

DIGITAL ACCOUNTING DEVELOPMENT: INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE AND LESSONS FOR VIETNAM**Nguyen Thi Thu Hien¹,**¹Thai Nguyen University of Economics and Business Administration, Vietnam**Ma Thị Thu Thuy²**²Thai Nguyen University of Technology, Vietnam**Summary**

Digital accounting refers to the application of information technology to traditional accounting processes, aiming to automate, streamline, and enhance transparency in accounting activities. This is an inevitable trend in the context of the 4th Industrial Revolution, bringing many benefits to enterprises and the economy in general. Many countries around the world have taken the lead in developing digital accounting, with effective models and solutions. This article summarizes the experiences of several advanced countries worldwide and draws lessons for Vietnam in developing digital accounting.

Keywords:

Digital accounting, experience, international, lessons, Vietnam.

1. Introduction

In the current context, digital transformation is not only a trend but also a necessary leap to adapt to the changing modern world. In the accounting field, applying digital technology has revolutionized the industry, bringing undeniable benefits to enterprises, from enhancing work efficiency to improving financial transparency and control. This is especially true in the context where the 4th Industrial Revolution is having a strong and comprehensive impact on all aspects of life and work. Looking at the achievements and challenges of leading countries in developing digital accounting, we realize that it is not just a matter of technology but also deeply relates to policies, organizational culture, and social awareness. In this context, Vietnam, a country in a promising digital transformation phase, faces great opportunities and equal challenges. Learning from international experiences and applying these lessons to practice is not only necessary but also mandatory to achieve sustainable development and optimize the benefits of digital accounting for the economy and society. This creates a need to study and discuss international experiences in developing digital accounting and how Vietnam can apply them to practice, opening a new door for the country's progress and development.

2. The necessity of applying digital accounting in Vietnam in the current context

Applying digital accounting in Vietnam at the present time is extremely necessary and urgent. This is driven by various factors, including technological advancements, the need for transparency and accuracy in financial management, as well as changes in the global business environment.

One of the leading reasons is the modernity and convenience that digital accounting brings. By using accounting software and digital technologies, enterprises can optimize the accounting process, from data entry to data analysis. This not only enhances work efficiency but also minimizes errors. Digital accounting also helps reduce errors and fraud in financial management. Automating processes and records creates a transparent and auditable system. Storing data on an electronic platform also supports monitoring and enhances transparency.

Furthermore, applying digital accounting also helps improve transparency and accountability. Creating accurate and understandable financial reports enhances the accountability of enterprises and stakeholders. This not only builds trust from partners and investors but also contributes to a transparent and efficient business environment. Adopting digital accounting is also a way to adapt to global trends. In an increasingly connected world, adapting and applying digital accounting helps Vietnamese enterprises enhance competitiveness in the international market. It also builds confidence from international partners and investors, promoting the country's economic development.

Finally, applying digital accounting contributes to the sustainable development of the economy. Collecting and analyzing digital accounting data provides essential information for strategic decisions and long-term development of enterprises. This not only helps enterprises enhance competitiveness but also contributes to the sustainable development of the entire economy.

3. Experiences of some countries in developing digital accounting

3.1. Experience of the United States

The experience of the United States in developing digital accounting is one of the bright spots in the global accounting industry. The U.S. is not only a pioneer in applying technology to accounting but also a destination that many other countries look to and learn from. Here are the key factors that the U.S. has applied to develop digital accounting:

- Development of accounting software

The U.S. has led in developing world-leading accounting software such as QuickBooks, Intuit, and Xero. These companies not only provide powerful accounting tools but also create comprehensive financial solutions for businesses of all sizes. U.S. accounting software is designed with flexibility and ease of use, helping businesses manage their finances more effectively, from tracking costs to creating and managing invoices.

- Online financial services

The U.S. is one of the advanced countries in applying online financial services. From internet banking to electronic payments, U.S. businesses have many options to optimize their accounting and financial management processes. The prevalence of online financial services in the U.S. not only saves time and costs but also enhances transparency and accuracy in financial management.

- Accounting standards and financial transparency

The U.S. has established high accounting standards and transparency in financial reporting, helping to create a reliable business environment and attract investment. U.S. accounting standards, such as Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), have been widely adopted not only domestically but also globally.

- Legal system and supportive policies

The U.S. has a legal system and policies that support the development of digital accounting, including providing credit packages and encouraging investment in technology and product development. Supportive policies from the government and financial regulatory agencies help create an environment that fosters innovation and development in the digital accounting industry.

In summary, the U.S. experience in developing digital accounting is a great source of inspiration for other countries, including Vietnam, in applying technology to financial management and creating a transparent and efficient business environment.

3.2. Experience of the United Kingdom

The experience of the United Kingdom in developing digital accounting is a clear example of pioneering and successful transition from traditional accounting to digital accounting. The UK has implemented strategies and specific measures to create an enabling environment for applying technology to accounting and financial management. In the area of policy and law, the UK government has led in introducing supportive policies and encouraging digital transformation. Providing credit packages and legal support has facilitated businesses to apply technology to financial management. At the same time, the development and prevalence of world-leading accounting software such as Sage, Xero, and IRIS have helped businesses manage their finances more effectively.

The UK has also invested significantly in training and capacity building for the digital accounting workforce. Specialized training programs and courses related to digital accounting have been widely organized, helping workers master new technologies and apply them to their daily work. The UK's transparent and fair legal system has also played an important role in the development of digital accounting. Accounting and financial reporting standards in the UK are built on the principles of transparency and respect for accuracy. This helps create a reliable business environment and attract investment. Finally, the UK is also one of the pioneering countries in implementing electronic invoicing. The transition from paper invoices to electronic invoices not only saves time and costs but also reduces errors and fraud. All of these experiences from the UK can be a valuable source of inspiration for many other countries,

including Vietnam, in applying technology to financial management and creating a transparent and efficient business environment.

3.3. Singapore's experience in developing digital accounting

Singapore is a leading country in applying digital technology to various sectors, including accounting. Thanks to effective support policies, advanced infrastructure, and a highly skilled workforce, Singapore has achieved remarkable achievements in developing digital accounting, bringing many benefits to businesses and the economy. Here are some notable experiences of Singapore in developing digital accounting:

- Comprehensive national strategy:

The Singapore government has issued a national strategy for the development of digital accounting, clearly identifying goals, roadmaps, and specific solutions. This strategy focuses on applying advanced technologies such as cloud computing, artificial intelligence, big data, etc. to accounting processes to improve efficiency, transparency, and cost savings.

- Business support:

The Singapore government provides many support programs for businesses in adopting digital accounting, including financial support, workforce training, solution implementation consulting... Relevant agencies also regularly organize seminars and conferences to share experiences and update the latest trends in digital accounting.

- Development of technology infrastructure:

Singapore has invested heavily in developing technology infrastructure, including high-speed internet networks, cloud computing platforms, and cybersecurity solutions. This ensures that businesses can easily and securely access and use digital accounting services.

- Raising awareness:

The Singapore government has implemented programs to raise awareness of businesses and citizens about the benefits of digital accounting. Universities and colleges also focus on training a workforce with expertise in digital accounting.

- International cooperation:

Singapore actively participates in international cooperation in digital accounting, sharing experiences and learning from advanced countries. The country also participates in international agreements on accounting standards and electronic data exchange. Thanks to the above experiences, Singapore has achieved great success in developing digital accounting. Singaporean businesses have widely adopted digital accounting solutions, helping to improve operational efficiency, reduce costs, and enhance competitiveness. Singapore's experience can be a valuable reference for Vietnam in developing digital accounting, contributing to the advancement of the digital economy.

4. Lessons Learned for Developing Digital Accounting in Vietnam

The lessons learned from international experiences in developing digital accounting provide valuable guidance for Vietnam in promoting and advancing this field. Here are some important lessons that can be applied to enhance digital accounting in Vietnam:

First, invest in training a professional workforce

Workforce training is a determining factor for the success of any program related to technology and digital accounting. Vietnam needs to invest heavily in providing in-depth training programs on digital accounting, including practical courses and training certifications. These courses should focus on using the latest accounting technologies and applying them in practice.

Second, build and promote a supportive legal system and policies

A supportive legal system and policies are essential for creating an enabling environment for the development of digital accounting. Vietnam needs to update and improve legal regulations related to the use of technology in accounting and financial management. In addition, there need to be incentive policies and support for businesses to adopt new technologies, including financial and tax support.

Third, encourage public-private cooperation

Cooperation between public and private organizations can create significant benefits for the development of digital accounting in Vietnam. The government can cooperate with businesses and social organizations to create

IJETRM

International Journal of Engineering Technology Research & Management

training programs, research, and technology development. Additionally, sharing information and experiences between public and private organizations can also help enhance understanding and application capabilities of businesses.

Fourth, facilitate conditions for businesses

To promote the adoption of digital accounting, it is necessary to create favorable conditions for businesses. The government can provide financial packages and support for investing in new technologies, as well as creating tax policies and incentives to encourage digital transformation. Furthermore, it is necessary to create a transparent and accessible business environment for businesses to effectively implement their digital accounting development projects.

Fifth, continue to raise awareness and education

Continuing to raise awareness and education about the benefits and opportunities of digital accounting is crucial. The government and relevant organizations need to cooperate to create educational and informational programs, from seminars to advertising campaigns and training curricula. This will help enhance public and business understanding and acceptance of digital accounting, while encouraging transformation and development.

CONCLUSION

In summary, applying lessons from international experiences to the development of digital accounting in Vietnam is an important and necessary step to bring the country's economy into a new, modern, and competitive phase in the international arena. These lessons are not only a source of inspiration but also specific guidance to promote the development of businesses and the entire economy in the digital age. Vietnam can learn from and apply successful strategies that have been tested and proven in other countries such as the United States, the United Kingdom, and Singapore. Investing in a professional workforce, building a supportive legal system and policies, encouraging public-private cooperation, facilitating conditions for businesses, and raising awareness and education are fundamental and important steps to take Vietnam further along the path of digital accounting development. Adopting digital accounting is not only to optimize business processes and financial management but also to build a transparent, efficient, and competitive business environment. In doing so, it not only helps enhance business development but also contributes to the sustainable development of the economy, creating new opportunities for progress and prosperity for the country. This is one of the most important factors in ensuring Vietnam's steady progress on the path of development in the 21st century.

References:

1. Daugherty, P. R., Wilson, H. J. (2018), *Human machine: reimagining work in the age of AI*, USA: Harvard Business Press.
2. Fernandez, D., Aman, A. (2018). Impacts of Robotic Process Automation on Global Accounting Services. *Asian Journal of Accounting and Governance*.
3. Forbes (2018), *The digital transformation of accounting and finance*:
4. Kokina, J., Blanchette, S. (2019), Early evidence of digital labor in accounting: Innovation with robotic process automation, *International Journal of Accounting Information Systems*.
5. Kruskopf, S., Lobbas. C., Meinander. H., Söderling. K., Martikainen. M., Lehner. O. (2020), Digital accounting and human factors: theory and practices, *ACRN Journal of Financial and Risk Perspectives*.
6. Nguyen Duc Xuan et al. (2023), Digital transformation in accounting of enterprises in Vietnam, *Journal of Industry and Trade*.
7. Nguyen Thi Thu (2023), Some solutions to improve the Vietnamese accounting system in the context of the 4.0 Industrial Revolution, *Journal of Industry and Trade*.
8. Pham Thi Mong Tuyen (2022), The necessity of applying digital accounting in Vietnamese enterprises, *Journal of Finance*.