

Research Article

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INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS AND THEIR ROLE IN ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF INTEGRATED REPORTING FOR IRAQI COMMERCIAL BANKS (A SURVEY STUDY AT THE GULF COMMERCIAL BANK OF IRAQ)

BY

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The research paper goes into details analyzing the position of International Financial Reporting Standards (IAS/IFRS) and their usage to improve the quality of integrated reporting of Iraqi commercial banks. The paper has started by explaining the significance of implementing the said standards in standardising the accounting processes and in preparing financial statements based on the approved global frameworks and standards, which helps in increasing the extent of transparency and dependability of the financial reports submitted by banks.

The research suggests that international accounting standards adoption in Iraq came as a reaction to various issues, which included lack of transparency and poor disclosure practice in the banking sector before the year 2003 when there existed clear gaps in the quality of financial statements that were offered. As the adoption of these standards has increased, data and disclosures have become more quality which helps to present more accurate and reliable reports to the different users of financial reports, such as investors, auditors, and other stakeholders.

The research paper dwelt on the International Financial Reporting Standard (IAS) 1 which is one of the most significant financial reporting standards that encourages relevance, consistency, fair representation and comparability. This improves the quality of financial reporting of the banks in Iraq and more accurately reports the reality of financial performance. Another standard that was mentioned in the study is that of financial instruments under the standard IFRS9, and the complications surrounding the application of this standard by the Iraqi banks, as it is not only cumbersome but also requires the fair value assessment of the financial assets, which directly influence the equity and financial statements.

By conducting surveys and data analysis using a sample of Iraqi banks, the study found out that such a process of implementing the standards has the following barriers, lack of technical capacity and human resources, high implementation cost, and that there must be support by the regulatory and governmental bodies to go through these barriers. Nonetheless, the reasons behind the adoption of the standards are widely recognized to include enhancing disclosure and transparency and assist in establishing a robust financial image of banks within and outside of the Iraq market.

Key words :- ics international accounting standards - quality of integrated reports

2. Introduction :

The adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) is after International Accounting Standards (IAS). The International Accounting Standards Committee (IASC) develops and issues these IAS which are still in use as the authoritative standards towards uses of IFRS. As an example, IFRS-7 is built on the IAS-30 and IAS-32 on how financial instruments are to be reported, but IFRS-5 Non-current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations is a

direct derivation of IAS-35 Discontinuing Operations (Ojo, 2012.)

Integrated reporting is even becoming a crucial and critical need by enterprises in every part of the world in order to have a comprehensive account of all their operations, activities and the numerous associated economic impacts that result as a result of the same (Nicolo et al.2023). Relevant, comparable and reliable information that is presented by an integrated reporting can help it be effective in presenting a full picture of

the performance of an entity as well as fostering integrated thinking and responsible disclosure internally. This new form of reporting is becoming a major global trend surpassing the recent world interest in sustainability reporting, which just seeks to bring out clearly how a firm is able to create, improve or even decrease value over a period of time. The process of quantifying and displaying such complicated phenomena in a transparent, coherent, and easily understandable way requires that there are strong standards that enable market discipline to operate effectively. The framework presented by the International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC), first of all, introduced in December 2013, is a key and essential standard of integrated reporting. It also provides useful and informative tips on what particular aspects need to be contained in the content of integrated reports. When organizing their reporting within the frames of this elaborated framework, the organizations may rely on ensuring that their reporting is consistent with the global best practices and, on the one hand, they can be able to communicate the process of impact and value creation in a meaningful manner to the stakeholders and interested parties. This compliance does not only increase transparency but instills trust in investors, customers and the wider community that make it possible to get a better insight into organizational strategic goals and long-term sustainability ambitions. (Ismail Hossain, 2013)

3-Research Problem:

The problem of the research is the difficulties of the Iraqi entities in the implementation of the International Financial Reporting Standards (IAS/IFRS). These challenges are not present in the achievement of the tasks that have been established through this report. Although this is a crucial issue in enhancing transparency and accuracy when estimating financial matters, the real situation in Iraq is experiencing the lack of complete adherence to this issue. This is attributed to various reasons such as poor technical and administrative talent, resource scarcity, poor organizational and legal precision besides the costs of implementation. This circumstance results in the filing of financial reports of inferior nature in respect of integrity and transparency, which will not help in attracting investment because of the confidence of people and other users of financial reports. Therefore,

one cannot study this issue, determine the factors that affect it, and how to manage them to enhance the standard of the coordinated processes of Iraqi banks by the efficient application of international financial reporting.

4-research importance :

The research is important because it indicates that adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards (IAS/IFRS) among the commercial banks in Iraq is a necessary instrument to enhance the quality and integrity of financial reporting, transparency and accuracy of financial information, which is necessary in making sound financial decisions by the investors and other stakeholders. The study not only increases the knowledge of the reasons behind these new standards but also indicates the difficulty and challenges to which Iraqi banks have faced in the implementation of these new standards in their entirety and effectively both technically, financially and organizationally.

The study also requests the need to develop human capacity by way of specialized accounting training and education as a way of ensuring the successful implementation of the standards. It also brings into notice the role of regulatory and governmental agencies in facilitating this change that will have positive effects on the capability of the banks to draw investment and gain improved financial stability in the changing economic climate. The research can be used as a valuable reference by the decision-makers of the banking sphere and regulatory organizations to enhance the quality of financial disclosure and promote the formation of the Iraqi financial sector in accordance with the international standards.

5-Research objectives:

- 1-An examination of how international accounting standards can be used to enhance the quality of integrated reporting of commercial banks in Iraq, in terms of enhancing transparency, quality of financial information and reliability.
- 2-Examining the challenges and barriers to successful implementation of these standards by the Iraqi banks.
- 3-Assessing the effects of using international standards (IAS/IFRS) on the financial performance and disclosure of banks.

4-Making proposals on how to improve the capacity of banks to adopt international accounting standards in a holistic way that facilitates the growth of banking industry.

5-Improving the knowledge of regulatory authorities and banks of the relevance of international standards to the process of raising the quality of the financial reporting and staying on the track of the global progress.

objectives of the research for Iraqi banks:

1- The research offers a scientific approach to the way the banks are doing their accounting and financial procedures as they should be adopting the accepted international standards which will lead to better quality and integrity of the financial reporting.

2- It helps increase the degree of transparency and credibility of the financial reporting that will increase the confidence of investors, customers, and the general population in the Iraqi banks.

3- It offers practical solutions to the challenges of introducing international standards to the banks whether through training in technical aspect or coming up with accounting systems.

4- It helps in enhancing greater financial stability of the banks by providing accurate and comprehensive financial reports, which would help in boosting investments and competitiveness of the banks in the local and international markets.

5- It assists decision-makers in banks and regulatory organizations to formulate policies and procedures that help in increasing the efficiency of financial and accounting performance and may enhance the adherence of the banks to the international standards.

6-Research model :

The model applied in the study is the examination of the relationship that exists between the adoption of International Accounting Standards (IAS/IFRS) and quality of integrated reporting in Iraqi commercial banks.

The model has an independent variable that is the introduction of the international accounting standards and dependent variable which is the quality of integrated reporting that incorporates financial and non-financial reports that are pertinent to the Iraqi

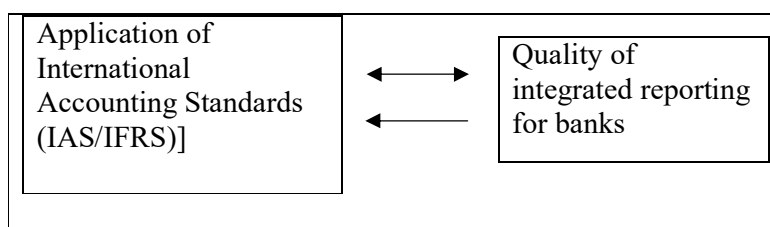
banks. This model quantifies the effects of the implementation of these standards on various dimensions of the quality of integrated reporting, as transparency, accuracy, comparability, and credibility.

Another aspect that the model deals with is to analyze the internal factors, including technical ability of the employees in the bank, training and training quality and regulatory and institutional issues that can inhibit the ability of the banks to adequately establish these standards. The model further takes into account the role of the regulatory bodies, i.e. the Central Bank of Iraq, in facilitating the adoption of the standards and offer oversight and regulation.

The objective of the study through this model is to comprehend the effect of adopting accounting standards on the quality of integrated reporting, and to also find out the barriers and enablers on the adoption of accounting standards. This is done through analysis of banking data and financial performance reports using the relevant statistical procedures.

This model enables us to review how the international accounting standards are playing out in the formation of the performance of the Iraqi banks through enhancing the quality of integrated reporting in accordance to the international standards and local market needs. The model of the research is devoted to the connection between the introduction of the International Accounting Standards (IAS/IFRS) and quality of the integrated reporting in Iraqi commercial banks. The accounting standards are the independent variable and the quality of integrated reporting is the dependent variable in this model. The model investigates the effects of introducing these standards on financial report aspects of transparency, accuracy, credibility and comparability.

The model further considers evidence of things that would affect implementation including the technical ability of the staff, organizational and legal support and the numerous challenges facing Iraqi banks in effecting the standards. The model will involve the analysis of the statistical data and financial reports to observe and study the connection between the variables, as the aim will be to evaluate the effect of the standards on reporting quality and promote the development of the banking sector in Iraq.



correlation

effect relationship

7-Research hypothesis :

The initial hypotheses: (H1) There exists a statistically significant correlation between the International accounting standards and the quality of the integrated reporting of banks .

The second hypothesis: (H2) The difference in the international accounting standards and the quality of integrated bank reports is statistically significant.

8-limitations of research :

The environmental, regulatory, and technical factors that affect the success of the implementation of the international accounting standards in Nigeria to improve the quality of integrated reporting of the Iraqi commercial banks are some of the research limitations:

1- Legal and regulatory determinants: This will entail development of the local accounting system, the contribution of the oversight bodies like central bank of Iraq towards facilitating the adoption of standards and mobilization of work of the local accounting and oversight standards board, and the degree to which the unified accounting system complies with international standards.

2- Economic, political, and social environment: These entail the economic and political stability in Iraq, which determines the capacity of banks to embrace the change in accounting, as well as social and cultural factors on the application of accounting standards.

3- Technical and administrative capacities: These will involve the availability of qualified human capital that have adequate experience and knowledge in the implementation of international accounting standards and the level of professional training and education of the accountants and other employees in the bank.

4- Technical and organizational issues: These are the challenge of adoption of some standards (financial

instruments: IFRS9) and cost of implementation, poor accounting infrastructure and resistance to change within an organization.

5- The degree of accounting rule compatibility with international standards: Banks might have problems when aligning Iraqi accounting rule with international standards and this is a challenge in implementation.

the study is concerned with the perceptions of how they affect the adoption and implementation of the international accounting standards in Iraqi banks as well as the degree to which this affects the quality of integrated reports presented to the users.

Theoretical framework

1- Overview of International Accounting Standards

2- IASB holds a fundamentally significant role in the highly elaborate woven financial environment in that it offers a broadly set of guidelines that are both thoroughly detailed and are collectively and generally referred to as the International Accounting Standards (IAS). These strictly defined standards explicitly specify how specific transactions and major occurrences that different parties can be involved with in their operations should be treated in terms of accounting. Their key mission is to ensure that financial markets are transparent, accountable, and efficient in the international scale so that all financial entities will adhere to a standardized framework that can guarantee reliability and utility of financial information (Nurunnabi2021). The IAS framework is uniquely tailored to create general-purpose financial reporting that presentat least the minimum information necessary on the financial position, performance, and cash flows of an entity in an

easily understandable concise and clear way which will enable the different stakeholders to understand the financial health of the entities easily. The basis of this framework is that of going concern where an entity is expected to persist in its operation and be viable in the near future. The standards are based on this vital principle to direct the entities in its financial reporting practices (Hassan). Along with the need to make the financial reporting transparent and understandable, the standards are also supposed to promote comparability of the financial statements of various entities and industries. This comparability is very crucial, because it is offering far reaching advantages and benefits both to businesses and to investors as well. Following coherent and consistent financial information provides investors with a chance to make informed decisions on the basis of which ultimately makes strategic investment decisions easier and even helps improve overall economic performance. In addition, through encouraging standardization the IASB plays an important role in fostering effective communications among all participants in the market places hence creating trust and confidence in the financial markets making it essential in ensuring sustainable economic development in various sectors across the world. (Ismail Hossain, 2013)(Ojo, 2012) .

3- The Concept of Integrated Reporting

The process of integrated reporting is lengthy and comprehensive that leads to the development of a succinct but holistic message that aims at effectively communicating the value creation journey of an organization over a considerable long period of time in a clear, comprehensive, and interesting way that resonates with the varied audience (Ribeiro et al.2024). This new and progressive solution is aimed at integrating a range of key aspects of the performance, including: financial, manufactured, intellectual, human, social, and natural capitals, in one and simple document that is sufficient to summarize all the major information. This would help it improve the breadth and depth of information that is available to the stakeholders to give them a holistic perspective that captures the various aspects of the operations and influence of the organization. The latent purpose

behind integrated reporting is to have a more holistic view of value creation over the long term as compared to only focusing on the isolated financial indicators which may in most cases fail to capture the important elements of organizational health, sustainability and overall effect in society (Young-Ferris and Roberts, 2023). These forms of integrative reporting are acquiring significant prominence and traction globally especially across the various sectors of the commercial banks, insurance firms, and various forms and types of investment entities, which are now subject to the high scrutiny by many interested parties which are demanding higher standards of transparency and accountability. This tendency highlights the necessity of the increasingly complex type of communication that will summarize the continuous value-creation story of an organization in a manner that will be easy to understand to both existing and potential stakeholders so that they can appreciate the complexity of value-addition that an organization brings to the economy, society, and the surrounding environment. (Gibassier et al., 2016) .

4. Importance of Integrated Reporting for Commercial Banks

Reporting is a crucial and decisive factor in the context of financial transparency, which has an overwhelming power to improve the monitoring capabilities of commercial banking institutions and increase their responsibility to meet the requirements of both the country and the international spectrum (Dafe & Engebretsen, 2023). This type of in-depth reporting is increasingly being embraced by more and more Iraqi banks due mainly to mounting pressures of the banking industry, the Central Bank of Iraq, and the Association of Banks in Iraq. Increased transparency and full disclosure in the financial markets create additional and significant economic positives to the investors, and at the same time contribute to reduced funding rates of the banking institutions, which creates a more favorable economic climate (Sari and Muslim2024). The connection between the financial performance and other dimensions at the macro level has a direct, positive, and productive effect on the financial stability of the banking institutions through the assurance of the extended accountancy transparency, strict control, and the credibility of the information presented to all the stakeholders

interested. Moreover, integrated business model disclosures portraying the way the banking institution functions in a striking detail and considering the associated environmental, social, and governance risks greatly enhance the comparability and reliability of information given to the institutional and retail stakeholders, not to mention customers. Such disclosures contribute the healthy operational state of financial markets, and guarantee a well-organized and efficient distribution of capital that eventually leads to the long-term growth of the banking institution and economy as a whole, which creates a stable and sustainable financial environment in the future. (Gibassier et al., 2016)

5. Current State of Integrated Reporting in Iraq

In Iraq, Integrated Reporting (IR) is at its new steps. Nevertheless, it is also receiving an increasing amount of attention on part of many companies functioning in the country, particularly given the fact that it will facilitate a long-term sustainability and responsibility. The reason behind this interest is the growing appreciation that the overall corporate governance can be improved through full and transparent reporting practices. However, the path to the successful implementation of IR goes through the many issues that remain unresolved that still puzzle organizations (Salehi et al.2023). A major gap between specific guidelines that can assist companies in surpassing mere transparency and efficiency initiatives and in actually innovative and transformative approaches of value creation, still persists. Moreover, the accountants and auditors cannot be overestimated as the key and active figures in this process. Their role is critical as they are one of the key facilitators that may bring about the shift in the practice of integrated reporting. Their encouragement and involvement are very instrumental in making sure that such practices are successfully implemented at various levels of the corporate ladder. Successful introduction of IR requires a high degree of compliance with the current organizational culture (Orobia et al., 2023). In addition, it involves the smooth incorporation of different information systems which are capable of effectively handling the different types of data produced by the companies. This plays a critical role in making sure that there are comprehensive disclosures which satisfy the regulatory requirements

as well as that of the stakeholders. These multifaceted dynamics seem to be a necessary condition of developing the practice of integrated reporting in the specific situation in Iraq that continues to develop according to the global tendencies in the sphere of corporate reporting. (Gibassier et al., 2016)

6. Challenges Faced by Iraqi Commercial Banks

There are two major and urgent obstacles in the way of implementing comprehensive practice of integrated reporting in Iraqi banks that would improve their transparency and responsibility significantly. Foremost, the Iraqi Council of ministers has not so far given any official and binding instructions/directives that would bind banks to give detailed integrated reports as part of their regular reporting processes. Even though a few innovative banks have made the step and already prepare such reports on a voluntary basis, the lack of legislative support significantly reduces the possibility of its universal application to the entire banking industry sector (Ahmed et al., 2024)r. This failure to have a strong regulatory body does not only slow the process, but also creates gaps and differences in reporting among various banks, which in turn brings confusion and ineffectiveness. Second, a significant number of Iraqi banks lack the required technological base that is required to generate detailed and quality integrated reports. Integrated reporting demands a careful gathering, validation and examination of a substantial volume of varied and frequently complicated data. Lack of proper systems and expertise in their personnel makes this complex and multi-layered exercise especially challenging to even banks, which makes the successful implementation of integrated reporting difficult and their overall growth and development in the competitive market environment even more difficult (Sabir, 2022).

7. Role of International Accounting Standards in Integrated Reporting

In Integrated reporting fundamentally transforms the world of traditional financial communication by merging smoothly the two types of disclosures: the non-financial and the financial. These reports consider different streams of economic, social, and environmental values as a result of the multifaceted nature of the effect that organizations have on multiple fronts. The implementation of International

Accounting Standards (IAS) as a strong framework of foundation is the integration of this. This framework is essential in the measurements, aggregating and linkage of the material elements in a well designed content framework which can be adopted by the organization. The general aim of this method is to have a clear and transparent picture of the strategy of an organization and its execution especially with a view to sustainable value creation (Hamed et al.2024). The propensity to oppose the mandatory application of the international accounting standards has been a significant trend in the context of Iraqi commercial banks. The example of this phenomenon is the IAS/IFRS transition. The unwillingness to adopt these standards is frequent in a number of attitudinal prejudices among stakeholders, and that is why the spread of best practices and the information on the topic should be considered the top priority. This dissemination would be necessary to ensure that the process of implementation of these standards would be much easier and successful. Although the way to the adoption might be clouded with various implementation concerns and challenges, it is important to note that the international accounting standards can help greatly in improving the quality of integrated reporting. This improvement is done by making sure that the information provided is accurate, transparent, comparable, and consistent in various reporting entities thereby helping the stakeholders make well-informed decisions through the use of reliable information. (Gibassier et al., 2016) .

8. Comparative Analysis: Iraq vs. Global Practices

Integrated reporting practices of the Iraqi banks in comparison to the international standards will be a starting point in terms of finding the areas of improvement and putting the situation of the financial reporting into perspective. This comparative methodology educates a study of the gap between domestic and global practices and finds revelations to perfect integrated reporting in Iraq.

To achieve consistency, compliance, and quality of integrated reporting, compliance with International Accounting Standards (IAS) is necessary. There are

examples of Iraqi commercial banks that show compliance with IAS, as well as some positive relationship between IAS compliance and improved quality of reporting (Doski et al., 2013). Since IAS can be used to support the presentation of integrated reporting and enhance the quality of reports, their broad use is critical in highlighting integrated reporting in the commercial-banking industry. Some of the banks in Iraq have already adopted IAS into their integrated-reporting procedures, which means that there is a foundation on which the adoption by more banks can be seen.

Considering that the banking system in Iraq is very similar to the global standards, the infeasibility of operating against the international accounting standards is apparent (Ismail Hossain, 2013). International business activities contribute to variety of reporting by entities; therefore, compliance with IAS, particularly, in commercial banks, is crucial to facilitating integrated reporting as well as maintaining a transparent financial market.

the analytical framework

firstly testing Reliability of the Study Scale

It was also necessary to establish the reliability of the scale used to collect data before performing the statistical tests on the same in this study. Cronbach alpha coefficient was computed to ensure that the research instrument is reliable. The questionnaire method was also used in determining the reliability coefficient. In order to confirm the validity and reliability of the questionnaire, internal consistency method was applied. Although there is no strict definition of what the Cronbachs alpha values can be considered to be adequate, it seems that everyone is in agreement that in applied research, the coefficient of alpha of Cronbach must be a minimum of 0.60. As per Table (1), this criterion was fulfilled to all the items of the scale because the theoretical framework of the study is composed of two variables. The results are presented with the help of the coding of the scales of the study and the number of items to be used on each dimension, as it is revealed in the table below.

Table (6) Cronbach's Alpha coefficient for the study scale

Variable	Dimension	The symbol	Cronbach's alpha	Number of phrases
International Accounting Standards	A		0.745	15

Integrated reporting quality	S	0.842	20
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Source: Based on the results of the SPSS 24 program

Secondly. Analysis of the characteristics of the research community:

Questionnaire Distribution and Response Analysis:

We distributed an online Questionnaire to 110 people, and surprisingly, we returned 0 .

The research sample consisted of lecturers, accountant, auditors working in Iraqi universities and golf bank , and the sample size was estimated based on this.

Ultimately, we had 110 Questionnaire ready for analysis, meaning a very high response rate of 100%

1-(Gender): table 1 shows the distribution of sample members by genderWe observe from Table (1) that the sample consisted of (66) males, while the sample consisted of (44) females out of the total number of the sample, which was (110) individuals.

Table 1 distribution of sample members by gender

Gender	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative Percent
Male	66	66.4%	60 %	60 %
Female	44	33.6%	40%	100%
Total	110	100%		

Source : prepared by researcher .

2- academic qualification: table 2 shows the contribution to correlation researchsample.

Table 2 distribution of sample members according to academic qualification

Academic achievement	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative Percent
Bachelor	15	13.63%	13.63%	13.63%
Higher diploma	6	5.46%	5.46%	19.09%
Master	24	21.82%	21.82%	40.91%
Ph.D.	65	59.09%	59.09%	100%
The total	110	100%	100%	

Source: prepared by researcher.

3-years of experience: we notice from table 3 that the sample from 20-28 years of experience with 38 individuals equivalent to (34.54%) and this contributes Positively by enhancing the soundness of research.

Table 3 distribution of sample members according to years of experience

years of experience	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative Percent
Less than 5 years	8	7.27%	7.27%	7.27%
From 5-12 years	23	20.91%	20.91%	28.18%
From 12-20 years	22	20%	20%	48.81%
From 20-28 years	38	34.54%	34.54%	82.72%
More than 28 years	19	17.28%	17.28%	100%
The total	110	100%	100%	

Source: prepared by researcher.

4-age in years:we note from table 4 that most of the accountants and auditors that employees in Iraqi universities and golf bank are aged between (25 years and less than 32years) with 41 individuals equivalent to 38.68% of the age of the group which means that the employees of Iraqi universities have youthful energies and capable to performing challenges and complex tasks that required double efforts.

Table 4 distribution of sample members according to age

Age group	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative Percent
Less than 25 years old	25	22.72%	22.72%	22.72%
25 to 32 years old	36	32.72%	32.72%	55.44%
32 to 40 years old	27	24.54%	24.54%	79.98%
More than 40 years old	22	20%	20%	100%

The total		100%	100%	
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Source: prepared by researcher.

Secondly: describe and diagnoses of research variables

1-Independent variable the **International accounting standards**: table 6 display the general mean, standard division and the relative importance of the employees of Iraqi universities. And golf bank through the response of the sample members, we note that the general mean was **4.6285** the standard division was **0.5385**.

Table (6): Description of the impact of International accounting standards

Seq	International accounting standards	General mean	Standard division	Answer level	Relative importance
1	Contributing to improving the relevance and quality of financial reports and statements	4.2157	0.7647	V .good	8
2	Improving the levels of disclosure and transparency in the outputs of the accounting system	4.3533	0.7853	V .good	5
3	Trusting the source of transparency and openness	3.8625	0.9003	good	13
4	Share financial reporting standards to improve the reliability and trustworthiness of financial reporting for all beneficiaries	4.4863	0.5535	V .good	3
5	Improving the level of accuracy, speed and completeness in the information available to the beneficiaries	3.6652	0.7933	good	14
6	Completing financial reports easily and quickly	4.1469	0.8675	V .good	10
7	The application of financial reporting standards helps to increase the use of information in financial statements	4.3992	0.6379	V .good	4
8	Contributing to the improvement of the possibility of comparison between financial reports for the adoption of unified and agreed accounting standards	4.1148	0.9212	V .good	9
9	Contributing to the development and building of an attractive exploitation climate for foreign and regional investments	4.2891	0.7337	V .good	7
10	There is a quick response to meet the goals of international accounting	4.5735	0.836	V .good	2
11	Improving the decision maker's ability to compare the financial information of the commercial expenses	4.6285	0.5385	V .good	1
12	Strengthening the ability of the beneficiaries to understand the financial reports of the economic unit	3.5873	1.2122	good	15
13	Contribute to improving the ability of all beneficiaries of financial reports to make decisions	3.9726	0.9974	good	11
14	The availability of the upper management of international accounting requirements	3.8487	0.961	V .good	12
15	Help to adapt financial reporting standards in enhancing the reliability of financial data information, which increases the ability to understand	4.3166	0.7093	V .good	6
For all dimension		4.1649	0.4448	Very good	

Source : prepared by researcher based on the output of (spss.v.27)

2-the dependent variable : is **The impact of accountants' expectations on their knowledge of blockchain** table 7 display the General mean Standard division ,Relative importance of the variable Professional Ethics in Accounting through the response of the research sample members , we noted that the general mean 3.98387 , the standard division 0.834443 and the relative importance 78% .

Table (7): Description theQuality of integrated reporting for banks

Seq	Quality of integrated reporting for banks	General mean	Standard division	Answer level	Relative importance
1	Management tends to highlight its role in serving social and environmental issues in integrated reports.	4.1194	0.66131	good	14
2	Management reflects its relationships with stakeholders through the information disclosed in integrated reports.	4.0597	0.82089	good	16
3	The code of professional conduct influences the quality of integrated reports.	3.7478	0.84548	good	20
4	Integrated reports identify risks and opportunities that affect the economic entity's ability to generate value .	4.5781	0.59637	V.good	4
5	The quality of integrated reports enhances stakeholders' ability to mitigate decision-making risks.	4.6331	0.67423	V.good	2
6	The quality of integrated reports helps stakeholders identify risks and opportunities and the effectiveness of internal controls.	4.4909	0.68723	V.good	6
7	The quality of integrated reports contributes to assessing the impact and future prospects of risks from the stakeholders' perspective..	4.4588	0.64448	V.good	8
8	Management maintains consistency in disclosing the relative importance of uncertainties in integrated reports	4.5964	0.55348	V.good	3
9	Management's procedures include identifying internal risks, which enhances the quality of integrated reports.	4.4863	0.55342	V.good	7
10	Management's disclosure procedures lead to increased clarity and a lack of tolerance for uncertainties in integrated reports.	3.9267	0.90778	good	19
11	Management ensures that the potential impact of anticipated risks and uncertainties is included in integrated reports.	4.6331	0.48308	V.good	1
12	Management assumes its responsibility for internal controls to protect the interests of others in the uncertainties of integrated reports.	4.1928	0.65785	good	10
13	Inherent uncertainty risks are a persistent threat that can only be completely eliminated through the use of integrated reporting .	4.3212	0.72964	V.good	9
14	Integrated reporting reflects the board's vision in light of the objectives set for the business unit.	4.0000	0.95523	good	17
15	When setting objectives, management plays a role in assessing the business environment within integrated reporting.	4.0873	0.73537	good	15
16	The board of directors defines the business model in light of the anticipated future interests within the business environment within integrated reporting.	3.9359	0.79487	good	18
17	The board's vision is integrated into its relationship	4.1285	0.79285	good	13

	with stakeholders when preparing integrated reporting.				
18	Management is concerned with defining strategy, risks, opportunities, and performance in light of its objectives disclosed in integrated reporting.	4.1698	0.65368	good	11
19	Management's communication with stakeholders is based on loyalty and protection when preparing integrated reporting.	4.1423	0.71388	good	12
20	Integrated reporting enhances confidence in the financial statements through the data disclosed in integrated reporting .	4.5139	0.55342	V.good	5
	For all dimension	4.2610	0.39246	V.good	

Source : prepared by researcher based on the output of (spss.v.27)

Third testing research hypothesis :

1: Testing the First Main Hypothesis:

The simple Pearson correlation coefficient will be used to test the first main hypothesis regarding the relationship between the independent variable (international accounting standards) and the dependent variable (the quality of integrated banking reports). To assess the strength of the correlation coefficient, it will be evaluated based on its division into five categories, as shown in Table ():

Table () Interpretation of the simple Pearson correlation coefficient

Interpretation of the Correlation Relationship	Correlation Coefficient Value
No correlation	$r = 0$
Perfect positive or negative	$r = \pm 1$
Weak positive or negative	$(0.30 - 0.00) \pm$
Strong positive or negative	$(0.31-0.70) \pm$
Very strong positive or negative	$(0.71-0.99) \pm$

Source : Saunders, M., Lewis, P., & Thornhill, A. (2009). " Research methods for business students " 5th ed , Pearson Education Limited : Prentice Hall , England , P.459.

The correlation table will include correlation values that prove the relationship at a significance level of (0.01), i.e., with a confidence level of (99%).

The first main hypothesis: (H1) There is a statistically significant relationship between international accounting standards and the quality of integrated bank reports.

The results of Table () reveal a strong, positive, and significant correlation between the international accounting standards variable and the quality of reports, with a correlation ratio of (0.628**). This confirms the basis of the relationship and the correlation between the two variables at the level of the study sample banks at a significance level of (0.01).

Based on the above, this relationship can be interpreted as the adoption by the management of the banks in the research sample of these standards in their banking operations, in terms of their interest in improving levels of disclosure and transparency in the outputs of the accounting system and the preparation of financial reports. This is to enhance the reliability of financial reports for all beneficiaries, as well as the accuracy, speed and completeness of information, as well as the rapid response to achieve international accounting objectives. This, in turn, will lead to improved procedures and dimensions of the quality of integrated reports in the banks under study. **Based on the above, the validity of the first main hypothesis was proven.**

Table() Correlation Test (Simple Pearson's R value)

		International Accounting Standards	Integrated reporting quality
International_Accounting_Standards	Pearson Correlation	1	.623**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	115	115
Integrated_reporting_quality	Pearson Correlation	.623**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	115	115
**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).			

2. Testing the second main hypothesis:

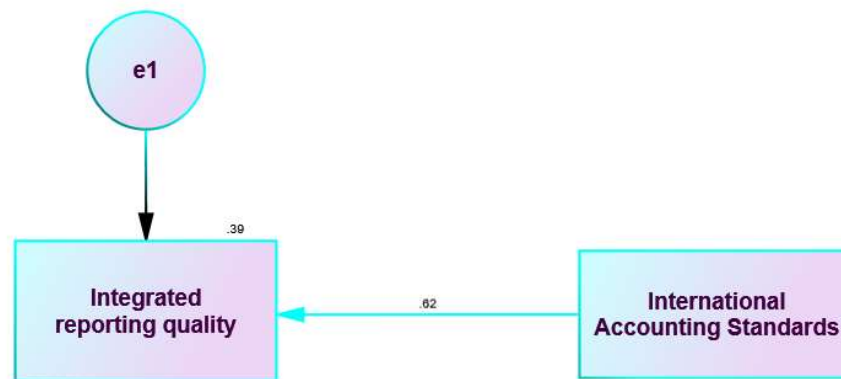
Modern research relies on structural equation modeling (SEM) to assess the influence of variables. This advanced technique identifies the level of direct influence, visualizes relationships in models that specify the type and direction of relationships between independent and dependent variables, and estimates direct, indirect, and interactive effects:

The second main hypothesis (H2) states that there is a statistically significant effect between international accounting standards and the quality of integrated reports in banks. Figure () illustrates the extent of the influence of the international accounting standards variable as an independent variable on the quality of integrated reports as a dependent variable at the level of sample responses in the research sample banks, it is evident that there is a statistically significant effect of the international accounting standards variable on the quality of integrated reports, as the standardized effect ratio reached (0.62), indicating that the international accounting standards variable affects the quality of integrated reports by (62%) at the level of the research sample banks. This indicates that a change of one unit deviation from international accounting standards in the banks under study will lead to a change in the quality of integrated reports by (62%). This value is considered statistically significant because the critical ratio (C.R.) according to Table () reached (8.500), which is highly statistically significant.

Figure () shows that the coefficient of determination (R^2), which expresses the amount of explanation or explained variance, reached a value of 0.39. This value indicates that approximately 39% of the changes occurring in the dependent variable, the quality of integrated reports, can be explained or attributed to changes in the independent variable, namely international accounting standards. This conclusion is based on an analysis of the responses collected from the banks that comprise the research sample.

In contrast, the complementary percentage of the coefficient of determination is 61%. This percentage demonstrates and reflects the presence of other factors and variables, in addition to international accounting standards, that effectively and significantly contribute to changes occurring in the quality of integrated reports. In other words, there are factors that were not considered or included in the current research, but they play an important role in determining the level of quality of integrated reports.

Given what was analyzed and explained previously, we can conclude and prove the validity of the second main hypothesis proposed at the beginning of the research. This hypothesis assumes the existence of a significant influence relationship between international accounting standards and the quality of integrated reports, which is confirmed by the results of the analysis of the coefficient of determination and its complementary ratio.



Figure() Test the effect relationship

Table () Regression weights for testing the effect relationship

PATH				Estimate	S.E.	C.R.	P
Integrated reporting quality	<---	Nternational Standards	Accounting	.616	.072	8.500	***

Conclusions:

The main conclusions of the research on "International Accounting Standards and Their Role in Improving the Quality of Integrated Reporting for Iraqi Commercial Banks" are :

- 1- International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) are an essential tool for improving the quality of integrated reporting, as they ensure transparency, reliability, and comparability in financial statements .
- 2- International standards contribute to supporting integrated thinking within banks by linking financial performance with environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors, enhancing the ability to demonstrate long-term value creation.
- 3-Sustainability disclosure standards (IFRS S1 and IFRS S2) contribute to integrating non-financial information into primary financial reports, supporting integrated reporting and enhancing its credibility with investors and regulators .
- 4- Iraqi commercial banks benefit from adopting international standards by improving their credit profile, increasing their attractiveness to foreign investors, and enhancing their access to global financial markets .
- 5-Iraqi commercial banks face challenges in implementing these standards in the Iraqi context, such as a lack of technical expertise, weak digital

infrastructure, and a lack of awareness of the importance of integrated reporting. However, these challenges can be overcome through training and organizational support .

6-Integrated reporting based on IFRS is more comprehensive and accurate, enhancing stakeholder confidence and supporting sound economic decision-making .

7-The transition to integrated reporting is not just about compliance; it represents a strategic opportunity for Iraqi banks to improve governance, increase operational efficiency, and build a sustainable competitive advantage .

Recommendations:

The main recommendations of the research on "International Accounting Standards and Their Role in Improving the Quality of Integrated Reporting for Iraqi Commercial Banks" are :

- 1- Iraqi commercial banks should fully and effectively adopt International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) to ensure financial reporting is consistent with international practices and enhance transparency and reliability.
- 2- Gradually implement the Integrated Reporting Framework (IRF), by integrating financial information

with environmental, social, and governance (ESG) aspects into consolidated annual reports .

3-Adopting Sustainability Disclosure Standards (IFRS S1 and IFRS S2) to standardize and improve the quality of disclosures related to climate risks and environmental performance, in line with international expectations of investors and regulators.

4- Providing specialized training programs for accountants and auditors in Iraqi banks, focusing on understanding and applying international standards and integrated reporting, in collaboration with professional bodies such as accounting and auditing bodies.

5-Supporting the Central Bank of Iraq and regulatory authorities to implement these standards by issuing clear instructions, providing incentives for compliant banks, and setting a timetable for transitioning to integrated reporting .

6-Banks invest in digital systems to manage financial and non-financial data, facilitating the collection and analysis of information required for integrated reporting, and ensuring its accuracy and reliability .

7-Promoting a culture of integrated thinking within banks by linking financial performance to sustainability and enhancing transparency in communication with stakeholders .

8-Conducting periodic assessments of the quality of integrated reporting to identify gaps and continuously improve performance in the areas of financial disclosure and sustainability .

9- Enhancing cooperation with international institutions and global experts to exchange knowledge and transfer best practices in the field of integrated reporting .

10- Publishing pilot integrated reports by leading banks to serve as a model for others to follow .

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