

What makes firms more sensitive to environmental problems?

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An environmental awareness is increasingly important in contemporary world. In particular, the global aspects of CO2 emissions are increasingly relevant and subject to international political actions. Therefore, it is important to understand what kind of firms show a higher environmental consciousness.

In this paper we analyze the determinants, at a firm level, of the monitoring of CO2 emissions. In particular, we analyze the effect of the national context, of the competitive environment, of the human capital level of the firm, of the management characteristics. We also relate such environmental attention to the environment to the size and innovative capability of the firm.

We conduct such analysis in a context which can be considered in the “ascending” part of the environmental Kuznets curve, that is where the concern for environmental protection may be overcome by the desire to grow economically. In fact, we consider emerging and transition countries of Eastern Europe, Central Asia and North-Africa we use data from the Business Environment and Performance Survey (BEEPS), a joint initiative of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the World Bank group. Data are quite recent, from the 6th release (2018-19).