Corporate Restructuring and Financial Resilience of Deposit Money Banks in Nigeria

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Authors’ contributions
This work was carried out in collaboration between both authors. Both authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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ABSTRACT
The study examined corporate restructuring (COR) and financial resilience of Deposit Money Banks (DMBs) nexus in Nigeria from 2009-2020. The regressor is corporate restructuring measured by financial restructuring (FIRE), asset restructuring (ASSR), operational restructuring (OPR), and capital restructuring (CAR). Meanwhile, the regressand is financial resilience (FINR) measured by Z-score. The study focused on fourteen (14) quoted DMBS out of the twenty-one (21) quoted DMBS in the periods under study. The paper sourced data from the annual financial reports of the sampled DMBS under review. On the overall, the study supported the Random Effect Model(REM) as evidenced by both the Hausman test and Breusch Pagan Test. Meanwhile, the selected DMBS have common heterogeneous factors that determine the effect of corporate restructuring on the financial resilience of DMBS in Nigeria over the study periods. The study discovered that financial restructuring exerted negative significant effect on financial resilience while asset and capital restructuring exerted positive high effects on financial resilience. However, operational restructuring exerted positive minimal effect on the financial resilience. In conclusion, corporate restructuring vis-à-vis asset and capital restructuring is essential for achieving a banking industry that is financially resilient. As such, bank regulators should ensure that all toxic assets are addressed. Lastly, to avoid instances of bank crisis, Nigerian bank management should consider capital restructuring as one of the most feasible bank policy for ensuring that the banking industry is financially resilience.

*Corresponding author;
Keywords: Corporate restructuring; financial resilience; deposit money banks in Nigeria.

1. INTRODUCTION

Apparently, a sound, efficient, financially resilient, stable and highly competitive banking industry is instrumental to the growth and development of every modern economy. This is because; an efficient banking industry helps to facilitate the flow of financial resources from the surplus economic units (savers) to the deficit economic units (investors). This justifies the reason why bank management opts for corporate restructuring.

As documented by Kithinji, Mwangi, Litondo and Ogutu [1]; Kithinji [2] & Isabwa, and Mabonga [3], corporate restructuring (COR) in its widest sense cover four (4) main areas which include; financial restructuring (FIR), operational restructuring (OPR), asset restructuring (ASSR) and capital restructuring (CAR). Firstly, financial restructuring focuses on the financial structure of the banking institution and is usually concerned with debt-equity mix of the banking industry. Meanwhile, OPR focused on changing the governance structure of the banking industry. More so, ASSR entails increasing the asset base of the banking industry by setting-off bad loans while making provisions for non-performing loans. However, CAR involves increasing banks’ financial resilience to shock by substituting both her short-term and medium-term debts to long-term debt obligations.

According to Okoye, Omankhanlen, Okoh, Ezeji, and Ibileke [4], capital restructuring involves increasing the financial resilience of the banking industry modifying the capital base. Most times, shareholders may direct managers to inject capital in the banking industry and sometime the government may institute a bailout strategy to ailing banks. This focuses on banks undergoing a period of unexpected financial or operational turbulence. A case in point is the bank capital reform between 2004 and 2005 alongside the subsequent merger and acquisitions exercises. As stated by Isabwa, and Mabonga [3], the major reason for the implementation of the various reforms so far is to restore faith and public confidence, stability and also to ensure that the Nigerian banking industry meet Global Banking best practices. However, despite the massive increase in assets and deposit growth as a result of the corporate restructuring exercise, episodes of bank distress have remained a recurring irritant in the country’s financial system.

Kithinji [2]; Okey and Ihenacho [5]; Nasieku, and Joseph [6]; Nga [7] argued that the corporate restructuring exercise of 2009 focused majorly on capital restructuring without mentioning other aspects of corporate restructuring. The question then is: is corporate restructuring all about capital restructuring?

Again, the current outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic also called for the need for banks all over the globe to opt for restructuring if they must stay afloat amidst the post Covid-19 crises. This re-enforces that if banks must be resilient, they must opt for restructuring.

To the best of our knowledge, none of researches conducted in the Nigerian context used the variables under study to measure corporate restructuring hence the inconsistent in their findings. Again, most of existing studies (like [1,2,5-7] on the subject matter centered on other countries other than Nigeria while studies in Nigeria only focused on merger and acquisition, a form of corporate restructuring. It is also note-mentioning that, their period scopes were limited as such none were up to 2020. It is against this backdrop, this study seeks to examine effect of corporate restructuring on financial resilience of the Nigerian banking industry. Specifically, this study examined the effect of: financial restructuring, operational restructuring, asset restructuring, and capital restructuring on financial resilience of quoted DMBs in Nigeria.

The regressor in this study is corporate restructuring measured by financial, operational, asset, and capital restructuring while the regress and is financial resilience measured by Z-Score of the eight selected banks with international authorization from 2009 to 2020. The essence of making 2009 as the base year is informed on the fact that we intended to capture the effect of the corporate restructuring exercise on the financial resilience of the Nigerian banking industry from then up to 2020. The results showed that the selected DMBs have common heterogeneous factors that determine the effect of corporate restructuring on the financial resilience of DMBs in Nigeria over the study periods.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. The next section review some related literature to the topic, section three (3) deals with the method of data analysis. Section four (4) deals with the analysis of data while the last section (5)
concludes the research by linking the objective with findings and making useful recommendations.

2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1 Conceptual Linkages

The term “corporate restructuring” is a corporate action undertaken by a corporate/business entity to modify her financial structure, capital base, asset base, and mode of operations [6,7]. An example is the bank reforms of 2004 and 2009. Being a cost reduction approach, corporate restructuring may involve lay off of staff layoffs that are redundant. Amire and Amire [8] added that, restructuring involves: (i) identifying problems, (ii) identifying and executing solutions, and, (iii) finding the resources to keep the company going until restructuring takes effect.

Furthermore, corporate restructuring can either be an expansionary programme or a contractionary programme. While the former centers mergers and acquisitions, takeovers and green-field investment, the later centers on divestiture, downsizing, down-scoping and debt restructuring (Ilionu & Keremah, 2016).

Oye, Omankhanlen, Okoh, Ezeji, and Ibileke, [4]; Nasieku & Karanja, [6] opine that some of the benefits of corporate restructuring include: Economies scales and scope, Resource Transfer, and technical expertise. Meanwhile, financial resilience covers the banks’ solvency, liquidity positions, and credit risk exposure. More so, financial resilience accounts for the extent to which the system withstands unplanned future occurrences. To quantify financial resilience we used Z-Score [9].

Unlike other measure of financial resilience, bank Z-Score seems to be the most comprehensive measure of financial resilience. This is because it combines information on financial leverage (equity to assets) of the industry alongside its performance (return on assets-ROA) and associated financial risk (standard deviation-SD of ROA) in a bid to more fully approximate the likelihood/ probability of insolvency in the banking sector [9]. This therefore indicates that a higher Z-score implies lower probability of bank insolvency or greater banking stability and vice versa.

2.2 Theoretical Underpinning

Although, the Financial Intermediation (FI) Theory, Agency Theory, Institutional Theory, and Modigliani and Miller Theory are the most prominent corporate restructuring thus far, we used both the Financial Intermediation (FI) and Agency Theories to underpin the study considering their appropriateness to the study. Specifically, financial intermediation Theory propounded by Merton in 1995 holds that for banks to be financially resilience, they need to improve their operations through improved processes, institutional capacity building and institutional innovation, as well as coming up with new products and services to increase their market share and therefore capture a wider customer base because when banks strike a balance among all the forms of restructuring, the profit motives of banks would not be defeated [2].

On the other hand, the agency theory as popularized by Jensen and Meckling in 1976 focuses on the relationship which subsists between agents (managers) and principal (banks’ board of directors) alongside how best to address the principal-agent problem caused by asymmetric information. Justifiably, this study choose the Agency theory owing to the fact that it emphasizes the need for agents (managers) and principal (banks’ board of directors) to opt for corporate restructuring. The argument is that corporate restructuring increases the financial resilience. Also, it reduces principal-agent problem caused by asymmetric information.

2.3 Extant Empirical Studies

2.3.1 Studies conducted in Nigeria

Okoye, Omankhanlen, Okoh, Ezeji, and Ibileke, [4] did a comparative study on the effect of pre- and post-reforms on bank performance in Nigeria 1996–2016. The generalized method of moments (GMM) was used to evaluate the parameters of the model. The study evidenced that Nigerian banks performed better in the post reforms than in pre-reform periods.

Okuma [10] examined the effect of financial (bank) consolidation on agricultural sector’s output in Nigeria from 1986 to 2017. Variables considered include prime lending rate, deposit interest rate, aggregate loans and advances to GDP ratio, aggregate Deposit of DMBs to GDP ratio, and Minimum paid-up capital of banks. Unit root test, Engle–granger co-integration test, ECM, and granger causality tests were adopted. The study reaffirmed that, financial (bank) consolidation proxies bi-granger causes agricultural sector’s output in Nigeria.

Using the panel data methodology, Raji, Bamgbose, Olusegun, and Abidoye [12] examined the effect of recapitalization on banks' performance in Nigeria from 2003 to 2013. Data use for the study was sourced from the sampled banks' audited annual reports. The study found that bank recapitalization exerts direct effect on banks performance. Hence, bank management should consider recapitalization as at feasible bank policy of competing with the global banking economy Amire and Amire [8] did an explorative study on the effect of corporate external restructuring on the performance of financial institutions in Nigeria. The study employs the OLS Estimates. The study affirms that corporate external restructuring affect the performance of financial institutions in Nigeria.

Konboye and Nteegah [9] examined the linkage between bank capitalization and profitability using both the panel efficiency and partial frontier methods. The study covered 18 DMBs. The study affirmed that, increasing bank capitalization improved the performance of Unity Bank (a small bank), while it slowed Union Bank (a large bank) performance.

2.3.2 Studies conducted outside Nigeria

Waweru and Maina (2019) studied the corporate restructuring and Kenya National Police Service’s performance. The target population consisted of 296 personnel at the Nairobi headquarters of the National Police Service. Corporate restructuring was found to improves the performance of Kenya’s National Police Service.

Kithinji [2] explored the association between bank restructuring, deposits, and commercial bank financial performance in Kenya. The study patterned after the descriptive and inferential data analysis methodologies. The study averred that financial, capital, operational, and asset restructuring improves Kenyan banks’ performance.

Using the panel data papproach, Inim, Njogo, and Oladele [13] found that performing loan ratio, and operating expenses exerted significant influence on banking stability (total deposit).

However, non-performing loans had negative insignificant effect on banking stability (total deposit) from 2005 to 2017.

Using descriptive research design, Ingow and Opuodho [14] found that capital restructuring had a positive but significant effect on financial performance of 35 managerial staff of SACCOS in Kenya.

Isabwa, and Mabonga [3] studied the impact of financial restructuring on Pan Africa Insurance Holding Company's performance. The data was collected using a cross-sectional research design. The study focused on 20 respondents. The study found that financial restructuring has a significant impact on Pan Africa Insurance's performance.

Kahuku [15] examined the impact of corporate restructuring on Kenyan financial institutions' financial performance. During the study's seven-year timeframe, from 2011 to 2017, data from ten listed commercial and service enterprises in Kenya was analyzed. The study found that corporate restructuring affected Kenyan financial institutions' financial performance positively and significantly.

Deepika and Shashi [16] analyze the effectiveness of the Corporate Debt Restructuring system on firm profitability in India. The sample consists of 91 firms that received debt restructuring package under the system form the year 2003-2015. The study adopted Ordinary Least Square Method. The findings of this study reveal that sample firms were not able to improve their performance even up to five years after debt restructuring and they were performing significantly below their industry peers.

Kithinji, Mwangi, Litondo, and Ogutu [1] studied the effect of bank restructuring on banks in Kenya from 2002 to 2014 and discovered that bank restructuring improves banks’ performance.

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design

This study adopted the expost facto research design. The choice for this design was informed on the fact that the data under study have occurred in retrospect and as a result, it is very difficult for one to manipulate its outcomes. More
so, this research design is amenable for studies in that it deals with cause and effect relationship.

3.2 Study Population, Sample Size, Sampling Technique

This study covered fourteen (14) quoted banks out of the twenty-one (21) quoted banks using the convenience sampling techniques. The choice of the selected DMBs lies in the fact that they are acclaimed to be highly resilient financially. More so, they constituted 66.67% of the total population.

3.3 Data Analysis Techniques and Model Specification

The Panel regression approach was adopted. In order to check for endogeneity, the study employs the Hausman specification test. This test is necessary given that there is a tradeoff between fixed effect and random effect model. Additional robustness tests adopted in this paper includes the Variance Inflation Factor (VIF), Breusch-Pagan test, and Cross Dependence test.

Econometrically, our model is stated below:

\[
\text{LnFIRE} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{LnFINR} + \beta_2 \text{LnOPR} + \beta_3 \text{LnASSR} + \beta_4 \text{LnCAR} + \mu + 1
\]

Where:
- FIRE = Financial Resilience
- FINR = Financial Restructuring
- OPR = Operational Restructuring
- ASSR = Asset Restructuring
- CAR = Capital Restructuring

3.4 Apriori Expectations

Based on the theoretical and empirical studies, we expect that: \( \beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4 > 0 \) signaling that the more banks in Nigeria restructures, the more resilient they will become.

3.5 Measurement of Research Variables

Chart. 1 accounted for how the study variables are operationalized:

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Data Analysis

Table 1 shows accounts for summarized descriptive statistics of all studied variables.

From the result, it could be observed that the mean (average) values of financial resilience (Z-score), financial restructuring, asset restructuring, operational restructuring, and capital restructuring are 0.467081, 0.443085, 0.098442, 0.375014 and 0.196254 respectively. Comparably, their standard deviation values are 0.205381, 0.396579, 0.010846, 0.261591, and 0.082557. This implies that their standard deviation values are lower than their mean values suggesting that they exhibited low volatility.

Furthermore, it could be observed that the highest values of financial resilience (Z-score), financial restructuring, asset restructuring, operational restructuring, and capital restructuring are: 0.982900, 1.702200, 0.488900, 0.927600, and 0.707900. Meanwhile, they reported minimum values of -0.010600, -0.049400, 0.000900, 0.007500, and 0.100200.

4.1.2 Correlation analysis

Table 2 shows the correlation among the targeted variables.

Table 2 reported that financial restructuring (FINR), operational restructuring (OPR), and capital restructuring (CAR) though negatively correlated with financial resilience proxy (FIRE) yet is moderate. Justifiably, their respective correlation values are: -0.529281, -0.398804, and -0.413070. Meanwhile, asset restructuring with correlation coefficient value of 0.436646 though positively correlated with financial resilience proxy (FIRE) yet is moderate.

Lastly, none of the corporate restructuring proxies did not exhibit high correlations suggesting low likelihood of multi-collinearity problem. However, this assertion was further tested using variance inflation factors (VIF). The result is presented Table 3.

The VIF with values < 10 suggests that our model shows no multicollinearity problem which supports Gujarati (2003) submissions.

4.2 Regression Results

Three (3) panel regression analytical models were considered. Both the Breusch Pagan and Hausman test were used to test which is most appropriate for the study. Meanwhile, the Cross sectional dependence test was used to further reaffirm if the chosen panel variant is most
Chart 1. Operationalization of Study Variables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/N</th>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Nature of Variable</th>
<th>Measurement</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>FINR</td>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>$Z = \frac{ROA + \text{Capital to Asset Ratio}}{\text{Standard Deviation of ROA}}$</td>
<td>Ozili [17]; Fernández, González, &amp; Suárez (2016)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>FIRE</td>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>Percentage Change in debt to equity ratio.</td>
<td>Kithinji [2]; Nasieku, &amp; Joseph [6]; Nga [7]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>ASSR</td>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>Percentage change in non-performing loans to aggregate loans</td>
<td>Kithinji, [2]; Okey and Ihenacho [5]; Kithinji, Mwangi, Litondo &amp; Ogutu [1]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>OPR</td>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>Percentage change in expenses to income ratio</td>
<td>Kithinji, [2]; Okey and Ihenacho [5]; Kithinji, Mwangi, Litondo &amp; Ogutu [1]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>CAR</td>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>Percentage change in capital adequacy ratio</td>
<td>Kithinji, [2]; Okey and Ihenacho [5]; Kithinji, Mwangi, Litondo &amp; Ogutu [1]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Researcher’s Compilation Based on Extant Studies (2021)

Table 1. Summary of descriptive statistics for the 168 observations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>FIRE</th>
<th>FINR</th>
<th>ASSR</th>
<th>OPR</th>
<th>CAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>0.467081</td>
<td>0.443085</td>
<td>0.098442</td>
<td>0.375014</td>
<td>0.196254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median</td>
<td>0.367250</td>
<td>0.287650</td>
<td>0.049600</td>
<td>0.330900</td>
<td>0.181050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum</td>
<td>0.982900</td>
<td>1.702200</td>
<td>0.488900</td>
<td>0.927600</td>
<td>0.707900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td>-0.010600</td>
<td>-0.049400</td>
<td>0.000900</td>
<td>0.007500</td>
<td>0.100200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Std. Dev.</td>
<td>0.205381</td>
<td>0.396579</td>
<td>0.010846</td>
<td>0.261591</td>
<td>0.082557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observations</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: E-Views Version 9.0 (2021)

Table 2. Summary of correlation analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study Variables</th>
<th>FIRE</th>
<th>FINR</th>
<th>ASSR</th>
<th>OPR</th>
<th>CAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FINR</td>
<td>1.000000</td>
<td>0.529281</td>
<td>0.436464</td>
<td>0.398840</td>
<td>0.413070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASSR</td>
<td>0.436464</td>
<td>1.000000</td>
<td>0.240424</td>
<td>0.256768</td>
<td>0.257239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPR</td>
<td>0.398840</td>
<td>0.240424</td>
<td>1.000000</td>
<td>-0.125121</td>
<td>-0.154211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAR</td>
<td>0.413070</td>
<td>0.257239</td>
<td>-0.125121</td>
<td>1.000000</td>
<td>1.000000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Econometric Views Version 9.0 (2021)

Table 3. Multi-collinearity Test-VIF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Coefficient Variance</th>
<th>Uncentered VIF</th>
<th>Centered VIF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>0.002561</td>
<td>11.01695</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINR</td>
<td>0.001641</td>
<td>2.489689</td>
<td>1.103701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASSR</td>
<td>0.021196</td>
<td>1.997563</td>
<td>1.113812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPR</td>
<td>0.003612</td>
<td>3.242228</td>
<td>1.056968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAR</td>
<td>0.035202</td>
<td>6.859365</td>
<td>1.026099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.075145</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: E-Views Version 9.0 (2021)
appropriate. Hence, the robustness estimates are presented Table 4.

From Table 4, favours the REM since it Prob. > Chi2 value estimated at 0.7775 is not significant (p > 0.05). Meanwhile, the Breusch-Pagan Langragian Multiplier test with p-values of 0.0016 confirmed that the REM is most appropriate for the study. The Panel Regression Estimates and Robustness Check is presented Table 5.

The R² value of 0.587480 means that 58.75% variations in the financial resilience is jointly explained by all the corporate restructuring proxies under study. Meanwhile, the remaining 41.25% is explained by the error term. This is further attested by a high adjusted R² value of 0.567541. Furthermore, the study reported a Durbin Watson value of 2.082339. This means that the model is not serially correlated. The F-stat result is significantly high at 9.402633, showing that the regressors on the overall are highly statistically significant. Meanwhile, the individual results are discussed thus.

**Table 4. Robustness Check-Hausman Test and Breusch-Pagan Test**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Summary</th>
<th>Chi-Sq. Statistic</th>
<th>Chi-Sq. d.f.</th>
<th>Prob.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cross-section random</td>
<td>1.772583</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.7775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breusch-Pagan LM</td>
<td>135.9157</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>0.0016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pesaran scaled LM</td>
<td>2.291628</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.0219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pesaran CD</td>
<td>2.118854</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.0341</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Econometric Views Version 9.0 (2021)*

**Table 5. Panel regression estimates and robustness check**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Coefficient</th>
<th>Std. Error</th>
<th>t-Statistic</th>
<th>Prob.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>0.395128</td>
<td>0.060501</td>
<td>6.530912</td>
<td>0.0000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINR</td>
<td>-0.071595</td>
<td>0.027677</td>
<td>-2.586790</td>
<td>0.0106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASSR</td>
<td>0.420337</td>
<td>0.098847</td>
<td>4.252396</td>
<td>0.0000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPR</td>
<td>0.009859</td>
<td>0.137515</td>
<td>0.071691</td>
<td>0.9429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAR</td>
<td>0.171277</td>
<td>0.041746</td>
<td>4.102825</td>
<td>0.0001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Effects Specification*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>S.D.</th>
<th>Rho</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cross-section random</td>
<td>0.186799</td>
<td>0.7234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idiosyncratic random</td>
<td>0.115495</td>
<td>0.2766</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Weighted Statistics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Mean dependent var</th>
<th>0.082069</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R-squared</td>
<td>0.587480</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjusted R-squared</td>
<td>0.567541</td>
<td>S.D. dependent var</td>
<td>0.125717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.E. of regression</td>
<td>0.114703</td>
<td>Sum squared resid</td>
<td>2.144573</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F-statistic</td>
<td>9.402633</td>
<td>Durbin-Watson stat</td>
<td>2.082339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prob(F-statistic)</td>
<td>0.000001</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Unweighted Statistics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mean dependent var</th>
<th>0.467081</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R-squared</td>
<td>0.557405</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sum squared resid</td>
<td>6.639887</td>
<td>Durbin-Watson stat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Estimation Command:
====================================
LS(CX=R) FIRE C FINR ASSR OPR CAR

Estimation Equation:
====================================
FIRE = C(1) + C(2)*FINR + C(3)*ASSR + C(4)*OPR + C(5)*CAR + [CX=R]

Substituted Coefficients:
====================================
FIRE = 0.395128405803 - 0.0715950334077*FINR + 0.420337317207*ASSR + 0.171276897178*OPR + 0.00985857796968*CAR + [CX=R]

4.2.1 Financial restructuring and financial resilience (Z-Score)

The REM estimate evidenced that, financial restructuring with a negative coefficient of -0.071595 and p-value of 0.0106 exerted negative effects on financial resilience (Z-score) of the Nigerian banking industry. This result is however not surprising reason been that though it is believed that a significant change in the financial structure of the banking industry remain one of the surest ways of limiting financial harm and improving business but this decision is contingent on the consent of the creditor. Most especially, if a bank finds difficulty with making the payments on its debts, it will often consolidate and adjust the terms of debt provided the creditor agrees. This result is in tandem with the findings of Ingow and Opudoho [14]; Inim, Njogo, and Oladele [13] but deviated sharply from the findings of Waweru and Maina (2019); Kithinji [2]; Kahuku [15] but deviated sharply from the findings of Ingow and Opudoho [14]; Inim, Njogo, and Oladele [13]; Isabwa, and Mabonga [3]; Deepika and Shashi [16].

4.2.2 Asset restructuring and financial resilience (Z-score)

The REM estimates evidenced that asset restructuring (ASSR) with a positive beta coefficient of 0.420337 and a p-value of 0.0000 signals that ASSR exerted direct high effect on the financial resilience (Z-score). This implies that ASSR enhances DMBs’ financial resilience to a large extent. The policy implication here is that change in the non-performing results high financial resilience (Z-score). More so, proper ASSR is instrumental to the Nigerian banking sector. This result is in tandem with the findings of Waweru and Maina (2019); Kithinji [2]; Kahuku [15] but deviated sharply from the findings of Ingow and Opudoho [14]; Inim, Njogo, and Oladele [13]; Isabwa, and Mabonga [3]; Deepika and Shashi [16].

4.2.3 Operational restructuring and financial resilience (Z-score)

The REM clearly revealed that operational restructuring with a beta coefficient of 0.009859 and a p-value of 0.9429 signals that, the more bank management focuses on operational restructuring, the more the industry is resilient financially but such effect is minimal. By implication, operational restructuring contributed minimally to the financial resilience (Z-score) of the Nigerian banking industry. This result supports financial intermediation (FI) theory, and also the Waweru and Maina (2019); Kithinji [1]; Kahuku [15] findings but deviated sharply from Inim, Njogo, and Oladele [13] findings.
4.2.4 Capital Restructuring (CAR) and the financial resilience (Z-score)

The Random effect model reported that CAR with a positive coefficient of .339 and p-value estimated at 0.000 signals that CAR is very important to Nigerian banks' financial resilience (Z-score). Further, capital restructuring is a good strategy for achieving a banking industry that is resilient (Z-score) financially. This result agrees with Okuma [10], Olokoyo, Adegboye, Okafor, Okoye, and Akinjare [11], Raji, Bambose, Olusegun, and Abidoye [12]; Amire and Amire [18] findings but deviated sharply from Inim, Njogo, and Oladele [13] findings.

5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. from 2009-2020. The study patterned after the panel regression technique. However, it supported the Random Effect Model panel data variant as evidenced by both the Hausman test and Breusch Pagan Test. The empirical analysis was rich and robust as various transmission patterns confirmed this assertion. Conclusively, corporate restructuring vis-à-vis asset and capital restructuring is essential for achieving a banking industry that is financially resilient. Hence the study recommends that:
2. Nigerian banks should place more emphasis on collateralized long-term loans/borrowings, privately placed debentures, inter-corporate deposits, and over drafts facilities.
3. Should Nigerian banks desire to be financially resilient, they should address all their toxic assets.
4. Nigerian banks should widen their ATM networks should they desire to be financially resilient.
5. To avoid instances of bank crisis and at the same time remains financially resilient, bank management should consider capital restructuring as a feasible bank policy [18-22].

6. DISCLAIMER

The products used for this research are commonly and predominantly use products in our area of research and country. There is absolutely no conflict of interest between the authors and producers of the products because we do not intend to use these products as an avenue for any litigation but for the advancement of knowledge. Also, the research was not funded by the producing company rather it was funded by personal efforts of the authors.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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