EDITORIAL

Esteemed Readers,

The second issue of the Journal of Banking, Volume 10 of 2022 focuses on four broad areas of the economy- Cryptocurrencies and E-transactions; Analysis of weaknesses in the operations of banks and Risk management; Board Characteristics and Debt structure of firms. In the first paper titled **Examining the impact of cryptocurrencies on the microeconomic variables in Nigeria**, the author applies the vector autoregression model (VAR) and Quartile Regression Technique to explore the relationship between bitcoin price and key macroeconomic variables in Nigeria. The study concludes that cryptocurrencies have implications for such macroeconomic variables as exchange rate, money supply and interest rates.

The second paper analyses the weaknesses in the operation of banks in Nigeria. The author tries to identify the different types of weaknesses, the frequencies of occurrences and the most reported weaknesses for the period of 2009 to 2018. The findings indicate that out of the thirty weaknesses established, four were the most prevalent. The author used the NDIC Annual Report and Accounts as the source of data.

The third article examined Board Characteristics and Firm's Financial Performance in Nigeria. The study was aimed at examining the relationship between Board characteristics and performance and concludes that the size of the board plays a significant role in the performance of the company.

This edition also looks at the effect of E-transactions on the profitability of commercial banks in Nigeria. The study adopts Ex-post facto research method covering the period 2010 to 2020 in executing the analysis. The research concludes that bank profitability can be influenced by E-banking proxies used in the study.

The effect of Risk Management Techniques on the Performance of Non-Banking Financial Forms in Nigeria is also considered. Focusing on insurance companies in Nigeria, it was established that the adoption of loss prevention and control, risk avoidance and loss/risk financing as management techniques significantly enhanced positively, the performance of insurance companies in Nigeria.

Again, Debt Structure and Financial Performance; Evidence from Listed Construction firms in Nigeria is examined. Ex-post research design is deployed in the analysis of the secondary data used. It was concluded that an optical mix of debt-equity financing will be a preferable option for construction firms in Nigeria.

In general, most of the outcomes of the studies aligns with the findings of studies carried out in other jurisdiction. We encourage readers and researchers to go through the empirical analysis of the studies in this edition to further research work in the various areas.

I wish you an enlightening reading.

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Registrar/Chief Executive.