

EDITORIAL: Recent debates on corporate governance and sustainability

Dear readers!

It is of great honour to introduce the third issue of Volume 5 (2021) of the journal *Corporate Governance and Sustainability Review*.

Debates on current issues of corporate governance and sustainability are an ongoing journey towards good governance practices (Alkaraan, 2018). Corporate governance and sustainability issues created dialogues among researchers, practitioners, regulators, and policy-makers. This is not surprising due to the impact of such debates on organisational performance, environmental and social issues relevant to Sustainable Developments Goals (SDGs). The six papers published in this issue add to our knowledge various implications and social applications and offer the opportunity to gain a better understanding of corporate governance and sustainability in different contexts and settings. *Emmanuel Selase Asamoah* and *Albert Puni* examine the relationships between corporate governance and financial performance of listed companies, Ghana Stock Exchange (GSE), over the period 2015–2020.

Currently, many organisations at restructuration processes regarding business model transformation towards a circular economy and incorporating their stakeholders' expectations into their overall business plan. *Sweta Srivastava Malla* and *Sharad Chandra Sharma* articulate how understanding consumer perceptions of various CSR initiatives will aid in aligning business behaviour with stakeholder expectations as a vital criterion to ensure business model sustainability. The findings of their study show that consumers are influenced by CSR platforms, initiatives, and specific marketing strategies. Outcomes of their results offer implications and applications for practitioners. *Jameel Aljaloudi* investigates the impact of COVID-19 on the economy within the context of Jordan. His study rooted in key macro-economic indicators; economic growth, an unemployment rate, foreign trade (imports and exports), public revenues, public spending, a public debt, and a budget deficit. The findings of his study indicate a slowdown in the rate of economic growth, an increase in the unemployment rate, a decrease in exports and imports, an increase in the public debt, and a budget deficit.

The study of *Deepika Saxena*, *Neelam Dhall*, and *Rashika Malik* focuses on exploring various sustainable banking practices, in national and international settings, and identifying the existing framework developed for assessing the performance of sustainable banking practices. They develop a framework for assessing the performance of sustainable banking practices. They highlight that sustainability issues focused by banks primarily involve environmental and social considerations, however, the governance aspect has not yet been considered by many. The study of *Jagvinder Singh*, *Shubham Singhania*, and *Deepti Aggrawal* offers a comprehensive review of the influence of gender diversity on corporate boards using bibliometric mapping. Also, their study articulated agenda for future research. Another interesting exploratory study by *Poojaa Gokarna* and *Bala Krishnamoorthy* regarding corporate social responsibility in the time of COVID-19. Findings of their study show evidence regarding corporate commitment towards alleviating the consequence of the virus by multiple CSR strategies.

The above six papers contribute to previous research findings articulated corporate governance and sustainability issues where scholars adopt different paradigms and lenses (Adams & Abhayawansa, 2021; EmadEldeen, Elbayoumi, Basuony, & Mohamed; 2021; Alkaraan & Floyd, 2020; Davidson & Rowe, 2004; Hafez, 2016; Gerged, Cowton, & Beddewela, 2018; Kyereboah-Coleman, Adjasi, & Abor, 2007; Alkaraan, 2017, 2019, 2021; Rossi, Nerino, & Capasso, 2015). Yet, corporate governance and sustainability research remains open for debate from different perspectives.

Enjoy the reading!

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