External Auditing of Corporate Social Responsibility Projects: Case Study of CSR projects for Energy Company in Thailand

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Abstract

The concept of auditing CSR toward sustainable development is connected with social, environmental and economic dimensions. Today, growing number of companies issuing such CSR projects is a part of their annual reporting. Despite there are problem in evaluating their quality. Each of the projects is different in the contexts and characteristics; consequently, the results of the CSR project are diverse. The aim of this paper is to design and determine the key performances indicators for comprehensive evaluation of sustainability CSR projects. Four CSR project case studies of energy company in Thailand are also used to verify the proposed methodology which based on ISO26000:2010 and GRI:G4 guideline. The study showed that the projects are worth for the investment as the “Social return on investment” (SROI) was greater than 1 in all of the CSR projects. Also, the CSR projects can reduce the cost and increase revenue for participating communities according to the value of direct economic value generated and distributed from the positive impacts of environmental and social conditions by the project operation. For the environmental indicators, GHG emission mitigation from the project operation is considered and converted to carbon credite value. Social performances indicators were evaluated in the form of the value or benefit for community or society from project operation. Sustainability of CSR projects offers a comprehensive principle to create shared value in order to build a more satisfaction on stakeholders, sustainable development toward society in collaboration with economic success.

Keywords: Corporate Social Responsibility, Sustainability Development, Economic indicators, Environmental indicators, Social indicators