Effects of Revenue Generation on Tax Auditing in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Beriz Lozančić Bujang, Milorad Belkić Hofmann & Nikola Živković Janchai

ISSN: 2616-4965

Stratford Peer Reviewed Journals and Book Publishing
Journal of Finance and Accounting
Volume 7||Issue 3 ||Page 9-21||May||2023|
Email: info@stratfordjournals.org ISSN: 2616-4965

Effects of Revenue Generation on Tax Auditing in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

[1*]Beriz Lozančić Bujang, [2] Milorad Belkić Hofmann & [3]Nikola Živković Janchai
[1*]Postgraduate Student, University of Sarajevo
[2&3]Lecturers, University of Sarajevo
***Email of the corresponding author: berlozanbujang@gmail.com**

How to cite this article: **Bujang, B. L., Hofmann, M. B., & Janchai, N. Z. (2023). Effects of Revenue Generation on Tax Auditing in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.** ***Journal of Finance and Accounting,*** **7(3), 9-21. https://doi.org/10.53819/81018102t5170**

Abstract

Revenue generation is crucial for the financial sustainability and functioning of organizations and governments. The study sought to examine the effects of revenue generation on tax auditing in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Tax auditing refers to the process of examining and reviewing tax-related records, financial statements, and other relevant documents to ensure compliance with tax laws and regulations. Tax authorities may prioritize audits of high-revenue-generating taxpayers or sectors, potentially overlooking smaller taxpayers or sectors that may still pose a risk of non-compliance. Tax authorities can ensure that revenue generation efforts are balanced with maintaining taxpayers' trust and encouraging voluntary compliance. The study utilized the descriptive research design. The target population was 180 businesses in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. The research did sampling of 140 participants that were selected from the target population of 180 businesses in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Questionnaires were utilized to gather the data. The study concluded that a comprehensive evaluation of existing practices, policies, and resource allocations within the tax authority is necessary. This evaluation should aim to establish a balance between revenue generation goals and the maintenance of a robust and fair tax auditing process. A well-balanced approach to revenue generation and tax auditing is crucial therefore, this requires collaboration between government authorities, taxpayers, and other relevant stakeholders to ensure a fair, transparent, and effective tax system. It was recommended that there should be allocation of sufficient resources, both financial and human, to support audit activities which includes recruiting and retaining qualified auditors, equipping them with the necessary tools and technology, and providing ongoing professional development opportunities. Invest in advanced data analytics tools and technologies to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of tax audits.

Keywords: *Revenue Generation, Tax Auditing, Bosnia and Herzegovina*

1.0 Background of the Study

Revenue generation refers to the process of generating income or funds for an organization or government entity (Assefa, Dervovic, Mahfouz, Tillman, Reddy & Veloso, 2020). It involves the creation, collection, and accumulation of financial resources through various means, such as sales of goods or services, taxation, investments, grants, fees, or other sources of income. Revenue generation is crucial for the financial sustainability and functioning of organizations and governments. It enables them to meet their financial obligations, invest in growth and development, provide public services, and support economic activities. Effective revenue generation strategies involve a balance between maximizing income generation and ensuring fairness, transparency, and compliance with relevant laws and regulations. Tax auditing refers to the process of examining and reviewing tax-related records, financial statements, and other relevant documents to ensure compliance with tax laws and regulations (Pham, Tran, Bui, Nguyen, & Bui, 2023). It is conducted by tax authorities or designated auditors with the objective of verifying the accuracy and completeness of the taxpayer's reported income, deductions, and tax liabilities. Tax audits are typically carried out to ensure that taxpayers are fulfilling their obligations and responsibilities in accordance with applicable tax laws.

When tax authorities prioritize revenue generation, there is a risk of resource allocation imbalances. Jiménez (2021) noted that limited resources within tax authorities may be directed more towards revenue-generating activities, such as taxpayer registration and collection, at the expense of comprehensive tax audits. This resource imbalance can result in reduced capacity for conducting thorough investigations, increasing the likelihood of undetected non-compliance and tax evasion. The emphasis on revenue generation can lead to a bias in audit selection. Tax authorities may prioritize audits of high-revenue-generating taxpayers or sectors, potentially overlooking smaller taxpayers or sectors that may still pose a risk of non-compliance (Tiron-Tudor & Deliu, 2022). This bias can create an uneven playing field, where certain taxpayers receive more scrutiny while others go largely unchecked, undermining the fairness and equity of the tax system. the pressure to meet revenue targets can impact the conduct and quality of tax audits. Tax authorities may face incentives to complete audits quickly or focus on areas with higher potential for revenue recovery, potentially compromising the thoroughness and effectiveness of the auditing process. This can result in incomplete investigations, missed opportunities to identify non-compliance, and limited follow-up on identified issues. Ultimately, it may hinder the tax authorities' ability to ensure compliance with tax laws.

Furthermore, the perception of tax audits among taxpayers can be affected by the emphasis on revenue generation. If audits are primarily seen as revenue-generating exercises rather than tools to promote compliance and fairness, taxpayers may view them as intrusive or unfair (Tjondro, Soegihono, Fernando & Wanandi, 2019). This perception can lead to resistance, lack of cooperation, and even non-compliance during the auditing process, making it more challenging for tax authorities to gather accurate information and evidence. To address the potential negative effects of revenue generation on tax auditing in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, it is crucial for tax authorities to strike a balance between revenue goals and the integrity of the tax system. This includes allocating sufficient resources for comprehensive tax audits, adopting risk-based audit selection methodologies, ensuring the quality and thoroughness of audits, and communicating the purpose and benefits of tax audits to taxpayers. Prichard, Custers, Dom, Davenport and Roscitt

(2019) argued that fostering a culture of fairness, transparency, and taxpayer education can help build trust and encourage voluntary compliance, ultimately strengthening the effectiveness of tax auditing in Sarajevo.

1.1 Statement of the Problem

The issue at hand is the impact of revenue generation on tax auditing in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. With the continuous growth and development of the economy in Sarajevo, there has been an increasing need to ensure effective tax collection and enforcement. As the government strives to generate revenue for public services and infrastructure development, it becomes crucial to evaluate how this focus on revenue generation affects the tax auditing process. One of the main concerns is whether the emphasis on revenue generation could potentially compromise the integrity and thoroughness of tax audits. When tax authorities prioritize meeting revenue targets, there may be a tendency to overlook or neglect rigorous auditing practices. This could lead to a decline in the accuracy and reliability of tax assessments, potentially allowing tax evasion or fraud to go undetected. Furthermore, the pressure to achieve revenue targets may inadvertently result in increased scrutiny and audits for certain businesses or individuals, while others may receive less attention. This could lead to unfair treatment and create an environment where some taxpayers feel unfairly targeted or discouraged from complying with tax regulations. Such imbalances in the tax auditing process can erode trust in the system and undermine the overall effectiveness of revenue collection efforts.

Moreover, the impact of revenue generation on tax auditing extends beyond compliance issues. It can also affect the allocation of resources within the tax authority. If significant resources are allocated to revenue-generating activities, such as taxpayer outreach or marketing campaigns, it may result in a shortage of resources for conducting thorough audits. This imbalance could compromise the ability of tax authorities to identify and address complex tax schemes or systemic tax evasion. To address these concerns, a comprehensive examination of the effects of revenue generation on tax auditing in Sarajevo is necessary. It is crucial to evaluate the existing practices, policies, and resource allocations within the tax authority to ensure a balance between revenue generation goals and the integrity of the tax auditing process. This study aims to provide valuable insights into the potential challenges and opportunities in aligning revenue generation efforts with effective tax auditing practices, ultimately contributing to a fair and robust tax system in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

2.0 literature Review

2.1 Theoretical Review

Public Choice Theory: Public Choice Theory is a valuable framework for analyzing the effects of revenue generation on tax auditing, as it focuses on the behavior of government officials and their self-interest in decision-making processes (Raji, Smart, White, Mitchell, Gebru, Hutchinson, & Barnes, 2020). In the context of tax auditing, Public Choice Theory suggests that tax authorities may prioritize revenue generation over conducting thorough audits due to various factors related to their self-interest. One aspect of Public Choice Theory relevant to tax auditing is the career

https://doi.org/10.53819/81018102t5170

advancement of tax officials. In many tax authorities, performance evaluations and promotions are often tied to meeting revenue targets. As a result, tax officials may face incentives to prioritize revenue generation to demonstrate their effectiveness and secure career advancement opportunities. This can lead to a shift in focus away from rigorous auditing practices and thorough investigation of potential tax evasion or fraud. Budgetary considerations also play a role in the application of Public Choice Theory to tax auditing. Tax authorities are typically allocated budgets that are based, at least in part, on the revenue they generate. If tax authorities are under pressure to generate more revenue, they may divert resources from auditing activities to revenue-generating initiatives, such as taxpayer outreach or marketing campaigns. This resource allocation imbalance can compromise the ability of tax authorities to conduct comprehensive audits and detect non-compliance effectively.

Political pressure is another factor within the scope of Public Choice Theory that can influence tax auditing practices. Government officials, including tax authorities, may face pressure from politicians or policymakers to meet revenue targets to support government expenditure or achieve fiscal targets. This political pressure can potentially influence the prioritization of revenue generation over conducting rigorous tax audits. Tax authorities may adopt a more lenient approach or overlook certain tax evasion indicators to ensure revenue targets are met, compromising the integrity of the tax auditing process (Beckham, 2018). It is important to note that Public Choice Theory does not imply that all tax officials are driven solely by self-interest or that revenue generation is always prioritized over thorough tax audits. However, it provides insights into the potential biases and pressures that can arise within tax authorities and affect their decision-making processes. By understanding the implications of Public Choice Theory, policymakers and tax authorities can be more aware of these dynamics and implement measures to mitigate the potential risks, ensuring that revenue generation goals are balanced with the need for robust tax auditing practices.

Institutional Theory: Institutional Theory offers valuable insights into the effects of revenue generation on tax auditing by focusing on the role of formal and informal rules, norms, and practices within organizations (Bhuiyan, Rana, Baird & Munir, 2023). In the context of tax auditing, Institutional Theory helps understand how institutional factors shape auditing practices and potentially influence the emphasis on revenue generation. Formal institutional factors, such as laws, regulations, and organizational structures, can impact tax auditing practices. For example, if tax authorities are legally mandated or have internal policies that prioritize revenue generation, auditors may face pressures to meet revenue targets. This institutional emphasis on revenue can lead to a shift in priorities, where tax auditors allocate more resources and attention to revenue-generating activities rather than conducting thorough audits. Formal institutional factors can establish the framework within which tax authorities operate and can either promote or hinder the integrity of the tax auditing process. Informal institutional factors, such as organizational culture and norms, also influence tax auditing practices. If there is a prevailing culture within a tax authority that emphasizes revenue generation, auditors may feel compelled to prioritize meeting revenue targets to align with organizational expectations. This can create a normative pressure within the organization that encourages auditors to focus on revenue generation rather than conducting comprehensive audits. Informal institutional factors shape the behavior, values, and beliefs of tax officials and can influence the decision-making process regarding the allocation of resources and efforts (Farrukh, Mathrani & Sajjad, 2022).

Furthermore, external institutional pressures, such as public expectations and stakeholder interests, can also affect tax auditing practices. If the public or other stakeholders prioritize revenue generation as an indicator of successful governance, tax authorities may face pressures to prioritize revenue over thorough auditing. This external institutional environment can influence the behavior and decision-making of tax officials, potentially impacting the rigor and effectiveness of tax audits. Guerreiro, Lima Rodrigues and Craig (2021) noted that institutional Theory highlights the importance of considering the broader institutional context within which tax auditing takes place. By understanding the institutional factors at play, policymakers and tax authorities can develop strategies to align revenue generation goals with the need for robust and impartial tax audits. This may involve establishing formal guidelines that prioritize the integrity of the auditing process, fostering a culture that values thorough audits, and addressing external pressures that may bias auditing practices.

Compliance Theory: Compliance Theory offers insights into the effects of revenue generation on tax auditing by focusing on the factors that influence taxpayers' decisions to comply with tax regulations (Alshirah, Magablih & Alsqour, 2021). In the context of tax auditing, Compliance Theory helps understand how the emphasis on revenue generation can impact taxpayers' perceptions of fairness and their willingness to comply with tax laws. One aspect of Compliance Theory relevant to tax auditing is the perceived fairness of the tax system. If taxpayers perceive that the tax system is primarily focused on revenue generation, rather than ensuring fairness and equity, it may erode their trust and willingness to comply. When taxpayers believe that the tax authority's primary goal is to maximize revenue, they may view their own compliance efforts as less important and feel more inclined to engage in non-compliant behavior. This can result in decreased voluntary compliance and a higher likelihood of tax evasion. Moreover, the emphasis on revenue generation can impact taxpayers' perceptions of the audit process itself (Alshrouf, 2019). If taxpayers perceive that audits are primarily conducted to meet revenue targets, rather than ensuring compliance and detecting non-compliance, it may further erode their trust in the tax system. This can lead to a negative perception of tax audits and potentially discourage taxpayers from cooperating fully during the auditing process. As a result, tax auditors may encounter challenges in gathering necessary information and evidence, hindering their ability to conduct thorough and effective audits.

Compliance Theory also highlights the importance of a balanced approach to revenue generation and tax auditing to maintain taxpayers' trust and encourage voluntary compliance. If tax authorities place too much emphasis on revenue targets, it may create a perception of unfair treatment or targeting of certain taxpayers. This can undermine the perceived legitimacy of the tax system and reduce taxpayers' motivation to comply with tax laws. Gangl and Torgler (2020) reported that to address the effects of revenue generation on tax auditing from a Compliance Theory perspective, tax authorities should strive to communicate and demonstrate the fairness and integrity of the tax system. This includes providing clear and transparent information about the purpose and objectives of tax audits, as well as highlighting the importance of compliance in ensuring a level playing field for all taxpayers. Additionally, tax authorities can engage in taxpayer education initiatives to foster awareness and understanding of tax obligations and the benefits of compliance. By considering the principles of Compliance Theory, tax authorities can ensure that revenue generation efforts are balanced with maintaining taxpayers' trust and encouraging voluntary compliance. This, in turn, can contribute to a more effective and efficient tax auditing process and a stronger overall tax system.

2.2 Empirical Review

Janchai and Poonpool (2020) conducted study to look at the influence of tax audit techniques on revenue generation in Thailand, with particular goals include determining the link between tax audit practices aspects and firm income tax. The study's population comprised of 19 tax offices located across Bangkok, Thailand. The study's sample size of 150 people was established using the Taro Yemane formula for sample size determination. The questionnaires were used to obtain primary data from respondents. To test the null hypotheses, the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient was also utilized with SPSS ver. 23. The study's findings show that desk tax audit and field tax audit have a good link with corporate income tax. The study proposes that tax authorities focus not just on desk tax audits, but also on field tax audits, in order to stop income leakages and promote tax payer compliance. Finally, tax officials in Thailand should conduct frequent tax audits. This will help the government increase its tax income. The effects of revenue generation on tax auditing in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina are a matter of significant concern. While the government's focus on revenue generation is essential for economic growth and public welfare, it is crucial to strike a balance between revenue goals and the integrity of the tax auditing process. The potential risks associated with an excessive emphasis on revenue generation include compromised auditing practices, decreased accuracy in tax assessments, and an increased likelihood of tax evasion or fraud going undetected. These risks can erode trust in the tax system and create an unfair and unequal environment for taxpayers. Resource allocation within the tax authority becomes a critical factor. If resources are predominantly directed towards revenue-generating activities, there may be a shortage of resources available for conducting thorough audits. This imbalance can hinder the tax authority's ability to effectively identify complex tax schemes and combat systemic tax evasion.

Sahari, Samsudin, Bujang, Suratman, Rahman and Jiram (2020) noted that taxation is a mandatory payment or transfer of resources from the private to public sectors based on a predetermined criterion and without regard to particular advantages gained in order to achieve some of the nation's economic and social goals. To address concerns that could not be addressed using a single method, a mixed method or quantitative and qualitative approach was used to perform the study. Both descriptive and explanatory research designs were used in the study. Purposive sampling procedures were used to meet the study's goal, and the sample size was calculated properly. Therefore, the researchers employed survey data acquired via questionnaires to answer the research purpose. The data acquired via questionnaire was examined using statistical tools. SPSS Ver. 20 and Stata software were used. The study found that tax audit techniques used and taxpayer training are good variables impacting tax revenue creation considerably, but unlawful taxpayer practices are negative factors hurting tax revenue generation. It is suggested that the Ministry of Revenue investigate the elements that influence revenue creation.

Salé, Muharremi and Hoxhaj (2021) performed research to examine the impact of tax audits on revenue collection performance in Albania. The study's goal is to look at the impact of tax audits on revenue collection performance. Tax audit is therefore measured using nine factors (tax audit resources, audit case selection, auditor capacity, tax protection system, tax automation, and tax evasion, and tax compliance, amount before and after audit). The study employs an explanatory research design and a mixed research technique, and secondary data. The data is gathered from both primary and secondary sources. The study, in particular, employs a multiple regression model. The study's findings show that tax compliance, revenue protection systems, and tax automation all have a positive and statistically significant influence on revenue collection at the 1%, 1%, and 5% significant levels, respectively. Furthermore, at a 5% significance level, audit case selection and auditor ability had a favorable and substantial influence on revenue collection success. The variable tax audit resource, tax evasion, and prior audit amount all have a negative impact on revenue collection and are statistically significant at the 1% significance level. The amount following audit, has a positive and small influence on revenue collection performance.

Gangl, Hofmann, Hartl and Berkics (2019) conducted study to investigate the impact of tax audits and investigations on revenue generation in Finland. The goal is to see if tax audits and investigations can genuinely boost the government's revenue base while simultaneously reducing the incidence of tax evasion. Four hundred and ten respondents provided data using primary sources. Using SPSS output data, hypotheses were evaluated using Pearson Correlation Coefficient. According to the findings, tax audits and investigations can boost the government's income base while also reducing tax evasion in the country. It was suggested that tax audits and investigations be conducted more frequently and thoroughly in order to achieve the goal of strengthening the revenue base and rooting out tax evasion in the country.

According to Escobar, Ohlsson and Selin (2023), the capacity of a country to satisfy the needs and wants of its population is dependent on its ability to generate revenue through taxes. The research looked at the impact of tax audits on tax revenue generation in Sweden. Tax audits should be enhanced by competent tax authorities in order to produce enough income from taxation. To collect data, the study used a survey research design using a standardized questionnaire. The data analysis approach used in the study was the Ordinary least squares (OLS) methodology. According to the report, tax audit has a strong beneficial influence on tax revenue generation in Sweden. According to the study, tax auditing should be increased in order to increase government revenue generation through tax in Sweden; additionally, tax authorities should strictly adhere to the established standards and procedures laid down by the government in regard to tax revenue generation in Sweden. The research stated that tax auditing should be seen as critical in the generation of tax revenue in Sweden.

3.0 Research Methodology

The study utilized the descriptive research design. The target population was 180 businesses in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. The research did sampling of 140 participants that were selected from the target population of 180 businesses in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Questionnaires were utilized to gather the data.

Stratford Peer Reviewed Journals and Book Publishing
Journal of Finance and Accounting
Volume 7||Issue 3 ||Page 9-21||May||2023|
Email: info@stratfordjournals.org ISSN: 2616-4965

4.0 Research Findings and Discussion

4.1 Correlation Analysis

The findings presented in Table 1 shows the correlation analysis

Table 1: Correlation Analysis

		Tax Auditing	Revenue Generation
Tax Auditing	Pearson Correlation	1.000	
	Sig. (2-tailed)		
Revenue Generation	Pearson Correlation	. 215**	
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	0.000

The correlation results from Table 1 show that the revenue generation was positively and significantly associated with tax auditing (r=.215, p=.000). This concurs with Escobar, Ohlsson and Selin (2023) who reported that tax auditing should be seen as critical in the generation of tax revenue. Tax auditing should be increased in order to increase government revenue generation through tax. Tax authorities should strictly adhere to the established standards and procedures laid down by the government in regard to tax revenue generation.

4.2 Regression Analysis

The section includes model fitness, analysis of variance and regression of coefficient. The results presented in Table 2 indicate the model fitness

Table 2: Model Fitness

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.215a	0.209	0.143	0.000064

The results from Table 2 indicate that revenue generation was found to be satisfactory in explaining the tax auditing of businesses in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. This was supported by the coefficient of determination, also known as the R square of 0.209. This shows that revenue generation explain 20.9% of the variations in the tax auditing businesses in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Table 3: Analysis of Variance

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	9.23	1	9.23	142	.000b
	Residual	11.64	180	0.065		
	Total	20.87	179			

The result in Table 3 reveals that the overall model was statistically significant. The results indicate that tax auditing is a good predictor in explaining the revenue generation among the businesses in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. This was supported by an F statistic of 142 and the reported p-value of 0.000 which was less than the conventional probability significance level of 0.05.

Table 4: Regression of Coefficient

	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
(Constant)	0.385	0.125		3.080	0.047
Revenue Generation	0.442	0.159	0.346	2.780	0.021

Based on the results presented in Table 4, it was found that revenue generation was positively and significantly associated to tax auditing (β=0.442, p=0.021). This was supported by a calculated t-statistic of 2.780 that is larger than the critical t-statistic of 1.96. The results implies that when revenue generation improves by one unit, the tax auditing of businesses in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina will increase by 0.442 units while other factors that influence the tax auditing are held constant. Janchai and Poonpool (2020) articulated that tax authorities should focus not just on desk tax audits, but also on field tax audits, in order to stop income leakages and promote tax payer compliance. Tax officials should conduct frequent tax audits since it will help the government increase its revenue generation.The potential risks associated with an excessive emphasis on revenue generation include compromised auditing practices, decreased accuracy in tax assessments, and an increased likelihood of tax evasion or fraud going undetected. These risks can erode trust in the tax system and create an unfair and unequal environment for taxpayers. Resource allocation within the tax authority becomes a critical factor. If resources are predominantly directed towards revenue-generating activities, there may be a shortage of resources available for conducting thorough audits. This imbalance can hinder the tax authority's ability to effectively identify complex tax schemes and combat systemic tax evasion.

5.0 Conclusion

In conclusion, the effects of revenue generation on tax auditing in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina are a matter of significant concern. While the government's focus on revenue generation is essential for economic growth and public welfare, it is crucial to strike a balance between revenue goals and the integrity of the tax auditing process. The potential risks associated with an excessive emphasis on revenue generation include compromised auditing practices, decreased accuracy in tax assessments, and an increased likelihood of tax evasion or fraud going undetected. These risks can erode trust in the tax system and create an unfair and unequal environment for taxpayers. Resource allocation within the tax authority becomes a critical factor. If resources are predominantly directed towards revenue-generating activities, there may be a shortage of resources available for conducting thorough audits. This imbalance can hinder the tax authority's ability to effectively identify complex tax schemes and combat systemic tax evasion.

To address these concerns, a comprehensive evaluation of existing practices, policies, and resource allocations within the tax authority is necessary. This evaluation should aim to establish a balance between revenue generation goals and the maintenance of a robust and fair tax auditing process. It is essential to ensure that audits are conducted with integrity, accuracy, and impartiality, thereby upholding the principles of transparency and accountability. Fostering taxpayer education and engagement can contribute to a culture of voluntary compliance, reducing the need for excessive auditing measures. By promoting awareness of tax obligations and simplifying the tax system, taxpayers can be encouraged to willingly fulfill their responsibilities. Ultimately, a well-balanced approach to revenue generation and tax auditing is crucial for Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. This requires collaboration between government authorities, taxpayers, and other relevant stakeholders to ensure a fair, transparent, and effective tax system. By addressing the challenges and opportunities associated with revenue generation and tax auditing, Sarajevo can foster a healthy business environment, enhance public trust, and contribute to sustainable economic growth.

6.0 Recommendations

There should be independence of the tax audit process by establishing clear guidelines and regulations that safeguard auditors from undue influence or pressure related to revenue generation targets. This can be achieved by enhancing the autonomy of tax authorities and establishing mechanisms to prevent interference from external sources. Invest in comprehensive training programs for tax auditors to improve their skills and knowledge in identifying potential tax evasion or fraud. Additionally, allocate sufficient resources, both financial and human, to support audit activities. This includes recruiting and retaining qualified auditors, equipping them with the necessary tools and technology, and providing ongoing professional development opportunities. Develop a risk-based approach to audit selection, focusing resources on high-risk sectors or taxpayers with a higher likelihood of non-compliance. This approach ensures a more targeted and efficient allocation of auditing resources, maximizing the impact of tax audits in detecting and deterring tax evasion. Enhance collaboration and information sharing among relevant government agencies, such as tax authorities, law enforcement, and financial regulators. This allows for a comprehensive analysis of taxpayer data, facilitates the identification of potential tax evasion patterns, and strengthens enforcement efforts. Develop educational initiatives to increase taxpayer awareness of tax obligations, rights, and benefits. Provide clear and accessible guidance on tax compliance, simplifying tax procedures where possible. Establish channels for taxpayers to seek assistance and clarification, reducing confusion and inadvertent non-compliance.

Invest in advanced data analytics tools and technologies to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of tax audits. Utilize data-driven approaches to identify anomalies, trends, and potential tax evasion indicators. This enables auditors to focus their efforts on areas with the highest risk, optimizing the use of resources. Strengthen penalties and deterrence mechanisms for tax evasion, ensuring that non-compliant taxpayers face appropriate consequences. This includes imposing fines, penalties, and sanctions that are proportionate to the severity of the offense. Stricter enforcement signals the government's commitment to combating tax evasion and promotes a culture of compliance. Implement periodic evaluations and audits of the tax authority's practices, policies, and procedures. This helps identify areas of improvement, address any biases or imbalances in auditing practices, and ensure that revenue generation goals do not compromise the integrity and fairness of the tax system. Establish mechanisms to protect and incentivize individuals who report tax evasion or fraud. Whistleblower protection laws and rewards can encourage the reporting of tax-related misconduct, providing valuable information for audits and investigations. Continuously monitor and evaluate the impact of revenue generation efforts on tax auditing. This includes analyzing the accuracy of tax assessments, measuring the level of voluntary compliance, and assessing the effectiveness of audits in detecting tax evasion. Adjust strategies and policies based on these evaluations to ensure a balanced approach.

REFERENCES

Alshirah, A., Magablih, A., & Alsqour, M. (2021). The effect of tax rate on sales tax compliance among Jordanian public shareholding corporations. Accounting, 7(4), 883-892. https://doi.org/10.5267/j.ac.2021.1.020

Alshrouf, M. (2019). The effect of tax audit using the computer on tax non-compliance in Palestine. *International Journal of Academic Research in Business and Social Sciences, 9(3), 296-304.* https://doi.org/10.6007/IJARBSS/v9-i3/5678

Assefa, S. A., Dervovic, D., Mahfouz, M., Tillman, R. E., Reddy, P., & Veloso, M. (2020, October). Generating synthetic data in finance: opportunities, challenges and pitfalls. In Proceedings of the First ACM International Conference on AI in Finance (pp. 1-8). https://doi.org/10.1145/3383455.3422554

Beckham, J. (2018). Inland Revenue's strategic and regulatory management of tax system integrity and taxpayer perceptions. Austl. Tax F., 33, 701.

Bhuiyan, F., Rana, T., Baird, K., & Munir, R. (2023). Strategic outcome of competitive advantage from corporate sustainability practices: Institutional theory perspective from an emerging economy. Business Strategy and the Environment. https://doi.org/10.1002/bse.3362

Escobar, S., Ohlsson, H., & Selin, H. (2023). Giving to the children or the taxman?: Lessons from a Swedish inheritance tax loophole. European Economic Review, 104382. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.euroecorev.2023.104382

Farrukh, A., Mathrani, S., & Sajjad, A. (2022). A natural resource and institutional theory-based view of green-lean-six sigma drivers for environmental management. Business Strategy and the Environment, 31(3), 1074-1090. https://doi.org/10.1002/bse.2936

Gangl, K., & Torgler, B. (2020). How to achieve tax compliance by the wealthy: A review of the literature and agenda for policy. Social Issues and Policy Review, 14(1), 108-151. https://doi.org/10.1111/sipr.12065

Gangl, K., Hofmann, E., Hartl, B., & Berkics, M. (2019). The impact of powerful authorities and trustful taxpayers: evidence for the extended slippery slope framework from Austria, Finland, and Hungary. Policy Studies. https://doi.org/10.1080/01442872.2019.1577375

Guerreiro, M. S., Lima Rodrigues, L., & Craig, R. (2021). Institutional theory and IFRS: an agenda for future research. *Spanish Journal of Finance and Accounting/Revista Española de Financiación y Contabilidad, 50(1), 65-88.* https://doi.org/10.1080/02102412.2020.1712877

Janchai, S., & Poonpool, N. (2020). Audit Data Analytics Capability and Tax Performance: An Empirical Evidence from Tax Departments in Thailand (Doctoral dissertation, Mahasarakham University).

Jiménez, J. P. (2021). Fiscal reforms and institutional changes in the Andean region: Revenues volatility and unequal distribution of regional income. In Andean States and the Resource Curse (pp. 39-53). Routledge.

Pham, Q. T., Tran, T. G. T., Bui, T. T. H., Nguyen, T. P. L., & Bui, A. T. (2023). Impacts of tax enforcement and independent audit on financial reporting quality through the internal control effectiveness: Evidence from Vietnam enterprises. Cogent Social Sciences, 9(1), 2175486. https://doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2023.2175486

Prichard, W., Custers, A. L., Dom, R., Davenport, S. R., & Roscitt, M. A. (2019). Innovations in tax compliance: Conceptual framework. World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, (9032). https://doi.org/10.1596/1813-9450-9032

Raji, I. D., Smart, A., White, R. N., Mitchell, M., Gebru, T., Hutchinson, B., ... & Barnes, P. (2020, January). Closing the AI accountability gap: Defining an end-to-end framework for internal algorithmic auditing. In Proceedings of the 2020 conference on fairness, accountability, and transparency (pp. 33-44). https://doi.org/10.1145/3351095.3372873

Sahari, S. N., Samsudin, S., Bujang, A. A., Suratman, R., Rahman, M. S. A., & Jiram, W. R. A. (2020). General Review on Malaysia Land Taxation. *International Journal of Academic*

Research in Business and Social Sciences, 10(3), 554-569. https://doi.org/10.6007/IJARBSS/v10-i3/7071

Salé, M. J., Muharremi, O., & Hoxhaj, M. (2021). Albanian Individual Taxpayers Perceptions and Determinants on Ethical Behavior Regarding Tax Compliance. https://doi.org/10.21272/bel.5(1).66-80.2021

Tiron-Tudor, A., & Deliu, D. (2022). Reflections on the human-algorithm complex duality perspectives in the auditing process. Qualitative Research in Accounting & Management, 19(3), 255-285. https://doi.org/10.1108/QRAM-02-2021-0038

Tjondro, E., Soegihono, A., Fernando, F., & Wanandi, F. (2019, November). Intergenerational perception of tax audit and voluntary tax compliance. In International Conference on Tourism, Economics, Accounting, Management, and Social Science (TEAMS 19) (pp. 48-60). Atlantis Press. https://doi.org/10.2991/teams-19.2019.11