The recent issue of the journal Corporate Governance and Sustainability Review is devoted to the issues of corporate governance and value of family-owned businesses, cooperative banks’ M&A, CG and sustainability for businesses and for social development etc.

In particular, Sabeen Skandar and Waqaas Mahmood investigate the relationship between practices of corporate governance in family-owned firms operating in cement sector, listed in Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) with their value (firm value). Kimte Harada examines the performances of Japanese cooperative banks (Shinkin) during the merger waves from 1994 to 2003. Shirley Mo-Ching Yeung, Chloé Ko and Heidi Leung review visually re-design service processes for quality sustainable development. Hugh Grove and Mac Clouse provide a summary of current sustainability issues and trends of ESG reporting companies which register higher financial performance than their non-operating competitors. Therese Chidiak El Hajj examines the importance of a corporate governance system for a sustainable social and political development in Lebanese experience.

Some of the aspects of the topics studied in mentioned papers were explored in the academic literature previously. For example different studies have considered the effects of family ownership on performance of listed companies in specific countries (Filatotchev et al., 2005; Klein et al. 2005; Brenes et al., 2011; Basco, 2013; Cannella et al., 2013; Calabri et al., 2017; Fahed-Sreir, 2008; Memoli et al., 2016; Pounnder, 2015). However, the paper is referred to a specific sector with a positive relationship between firm value and corporate governance metrics in Pakistan and it is new. Japanese banking system has main peculiarities as shown in Kawai (2005) and the case of Shinkin banks is really a less investigated theme and the paper presented in the issue is surely an in-depth analysis of the problem and is an important contribution to the empirical evidence on corporate governance performance. The results show that the business case for ESG investing is empirically very well founded (Friede et al., 2011; Galant & Cadez, 2017; Di Giacomo & Cenci, 2018). The previous review studies analyzes only a fraction of existing primary studies, making findings difficult to generalize. Thus, knowledge on the financial effects of ESG criteria remains fragmented. To overcome this shortcoming, the study provides a summary of current sustainability issues and trends of ESG reporting companies which register higher financial performance than their non-operating competitors. Therese Chidiak El Hajj examines the importance of a corporate governance system for a sustainable social and political development in Lebanese experience.

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