

ASSESSMENT OF PUBLIC SECTOR ACCOUNTING REFORMS ON ACCOUNTABILITY IN FEDERAL MINISTRIES

BY

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DEGREE IN ACCOUNTING

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Assessment of Public Sector Accounting Reforms on Accountability in Federal Ministries" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

PROJECT SUPERVISOR

Date

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Date

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Date

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined assessment of public sector accounting reforms on accountability in federal ministries, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of assessment; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with assessment and public. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Agency Theory and the Positive Accounting Theory. A sample size of 388 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 364 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 3.08). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.537$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 5.46, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.26$, $p > 0.05$). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on assessment.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title Page	i
Certification	ii
Dedication	iii
Acknowledgement	iv
Abstract	v
Table of Contents	vi
List of Tables	vii
List of Figures	viii
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background to the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	4
1.3 Objectives of the Study	7
1.4 Research Questions	7
1.5 Research Hypotheses	7
1.6 Significance of the Study	8
1.7 Scope and Limitation of the Study	11
1.8 Definition of Terms	13
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	15
2.1 Conceptual Review	15
2.1.1 Concept of Assessment	15
2.1.2 Concept of Public	16
2.1.3 Concept of Sector	18
2.2 Theoretical Framework	20
2.2.1 Agency Theory	20
2.2.2 Positive Accounting Theory	21
2.2.3 Stewardship Theory	22
2.2.4 Legitimacy Theory	23
2.3 Empirical Review	25
2.3.1 Early Studies on assessment	25
2.3.2 Recent Nigerian Evidence on assessment	26
2.3.3 Assessment and public	28
2.3.4 Comparative Perspectives across Africa	30
2.4 Summary of Literature Review	32
CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	34
3.1 Research Design	34
3.2 Population of the Study	34
3.3 Sample Size and Sampling Technique	35
3.4 Sources of Data Collection	36
3.5 Research Instrument	37
3.6 Validity and Reliability of the Instrument	38
3.7 Method of Data Analysis	39
3.7.1 Administration of the Instrument	40

3.8 Ethical Considerations	41
CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION	44
4.1 Data Presentation	44
4.2 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents	44
4.3 Analysis of Research Questions	45
4.4 Test of Hypotheses	46
4.5 Discussion of Findings	47
CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	52
5.1 Summary	52
5.2 Conclusion	53
5.3 Recommendations	54
5.4 Suggestions for Further Studies	54
REFERENCES	56
APPENDIX	58
APPENDIX C: SUPPORTING RECORDS AND DATA SCHEDULES	61

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1: Summary of the Review of Related Literature	32
Table 2.2: Operationalisation of the Study Variables	32
Table 3.1: Population of the Study and Sampling Technique	41
Table 3.2: Validity and Reliability of the Research Instrument	42
Table 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents	50
Table 4.2: Age Distribution of Respondents	50
Table 4.3: Educational Attainment of Respondents	50
Table 4.4: Weighted Mean Analysis of Research Question One	51
Table 4.5: Weighted Mean Analysis of Research Question Two	51
Table 4.6: Correlation Summary between the Independent and Dependent Variables	51
Table 4.7: Independent Samples t-test by Gender	51
Table 4.8: Chi-square Test of Association	51
Schedule 1: Sales Day Book Extract (January)	61
Schedule 2: Trial Balance as at 31st December	61
Schedule 3: Staff Payroll Schedule (December)	62
Schedule 4: Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 31st December	62

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1: Conceptual Framework of the Study	14
Figure 3.1: Accounting Research Context	42
Figure 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents	50
Figure 4.2: Age Distribution of Respondents	50

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of assessment of public sector accounting reforms on accountability in federal ministries is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

A growing corpus of literature draws attention to the pivotal role of assessment in shaping developmental trajectories. Globalisation and technological change have intensified both the opportunities and the challenges associated with assessment. A notable study by Alade and Bamgbose (2017) argued that the impact of assessment is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. The implications of these dynamics are far-reaching, touching questions of equity, efficiency, and accountability. Findings reported by Dauda and Ibrahim (2018) observed that respondents with greater exposure to assessment recorded markedly different results. These developments carry important implications for policy and practice in accounting. Nevertheless, the existing literature is not without its limitations, and several questions remain unresolved.

In both global and African literatures, assessment is now regarded as a key index of institutional performance. Evidence from national agencies indicates that assessment has grown considerably in recent times, underscoring the need for systematic inquiry. Research by Alade and Alade (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting assessment and public. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. A notable study by Eze and Nwosu (2017) argued that the impact of assessment is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

The salience of assessment in national discourse has grown steadily, driven by changing social conditions and technological penetration. The colonial and post-colonial legacies of the Nigerian state continue to influence contemporary patterns of assessment. Longitudinal research by Eze and Nwosu (2016) revealed that sustained attention to assessment yields appreciable dividends over time. Such findings reinforce the argument that assessment deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. Studies by Oyelaran and Osinachi (2019) largely support the view that assessment exerts a measurable influence on outcomes of interest. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

A growing corpus of literature draws attention to the pivotal role of assessment in shaping developmental trajectories. Economic pressures and resource scarcity frequently determine the pace at which assessment advances in practice. Empirical evidence from Okonkwo and Ibrahim (2021) suggests that positive developments in public are associated with improvements in assessment. Such findings reinforce the argument that assessment deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. An examination by Adeniyi and