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UNIVERSITY

LISHAN-REMO, OGUN STATE, NIGERIA

COLLEGE OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

2022/2023 PhD Thesis Abstract

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RT: Sustainability Reporting and Corporate Performance of Listed Deposit Money Banks in Ghana, Kenya, and Nigeria

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AB: A satisfactory corporate performance gives shareholders and potential investors strong confidence in the banks' managerial competence and strategic competitiveness in optimizing their resources. Studies have revealed that the corporate performance of Deposit Money Banks (DMBs) in the selected countries had declined leading to closure of branches and lay-off of sizeable workforce while struggling to remain afloat. Previous studies have reported insensitivity and the extent of responsiveness of the banks to sustainability reporting, hence, the loss of legitimacy of their services which impeded their corporate performances. This study examined the effect of sustainability reporting on the corporate performance (capital adequacy, asset quality, liquidity, earnings ability, and sensitivity to market risk) of listed DMBs in Ghana, Kenya, and Nigeria.

The study employed an *ex-post facto* research design. The population comprised of 95 DMBs listed in Ghana, Kenya, and Nigeria as of 31st December 2021. Thirty-one DMBs with relevant data were purposively selected based on convenience and the nature of the study. Validated data covering a period of 12 years (2010 – 2021) were extracted from published annual reports of the sampled DMBs. The reliability of the data was premised on the auditors' and regulatory agencies' certification of the source documents. Descriptive and inferential (multiple regression) statistics were used to analyze the data at 5% significant level.

The study revealed that the corporate performance of listed DMBs was significantly affected by sustainability reporting ($Adj.R^2 = 0.91$, $W(4, 367) = 4022.84$, $p < 0.05$) while management quality significantly controlled the effect of sustainability reporting on corporate performance

($Adj.R^2 = 0.04$, $W(5, 366) = 7545.37$, $p < 0.05$). Sustainability reporting had significant effect on capital adequacy ($Adj.R^2 = 0.91$, $W(4, 367) = 3958.9$, $p < 0.05$), asset quality ($Adj.R^2 = 0.47$, $W(4, 367) = 342.18$, $p < 0.05$); earnings ability ($Adj.R^2 = 0.05$, $W(4, 367) = 23.32$, $p < 0.05$), liquidity ($Adj.R^2 = 0.64$, $W(4, 367) = 666.47$, $p < 0.05$) and sensitivity to market risk ($Adj.R^2 = 0.74$, $W(4, 367) = 1081.49$, $p < 0.05$) of listed DMBs in Ghana, Kenya, and Nigeria.

The study concluded that sustainability reporting enhanced the corporate performance of listed DMBs in Ghana, Kenya, and Nigeria. It was recommended that management of DMBs should integrate sustainability reporting indices while preparing financial reporting to gain stakeholders' legitimacy. Financial reporting and relevant regulatory agencies in each country ensure proper sustainability reporting by DMBs in Ghana, Kenya, and Nigeria in order to enhance corporate performance.

Keywords: Asset quality, Capital adequacy, Corporate performance, Earnings ability, Environmental indicators, Sensitivity to market risks, Sustainability reporting

Word Count: 402

Abbreviations: RFN: Researcher's Full Name, RD: Researcher's Department, RS: Researcher's School, RE: Researcher's Email, RAE: Researcher's Alternate Email, RP: Researcher's Phone Contact, RT: Registered Title, MS: Main Supervisor, ME: Main Supervisor's E-mail Address, SP: Main Supervisor's Phone Contact, CS: Co-Supervisor, CE: Co-Supervisor's E-mail Address, CP: Co-Supervisor's Phone Contact, AB: Abstract

Suggested Citation: Otolaiye, E.D., Siyanbola, T.T. & Nwaobia, A.N. 2023. Sustainability Reporting and Corporate Performance of Listed Deposit Money Banks in Ghana, Kenya, and Nigeria. PhD Thesis Abstract, College of Postgraduate Studies, Babcock University. [https://doi.org/10.61867/pcub.1\(5\).074](https://doi.org/10.61867/pcub.1(5).074)