

## ABSTRACT

*This study aims to examine the effect of audit committee characteristics on sustainability performance with sustainability reporting quality as a mediating variable. Audit committee characteristics are proxied by audit committee independence and audit committee expertise, while sustainability performance is measured using the Bloomberg ESG Score (BESG). This research was conducted on manufacturing companies listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX) for the 2021-2024 period. The sample was selected using a purposive sampling method, resulting in 144 firm-year observations. The analytical method employed was panel data regression using the Fixed Effect Model (FEM) approach.*

*The results show that audit committee independence and audit committee expertise do not have a significant effect on sustainability performance and sustainability reporting quality. In contrast, sustainability reporting quality has a positive and significant effect on sustainability performance. Meanwhile, sustainability reporting quality is unable to mediate the effect of audit committee independence and audit committee expertise on sustainability performance.*

*This study indicates that audit committee independence and audit committee expertise have not been sufficiently effective in improving sustainability reporting quality and corporate sustainability performance substantively. On the other hand, high quality sustainability reporting can enhance the credibility of ESG information and support the improvement of sustainability performance.*

*Keywords: audit committee characteristics, audit committee independence, audit committee expertise, sustainability reporting quality, sustainability performance.*

