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**THE EFFECTS OF SYSTEMATIC RISKS ON BANK
ASSET QUALITY: EVIDENCE FROM ORGANISATION
OF THE PETROLEUM EXPORTING COUNTRIES
(OPEC)**



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UUM
Universiti Utara Malaysia

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
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By

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**Thesis Submitted to
School of Economics, Finance and Banking,
Universiti Utara Malaysia,
in Fulfilment of the Requirement for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

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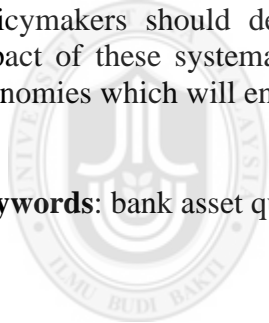


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ABSTRACT

The global position of Non-Performing Loans (NPLs) is persistent and on the rise which indicates a global deterioration of bank asset quality. The problem is more pronounced among the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) whose ratio of NPLs is on the verge of the banking crisis. The objective of this study is to investigate the effects of the prevalence of systematic risk factors in the OPEC countries on the deterioration of their bank asset quality. In achieving this objective, the study employed the panel data set of the entire OPEC countries spanning 1996-2015. Further, to account for NPL persistence, the study employed Pooled Mean Group (PMG) model in its estimations. The findings reveal that an increase in oil price improves bank asset quality which signifies that a rise in oil price inversely affects NPLs. On the other hand, a rise in the level of corruption increases the level of NPLs which indicates that corruption positively affects NPLs. Further, an increase in the level of political instability deteriorates the level of bank asset quality which means that an increase in the level of political instability positively affects NPLs. Additionally, the result reveals that an increase in environmental risks raises the level of NPLs which denotes that an increase in the occurrence of environmental risk positively affects NPLs. Overall, the findings imply that the prevalence of systematic risks in OPEC countries adversely affect bank asset quality and are key to financial stability. Consequently, the results imply that policymakers should design appropriate prudential policies that will curtail the impact of these systematic risks on bank asset quality and diversification of their economies which will ensure sustainable financial stability amongst OPEC countries.

Keywords: bank asset quality, OPEC, panel data, PMG, systematic risks



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ABSTRAK

Kedudukan berterusan dan semakin meningkatnya Pinjaman Tidak Berbayar (NPL) di peringkat antarabangsa menunjukkan kemerosotan *global* kualiti aset bank. Masalah ini lebih menekan dalam kalangan Pertubuhan Negara Pengeksport Petroleum (OPEC) yang nisbah NPL berada di ambang krisis perbankan. Objektif kajian ini adalah untuk meneliti kesan-kesan faktor risiko sistematik di negara-negara OPEC terhadap kemerosotan kualiti aset bank mereka. Dalam mencapai matlamat ini, kajian ini menggunakan set data panel bagi keseluruhan negara-negara OPEC sepanjang tempoh 1996-2015. Tambahan pula, bagi menjelaskan keberterusan NPL, kajian ini menggunakan model *Pooled Mean Group* (PMG) untuk membuat anggaran. Keputusan menunjukkan bahawa kenaikan harga minyak meningkatkan kualiti aset bank yang menandakan bahawa kenaikan harga minyak menyumbang kepada NPL. Sebaliknya, peningkatan tahap rasuah meningkatkan tahap NPL yang menunjukkan bahawa rasuah mempengaruhi NPL secara positif. Selanjutnya, peningkatan tahap ketidakstabilan politik melemahkan tahap kualiti aset bank yang bermaksud bahawa peningkatan ketidakstabilan politik mempengaruhi NPL secara positif. Selain itu, kajian turut mempamerkan bahawa peningkatan risiko alam sekitar meningkatkan tahap NPL yang menunjukkan bahawa peningkatan risiko alam sekitar memberi kesan positif kepada NPL. Keseluruhannya, penemuan ini menyimpulkan bahawa kelaziman risiko sistematik di negara-negara OPEC menjejaskan kualiti aset bank dan merupakan kunci kepada kestabilan kewangan. Hasil kajian ini turut menyimpulkan bahawa pembuat dasar perlu merangka dasar berhemah yang sesuai yang akan mengurangkan kesan risiko sistematik terhadap kualiti aset bank dan kepelbagaian ekonomi mereka demi memastikan kestabilan kewangan yang mapan dalam kalangan negara-negara OPEC.

Kata kunci: kualiti aset bank, OPEC, data panel, PMG, risiko sistematik

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE PAGE	i
CERTIFICATION OF THESIS WORK	ii
PERMISSION TO USE	iv
ABSTRACT	v
ABSTRAK	vi
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	vii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	viii
LIST OF TABLES	xi
LIST OF FIGURES	xii
LIST OF APPENDICES	xiii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xiv
CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background to the Study	1
1.2 Problem Statement	24
1.3 Research Questions	32
1.4 Research Objectives	33
1.5 Significance of the Study	34
1.6 Scope of the Study	36
1.7 Organisation of the Thesis	37
CHAPTER TWO AN OVERVIEW OF OPEC MEMBER STATES	40
2.1 Introduction	40
2.2 Brief History of OPEC Economy	41
2.3 Overview of OPEC Countries' Economic, Financial and Oil Activities	42
2.4 Overview of Systemic Risks in OPEC Member Countries	58
2.5 Justification for the Choice of OPEC for the Study	62
CHAPTER THREE LITERATURE REVIEW	65
3.1 Introduction	65
3.2 Review of the related literature	65
3.2.1 Conceptual and Theoretical Review	65

3.2.1.1	Concept of Non-Performing Loans in Banking	66
3.2.1.2	Classifications of Non-Performing Loans	68
3.2.1.3	Effects of Non-Performing Loans	70
3.2.1.4	Underpinning Theories	73
3.2.2	Empirical Review of Literature	89
3.2.2.1	Independent Variables and Non-Performing Loans	89
3.2.2.2	Global Financial Crisis and Non-Performing Loans	143
3.2.2.3	Control Variables and Non-Performing Loans	146
3.3	Gaps in the Literature	166
3.4	Chapter Summary	169
 CHAPTER FOUR RESEARCH METHODOLOGY		170
4.1	Introduction	170
4.2	Conceptual Framework	171
4.3	Research Framework	172
4.4	Research Hypotheses Development	175
4.5	Model Specification	181
4.6	Measurement of Variables	182
4.6.1	Measurement of Dependent Variable	182
4.6.2	Measurements of Independent Variables	183
4.7	Data Description	193
4.8	Population and Sample Size	193
4.9	Unit of Analysis	194
4.10	Tool of Technical Analysis	195
4.10.1	Testing for Integration	195
4.10.2	Test for Long Run Relationship	196
4.11	Chapter Summary	200
 CHAPTER FIVE RESULTS AND DISCUSSION		201
5.1	Introduction	201
5.2	Descriptive Analysis	201
5.2.1	Descriptive Statistics	203
5.2.2	Correlation and Multicollinearity Analysis	206
5.3	Inferential Statistics	209

5.3.1	Panel Unit Root	209
5.3.2	Pooled Mean Group (PMG)	210
5.3.3	Estimation Results and Discussion	211
5.3.3.1	Lag Length Selection	211
5.3.3.2	Homogeneity of Variance	212
5.4	Sensitivity/Robustness Analysis	221
5.4.1	Model Selection Criteria	222
5.4.2	Diagnostics Test	228
5.5	Hypothesis Testing	231
5.5.1	Oil Price Changes and Non-Performing Loans	231
5.5.2	Corruption and Non-Performing Loans	232
5.5.3	Political Instability and Non-Performing Loans	233
5.5.4	Environmental Risks and Non-Performing Loans	233
5.7	Chapter Summary	235
CHAPTER SIX CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS		237
6.1	Introduction	237
6.2	Summary of Findings	237
6.3	Policy Implication of the Findings	240
6.4	Limitations of the Study	249
6.5	Recommendations for Future Research	250
6.6	Contributions of the Study	253
6.7	Conclusion	254
REFERENCES		256
Appendix A		285
Appendix B		286
Appendix C		287
Appendix D		288
Appendix E		291
Appendix F		294
Appendix G		295

LIST OF TABLES

Table		
Table 2.1	Key Indicators of OPEC Countries' Economic, Financial and Oil Activities	43
Table 4.1	Summary of the Definition of Variables	192
Table 4.2	OPEC Member States	194
Table 5.1	Summary of Descriptive Statistics	202
Table 5.2	Correlation and Multicollinearity Analysis	207
Table 5.3	Panel Unit Root Test	210
Table 5.4	MG and PMG Lag Length Selection	212
Table 5.5	Pooled Estimate of ARDL (1,1,1,1,1,1): Dependent Variable: NPLs for OPEC Countries	213
Table 5.6	Static Panel Model: Dependent Variable: NPLs for the OPEC Member States	224
Table 5.7	Diagnostics Tests	229
Table 5.8	Multicollinearity Test: Variance Inflation Factor	230
Table 5.9	Summary of Objectives and Results of Tested Hypotheses	235



LIST OF FIGURES

Figure		
Figure 1.1	Total Assets of Banks and Total Customers' Deposits of OPEC Member Countries	4
Figure 1.2	Gross Loans and Total Equity of OPEC Member Countries	6
Figure 1.3	Global NPL Ratios Average NPL Ratios of OPEC Member States	10
Figure 1.4	Average NPL Ratios of OPEC, G7, G8, BRICS and Global NPLs	12
Figure 1.5	OPEC Basket Prices Spanning 2000-2015	18
Figure 4.1	Research Framework	173
Figure 5.1	Residual vs. Fitted Value Plot	230



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LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix

Appendix A	OPEC Member States' TI Corruption Perception Index Corruption Perception Index	285
Appendix B	OPEC Member States' Political Instability Index US State Department Political-Terror Scale and Ranking	286
Appendix C	OPEC member States' Major Environmental Disasters EM-DAT: The CRED/OFDA International Disasters Epidemiology	287
Appendix D	Pooled Estimate of ARDL (1,1,1,1,1,1): Mean Group: NPLs for OPEC Countries Pooled Estimate of ARDL (1,1,1,1,1,1): Pooled Mean Group: NPLs for OPEC Countries Pooled Estimate of ARDL (1,1,1,1,1,1): Dynamic Fixed Effect: NPLs for OPEC Countries	288
Appendix E	Static Panel Model: Pooled OLS: NPLs for OPEC Member States Static Panel Model: Fixed Effect: NPLs for OPEC Member States Static Panel Model: Random Effect: NPLs for OPEC Member State	291
Appendix F	Total Assets and Liabilities of Banks of OPEC member states	294
Appendix G	Average NPL Ratios of Global, OPEC, G7, G8 and BRICS	295

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Full Meaning
ADF	Augmented Dickey-Fuller
AIC	Akaike Information Criterion
AR	Autoregressive
ARDL	Autoregressive Distributed Lag
BA	Banque D'Algeria
BRICS	Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa
BACP	Business Anti-Corruption Portal
BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
BE	Banco del Ecuador
BNA	Banco Nacional de Angola
BOS	Brent Oil Spot
CBI	Central Bank of Iran
CBIQ	Central Bank of Iraq
CBK	Central Bank of Kuwait
CBL	Central Bank of Libya
CBN	Central Bank of Nigeria
CBUAE	Central Bank of United Arab Emirate
CI	Corruption Index
CIA	Central Intelligence Agency
CORR	Corruption
CPI	Corruption Perception Index
CRED	Centre for Research on Epidemiology of Disasters
DL	Doubtful Loan
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EDF	Expected Default Frequency
ER	Environmental Risks
EU	European Union
EFCC	Economic and Financial Crimes Commission
FAVAR	Factor Augmented Vector Autoregressive
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FE	Fixed Effect
FER	Flexible Exchange Rate
FSI	Financial Soundness Indicators
GARCH	Generalised Autoregressive Conditional Heteroskedasticity
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
GDFS	Global Development Finance System
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GFC	Global Financial Crisis
GFSR	Global Financial Stability Report
GIPSI	Greece, Ireland, Portugal, Spain and Italy
GMM	Generalised Method of Moments
GVAR	Global Vector Autoregressive
IAGS	Institute for the Analysis of Global Securities
IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standard
IFS	International Financial Statistics
IGO	Intergovernmental Organisation

IMF	International Monetary Funds
IPS	Im, Pesaran and Shin
ISIS	Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham
LIR	Lending Interest Rate
LL	Loss Loan
LM	Lagrange Multiplier
LNG	Liquedified Natural Gas
MG	Mean Group
MLL	Maximum Log Likelihood
MS	Markov-switching
MS-ARCH	Markov-switching ARCH
MW	Maddala and Wu
MWALD	Modified WALD Test
NIDS	National Insurance Deposit Schemes
NOC	Net Oil Consuming
NOP	Net Oil Producing
NPL	Non-Performing Loan
OBS	OPEC Basket Price
OECD	Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development
OLS	Ordinary Least Squares
OP	Oil Price
OPEC	Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries
ORB	OPEC Reference Basket
PIP	Polity IV Project
PI	Political Instability
PMG	Pool Mean Group
PII	Political Instability Index
PSAVTI	Political Stability and Absence of Violence /Terrorism Index
PTS	Political Terror Scale
QCB	Qatar Central Bank
RDGP	Real Gross Domestic Products
RE	Random Effect
RER	Real Exchange Rate
RVF	Residual Value Fitted
SAMA	Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency
SBC	Schwarz Bayesian Criteria
SL	Substandard Loan
TGARCH	Threshold GARCH
TI	Transparency International
UNEMP	Unemployment
UUM	Universiti Utara Malaysia
USD	United States Dollars
VAR	Vector Autoregression
VECM	Vector Error Correction Model
VIF	Variance Inflation Factor
VS	Versus
WDIs	World Development Indicators
WGI	Worldwide Governance Indicators
WSJ	Wall Street Journal
WTI	West Texas Intermediate

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The financial system is an integral part of any economy that facilitates economic growth and development of every nation state. Further, financial institutions are the bedrock of economic development of any nation that stimulus the allocation of resources across space and time (Levine, 2005). Economies around the world organise their financial activities on certain parameters that are in consonance with their individual nations' needs or based on certain opportunities or threats which they are confronted with, perhaps because of their internal strengths or weaknesses. In most cases, these financial systems are compositions of financial institutions, financial markets and financial regulators (see, for example, Madura, 2014; Mishkin & Eakins, 2012). Depending on the political-economy of a country the financial institutions may consist of finance companies, banks, insurance companies, mutual fund, pension funds, and stock exchanges.

However, these financial institutions and markets operate in a business environment, which is an interrelationship of many societal factors that shape and determine their activities. This business environment is made up of economic, political, environmental (ecological), technological, social and legal factors that affect and shape the activities of the financial institutions and markets.

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Appendix A

Table 1.3
OPEC Member States' TI Corruption Perception Index
Corruption Perception Index

Year	ALGERIA	ANGOLA	ECUADOR	IRAN	IRAQ	KUWAIT	LIBYA	NIGERIA	QATAR	S/ARABIA	UAE	VENEZUELA
2000	NA	1.7	2.6	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.2	NA	NA	NA	2.7
2001	NA	NA	2.3	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	NA	NA	NA	2.8
2002	NA	1.7	2.2	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.6	NA	NA	NA	2.5
2003	2.6	1.8	2.2	3	2.2	5.3	2.1	1.4	5.6	4.5	5.2	2.4
2004	2.7	2	2.4	2.9	2.1	4.6	2.5	1.6	5.2	3.4	6.1	2.3
2005	2.8	2	2.5	2.9	2.2	4.7	2.5	1.9	5.9	3.4	6.2	2.3
2006	3.1	2.2	2.3	2.7	1.9	4.8	2.7	2.2	6	3.3	6.2	2.3
2007	3	2.2	2.1	2.5	1.5	4.3	2.5	2.2	6	3.4	5.7	2
2008	3.2	1.9	2	2.3	1.3	4.3	2.6	2.7	6.5	3.5	5.9	1.9
2009	2.8	1.9	2.2	1.8	1.5	4.1	2.5	2.5	7	4.3	6.5	1.9
2010	2.9	1.9	2.5	2.2	1.5	4.5	2.2	2.4	7.7	4.7	6.3	2
2011	2.9	2	2.7	2.7	1.8	4.6	2	2.4	7.2	4.4	6.8	1.9
2012	34	22	32	28	18	44	21	27	68	44	68	19
2013	36	23	35	25	16	43	15	25	68	46	69	20
2014	36	19	33	27	16	44	18	27	69	49	70	19

Source: Transparency International (2015)

Appendix B

Table 1.4

OPEC Member States' Political Instability Index
US State Department Political-Terror Scale and Ranking

Year	ALGERIA	ANGOLA	ECUADOR	IRAN	IRAQ	KUWAIT	LIBYA	NIGERIA	QATAR	S/ARABIA	UAE	VENEZUELA
2000	4	5	3	3	5	1	3	3	1	3	1	3
2001	4	4	3	3	5	1	3	4	1	3	2	3
2002	4	4	3	3	5	2	3	4	1	3	2	4
2003	4	4	3	3	5	2	3	4	1	3	2	3
2004	4	4	3	3	5	2	3	4	1	3	2	3
2005	4	4	3	3	5	2	3	4	1	3	2	3
2006	4	3	3	3	5	2	3	4	1	3	2	4
2007	3	4	3	3	5	2	3	3	2	3	2	4
2008	3	3	3	3	5	2	3	4	1	3	2	4
2009	2	4	3	4	4	2	3	4	1	4	1	4
2010	3	3	2	3	4	2	3	5	1	3	2	3
2011	3	3	3	3	3	2	5	4	1	3	2	3
2012	2	3	3	3	4	2	4	4	1	3	2	4
2013	2	3	2	3	5	2	4	4	2	3	3	3
2014	3	3	2	3	5	2	4	5	2	3	3	4

Source: The Political Terror scale (2015)

Appendix C

Table 1.5

OPEC member States' Major Environmental Disasters

EM-DAT: The CRED/OFDA International Disasters Epidemiology

Year	ALGERIA	ANGOLA	ECUADOR	IRAN	IRAQ	KUWAIT	LIBYA	NIGERIA	QATAR	S/ARABIA	UAE	VENEZUELA
2000	6	14	7	16	1		1	54		4		2
2001	1	12	4	19				44		2	1	2
2002	9	3	9	24			2	38		5	1	2
2003	12	4	4	19	3	1		23		6		3
2004	9	8		17	3		2	25		2	1	4
2005	6	2		23	3			32		2		9
2006	4	4	4	12	5			22		3		1
2007	7	5	3	6	3			20		3		1
2008	3	6	2	13	3		1	15		2	1	4
2009	6	6	2	6	2	1	1	12	1	1		2
2010	2	3	7	10	3		1	11		2	1	3
2011	1	5	2	5	1		1	13		2		5
2012	3	2	4	8	1		1	11	1	3		2
2013		2	5	6	1		3	11		2	1	1
2014	4	1	5	4			9	9	1	1	1	

Source: EM-DAT-Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (2015)

Appendix D

Table A1

Pooled Estimate of ARDL (1,1,1,1,1,1): Mean Group: NPLs for OPEC Countries

Variables	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-stat	Prob. Value	95% Conf. Interval	
OP	1.350186	1.387445	0.97	0.330	-1.369156	4.069528
CORR	9.95931	4.72412	2.11	0.024	-16.33893	96.25754
PIS	5.8119	3.15195	1.84	0.076	-28.76437	140.3882
ERS	-.5870548	1.078531	-0.54	0.586	-2.700936	1.526826
RGDP	-4.581622	0.581622	-7.87	0.000	-4.398193	13.56144
UNEMP	25.99688	24.76539	1.05	0.294	-22.5424	74.53615
Speed of Adj.	-.6517094	.2948404	-2.21	0.027	-1.229586	-.0738329

Table A2*Pooled Estimate of ARDL (1,1,1,1,1,1): Pooled Mean Group: NPLs for OPEC Countries*

Variables	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-stat	Prob. Value	95% Conf. Interval	
OP	-.0196904	.0063031	-3.12	0.002	-.0320443	-.0073364
CORR	4.492702	.9073558	4.95	0.000	2.714317	6.271087
PIS	4.276017	.8024085	5.33	0.000	2.703325	5.848709
ERS	.1744239	.0607458	2.87	0.004	.0553644	.2934835
RGDP	-4.089691	.9735577	-4.20	0.000	-5.997829	-2.181553
UNEMP	.249103	.0861685	2.89	0.004	.0802159	.4179902
Speed of Adj.	-.4678951	.1812658	-2.58	0.010	-.8231696	-.1126205

Table A3*Pooled Estimate of ARDL (1,1,1,1,1,1): Dynamic Fixed Effect: NPLs for OPEC Countries*

Variables	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-stat	Prob. Value	95% Conf. Interval	
OP	.1170435	.2278736	0.51	0.608	-.3295806	.5636676
CORR	-22.20999	21.12722	-1.05	0.293	-63.61859	19.1986
PIS	-4.425497	11.43852	-0.39	0.699	-26.84459	17.99359
ERS	.7428581	1.277382	0.58	0.561	1.760765	3.246481
RGDP	40.01993	28.37915	1.41	0.158	15.60218	95.64204
UNEMP	-.3221543	1.809064	-0.18	0.859	-3.867854	3.223546
Speed of Adj.	-.2011697	.052498	-3.83	0.000	-.3040638	-.0982755

Appendix E

Table B1

Static Panel Model: Pooled OLS: NPLs for OPEC Member States

Variables	Coefficient	Std. Error.	t-stat	Prob> t 	95% Conf. Interval	
OP	-1.908997	.6174873	-3.09	0.004	-3.170074	-.6479193
CORR	2.850602	1.013195	2.81	0.009	.7813825	4.919821
PIS	2.007778	.9681731	2.07	0.047	3.985052	-.0305053
ERS	-.0968959	.3600678	-0.27	0.790	-.8322524	.6384607
RER	-1.039404	.9156386	-1.14	0.265	-2.909388	.830579
RGDP	-.441077	.8439357	-0.52	0.605	-2.164624	1.28247
LIR	-2.34756	1.116433	-2.10	0.044	-4.627621	-.0674984
INF	2.123405	.9541383	2.23	0.034	.174795	4.072016
UNEMP	-1.181169	1.044535	-1.13	0.267	-3.314395	.9520564
CONS	16.70586	7.345995	2.27	0.030	1.703341	31.70839

Table B2*Static Panel Model: Fixed Effect: NPLs for OPEC Member States*

Variables	Coefficient	Std. Error.	t-stat	Prob> t 	95% Conf. Interval	
OP	-1.906311	.5542309	-3.44	0.002	-3.043499	-.7691232
CORR	4.172629	1.278972	3.26	0.003	1.548396	6.796863
PIS	3.20318	.8510897	3.76	0.001	-4.949472	-1.456889
ERS	.299915	.1345291	2.23	0.033	-1.071261	.4714306
RER	-1.178005	.8512924	-1.38	0.178	-2.924713	.5687025
RGDP	-1.046278	1.148223	-0.91	0.370	-3.402236	1.30968
LIR	-3.189375	.9337393	-3.42	0.002	-5.10525	-1.2735
INF	1.926914	.8057014	2.39	0.024	.2737516	3.580077
UNEMP	.8369624	1.074839	0.78	0.443	-1.368424	3.042349
CONS	16.35046	7.8498	2.08	0.047	.2440035	32.45692

Table B3*Static Panel Model: Random Effect: NPLs for OPEC Member States*

Variables	Coefficient	Std. Error.	t-stat	Prob> t 	95% Conf. Interval	
OP	-1.908997	.6174873	-3.09	0.002	-3.11925	-.6987438
CORR	2.850602	1.013195	2.81	0.005	.864777	4.836427
PIS	2.007778	.9681731	2.07	0.038	3.905363	.1101942
ERS	-.0968959	.3600678	-0.27	0.788	-.8026158	.6088241
RER	-1.039404	.9156386	-1.14	0.256	-2.834023	.7552142
RGDP	-.441077	.8439357	-0.52	0.601	-2.095161	1.213007
LIR	-2.34756	1.116433	-2.10	0.035	-4.535729	-.1593903
INF	2.123405	.9541383	2.23	0.026	.2533287	3.993482
UNEMP	-1.181169	1.044535	-1.13	0.258	-3.228421	.8660823
CONS	16.70586	7.345995	2.27	0.023	2.307979	31.10375

Appendix F

Table 1.1 Total Assets and Liabilities of Banks of OPEC member states

Years	Total Assets	Total Customers Deposits	Gross Loans	Total Equity
2000	587.00	336.00	214.00	70.13
2001	534.00	301.00	187.00	72.20
2002	595.00	329.00	224.00	83.02
2003	664.05	358.00	256.01	82.11
2004	860.47	474.04	340.01	121.52
2005	1196.00	652.10	437.38	166.59
2006	1479.00	886.00	566.58	185.36
2007	2084.00	1221.00	808.97	232.04
2008	2439.00	1472.00	1002.00	243.55
2009	2480.00	1506.00	983.00	267.09
2010	2738.00	1646.00	1052.00	288.00
2011	3027.00	1802.00	1208.00	340.00
2012	3652.00	2214.00	1437.00	368.00
2013	3864.00	2224.00	1411.00	382.00
2014	3577.00	2186.00	1401.98	318.27

Appendix G

Table 1.2 Average NPL Ratios of Global, OPEC, G7, G8 AND BRICS

Year	OPEC	G7	BRICS	G8	GLOBAL
2000	9.99	2.05	12.22	2.06	na
2001	8.74	2.37	11.99	2.28	na
2002	8.36	3.14	12.19	2.99	na
2003	6.99	2.74	11.19	2.60	na
2004	5.82	1.95	6.96	1.89	na
2005	5.56	1.69	4.67	1.62	na
2006	4.31	1.26	4.72	1.29	3.10
2007	4.43	1.36	4.17	1.40	2.70
2008	5.75	1.98	3.94	2.07	3.00
2009	8.19	2.64	5.33	3.10	4.20
2010	6.29	2.47	5.08	2.96	4.10
2011	8.00	2.59	11.78	2.76	4.00
2012	8.94	2.19	4.01	2.30	3.80
2013	8.31	1.99	4.16	2.16	4.20
2014	8.00	1.84	4.00	2.07	4.20