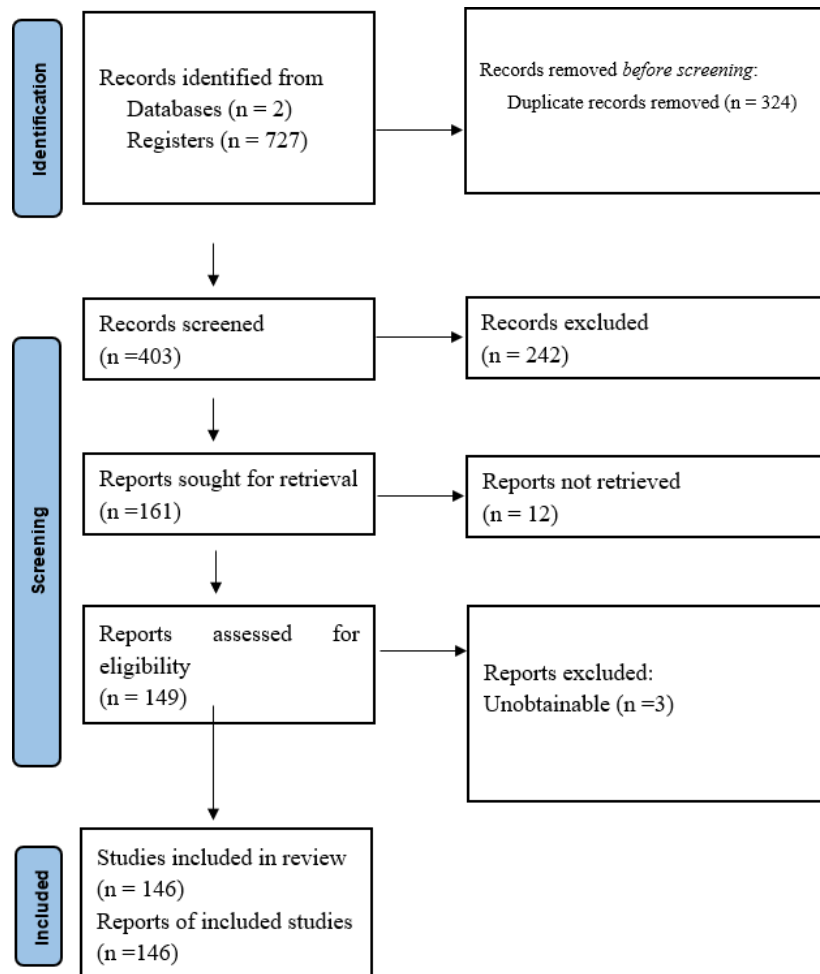


Figure 1: Flowchart of Selection Process.

Through the use of certain keywords, we were able to locate the information by scanning the WOS and Scopus databases. Evaluations that are comparable have used the datasets that were made available. The end consequence was that a single record was replicated while simultaneously use of both databases was carried out. As a result of the fact that both indexes comprise famous academic publications, the majority of articles are included in every index. Because of this, there is a duplication of materials, and it is the obligation of academic authors to sift through these copies and eliminate any duplicates. For the purpose of resolving the problem of duplicate documents, we created a spreadsheet in Microsoft Excel and integrated the two papers that we obtained from the databases. We have devised a set of criteria in order to determine whether or not certain articles need to be included in our evaluation or eliminated from consideration. When it came to accomplishing this objective, we used a wide range of search strategies in order to rapidly analyze and identify the information that was vital and pertinent.

In the beginning, we committed to a certain period of time for the publishing of the study. Only searches that were carried out between the years 2015 and 2022 were taken into consideration, while any searches that were carried out outside of this time period were ignored. The time range that was selected was for the purpose of observing the response of academic writers to green financing after the adoption of the Paris Agreement in 2015. In addition, we took into consideration only research that was published in the English language. We made a conscious decision to exclude all other types of documents and pieces that were published in the media. In the end, we only included papers that were properly classified as articles and reviews that were published in academic journals. In accordance with the PRISMA statement, the selection criteria were established. A fundamental purpose of our search was to examine and classify the existing literature on green finance in the fields of business and economics, social sciences, environmental sciences, and other multidisciplinary disciplines. This was accomplished by conducting a search. We were able to effectively evaluate the progress that has been made in a certain field of research by using our systematic review approach. Following this, we developed new studies that were based on the improvements that were accomplished. All of the articles that did not meet the inclusion criteria were removed from consideration. Both Scopus, which had 526 studies, and Web of Science, which contained

201 research, were used to locate a total of 727 studies. 146 studies were assessed to be relevant for the systematic review out of a total of 727 publications that were found (after difficulties with duplication and screening were resolved). In the case of systematic reviews, there is no prescribed minimum need for the size of the sample. As a result, the sample size of 146 studies that were used in this analysis is enough. The information obtained from each study was extracted and entered into a spreadsheet created in Microsoft Excel with the assistance of the Covidence review application. All of the following information was extracted throughout the process: the abstract of the study, keywords, article titles, names of the authors, and the year that the research was published. The Zotero reference managers were used throughout the process to ensure that all citations and documents were accurately accounted for. This was accomplished via the utilization of the VOS-viewer software program.

IV. Results and Discussion

Trends in Publications

A sample of the study period was conducted using studies on environmentally responsible funding from the years 2015 to 2022. The findings (Figure 2) showed that there has been a rise in the number of publications on green finance research. This suggests that the study field is getting a growing amount of attention from academics, as seen by the steady growth in the number of publications. This is due to the fact that the interest in the subject field has increased since the Paris Agreement was signed in 2015. Based on the findings of our investigation, it seems that the quantity of articles has greatly grown. The year 2016 saw the discovery of one paper, while the year 2021 had the discovery of 64 papers. This illustrates that research on environmentally friendly financing is crucial to a wide variety of industries in the modern world. During the time that this report was made available to the public in 2022, users had access to sixteen new publications that had been published.

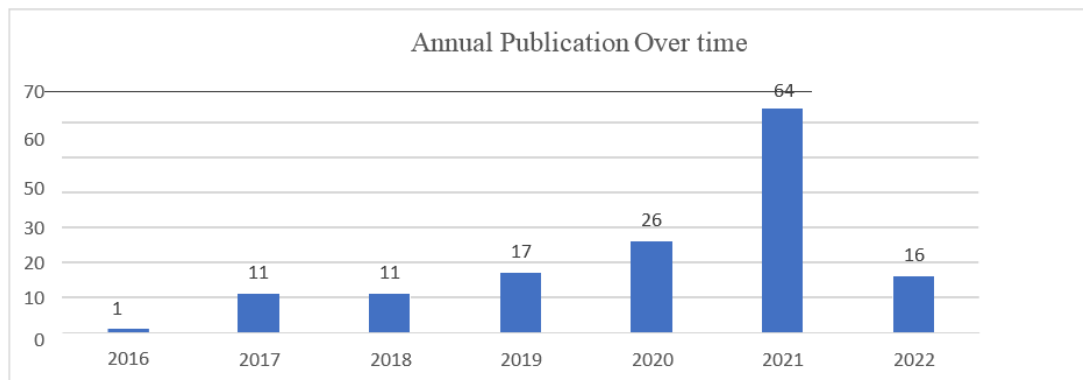


Figure 2. Trends in Publications

How Often the Study's Documents Were Used

As Figure 3 illustrates, journal articles made up 82% of the total materials employed in this investigation. Review papers made up 2% of the documents while proceeding papers were the second most often utilized kind. A greater number of research publications examining methodological and theoretical elements of the study's focus might be beneficial.

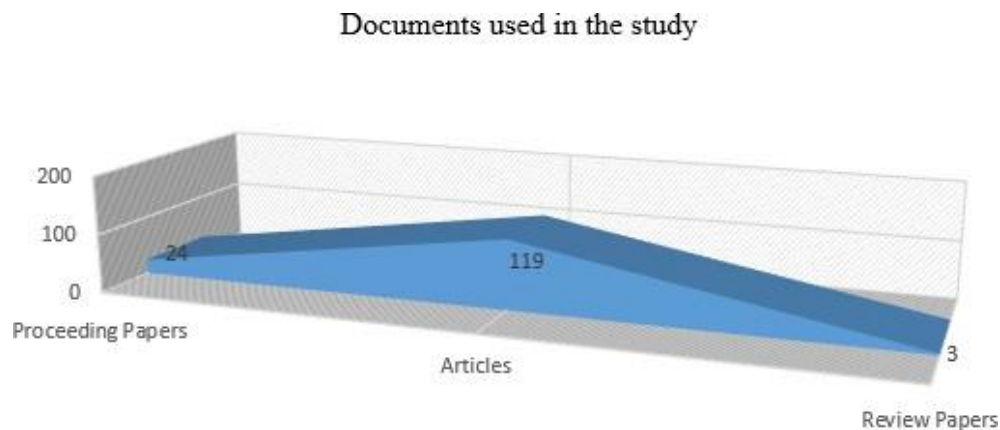


Figure 3. Frequency Distribution of Materials Used.

The exploration articles were summarized through an exact review to choose the one of a kind circumstance and repercussions of the article in the more modest than-typical review. Various results were acquired. In the first place, green money is logically popular in the corporate world. Relationships across different regions are taking on legitimacy to ensure they are reliable with the different biological rules and ways to deal with directing exercises. For instance, delivering associations are taking on feasible power sources as most regional and overall rules demand diminished utilization of oil-based goods. Moreover, the assistance business is putting enthusiastically in uniting sensibility methodology to assist the organizations around them with monetary, social, and normal fortifying. Moreover, money related credit experts will offer assistance to these affiliations depending on the essential that they unite the bet examination and benefit from green revenue in their yearly financial reports. This essential method is a considerable amount to cushion monetary sponsors from setbacks despite the remunerating thought of the financing decision. Regardless, an impressive degree of affiliations and countries have shocking procedures and oversight experts in managing the association of green money and the execution of anticipated projects. Particularly, this obscenity is wild among rising nations as they need a structure and strong ways to deal with control and purposeful non-execution of green money instruments. Moreover, assessment and showing are not seen as imperative to the planning and execution of green exercises. As needs be, ordinary and disconnected models are at this point conveyed in the financial organization of green exercises, provoking concealed secondary effects. A piece of these results consolidates lost needs, deficient bet assessment, and improper conveyance and utilization of land as a fundamental resource.

Green finance refers to the financial systems and mechanisms that support and promote sustainable and environmentally friendly economic development (Doh 2009: 2). Green growth is a collaborative effort that includes technological development companies, financial companies, governments, and consumers. The components should be synchronized to avoid creating discordance. Financial institutions have the potential to successfully capitalize on a number of opportunities that are available in the area of environmentally responsible finance. On account of the critical role that SIDBI plays in promoting, financing, and developing the micro, small, and medium-sized enterprise (MSME) sector, the bank will continue to actively engage as a catalyst for change and participate in activities that are in alignment with the national goals of the government and the Millennium Development Goals. People, the environment, and profits will be the three primary areas of concentration for the bank. The banks of India are going to face a significant obstacle in the near future. On the other hand, Indian banks that have aspirations of becoming global players have no choice but to embrace sustainable finance since it is definitely the future.

Suggestions

- The primary objective is to internalize externalities. Wherever feasible, taxes, levies, and fees should be formulated to make individuals fully aware of the additional societal costs associated with their behaviors that impact the environment. At a minimum, this entails removing the inherent prejudice against ecologically friendly practices included in many municipal tax regulations, as well as addressing the counterproductive incentives resulting from various subsidies that contribute to environmental damage.
- Implementing road-pricing rules may effectively mitigate traffic congestion and environmental pollution. Road-pricing policies, such as congestion charges, are most likely to be very successful in reducing traffic and emissions when they are tailored based on the amount of congestion, peak hours, or both. By including price systems that are tied to the kind of vehicle, it is possible to enhance the motivation to transition towards more environmentally friendly modes of transportation.
- Coherent planning is necessary for income streams connected to transportation. Implementing congestion charges to accomplish environmental goals will be more efficient and cost-effective for users when there are other transportation options available. Governments should consider allocating the income from these charges to fund public transit.
- Charges for water and waste services should be adjusted to accurately reflect the amount of resources being used. Fees and charges should be used as indicators of the limited availability of the resources being used while also including the expenses associated with infrastructure investment and service supply.
- Intergovernmental funding should include environmental goals where it is suitable to do so. This will aid in compensating communities for the opportunity costs associated with environmentally friendly actions, such as the financial loss incurred by waiving development charges when designating an area as a public park. Specific or matching grants may provide financial compensation to local governments for the externalities caused by green initiatives, which result in localized costs but provide widespread benefits.

V. Conclusion

Green growth refers to a type of economic growth that is both environmentally sustainable and economically beneficial. It involves maximizing the positive interaction between the green sector and the economy, resulting in a new pattern of economic growth driven by environmentally friendly practices. The principle of green growth is to continuously improve manufacturing capabilities, reduce environmental pollution through the use of green technology and knowledge, and expand the use of renewable energy and resources. Green money is contemporary money thought that incorporates standard banks while coordinating naturally unambiguous results. This thought can be applied across different endeavors, dependent upon the kind of undertaking that ought to be completed. A piece of the basic undertakings that use green money integrates biomass collecting, water and disinfection plants, energy, tasks, and media interchanges. The potential gain of green money over conventional instruments is that assessing structures coordinates externalities like pollution. Regardless, most banks are hesitant to fund viable endeavors considering unquantified possibilities, a shortfall of adequate information on the common aftereffects of the errands, and serious, informal regulation. The ecological imbalance arises from the excessive release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, leading to the occurrence of global warming. This has prompted governments worldwide to carefully consider this issue for the sake of future generations and have launched efforts to address this crisis by adhering to the Kyoto Agreement or other United Nations initiatives. Within this context, the concept of green money, green investment, green technology, and other environmentally friendly activities may be consolidated into a cohesive framework known as Green Finance. Governments should actively encourage and oversee the development of green industrial markets to facilitate the widespread distribution of environmentally friendly products and stimulate more green consumption. Green financing is crucial for promoting green development as it provides organizations with the necessary money to capitalize on commercial possibilities in the market. If green funding is insufficient, the green industry will not thrive, resulting in the elimination of green items from the market and preventing customers from purchasing them. According to Rutherford (1994), it will ultimately lead to the complete failure of implementing environmentally friendly practices on a large scale.

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