

Impact of Sustainability Reporting on Corporate Performance of the Firms in New Zealand

Information Sheet for Participants

Thank you for showing an interest in this project. Please read this information sheet carefully before deciding whether or not to participate. If you decide not to take part there will be no disadvantage to you of any kind and I thank you for considering my request.

I am Kalana Weerasena, a student at the Southern Institute of Technology Te Pūkenga. I am conducting research on the impact of sustainability reporting on corporate performance of the firms in New Zealand.

This research explores the impact of sustainability reporting on corporate performance of the firms in New Zealand. The research focuses on three key objectives: First, to examine the impact of sustainability reporting on financial performance of firms. Second, to assess how sustainability reporting influences stakeholder trust, brand reputation, and employee engagement. Third, to explore the challenges faced by firms in implementing sustainability reporting.

The research population is professionals in New Zealand's firms who are involved in sustainability reporting. The researcher aims to recruit six to eight participants for semi-structured interviews.

If you participate in this project, you will be asked to attend the interview, which will last approximately 60 minutes. The interview will be recorded. Your level of participation is entirely voluntary. You will not be asked for any information to consider as personnel irrelevant to this research. During the interview, you will be asked questions about your views on sustainability reporting and its impact on the organisation. The interview will be conducted via Microsoft Teams or Zoom. The interview will be transcribed for data analysis purposes. The transcription of the interview will be shared with you for the verification purpose. It is essential to mention that you may decide not to take part in the project at any time without any disadvantage to yourself of any kind.

You may withdraw from participation in the project at any time up until the point at which the data is anonymised and amalgamated into the report, without any disadvantage to yourself of any kind.

During the interview, you will be asked about your experiences and views on sustainability reporting and its impacts and challenges. The interview will be audio-recorded. Recordings will not be played to people outside the research team. Your name will not be used in the final report, and you will not be able to be identified in any way. All information will be kept confidential, and the data will be used by the researcher only for the purposes of this study.

The findings will be compiled into a report to fulfil the assessment requirements for the Master of Applied Management program. The final report may be available on the Research Bank site. Findings may also be presented at a conference and/or written up in a journal.

The data will be stored on a password-protected computer, and only the researchers will be able to access it. At the end of the project, any personal information will be destroyed immediately, except that, as required by SIT's research policy, any raw data on which the project's results depend will be retained in secure storage for five years, after which it will be destroyed.

If you have any questions about the project, either now or in the future, please feel free to contact: -

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Supervisor Name:	Dr. Vijay Kumar
Email:	vijay.kumar@sit.ac.nz

This research has been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee at SIT.

If you have concerns about the **ethical conduct** of this research or the researchers, the following procedure should occur.

Write to the following:

The Secretary of the Human Research Ethics Committee
Southern Institute of Technology
133 Tay St
INVERCARGILL 9840 NZ
Email researchoffice@sit.ac.nz

All information is confidential and will be handled as soon as possible.