

Business Decisions

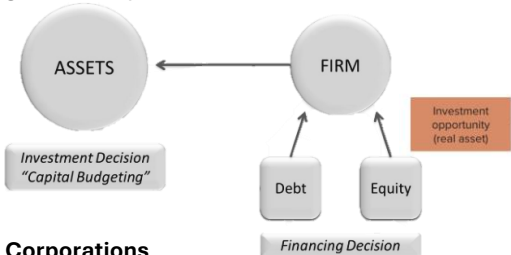
Capital Budgeting / Investment / CAPEX Decision
- Decision to invest in tangible or intangible assets

Financing Decision: Decision on the sources and amounts of financing

Capital Structure: The mix of long-term debt and equity financing

Real Assets: Assets used to produce goods and services

Financial Assets: Financial claims to the income generated by the firm's real assets



Corporations

LLP/LLC: no double taxation, lose at most what you invest, but harder to set up. Owners not personally liable for obligations

Double taxation: corporate tax on EBIT, then PIT on issued dividend

Professional Corporations: corporation with limited liability, but professionals can be sued for malpractice

requires agreement across all shareholders, difficult to issue new shares

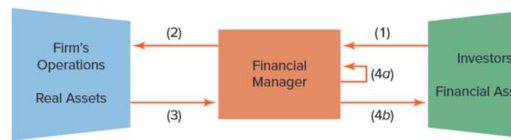
	Sole proprietorship	Partnership	Corporation
Ownership	Manager	Partners	Stockholder
Manager-owner separation	No	No	Usually
Owner's liability	Unlimited	Unlimited	Limited
Owner/biz taxed separately?	No (PIT only)	No (PIT only)	Yes

Financial Manager

CFO: financial policy, corporate planning

Treasurer: cash management, raising of capital, banking relationships

Controller: preparation of financial statements, accounting, taxes



Goals of Corporation

Shareholders desire wealth maximization
- Maximize current market value of shareholder's investment in the firm

Cannot maximise profits

- which year's profits?

- Earning manipulation

Opportunity cost of capital

- The minimum acceptable rate of return on capital investment is set by the investment opportunities available to shareholders in financial markets

Agency Problem

Agency cost: value lost from, or from mitigating

Executive Compensation

- Fixed base salary + additional compensation

- Stock options

Corporate governance

- The laws, regulations, institutions, and corporate practices that protect shareholders and other investors

Elements of good

corporate governance:

- Legal requirements

- Board of directors

- Activist shareholders

- Takeovers

- Information for investors

Accounting and reporting standards

Short selling: Borrowing security, selling, and buying at lower price

Corporate raiders: Restructuring to earn greater shares, but causes job losses

Tax avoidance: Voluntarily Paying more/less tax and effect on dividends

(1) Cash raised from investors

(2) Cash invested in firm

(3) Cash generated by operations

(4) Cash reinvested

(5) Dividend

Platforms

Linear Value Chain:

- Design, Manufacture, Sell, Deliver

Platform Structure:

Producers --> Platform <-- Consumers

Advantages

- no gatekeepers to manage flow

- new sources of value/supply (sharing economy optimizes use of idle assets)

- Community feedback loops

Network Effects

Economies of scale

Price Effects: elasticity

Brand effects

Scaling is important

Positive Same side

- more users, better

Negative same-side

- competition

- too much friction / network collapse

Positive cross-side (2-sided)

- As one side increases, the other benefits

Negative cross-side (2-sided)

- Matching problems / clutter

Monetisation

- charging consumption lowers consumption

- charging production lowers creation

- charging can also reduce negative network effects by avoiding clutter/competition

- freemium model

Whom to Charge?

- charging all users (as vetting), can cause

negative networks

- charging on, subsidise the others

- subsidise some

- price discrimination

- avoid changing what used to be free

Pipeline Model

1. Liquidity

Users: active users/total users

Growth: new active / total active

2. Matching Quality

Interaction rate vs long-term activity

3. Trust

How much users trust the platform

Metrics (Consumer)

Commitment:

- Time between interactions

- Percentage of active users etc.

Outcome based metrics

(e.g. number of bookings)

Content creation metrics

- Consumer relevance

(positive response listings %)

Co-creation (listings% with +ve response)

Market access regardless of complete interaction e.g. reservations

Metrics (Producer)

- Interaction failure

- Interaction fraud

- Retention, churn rates

Ability to adapt to needs/changes in env

Types of Platforms

- (Idle asset hunting)

- Innovation platform (Apple ecosystem)

- Transactional (A – platform – B)

- Orthogonal Platforms

(client as a target) e.g. websites w ad providers

- Orthogonal Platforms

(client as a source) e.g. data mining

Value company created for shareholders as % of E == % net capital contributed by shareholders = MVA / E

When firms buy back their own shares from investors, the repurchase reduces the book value of shareholder's equity

GAAP/Book/Mkt values

- Book Values: according to balance sheet and backward-looking

- Market Values: according to resale in market and forward-looking

- Equity and asset “market values” > “book values” (book value of equity is cash that shareholders have contributed plus cash retained and reinvested by company)

- Short-term liability “market values” close to “book values”

- Long-term liability “market value” > / < “book values” (depends on interest rate)

Depreciation

- “Profits” subtract depreciation (a non-cash expense)

- “Profits” ignore cash expenditures on new capital (the expense is capitalized)

Taxation

- Loss last year may be carried forward to offset up to 80% of current income

- Interest not corporate taxable

- Ave tax rate = T / TI

- Marginal tax rate = tax bracket

Shareholder Value

How much value has been generated? Market value added Market-to-book ratio

Investment

How profitable? Economic value added (EVA) Returns on capital, assets, and equity

Financing

How can the firm safely finance future growth? Prudent financial leverage? Debt ratios Interest coverage ratios

Sufficient liquidity for the coming year? Current, quick, and cash ratios

Efficient use of assets? Turnover ratios for assets, inventory, and receivables

Profits from sales? Operating profit margin

