

Bibliometric Analysis of the Literature on Reporting Non-Financial Information in Emerging Economy Countries

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Abstract

Non-financial information has become crucial for reporting corporate social responsibility in the European Union (EU) and not only in the EU, the meaning of the term "non-financial information" is not clearly defined. This term has been used by various reporting models and standards in recent decades, encouraging different interpretations encompassing contextual narrative information about information about intangible assets and intellectual capital, environmental, social and governance issues. Thus, the meaning of the term "non-financial information" can be contextually or geographically dependent, and often its interpretation most likely depends on the perception of the sender of the information (preparator) and receiver (interested party). Non-financial information includes an overview of issues related to environmental and social impacts and policies of the company. The purpose of this paper is to find out the interest evolution within the emerging economies.

Key words: bibliometric analysis, emerging economies, non-financial reporting

J.E.L. classification: O00

1. Introduction

Emerging economy countries, characterized by rapid industrialization, diverse cultural landscapes, and unique socio-economic challenges, present a compelling arena for exploration. The disclosure of non-financial information in these regions carries implications for sustainable development, social responsibility, and corporate governance. This study aims to systematically examine and synthesize the existing body of scholarly work, unraveling the patterns, trends, and knowledge gaps that have emerged over time. In the pages that follow, we navigate through the corpus of literature, tracing the evolution of thought, synthesizing conceptual frameworks, and pinpointing areas warranting further investigation. As we embark on this bibliometric journey, our aim is to provide scholars, practitioners, and policymakers with a nuanced understanding of the current state of knowledge, fostering dialogue and inspiring future avenues of research in the dynamic field of reporting non-financial information within emerging economy countries.

2. Theoretical background

Bibliometric analysis has become increasingly used in recent years (Donthu et al., 2020, Donthu, Kumar, Pattnaik, & Lim, 2021, Khan et al., 2021), and this is due to the increasing availability and access to software such as Gephi, Leximancer, VOS Viewer, and databases such as Scopus and Web of Science (Andrikopoulos et al).

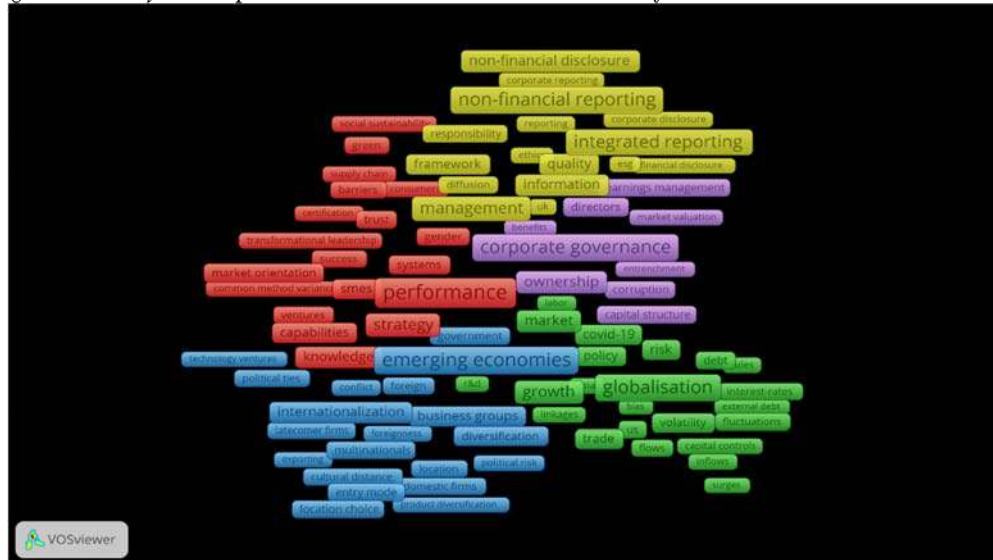
Bibliometric analysis is used for various reasons, such as discovering emerging trends in journal performance, collaboration models, exploring the intellectual structure of a specific field in existing literature (Donthu et al., 2021, Verma and Gustafsson, 2020, Donthu et al., 2020). Bibliometric analysis is useful for mapping scientific knowledge in different fields, giving meaning to large volumes of data.

3. Research methodology

Bibliometric analysis includes two main processes: performance analysis and scientific mapping (Cobo et al. 2011). In the first part of the study, a performance analysis was carried out that evaluated the impact of a group of academic researchers and their activities (type of published documents, field of study, language, country, number of publications). In the second part of the study, scientific mapping is carried out by presenting the cognitive structure of the study, presenting structural and dynamic aspects of science. From a scientific mapping perspective, the study analyzes the structure of the network and the different research components on research topics, the grouping identified for research topics, the importance of identified key topics.

In order to perform the bibliometric analysis there were included the most relevant articles published in the WoSCC database. In order to select the relevant articles, we included the following keywords "non-financial reporting", "integrated reporting", "sustainability reporting", "emerging economies", "emerging countries" and chose the period 2000 – 2022 to have an overview of the evolution of this field. The app identified 114 common terms across its 5,068 publications.

Figure no.1. Keyword representation related to the total number of citations



Source: own processing using data from VOS Viewer

Table no. 1 Keywords related to the total number of citations

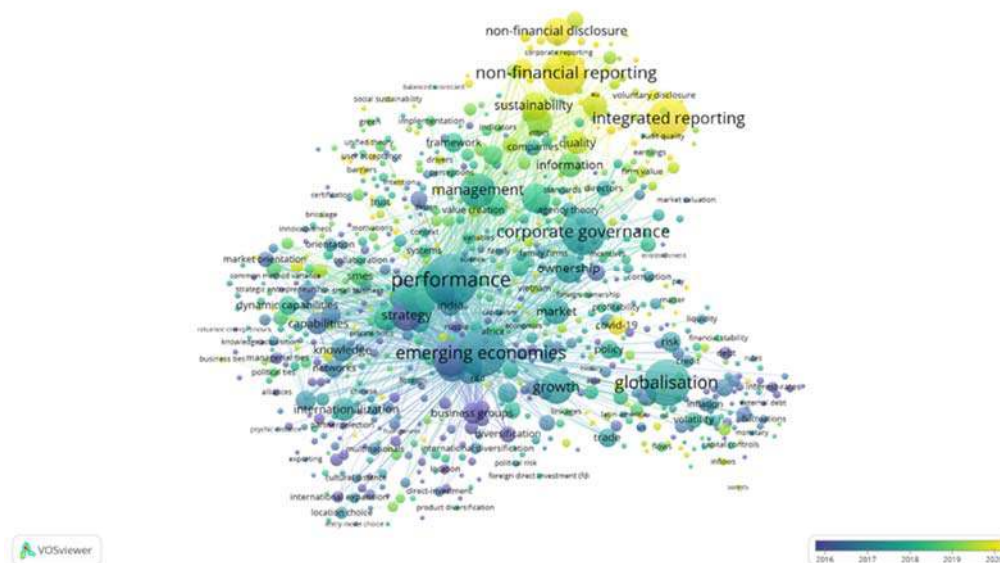
GLOBALIZATION cluster 1 (green)	PERFORMANCE cluster 2 (red)	EMERGING ECONOMIES Cluster 3 (blue)	NON-FINANCIAL/INTEGRATED REPORTING Cluster 4 (yellow)	CORPORATE GOVERNANCE cluster 5 (purple)
Policy Market Labor COVID-19 Risk Debt Rules Growth R&D Trade U.S. Flows	Social sustainability Green Supply chain Consumers Barriers Trust Gender Certification Transformational leadership Success	Government Technology ventures Political ties Foreign conflict Internationalization Business groups Latecomer firms Foreignness Diversification Multinationals Exporting	Corporate reporting Non-financial disclosure Reporting Corporate disclosure Responsibility Ethics Quality ESG	Earnings management Directors Benefits Market valuation Entrenchment Ownership Corruption Capital structure

Volatility Interest rates External Debts Fluctuations Capital Controls Inflows Surges Asia Rules	Systems Market orientation SMES Common method variance Ventures Strategy Capabilities	Location Political risk Cultural distance Location Entry mode Domestic firms Location choice Product diversification	Financial disclosure Information Framework Diffusion Management UK	
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Source: own processing using data from VOS Viewer

To see the interest evolution of non-financial reporting there was developed a specific representation using Vos Viewer.

Figure no. 2 Representing the evolution of non-financial reporting



Source: own processing using data from VOSviewer

maintain interest in investors, attract capital, respectively the importance of transparency and responsible management in the success of a company.

VOS Viewer presents three different types of visualization for bibliometric mapping: Network view, overlay view, and density view.

5. Conclusions

The bibliometric analysis of non-financial reporting literature provides valuable insights into the evolving landscape of this critical field. The examination of academic publications, citation patterns, and key thematic areas offers a comprehensive understanding of the trends, challenges, and advancements in non-financial reporting research. The increasing attention to non-financial metrics and disclosures reflects a growing recognition of the importance of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors in corporate decision-making.

The bibliometric analysis underscores the interdisciplinary nature of non-financial reporting, with contributions from diverse fields such as accounting, sustainability, corporate governance, and social responsibility. This interdisciplinary approach is essential for addressing the complex and interconnected issues associated with non-financial reporting, as it involves not only financial considerations but also ethical, environmental, and social dimensions.

Furthermore, the identification of prolific authors, influential journals, and seminal works provides a roadmap for researchers, practitioners, and policymakers interested in delving deeper into non-financial reporting. Collaboration and knowledge-sharing across academic disciplines and industry sectors are crucial for fostering a holistic understanding of non-financial reporting and for developing effective strategies that contribute to sustainable and responsible business practices.

6. Acknowledgement

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7. References

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