



Overview of Financial Accounting and Managerial Accounting in Singapore

Zhu Rui

Faculty of business and law, University of Portsmouth

ABSTRACT

The primary goal of this research was to assess the Singapore Financial Accounting and Managerial Reporting Standards. Financial reporting is used by businesses all over the globe to report their financial performance. Historically, financial reporting formats differed from nation to country, and each country's financial reporting procedures followed a set of principles, laws, or conventions that arose in that country's political, legal, economic, and cultural surroundings.

This study utilized qualitative method and used written documents as where the researcher got the data. As a result, financial reporting often lacked worldwide comprehensibility and acceptability.

Singapore has been pursuing a path of convergence of Singapore Financial Reporting Standards (SFRS) with IFRS for Singapore-listed companies, and Singapore has adopted substantially all IFRSs issued by the IASB as SFRSs, albeit with varying effective dates and transition requirements. The timescale for complete convergence, on the other hand, has been pushed back to await advances in the main initiatives on revenue recognition, financial instruments, and the impairment loss model, all of which are important to Singapore businesses.

Keywords: Financial Accounting, Managerial Accounting, Singapore Financial Reporting Standards,

Introduction

Business altogether countries of the globe have been considered vital for private and societal development. It is the insight of the indispensable role of Business in the development of man and modern society that various declarations on Business are made worldwide. Decision-making, as an integral of designing, maybe a very crucial and indispensable aspect of management and essential for the success of instructional management. It is therefore imperative that faculty managers be knowledgeable in deciding on effective company administration. Managing funds is that one of the main tasks of managers. The responsibility for the accuracy of the financial records lies with the manager, albeit he or she does not maintain the financial records daily (OECD, 2018).

The current challenges in class management demand that Managers develop capabilities to affect their responsibilities effectively. Such capabilities include communication, delegation, team building, project management, critical thinking coordination, directing, innovation, budget analysis, and expenditure monitoring (Muturi, 2015). Studies have shown that a number of the ways of determining the extent of competency include formal Business, work training, and experience; others hold that personal characteristics hold the key to effective work behavior. The success of any company program depends considerably on the way the financial inputs are managed. Ogbonnaya (2016) stated that the essential purpose of financial management is to use funds and ensure that the funds so mobilized are used in the best and efficient manner. He further outlines the subsequent means through which companies could raise company fees, government grants, proceeds from company activities, community efforts, donations from individuals, charity organizations, endowment funds.

The organization and its company heads remain involved in direct management and operations, including procurement, health and nutrition, project management, and building of physical facilities, when it should be performing a more directive role. The appointment system of a manager or company head in Singapore is not purely supported by expertise possessed by the individual within the company management also as their training on leadership and management. Instead, most managers or company heads are appointed supported seniority or the length of service rendered. Therefore, company heads will have no choice but to manage the finance and accounts of their respective companies assisted by the financial clerk. This, in due course, will cause the varsity heads to lose confidence in deciding reference to the financial management of their companies. This unsatisfactory situation will be worse if Business officials are not involved in monitoring and handing assistance to them (Fe, 2019).

This study is meant to assess the financial skills, practices, and responsibilities of managers in managing company finances in-tuned. Financial management in companies involves efficient and effective utilization of institutional financial resources to satisfy management goals. Poor financial management by company managers of management institutions has been cited as a significant impediment in attaining management goals.

Research Objectives

This study is intended to evaluate the overview of financial accounting and managerial accounting in Singapore. Specifically, it seeks to answer the following questions.

1. How Singaporean assessed the financial skills of managers in terms of the following?
 - 2.1 Financial Attitude
 - 2.2 Financial Behaviour
 - 2.3 Financial Knowledge
2. How Singaporean assessed the financial management practices of managers in terms of the following?
 - 3.1 Company Funds utilization
 - 3.2 Liquidation
 - 3.3 Fund Raising
 - 3.4. Donation
3. What are the accounting standards in Singapore?

Literature Review

Ogbonnaya (2015) stated that so as to make sure effective financial control both internally and externally, the controlling body must establish a system of monetary administration by the varsity manager which safeguards the assets of the general public authorities, ensures that the entire financial consequences of all policies and schemes are considered at the acceptable decision level, ensures that each one authority optimum value for money from the services provided, ensures that the cash is spent wisely, ensures that the foremost desirable services are provided economically and efficiently, ensures that the objectives set are literally attained, ensuring that the organization is effective, ensures that the organization adopts a multidisciplinary or corporate approach to problem solving and exercise general financial supervision and oversight.

According to Banham (2019), a more efficient budgeting process involves developing systems that permits the budget makers and various heads of departments to be incorporated into the choice making process through various committees. Therefore, there's usually the necessity for the varsity central budget holders to use the varied company departmental budget proposals within the budget preparation. Each department's specifications of quite goods and services should tend intimately to be included within the company central budget proposals before the budget proposals are submitted to the varsity central tender committee and before this committee meets to award the tenders. However, in most of the general public companies the budget making process doesn't have any room for departmental inputs. This is often a loop hole that would deny the varsity quality goods and. A separate capital budget should be involved by the Board and details given to Board members when transactions occur. Budget Variance Explanation: an evidence of any variances plus or minus 10% on each item of the forward budget previously submitted to the Minister should be submitted to the Board.

Jeremy M. Lynch's research article "Responsibilities of Today's Manager: Implications for Manager Preparation Programs and Manager Certification Policies" stated that historically, the managers were disciplinarians and managers of the teachers. Accorder managers now got to combat responsibility for personnel management, funds and strategic planning under the present federal legislation. The administrators today must also accept responsibility for being the tutorial leaders of their companies. As management leaders, the leaders of all students, including students with disabilities, are liable for learning. This role is increased in rural company systems where an outsized percentage of scholars with disabilities are generally suffering from high rates of attrition to special management instructors. For these reasons, the most preparatory programs today got to reconstruct philosophies and practices and reconstruct them.

Fullwood's study "Common Leadership Responsibilities of Managers of Successful Turnaround Model Companies" aimed to seek out which leadership roles within the fields of confidence, communication, learning and joint leadership have often been viewed as most essential for leading an intermediate-level intervention model company by elementary and secondary company directors of successful turnaround companies. the themes of Fritj of Capra (2018), and of the 21 leadership responsibilities identified by Robert Marzano are identified as leaders, leadership practices, and turnaround processes within the areas of trust, communications, training and shared leadership (2005). This study helped to know literature on how the state of California has did not improve or "turnaround" a faculty. With this understanding, it's becoming increasingly obvious the way to choose directors to steer companies with current and increasing achievement gaps.

Research Design

The qualitative research method was used in this study particularly through written documents. They also want to learn about the intricacies of our social environment. They were inductive and have commonalities in that they investigate 'what,' 'why,' and 'how' questions, as opposed to 'how much' and 'how many' inquiries favored by quantitative research. Researchers want to examine objects in their natural environments and to add up or interpret the meanings that individuals give to their experiences in daily language. The qualitative inquiry distinguishes itself by its experiential knowledge of the intricate interrelationships between phenomena and its direct interpretation of occurrences. As a result, the emphasis was on attempting to uncover patterns of unexpected and predicted connections in instances or events. Researchers do this by using their subjective judgment while demonstrating how their assumptions influence the information generated via personal reflexivity during a kind of self-analysis and self-evaluation throughout the study

Data method collection

Secondary data will be gathered in academic papers that will be available for internet and conventional study via the library. However, previous records, compliance reports from the past, articles, journals, and internet resources will be used to understand and evaluate the existing instructional module to ensure it aids in the intended research area and to gain knowledge in the theory, recent and past studies on how to make an effective and comprehensive activity in students. To get in-depth study resources, the researcher will visit the journal's website on interactive instructional technology apps for music teachers.

As the study project progresses, the secondary sources will be changed and updated. In this regard, the researcher intends to utilize the following secondary sources: Publications from the World Economic Forum, include news stories, online articles, school reviews and research papers, case studies, and books.

Code of Ethics

1. The researcher accepts full responsibility for the publishing of this research effort. To prevent plagiarism and copyright infringement, proper referencing and acknowledgement of public and unpublished sources was used.
2. Any sensitive data or information acquired during the study must be treated with strict secrecy. All data gathered will be used only for the purpose of completing the study project.
3. The researcher must maintain objectivity by putting aside any personal prejudices and relying on objective analysis and conclusions based on facts verified by numerous sources.
4. The researcher must take all necessary measures to guarantee the above-mentioned principles were implemented and followed.

Data Analysis

Financial Skills

Financial Attitude. How managers answer new powers and responsibilities depends partly on their attitude of their role. According to Bisscoff and Sayed (2016), with regard to the changing role of the manager in collaborative and participative decision-making places the responsibility for the financial management. Thus, the manager as a member of the governing body cannot make decisions on his/her own. The manager has got to consult all stakeholders on the administration in reference to financial management. Therefore, if a manager is not accustomed to such forms of decision-making, he or she will now have to change their manner of management to suit the changing circumstances. In this way, Robb, Babiarz and Woodyard (2015) make a distinction between the terms, claiming that financial literacy involves the power to know financial information and make effective decisions. In short, the most focus financial status of Business is knowledge, while financial literacy involves, additionally to knowledge, the individuals' behavior and financial attitude. According to Atkinson and Messy (2015) financial attitudes are established through economic and non-economic beliefs held by a choice maker on the result of a particular behaviour.

Financial Behaviour. Such capabilities include communication, delegation, team building, project management, critical thinking coordination, directing, innovation, budget analysis and monitoring of expenditure (Muturi, 2015). Accountability may be a very recent found term mostly utilized in day today's administrative policy also as law, theory and practice. Accountability originates from financial accounting. This should be seen as they plan, control and monitor the finances throughout financial management and in budgeting, accounting and monitoring effective implementation of faculty budget. The criteria for appointing the managers of companies should be reviewed in order to meet the signs of the time and the challenges in managing bulky money in companies and monitor books of accounts (Wango, 2016).

Financial Knowledge. One of the issues arises within the appointment company managers managers is that the appointment itself isn't supported the training and expertise possessed by company heads. The said company head also will be heavily hooked in to the accounting clerk who is understood to be experienced within the company financial management (Naidoo, 2016). Accordingly, problems were arisen when expenditure is formed without proper planning which can cause other impediments like failure to use the funds to realize intended purposes. Additionally, several procurement procedures can also show incongruities like purchases made without proper order forms which obtained beforehand suppliers. Thus, if company manager head doesn't have an equivalent level of data of company financial management, this may cause his/her failure plan, manage and control the company accounts effectively (Hart, 2017).

Financial Management Practices

Company Funds utilization. Financial management in Business is that the most significant realm, the effective dealing of which ensures the promotion of Business quality achieved by the supply of resources. Management expenditures are considered as investment, which forms one among the tangible inputs. Analyses are often wont to identify company effectiveness. Proper ratio of expenditures is often maintained by keeping a balance between spending on teachers and instructional processes also as expenditures on management and pupils. The financial aspect of faculties also merits consideration because the allocation of funds and its proper utilization on students' learning enhance the interior efficiency of faculties. But unfortunately, a meagre amount is allocated annually; to colleges which aren't capable help promote the efficiency of faculties. Consistent with Masood et al (2014) Government's spending on Business shows what proportion priority is given by Government to the Business sector. Company heads also fail to plan available resources in managing the funds proficiently. Accordingly, problems were arisen when expenditure is formed without proper planning which can cause other impediments like failure to use the funds to realize intended purposes.

Liquidation. It is also as important delays in transfers, which leave company heads with less time to follow complex procurement procedures. Some companies reveal that they find it hard to use the funds that they are doing receive due to complicated or overburden procurement and reporting requirements. Apparently, inadequate financial management trainings among company heads and corrupt practices of some managers resulted to poor management of faculty funds. In some cases, managers have a difficult time making reports of faculty funds for procuring goods and services and preparing liquidation reports (Mestry, 2016). Such reports shall be consolidated by the RO and submitted to the headquarters thru the Accounting Division-FS every 10th day of the subsequent month using the. The discharge, utilization and liquidation of faculty funds shall be in accordance with the prevailing budgeting, accounting, procurement and auditing rules and regulations.

Fund Raising. Fundraising may be a method that communities use to support the expansion of their companies, and therefore the manager is usually liable for his company's fundraising activities. It's also his duty is to make sure that the company funds for the proper purpose. Before conducting a fundraising effort, a manager has got to discuss the aim with staff and students' parents. When a faculty decides to conduct a fundraising, the manager should consider the rules of public Business, if applicable, and suits them. Many faculties have a system in situ where approval from the manager is mandatory before a fundraiser can commence. This is often an honest idea (Petrick, 2017). The fundraising activity must be managed properly so it doesn't drain the funds resources and become a burden to the company community. In most cases, the manager shouldn't be the purpose of contact for a fundraiser. If their plate is too full to require on the logistical challenges involved running a fundraiser, your bottom line will suffer. Especially if it's a highly detailed fundraiser sort of a a faculty carnival or fun run. A teacher, company administrator or a parent should be the fundraising organizer.

Donation. Some managers rewarded the entire company community instead of individuals, believing such an approach -- that avoided distinguishing between winners and losers -- contributed to a way of community. Another reward for the varsity was achieved through increased visibility within the community. Effective managers initiated company recognition by taking a more active role in local PR activities and making teachers more visible within the community. Often times the faculties were rewarded by in-kind donations and financial contributions (Yiğit, 2016). Managers brought into the company financial management new ideas and research for brooding about teaching and learning. Managers solicited donations of funds and materials, and encouraged grant writing among staff to spice up company resources. Company managers with delegated authority should formulate clear policies for companies on acceptance of benefits and donations, accountability and responsibility, and monitoring procedures in accordance with the contents. Companies should ensure their staff and related persons understand such policies and make sure the implementation. Companies got to adopt a sound system and eliminate chances of corruption by maintaining proper records and conducting periodic inspections.

Accounting standards in Singapore are known as Singapore Financial Reporting Standards (SFRS) and are based on the IFRS. All firms with fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2003, must use SFRS. One of the primary principles of Singapore accounting standards is accrual-based accounting. The accrual foundation of accounting is used to create financial statements. The impacts of transactions and other events are recognized under this basis when they occur (rather than when cash or its equivalent is received or paid), and they are documented in accounting records and reported in the financial statements of the periods to which they pertain. Financial statements constructed on an accrual basis tell users not just of past transactions involving cash payment and receipt, but also of future obligations to pay cash and resources that reflect cash to be received in the future "(Sulaiman et al, 2004).

In Singapore, the entire set of accounting standards consists of around 41 separate standards, each of which is denoted by the letter FRS X, for example, FRS 1. Each standard addresses a particular area, such as financial statement presentation, revenue recognition, inventory accounting, and so on. Accounting rules are growing more sophisticated in an ever-changing and demanding society. As a result, small firms are finding it more difficult to be confident that they are in compliance. Adhering to the complete SFRS was challenging for small and medium-sized enterprises (SME), since the rules were a strain on their limited resources. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) make up the majority of businesses in Singapore, as they do in many other nations.

In 2009, the IASB released an IFRS particularly for SMEs in response to the unique needs of multinational SMEs. Following this, the Accounting Standards Council (ASC) of Singapore announced in November 2010 the publication of the Singapore Financial Reporting Standard (SFRS) for Small Entities. For qualifying entities in Singapore, the SFRS for Small Entities offers an alternate framework to the complete SFRS. The SFRS for SE is closely related with the IFRS for Small Entities, and it was released after extensive engagement with stakeholders. It establishes an alternative financial reporting standard for small businesses for fiscal years starting on or after January 1, 2011.

The goal of the SFRS for SE is to relieve small businesses from complete SFRS compliance while maintaining quality, openness, and comparability, which may benefit the investing community and other readers of financial statements. Financial reporting is used by businesses all over the globe to report their financial performance. Historically, financial reporting formats differed from nation to country, and each country's financial reporting procedures followed a set of principles, laws, or conventions that arose in that country's political, legal, economic, and cultural surroundings. As a result, financial reporting often lacked worldwide comprehensibility and acceptability.

Comparable, transparent, and trustworthy financial information is critical for the successful operation of global capital markets in today's globalised world. As a result of the dramatic increase in the number, reach, and size of multinational corporations, foreign direct investments, cross-border purchases and sales of securities, and the number of foreign securities listed on stock exchanges, the need for comparable financial reporting standards has become critical.

Accounting standards are a collection of rules and regulatory procedures that control how different financial transactions are treated. The primary goal of the accounting standards is to define the requirements for transaction and event recognition, measurement, presentation, and disclosure in general purpose financial statements. These statements include information regarding performance, position, and cash flow that may be used by a variety of users to make financial choices. Present and future investors, workers, lenders, suppliers, and other trade creditors, consumers, governments and their agencies, and the general public are all users of financial statements. They employ financial statements to meet some of their various

information demands.

The International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) — an independent, accounting standard-setting organization of the IFRS Foundation — is the most significant driving force in the creation of international accounting standards. The IASB's overarching goal is to better harmonize accounting practices via the development of accounting standards and to promote their global adoption. The International Accounting Standards Board's (IASB) International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) are extensively used as a yardstick to gauge a company's financial health. The framework's reliability and quality are excellent; however it is long and complicated.

As of November 2008, ASC had issued a set of accounting standards and interpretations that are nearly identical to the current set of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), though there are some differences between Singapore Financial Reporting Standards and IFRSs, such as the following:

One-time revaluations of such assets that occurred between 1984 and 1996 are permissible under Singapore FRS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment, without the need for continued use of the revaluation model. Singapore FRS 17 deletes the words in IAS 17 paragraphs 14 and 15, which indicate that land has an indefinite economic life and that if title is not expected to pass to the lessee by the end of the lease term, the lessee does not receive substantially all of the risks and rewards associated with ownership. In comparison to IAS 27, IAS 28, and IAS 31, there are certain changes in the requirements for presenting consolidated financial statements and accounting for associates and joint ventures. The implementation dates of the Singaporean counterparts of IFRS 2 and IFRS 7 vary somewhat. The following have yet to be implemented:

IFRS 3: (revised 2008) Combinations of Businesses 27th International Accounting Standard (revised 2008) Financial Statements, Consolidated and Separate 27th International Accounting Standard (revised 2008) Financial Statements, Consolidated and Separate (Cost of an investment in the separate financial statements) Members' Shares in Cooperative Entities and Similar Instruments (IFRIC 2) Agreements for the Construction of Real Estate (IFRIC 15)

For many years, Singapore has been pursuing a path of convergence of Singapore Financial Reporting Standards (SFRS) with IFRS for Singapore-listed companies, and Singapore has adopted substantially all IFRSs issued by the IASB as SFRSs, albeit with varying effective dates and transition requirements. The timescale for complete convergence, on the other hand, has been pushed back to await advances in the main initiatives on revenue recognition, financial instruments, and the impairment loss model, all of which are important to Singapore businesses. Given the revenue recognition and financial instruments projects' mandatory or expected mandatory effective dates of 1 January 2017 and 2018, respectively, the ASC has now decided to introduce a new financial reporting framework that is identical to IFRS for Singapore listed companies for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018. At the same time, this framework will be made accessible for voluntary application by all non-listed Singapore-incorporated firms.

Summary and Conclusions

Until recently, all Singapore-registered firms of whatever size were subject to the entire SFRS. Now that there is an SFRS, particularly for small entities, organizations that qualify for the new requirements must evaluate a few key aspects before implementing the SFRS for SE. Before implementing these guidelines, businesses should assess their development objectives and the nature of their firm. In the Singapore Financial Reporting Standards sub-section, you will find information on the accounting standards used in Singapore, as well as relevant links to the Accounting Standards Council (ASC website), 's for the Financial Reporting Standards (FRSs), Singapore Financial Reporting Standards (International) (SFRS(I)s), Charities Accounting Standard, and Singapore Financial Reporting Standard for Small Entities issued by the ASC. In addition, ISCA has produced Recommended Accounting Practices (RAP). More information regarding the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), the IFRS Foundation's independent standard-setting body, may be found under the sub-section on International Financial Reporting Standards, as well as important links to the IASB.

Companies on the edge of exceeding the size criteria would be better off sticking to the entire SFRS rather than vacillating between the requirements. Similarly, companies that are accustomed to the full SFRS, those that are part of a group or are held by parent companies that follow the full SFRS, and companies that will be adversely affected by the simplified version's treatment of some accounting elements must refrain from adopting the SFRS for SE. In a nutshell, the simplified SFRS for small organizations will be excellent for startups, firms that have issues with complete SFRS, and companies whose statements are not utilized by third parties.

References

- Atkinson, A., & Messy, F. (2015). Measuring financial literacy: results of the OECD / International Network on Financial Business (INFE) Pilot Study [Working Paper n. 15]. OECD Publishing. Retrieved on April 5, 2015, from <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/5k9cfs90fr4-en>
- Banham, J.O.W. (2019), An Investigation of the effectiveness of Accounting Control System in Management Institutions: a case study of public secondary companies in Homabay and Rachwonyo District, Unpublished MBA Dissertation, Kenyatta University.
- Bisshcoff, T. & Sayed, MK. 2016. The changing role of the manager of a public primary company: a financial company management perspective. *South African Journal of Business*. Vol 19, No 4:310-314.
- Fe A. Pilapil, Dr. Regina P. Galigao, Ivy M. Lacandula, Maria Cecilia A. Queniah. 2019. Linking the Level of Company Financial Management Among Company Heads: A Case Study in Mandaue District, Cebu, Singapore, *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ENGINEERING RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY (IJERT)* Volume 08, Issue 07 (July 2019)
- Fullwood, J. (2016). Common Leadership Responsibilities of Managers of Successful Turnaround Model Companies. Retrieved December 9, 2020, from ERIC: <https://eric.ed.gov/?id=ED570565>

- Hart, J. 2017. Successful financial planning and management in companies. UK. Longman Group.
- Lynch, J. M. (2017, April). Responsibilities of Today's Manager: Implications for Manager Preparation Programs and Manager Certification Policies. Retrieved December 9, 2020, from Sage Journal: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/875687051203100205>
- Mestry, R. (2016). The functions of companies governing bodies in managing company finances. *South African Journal of Business*, 26 (1), 27–38.
- Muturi, F. N (2015). Factors influencing board of management competence in financial management in public secondary companies in Nakuru-north district, Kenya
- Naidoo, P. 2016. The Design and effective implementation of a financial company policy for company improvement: University of Johannesburg: (Unpublished M.Ed).
- OECD, (2018), the organisation for economic co-operation and development annual report prepared by the Public Affairs Division, Public Affairs and Communications Directorate, the Secretary-General of the OECD.
- Oehmke, M. (2020, January). A Theory of Socially Responsible Investment. Retrieved December 9, 2020, from SSRN: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3526077
- Ogbonnaya, A.J. (2015). The Business Statistics. Masters of Business Degree Module PAC/M/529: Institute of Open, Distance and E-Learning, Kenyatta University.
- Ogbonnaya, N. I. (2016). Foundation of Business finance. Onitsha: CAP Publishers
- Oikonomou, I. (2018). Socially responsible investment portfolios: Does the optimization process matter? *The British Accounting Review*, Vol. 50, Issue 4 , 379-401.
- Petrick, Joseph. 2017. Financial Responsibilities of Managers. Retrieved from <https://work.chron.com/financial-responsibilities-managers-23326.html>
- Robb, C. A., Babiarz, P., & Woodyard, A. (2015). The demand for financial professionals' advice: the role of financial knowledge, satisfaction, and confidence. *Financial Services Review*, 21(4), 291-305.
- Sulaiman, M.b., Nazli Nik Ahmad, N. and Alwi, N. (2004), "Management accounting practices in selected Asian countries: A review of the literature", *Managerial Auditing Journal*, Vol. 19 No. 4, pp. 493-508. <https://doi.org/10.1108/02686900410530501>
- Wango, G.M (2016). The legal Framework for Kenyas management system. Nairobi: Kenya management staff Institute(KESI)
- Yiğit, B. (2016). Company Company-Community Relations and Community Engagement. V. Çelik, (Ed.), *Turkish Business System and Company Management* (6th Edition) in (199-224). Ankara: Pegem Academy