

**THE NEED FOR GREEN ACCOUNTING STANDARD  
IN INDONESIA (IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF SOCIAL  
FUNCTION OF ACCOUNTANTS)**



**Script by :**

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**ACCOUNTING**

Proposed as one of requirements to achieve Bachelor Degree of Economics

**MINISTRY OF RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGY AND HIGHER  
EDUCATION**

**FACULTY OF ECONOMICS**

**UNIVERSITY OF SRIWIJAYA**

**2016**

**COMPREHENSIVE EXAM APPROVAL LETTER**

THE NEED FOR GREEN ACCOUNTING STANDARD IN INDONESIA  
(IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF SOCIAL FUNCTION OF ACCOUNTANTS)

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Approval Date

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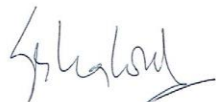
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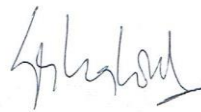
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Stating the fact that my script entitled:

The Need of Green Accounting Standard in Indonesia (In the Perspective of Social Function of Accountants)

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Date of Comprehensive Exam : March, 13<sup>th</sup> 2017

is truly the result of my work under guidance of supervisors. There is no other people work in this script that I copied without mentioning original sources.

I made this statement in a good faith. If it turns out that my statement is not true in the future then I will be willing to accept my sanctions in accordance with regulations, including cancellation of my degree.

Inderalaya, March 13<sup>th</sup> 2017

Who gave the statement,

Alvin Adrian

01031181320008

## **MOTTO**

*Suatu Gelas yang penuh tidak akan pernah bisa diisi lagi*

**(Unknown)**

*Integrity is doing the right thing even when no one is watching.*

**[C. S. Lewis]**

*Stay Foolish, Stay Hungry*

**(Steve Jobs)**

*You have to believe in yourself when no one else does.*

**[@motivated.mindset]**

*A good sailor never comes from a calm sea*

**(Unknown)**

## PREFACE

Praise and thank to Jesus Christ for the blessing and mercy that the author can complete the script entitled **The Need of Green Accounting Standard in Indonesia (In the Perspective of Social Function of Accountants)**. This script is made as one of the requirements to achieve Bachelor Degree of Economics (S-1) in Economic Faculty, Sriwijaya University.

My sincere appreciation to many party who has help me to finish this script. Therefore, author would like to express gratitude to:

1. **Prof. Dr. Ir. H. Anis Saggaff, MSCE** as the Rector of Sriwijaya University.
2. **Prof. Dr. Taufiq Marwah, SE, M.Si** as the Dean of Economic Faculty.
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4. **Mrs. Umi Kalsum S.E., M.Si., Ak., CA** as the secretary of Accounting Department.
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6. **Mr. Agung Putra Raneo S.E., M.Si.** as the coordinator of International Class.
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16. All of people related to the accomplishment of this script that author cannot mention whose name one by one to the all its aid.

Author hopes that this script can be beneficial for many parties. Therefore, criticism and suggestion from all parties can improve this script for perfection will always be welcomed in the future.

Inderalaya, March 13<sup>th</sup> 2016

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**ABSTRACT**

**THE NEED FOR GREEN ACCOUNTING STANDARD IN INDONESIA  
(IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF SOCIAL FUNCTION OF ACCOUNTANTS)**

By :

**Alvin Adrian; Dra. Hj. Kencana Dewi, M.Sc., Ak. CA;  
Dr. Tertiarto Wahyudi, SE, MAFIS, Ak, CPA**

This study has two main objectives; first, to investigate about the strengths and weaknesses of green accounting in Indonesia, secondly, to observe the needs for green accounting standard in the perspective of social function of accountants in Indonesia. The methodology used in this research is literature review, so the data are collected from scientific journals, books, and papers related to this research. The results of this study show that there are six advantages of green accounting, namely to provide more comprehensive information for decision, to increase CSR, to increase environmental performance, to increase financial performance, to give competitive advantage to the company, and to increase the corporate sustainability, while the weaknesses are the lack of green accounting standard and the lack of environmental awareness; and the green accounting standard is needed from the perspective of social function of accountants.

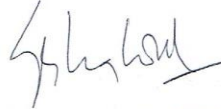
**Key Words : Green Accounting, Green Accounting Standard, Social Function of Accountants.**

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ABSTRAK

THE NEED FOR GREEN ACCOUNTING STANDARD IN INDONESIA  
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Penelitian ini memiliki dua tujuan utama, pertama, untuk mengetahui kekuatan dan kelemahan dari akuntansi lingkungan di Indonesia, kedua, untuk menilai kebutuhan dari standar akuntansi lingkungan dari sudut pandang fungsi sosial akuntan di Indonesia. Metodologi yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah studi literatur, sehingga data-data nya dikumpulkan dari jurnal ilmiah, buku, dan makalah yang terkait dengan penelitian ini. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa terdapat enam kekuatan dari akuntansi lingkungan, yaitu menyediakan informasi yang lebih lengkap dalam pengambilan keputusan, dapat meningkatkan tanggung jawab sosial perusahaan, dapat meningkatkan kinerja lingkungan, dapat meningkatkan kinerja keuangan, dapat memberikan keunggulan kompetitif pada perusahaan, dapat meningkatkan keberlanjutan dari perusahaan; dan kelemahan dari akuntansi lingkungan yaitu tidak adanya standar akuntansi lingkungan, dan kurangnya kesadaran akan lingkungan. Dilihat dari sudut pandang fungsi sosial akuntan, maka standar akuntansi lingkungan sangat dibutuhkan.

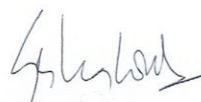
**Kata Kunci :** *Akuntansi Lingkungan, Fungsi Sosial Akuntan, Standar Akuntansi Lingkungan,*

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## LIST OF CONTENTS

TITLE PAGE .....	i
COMPREHENSIVE EXAM APPROVAL LETTER.....	ii
SCRIPT APPROVAL LETTER.....	iii
STATEMENT OF RESEARCH INTEGRITY .....	iv
MOTTO .....	v
PREFACE .....	vi
ABSTRACT.....	viii
<i>ABSTRAK</i> .....	ix
RESEARCH RESUME.....	x
LIST OF CONTENT .....	xi
LIST OF TABLES .....	xiii
CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION .....	1
1.1 Research Background.....	1
1.2 Problem Formulation .....	8
1.3 Research Objective.....	8
1.4 Research Usefulness .....	8
1.5 Research Systematical Writing .....	9
CHAPTER II. LITERATURE STUDY .....	11
2.1 Grand Theory .....	11
2.2 Theories about the research.....	12
2.2.1 Strength and Weaknesses .....	12
2.2.2 Green Accounting.....	13
2.2.3 Nature of Environmental Accounting.....	17

2.2.4	Scope of Green Accounting.....	19
2.2.5	Forms of Green Accounting .....	20
2.2.6	Green or Environment Accounting.....	22
2.2.7	Related regulations about Green Accounting .....	23
2.3	Previous Research.....	26
2.4	Theoretical Framework.....	33
CHAPTER III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY .....		34
3.1	Types Of Research.....	34
3.2	Research Object and Data Sources .....	35
3.3	Data Collection Technique .....	35
3.4	Data Analysis Technique .....	36
CHAPTER IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSION .....		37
4.1	Introduction to Green Accounting .....	37
4.2	Strength of Green Accounting .....	40
4.2.1	Provide Comprehensive Information for Decision making	40
4.2.2	Increase CSR .....	42
4.2.3	Improve Environment Performance .....	44
4.2.4	Improve Financial Performance .....	45
4.2.5	Giving Competitive Advantage to Company .....	47
4.2.6	Increase Corporate Social Responsibility .....	48
4.3	Weaknesses of Green Accounting .....	49
4.3.1	Does not have standard.....	49
4.3.2	Lack of Environmental Awareness.....	51
4.4	The Need of Green Accounting Standard.....	52
CHAPTER V. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION .....		59

5.1 Conclusion .....	59
5.2 Research Limitation .....	61
5.3 Research Suggestion .....	62
REFERENCES.....	63

### LIST OF TABLES

Table	Text	Page
Table 4.1	Green Accounting vs Conventional Accounting	44

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Research Background**

Human has been living along with the nature for a very long time, since the prehistoric age, till this modern age, and even more that we don't know yet when. Our nature provides anything we need to survive in this earth, food, water, oxygen, and any other natural resources needed by us to sustain the living in this world. Mankind and the nature lives side by side, together, and need each other to survive, the reason human may develop the society in these thousand years because nature helps us to.

Along with the development of the human, human starts to learn economics, they learn how to do business with each other, and business grows rapidly also, from a simple barter, to the trading usage of gold and silver as the money, paper money and even now into a multinational companies, to keep up with the growth of the business, business needs a tool to help it to provide a reliable information for business decision making, later on known as accounting. The task of accounting is to supply information on the operation of the organizations within the economy. Accounting facilitates the sharing of information, providing a method which increases the transparency of the operating processes (Dillard et al., 2005). According to Statement of Financial Accounting Concepts No. 2 About Qualitative Characteristics of Accounting Information, that information must be reliable, relevant, comparable and

consistent (SFAC No. 2, 2008). To fulfill the needs of the business, accounting also transforms from time to time.

The rapid growth of business must be followed by accounting, as modern business demands on a good amount of profits of accounting reports, accountants have to do cost management, and this practice sometimes solely focus primarily on profitability as the sole indicator of business performance. A business's success is judged by the profits it makes and the market value of its shares. The concentration is on capitalistic modes of production, and social and environmental responsibilities are often sacrificed. This has been enhanced by the academic curriculum emphasis on profits as the primary determinant of business success (Tinker,1985). By that practice, accountants are blamed of causing the destruction of the nature happened around us (Lako, 2014).

The natural destruction could be shown in many forms, the increasing number of temperature degrees, the burnt forest, flooding areas because of the global warming etc. The nearest one around us, is the burning forestry, in 2015, the world bank called it as ,”The Biggest Environment Criminal Action in 21th Century”, a big amount of forest and field were burnt uncontrollably since August 2015, and the impact on the health, education, and endanger the life of millions Indonesians life, and even Singaporeans and Malaysians and other countries near Sumatra and Kalimantan, and it also costs billions dollar lost for Indonesia economically.

Based on Republic Indonesia Health Ministry data, the forestry fire in 2015 has caused 425,377 people suffered from Acute Respiratory Infection, and

cause 10 people die because of the haze only in June-November 2015. It is predicted that the economic loss that occurred because of the fire reaches the amount of 200 trillions rupiah. Indonesia Forestry and Environment Ministry stated that the amount of burnt forests and fields in Indonesia during 2015 reaches 2.1 million hectares, mostly in Kalimantan and Sumatra Island. Meanwhile, about 838,000 Hectares or 40 % of the burnt forest and field are located in South Sumatra Provinces.

According to WALHI's research released in 2012, private companies are the most destructive bodies that responsible for the forest fire in Indonesia compared to government and society, companies are responsible for the 31.4 % destruction of Indonesian nature. And these companies do that for a good reason, based on the research of Herry Purnomo, researcher from Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), that is released by BBC Indonesia in 24 September 2015. The burnt of forest land clearing only costs for \$ 10 - \$ 20 per hectare, meanwhile manual land clearing would cost about \$ 200 per hectare, and the selling price of the land from burning land clearing would be higher to 11,2 million rupiahs per hectares, compared to manual one that is only 8,6 million rupiahs because of the high quality soil that comes from the burning forest itself. It shows that how companies react to save cost and maximize profit, as a truly economic entity with a profit motive.

It is predicted that the natural destruction of forest, river, coast, and sea will still occur in 2016 said Mukri Friatna, Manager of Indonesia WALHI. According to the news released by National Geographic Indonesia, the journal



named “Geology” by Denmark Geologist Nicolai Krog Larsen in 18 February 2015, said that the world would not sustain too long due to the increasing temperature, if the nature destructions are continued, the increase of 4 celcius degrees could be a doom for the world. are there any preventions done ?

Yes, there are some preventions actions done, such as the Stockholm Declaration in 1972 as the first world conference about the environment, Stockholm Declaration recognizes human rights but in the same time, also address that human are also responsible in maintaining the environment so that it could survive for the future generations. Stockholm Declaration reflects the sustainable base of development that inspires the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro 1992, taking the theme “The Future We Want”, that is a hold-together principal of the leaders around the world to renew the commitment of sustainable development, economic, and social. They realize that it needs a green economy in all of the country if the world would commit on sustainable development (Lako, 2014). Manager of Indonesia WALHI, Mukri, also said that Indonesian government under the command of President Joko Widodo has shown a good concern on the environmental issue, it was shown by the presence of President Joko Widodo in Conference of Parties (COP) 21 United Nations Framework on Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) in Paris, in the late 2015 ago. Even though that doesn't give a warranty that there will be a change in the natural resources management system in Indonesia. Is that enough to conserve the world ?

The pace of the natural destruction is faster than the invention of the new technology to stop it (Sunardi PhD, 2016). More than that, in 2016, World

Meteorological Organization released their research, stating that 2016 has broken the record for the hottest year in the century. That shows a lot that the destruction of the nature has gone too fast and too far, any conferences held by the United Nation and also some ecological bodies show that the pace of the destruction is too quick because the number seems keep growing even though any preventive actions have been taken. The only way to survive this problem is to stop the main cause of this problem, natural destruction happens because businesses do not concern in the environmental issue in their decision making, and focus only how to get as many profits as possible, but businesses must be aware that if they want to survive, they have to sustain their environment also, and to accommodate those two things at once, green accounting is the solution.

Green accounting, or also known as environmental accounting is a part of social economic accounting (Lako, 2014). Green accounting is used as management tools to conduct in various purposes for example, improving environment performance, controlling costs, investing in cleaner technologies, developing greener processes, and performing related to product mix, product retention and product pricing (Boje, 1999).The usage of the green accounting could increase the amount of the corporate social responsibility given by the companies to the community or even on using a more eco-friendly policy, and in the end, could help to sustain the nature (Lako, 2014). Green accounting is definitely needed by now, green accounting changes the main focus of the accounting that does not only concern on profit, but in the same time, concern about the environment also. The world is facing a social-environment crisis by

now, and it is getting worse and worse from time to time, the social-environment crisis will not make the earth last longer if we as the human does not care and find a way to sustain our earth, closer than that, we are also in the same way of conserving our own business sustainability by using green accounting.

Even though that green accounting could create major benefits on the companies, there are some problems that could occur on implementing green accounting to replace the old-fashioned conventional accounting. As we know that conventional accounting is based on General Accepted Accounting Principle (GAAP) that stays on some rules that a little bit conservative and not relevant anymore in some condition, let's say about the conservatism. Along with the development of IFRS, conservatism is not completely used in some conditions, especially in recording the CSR expense, there will be a problem in reporting CSR as an expense like conventional accounting did, rather than that, green accounting recognizes CSR expenses as an intangible asset, because by fulfilling CSR, the company will gain reputation that at the end will create a value for the Company, and it should be valued by the judgment of accountants as an intangible asset as IFRS gives us a space for it (Lako, 2014). At the end, the departure into green accounting will not be easy because the specific accounting standard that concerns on the green accounting has not existed yet (Deshwal, 2015), there are some other standards that existed but they act as a voluntary use, not a must. Moreover, green accounting is a relatively new issue in Indonesia and in some other developing countries, such as India (Minimol, Makesh, 2014), Thailand (Yeunyong, 2012) and any others. There might be difficulties in implementing the green accounting,

because green accounting is basically contradicted with the entity theory. Green accounting supports the responsibility to the environment as a part of accounting, but in the same time, entity theory as stated by Friedman in Baron (2002), said that the business is solely focus on the shareholders' goal in maximizing profit, any managers who think that the entities have a responsibility to the environment and social life broadly are managers that are out of track with the intention of the shareholders. These contradiction will hamper the implementation of green accounting, even that does not mean that it cannot be implemented. Because it is not a voluntarily but a necessity for the company itself, in the same time, accountants as the representative of the companies do have a social contract with the society and the environment within it. Along with the rising awareness towards the environment, the company which does not obey the social contract will find difficulties in continuing the operations within a community that values a clean environment (Tinker and Neimark, 1987).

The need of the green accounting standard from the point of view of social of accountants is also emphasized by the legitimacy and stakeholder theory. Both of the theories urge the businesses to do social responsibility not because they are willing to, but they must to (Kouhy and Lavers, 1995 in Deegan, 2004). The green accounting standard will help the accountants to obey with the social contract and in the same time, may benefit the companies to grow and be sustainable.

In the end, Indonesia itself has suffered a lot of natural disasters because of the greedy nature of its humans. Indonesia's ecosystem is degrading from time to time and need to be conserved for our future generations. Applying the same old

conventional accounting will not solve the main cause of problem, the greedy of profit oriented concept of conventional accounting, so that Indonesia will need the green accounting concept. That reason makes the writers want to do a research about the needs of green accounting in Indonesia, and take a title of *“The Need for Green Accounting Standard in Indonesia (In the Perspective of Social Function of Accountants)”*.

### **1.2 Problem Formulation**

The problems to be analyzed in this study are:

- a. What are the strengths and weaknesses of green accounting ?
- b. How is the need for green accounting standard in the social function perspective of accountants ?

### **1.3 Research Objectives**

Based on the background, we can simply conclude that the objectives of this research are :

- a. To investigate about the strengths and weaknesses of green accounting in Indonesia.
- b. To observe the needs for green accounting standard in the perspective of social function of accountants in Indonesia.

### **1.4 Research Usefulness**

Based on the research objectives, we can conclude that this research usefulnesses are :

1.4.1 Theoretically :

1.4.1.1 For other university students (especially accounting dept.) :

Researcher hopes that by reading this proposal, any other university students, especially accounting students may be able to have clearer view about the usage of green accounting and each of the pro's and contra's opinions and the challenges of the implementation of green accounting in Indonesia.

1.4.1.2 For other researchers :

Researcher hopes that any other researchers could use this proposal as their reference or supporting research to develop the science of accounting further, especially in green accounting practices and the challenges.

1.4.2 Practically :

1.4.2.1 For investors and management of business entities :

Researcher hopes that investors and management of business entities could use this proposal to give them a better view about the quality of using green accounting and use the knowledge to support their decision making.

## **1.5 Research Systematical Writting**

### **CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION**

This chapter consists of research background, the research problem formulation, research objectives, research usefulness, and research systematical writting.

## **CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW**

In this chapter, researcher will explain about the theories related with the research problem in this research such as stakeholder and legitimacy theory, the definition and types of social accounting, the definition about green accounting, and the regulations related to the green environment in Indonesia. Moreover, this chapter will also state all the other related previous researches and theoretical framework of this research.

## **CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This chapter consists of the type of research, research objects and data sources, data collection technique and data analysis technique.

## **CHAPTER IV RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

This chapter will answer the research problem by analysing the data provided comprehensively. This chapter will provide detailed explanation on the strength and weaknesses of green accounting, and to explain the need of green accounting standard in the perspective of social function of accountants.

## **CHAPTER V CONCLUSION**

This chapter is consisted of the conclusion from the research did, and the limitation of the research, and to give the recommendation for the further researcher that will conduct the research related with this topic.

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