

**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**ENVIRONMENTAL DISCLOSURE AND VALUE  
CREATION: EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE FROM ISO  
14001 COMPANIES**

**AFAF IZZATI NAFHAH BINTI RADZI**

Dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment  
of the requirements for the degree of  
**Master of Accountancy**


**Faculty of Accountancy**

December 2015

## AUTHOR'S DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this dissertation was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the results of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This thesis has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any degree or qualification.

I, hereby, acknowledge that I have been supplied with the Academic Rules and Regulations for Post Graduate, Universiti Teknologi MARA, regulating the conduct of my study and research.

Name of Student : Afaf Izzati Nafhah Binti Radzi  
Student I.D. No. : 2014298184  
Programme : Master of Accountancy – AC700  
Faculty : Accountancy  
Dissertation : Environmental Disclosure And Value Creation:  
Empirical Evidence From ISO 14001 Companies  
Signature of Student :  .....  
Date : December 2015

## ABSTRACT

Presently, businesses are urged to be more environmentally and socially responsible in their business operations as such acts are expected to improve corporate performance, which in turn could create value to the organizations. This expectation is more prevalent among companies that have received environmental certification such as ISO 14001. Therefore, the objective of the study is to investigate the influence of internal factors, namely sustainable governance, environmental management system and environmental risk management committee, and external factors such as government ownership and industry membership on the quality of environmental disclosure among ISO 14001 companies. This study also examined the subsequent effect of such disclosures in creating value to the organizations. The agency and stakeholder theories were used to underpin the arguments for the study. Content analyses of the annual and sustainability reports of ninety (90) ISO 14001 certified companies were undertaken to for the year 2014. The multiple regression analyses were employed for hypotheses testing. The results of the descriptive analysis revealed that the level of environmental disclosure among ISO 14001 certified companies in Malaysia is still low. The results of the multiple regression analyses revealed that internal factors in the form of an effective environmental management system and external pressure such as industry membership provide significant positive relationships with the quality of environmental disclosure. The results also found a positive and significant relationship between the quality of environmental disclosure and value creation. The result of the study is consistent with the certification of ISO 14001 where such certification provides a framework for an effective environmental management system that can facilitate the disclosure of environmental information especially among companies in environmentally sensitive industries. Such environmental disclosures seemed to be welcomed by stakeholders resulting in value creation to the organizations.

**Keywords:** Environmental disclosure, Determinants, Value Creation, ISO 14001 Certified Companies

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Firstly, I would like to express my greatest gratitude to Allah S.W.T for His blessings and opportunity for me to finish this research paper.

My appreciation goes to my supervisor, Associate Professor Dr Faizah Darus for her patience, support, guidance and encouragement throughout this semester. I am glad to be able to complete my work under the intellectual guidance and friendly supervisor like Associate Professor Dr Faizah Darus.

I would like to thank my beloved parents, En. Radzi bin Hj. Ghazali and Pn. Noriza binti Hj. Mohamed for their unconditional love and supports. Special thanks also to my siblings and friends for their supports.

Last but not least, I would like to offer my regards and blessings to my classmates who have accompanied me throughout the study, which full of joy and unforgettable memories. Alhamdulillah.

Thank you all.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
<b>AUTHOR'S DECLARATION</b>	II
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	III
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b>	IV
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>	II
<b>LIST OF TABLES</b>	V
<b>LIST OF FIGURES</b>	VII
<b>CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Preamble	1
1.2 Background Of The Study	4
1.2.1 Environmental Issues and Disclosure Quality	4
1.2.2 Development of Environmental Legislation and Reporting Guidelines in Malaysia	6
1.2.3 Environmental Disclosure and Corporate Performance	8
1.3 Problem Statement	9
1.4 Research Objectives	11
1.5 Research Questions	12
1.6 Significance Of Study	12
1.7 Outline For Subsequent Chapter	13
<b>CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW</b>	<b>14</b>
2.1 Introduction	14
2.2 Environmental Disclosure	14
2.3 Agency Theory	17
2.3.1 Sustainability Governance	18
2.3.2 Environmental Management System	19
2.3.3 Environmental Risk Management Committee	20
2.4 Stakeholder Theory	22