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**Factors Influencing The Extent of Accounting Information  
Usage In Cooperatives  
In The Province of Yogyakarta Special Region**

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*Accounting information should be used by interested parties (stakeholders) as one of the basic for business decision making. In fact, accounting information has not been used optimally, especially by the principals of SMEs, including cooperatives. Many factors affect the extent of usage of accounting information, namely the scale of business, business age, type of business, manager education and training of accounting. This article presents the results of research on the factors that affect the extent of the usage of accounting information by the cooperative, it examines the influence of scale, age, business and accounting training on the extent of the usage of accounting information by the cooperative. This research took 30 cooperatives in the district of Sleman as the sample. The sampling method used was 'purposive random sampling'. The hypothesis which was tested with multiple regression test shows that the three factors, namely business scale, age of business and accounting training both totally and partially affect the extent of the usage of accounting information by the cooperative.*

*Keywords: accounting information, business scale, age of business, accountancy training.*

## **1. Preliminary**

### **1.1. Background**

Accounting information is used by the users of accounting as one of the basic business decision. The users, like management, employees, owners, lenders, investors, and suppliers, have different interests in the use of accounting information. They use accounting information for rational decisions and to reduce uncertainty. Although accounting information plays an important role in business decision making, but the accounting information has not been used optimally by the perpetrators of micro, small and medium enterprises (SMEs), including cooperatives. A cooperative as one type of SMEs is also facing similar problems. Besides the accounting information which has not been used optimally, some of the financial reporting organized by the cooperatives do not refer to the standard set of SFAS No. 27. Therefore the financial statements produced by the cooperative are not in accordance with the standar , then the accounting information generated is also not as expected. Morever, the users of financial statements of the cooperative are also not optimally utilize the information generated as a basis for decision making.

Cooperative, in accordance with the Constitution, is one of the pillars of national economy populist breath. With the growing quality of cooperative financial reports produced by the accounting information , the usage for business decision making will also get better which in turn can raise the position of cooperatives as one of the pillars of the nation and state economies. Currently (as of June 30, 2009) based on data from the Ministry of Cooperatives and SMEs, the number of cooperatives in Indonesia reached 166,155 units.

Many factors affect the scope of the use of accounting information by the cooperative. Some researces show that the factors affecting the scope of the use of accounting information include: the scale of business, age (experience) of business, type of business, education and training manager

of accounting. One or some several of these factors will determine the scope of the use of accounting information in decision-making. Based on the description above, so researchers are interested in identifying the factors that significantly affect the scope of the use of accounting information by the cooperative as a basis for making business decisions.

### **1.2. Problem Formulation**

the previous description explained that there are many factors influence the scope of the use of accounting information as a basis for making business decisions. Therefore, it influence the investigator to limit research on the factors that allegedly dominant and have an equivalent unit of analysis Those factors are the scale of business, age of business and accountancy training. The problems addressed by this study are as follows:

- a. How does scale influence the coverage of the use of accounting information by cooperatives?
- b. How does age influence the coverage of business by the cooperative use of accounting information?
- c. How does accounting training influence the coverage of the use of accounting information by cooperatives?

### **1.3. Objectives and Benefits Research**

This study aims to determine how the scale , age of business and accountancy training factors affect on the scope of the use of accounting information by the cooperative. The results of this study are expected to provide benefits for science on how big accounting contribute to the cooperative and to give false advice to the government on how the quality of co-operatives are now seen from the implementation of accounting and utilization of accounting information for businesses run by cooperatives.

## **2. Literature Review**

### **2.1. Review of Recent Research**

Some results of previous research indicates that accounting information has not been used optimally by the perpetrators of SMEs, including cooperatives as the basis for business decisions. There are several factors that affect the scope of the use of accounting information in which the researchers found that different other factors. The results Hariyanto, et al (1999) found that retail traders do not consider it as important in accounting information for business decision making. Researchers also found that the factors that affect the scope of the use of accounting information are the scale of business, type of business and education managers. Norsofina, et al (2000) who conducts research on SMEs in Penang, Malaysia found that the perpetrators of SMEs have not optimally utilized accounting information for decision making. Researchers found that the factors that affect coverage of SMEs use accounting information is the business scale, age of business and accountancy training. Pinasti (2001) in his study also obtained the result that the traditional market traders in Banyumas greatly utilize of non-accounting information in business decision making.

Kuncoro (2007) suggested that the factors which affect the scope of the use of accounting information by SMEs in Sidoarjo, East Java is a knowledge of accounting, business scale, business experience and type of business. In summary it can be concluded that several previous studies have found out that the perpetrators of SMEs, including cooperatives have not used an optimal accounting information in business decision making. The factors that affect the scope of the use of accounting information by the perpetrators of SMEs and cooperatives are the scale of business, business age, type of business and knowledge / training of accounting.

## **2.2. Theoretical Review**

### **2.2.1. Types of Accounting Information**

Information is divided into 2 types, namely non-quantitative information and quantitative information. Quantitative information is divided into 2 types, namely accounting information and non-accounting information. Accounting information is divided into 3 types, namely operational accounting information, financial accounting information and management accounting information (Antony and Recee, 1992). Accounting information is used by stakeholders as a basis for making business decisions. The interested parties (the stakeholders), according to Bodnar and Hopwood (2010) grouped into two: internal and external parties. Internal party is the management and employees, while external parties are shareholders, creditors, investors, governments, suppliers and the environment. In terms of the benefits of accounting information, there are three groups namely operational accounting information, accounting information and accounting information management. Operational accounting information is used as an ingredient of decision making to the implementation of daily activities; financial accounting information is used by the internal and external parties to assess the performance of the company, as well as management accounting information is primarily used by the internal management decision making for planning and controlling the activities of the organization.

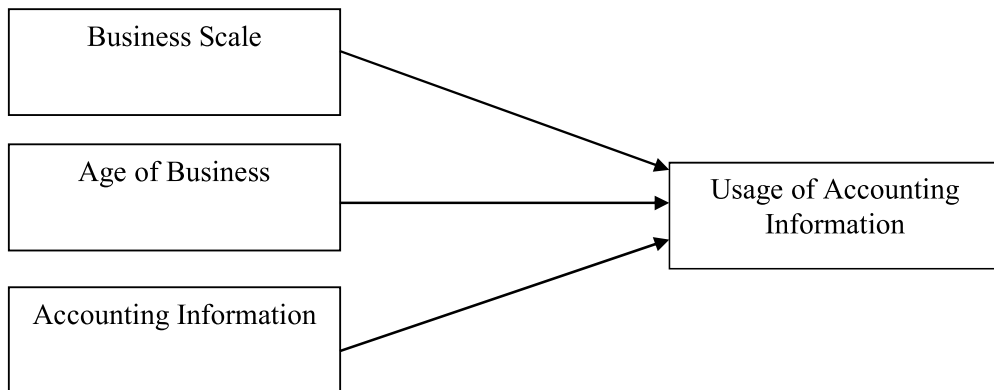
### **2.2.2. Cooperative Financial Statements**

In accordance with article 1 of Act No. 25 of 1992 on cooperatives, a cooperative is a business entity whose activities are based on the principles of cooperatives as well as a touchstone of people's economy based on the principle of kinship. As an entity, the cooperative also set the standard preparation of financial statements under SFAS No. 27. Based on these standards, the consolidated financial cooperatives can be distinguished into 5 types of balance sheets, the calculation results of operations, cash

flow statement, statement of economic promotion and notes to financial statements.

### 2.3. Thinking Framework

From a review of some previous research and theoretical review based on accounting information, the framework created for this study were as follows:



### 2.4. Hypothesis Development

#### 2.4.1. Business Scale

According to research by Holmes and Nicholls in Norsofina, et al (1988, 1989), the level of accounting information is prepared depends on the scale of business. These researchers note in their study that when the size of the business grew, the proportion of the preparation of formal business accounting information, budget, and additiona also grewl . An empirical study by Gorton in Norosfina, et al (1999) found that larger companies in Britain use financial management techniques more extensively than smaller companies because they have the more complicated control procedures. This study assumes that there is a positive relationship between business size and the use of accounting information. This study assumes that when the business is expanded, there will be greater need on the use of accounting information in making business decisions.

Based on the ideas above, we developed the first hypothesis :

*H1. Scale significantly influences the scope of accounting information.*

#### **2.4.2. Business Age**

Holmes and Nicholls in Norsofina (1988, 1989) indicate in their study that the scope of the accounting information is influenced by the age of business. The study concluded that the efforts of the younger / new business tend to prepare an extensive accounting information for decision-making purposes than the older / old. One study conducted by Wijewardena and Tibbis in Norsofina (1999), they found that industry and company-specific factors are significant in the explanation of variation in the growth of small businesses. Their results showed that older firms, in general, have poor growth performance compared to newer businesses.

Based on the ideas above, we developed the hypothesis as follows:

*H2. Enterprise age significantly influence the scope of accounting information.*

#### **2.4.3. Accounting Training**

As'ad (2008) suggested that training and development which are provided to employees will increase the knowledge, skills and experience that can improve company performance. Gee and Nystrom in Norsofina (1999) in their empirical research to examine the scope of the relationship between skills training and quality management in American manufacturing plants found that the level of higher vocational training is positively associated with quality management level. They noted that the purpose of training is to develop and improve employee skills. Formal training will encourage individuals to obtain relevant skills that will enable them to adapt better to their working environment. Holmes and Nicholls in Norsofina, et al (1988, 1989) indicate in their study that training is positively associated with coverage of the preparation of accounting information for decision-making in SMEs.

Based on the ideas above, we developed the hypothesis as follows:

*H3. Accounting Training significantly influence the scope of accounting information.*

### **3. Research Method**

#### **3.1. Sample Selection**

In the province of Yogyakarta at the end of 2009 there were as many as 1649 active cooperative units (source: BPS DIY). Cooperatives are spread all over the city of Yogyakarta, Bantul, Sleman, Kulonprogo and Gunungkidul district. In the study, the sample was selected from cooperatives in Sleman district currently there are 289 active cooperatives from 398 cooperatives. 10% of 30 cooperatives were taken as the sample by using purposive sampling method. 10% sample by Roscoe in Sugiyono (2009) is considered suitable as a sample in the research, as well as according to the Gay & Diehl (Sigit : 1999). It is considered sufficient for descriptive research. Based on this theory then that number is expected to have diversity so as to represent the population. These data were collected through a questionnaire distributed to managers or managers of cooperatives.

#### **3.2.Operational Definition**

##### 1. Scale of Business

Scale is measured by, using the criteria established under Law No. 20 of 2008 concerning SMEs that is gross revenue for one year. Gross business turnover derived from sales and other revenues are stated in rupiah.

##### 2. Age of Business

Age is measured by the length of the cooperative effort in has been in operation doing business as measured in unit year.

### 3.Accounting Training

It is measured by the amount of accounting training accounting training has been followed by managers, administrators or employees of the accounting department; finance for 3 years.

### 4. Scope of Use of Accounting Information

Coverage of the use of accounting information as the dependent variable is measured by the number of types of accounting information used by the cooperative in business decision-making process. The types of information consists of 3 types of operational information, 5 financial accounting information and 2 types of management accounting information, so that the entire scope of information totaling 10.

### **3.3. Data Analysis Method: Testing Hypotheses**

To test the research hypotheses,the data were analyzed using multiple regression. The formula used is:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1X_1 + \beta_2X_2 + \beta_3X_3 + e$$

Y = number that used accounting information

X<sub>1</sub> = scale

X<sub>2</sub> = age of business

X<sub>3</sub> = number of training followed accounting

E = error

Before the hypotheses are tested, then in order to obtain valid parameter first held several research instruments that test against Supramono, 2004, Nugroho, 2008): normality test data, test the classical assumption

(multicollinearity, autocorrelation and heteroscedasticity). After tests conducted research instruments, then the next step is to perform global (test F) or partial (t test) with significance level of 5%.

## **4. Results and Discussion**

### **4.1. Data Analysis**

The results of data collection from 30 cooperatives in Sleman as the respondents, then, is processed with SPSS output as presented in appendix.

#### **4.1.1. Data Normality Test Results**

Before normality test data was processed research data. Tests were carried out by using value of skewness to see the slope of the data distribution. The calculation results of the normality of the data SPSS is as follows :

Business scale	= 0.873
Age of business	= 0.872
Accounting training	= 0.341

The tested research model were all normal distribution as skewness value near zero.

#### **4.1.2 The Result of Classic Assumption Test**

Classic assumption test results consist of:

##### **a. Multicollinearity**

The results of SPSS output on multikoleniaritas are described in the "coefficients" in the collinearity the obtained value statistic is presented in table 1 below:

**Table 1 : The Result of Multicollinearity Test**

Independence Variable	Tolerance	VIF
Business Scale	0.125	0.599
Age of Business	0.554	0.803
Accounting Training	0.850	1.176

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From the table it can be seen that the data is free of multicollinearity because the value of tolerance is more than 0.1 and VIF less than 10., so that it is qualified for regression testing.

a. Autocorrelation Test

From the SPSS output of the autocorrelation which is depicted on the Durbin Watson value, it can be known whether or not the data contain autocorrelation. Durbin Watson value contains no autocorrelation if the count is beyond the lower limit and upper limit value of Durbin Watson table. From the Model Summary table for 1.454 are outside the lower limit is 1.21 and the upper limit of 1.65 which indicates that the data is free from autocorrelation thus qualify for regression.

b. Heteroscedasticity Test

From the SPSS output of which is described in scatterplot heteroscedasticity it can be known whether the data homoscedasticity or heteroscedasticity. From the scatterplot shows that the data contained homoscedasticity because:

- The points of data spread around, below and above zero
- The points do not only accumulate above or below it
- The points do not form a wavy pattern

Because the data is homoscedasticity, it can be used for regression testing.

#### 4.1.3. Regression Test Results

##### a. Simultaneous Test

Simultaneous test was conducted to determine the effect of jointly independent variable to dependent variable (Lind, 2008). The results of this test can be seen from the value of F in Table Anova, namely by comparing the calculated F value with the value of the F-table or p-value with a level of significant. From the table it is known that the F value of  $17.778 > F$  table value of  $2.96$ . It can also be seen from the p-value of  $0.000 <$  significant level of  $0.05$  It mean that the variable Size, Age of Business and Accountancy Training jointly affect the scope of Use of Accounting Information.

##### b. Partial Test

Partial test was conducted to determine the level of influence of each variable on the dependent variable independent (Lind, 2008). The results of this test can be seen from the table t value coefficients, ie by comparing the calculated t value with t-table values or p-value with a level of significant. SPSS calculation results can be seen in Table 2 below.

**Table 2 : The Result of Regression Coefficient Test**

<u>Variables</u>	<u>Diefferent Test of t</u>		<u>Diefferent Test of p</u>	
	<u>t count</u>	<u>t table</u>	<u>p value</u>	<u>p sig</u>
Business Scale	2.551	2.056	0.05	0.017
Age of Business	2.427	2.056	0.05	0.022
Accounting Training	2.683	2.056	0.05	0.013

From Table 2 it can be noted :

1) T-value 2.551 count > t table value of 2.056 or 0.017 p-value <value the significant level of 0.05, Ho is rejected which means that H1 is accepted. Therefore, the Scale effect on the Scope of Use of Accounting Information. The amount of influence can be seen from the beta value that is equal to 0.362.

2) Business Age Variable

T-value 2.427 count > t table value of 2.052 or 0.022 p-value <value the significant level of 0.05, meaning that Ho is rejected which means that H1 is accepted. Effect on Scope of Use of Accounting Information. The amount of influence can be seen from the beta value that is equal to 0.366.

3) Variable Accounting Training

T-value 2.683 count > t table value of 2.052 or 0.013 p-value <value the significant level of 0.05, meaning that Ho is rejected which means that H1 is accepted. Effect on Scope of Use of Accounting Information. The amount of influence can be seen from the beta value that is equal to 0.327.

#### **4.2. Discussion**

Simultaneous regression test results that the value of the F-count > F-table and the level of significant <p-value, it mean that Ho rejected and H1 accepted. This indicates that together these three independent variables namely scale, age of business and accountancy training affect the scope of the use of accounting information. This is in line with the results of research that was conducted Norsofina, et al which shows that the three independent variables have significant influence on the coverage of the use of accounting information. Thus, the scope of the use of accounting information by the co-operative is jointly influenced by the scale of business, age of business and accountancy training.

The partial regression obtained the same results. From the test on the first hypothesis about the influence of scale on the coverage of the use of accounting information it is known that the  $t$ -count >  $t$ -table and the level of significant  $<p$ -value. It indicates that the scale has positive influence on the scope of the use of accounting information. This is in line with the results of Norsofina's research who showed that the scale has a significant effect on the coverage of the use of accounting information. Means that the larger-scale cooperative effort, the more extensive the use of accounting information, which means also that the more cooperatives need accounting information in business decision making.

The second hypothesis test results regarding the effect of age on the coverage of the business use of accounting information that the  $t$ -count >  $t$ -table and the level of significant  $<p$ -value which means that the business age has positive effect on the scope of the use of accounting information. This is not in line with the results of research Norsofina, et al which that age had no significant effect on the coverage of the use of accounting information. It means that the longer a cooperative effort, the more extensive use of accounting information which will also mean more cooperative decision-making requires accounting information in business.

The third hypothesis test results regarding the effect of accounting training on the coverage of the use of accounting information that  $t$  calculate >  $t$ -table and the level of significant  $<p$ -value accounting, which means that training has positive influence on the scope of the use of accounting information. This is in line with the results of that accounting training significant effect on the scope of the use of accounting information .. This means that the manager or employee of the accountancy training cooperative have more extensive use of accounting information which means that it increasingly requires cooperative accounting information in business decision making .

Judged from the amount of beta it can be seen that all three variables have the same relative value of beta. It means that of three independent variables tested do not have one variable that is more dominant than the other variables influencing the scope of the use of accounting information.

## **5. Conclusion, Limitations and Suggestions**

### **5.1. Conclusion**

From the results of hypothesis testing in mind that the scope of the use of accounting information is influenced by the co-operative jointly and partially three factors: the scale of business, age of business and accountancy training. Scale has positive effect on the scope of the use of accounting information, which means that the larger the gross turnover obtained by the cooperative will increasingly require more accounting information and business age has positive effect on the scope of the use of accounting information, which means that the longer (older) the business is ran by a cooperative effort will increasingly require accounting information. Accounting training has positive influence on the scope of the use of accounting information, which means that the more intensive and cooperative managers or employees of accounting training will be more extensive coverage of the use of accounting information.

Based on beta values in regression testing it can be identified that the scale of business, age of business and accountancy training have the same power to influence the scope of the use of accounting information, so that no one factor is more dominant than other factors.

### **5.2. Limitations and Suggestions**

This study has limitations as follows:

1. The samples taken on the basis of considerations (judgment) researchers who have specific goals and interests to the object of research is Sleman regency. The samples will be more representative if it's really taken at random without the element of subjectivity.
2. This study did not distinguish between types of accounting information used in decision making by cooperative efforts. The result will be even better if in future research also test the suitability of the type of accounting information used by other factors that may be influential.

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