

Value Partners and the Evergrande Situation



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Why would TESCO look to operate in china

- For TESCO, China is a highly attractive market to operate in
- China's rise has boosted international business in conjunction with an improved legal system
- Foreign companies see China as an attractive proposition for 3 reasons
 - Size of the market
 - The very low cost of labour
 - China's growth potential together

Strengths - internal strategic issues

- Tesco holds a degree of Tacit Knowledge stemming from their international strategy
- Customer retention strategy using 'Tesco Clubcard' scheme (Data collection)
- Analysing Tesco through a Resource Based View
 - Capital resources (operating profit of 1.4bn
 - Economies of scale
 - Economies of scope
- Tesco's access to such resources gives them threshold capabilities
 - Tesco has a dynamic capability to meet the needs of a changing environment

Weaknesses

- Lack of knowledge of local market
 - Cultural gap between past Tesco operations and that of their Chinese venture
 - lack of understanding of Chinese consumer
 - Essential to find local suppliers
 - Here, it will be key to find an alliance or Joint Venture in order to assist Tesco's in effectively operating in the chinese market
- Lack of geographic diversification
 - Management the volume of CEO most foreigners in management

Opportunities

- Second largest economy in the world with a greater emphasis on consumption and less so on investment
 - The 13th 5 year plan emphasis wanted to refocus from investment to consumption (UK Govt)
 - Retail sales continue to grow at a rate of 10%
- Cheap and low wages
- China looking to modernise and convert street markets into supermarkets (Gale & Reardon, 2004)
 - purchasing in modern channels rose 14.5% in 2014 (kantarworldpanel, 2014)
- Well integrated in Asian Market
 - "Business ties have been put above political disputes" (Economist, 2015)

Threats

- Competition
 - Retaliation is likely in the form of a price war
 - Competition from large brand names
- Distance sensitivity
- Environmental issue
- High start up costs / poor infrastructure
 - Hard to find suppliers with up to date technology to be integrated into the supply chain

CAGE Framework

Distance still matters - The CAGE Distance Framework (Ghemawat, 2001)

- Contends we live in a semi-globalised world where national & regional differences still exist
- Argues firms often ignore the costs & risks of doing business in new markets
- Conceptualizes distance as a multi-dimensional construct with 4 dimensions which affect products & industries: Summarised in the CAGE Framework
 - Cultural distance
 - Administrative and political distance
 - Geographic distance
 - Economic distance

Culture Distance

Current Shopping Trends in China		
1.	How to buy?	Always in person, no online shopping or other methods available.
2.	Where to buy?	At the closest store possible - no transportation available.
3.	What to buy?	Many of the everyday products Chinese consume are an issue for Western animal rights activists. ¹
4.	When to buy?	Almost daily to buy fresh produce. ²
5.	How much to buy?	Average expenditure per customer is 80 RMB (£7.61) & Chinese only buy as much as they can carry. ³