Journal of Economics
AND MANAGEMENT SCIENTIES
https://jems.ink
ISSN 2655-1934 (print), 2655-6685 (online)

The Role of Green Accounting in Advancing Corporate Climate Transition Strategies

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ARTICLE HISTORY
Received: 16 November 25
Final Revision: 20 December 26
Accepted: 03 January 26
Online Publication: 31 March 26

KEYWORDS
Green Accounting, Climate Transition Planning, Environmental Metrics, Climate Risk Assessment, Sustainability Reporting

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DOI
10.37034/jems.v8i2.289

A B S T R A C T

This study examines how green accounting supports corporate climate transition strategies by analyzing documented evidence from academic literature, regulatory frameworks, and corporate sustainability reports. Using a qualitative descriptive approach, the research applies thematic analysis to identify recurring patterns in the use of environmental metrics, climate risk assessments, and reporting mechanisms. The findings show that companies increasingly employ structured indicators such as carbon emissions, energy intensity, and resource efficiency to establish transition baselines and evaluate environmental performance. Environmental accounting data also enable firms to assess climate related risks, allocate resources for low carbon investments, and integrate sustainability considerations into strategic planning. The study further reveals that transparent reporting practices enhance managerial accountability and strengthen stakeholder trust in transition progress. Overall, the results indicate that green accounting provides measurable information that improves organizational readiness, supports long-term decision making, and facilitates the development of coherent climate transition pathways.

KATA KUNCI
Green Accounting, Strategi Transisi Iklim, Metrik Lingkungan, Penilaian Risiko Iklim, Pelaporan Keberlanjutan

A B S T R A K

Penelitian ini menganalisis peran *green accounting* dalam mendukung strategi transisi iklim perusahaan melalui penelaahan dokumen berupa literatur akademik, kerangka regulasi, dan laporan keberlanjutan korporasi. Dengan menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif deskriptif, analisis tematik diterapkan untuk mengidentifikasi pola berulang terkait penggunaan metrik lingkungan, penilaian risiko iklim, serta mekanisme pelaporan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa perusahaan semakin memanfaatkan indikator terstruktur seperti emisi karbon, intensitas energi, dan efisiensi sumber daya untuk membangun *baseline* transisi dan mengevaluasi kinerja lingkungan. Data akuntansi lingkungan juga membantu perusahaan dalam menilai risiko terkait iklim, mengalokasikan sumber daya untuk investasi rendah emisi, serta mengintegrasikan pertimbangan keberlanjutan ke dalam perencanaan strategis. Penelitian ini turut mengungkap bahwa praktik pelaporan yang transparan memperkuat akuntabilitas manajerial dan meningkatkan kepercayaan pemangku kepentingan terhadap kemajuan transisi. Secara keseluruhan, temuan menunjukkan bahwa *green accounting* menyediakan informasi terukur yang meningkatkan kesiapan organisasi, mendukung pengambilan keputusan jangka panjang, dan memfasilitasi penyusunan jalur transisi iklim yang koheren.

1. Introduction

Climate transition has become a central agenda in corporate strategic management as businesses face increasing regulatory pressure [1], shifting stakeholder expectations [2], and global commitments to reducing greenhouse gas emissions [3]. Companies are required to adopt transition pathways that integrate environmental considerations into long-term planning [4], operational processes, and performance measurement frameworks. In this context, green accounting has emerged as an essential approach for capturing environmental costs [5], quantifying ecological impacts, and supporting climate-related decision making within organizations [6].

Existing discussions on environmental management practices highlight the growing need for accounting systems that extend beyond conventional financial reporting [7]. Green accounting provides structured information on resource use [8], emissions, and environmental risks [9], enabling firms to align financial performance with sustainability objectives. This approach also strengthens corporate transparency and accountability [10], especially as climate related disclosures become increasingly standardized across industries. Despite its expanding relevance, many companies still struggle to integrate environmental data into strategic climate transition planning, resulting in a gap between sustainability commitments and measurable progress [11].

These challenges indicate the need to examine how green accounting contributes to the formulation and execution of corporate climate transition strategies [12]. Understanding this relationship is crucial, as the effectiveness of transition pathways depends on accurate environmental information [13], measurable performance indicators, and well-designed reporting mechanisms. Without such integration, corporate climate initiatives risk becoming symbolic rather than transformative [14].

This study aims to analyze the role of green accounting in advancing corporate climate transition strategies [15]. The paper investigates how environmental accounting practices support risk identification, transition cost assessment, target setting, and long term sustainability planning. Furthermore, the study explores how green accounting enhances decision making quality and strengthens corporate readiness in achieving climate transition frameworks [16]. The findings are expected to provide theoretical insight and practical guidance for firms seeking to embed environmental considerations into strategic management processes.

Although environmental accounting and sustainability reporting have been widely discussed, existing studies tend to focus on descriptive aspects of disclosure, carbon footprint reporting, or compliance with environmental standards [17]. These approaches provide valuable insights but do not sufficiently address how green accounting functions as an integral component of corporate climate transition strategies. The current literature rarely examines the operational connection between environmental accounting data and strategic decision making processes, particularly in evaluating transition risks, estimating transition costs, and aligning financial planning with long term climate commitments. This research offers a new perspective by exploring how environmental accounting can influence the formulation of transition roadmaps, enhance internal decision making, and integrate sustainability targets with financial performance considerations, highlighting the potential of green accounting to guide organizations toward more structured, accountable, and evidence based sustainability actions.

2. Research Method

2.1. Research Design and Data Analysis

This study adopts a qualitative descriptive design to explore the strategic contribution of green accounting to corporate climate transition strategies. The research relies on documented sources, including academic publications, corporate sustainability reports, and regulatory guidelines, to construct a comprehensive understanding of environmental accounting practices within organizational settings. Data were selected through a structured screening process based on relevance to climate transition frameworks and accounting mechanisms. All materials were examined using thematic analysis, allowing the researcher to categorize concepts, identify recurring patterns, and interpret the linkage between environmental data and strategic decision making processes. The analytical procedure was conducted in several stages: data familiarization, coding, theme development, and synthesis of findings. This design ensures that the research remains systematic, replicable, and aligned with the objective of explaining how green accounting supports corporate readiness and planning for climate transition.

2.2. Data Collection Procedure

The data collection procedure in this study follows a structured and systematic approach to ensure the relevance and accuracy of all information used for analysis. The researcher first identified key thematic areas related to green accounting, environmental reporting, and corporate climate transition strategies. Based on these themes, a set of screening criteria was developed to select documents that contain substantive discussions on environmental accounting practices and climate related organizational planning. Data were gathered from scholarly publications, corporate sustainability disclosures, and official regulatory documents that align with the study's scope. Each source was reviewed to determine its applicability, clarity, and contribution to the research focus. All selected materials were then organized into a data matrix to facilitate comparison and coding. This procedure ensures that the collected data are comprehensive, traceable, and suitable for thematic analysis, thereby supporting the reliability of the study's findings. All selected sources were verified through official academic publisher platforms such as Elsevier, Wiley, Taylor & Francis, and Springer to ensure document authenticity and avoid inaccurate or unverifiable information. Only materials with traceable metadata, complete bibliographic information, and valid DOI registration were included in the analysis. This verification process was essential to prevent misinformation and to guarantee that the results of the study reflect reliable, credible, and academically recognized references.

2.3. Analytical Framework

The analytical framework used in this study is structured to interpret how green accounting contributes to corporate climate transition strategies through a systematic thematic approach. The framework begins with identifying core constructs related to environmental accounting, climate risk management, and transition planning. Each construct is then organized into analytical categories that reflect the relationship between accounting information and strategic decision making processes. The analysis proceeds by coding the collected data to highlight

recurring concepts, operational patterns, and strategic implications found across different documents. These coded elements are grouped into broader themes that illustrate the functional role of green accounting within organizational contexts. The final synthesis stage integrates these themes to develop a comprehensive interpretation that aligns with the purpose of the study. This analytical structure ensures conceptual clarity, enhances interpretative depth, and supports the development of evidence based insights into the strategic value of environmental accounting.

2.4. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

The inclusion and exclusion criteria were established to ensure that all selected data align with the thematic focus and analytical objectives of the study. Inclusion criteria required documents to contain explicit discussions on green accounting, environmental performance measurement, or corporate climate transition strategies. Sources were also required to provide substantive conceptual or practical insights that could support thematic analysis. Only materials written in English and publicly accessible were included to maintain consistency in interpretation. Conversely, documents were excluded if they addressed environmental issues without linking them to accounting principles or strategic planning. Materials with insufficient methodological clarity, opinion based commentaries, or non academic content were also removed from the dataset. These criteria were applied during the screening and review stages to ensure that the final dataset was coherent, relevant, and capable of supporting a rigorous examination of the relationship between environmental accounting and climate transition strategies.

2.5. Reliability and Validity

Reliability and validity were ensured through a structured analytical process designed to maintain consistency and credibility across all stages of the study. Reliability was strengthened by applying the same screening criteria, coding procedures, and thematic categories to each document, allowing the analysis to be replicated by other researchers following similar steps. To support validity, the study relied on diverse and thematically relevant sources that provided comprehensive perspectives on green accounting and corporate climate transition strategies. Triangulation was applied by comparing insights from academic literature, regulatory documents, and corporate reports to confirm the alignment of emerging themes. The researcher also conducted repeated reviews of coded data to avoid interpretative bias and ensure logical coherence among analytical themes. This systematic approach enhances the trustworthiness of the findings and reinforces the rigor of the conclusions drawn from the thematic analysis. The researcher ensured that all stages of analysis were conducted manually to preserve the authenticity of the findings. Coding, categorization, and theme development were carried out without relying on automated analytical tools to prevent distortion or misinterpretation that may arise from artificial intelligence systems. Interpretative decisions were based solely on the researcher's engagement with the collected documents, and each analytical step reflects direct reasoning grounded in the reviewed materials. This reflexive approach was applied to maintain transparency, analytical integrity, and the originality of the research process.

3. Result and Discussion

The findings presented in this section are derived strictly from recurring patterns observed across the reviewed documents. No thematic claim was included unless it appeared consistently in multiple sources and demonstrated clear conceptual alignment with the principles of environmental accounting and climate transition planning. This approach ensures that all interpretations remain grounded in the actual content of the documents, reflect the researcher's analytical judgment, and do not rely on automated or AI-generated generalizations.

The results of this study present a structured overview of how green accounting supports the development of corporate climate transition strategies. The analysis reveals several consistent patterns across the reviewed documents, showing that companies increasingly incorporate environmental information into their reporting systems and strategic planning processes. These patterns include the adoption of structured environmental metrics, integration of sustainability indicators into risk assessments, and the use of accounting based evidence to justify climate related investment decisions. The collected data illustrate that environmental accounting practices are not only used for disclosure purposes but also function as an internal tool that informs long term organizational planning.

The discussion builds on these findings by interpreting the relationship between environmental accounting and corporate climate transition readiness. The results suggest that the presence of reliable environmental data enhances strategic decision making and supports companies in aligning financial priorities with sustainability objectives. The analysis also highlights the potential of green accounting to strengthen transparency, anticipate climate related risks, and guide operational adjustments required for achieving transition targets. Although variations still exist across organizations, the overall findings demonstrate that environmental accounting is becoming an essential component in shaping informed and accountable climate transition pathways.

3.1. Environmental Metrics

The analysis further demonstrates that environmental metrics are increasingly utilized to strengthen internal planning and strategic decision making related to

climate transition. Companies use these measurements to identify environmental risks, forecast transition costs, and assess the feasibility of operational adjustments aligned with long term sustainability goals. In several cases, metrics also guide budget allocation for low carbon investments and support the development of performance indicators that integrate environmental considerations into broader corporate evaluations. The availability of reliable metrics enhances transparency and ensures that environmental performance is communicated clearly to stakeholders, including regulators, investors, and customers. Overall, the results highlight that environmental metrics serve not only as a reporting tool but also as a strategic instrument that informs corporate readiness, supports measurable transition planning, and reinforces the accountability of climate related actions.

Table 1. Key Environmental Metrics Identified in Corporate Reports

Category	Description	Strategic Relevance
Carbon Emissions	Measurement of CO_2 across operational scopes	Baseline for transition planning
Energy Consumption	Renewable vs. non renewable energy use	Supports efficiency evaluation
Water Usage	Volume used per production cycle	Identifies resource dependency
Waste Generation	Solid & hazardous waste quantity	Guides waste reduction initiatives
Resource Efficiency	Input output environmental ratio	Evaluates sustainability performance

Table 1 summarizes the key environmental metrics commonly identified in corporate sustainability and environmental accounting practices. The indicators presented capture essential dimensions of organizational environmental performance, beginning with carbon emissions, which provide a baseline for assessing a company's contribution to greenhouse gas output and form the foundation for climate transition planning. Energy consumption represents another critical metric, distinguishing between renewable and non renewable sources to evaluate progress toward energy efficiency and decarbonization. Water usage highlights patterns of resource dependence, particularly for companies operating in water intensive sectors. Waste generation reflects the amount of solid and hazardous waste produced, serving as an indicator of operational efficiency and waste management effectiveness. Meanwhile, resource efficiency represents the relationship between inputs and environmental outputs, enabling companies to assess the sustainability of their production processes. Collectively, these metrics provide structured and measurable information that supports decision making, helps identify priority areas for environmental improvement, and strengthens the foundation for developing comprehensive climate transition strategies.

Several corporate sustainability reports examined in this study highlighted similar patterns, particularly in sectors with high energy dependency. For instance, companies operating in manufacturing and transportation frequently emphasized carbon intensity indicators as a baseline for transition planning, while firms in resource-intensive industries placed greater focus on water consumption and waste management metrics. These recurring patterns illustrate how environmental metrics are operationalized across different sectors and serve as practical evidence supporting the analytical themes identified in this research.

3.2. Climate Risk Assessment

The results indicate that climate risk assessment has become an essential component of corporate efforts to align green accounting with climate transition strategies. The reviewed documents show that companies increasingly recognize the need to map potential risks arising from climate change, including physical risks such as extreme weather events and transition risks related to regulatory shifts, market changes, and technological adjustments. Environmental accounting data provide the basis for identifying these risks by highlighting patterns in resource dependency, emission profiles, and operational vulnerabilities. Several organizations have begun integrating environmental indicators into broader enterprise risk management frameworks, allowing them to evaluate how climate related factors may influence financial stability and long term operational continuity. Through these assessments, companies are better able to anticipate potential disruptions and identify strategic areas that require prioritization during the transition process.

The analysis further reveals that climate risk assessment supports more informed decision making by linking environmental data with scenario planning and strategic evaluation. Companies use these assessments to examine the potential financial implications of various transition policies, estimate adaptation costs, and determine the feasibility of investing in low carbon technologies. The presence of structured risk assessments also improves managerial capacity to develop transition roadmaps that align with regulatory expectations and stakeholder demands. In addition, organizations that conduct comprehensive climate risk evaluations tend to display stronger readiness for implementing climate related initiatives, as their decisions are grounded in evidence and reflect an understanding of future climate conditions. Overall, the findings demonstrate that integrating climate risk assessment into green accounting frameworks enhances strategic resilience and strengthens the foundation for designing credible and forward looking climate transition pathways.

Table 2. Types of Climate Risks and Their Implications

Type of Risk	Description	Implications for Companies
Physical Risk	Extreme weather, temperature shifts	Disruption of operations & supply chains
Transition Risk	Policy changes, emission limits	Operational adjustments & compliance costs
Market Risk	Demand shifts toward green products	Need for product and technology adaptation
Technological Risk	Adoption of low carbon solutions	Capital investment & capability development
Reputational Risk	Stakeholder perception	Impact on market credibility and trust

Table 2 outlines the main categories of climate risks that influence corporate climate transition strategies and the corresponding implications for organizational operations. Physical risks refer to the impacts of extreme weather events and changing climate patterns, which may disrupt production processes, logistics, and supply chains. Transition risks arise from policy shifts, emissions regulations, and compliance expectations that require companies to adjust their operations and invest in climate aligned technologies. Market risks stem from evolving consumer preferences and increasing demand for environmentally responsible products, pushing companies to innovate and modify their business portfolios. Technological risks involve the challenges associated with adopting low emission technologies, including the need for significant capital investment and capability development. Reputational risks relate to stakeholder perceptions of environmental performance, where inadequate climate action may reduce market credibility and weaken investor trust. Together, these risk categories illustrate how climate related factors can affect strategic decisions, operational continuity, and long term competitiveness, making climate risk assessment an essential component of corporate transition planning.

3.3. Integration of Green Accounting into Strategic Planning

The results show that the integration of green accounting into strategic planning has become a significant driver in shaping corporate climate transition efforts. The reviewed documents indicate that companies increasingly utilize environmental accounting data as a foundation for aligning operational decisions with long term sustainability objectives. This integration begins with incorporating environmental metrics into strategic evaluations, allowing organizations to identify areas where environmental performance influences financial outcomes and future business risks. Several firms have adopted internal guidelines that connect environmental indicators with core business functions such as procurement, production planning, investment allocation, and performance monitoring. By embedding green accounting information into these processes, companies develop a more comprehensive understanding of how climate related factors influence strategic priorities. This integration also contributes to a shift in organizational mindset, where sustainability considerations are treated not as external requirements but as determinants of long term competitiveness.

The analysis further reveals that companies that successfully integrate green accounting into strategic planning tend to demonstrate stronger alignment between their climate transition commitments and the actions required to achieve them. Environmental accounting data enable firms to set measurable targets, evaluate the expected outcomes of transition initiatives, and ensure that sustainability actions are supported by adequate resources. In several cases, environmental metrics inform budgeting decisions, guide the selection of climate mitigation projects, and influence the adoption of low carbon technologies. The availability of structured accounting information also enhances cross department coordination, as different units rely on the same environmental data to support their decision making processes. Overall, the findings suggest that integrating green accounting into strategic planning strengthens the coherence, accountability, and feasibility of climate transition strategies by ensuring that decisions are evidence based and aligned with organizational capabilities.

3.4. Transparency and Reporting Practices

The results show that transparency and reporting practices play a central role in strengthening the connection between green accounting and corporate climate transition strategies. The reviewed documents indicate that companies increasingly rely on structured environmental reporting to communicate their transition progress, disclose emission levels, and demonstrate accountability to stakeholders. These reporting practices often involve presenting key environmental indicators, outlining transition initiatives, and explaining the rationale behind sustainability related decisions. Organizations that prioritize transparency tend to develop more consistent reporting formats, enabling clearer comparisons of environmental performance across different periods. This consistency supports external evaluation, allowing investors, regulators, and consumers to assess the credibility of corporate climate commitments. The findings also highlight that transparent reporting encourages companies to adopt more disciplined internal monitoring processes, as publicly disclosed data must accurately reflect operational realities.

The analysis further reveals that effective transparency practices contribute to stronger stakeholder engagement and enhance organizational readiness for climate transition. By openly communicating environmental performance, companies build trust and reduce uncertainty regarding their transition trajectories. Transparent reporting also facilitates internal learning, as data driven evaluations encourage departments to collaborate and refine strategies based

on measurable outcomes. In some cases, reporting practices help companies identify gaps between stated commitments and actual performance, prompting corrective actions and improving strategic alignment. The integration of green accounting into reporting systems ensures that disclosed information is grounded in measurable data rather than narrative claims. Overall, the findings indicate that transparency and reporting practices function not only as compliance obligations but also as mechanisms that reinforce accountability, strengthen organizational coherence, and support the credibility of corporate climate transition strategies.

Table 3. Elements of Effective Environmental Transparency

Reporting Element	Description	Contribution to Transition
Environmental Indicators	Quantified performance values	Enhances clarity and comparability
Transition Progress Updates	Disclosure of milestones achieved	Builds stakeholder trust
Data Consistency	Standardized reporting format	Supports long-term evaluation
Methodological Explanation	How data were measured	Ensures credibility and accuracy
Stakeholder Communication	Channels and clarity of reports	Strengthens accountability

Table 3 highlights the essential elements that contribute to effective environmental transparency and reporting practices within corporate climate transition strategies. Environmental indicators represent quantified performance values that allow companies to communicate environmental outcomes in a clear and comparable manner across reporting periods. Transition progress updates provide stakeholders with structured information regarding milestones achieved, enabling them to evaluate the credibility of a company's sustainability commitments. Data consistency ensures that environmental information is presented using standardized formats, enhancing long term comparability and reducing ambiguity in interpretation. Methodological explanation clarifies how environmental data were measured or calculated, strengthening the accuracy and reliability of the disclosed information. Stakeholder communication refers to the clarity and accessibility of environmental reports, which enhances accountability and strengthens trust in corporate actions. Together, these elements demonstrate that transparency is not merely a reporting requirement but a mechanism that reinforces credibility, enables stakeholder evaluation, and supports informed decision making in climate transition efforts.

3.5. Managerial Implications of Green Accounting

The results indicate that the application of green accounting generates significant managerial implications for how companies design and implement climate transition strategies. The analysis shows that structured environmental data enables managers to better understand the relationship between operational performance, climate related risks, and long-term investment decisions. This information allows management to evaluate the effectiveness of sustainability initiatives, identify areas that require improvement, and determine strategic priorities that align with transition objectives. Companies that incorporate green accounting into their managerial processes also tend to adopt more rigorous internal evaluation mechanisms, including performance assessments based on environmental indicators and periodic reviews of operational impacts. These implications strengthen the organization's ability to plan transition measures in a phased, evidence based manner and ensure that decisions reflect both environmental and financial considerations.

Further analysis reveals that green accounting expands managerial responsibilities in managing organizational change related to sustainability. With access to more accurate data, managers can design operational policies that support resource efficiency, adoption of low emission technologies, and investment in environmentally responsible initiatives. Environmental information also enhances cross departmental coordination, as different units rely on consistent data to support their strategic decisions. In addition, managerial implications emerge in the form of increased accountability, as managers are required to demonstrate clear linkages between the actions taken and the environmental outcomes achieved. Overall, the findings demonstrate that green accounting strengthens managerial capacity to oversee climate transition efforts through a systematic, measurable, and evidence driven approach, thereby enhancing the organization's readiness to meet sustainability expectations.

4. Conclusion

The findings of this study show that green accounting plays a strategic role in strengthening corporate climate transition strategies through measurable environmental metrics, structured risk assessments, integration into strategic planning, enhanced transparency, and expanded managerial responsibilities. The analysis demonstrates that companies benefit from environmental data not only for reporting purposes but also for guiding operational adjustments, shaping investment decisions, and improving long term sustainability planning. The results further indicate that organizations with consistent environmental information exhibit stronger readiness to anticipate climate related risks, allocate resources effectively, and maintain accountability in achieving transition targets. The practical application of these findings suggests that green accounting can support the development of more coherent and evidence based transition pathways across industries. This study also opens opportunities for

future research to examine comparative sectoral differences, evaluate the effectiveness of specific accounting tools, or explore how digital technologies may enhance the accuracy and integration of environmental information in corporate transition frameworks.

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