

The Effect of Ownership Structure on Sustainable Development Goals Disclosure in Jordanian Commercial Banks - The Moderating Role of Board Gender Diversity

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Abstract

This study aims to examine how ownership structure effects on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) disclosure in Jordanian commercial banks and the moderating role of gender diversity in this context. The study sample consisted of all Jordanian commercial banks listed on Amman Stock Exchange (ASE) which includes (12) banks. To achieve the aims of the study, the study used a descriptive analytical approach, multiple linear regression analysis to test the hypotheses. The methodology of this study is based on using information collected from the annual reports of (12) Jordanian commercial banks listed on ASE during the period 2018 to 2022. The results show a positive correlation between the ownership of the board of directors and the disclosure of the SDGs, highlighting the important role that corporate governance plays in promoting sustainable practices. On the other hand, concentration ownership exhibits a negative correlation with SDGs disclosure, indicating possible obstacles to sustainability and transparency. Additionally, positive correlations between SDGs disclosure and both organizational and foreign ownership suggest that these factors have an effect on fostering sustainability and transparency. However, diversity initiatives may be able to offset any potential negative effects, as evidenced by the positive moderating effect of board gender diversity on the relationship between concentration ownership and SDGs disclosure. In conclusion, valuing diversity may encourage progress toward sustainable development objectives both inside and outside the banking industry. Organizations can address environmental and social challenges, reduce governance risks, and generate long-term value for stakeholders by encouraging transparency, accountability, and stakeholder engagement. The complex interactions between ownership structures, gender diversity on boards, and their effects on SDG disclosure should be the subject of more research. This means considering extra contextual factors and looking at longitudinal data to record evolving patterns over time. For policymakers and other industry stakeholders looking to improve sustainability disclosure and governance practices, this kind of research would give them a more thorough understanding of how ownership dynamics and board compositions affect sustainability practices in the banking sector.

Keywords: ownership structure, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), gender diversity, foreign ownership, concentrated ownership, board of directors (BOD) ownership, organizational ownership.