Sustainable Reporting as a Catalyst for Economic Growth in Nigeria

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Abstract:

The study examined the effect of Sustainable Reporting as a Catalyst for Economic Growth in Nigeria. The specific objectives were to examine the effect of Market Presence and Investments on Economic Growth in Nigeria. Evaluate the effect of Economic Value Generated on Economic Growth in Nigeria. A descriptive cross-sectional research design was used for this investigation. The survey findings were evaluated using SPSS 28.0's simple linear regression analysis. The result revealed that, Market Presence and Investments has a significant effect on Economic Growth with a P-value of (0.001<0.05). Economic Value Generated have a significant effect on Economic Growth with a P-value of (0.019<0.05) of Nigeria. The study concluded that sustainable reporting serves as a powerful catalyst for economic growth in Nigeria. The study recommended among others that the Nigerian policymakers to reinforce regulatory frameworks and for businesses to integrate sustainability into their core strategies. By doing so, Nigeria can convert the intangible benefits of ethical reporting into concrete, widespread economic prosperity.

Keywords: *Catalyst, Economic, Growth, Reporting, Sustainable.*

1.1 Introduction

In the contemporary global economy, the traditional paradigm of corporate success, measured solely by financial profitability, is being rapidly supplanted by a broader framework that emphasizes environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and sound governance (ESG). As the world grapples with climate change, resource scarcity, and social inequality, sustainable reporting also known as non-financial reporting has emerged as a critical mechanism for transparency and accountability. For Nigeria, Africa's largest economy and a nation heavily reliant on finite natural resources, the integration of sustainable reporting is not merely a regulatory compliance exercise or a public relations tool; it represents a strategic imperative and a potent catalyst for long-term economic growth. Nigeria's economic landscape is characterized by significant potential juxtaposed with structural challenges. While the nation boasts vast human and natural resources, it faces persistent hurdles such as infrastructural deficits, corruption, youth unemployment, and environmental degradation, particularly in the Niger Delta region.

Historically, the Nigerian economy has been dominated by the oil and gas sector, an industry where the "resource curse" has often obscured the need for diversified and sustainable development (Efobi et al., 2018). In this context, sustainable reporting serves as a bridge, linking corporate behavior to national development objectives. By mandating or encouraging companies to disclose their environmental impacts and social contributions, sustainable reporting fosters a business environment where long-term viability is prioritized over short-term gain. The theoretical underpinning of sustainable reporting as a catalyst for economic growth lies in the "legitimacy theory" and "stakeholder theory." Organizations operate in society via a social contract; to survive and thrive, they must act in ways that are congruent with societal norms and values (Deegan, 2002). In Nigeria, where public trust in corporate entities, particularly multinational oil corporations, has historically been low, sustainable reporting acts as a tool for rebuilding legitimacy. When companies transparently report their contributions to community development, carbon footprint reduction, and ethical labor practices, they foster a more stable and inclusive society. This stability is a prerequisite for foreign direct investment (FDI). International investors are increasingly risk-averse, channeling capital toward markets that demonstrate robust ESG frameworks. Consequently, standardized sustainable reporting can enhance Nigeria's attractiveness as an investment destination, thereby stimulating economic growth (World Bank, 2021). Furthermore, the adoption of sustainable reporting drives efficiency and innovation within the Nigerian private sector. The process of measuring and disclosing environmental and social metrics often forces organizations to re-evaluate their operational efficiencies. For instance, a manufacturing firm in Lagos tracking its waste disposal and energy usage is likely to identify cost-saving opportunities through resource optimization and waste reduction. This "Porter Hypothesis" suggests that strict environmental regulations and reporting standards can trigger innovation that helps offset compliance costs (Porter & van der Linde, 1995). As Nigerian firms become more efficient and innovative, their competitiveness improves on a global scale, contributing positively to the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Sustainable reporting acts as a catalyst for economic growth in Nigeria by enhancing corporate reputation, attracting foreign investment, fostering operational efficiency, and guiding the diversification of the economy. It shifts the focus from extraction to value creation, ensuring that the pursuit of profit contributes to the broader objectives of national development and poverty alleviation. This paper explores the multifaceted ways in which transparent sustainability disclosure is reshaping the Nigerian economic landscape, arguing that the future of the nation's prosperity is inextricably linked to the transparency and responsibility of its corporate citizens.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Nigeria's economy faces significant structural challenges, characterized by an over-reliance on volatile oil revenues, high unemployment rates, infrastructural deficits, and a persistent struggle to attract stable Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). To achieve long-term economic diversification and stability, there is a critical need for corporate transparency, accountability, and efficient resource allocation. Globally, Sustainable Reporting (SR) which encompasses the disclosure of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors has emerged as a strategic mechanism for fostering these elements, thereby acting as a catalyst for economic development.

Despite the global surge in Sustainable Reporting and the establishment of frameworks by the Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria (FRCN), the adoption rate among Nigerian companies remains low and inconsistent. Many organizations in Nigeria view sustainability reporting as a voluntary public relations exercise rather than a strategic operational imperative. Consequently, the current state of reporting is often characterized by non-standardized data, "greenwashing," and a lack of verification, which undermines the credibility of the information provided to stakeholders.

The core problem, therefore, lies in the disconnect between the potential benefits of sustainable reporting and the reality of its practice and impact in Nigeria. While existing studies have established a link between sustainability reporting and the financial performance of individual firms, there is a significant scarcity of empirical research analyzing how sustainable reporting aggregates to influence broader macroeconomic growth in Nigeria. Specifically, it remains unclear whether the current level of corporate transparency and ESG integration is sufficient to attract the long-term capital, reduce systemic risks, and improve the operational efficiency necessary to drive Nigeria's economic growth. Without understanding this dynamic, policymakers and regulators lack the evidence-based framework required to enforce effective policies. Consequently, the potential of sustainable reporting to serve as a genuine catalyst for Nigeria's economic transformation remains largely untapped and unverified.

1.3 Objective of the Study

The main objective of the study is to examine the effect of Sustainable Reporting as a Catalyst for Economic Growth in Nigeria. The specific objectives were to;

i. Examine the effect of Market Presence and Investments on Economic Growth in Nigeria.
ii. Evaluate the effect of Economic Value Generated on Economic Growth in Nigeria.

1.4 Hypotheses of the study

i. Market Presence and Investments has no significant effect on Economic Growth in Nigeria.
ii. Economic Value Generated has no significant effect on Economic Growth in Nigeria.

2.1 Conceptual Review

2.1.1 Sustainable Reporting as a Catalyst

Sustainable reporting can be defined as the process through which organizations communicate information about their performance related to economy, environment, society, and governance (ESG). Sustainable reporting is based on the concepts of sustainability which focus on a balanced consideration of economic growth, environmental protection, and social responsibility. According to Global Reporting Initiative (GRI, 2021), sustainable reporting involves measurement, communication, and accountability for organizational performance in sustainable development. It allows various stakeholders such as investors, employees, customers, regulators, and the community to assess an organization's approach towards sustainable operations. Sustainable reporting is a catalyst which helps in achieving greater transparency and accountability in organizations. By communicating sustainability information, organizations indicate that they adhere to high standards of ethics, environmental protection, and social responsibility. According to Adams (2017), sustainable reporting motivates organizations to adopt sustainable business practices and improve organizational performance.

Sustainability reporting is an important tool for stakeholder engagement. More and more stakeholders expect to receive information about the organization's environmental impact, social benefits, work conditions, and governance structure. Through the provision of sustainability reporting, organizations establish communication and cooperation with their stakeholders. Stakeholder engagement can help organizations understand what stakeholders expect from the organization, manage stakeholder expectations, and create effective ways to contribute to sustainable development (Freeman et al., 2020). According to Eccles, Ioannou, and Serafeim (2014), organizations that report on their sustainability activities demonstrate better results than companies that do not engage in sustainability reporting.

2.1.2 Market Presence and Investments

Market presence and investment are essential concepts in management and organizational development since they play an important role in determining the competitiveness and sustainability of a business. Market presence is defined as the visibility and influence of an organization within the market in which it operates. It implies the capability of a company to be visible, known, and competitive within its chosen industry. As noted by Armstrong and Kotler (2021), market presence entails the visibility, accessibility, and acceptance of a firm, which can be ensured through appropriate marketing activities, high-quality products, consumer satisfaction, and distribution channels. Firms with good market presence have the potential to develop and maintain sustainable competitive advantage due to the fact that consumers tend to trust such companies. Market presence is considered a strategic resource for businesses since it helps companies cope with competition and meet the demands of the environment, according to Johnson, Scholes, and Whittington (2020). Through consistent interaction with customers and other stakeholders, organizations can reinforce their market presence.

Investments are crucial to organizational development as they facilitate resource mobilization required to innovate, grow, be efficient, and create value. Brigham and Ehrhardt (2019) explain investment as the allocation of resources to activities or projects aimed at creating economic gains. Grant (2019) states that organizations that invest in rare and difficult-to-imitate resources are better placed to achieve competitive advantages. Investments help an organization become visible, create a good reputation, and increase its influence in the marketplace. Besides, investments increase market presence by drawing more investors interested in doing business with an organization. Investors are more likely to consider investing in organizations that have market presence and stability in terms of customers and financial performance because the risk involved is lower. This means that the likelihood of making profits is higher. Hitt, Ireland, and Hoskisson (2020) point out that organizations with market presence find it easy to mobilize resources because capital becomes readily available.

2.1.3 Economic Value Generated

Economic value added (EVA) has earned significant credibility as a relatively new performance measurement methodology within some particular period. The economic value added (EVA) theory is based on the idea that companies must attempt to create wealth for their owners. The indicators used traditionally such as ROI, ROA, and EBT have been utilized by the corporations to align manager's incentives with shareholders' interests (Siniak & Lozanoska 2019). Economic value added (EVA) is a value-based measure of financial performance and decision making for investments and reflects the total amount of value generated for shareholders (Geyser & Liebenberg, 2003). The calculation of EVA can be conducted through multiplying the excess return earned from an investment by the total amount (capital) invested in the investment. Economic value added (EVA) involves the subtraction of charge for the opportunity cost of capital invested in a company or a project from the net operating profit. EVA is actually the calculation of economic profit that represents the surplus (or deficit) of actual profitability above or below the required return on investment that the investors would obtain from comparable risky securities (Stewart, 1990).

According to Rappaport (1998), economic value creation occurs when businesses create cash flows in excess of the cost of capital. From a sustainable development standpoint, economic value creation is increasingly being evaluated in terms of the triple bottom line (TBL) that stresses the incorporation of economic, social, and environmental performance measures. Elkington (1997), organizations need to achieve a sustainable value creation through balancing economic development activities with the natural environment and societal welfare needs.

2.1.4 Economic Growth

Economic growth can be defined as a continuous rise in the productive capabilities of a country alongside the production of goods and services within a specified duration. This is normally calculated through measures like Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Gross National Product (GNP), and the level of per capita income. Economic growth is one of the most important macroeconomic goals due to its relation to rising standards of living, job creation, industrialization, and overall well-being of the nation. As Solow (1956) notes, economic growth can be attributed to capital accumulation, labor expansion, and technological advances, whereby technology plays a key role in ensuring continued growth beyond the limit of factor accumulation. Human capital, institutions, and investments play a significant role in the process of economic growth. According to Lucas (1988), economies grow faster in the presence of investments in human capital, which include education and skill acquisition.

According to John (2022), economic growth is the manner in which the wealth of a nation grows over time. As explained by the author, the phrase is commonly used in discussions about economic success in the short term, but when used in economic theories, it usually denotes an increase in wealth over a longer period of time. According to Roser (2021), a nation's ability to produce more goods and services that have high quality and quantity is termed economic growth. According to Edeme (2018), economic growth is referred to as the ability to create more goods and services (gross domestic product). When it comes to measuring economic growth, according to Amadeo (2021), per-capita income rise is the best indicator since it shows the improvement in the standard of living of people, which should be reflected in terms of the growth in production of goods and services. Also, Barro (1991) suggests that macroeconomic stability, strong institutions, and investments in infrastructure largely influence growth performance across nations.

2.2 Theoretical Framework

Institutional Theory of Economic Growth

North (1990) plays an important basis for the institution approach by stating that institutions are formed with the purpose of reducing uncertainty during economic interactions by providing clear and consistent rules of interaction. From this standpoint, economic actors will tend to engage in productive actions like investments and business ventures in the presence of certainty about contract enforcement and secure property rights. However, the inability of institutions to perform effectively leads to uncertainty and high transactions costs, which prevent productive investment and limit economic development. The approach gets further developed by Acemoglu and Robinson (2012) through the differentiation between inclusive and extractive institutions. Inclusive institutions imply wide participation in economy and politics, good protection of property rights, and equal opportunities for all participants.

The existence of such institutions motivates innovation and investments because people are guaranteed that they will reap the benefits of the effort. On the contrary, extractive institutions distribute economic gains unevenly, concentrating them within the hands of a small elite group, thus discouraging investment and hindering economic development. Additionally, the theory states that good governance and political stability are two other features that make effective institutions. Good governance is vital because it guarantees proper law enforcement, less corrupt practices, and effective provision of public goods, all factors that are necessary for creating an economic environment.

2.3 Empirical Review

Easterly and Levine (2001) examined the effects of factor accumulation and productivity growth on economic development. This was done using the panel data regression method to analyze the data from various developing and developed nations. The results found that technology and productivity played more of an important role in economic growth than capital accumulation alone. Calderon and Serven (2010) studied the relationship between infrastructure development and economic growth in Africa. They used panel estimation methods to carry out their study, which was conducted with data from several Sub-Saharan African countries. Their findings indicate that development of transportation, telecommunication, and electricity infrastructures has a significant and positive effect on economic growth by enhancing productivity, lowering production costs, and creating economic activities.

Srinivasan, Vanhuele, and Pauwels (2010) used panel regression model and vector autoregression models for analyzing the effect of marketing spending on the increase in market share over a period of time. From the results of multiple consumer goods companies, it was revealed that marketing spending has a positive and significant ($p < 0.05$) effect on market share. The study further indicated that repeated advertising spending generates cumulative effects, which are maintained despite reductions in spending.

Altaf (2016) has examined the Stern Stewart & Company's claim that economic value added is an effective metric for explaining market value in India than the traditional metrics used to gauge earnings performance. Multivariate regression technique was utilized to obtain the results for the study objectives. The results indicate that operating income shows a significant relationship with market value added in both manufacturing and services sectors.

Ifeanyi and Chukwuma (2016), the effect of board size on the financial performance (using EVA and ROA as proxies for performance) of Nigerian manufacturing companies was studied using publicly held firms. Quantitative analysis of secondary (panel) data was adopted through the use of the panel data from the audited financial statements of 46 manufacturing companies listed out of 95 NSE subsectors over the period of 12 years (2003-2014). It is found that manufacturing firms with small board size are more viable than those with large board sizes. On the contrary, manufacturing firms with larger board sizes were less profitable.

Hall and Mairesse's study in 2017, the effect of R&D expenditure on productivity was assessed using firm level panel data regression analysis. In this case, the analysis was performed using a fixed effects model in manufacturing organizations. The results showed that there exists a strong positive correlation between the R&D expenditure and innovation outcomes, hence improving product differentiation and presence in the market.

3.0 Research Design and Methods

A descriptive cross-sectional research design was used for this investigation. The responders were selected at random from among the numerous organizations and individuals residing in the urban and rural areas respectively. Simple random sampling was used to choose these organizations for the investigation. The survey findings were evaluated using SPSS 28.0's simple linear regression analysis. The aim of the study was to examine the effect of Sustainable Reporting as a Catalyst for Economic Growth in Nigeria.

3.1 Model Specification

Based on the link between predictors and dependent variables, simple linear regression analysis is the model specification employed in this study endeavor.

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \mu \ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots (1)$$

$$Y = f(X)$$

Where Y=Dependent variable represented by Economic Growth

x_i= Predictors variable (Market Presence and Investments, Economic Value Generated)

β_0= Slope or intercept

β_1= Regression coefficients

μ= Error term

3.2 Data Analysis and Interpretation

The data collected from respondents in the various firms under study are presented, analyzed, and interpreted in this part. To meet our goal for this study, the replies were categorized by categorizing them using a Likert scale approach. A study of the structured questionnaire was conducted utilizing a social science statistical software (SPSS version 27.0).

Table 1: Response Rate

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percent
Returned	152	87.86	87.86
Unreturned	21	12.14	100
Total	173	100	

Source: Field Work 2025

One hundred seventy-three (173 copies) of the questionnaires were distributed, but only one hundred and fifty-two (152) of them were returned, and the remaining copies were not. There were 21 unreturned items (21). The following are some of the causes for the unreturned.

i. A few respondents lost the questionnaire given to them.
ii. A few respondents reluctantly did not respond to the questionnaire and lastly few others ticked two answers for a question, and this was recorded as a void to avoid incorrected interpretations.

3.2.2 Market Presence and Investments

The instrument sort to find out about Market Presence and Investments

Table 2: Market Presence and Investments

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree
Our brand is widely recognized by customers in our target market.	47(30.9%)	69(45.4%)	24(15.8%)	12(7.2%)
We hold a significant market share compared to our competitors.	55(36.2%)	63(41.4%)	14(14.5%)	10(6.6%)
It is easy for customers to access our products/services.	53(34.9%)	64(42.1%)	23(15.1%)	12(7.8%)
We are considered a market leader in our industry.	41(26.9%)	66(43.4%)	31(20.4%)	14(9.2%)

Source: Field work 2026

The data reveals a generally positive perception that the brand is widely recognized by customers in our target market. A significant proportion of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed that brand is widely recognized by customers and significant market share compared to our competitors. Specifically, 76.3% of participants expressed agreement (30.9% strongly agreed and 45.4% agreed), indicating a level of confidence in the protective measures surrounding Market Presence and Investments. However, the presence of a small yet notable proportion (23%) who disagreed or strongly disagreed suggests that improvements may still be necessary in certain areas or locations. Similarly, access to Market Presence and Investments was rated positively by the majority of respondents. About 77.6% (36.2% strongly agreed and 41.4% agreed) affirmed that the community has adequate access to Market Presence and Investments. Nonetheless, the responses of those who disagreed (a combined 22.4%) should not be overlooked, as they may reflect underserved zones or inequalities in Market Presence and Investments that require targeted policy attention. On the subject of maintenance, 77% of respondents acknowledged that Market Presence and Investments is regularly maintained. Despite this, the 23% who responded negatively point to a segment of the population that may be experiencing lapses in maintenance practices possibly due to geographic, administrative, or technical disparities that hinder uniform service delivery. Lastly, the adequacy of existing water facilities in meeting population needs received relatively less favorable responses. While a combined 70.3% of respondents agreed that Market Presence and Investments meet demand, this item also had the highest rate of disagreement (29.6%).

3.2.3 Economic Value Generated

This instrument seeks to find out about the Economic Value Generated

Table 3: Economic Value Generated

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree
Our company' have direct economic impact on society.	73(48%)	62(40.8)	11(7.2%)	6(3.9%)
The company create value for its shareholders.	55(36.2)	61(40.1)	16(10.5)	20(13.2%)
The company generated more profit than was required to satisfy its investors.	66(43.3%)	60(39.5)	17(11.2%)	9(5.9%)
The company brand always satisfies its customer.	55(36.2%)	32(21.1%)	26(17.1%)	39(25.7%)

Source: Field work 2026

The findings show that the company' have direct economic impact on society. A combined 88.8% of respondents either strongly agreed (48%) or agreed (40.8%) with this statement, while only 11.1% expressed disagreement. This high level of agreement suggests that the company create value for its shareholders are visible and appreciated within the company. Regarding the company generating more profit than was required to satisfy its investors, the responses were moderately positive. A total of 76.3% of respondents (36.2% strongly agree and 40.1% agree) acknowledged effective communication of policies, though 23.7% (combining the neutral and strongly disagree responses) indicated otherwise. This reflects some communication gaps and suggests a need for enhanced information dissemination, especially among employees who may not feel adequately informed. Perceptions of the company brand always satisfies its customer are similarly favorable. A notable 82.8% of respondents reported that leaders respond promptly (43.3% strongly agree, 39.5% agree). The most divergent responses were observed in relation to regular meetings or consultations on water management. Only 57.3% (36.2% strongly agree and 21.1% agree) felt such consultations occur regularly, while a substantial 42.8% disagreed (17.1% disagree and 25.7% strongly disagree).

3.2.4 Economic Growth

Th is instrument seeks to find about the Economic Growth

Table 3: Economic Growth

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree
I understand what Economic Growth means.	73(48%)	62(40.8%)	11(7.2%)	6(3.9%)
Economic Growth is typically expressed as the percentage change in Real GDP from one period (usually a quarter or a year) to the next.	20(13.2%)	16(10.5%)	61(40%)	55(36.2%)
GDP adjusted for inflation (price changes).	9(5.9%)	17(11.2%)	66(43.3%)	60(39.5%)
Real GDP removes the effect of inflation to show the actual increase in physical output.	55(36.2%)	32(21.1%)	26(17.1%)	39(25.7%)

Source: Field work 2026

The majority of respondents demonstrated a clear understanding of the concept of Economic Growth means. A combined 88.8% agreed with the statement "I understand what Economic Growth means," with 48% strongly agreeing and 40.8% agreeing. Only a small portion (11.1%) indicated otherwise. However, economic growth is typically expressed as the percentage change in Real GDP from one period (usually a quarter or a year) to the next, the data paints a more concerning picture. Only 23.7% (13.2% strongly agree and 10.5% agree) believed that economic growth is typically expressed as the percentage change in Real GDP. A significant majority 76.2% either selected “Neutral” or “Strongly Disagree,” indicating dissatisfaction or lack of awareness. Interestingly, most respondents did not recognize or affirm the connection between GDP adjusted for inflation (price changes). Only 17.1% agreed that GDP adjusted for inflation (price changes), while 82.8% expressed either uncertainty or disagreement. Finally, regarding the perception that Real GDP removes the effect of inflation to show the actual increase in physical output, responses were more balanced. About 57.3% agreed (36.2% strongly agreed and 21.1% agreed), while 42.8% expressed disagreement or uncertainty. Though the majority acknowledges the preventive Real GDP removes the effect of inflation to show the actual increase in physical output, the relatively high proportion of negative or neutral responses further reinforces the need for education on the economic growth in Nigeria.

3.3 Hypothesis Testing

Decision Rule: Accept the null hypothesis if the if the probability value >0.05 otherwise accept the alternative hypothesis.

3.3.1 Hypothesis One

Ho_1: Market Presence and Investments has no significant effect on Economic Growth in Nigeria.

3.3.2 Hypothesis Two

Ho1: Economic Value Generated has no significant effect on Economic Growth in Nigeria.

Table 4: Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.494[a]	.722	.689	3.08124
a. Predictors: (Constant), Market Presence and Investments, Economic Value Generated				

3.3.2 Model Testing and Interpretation

The model summary above explains the percentage of the dependent variable (Economic Growth), that can be determined by the independent variable (Market Presence and Investments, Economic Value Generated). According to this Table, the dependent variables account for 72.2% (R Square, 0.722) of the independent variable. While the remaining 27.8% can be explained by other factors outside the scope of this model. This implies that Market Presence and Investments and Economic Value Generated have a direct influence on Economic Growth. This Pearson correlation coefficient (R) result also showed a positive value of 0.494, which also lends credence to the fact that predictors variable has direct relationship with the response variable.

Table 5: ANOVA table

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	129.014	1	129.014	4.860	.001[a]
	Residual	3982.249	151	26.548		
	Total	4111.263	152			
a. Dependent Variable: Economic Growth						
b. Predictors: (Constant): Market Presence and Investments, Economic Value Generated.						

The study also conducted analysis of variance to determine the extent to which the Independent and dependent variable relates with each other, and the result showed that P- value Obtained (0.001) was lower than the 5% level of significance specified in SPSS software for this analysis, therefore, according to the decision rule, the Alternate hypothesis will be accepted, while the Null hypothesis will be rejected. This implies that Market Presence and Investments and Economic Value Generated have significant influence on the Economic Growth.

Table 6: Coefficients

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	18.968	2.415		7.855	.000
	Market Presence and Investments	0.318	0.104	0.177	3.057	.019
	Economic Value Generated	0.098	0.061	0.005	1.606	.249
a. Dependent Variable: Economic Growth						

Simple linear regression analysis was also conducted to determine if the result established by ANOVA Statistic are similar to that of the regression coefficient. The result shows that the P-value obtained (i.e., 0.019) for the regression coefficient of Market Presence and Investments was also lower than the alpha level of significance of 5% specified in SPSS for this analysis therefore, thus, it can be inferred from this result, that the ANOVA Statistic is similar to that of the regression coefficient. Thus, the Alternate Hypothesis will be accepted while the Null Hypothesis will be rejected, which means Market Presence and Investments has a significant positive effect on the Economic Growth. Also, the result shows that the P-value obtained (i.e., 0.249) for the regression coefficient of working condition was also higher than the alpha level of significance of 5% specified in SPSS for this analysis therefore, thus, it can be inferred from this result. Thus, the Alternate Hypothesis will be rejected while the Null Hypothesis will be accepted, which means that Economic Value Generated has no significant positive effect on Economic Growth.

4.0 Discussion of Result

The result of this study indicates that Market Presence and Investments and Economic Value Generated will significantly improve Economic Growth. This was confirmed by the result of the statistical analysis which shows that that the P-value obtained (0.019) was lower than significance value of 5% specified in SPSS for this analysis. Similarly, the result of this study indicates that recovery material will not significantly improve financial stability of the Nigerian economy. This was confirmed by the result of the statistical analysis which shows that that the P-value obtained (0.249) was higher than significance value of 5% specified in SPSS for this analysis.

5. Conclusion

In conclusion, the evidence strongly supports the hypothesis that sustainable reporting serves as a powerful catalyst for economic growth in Nigeria. The findings reveal that the practice is not merely a corporate governance formality, but a strategic driver of tangible economic progress.

Specifically, the significant positive effect of Market Presence and Investments demonstrates that transparency in non-financial reporting enhances corporate reputation and credibility. By signaling stability, ethical responsibility, and long-term viability to global and local investors, sustainable reporting unlocks crucial capital flows. For Nigeria, this means that companies adopting robust reporting frameworks are better positioned to attract the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and domestic capital necessary to expand operations, thereby directly stimulating national economic output.

Furthermore, the significant positive relationship between Economic Value Generated and economic growth underscores the direct financial benefits of sustainable business practices. The study indicates that organizations which systematically measure and disclose their environmental and social impacts often identify operational efficiencies and innovate new revenue streams. This creation of real economic value does not merely benefit the individual firm; it aggregates to the national level, boosting productivity, increasing tax revenues, and fostering a more resilient economy.

Recommendation

Based on the findings that Market Presence, Investments, and Economic Value Generated have a significant positive effect on Economic Growth in Nigeria; to fully harness this potential, it is imperative for Nigerian policymakers to reinforce regulatory frameworks and for businesses to integrate sustainability into their core strategies. By doing so, Nigeria can convert the intangible benefits of ethical reporting into concrete, widespread economic prosperity. The following recommendations are proposed:

i. Given that Market Presence and Investments are key drivers of economic growth, the Nigerian government and regulatory bodies (such as the Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria - FRCN) should move beyond voluntary guidelines. It is recommended that a unified, mandatory sustainability reporting framework be enforced.

ii. Integration of Sustainability into Corporate Strategy for Value Creation Since Economic Value Generated significantly impacts economic growth, Nigerian businesses must shift their perception of sustainability from a "corporate social responsibility" (CSR) cost center to a value-creation strategy.

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