

Peer Review

Review of: "Disruption, Diversity, and Due Diligence: Charting the Course for Coffee's Future—Key Takeaways from the International Coffee Convention 2024 (ICC2024)"

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The conference report titled *"Disruption, Diversity, and Due Diligence: Charting the Course for Coffee's Future—Key Takeaways from the International Coffee Convention 2024 (ICC2024)"* effectively encapsulates the essence of all sessions held during ICC2024 under the overarching theme *"Coffee in Transition."* The title's 3D framework (Disruption, Diversity, Due Diligence) serves as a robust conceptual foundation that thoroughly represents the event's multifaceted discussions on industry transformation.

Disruption emerges prominently across sessions showcasing radical innovations, from advanced fermentation techniques using cultured yeast to AI-driven deforestation monitoring tools. The CEO Think Tank session exemplified this through forward-looking dialogues about reimagining business models, while research challenging conventional wisdom on "freshly roasted" coffee preferences demonstrated scientific disruption. **Diversity** is equally well-represented, particularly in sessions exploring non-traditional coffee species like Liberica and Excelsa, regional cultural variations in coffee preparation, and sustainable valorization of by-products. The Satellite Workshop on Genetic Resource Conservation perfectly embodied this pillar through its focus on preserving wild coffee species. **Due Diligence** forms the crucial third dimension, evident in EUDR compliance strategies, health claim substantiation research, and quality standardization efforts throughout the value chain.

The report's structure skillfully organizes these elements into a coherent narrative. Each session is presented through the 3D lens while maintaining their interconnectedness—for instance, fermentation

innovations (Disruption) simultaneously address species diversification (Diversity) and meet regulatory standards (Due Diligence). This tripartite approach ensures comprehensive coverage of ICC2024's content, from the Kaldi Award recognition to sensory profile studies, without overlooking any major discussion points.

Minor enhancements could elevate the report further, such as visual mappings of session-to-framework relationships and deeper analysis of how genomic research (Diversity) enables regulatory compliance (Due Diligence). However, the current version already succeeds as both an accurate record and a strategic roadmap, making complex transition concepts accessible to diverse stakeholders—researchers, entrepreneurs, and policymakers alike. With its balanced representation of all ICC2024 content and clear organizational logic, the report title proves exceptionally well-chosen, meriting a 9.5/10 for thematic alignment and clarity of presentation.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.