

Publication Trends Related to Social Capital and Governance: Bibliometric Analysis

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Systematic Review

Keywords: Social Capital, Network governance, Good governance, Collaborative governance, Vosviewer, Research gap

Posted Date: October 4th, 2021

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-933363/v2>

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Abstract

This article analyzes the trend of publications related to social capital with governance. This study used bibliometric analysis with the data source coming from the research database, called Scopus. The analytical tool used was Vosviewer analysis software. Vosviewer assisted the process of determining the calculated weights and selection of relevant published documents. The findings of this study indicated that the concept of social capital was to analyze proper governance systems by assessing aspects of networking, collaboration, and trust in the relationship between the private sector, the community, and the government. Several new topics in research publications have been experiencing a reasonably good trend that is rarely studied, including conflict resolution and co-management. These two themes are relatively new, especially in social capital. In addition to these themes, general themes in research publications were found, including coastal protection, environmental, climate change, and network governance. These themes are rarely published but still considered important in influencing other research publication trends to date. The contribution of this research is deemed critical to the development of research on social capital with governance systems. A bibliometric analysis approach in this study can influence subsequent studies in compiling and shaping the contribution position.

1 Introduction

The study of social capital has been widely adopted in various studies such as social, cultural, religious, and political issues. *Social capital* is a study known through the writings of Bourdieu, Putnam, Coleman, and Fukuyama ^[1] ^[2]. Bourdieu defined *social capital* as a potential resource characterized by networks, relationships, and institutions ^[3]. Meanwhile, Coleman introduced social capital to understand social action's theoretical orientation by linking the components from a sociological and economic perspective ^[4]. Social capital is also considered a necessary prerequisite for creating proper and effective governance ^[5]. Furthermore, Fukuyama said that prosperity and democracy, and society's competitiveness are determined by trust in the community. The concept of trust is used to assess the level of social capital ^[6] ^[7].

Social capital in the governance study has been positively associated with the idea of development to sustain and foster a participatory and adaptive form of government through government collaboration ^[8] ^[9]. In addition, the study of social capital related to governance issues becomes crucial because policies are determined by the government or related authorities. It dramatically affects the quality of networks, social trust, and the cooperative attitude of the community towards government policies ^[10]. So far, many studies on social capital have been carried out, including issues of social life, economy, public health, and civic participation ^[11] ^[12]. However, there is still slight variation in research publications, especially on issues of governance. This situation makes literature study or literature review critical, especially in the bibliometric analysis ^[13] ^[14]. Systematic tracing in this methodology also contributes to how the design in a study will be carried out.

Analysis in the bibliometric analysis is needed to compile and form a contribution position in research. A bibliometric study functions to review scientific literature and publication sources and increase accuracy, reducing researcher bias in literature reviews or publication documents^[15]. Bibliometric analysis is considered to influence the attitudes and interests of researchers in determining the design of future research^[16]. There are also other reviewing aspects in the bibliometric analysis, including thematic changes, writers or researchers, and productive institutions that have a role in developing research studies^[17]. In addition, the bibliometric analysis can form models and research collaborations globally^[18]. This tendency makes bibliometric analysis important, especially in research with a more relevant approach.

The purpose of this study is to try to fill in the shortcomings of previous studies by conducting a bibliometric analysis approach to the existing problems, specifically about global literature trends related to social capital and issues of governance. In line with that, two questions are formulated in this paper: (a) how does the contribution of authors, documents, and publication sources affect publication documents on social capital with the study of global governance? How to shape the contribution position by looking at research and publication trends globally? The answers to these two questions allow finding solutions to improve future research interests, trends, and results, specifically related to the study of social capital in governance issues.

2 Method

This study used data sources from the Scopus database file using the Publish or Perish search tool. Meanwhile, there were no restrictions on researchers or authors, geography, and specific journals searching for publication articles related to social capital and governance. Filtering articles was done by determining the publication year, from 2012 to 2021 or the last ten years. Filtering could also be based on title and keywords, focusing on literature searches related to social capital and governance.

In the filtering process, 104 publications were found to be the most relevant. Data extraction was done by ensuring that all data met the requirements. After the screening process, the results of this data extraction can be seen in the amount that still meets the requirements for further analysis. The data collected was imported and continued by maximizing the analysis process on features in Vosviewer. Bibliometric analysis using Vosviewer aimed to identify published literature in the Scopus database. Several identifications and analyses looked at the authorship by an author with documents, publication trends, and literature topics in research or publications related to the study of social capital and governance.

3 Result

The data details presented in this section include Authorship, Publication source, and clusterization based on thematic. The results contribute to the analysis process in the study of social capital with governance issues.

3.1 Authorship

Figure 1 shows that from a total of 104 publication documents. Only 14 authors have a minimum number of more than two documents. Meanwhile, Secco, as the author, has the highest number of publications with five papers.

3.2 Number of citations by author and document source

Table 1. Number of citations by author and document

Cites	Authors	Title
116	Bernstein, Lisa (2015)	Beyond relational contracts: Social capital and network governance in procurement contracts
109	Ruben & Heras (2012)	Social capital, governance, and performance of Ethiopian coffee cooperatives
96	Nunkoo (2017)	Governance and sustainable tourism: What is the role of trust, power, and social capital?
95	Numerato & Baglioni (2012)	The dark side of social capital: An ethnography of sport governance
90	Borg et al. (2015)	Social capital and governance: A social network analysis of forest biodiversity collaboration in Central Finland
89	Cheshire et al. (2015)	Community resilience, social capital, and territorial governance
75	Fredette & Bradshaw (2012)	Social capital and nonprofit governance effectiveness
66	Crona et al. (2017)	The Importance of Interplay Between Leadership and Social Capital in Shaping Outcomes of Rights-Based Fisheries Governance
65	Lee & Kim (2014)	Active citizen e-participation in local governance: Do individual social capital and e-participation management matter?
64	Westerink et al. (2017)	Landscape services as boundary concept in landscape governance: Building social capital in collaboration and adapting the landscape
63	Nenadovic & Epstein (2016)	The relationship of social capital and fishers' participation in multi-level governance arrangements

Update 18/August/2021

Table 1 shows that from 104 publication documents, there are only 11 publications with a minimum number of 63 citations. The publication document or article with the highest number of citations is *Beyond Relational Contracts: Social Capital and Network Governance in Procurement Contracts*. Bernstein wrote the manuscript, and 116 citations have been cited. The document is also considered to have influenced other publications.

Table 2. Number of citations by document source

Source	Type	Cites
Journal of Legal Analysis	Article	116
Annals of Public and Cooperative Economics	Article	109
Journal of Destination Marketing and Management	Article	96
International Review for the Sociology of Sport	Article	95
Forest Policy and Economics	Article	90
Ager	Article	88
Nonprofit Management and Leadership	Article	75
World Development	Article	66
Proceedings of the Annual Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences	Conference Paper	65
Land Use Policy	Article	64
Environmental Science and Policy	Article	63

Update 18/August/2021

Table 2 shows that several publication sources contribute to the study of social capital with governance. The publication source with a more dominant contribution is the Journal of Legal Analysis, with the highest number of citations being 116.

3.3 Research focus and thematic trends in the study of social capital and governance

From 2012-2021, publications have contributed to several topics or discussions related to social capital in governance studies.

Figure 2 shows several topics or themes that connect the study of social capital and governance. The issues are displayed based on the calculated weight. The items are generally studied in the 2012-2021 timeframe. Items with yellow (light) color are themes that have been widely published. Meanwhile, items with dark colors such as themes on leadership, environmental governance, network governance, conflict resolution, co-management, and others are themes that are still quite a bit published.

Figure 3 shows that since 2012-2021, the trend of publications has continued to develop, especially in the availability of topics that previously had not been widely discussed. The yellow clusters are the dominant topics or themes that are currently being studied and published. The topic is co-management and conflict resolution. These two topics are publication themes that are relatively recently studied and are currently experiencing a publication trend, especially in analyzing social capital with governance. These topics have become topics of considerable interest to journals and publishers.

4 Discussion

This analysis found several kinds of literature or published documents related to the study of social capital with governance. Several relevant studies have been selected from 2012-2021, and 104 publication documents were found. There is a reasonably positive publication trend to develop the concept of social capital into the study of governance. The publication documents consider the author's involvement and the number of citations in each paper. A high number of citations is categorized as an index of quality and impact of study results [20]. A high number of citations from a published document

means if the document contributes enough and influences other published papers and affects the spread of topics or themes in building the next research publication trend.

Several research topics or themes are trending in publications related to studies on social capital with governance. These themes include conflict resolution and Co-Management. These two themes are relatively new in the study of social capital with governance. On the theme of conflict resolution, social capital is used to develop collective governance by exploring the components of social capital such as trust, cooperation, social network cohesion, leadership roles, and interactions among various stakeholders ^[19] ^[20]. As for the co-management theme, it tries to integrate a community-based governance system and the government. It tends to see the division or distribution of responsibilities and authorities between the government and local communities in managing resources. Social capital in this theme is to measure the level of community participation to be actively involved ^[21]. In addition to these trending themes, research themes that have been rarely studied but still considered essential and relevant include coastal protection, environmental, climate change, and other topics, including network governance.

The theme of networks in studies related to social capital with governance is still considered important enough to expand and promote sustainable development ^[22] ^[23]. Social capital by strengthening networks is deemed capable of producing long-term and more cooperative relationships ^[24]. A network also initiates trust between the community and the government ^[25]. In addition to networking, the concept of social capital has studied collaboration between communities in supporting good governance, especially in practice. This statement has also contributed to strengthening the formal and informal government networks ^[26] ^[27]. Social capital makes a positive contribution to a better governance system. It also depends on the interests and trends of future research and the role of researchers in exploring social capital in different cases.

5 Conclusion

Based on the trend in the arguments above, bibliometric analysis of research documents and publications is an essential aspect of seeing the contribution of research while maintaining research trends in developing new concepts and sharpening analysis on other topics, mainly social capital in good governance analysis. Analysis with a bibliometric approach is also considered capable of influencing subsequent studies, taking into account trends and trends in research themes in published documents. The findings also confirmed that the concept of social capital could enable a proper governance system, emphasizing aspects, networks, collaboration, and trust.

Declarations

Competing Interests: The authors declare no competing interests.

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Figures

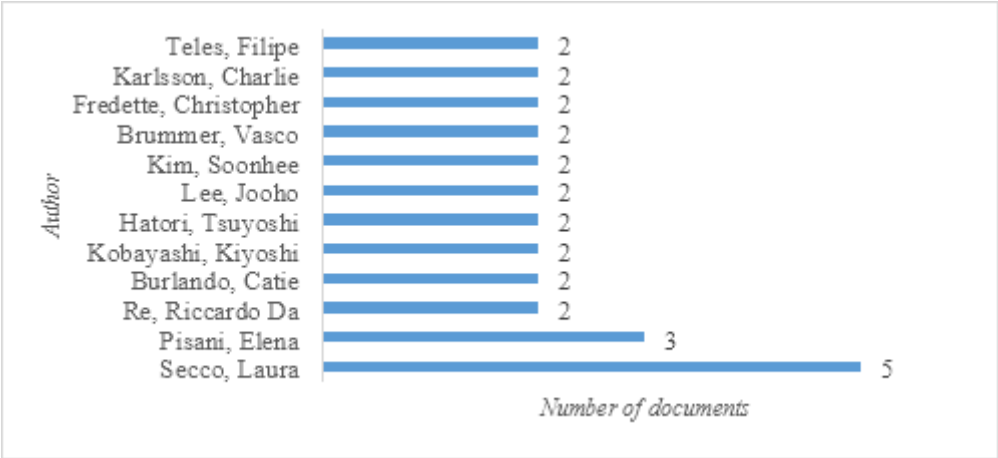


Figure 1

Number of authors with at least two publication documents from 2012-2021

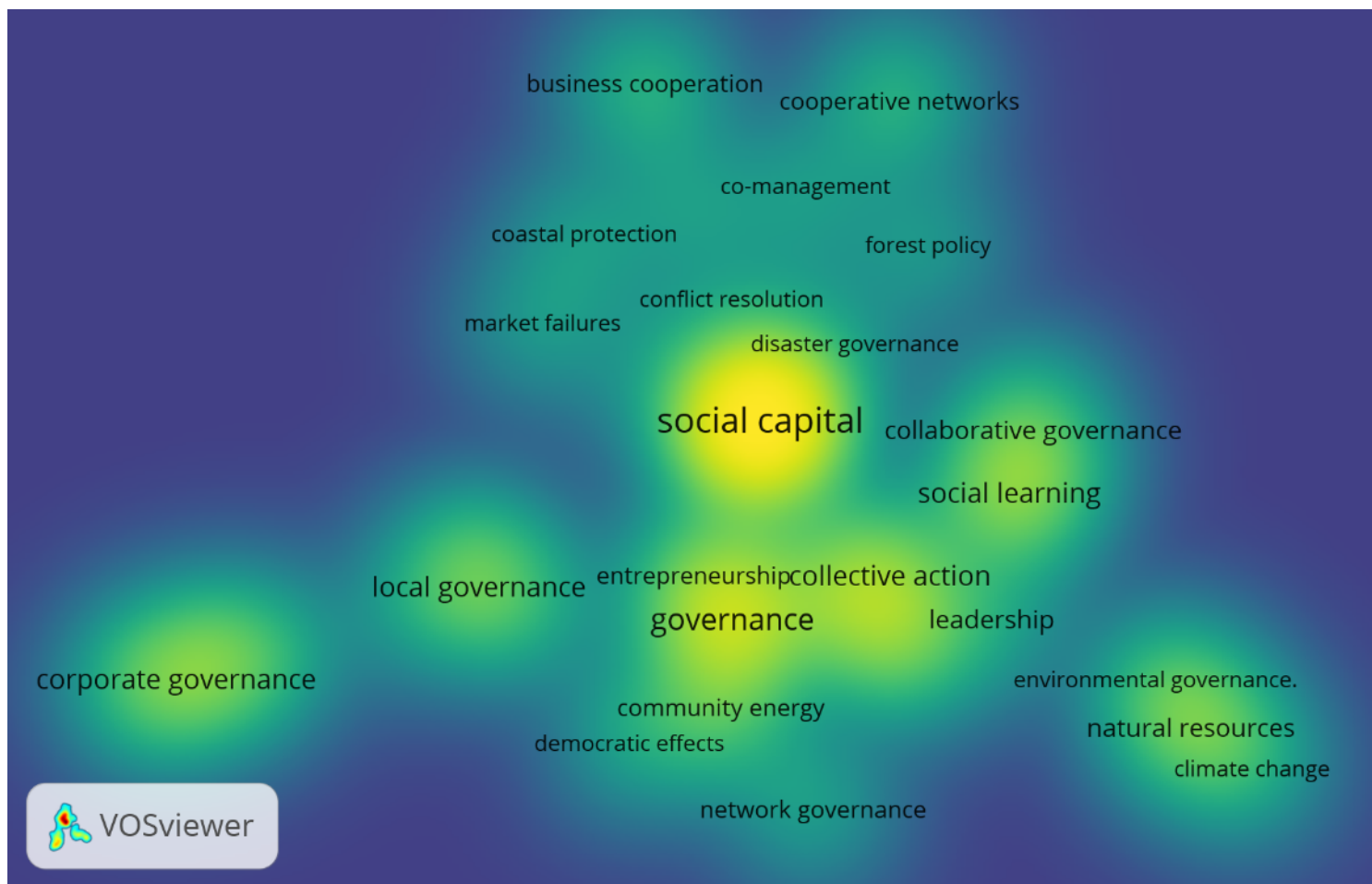


Figure 2

Dominant and non-dominant themes in publications on social capital and governance

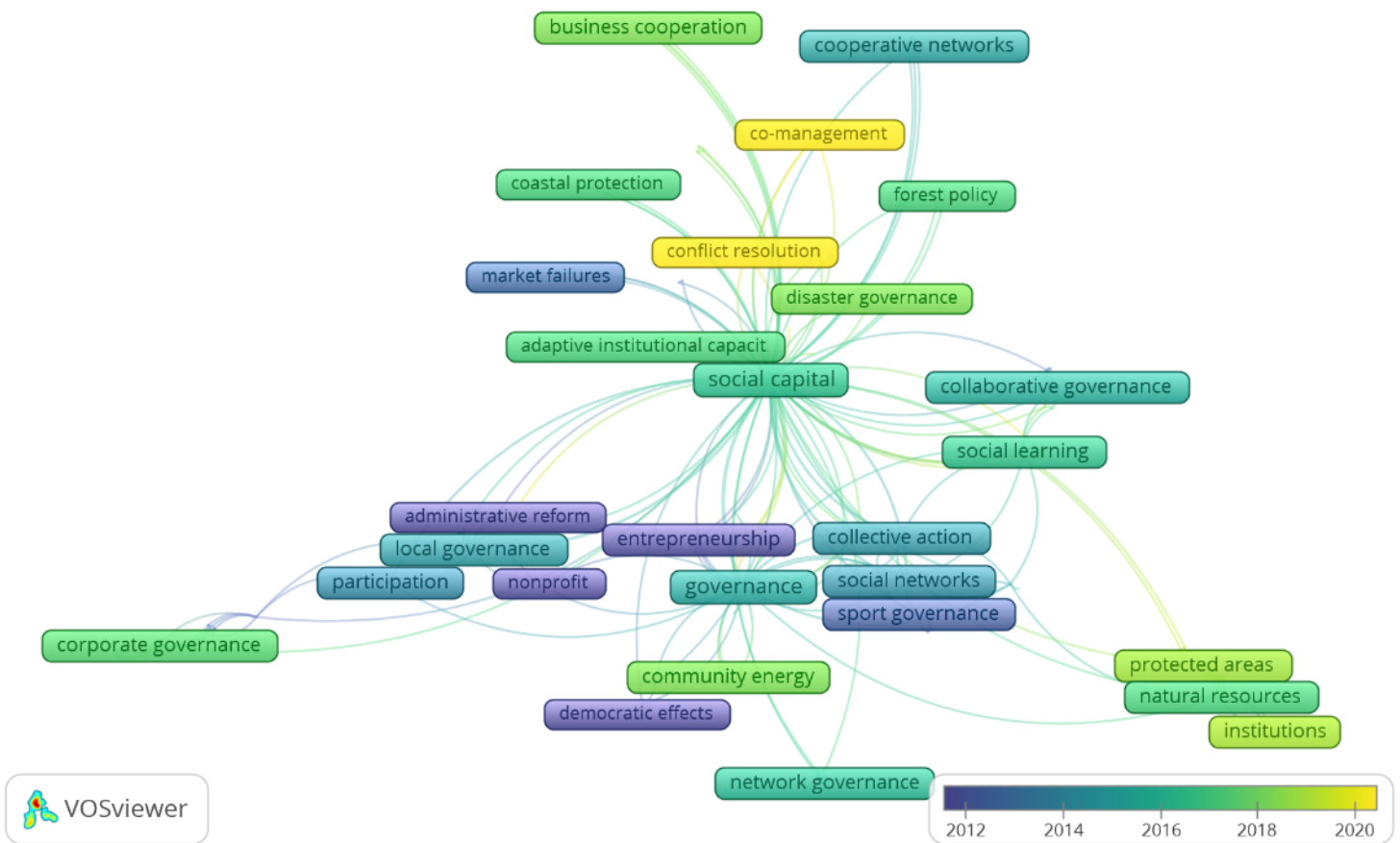


Figure 3

Trends in publication themes per year related to social capital and governance