

# **UNDERSTANDING SUPPLIER DEVELOPMENT FROM THE KNOWLEDGE CHAIN PERSPECTIVE**

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## **ABSTRACT**

As one of the key Supply Chain Management (SCM) strategies, supplier development (SD) has been studied from various perspectives. This study aims to examine SD from the knowledge chain (KC) perspective. First, we collected and categorized over 500 variations of SD activities from about 100 articles to explore the relevance of KC to SD at the micro level. Next, we investigated the role of KC in SD from 36 SCM scholars and consultants. Finally, we further validated the SC perspective from a survey of about 300 U.S. SCM practitioners. All our results confirm the perspective of KC in SD.

**Keywords:** Knowledge Chain, Supplier Development, Supply Chain Management