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The impact of applying international accounting standard IAS 12 on improving the quality of accounting information

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Abstract
This study aims to determine whether applying International Accounting Standard (IAS 12) improves the usefulness of accounting information and addresses the differences between accounting profit and tax profit under IAS 12, specifically regarding deferred tax assets and liabilities. Additionally, it examines the applicability of IAS 12 and its impact on the financial statements of commercial banks.
The study was conducted on a sample of Iraqi commercial banks listed on the Iraqi Stock Exchange for the years 2020-2023. IAS 12 was applied, and both the quality of accounting information and creative accounting practices were measured. The relationships between variables were analyzed to determine correlation and impact.
The study concluded that significant impact relationships exist between IAS 12 and the quality of accounting information. Applying IAS 12 in the sampled banks enhances the quality of accounting information in terms of relevance and faithful representation. Moreover, the results indicate that IAS 12 helps reduce creative accounting practices and their adverse effects.

Keywords: International accounting standard 12, quality of accounting information, creative accounting

Introduction

The adoption and application of international accounting standards mark a turning point in financial reporting due to the liberalization of market economies and subsequent changes in financial markets. These developments have intensified competition among organizations, leading to the adoption of unethical administrative and financial practices. Administrators, financiers, and accountants often choose the best accounting alternatives to present the financial position of their organizations favorably. Although these choices may not conflict with generally accepted accounting principles and standards, they can result in misleading and manipulative financial reporting. This freedom in selecting accounting alternatives has led to inappropriate profit management practices in joint-stock companies.

This study investigates the capacity of international financial accounting standards to enhance the quality of accounting information and reduce profit management practices, as discussed by (Adam and Mukhtar 2016) [1]. The research focuses on the discrepancies between accounting profit and tax profit arising from differences in income tax estimation in Iraq. These discrepancies result in temporary and permanent differences, some of which affect tax estimates in subsequent years, while others are limited to the year of their occurrence without deferred tax consequences. Such differences can impact the quality of accounting information and lead to creative accounting practices.

The study was conducted on a sample of Iraqi commercial banks listed on the Iraqi Stock Exchange for the years 2020-2023. International Accounting Standard No. 12 was applied, and both the quality of accounting information and creative accounting practices were measured. The relationships between variables were analyzed to determine correlation and impact

Related Previous Studies

Edeigba, Jude, 2023: This study aimed to examine the relationship between International Accounting Standard 12 (IAS 12) and deferred income taxes associated with tax and accounting rules, highlighting that the persistent issue of revenue and expense recognition based on these rules remains unresolved and may be manageable only by reducing the value of deferred taxes. Design/Methodology/Approach: The study utilized a large sample of balanced data from 144 firms over the period 1992-2019. To mitigate the problem of redundant results, the same number of firms and years were used for both pre- and post-IAS 12 periods. Robust econometric estimations were employed to establish the impact of IAS 12 on deferred tax. Findings: The regression results indicated a significant decrease in deferred tax assets and a significant increase in deferred tax liabilities in the post-IAS 12 period. These contrasting outcomes imply that IAS 12 implementation has increased conservatism and prudence in financial reporting. However, the increase in deferred tax assets post-IAS 12 is deemed value-destructive, suggesting unintended consequences of its implementation. The results are robust to alternative measurements and econometric identification strategies. Originality/Value while prior studies explored topics such as deferred tax measurement and the impact of income and expense recognition, this study specifically analyzed how IAS 12 affects deferred taxes and their effect on market valuation. The findings suggest that certain accounting standards may not be relevant to the capital market

Suleiman, S. A. (2023) [11] The aim of this research to achieve the possibility of achieving a positive interaction between accounting and tax and attention to the development of accounting standards and their adaptation to local tax legislation, and the importance of the reliability of accounting information contained in the financial statements with the International Accounting Standard (12) for the purpose of reaching tax profit based on accounting profit is increasingly important.

Zhang, Y., & Li, X. (2021): This study examines the impact of adopting IFRS, particularly IAS 12, on tax report-ing practices in Chinese firms. The find-ings indicate that the adoption of IFRS has led to improved transparency in tax disclosures and has influenced the man-agement of deferred tax assets and liabilities.

Chiladze, I. (2017) [5]: The aim of this study is to substantiate the necessity of simplifying IAS 12 - Income Tax. The article argues that accounting for de-ferred tax assets and liabilities creates numerous problems for enterprises and investors. These issues hinder their ana-lytical role in financial analysis, leading enterprise leadership in Georgia to avoid using IAS 12. The study recommends introducing changes to IAS 12 to simpli-fy profit tax accounting methods, thereby resolving existing accounting issues related to profit tax.

In the current study, I focused on addressing the differences between accounting profit and tax profit according to International Accounting Standards (IAS 12), specifically related to deferred tax assets and liabilities. The study also examined a critical aspect: the ability of IAS 12 to interpret and enhance the quality of accounting information, in addition to its role in curbing creative accounting practices.

Through a review and analysis of the opinions of auditors, financial statement preparers, and users, this study aimed to determine the effectiveness of IAS 12 in providing reliable and high-quality accounting information. It also explored how this standard can help reduce opportunities for creative accounting practices, which may lead to the distortion of financial results.

Compared to previous studies, such as Khan and Ahmed (2023) [6], which focused on the impact of compliance with IAS 12 on financial performance through improved transparency, and Zhang and Li (2021), which explored the enhancement of tax disclosure transparency and the management of deferred tax assets and liabilities following the adoption of international standards, my study added an additional dimension by focusing on the differences between accounting profit and tax profit, as well as the ability of IAS 12 to limit creative accounting. Unlike Chiladze (2017) [5], who advocated for simplifying IAS 12 due to the difficulties companies face in its application and its limited impact on financial analysis, my study aimed to assess how auditors and users can leverage this standard to improve the accuracy and reliability of financial decision-making.

The theoretical framework of the study

The relationship between IAS 12 Income Taxes in improving the quality of accounting information and reducing creative accounting practices has not been largely explored by academics. It is expected that there will be a relationship between IAS 12 Income Taxes in improving the quality of accounting information and reducing accounting practices. Creative accounting

As mentioned in previous research, this section begins by explaining the theoretical foundations that justify this expectation. Hence, this section explains the theories that have been concluded in International Accounting Standard No. 12 Income Taxes in improving the quality of accounting information to limit creative accounting practices.

IAS 12 Income Taxes

The International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) issued International Accounting Standard No. 12 Income Taxes in July 1979, which was amended and reissued in October 1996, accompanied by the relevant interpretations (25 IFRIC 7 FRIC 23, SIC 21, SIC) in order to serve as a reference for institutions that It adopts international accounting standards on how to deal with differences that arise as a result of different requirements of tax laws and legislation from their counterparts in accordance with international standards, so that these differences are not left to remain outside the accounting books without showing their impact on the financial statements over several financial periods, as the International Accounting Standard (IAS 12) is known. It is a set of guidelines that explain the accounting treatments for local and foreign income taxes and how to disclose them in detail about their components and are unified for all units applying the standard.

The standard also aims to describe the accounting treatment for income taxes, and the basic issue in that is how the accounting is done. About the current and future effects of the tax.

Standard goal

International Accounting Standard No. 12 works to achieve fundamental objectives that the institution seeks to reach. These objectives may vary depending on the size of the financial institution, its mission, and the number of employees in it, in addition to the nature of senior management. Many researchers have indicated a set of objectives that can be reached by applying the Accounting Standard (12). Income taxes as follows (Mahmoud & Ahmed, 2023: 894) [6].

1. International Accounting Standard No. 12 "Income Taxes" seeks to clarify and understand the accounting treatments for deferred taxes, that is, the standard explains how to calculate the amount of deferred taxes that are due to be paid at the present time and the amount of tax that has been deferred in accordance with accounting standards and in accordance with international financial reports and taxable profit, and to address the differences. Continuous and temporary in between.
2. B. IAS 12 aims to describe the accounting treatment for income taxes and the main issue is how to account for the current and future tax consequences of the following:

- Future imports (payments) recorded as assets (liabilities) recognized in the project's statement of financial position.
- perations and events for the current periods recognized in the project's financial statements
- Recognizing all tax assets that were deferred for tax losses that were not used.

Scope standard

The scope of this standard includes accounting for income taxes, which are: - (Abu Nassar and Hamidat, 2023: 209) [1]
All income taxes, whether local or foreign, imposed on taxable profits:
Other income taxes, such as taxes withheld and payable by subsidiaries, associates, and joint ventures when they distribute profits to the parent facility.
This standard does not cover the following:

- Methods of accounting for government grants, as they are treated according to the twentieth international accounting standard (accounting for government grants and disclosure of government aid.
- Tax deductions to encourage investment, but this standard is concerned with accounting for the temporary differences that may arise from such gifts and tax deductions to encourage investment.

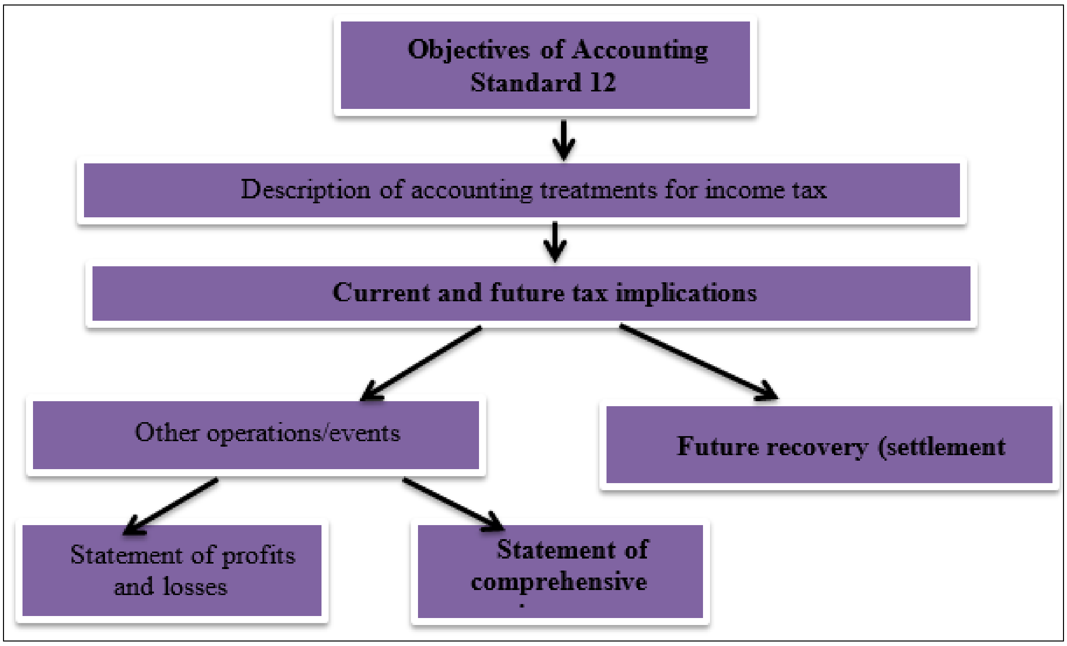

Fig 1: Objectives of Accounting Standard 12

Therefore, the application of International Accounting Standard No. 12 as a framework for tax accounting has a direct impact on the financial statements, as it requires the recognition of the tax effects of all transactions. As a result, some temporary differences appear that result in deferred tax transactions, and it also requires the disclosure of all facts related to the taxable activity for the year. The financial statements concerned, and these data must have a high degree of accuracy and clarity and provide a picture of the reality of the tax situation.

Quality of accounting information under international accounting standards

The accounting information provided by published financial reports represents an essential source for making rational decisions, because it explains the financial position of the facility, the results of its work, and its trends in the future. Accounting information, as is known, is facts, connotations, and observations. The goal of its preparation and production is to increase the level of knowledge among its users, and to help them understand and become aware of a specific situation. In order for accounting information to achieve the goal for which it was prepared, and to be useful in analysis, it must be characterized by a certain level of quality. The latter is achieved through a set of qualitative characteristics that are considered as criteria in light of which the extent of benefit and benefit achieved from analyzing the available information can be judged. Users of accounting information consider with great importance the necessity of preparing accounting information that has the characteristics of suitability, faithful representation, and fundamentally enhancing characteristics, because it is the basis for making sound decisions.

Criteria for evaluating accounting quality

In order to rely on high-quality financial reports, which are the most important components of rational choice, accounting companies must choose their profitable information, and verify the quality of accounting information by taking the following steps (Hussein, 2016: 28):

1. **Legal standards:** Many professional companies in most countries of the world aim to develop the quality of accounting disclosure and achieve compliance with it by enacting clear laws and legislation that regulate their, 3. Noual, 2010: 18) [7].
2. **Oversight standards:** The control element is one of the basic foundations of the administrative process on which both the Board of Directors and investors depend. The success of that element depends on the presence of an effective control system that defines the roles of each of the financial and administrative control bodies and audit committees, to ensure obtaining financial data characterized by high quality. (Al-Tamimi, 2013: 23) [4]. Figure Qualitative characteristics of accounting information according to FASB and AISB for the year 2010
3. **Professional standards:** Many professional institutions seek to prepare standards for accounting and auditing in order to control the performance of the accounting process, so the concept of holding management accountable by investors to ensure their investments emerged, which led to the emergence of the need to prepare financial reports that enjoy honesty and integrity.

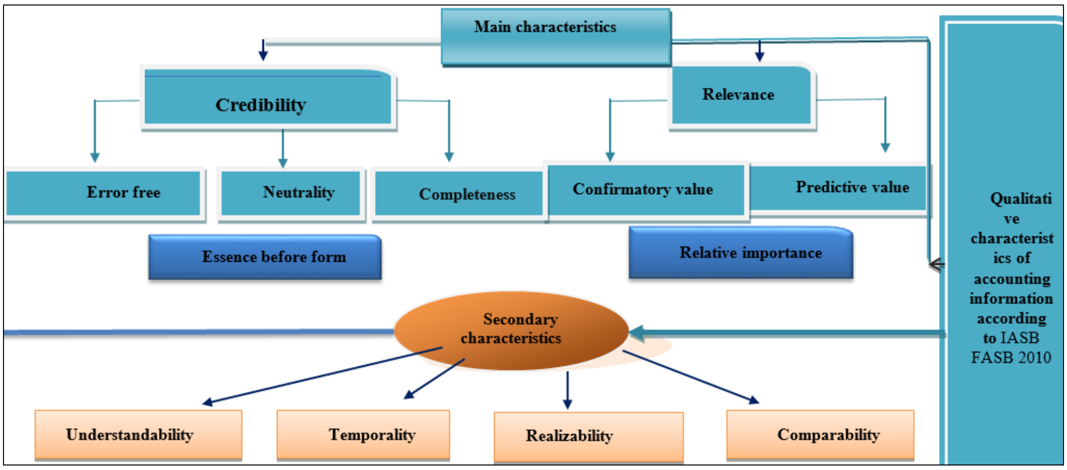

Fig 2: Figure Qualitative characteristics of accounting information according to FASB and AISB for the year 2010

Loopholes for manipulation and fraud in financial statements

There are many means and methods used in creative accounting that were revealed by the Center for Financial Research, Studies and Analysis in the United States of America, and they can be used to manipulate the financial statements of companies, including:

1. Reducing the current year's profits by reducing the year's revenues or inflating the year's expenses. This method leads to the carryover of profits to future periods at the expense of the current period.
   The researcher sees that sometimes companies rush to show their unaccrued expenses during the current year, to evade taxes or for management to have the opportunity to show more profits in the future, which gives the impression that the company's management has done a good job in converting negative results into positive profits, and from that it is clear that this The method or means has a negative tax impact on the tax base, which requires the examining officer to charge each period with its relevant revenues and expenses, and then return these revenues that pertain to the year to the tax base and account for them.
2. **Recording fictitious revenues within the period's revenues:** There are some companies that completely fail to achieve any revenues, so they record fictitious sales in their books in order to inflate revenues. Usually, these recorded revenues are not related to the operational process, such as re-evaluating some budget balances to create these fictitious revenues.
   The researcher believes that in this case, the examining commissioner evaluates the status of the revenue in terms of whether it is subject to tax or not in accordance with the tax laws. Therefore, if this revenue is taxable revenue, the examining officer will subject it to tax because it is the company's management that has declared this revenue.
3. **Transferring current expenses to previous or subsequent accounting periods:** It is known that the expenses incurred in carrying out a business may lead to achieving short-term benefits, such as rents, salaries, and advertisements, which are deducted directly from revenues, and may lead to long-term benefits, such as buildings and machinery that are used. Assets whose depreciation is calculated over the long term, at a time when the interest from them has actually been realized, and sometimes some items of these assets
4. **Recording false revenues:** This method consists of recording fictitious or fake revenues, where the revenue is recorded quickly while the sale process is still in doubt. According to the followed procedures, recording the income takes place after the process of exchanging the benefits is completed, but the income is recognized accounting and book-wise. Subject: Doubt. According to the established procedures, the recording of income takes place after the completion of the process of

exchanging the benefits, but the accounting and bookkeeping of the income resulting from the sale process is recognized before the process itself is completed on the ground and before the process of exchanging the benefits is completed, this has an impact on the users of the financial statements.

5. **Failure to record or inappropriate reduction of obligations:** The management of some companies sometimes, for their own purposes, such as the obligations' engagement with judicial affairs or purchase obligations, discreetly discloses the changes that occur in the obligations' accounts. This method has no tax impact, but in accordance with Iraqi Accounting Rule No. 13 of 2002. Companies must prepare their lists in accordance with Iraqi accounting rules so as not to harm the interests of shareholders who are ultimately financiers of the state's public treasury. This is also the responsibility of the company's external auditor and stakeholders in the first place, even though the labor market is abundant in such practices.
6. **Transferring current revenues to a later financial period:** This method aims to reduce current profits and transfer them to a later financial period when the need for them is more urgent. This method is usually used in the event that there are clear differences between the book value and the market value or when the company's conditions are in The current year is excellent, so it carries over these profits to future periods that the company's management believes could be difficult, and it is known in accounting that revenues must be recorded during the financial period in which they were achieved and earned if the services provided in exchange for these revenues were completed in the same financial period.
   The researcher believes that this method has a tax impact, and the examining officer must return this revenue to the tax base to forestall the negative tax impact on the proceeds.
7. **Transferring the expenses incurred by the company in the future to the current financial period for special circumstances:** These methods are used in times when companies are facing difficult times, because the decline in business and other crises prompts managers to take procedures in the accounting records to confront this in the hope that the future will be better. In order to alleviate the burdens of the present time at the expense of a good expected future, accounting rules sometimes allow the company to choose between a different number of accounting methods.
   Therefore, the company can choose the accounting policy that gives the preferred image of it. This process has a negative tax impact, and then the examining officer must return these expenses to the tax base in order to forestall the negative tax impact.
8. **Using some inputs in the accounts that are related to evaluation or forecasting:** In this case, the creative accountant can manipulate the value either through the means by which an overall evaluation is drawn up or by choosing an appraiser or evaluator known to take an optimistic or pessimistic direction according to the accountant's desire and despite There is a tax impact for this method, but the Tax Authority has no choice whether to accept this evaluation or not as long as it is approved by the company's chartered accountant and the Capital Market Authority.
9. Artificial transactions can be entered either to manipulate budget amounts or

Research Methodology

Based on the nature of the study and its objectives, the researcher employed a combination of descriptive and practical methodologies.

Descriptive Method

The descriptive method was used to examine and clarify the impact of applying International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), specifically IAS 12, on the quality of accounting information for publicly listed companies on the Iraq Stock Exchange. This method involves studying the phenomenon as it exists in reality, providing a detailed and accurate description both qualitatively and quantitatively. It goes beyond mere data collection to thoroughly investigate the characteristics of the phenomenon.

Practical Method

The practical method was employed to observe and test the real-world application of these standards. This approach focuses on detailed observation and practical testing, providing a comprehensive understanding of the implementation of IAS 12 in practice.

Results and Discussion

The Impact of Applying IAS 12 on the Financial Statements of Sample Banks After applying International Accounting Standard No. 12 (IAS 12) to a sample of banks listed on the Iraq Stock Exchange, this section will illustrate the impact of this standard on both the income statement and the balance sheet, focusing on two banks from the study sample: the Regional Commercial Bank and Asia Iraq Bank for the fiscal year ending on 31/12/2023. These banks were selected for the following reasons:

Regional Commercial Bank: This bank includes deferred tax assets. The preparation of its income statement and balance sheet can be replicated for other banks and other years.

Asia Iraq Bank: This bank includes deferred tax liabilities. The preparation of its income statement and balance sheet can be replicated for other banks and other years.

The impact of applying IAS 12 on the financial statements of the sample banks (Regional Commercial Bank and Asia Iraq Bank) is detailed below:

Impact of Applying IAS 12 on the Income Statement of Sample Banks

The income statements for Regional Commercial Bank and Asia Iraq Bank before and after applying IAS 12 for the fiscal year ending on 31/12/2023 are shown as follows:

Table 1: Regional Commercial Bank

Details	Before Applying IAS 12 (Thousand IQD)	After Applying IAS 12 (Thousand IQD)
Credited Interest	5,138,922	5,138,922
Debited Interest	(977,812)	(977,812)
Net Interest Revenue	4,161,110	4,161,110
Credited Fees and Commissions	73,189,446	73,189,446
Debited Fees and Commissions	(5,588,295)	(5,588,295)
Net Income from Fees and Commissions	67,601,151	67,601,151
Net Income from Interest and Fees	71,762,261	71,762,261
Net Foreign Currency Trading Income	9,616,719	9,616,719
Window Trading Revenues	11,436,149	11,436,149
Other Revenues	3,619,692	3,619,692
Net Operating Revenues	96,434,821	96,434,821
Employee Expenses	(6,959,609)	(6,959,609)
Depreciation and Amortization	(3,407,588)	(3,407,588)
Provision for Direct Facilities	(1,008,606)	(1,008,606)
Provision for Central and External Banks	(11,787,316)	(11,787,316)
Other Provisions	(387,791)	(387,791)
Miscellaneous Provisions	(6,983,467)	(6,983,467)
Other Operating Expenses	(17,327,677)	(17,327,677)
Total Operating Expenses	47,862,054	47,862,054
Profit Before Tax	48,572,766	48,572,766
Income Tax Expense	(7,932,143)	(7,932,143)
Deferred Tax Assets	-	84,389.4
Net Profit After Tax	40,640,623	43,405,719
Statutory Reserve (5%)	(2,032,031)	(2,170,286)
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	38,608,592	41,235,433

Table 2: Asia Iraq Bank

Details	Before Applying IAS 12 (Thousand IQD)	After Applying IAS 12 (Thousand IQD)
Current Activity Revenues		
Window Sales Revenues	0	0
Foreign Currency Trading Revenues	-883,801	-883,801
Murabaha and Ijara Revenues	5,362,949	5,362,949
Total Current Activity Revenues	4,479,148	4,479,148
Less: Bank Fees Paid	-7,900	-7,900
Net Current Activity Revenues	4,471,248	4,471,248
Internal and External Transfer Fees	776,131	776,131
Issuing Drafts and Check Fees	3,596	3,596
Letter of Guarantee Fees	1,806,801	1,806,801
Internal and External Investment Income	1,948,971	1,948,971
Subsidiary Company Income	0	0
Other Banking Fees	314,184	314,184
Refunded Expenses Income	157,014	157,014
Fixed Assets Rent Income	107,924	107,924
Other Income	42,133	42,133
Total Revenues	9,628,002	9,628,002
Less: Current Activity Expenses		
Salaries and Wages	2,013,840	2,013,840
Operating Expenses	3,423,143	3,423,143
Depreciation and Amortization	2,565,389	2,565,389
Provision for Credit Deterioration	0	0
Total Operational Expenses	8,002,372	8,002,372
Surplus (Deficit) Before Tax	1,625,630	1,625,630
Less: Tax (15%)	243,845	243,845
Deferred Tax Liabilities	-	8,974.2
Net Surplus (Deficit) After Tax	1,381,785	2,113,319
Statutory Reserve (5%)	(69,089)	(105,666)
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	1,312,696	2,007,653

Comprehensive Income. 1,312,696 and 2,007,653

From the above tables, it is evident that the application of IAS 12 affects the income statement by providing more detailed disclosure regarding deferred tax assets and liabilities, impacting the distribution of net operating surplus. For example, the net profit for Regional Commercial Bank after tax for the year 2023 increased from IQD 40,640,623 to IQD 43,405,719 after applying IAS 12. Similarly, the total comprehensive income increased from IQD 38,608,592 to IQD 41,235,433. For Asia Iraq Bank, the net profit after tax increased from IQD 1,381,785 to IQD 2,113,319, and the total comprehensive income increased from IQD 1,312,696 to IQD 2,007,653. This demonstrates that the application of IAS 12 enhances the quality of accounting disclosures.

Table 3: Correlations between study variables

Correlations				
Details		**International Accounting Standard 12**	**Quality of Accounting Information**	**Creative Accounting**
International Accounting Standard 12	Pearson Correlation	1	.902**	-.886**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.000
	N	76	76	***76***
Quality of Accounting Information	Pearson Correlation	.902**	1	-.814**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000		.000
	N	76	76	***76***
Creative Accounting	Pearson Correlation	.886**	-.814**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	
	N	76	76	***76***
**Correlationis significant at the0.01 level (2-tailed).				

It is noted from the table above that the correlation coefficient between the variable of International Accounting Standard No. 12 and the variable of quality of accounting information was (.902), which is a strong direct relationship. This means that the application of the banks in the study sample to International Accounting Standard No. 12 can help improve the quality of accounting information. It is also noted that the correlation coefficient between the variable of International Accounting Standard No. 12 and the variable of creative accounting practices was (-.886), which is a strong inverse relationship. This means that the application of the banks in the study sample to International Accounting Standard No. 12 can help in reducing creative accounting practices. The correlation coefficient between the accounting information quality variable and the creative accounting practices variable was (-.814), which is a strong inverse relationship. This means that improving the quality of accounting information in the banks sampled by the study can help reduce creative accounting practices.

The correlation relationships between the study variables, the International Accounting Standard No. 12 variable, the quality of accounting information variable, and the creative accounting practices variable in the banks sample of the study can be clarified, as shown in the following figure:

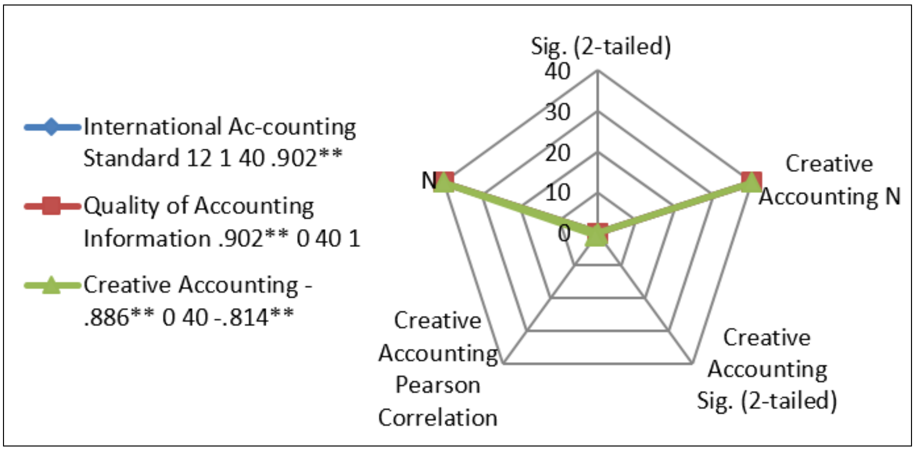

Fig 3: Competing interests: The authors declare that they have no competing financial and non-financial interests to disclose

Conclusion

Effectiveness of IAS 12: The study concluded that the application of IAS 12 significantly improves the quality of accounting information in the financial statements of Iraqi commercial banks. This is evidenced by the increased transparency and detail in the financial disclosures, particularly regarding deferred tax assets and liabilities.

Impact on Financial Statements: The application of IAS 12 resulted in notable changes in both the income statements and balance sheets of the sample banks. These changes include the recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities, which provide a more accurate representation of the banks' financial positions.

Reduction in Creative Accounting Practices: The findings indicate that applying IAS 12 helps reduce creative accounting practices. This is shown by the decrease in discretionary accruals after the standard's implementation, leading to more reliable and truthful financial reporting.

Quality of Accounting Information: The accounting information provided by the sample banks meets the required quality standards. This includes characteristics such as relevance, reliability, comparability, and understandability, which are essential for users of financial statements.

Tax Implications: The study also highlights the impact of IAS 12 on tax reporting, showing how deferred tax accounts can affect the calculation of tax liabilities and assets, thereby influencing the net income reported.

Recommendations

Adoption of IAS 12: It is recommended that all commercial banks in Iraq fully adopt and implement IAS 12 to enhance the quality of their financial reporting and ensure consistency and comparability across the sector.

Training and Development: Banks should invest in continuous training and development programs for their accounting staff to ensure they are well-versed in the application of international accounting standards, particularly IAS 12.

Improving Transparency: Banks should strive to improve the transparency of their financial statements by providing detailed disclosures about their tax positions, deferred tax assets, and liabilities, as required by IAS 12.

Regulatory Oversight: Financial regulatory authorities in Iraq should enforce the application of IAS 12 and monitor compliance to ensure that all banks adhere to the standard, thereby reducing the incidence of creative accounting practices.

Further Research: Future research should focus on the long-term impacts of IAS 12 on financial performance and stability of banks, as well as its effect on investor confidence and market behavior**.**

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Author contributions

- The first author, suray alisawi, conducted the statistical analysis and interpreted the data related to the application of IAS 12 on the financial statements of the banks.
- The second author Raida Chakroun, collected the primary data and conducted interviews with the bank employees.

Both authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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Data Availability

In this manuscript, we use accounting data related to banks listed on the Iraq Stock Exchange. This data is publicly available and can be accessed by visiting the Iraq Stock Exchange website.

Declarations

Conflict of interest: The authors have no relevant financial or non-financial interests to disclose.

Ethical standards: The authors declare that no ethical standards were violated during the preparation of this manuscript.

Consent for publication: We hereby grant our consent for the publication of this article and agree to its open access dis.

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