
**THE IMPACT OF CREDIT RISK MANAGEMENT ON THE FINANCIAL
PERFORMANCE OF COMMERCIAL BANKS IN UGANDA**

A CASE STUDY OF DFCU BANK PALLISA BRANCH

BY

BY NANDERA ANNA

BU/UP/2018/3806

SUPERVISED BY MR. WADAMBISHA BRIAN

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this research report is my original work and it has never before been presented elsewhere for any academic award. The pieces of work from other sources have been dully recognized.

NANDERA ANNA

SIGNATURE.....

REG NO. BU/UP/2018/3806

APPROVAL

I confirm that this research report was done under my supervision and has been submitted for approval with my authorization.

SignatureDate:

Mr. Wadambisha Brian

Supervisor

DEDICATION

This research report is dedicated to my dearly beloved parents Mr. Wabwire Amos and Mrs. Wabwire Sherin, Mr. Wadambisha Brian, my husband Mr. Opule Andrew who has been there for me and supporting me. Thanks for giving me hope in despair, joy in sorrow and ease in pain. May God bless you.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

DFCU	:	Development Finance Company of Uganda.
BOU	:	Bank of Uganda
NPLs	:	Nonperforming loans
CBs	:	Commercial banks
ROA	:	Return on Assets
ROE	:	Return on Equity
ROI	:	Return on investments.
SPSS	:	Statistical package for social sciences

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ABSTRACT

This study was carried out with the purpose of analyzing the effect of credit risk management on the financial performance of commercial banks in Uganda with DFCU bank as the case study. Specifically, the study sought to establish whether there is a relationship between credit risk control, NPLs, and capital adequacy ratio and financial performance. In achieving the objectives assigned by the study, a descriptive cross sectional research design was used and that was facilitated by the use of both primary and secondary data which was obtained from the field and the published audited financial statements and the BOU annual supervision reports. The study used the census sampling technique where all members of the staff of DFCU bank participated in the study. The data was collected using questionnaires and analyzed using correlations and regression analysis. The findings revealed that there was a positive and significant relationship between credit risk control, NPLs, capital adequacy ratio and financial performance of DFCU bank. In conclusion, the findings showed that the above dimensions of credit risk management influence financial performance of commercial banks and therefore, the study recommended that DFCU bank should be well capitalized according to the size of its loan portfolio and regulatory requirement in order to advocate for improvement in its financial performance.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Introduction

This study was carried out with the purpose of determining the effect of credit risk management on the financial performance of commercial banks in Uganda. This chapter basically looked at the background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, research questions, and scope of the study, significance of the study, the conceptual framework and definitions of key terms.

1.1 Background of the study

The health of the financial sector is a major concern of policy especially in developing economies where failure in financial intermediation can disturb the economic growth and retards the development processes (Osborne, 2020). However, it has been proved that, major economic upheavals are the result of the banking crisis (Ameur, 2016). The economic development and financial growth of a country is critically dependent on the financial performance and strength of its banking sector (Rey, 2019)

Since the core activities of commercial banks is credit creation, this renders credit risk inevitable. As a result, credit risk is among the core risks related to the banks' main income generating activity and therefore bank failure is a problem in different countries (Hamza, 2017)

Available literature suggests that there is a global downward trend in financial performance of commercial banks. (CBRC, 2015, Munyambonera, 2013; BOU, 2017). According to the china banking regulatory commission report (Feb 2015), poor financial performance has been observed to continue to increase for Chinese banks with non-performing loans of the country's commercial bank increasing from 1.13 Yuan in 2014 to 1.15 Yuan in 2015, return on assets ratio also reduced from 1.40% to 1.30% in 2015. However, the regulator still assured the public that the bank's asset quality was still under control.

In sub- Sahara Africa, despite financial reforms in the financial sector during 1980s and 1990s with a view of improving credit risk management, high levels of loan default, high levels of non-performing loans and operational inefficiencies (Mutua Virginia, 2012)), the problem of poor financial performance still prevails.

In Uganda, The profitability of the banking industry reduced in the year 2017 mainly due to increased provisions for bad debts and an overall rise in operating costs. The aggregate return

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