

Women Board of Directors and Financial Performance: Mining Sector Companies Listed in Indonesia Stock Exchange

Yani Zulvina^{1*} Makhdalena² Desi Zulvina³ Fitri Zulvina⁴

1.Faculty of Economics and Business, Riau University, 28124, Pekanbaru, Indonesia

2.Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Riau University, 28124, Pekanbaru, Indonesia

3.Faculty of Economics and Business, Sebelas Maret University, 57126, Solo, Indonesia

4.Direktorat General of Taxes, 13140, Jakarta, Indonesia

Abstract

This study aimed to examine the existence of female directors and their impact on the company's financial performance of Mining sector companies listed on Indonesian Stock Exchange which had information about Female Directors, ROA and control variables such as size, leverage and age during 2017-2019. The type of data from this research was secondary data. Data source for women directors was obtained from idx.co.id and data on ROA, size, leverage and age was obtained from Thomson & Reuters. The data analysis technique in this study used path analysis with SPSS. The results showed that the presence of female directors had no effect on the performance of the mining sector financial companies listed on the IDX as well as the control variables except size.

Keywords: Agency Problem, Female Directors, Financial Performance

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1. Introduction

The purpose of establishing a company is to improve the welfare of stakeholders. Stakeholder welfare can increase if the company can improve its financial performance. According to Adam Smith (1776) financial performance can be improved if there is specialization. So there must be a separation between the owner (principal) and the manager (agent). Managers (agents) are individuals who according to agency theory (Jensen and Meckling, 1976) are self-interested who always want to improve their welfare even though they must sacrifice the welfare of others. This means that the separation between the owner (principal) and manager (agent) will create a conflict of interest. The conflict of interest that occurs will result in agency costs (monitoring costs, bonding costs and residual costs) which are useful for minimizing conflict of interest. With this agency cost, it will ultimately reduce the company's financial performance. Phenomenon in the field, the financial performance of mining sector companies listed on the IDX for the 2017-2019 period has an average of 5.25% while the industry standard for financial performance (ROA) is 30% (Kasmir, 2016). The low financial performance is due to agency costs that arise because agency problems can be minimized by the presence of female directors. Because according to Steare and Stamboulides (2008) women have higher morale than men's morale which is measured by the values of honesty, politeness, attention and a person's reasons for doing work. The same thing was also stated by Peterson et al. (1991) who examined female directors. The results of research by Peterson et al. (1991) show that women are more concerned with ethical issues and value ethical issues more highly than men. And so are the results of research conducted by Eynon et al. (1997) who showed that women have a higher moral reasoning value than men. Sweeney et al (2010) supports research conducted by Peterson et al (1991) and Eynon et al (1997) which found that women have higher ethical judgments than men. The UK government has also published a Hampton Alexander report recommending the FTSE100 company to have 33% women on the FTSE100 leadership team by 2020.

The results of research conducted by the International Finance Corporation (2019), companies that have more than 30% of female board members report an average ROA of 3.8%, while companies that do not have female board members have an ROA of 2.4%. Isidro and Sobral (2015) have also examined women directors and company financial performance. The results of research conducted by Isidro and Sobral (2015) concluded that the presence of women on the board of directors has a positive relationship with the company's financial performance. Similar research has also been carried out by Lückerrath-Rovers (2013) and found that the presence of women on the board of directors has better performance compared to the performance of companies without women on the board of directors. Meanwhile, research conducted by Singhathep and Pholphirul (2015) on manufacturing sector companies in Thailand stated that female CEOs of manufacturing companies in Thailand had a negative effect on the company's financial performance. Similar research results have also been produced by Mohammad, Abdullatif, & Zakzouk (2018) which found that there was no significant relationship between the percentage of women on the board of directors, top and medium level executive management with financial performance. Likewise, research conducted by Astuti (2017) in Indonesia shows that the presence of women on the board of directors has no effect on the company's financial performance. The inconsistent results of this study encourage the authors to re-examine the effect of female directors on the company's financial performance.

Based on the research background that has been described, the formulation of the problem in this study is: "Does the presence of a female board of directors affect the financial performance of mining sector companies listed on the IDX". Meanwhile, the objective to be achieved in this study is to see and analyze the influence of the presence of female directors on the financial performance of mining sector companies listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange.

The results of this study are expected to be of benefit to: (1) the company, in terms of making decisions when selecting directors by considering the presence of women; (2) Investors, when investing, pay more attention to companies that have female directors; (3) Regulators, when making regulations, must consider the minimum number of women on the board of directors.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Financial Performance

Financial performance is the result of management's ability to manage company resources (Makhdalena, 2014). According to Berle & Means (1932) the company is a system, namely a collection of stakeholders (investors, management, creditors, suppliers, society, government, etc.). The purpose of establishing a company is to increase the prosperity of stakeholders. In order for the company to survive, the company must have an ever-increasing performance. According to Adam Smith (1776), to improve financial performance, specialization must be done, namely the separation between the principal and the agent. Agents are self-interested human beings (Jensen and Meckling, 1976) who always want to improve their welfare even though they have to sacrifice the welfare of others, which is also known as conflict of interest. It can create agency costs (monitoring costs, bonding costs and residual costs) in order to minimize conflicts of interest. This agency cost will ultimately reduce the company's financial performance. According to Lückérath-Rovers (2013); Brahma et al (2020); Qian (2016); Salloum et al. (2016); Post & Byron (2015); Ernestine & Setyaningrum (2019); Mohammad et al. (2018); Bianchi & Iatridis (2014), financial performance can be improved by the presence of female directors.

Research on company financial performance has been carried out by many previous researchers, such as research by Pratheepkanth (2011) on companies listed on the Colombo Stock Exchange for corporate financial performance indicators using gross profit, net profit, ROCE, ROE and ROA. Fauzi and Locke's (2012) research on companies listed on the New Zealand Stock Exchange used ROA and Tobin's Q to measure the company's financial performance. Furthermore, Surifah (2013) has research on family control, board of directors and bank performance. Bank performance indicators use ROA, ROE and Non Performing Loans (NPL). Pervan and Višić's (2012) study measures business success using ROA and ROE indicators as well as firm size and leverage. In this study, the company's financial performance indicators use Return on Assets (ROA) (Pratheepkanth, 2011; Fauzi and Locke, 2012; Pervan and Visic, 2012; Surifah, 2013). This is done because ROA describes the efficient use of company assets in operations to generate profits.

The company's financial performance is influenced by many factors, such as the results of research conducted by Agrawal and Knoeber (1996) which concluded that blockholders ownership, firm size, leverage, management ownership, institutional ownership, managerial labor, independent commissioners and audit committees affect the company's financial performance. . The results of research conducted by Agrawal and Knoeber (1996) are supported by research conducted by Makhdalena (2014) which concluded that blockholders ownership, firm size and leverage have an effect on the company's financial performance. Isidro and Sobral (2015) have also examined the financial performance of women directors. The results of his research concluded that the presence of women on the board of directors has a positive relationship with the company's financial performance. The same results have also been carried out by Lückérath-Rovers (2013); Brahma et al (2020); Qian (2016); Salloum et al. (2016); Post & Byron (2015). Ernestine & Setyaningrum (2019); Mohammad et al. (2018); Bianchi & Iatridis (2014).

2.2 Women Directors

Female directors are women who are on the board of directors. Research on female directors has been carried out by many previous researchers, such as: Steare and Stamboulides (2008) measured the moral DNA of a person from their system of entering the workplace and he found that women have higher morale than men's morale which is measured by the value of honesty, politeness, concern and reason for someone doing work. Peterson et al. (1991) have also examined female directors, the results show that women are more concerned with ethical issues and value ethical issues higher than men. And so are the results of research conducted by Eynon et al. (1997) who showed that women have a higher moral reasoning value than men. Sweeney et al. (2010) support research conducted by Peterson et al. (1991) and Eynon et al. (1997) who found that women have higher ethical judgments than men.

The results of a study conducted by Lückérath (2013) examined the financial performance of Dutch companies with and without women on the board of directors of 99 companies listed on the Dutch Women's Council Index. The results show that companies with female directors perform better than firms without women on their boards of directors. In contrast to the results of research conducted by Singhathep and Pholphirul (2015)

in manufacturing companies in Thailand, it is stated that female CEOs of manufacturing companies in Thailand have a negative effect on the company's financial performance. Meanwhile, the results of research conducted by Qian (2016) concluded that company performance was positively related to female directors. Likewise, the results of research conducted by Post and Byron (2014) concluded that women on the board of directors have a positive relationship with the company's financial performance. The same thing was also produced by Brahma et al (2020) who conducted research in England. The results of his research concluded that there is a positive and significant relationship between gender diversity and the company's financial performance. The results of this study were more significant when 3 or more women became directors compared to 2 or less women. While the results of research conducted by Mohammad et al. (2018) found that there was no significant relationship between the percentage of women on the board of directors, top and medium level executive management with financial performance. Salloum et al. (2016) conducted a study on Lebanon's top 30 companies to see the influence of the presence of women in management on company performance. The results showed that the presence of women in management in Lebanon was not positively correlated with the company's financial performance. Women in high managerial positions are most likely members of the family who own the business, and therefore they do not care directly about business management. Additionally, a large number of women surveyed in the sample were married. As a result, their priorities changed, and they put their families before their career development.

Emestine & Setyaningrum (2019) examined the relationship between the characteristics of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and company performance. By using Tobin's Q to measure company performance; while CEO characteristics are measured by tenure, age, professional certification in finance or accounting, further education in finance or accounting, status (insider or outsider) and gender. The hypothesis which is tested using regression analysis is using 235 firm-year observations from six ASEAN countries (Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines, and Vietnam) in 2015. The results show that the CEO's age and tenure have a positive relationship with the company performance. This study is important because it provides evidence about the relationship between CEO characteristics and firm performance. CEO characteristics will have a positive impact on company performance. Overall, investors need to pay attention to the essence of a CEO which is proven to be able to influence better company performance in making investment decisions.

Bianchi & Iatridis (2014) examined the impact of board gender diversity on corporate financial performance. The focus is on CAC 40 constituents and the investigative period from 2008 to 2012. The study found that companies with a higher proportion of women on their boards outperformed firms with a lower proportion in terms of return on sales and EBITDA margins. The questionnaire survey shows that increasing board gender diversity leads to better corporate governance and increased firm value.

2.3 Female Directors and Company Financial Performance

Female directors are the presence of women on the board of directors as measured by the percentage of the number of women on the board of directors. The company's financial performance is the result of management's ability to manage the company's resources. According to the results of the study, female directors affect the company's financial performance, as research has been conducted by Lückerrath-Rovers (2013). Lückerrath-Rovers (2013) found that the presence of women on the board of directors has better performance compared to the performance of companies without women on the board of directors. Likewise, research conducted by Qian (2016) concluded that company performance is positively related to female directors. Furthermore, the results of research conducted by Post and Byron (2014) concluded that women on the board of directors have a positive relationship with the company's financial performance. The same thing was also produced by Brahma et al (2020) who conducted research in England. The results of his research concluded that there is a positive and significant relationship between gender diversity and the company's financial performance. The results of this study were more significant when 3 or more women became directors compared to 2 or less women.

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leads to better corporate governance and increased firm value.

Female directors affect the company's financial performance because according to Steare and Stamboulides (2008) women have higher morale than men's morale which is measured by the values of honesty, politeness, concern and a person's reasons for doing work. Peterson et al. (1991) have also examined female directors, the results show that women are more concerned with ethical issues and value ethical issues higher than men. And so are the results of research conducted by Eynon et al. (1997) who showed that women have a higher moral reasoning value than men. Sweeney et al (2010) supports research conducted by Peterson et al. (1991) and Eynon et al. (1997) who found that women have higher ethical judgments than men. So with the high morale of women, the conflict of interest that occurs in the company can be mitigated by the presence of female directors.

Based on the research background and literature review, the hypothesis of this study is: Female directors have an effect on the company's financial performance.

3. Research Methods

The type of this research is descriptive quantitative research. The object of this research is female directors with an indicator of the proportion of female directors on the board of directors and financial performance with an indicator of ROA. While the control variables in this study are firm size, leverage and age. The population of this study is the mining sector companies listed on the IDX which have complete data for the 2017-2019 period, totaling 16 companies with 48 years of observation and all of them researched (census). The type of data from this study is secondary data from the annual report for data on female directors obtained through idx.co.id. Meanwhile, the ROA, size, leverage and age data were obtained from Thomson & Reuters. The data analysis technique in this study used path analysis with SPSS.

Table 1. Research Variable Operationalization

Variable	Concept	Indicator	Scale
Women Directors (X_1)	Women who become company directors	Proportion of female directors	Ratio
Firm size (X_2)	Firm size is the size of the company	Natural logarithma from total assets	Ratio
Leverage (X_3)	Leverage, which is the number of assets financed with debt	the ratio of debt to assets	Ratio
Age (X_4)	Company age since listed (Liu & Anbumozhi, 2009)	Since listing until now	Ratio
Company Financial Performance (Y)	The company's financial performance is the result of management's ability to manage the company's resources	Return on Assets (ROA)	Ratio

4. Result and Discussion

4.1 Results of Descriptive Test of Corporate Financial Performance Variables

The company's financial performance is the result of management's ability to manage the company's resources, which is calculated using Return on Assets (ROA). The data in Table 2 shows that the average financial performance of mining sector companies listed on the IDX is 0.0514 or 5.14%. This average ROA is below the industry standard, which is 30%.

Table 2. Descriptive Analysis Company Financial Performance (ROA)

Financial Performance (Y)	Total	Percentage
Standard Deviation	.27898	-
Average	.0514	-
Below average	29	60.4
Above average	19	39.6
Maximum	.61	-
Minimum	-1.54	-

Source: Secondary data processing (2021)

4.2 Results of Descriptive Analysis of Women Directors Variable

Women directors are women who occupy the board of directors of a company with an indicator, namely the number of women who occupy the board of directors compared to the total number of directors. The data in Table 3 shows that the average women board of directors in mining sector companies listed on the IDX is 0.1447 or 14.47%. On average, women directors of mining sector companies listed on the IDX have women directors below the standard set by Alexander, which is 33%.

Table 3. Descriptive Analysis Women Directors

Women Directors (X ₁)	Total	Percentage
Standard Deviation	.0584	-
Average	.1447	-
Below average	27	56.25%
Above average	21	43.75%
Maximum	.29	-
Minimum	.07	-

Source: Secondary data processing (2021)

4.3 Hypothesis Test Results

In a diagram, the variable structure of Female directors, Age, Leverage and Size on the financial performance of mining sector companies listed on the IDX is shown in Table 4. Furthermore, the influence of women directors variables, age, leverage and size on the financial performance of mining sector companies listed on the IDX, both simultaneously and partially shown in Table 4.

Table 4. Path Analysis The Effect of Women Directors, Age, Leverage and Size on Financial Performance

Variable	Path Coefficient (Beta)	Impact
Women directors (X ₁)	0.026	0.001
Age (X ₂)	-0.102	0.010
Leverage (X ₃)	-0.097	0.009
Size (X ₄)	0.477	0.228

Source: Secondary data processing (2021)

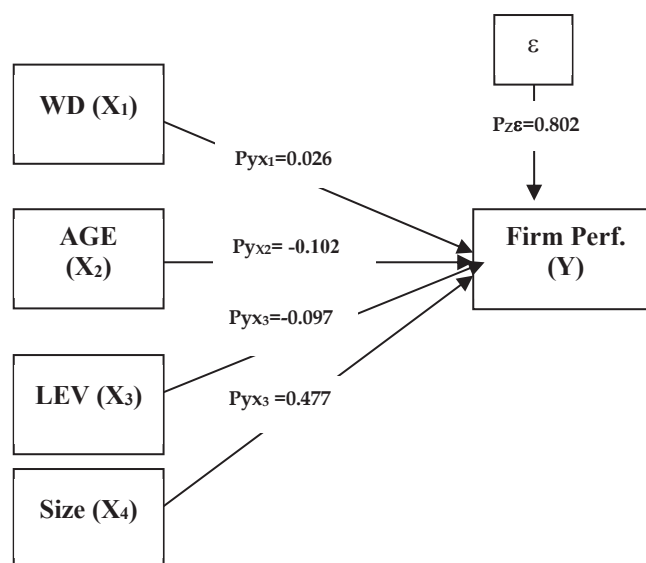


Figure 1. Path Diagram Influence of Women directors, Age, Leverage and Size on Firm Performance

The magnitude of the influence of women directors, age, leverage and size on the firm financial performance simultaneously can be seen from the coefficient of determination (R²), which is 0.198 or 19.8%, while the remaining 0.802 (1- 0.198) is influenced by other factors outside the factors studied.

The simultaneous low influence of women directors' variables, age, leverage and size on the firm financial performance, which is 19.8%, indicates that there are many other factors that affect the firm financial performance. Other factors include management ownership, institutional ownership, managerial labor, independent commissioners and audit committees (Agrawal and Knoeber, 1996) and blockholders (Makhdalena, 2014).

4.4 Discussion

From Table 4 it can be seen that the variables of women directors, age, leverage and size together are not strong enough to influence the firm financial performance. This can be seen from the data on the firm financial performance variables in Table 2, where the average financial performance is 0.0514 or 5.14%. The majority of the firm financial performance is in a position below the average, which is 60.4% with a standard deviation of 0.2789. This indicates that most of the mining sector firm financial performance listed on the IDX is still below the average (0.0514).

The firm low financial performance is due to the low proportion of women directors, with an average value of only 0.1447 or 14.47%. Hampton Alexander recommends the FTSE100 company to have 33% women on the FTSE100 leadership team. The results of this study contradict research conducted by Lückerath-Rovers (2013); Brahma et al (2020); Qian (2016); Salloum et al (2016); Post & Byron (2015). Emestine & Setyaningrum (2019); Bianchi & Iatridis (2014) and in line with research conducted by Singhathep and Pholphirul (2015); Mohammad et al (2018); and Astuti (2017) which states that women directors have no effect on the firm financial performance.

There is no influence of women directors on the performance of mining sector companies listed on the IDX because the number of women directors in mining companies listed on the IDX is very small, namely the average company has women directors of 0.1447 or 14.47% and those below the average are 56.25 % and the remaining 43.75 above average. Of the total population of mining sector companies listed on the IDX, there are only 16 companies that have women directors for the 2017-2019 period. According to Suresh (2019), women directors do not affect the performance of companies listed on the IDX because the percentage of women on the board of directors of companies in the ASEAN region is still low because of the broad gender bias that considers women inappropriate for top executive positions. According to Salloum et al. (2016), women who occupy high managerial positions are likely to be family members who own the business and therefore they are not directly concerned with business management. Additionally, a large number of women surveyed in the sample were married. As a result, their priorities changed, and they put their families before their career development.

5. Conclusion, Limitations and Suggestions

5.1 Conclusion

Based on the formulation of problems and research hypotheses and analysis of research results, it can be concluded that: female directors have no effect on the financial performance of mining sector companies listed on the IDX.

5.2 Limitations

This study used a population with a small number. This study also used the female director indicator, only the percentage of women on the board of directors.

5.3 Suggestions

Based on the conclusions of the research results, to improve the company's financial performance, it is suggested to: (1) for the next researchers it is recommended to increase the population with other sectors and to add a variable indicator for female directors with: age, education, years of service, marital status, relationship with the company; (2) for academics, it is hoped that the research results can provide valuable input in learning corporate governance by paying attention to the mechanism through female directors. While operational advice is expected (1) for regulators, it is suggested that they be able to make policies that can improve the company's financial performance by stipulating a minimum number of female directors in companies listed on the IDX; (2) for the company, it is expected that in making policies to pay attention to the portion of women on the board of directors; (3) for investors, in order to be able to take advantage of the votes they have in the election of the board of directors, it involves women with the portion that can decide the policy if voting is done.

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