



**BABCOCK
UNIVERSITY**

ILISHAN-REMO, OGUN STATE, NIGERIA

COLLEGE OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES 2022/2023 PhD Thesis Abstract

Department of Accounting

RFN: Olubunmi ALAO

RD: Accounting

RS: Management Sciences

RE: bunmialao48@gmail.com

RAE: alaob@hs.babcock.edu.ng

RP: 08035749923

RT: Forensic Accounting Techniques and Financial Crimes in the Public Sector of South-West, Nigeria

MS: Dr. Grace O. OGUNDAJO

ME: ogundajog@babcock.edu.ng

SP: 07065263796

CS: Prof. Festus F. ADEGBIE

CE: adegbief@babcock.edu.ng

CP: 08077807714

AB: Financial crimes are the bane of many economies of the world, Nigeria inclusive. Evidence from literature showed that the economy of every country and the society suffer greatly from corruption and other fraudulent activities, which seem to be a global threat. Also financial crime have been the focus of ongoing discussions in literature as the reason for the current stagnation of developing economies like Africa, Latin America, and Asia. Studies have shown that not many countries have integrated forensic accounting techniques in resolving the problem of financial crimes. This study therefore, examined the effect of forensic accounting techniques on financial crimes (Corruption, Shadow Economy, and Money Laundering) in the public sector of South-West, Nigeria.

The study adopted a survey research design. The population of the study comprised 395 staff working in the Anti-graft agencies and ministry and departmental agencies in South-West, Nigeria. A sample of 254 respondents was determined using the Krejcie and Morgan formula. Purposive sampling technique was used to select the respondents. A structured and validated questionnaire was used to collect data. Two hundred and fifty-four copies were administered with a response rate of 89%. The Cronbach's alpha reliability coefficients for constructs ranged from 0.70 to 0.90. Descriptive and inferential (Multiple Regression) statistics were used to analyze the data at 5% level of significance.

The results showed that forensic accounting techniques had significant effect on corruption ($Adj.R^2 = 0.07$, $F(5, 220) = 4.77$, $p < 0.05$). Audit quality and quality of governance significantly moderated the effect of forensic accounting techniques on corruption ($Adj.R^2 = 0.07$, $F(7, 218) = 3.42$, $p < 0.05$). Forensic accounting techniques had significant effect on shadow economy ($Adj.R^2 = 0.29$, $F(5, 220) = 19.78$, $p < 0.05$). Audit quality and quality of governance significantly moderated the effect of forensic accounting techniques on shadow economy ($Adj.R^2 = 0.26$, $F(7, 218) = 17.19$, $p < 0.05$). Forensic accounting techniques had significant effect on money laundering ($Adj.R^2 = 0.26$, $F(5, 220) = 12.61$, $p < 0.05$) and Audit quality and quality of governance significantly controlled the effect of forensic accounting techniques on money laundering in the public sector of South-west, Nigeria ($Adj.R^2 = 0.26$, $F(7, 218) = 12.61$, $p < 0.05$).

The study concluded that forensic accounting techniques resolved financial crimes in the public sector of South-West, Nigeria. It was recommended that the Anti-graft agencies and Ministry and departmental agencies should integrate forensic accounting techniques into their processes in order to achieve transparency and accountability in the management of public funds. The governments of South-West, Nigeria should establish forensic accounting units in the ministries and departments in order to monitor their daily transactions.

Keywords: Accounting techniques, Audit quality, Quality of governance, Financial crimes, Forensic accounting techniques, Public sector

Word Count: 436

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: Alao, O., Ogundajo, G.O. & Adegbe, F.F. 2023. Forensic Accounting Techniques and Financial Crimes in the Public Sector of South-West, Nigeria. PhD Thesis Abstract, College of Postgraduate Studies, Babcock University. [https://doi.org/10.61867/pcub.1\(5\).064](https://doi.org/10.61867/pcub.1(5).064)