

**Bibliometric Analysis of Social Entrepreneurship Emerging Trends 2010~2024****Abida Perveen*, Nur Sa`adah Muhamad**

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ABSTRACT

The phenomenon of social entrepreneurship represents a unique way to respond to and mitigate the complexities of social problems in today's world. The current work focuses on examining the impact of research on social entrepreneurship through bibliometric analysis, with the hope of understanding the role and value social entrepreneurship can play in relieving the prevailing problems in research and inspiring the future of research in this area. The analysis employs the capabilities of Bibliomegika for graphical visualization and bibliographic analysis to examine 2010 to 2024 published literature on social entrepreneurship. The investigation highlights the following conclusions of the bibliometric analysis: (1) the trends gaining popularity include social innovation, sustainability and the SDGs, value creation, entrepreneurial pedagogy, and social capital, (2) the social entrepreneurship research stream remains the core focus of influential themes, and (3) the advancement of the discipline owes to a few prolific authors. There are strong research trends on social entrepreneurship, and the phenomenon continues to attract new and diverse inquiries. The current work, therefore, demonstrates the potential social entrepreneurship offers to research and to the advancement of the discipline for the purpose of providing a stimulating environment to foster research in the field.

Keywords: Social Entrepreneurship; Social Innovation; Entrepreneurship; sustainable development; Sustainable Development Goals

1. INTRODUCTION

The concept of social entrepreneurship gained popularity recognition and gained attention among scholars and practitioners alike. Social entrepreneurship refers to an entrepreneurial activity with social objectives as its targeted mission (Austin, Stevenson, and Wei-Skillern 2006). The study of entrepreneurship as an academic discipline starts in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Social entrepreneurship as a concept started with the multiple theories and frameworks of entrepreneurship that incorporated the ideas of business' social value (Roger L. Martin & Sally Osberg 2007). The study of entrepreneurship contains several branches and streams that focus on the integration of social value with economic impact (Littlewood and Holt 2018). Out of these, social entrepreneurship has developed into a novel approach to respond to the intricacies of contemporary problems (Satar et al. 2023). Social entrepreneurs, as documented in literature, hold growing significance as change agents to resolve acute problems in society (Coronel-Pangol et al. 2023). Light (2011) . Light (2011) notes that social entrepreneurs are distinct, as within the business world, they focus on establishing positive social innovations, and social value. Social entrepreneurs respond to social problems and have the zeal to create positive social change. Through social enterprisers, social entrepreneurs create new products that solve social challenges impacting specific communities and the world (Littlewood and Holt 2018). Viewed from an academic angle, social entrepreneurship allows for the exploration and integration of new concepts from conventional management and business domains, which in turn, broadens the scope of entrepreneurial cognition.

Growing numbers of systematic bibliometric studies analysing the literature and research on social entrepreneurship between 2010 and 2024 still leaves much to be desired. Social entrepreneurs often have deeply personal missions and are driven by the desire to tackle challenges in the social domain, dealing with issues such as income and inequity, healthcare, and the social fabric of communities (Yesmin, Aliya, Umar Haiyat Abdul Kohar, FarihaAnjum Hira 2021). While traditional entrepreneurship is geared towards individual financial gain (Bygrave 2000), social entrepreneurship is concerned with the attainment of social value and the dimensions of sustainable development and environmental advocacy (Bornstein & Davis, 2010; Dees, 1998; Mair & Marti, 2006). Saebi et al. (2019) evaluate the literature and note there are definitional issues and challenges pertaining to ambiguity of the concept.

Social entrepreneurship review studies have aimed to consolidate research streams associated with the field, which suggests the need for restructuring, as there is still considerable fragmentation (Klarin and Suseno 2023).

This lays out an important reason for doing this research. Readings have been done and findings derived from a broad and diverse continuum of journals. Even with previous readings done, grasping the major trends and major themes in the area continues to remain problematic. For this study, Microsoft Excel 2023, Bibliomegika Open Refine, Vosviewer (van Eck and Waltman 2010), and Biblioshiny (Cuccurullo 2017) have been used to study and render the social entrepreneurship research landscape. These instruments have helped to collect the major trends, thematic groupings, and aspects of the field's evolution. While global review studies have contributed knowledge in varied contexts, a glaring research consolidation deficit exists concerning social innovation, the Sustainable Development Goals, social value creation, entrepreneurial education, and social networks. The study's purpose is to evaluate the research's overall value and impact in the field, the level of scholarly engagement in the noted areas, and the imbalances of the themes in the existing literature.

This study uses bibliometric analysis, which is becoming more common in different fields, to analyse 766 publications from the Years 2010 to 2024 contributing to the history of social entrepreneurship. At a time when qualitative research is yielding a great deal of fragmented and sometimes contradictory material, bibliometric analysis is useful for research stream development. With the help of this qualitative study, more advanced important themes within social entrepreneurship research and the distribution of patterns across the discipline have been documented. Drawing from bibliometric studies in social entrepreneurship, this study offers a more coherent account of how the domain has changed over time. Based on a bibliometric analysis of the prior literature on social entrepreneurship, this paper contributes a description of primary bibliometric statistics through a specific analysis of the results. Several recent studies have managed to formalize critical trends of social Innovation, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), social value creation, entrepreneurship, education, and social network. Such efforts are indicative of the developmental process of the field. Bibliometric analysis, therefore, as a powerful machine-human knowledge processing technique, proves its capability to control and process a huge number of exchanged materials, which can be useful for understanding the existing and emerging challenges and opportunities in the sphere of social entrepreneurship research.

As Silveira pointed out, bibliometric analysis is a useful approach to determining the core elements of a stream of qualitative research. To do the analysis, we used the Open Refine software called "bibliometrix," developed by (Cuccurullo 2017). A conceptual map was employed to locate specific keywords to help define research areas and to assist in reviewing indexed articles. It also helped identify the most productive geographic areas that are contributing to the field. Therefore, based on these analyses, the following research questions were derived to fill the gaps that were observed in the trends (Zupic and Čater 2015). This research seeks to address the following questions:

Q1: What are the key trends and thematic clusters in academic literature in the domain of social entrepreneurship from 2010 to 2024?

Q2: What key issues related to scientific publications in the field of social entrepreneurship are still unknown?

Q3: What directions might this field of study pursue? This bibliometric analysis's objective is to.

- 1) Author Analysis: Assess the number of authors relative to each publication to determine the major contributors in a keyword research area.
- 2) Citation Network Analysis: Examine the citation networks corresponding to the research area to identify relationships between the papers and pivotal works.
- 3) Country-Specific Analysis: Evaluate the research output, impact of citations, and network analysis of each country's scholarly output.

This study is structured as follows. The next section outlines the approaches and the processes used to gather data for the study. The third section presents an integrated and evaluative approach to the findings and discusses, in

depth, the most important of the findings and the corresponding data analysis. The fourth section presents the main conclusions, discusses the implications, both theoretical and practical, suggests possible future research, and addresses the limitations of the study. The last section offers a brief overview of the entire study.

2. METHODOLOGY

Trends on research pertaining to entrepreneurship in the curriculum will be used to recommend future research goals through a proposed bibliometric analysis. This will allow for the mapping of the scientific literature. Detecting patterns within a discipline or field of study and observing the significance and output of countries, journals, and authors is the focus of bibliometric analysis (Srisusilawati et al. 2021) (Khan et al., 2025). This denotes the establishment of eligibility criteria, the search technique, the information sources, and data processing, as further elaborated below.

2.1 Source of information.

This study uses the Scopus database, which is described as the biggest as well as most comprehensive database that contains a large collection of scientific documents of various specializations (Abbas et al. 2020a, 2020b). Bibliometric counting for research performance, output, communication, and citation is possible at the journal level in Scopus (Falagas et al., 2008) (Jabeen et al., 2025). Moreover, the library of Scopus, containing scientific articles is much more extensive than the libraries of other databases (Falagas, M. E., Pitsouni, E. I., Malietzis, G. A. 2008; Mishra and Jena 2017) . Search tools have been enhanced within this database which allows users to filter results by subject area to make certain the results returned are reliable.

2.2 Search strategy

The Scopus database is explored using the two search terms 'social entrepreneurship' and 'social businesses' based on the three research questions. Two principal methods of selecting the key terms are suggested by (Chen and Xiao 2016): (1) the application of the top-tier publications keywords and (2) the combination of a broad field-related keyword with a sub-field keyword, encompassing the micro to macro relationships.

This paper adopted the second approach and utilized the TITLE-ABS-KEY "social entrepreneurship" to conduct a comprehensive search across Scopus, resulting in 5,235 documents. All included publications were either original research or systematic reviews that underwent peer review and were published in Scopus from 2010 to 2024. This approach was designed to make certain that the study faithfully captured the recent developments and milestones in social entrepreneurship. To address geographic bias and promote consistency in analysis, the inclusion criteria centered on English-language documents. Other types of English-language published materials, such as books, book chapters, and conference papers, that did not fit within these criteria were excluded from the evaluation. During the review process, many unnecessary duplicate and irrelevant records, including systematic review records, non-English literature, conference proceedings, and out-of-scope literature, were discarded. In order to ensure the outcomes were accurate, valid, and reliable, a bibliometric analysis was performed using a systematic, stepwise method. The approach involved the basic steps outlined below:

Step 1. After conducting the initial search, the authors of this study meticulously screened the abstracts and the full content of each document to eliminate irrelevant ones. There are 766 articles in the final dataset. EID list contains relevant English-language documents, as the researchers are proficient in English and most documents in Scopus are published in English.

Step 2. Data collection was partially automated using open-source statistical packages which are Open Refine and Bibliomegika. During this phase, a CSV document was created to facilitate the collection and organization of the selected documents.

Step 3. RStudio, Biblioshiny, Vosviewer, and Bibliometrix, the web interface, are some of the tools used to generate co-citation networks which aids in advanced analyses and interpretations. A bibliometric study consists of diverse key bibliometric indicators and their metrics and offers a thorough analysis of the bibliometric results as well.

Step 4. The results of the study are analysed and visualized in a manner using the data reduction technique. The analysis was performed on multiple indicators and metrics, which are 1) Type of document, 2) Annual scientific production 3) Scientific sources, 4) Source growth trends, 5) Number of articles per author, 6) Author keywords, 7) Article citations, 8) Country-level research production, 9) Country-level citation impact, and 10) International collaboration networks.

3. FINDINGS

3.1. Examining Descriptive Bibliometric Measures

Table 1 of the Scopus database lists 766 articles covering the primary dataset. This research has examined a 15-year period that has seen significant growth in publications (Figure 1). Each article has about 2.75 authors. The descriptive bibliometric measures indicate an m-index of 5.067 and a collaboration index of 2.8 which shows the collaborative nature of the field. There are two distinct phases in the growth of publications on social entrepreneurship. For the period of 1994-1999, the growth was linear and incremental, then 2004-2008 the growth was exponential. There was a small drop during 2000-2004, but research in entrepreneurship started a new and sustained period of growth in 2010.

Table 1. Main information

Main Information	Data
Publication Years	2010 -2024
Total Publications	766
Sources	371
Keywords plus (ID)	749
Author keywords (DE)	2003
Authors	1786
Author of single-authored docs	124
Co-authored docs	135
Citable Year	15
Number of Contributing Authors	2108
Number of Cited Papers	692
Total Citations	26,387
Citation per Paper	34.45
Citation per Cited Paper	38.13
Citation per Year	1884.79
Citation per Author	12.52
Author per Paper	2.75
Citation sums within h-Core	23,174
h-index	76
g-index	138
m-index	5.06
Collaboration index	2.8

Source: Generated by the author(s) using Bibliomegika®

Refer to Figure 1, focusing on the yearly trends in social entrepreneurship publications. The period from 2010 to 2024 saw an exponential increase in the volume of publications, peaking at 17 papers in 2023. This increase is indicative of the burgeoning interest and activity in this domain academically.

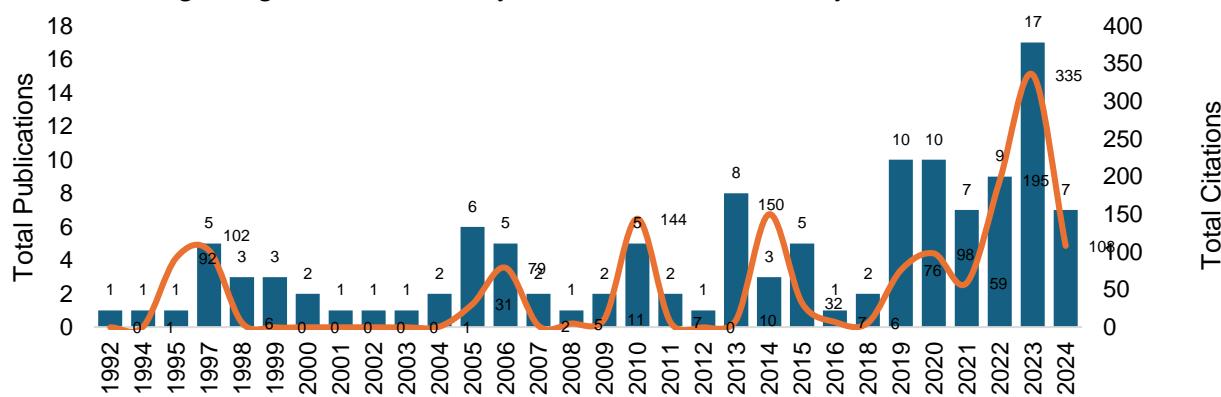


Figure 1. Yearly Overview of Global Publications and Their Citations

Analysis revealed a total of 766 journal articles. The range of articles shows there is no marked concentration across journals. However, there exists a notable concentration regarding the theme of “social entrepreneurship” (see Table 2). The data shows the Journal of Social Entrepreneurship as the most prolific publisher in this domain while other journals focus mostly on entrepreneurship and sustainability.

Table 1 most productive source

Source Title	TP	NCA	NCP	TC	C/P	C/CP	<i>h</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>m</i>
Journal of Social Entrepreneurship	57	145	57	2437	42.75	42.75	22	48	1.467
Sustainability (Switzerland)	28	92	26	552	19.71	21.23	15	23	1.364
Journal of Business Ethics	18	36	17	2556	142.00	150.35	13	18	0.867
Journal of Business Research	16	49	16	1859	116.19	116.19	16	16	1.333
Entrepreneurship and Regional Development	15	35	15	1656	110.40	110.40	13	15	0.867
International Journal of Entrepreneurship and Small Business	14	33	14	292	20.86	20.86	9	14	0.750
Volantes	13	35	13	287	22.08	22.08	11	13	0.786
Social Enterprise Journal	12	36	12	192	16.00	16.00	6	12	0.462
Technological Forecasting and Social Change	11	31	11	637	57.91	57.91	10	11	1.250
International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behaviour and Research	10	31	10	484	48.40	48.40	9	10	0.818
Academy of Entrepreneurship Journal	7	25	6	21	3.00	3.50	3	4	0.429
Journal of Entrepreneurship	7	16	7	163	23.29	23.29	5	7	0.333
International Entrepreneurship and Management Journal	7	22	7	205	29.29	29.29	5	7	0.556
International Journal of Entrepreneurship	7	13	4	51	7.29	12.75	3	7	0.231
Frontiers in Psychology	6	23	6	115	19.17	19.17	5	6	1.000
Journal of Cleaner Production	6	20	6	512	85.33	85.33	6	6	0.667
Strategic Entrepreneurship Journal	6	17	6	543	90.50	90.50	5	6	0.417
Journal of Enterprising Communities	6	16	5	116	19.33	23.20	5	6	0.357
Administrative Sciences	5	14	5	53	10.60	10.60	3	5	0.750
Event Management	5	9	5	15	3.00	3.00	2	3	1.000

Note: TP=total number of publications; NCA=number of contributing authors; NCP=number of cited publications; TC=total citations; C/P=average citations per publication; C/CP=average citations per cited publication; *h*=*h*-index; *g*=*g*-index; *m*=*m*-index.

Source: Generated by the author(s) using Bibliomegika®

Table 2 illustrates an increase in publications, highlighting journals that adequately address the subject and related topics. The years 2010–2024 show a significant growth in the published articles regarding this theme, which reflects an increase in scholarly interest and activity.

3.2. AUTHORS

This part summarizes the most referenced scholars in the field of ‘social entrepreneurship’ alongside their total citation count and the keywords they often use. The top 10 scholars by their contributions to the field are seen in Table 3. From these scholars, Jose Carlos and Yanto Chandra have the most publications, with eight each, followed by Bruno and Yanto Chandra with seven, Philip with six, and Anne de Bruin with five. The first researchers in this field have built a deep understanding and have considerable experience, which they have continued to develop over the years. While some scholars have worked alone in their publications, the majority of the research output in this field has been the result of collaborative work with co-authors.

Table 3: Authors' Productivity

Authors	Articles	Articles Fractionalized
Jose Carlos Vazquez-Parra	8	2.42
Yanti Chandra	8	3.70
Bruno Sergi	7	2.83
Philips T Roundy	6	3.75
Anne De Bruin	5	2.08
Macro Cruz-Sandoval	5	1.50
Maria Soledad Ramirez-Montoya	5	2.00
Natalia-Kadol	5	4.00
Pablo Munoz	5	2.33
Vanessa Ratten	5	4.33

3.3. AUTHOR'S KEYWORDS

This part outlines the different aspects concerning the themes of social entrepreneurship. In social entrepreneurship research, scholars have employed different keywords, which helps shed light on the research focus determinants, pinpoint research gaps, and assist in the identification of under-researched areas. For this reason, keyword value should not be underrated. Table 4 displays keywords and their respective author frequencies. Keywords captured most frequently included Entrepreneur.

Nonetheless, entrepreneurship and the diffusion of social entrepreneurship do not elucidate the field's intricacies or furnish predictive knowledge. This study seeks to improve the conceptualization of social entrepreneurship by demonstrating the importance of knowledge production and dissemination. This includes emphasis on "social innovation", "sustainable development", "social value creation", and "entrepreneurship education", while also supporting the development of business innovation.

Table 4: Authors' keywords in social Entrepreneurship

Words	Occurrence
Entrepreneur	87
social entrepreneurship	36
Entrepreneurship	28
sustainable development	22
Human	19
Innovation	19
Sustainability	17
economic development	14
Male	14
Article	12
Education	8
strategic approach	9
social development	9
social network	8
Stakeholder	6
Government	6

The Tree Map illustrates the various combinations of keywords in the study and visually represents their distributions and frequencies. Understanding these keyword combinations and their significance within the context of the study helps identify and appreciate their importance in the research, as shown in Figure 3.

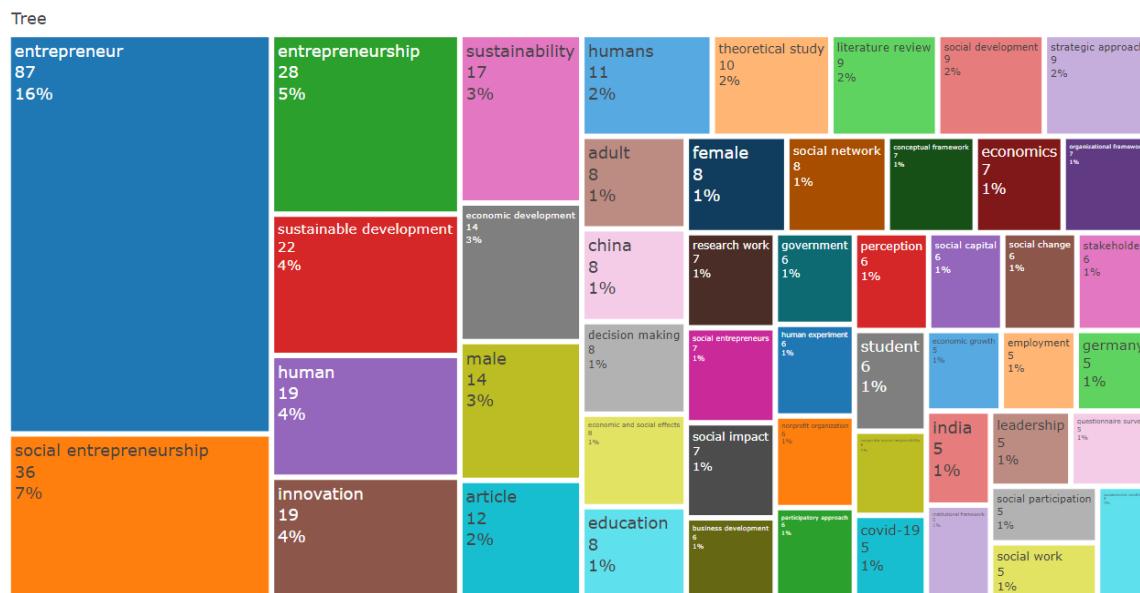


Figure 3 Word tree map

Along with this, the word cloud visually represents the links of the most commonly used terms, assisting in the interpretation of their meanings and associations. This is illustrated in Figure 4 in more detail, which shows the hierarchy of the keywords where social entrepreneurship and business entrepreneurship, and sustainable development occupies the center as dominant levels of inquiry. The keywords have been arranged according to their magnitude, signifying the order in which they appear and their importance in the literature. This, in conjunction with the other visual tools, provides an aid in appreciating the thematic areas and trends in the field.

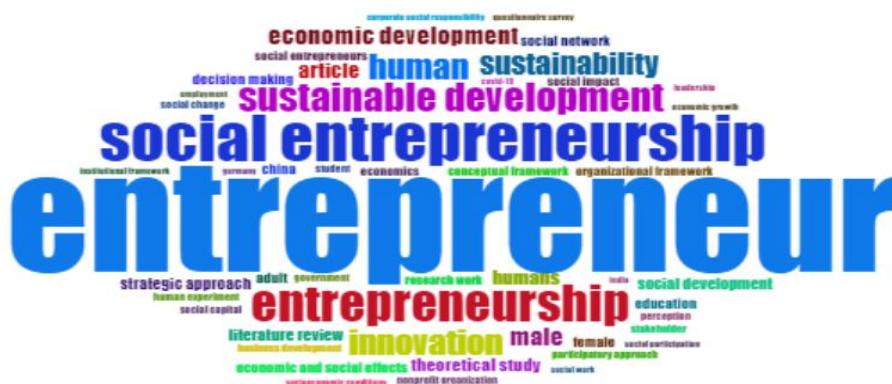


Figure 4. Word cloud social entrepreneurship

Figure 4 captures and maps the evolution and complexity of social entrepreneurship as delineated through bibliometric methods such as Vosviewer. Terms such as ‘social innovation’, ‘sustainable development’, ‘social value creation’, ‘entrepreneurship education’, ‘social networks’, and ‘culture’ demonstrate interconnections and highlight the construction of thematic clusters. These nodes reflect the many dimensions the discipline offers.

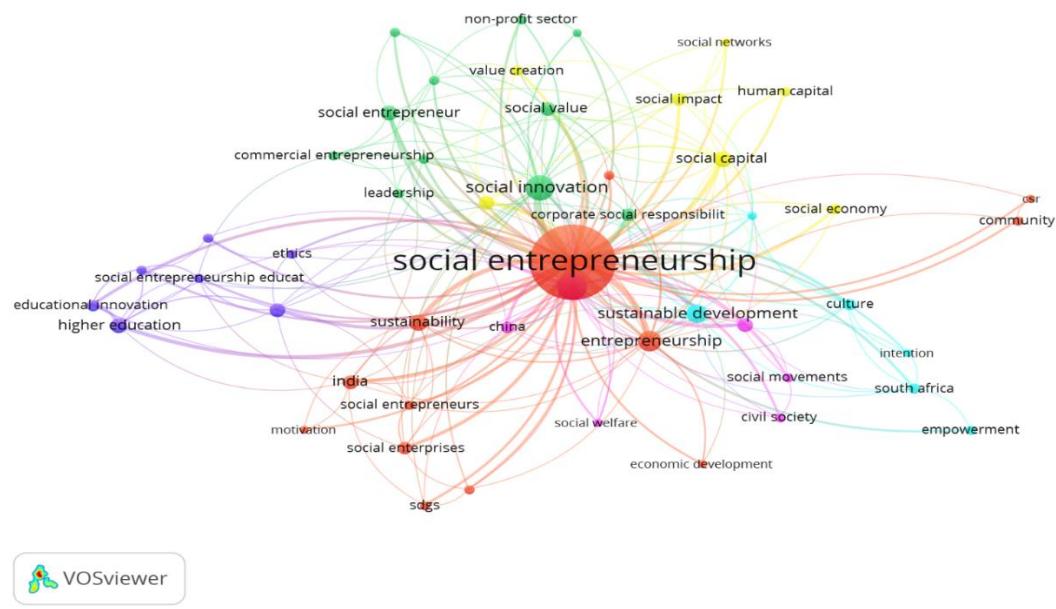


Figure 5. Network visualization of authors keywords

This research identifies six clusters related to the research topic. These clusters illustrate interrelated themes and ideas. The first cluster outlined in RED and labelled as most relevant includes the keywords Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), corporate social responsibility (CSR), community, economic development, entrepreneurship, motivation, social business, social entrepreneurs, social entrepreneurship, social innovation, and social sustainability. The combination of these keywords and their associations illustrate the influence of social entrepreneurship on multitude aspects of social innovation and social business. The prominence of keywords also illustrates the developing paradigm of sustainability and the entrepreneurial importance of sustainable solutions to community problems and issues.

Globalization and the rapidly evolving social and technological innovations encourage regional collaboration, and the flow of ideas, and resources. As the social entrepreneurs and the founder of Ashoka described, social entrepreneurs are the first to respond to fast shifting global problems and social needs, and are instrumental in developing the innovations in the growing field worldwide. Since the adoption of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015 there has been considerable increase in social entrepreneurship as a means to attain social and economic objectives. The SDGs and social entrepreneurship put together, and thus, social entrepreneurship business models are a means to attain social objectives and also advance the SDGs (Drayton 2002).

The second GREEN cluster includes 12 key keywords: social innovation, leadership, social value creation, and new venture. New business initiatives expanding and employing innovative ways to tackle social problems are on the rise. Social entrepreneurship continues to develop, with social innovation becoming important with the focus on devising social and environmental solutions. It becomes intertwined with leadership, social value creation, new ventures, and entrepreneurship, facilitating value-adding purpose business to economic entrepreneurship. This concentration, therefore, testifies to the Centre's commitment to social entrepreneurship and the active development of the domain.

The third BLUE cluster comprises seven key keywords: education, learning, entrepreneurship, innovation, higher learning, learning innovation, high-level education, experiential learning, and ethical learning. This cluster stresses the role of entrepreneurial education and the ethical dimensions in the development and innovation of S&ME's operational and strategic frameworks. This stresses the importance of the ethical practice in innovative instructional activities in promoting the desired level of sustainable growth and flexibility in an SME and the active role of innovative educational activities.

The fourth YELLOW cluster covers the terms social networks, human capital, innovation, social capital, social economy, and social effect. This cluster depicts the relationship between positive trends and new initiatives focused on generating social and economic value. In social entrepreneurship, social capital enables the formation of bonds, understanding and alignment for collaboration, and the provision of resources to remedy social problems (Martí 2006; Nahapiet and Ghoshal 1998). Social networking sites facilitate the promotion of social entrepreneurship as an innovative approach that expands the scope of resources and means available to resolve social problems in a more integrated and effective way (Martí 2006; Seelos and Mair 2005; Zupic and Čater 2015).

In the case of the fifth PURPLE cluster, the six keywords focused on social innovation, China and civil society, social change, social enterprise, social movements, and social welfare. This cluster covers mostly the value of focusing on new trends and innovative frameworks that aim to deliver social and economic value. Social entrepreneurship initiatives are formed to provide value in the context of a social problem and provide economic value in the context of a social need, thereby linking social and business objectives. Creating value for the customer has become one of the primary product and service development organization trends. Equally important is the fact that value creation helps organizations grow and innovate. Developing and sustaining social ventures actively engages social entrepreneurs with the foremost social value. Those who advocate for social entrepreneurship demonstrate how social relevance and innovation work together to sustain and grow social entrepreneurship.

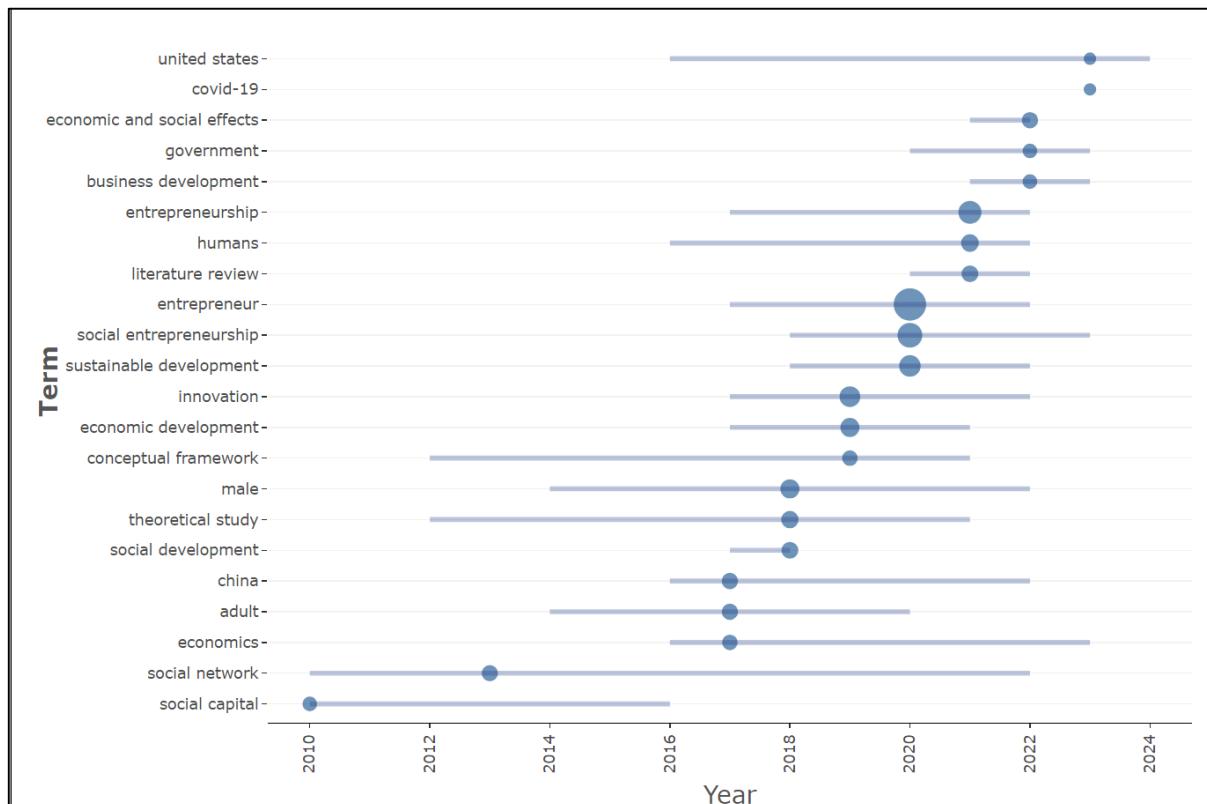
The six keywords for this LIGHT BLUE cluster are culture, empowerment, intention, social justice, South Africa, and sustainable development. This cluster of six keywords shows how the focus of social change is pulsing with the integration of culture and empowerment. This cluster of six keywords shows how the focus of social change is pulsing with the integration of culture and empowerment.

Simplified, these clusters outline the key focus areas within the field of social entrepreneurship research—demonstrating the complexity of this discipline, the multiplicity of its facets, and the various pathways currently under exploration.

3.4. TRENDING TOPIC

The advancements in social entrepreneurship can best be understood with reference to the engagement of various themes as portrayed in Figure 6. Theme engagement in the field of social entrepreneurship research demonstrated interest shifts between 2010 and 2013 with a concentration on social networks and social capital. During this period, the importance of social relations and trust in entrepreneurial activities and intertwined entrepreneurial collaborations was created. 2015 marked the beginning of the interest in the economic aspect of social entrepreneurship and the research focus beginning to change to the exploration of the economic implications of social value oriented entrepreneurship, as economically sustainable social enterprises gained prominence. Further, 2018 saw the expansion of interest domains to include engagement, sharing and social development while addressing social issues, and the collaboration coaxed a community focus.

2019 and 2020 marked the beginning of the research focus on the new themes concerning the use of social communication tools to foster innovation and the scaling of social impact. The 2023-2024 period is characterized by a significant increase in interest toward social entrepreneurship opening new avenues to address pressing social issues. This period is particularly remarkable for the novel methodologies introduced in text processing and in sharing data which became the focus of many studies, enhancing the ability of scholars to assess field trends and interscholarly collaboration patterns.

**Figure 6 visualization of topic trend**

3.5. TOTAL CITATION

For an examination of the citations specified for the top twenty ranked papers, see table 5. Certain articles received citations predominantly within certain years and thus show their relevance in that particular period. Many authors talk about knowledge sharing in the literature, which in turn affects the citation frequency. This is particularly the case on some of the studies related to social entrepreneurship and the intersections with the impacts of COVID-19, leadership, innovation, and the formation of sustainable businesses. Among the most cited works in the top position is an article by Sophie Bacq with 136 citations and in second place is a publication by Eta Ankara Muralidharan, with 68 citations. Also, a 2017 article by Anne de Bruin is relevant with 65 citations. This expresses the interest that these studies generated in the scholarship. Other articles published in the journal and classified under this theme have also contributed literature with a considerable citation rate and focus on other aspects of social entrepreneurship.

These publications have been cited frequently, demonstrating their perceived value in the discipline. They attest to the role of these works in the academic community as foundational in establishing and advancing the concepts and practice of social entrepreneurship.

In this area of study, these contributions are acknowledged through reports and pieces of knowledge conveyed in these reviews. Citations are uneven in circulation among journals and publications. The Journal of Business Horizons, which focuses on the business and managerial communication fields, the collaborations between social entrepreneurship, and interdisciplinary communication, is the most cited, with 27.2 annual citations. It is followed, with 9.714 citations, by the Journal of Sustainability, and the Journal of Entrepreneurship and Regional Development, with 8.125 yearly citations. Business Horizons publishes managerial communication reports, research case studies, and proposes solutions to problems that practitioners face by integrating perspectives of scholars. The rest of the studies examine, based on social entrepreneurship literature, the barriers to knowledge circulation and social entrepreneurship in dealing with societal problems and the national youth agenda. The studies recognize the potential of social entrepreneurship in fostering innovation and leadership through societal problem-solving and active citizenship.

Table 5: Mostly Cited Article

Journal	Authors	Top-ranking author	Total Citation	TC per year
Business horizon	Sophie Bacq 2020	The COVID-19 virtual idea blitz	136	27.2
Sustainability	Etayankara Muralidharan 2018	Sustainability, Transformation, Leadership, And SE	68	9.714
Entrepreneurship and regional development	Anne De Bruin 2017	The collaborative dynamic in SE	65	8.125
Management Decision	(Bruno S Sergi,2016)	Understanding the challenges and strategic actions of SE at the base of the pyramid	63	7
Journal of nonprofit and public sector marketing	David Di Zhang, 2010	The SE zone	45	3
Journal of Social Entrepreneurship	Anne De Bruin, 2015	Traversing the terrain of context in SE	36	3.6
Journal of Business Venturing Insights	Yanto Chandra 2021	The promise of Entrepreneurial passion to advance SE research	33	8.25
Journal of Social Entrepreneurship	Christine Woods,2015	Stakeholder engagement in the SE	33	3.3
Social science	Macro Cruz-Sandoval, 2022	Student reception of competencies and skills for social science	30	10
International journal of gender and entrepreneurship	(Anne De Bruin, 2019)	Values and women-led SE	21	3.5
Nonprofit and voluntary sector quarterly	Anne De Bruin 2023	The (R) Evolution of the SE concept	21	10.5
Journal of Entrepreneurship	Philip T Roundy,2017	The singularity of S	17	2.125
Journal of applied research in higher education	Jose Carlos Vazquez-Parra,2022	Student perception of their knowledge of SE	13	4.333
Journal of Asian Public Policy	Yanto Chandra 2021	The role of SE for youth purpose development	11	2.75
Entrepreneurship and regional development	Pablo Muñoz 2023	The magical language of unrealistically ventured ideas in SE	9	4.5
Cross-cultural research journals. sage Organization	Suarav Pathak, 2020	Societal ethics and SE: A cross-cultural comparison	9	1.8
International journal of entrepreneurship	Pascal Dey, 2024	A critical examination of Disability inclusion through SE	6	6
Journal of Business Ethics	Natalia Kadol 2020	The process of formation and direction of SE development in the countries	3	0.6
Journal Academy of Accounting and Financial Studies	(Yanto Chandra,2023)	Effects of SE comics as ethical business pedagogy	1	0.5
Journal of Entrepreneurship	Natalia Kadol 2021	The practices of SE: The experience of the Republic of Belarus	1	0.25

Source: Prepared by the authors using Bibliomegika® and Biblioshiny

3.6. COUNTRY

This part looks into the global reach of social entrepreneurship publications by evaluating the countries of publication, the authorship volume, the overall citations per country, and levels of development. In relation to this, see Table 6 and Figure 7 regarding the total countries contributing publications on social entrepreneurship. In this

instance, the United States on the top position as the highest distributor and author of 164 publications. Some of the publications even mention older European countries, notably the UK (42), Spain (42 publications), and, more recently, India (51), as social entrepreneurship practices have been on the rise and are particularly intense. In response to this phenomenon, the primary stakeholders, whether governmental or academic, have been more inclined to formally study the domain and its more actionable catalysts. Other countries, namely, Malaysia (39), China (31), Germany (30), Canada (30), and Australia (27), rank even lower on the world contribution list. Nonetheless, social entrepreneurship still develops and grows in these territories albeit more slowly. Established and even emerging market research largely gravitates around the ideas of innovation diffusion, social sustainability, and creating social value through entrepreneurship.

Table 6.

Table.6 Total number of articles in the country context

Country	TP	NCA	NCP	TC	C/P	C/CP	H	g	m
United States	166	348	159	6333	38.15	39.83	41	79	2.733
United Kingdom	64	119	61	4640	72.50	76.07	27	64	1.800
India	51	110	40	1912	37.49	47.80	16	43	1.143
Spain	42	100	40	1967	46.83	49.18	23	42	1.533
Malaysia	39	112	33	927	23.77	28.09	13	30	0.867
China	31	80	27	682	22.00	25.26	13	26	1.083
Canada	30	49	30	2477	82.57	82.57	17	30	1.133
Germany	30	62	30	987	32.90	32.90	16	30	1.143
Russian Federation	29	86	19	498	17.17	26.21	8	22	0.727
Australia	27	39	26	1422	52.67	54.69	19	27	1.267
Italy	23	44	23	1256	54.61	54.61	13	23	0.867
Indonesia	23	73	15	113	4.91	7.53	6	10	0.750
Mexico	23	61	20	392	17.04	19.60	13	19	1.300
Portugal	21	47	19	573	27.29	30.16	12	21	1.000
Netherlands	21	40	20	1022	48.67	51.10	13	21	0.929
France	20	26	20	2632	131.60	131.60	13	20	1.000
South Africa	19	40	17	412	21.68	24.24	8	19	0.571
New Zealand	18	27	17	717	39.83	42.18	14	18	0.933
Turkey	15	32	14	127	8.47	9.07	7	11	0.700
Finland	14	22	14	626	44.71	44.71	10	14	0.769
Sweden	13	21	13	274	21.08	21.08	8	13	0.667
Colombia	13	33	13	198	15.23	15.23	5	13	0.625
Brazil	13	28	10	151	11.62	15.10	6	12	0.500
Belgium	12	21	12	2009	167.42	167.42	10	12	0.667
Iran	11	30	10	428	38.91	42.80	6	11	0.462

Note: TP=total number of publications; NCA=number of contribution authors; NCP=number of cited publications; TC=total citations; C/P=average citations per publication; C/CP=average citations per cited publication; h=h-index; g=g-index, m=m-index.

Source: Generated by the author(s) using Bibliomegika®

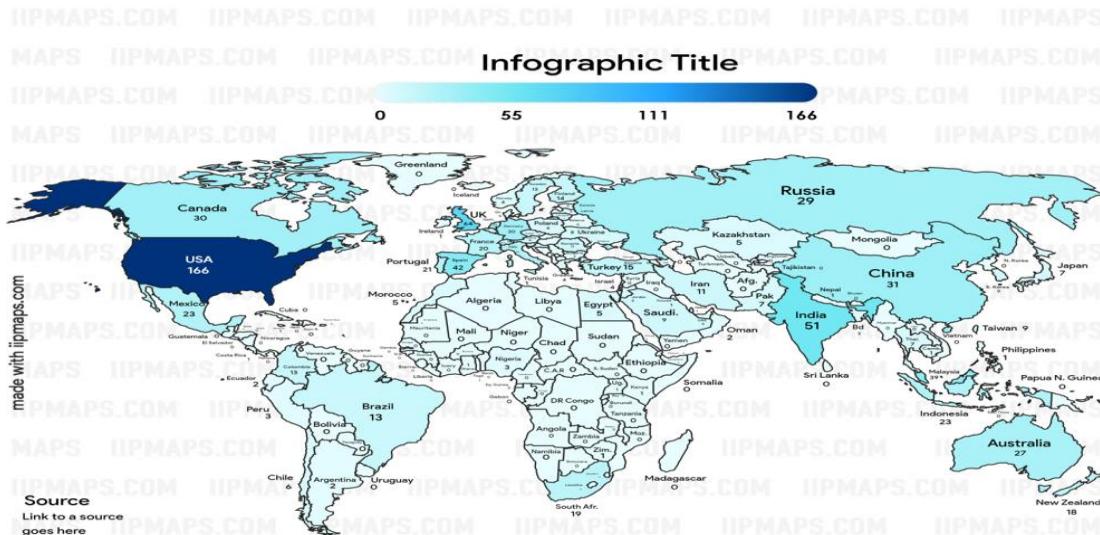


Figure 7. Country map about Collaboration and Publications

Source: Prepared by the authors using Bibliomegika® and Biblioshiny

The varying shades of blue on the map illustrate the existence and magnitude of transnational research networks. Countries that published more on “social entrepreneurship” tend to exhibit greater partnerships across borders. This shows that these countries are engaged in collaborative scholarship and, more importantly, are achieving impactful scientific outcomes. The United Kingdom is especially prominent as an international research networking hub, although India, Spain, and Malaysia are also notable collaborators. The combination of these countries’ policies and practices has built powerful global networks, facilitating the flow of materials and ideas that enhance the breadth and depth of research on social entrepreneurship.

4. DISCUSSION

The goal of this bibliometric approach is to understand how research has evolved by looking at changes in authorship, journals, citations, and pivotal themes in the domain. Three authors, Jose Carlos, Yanto, and Bruno, are identified as the primary contributors to the research on ‘social entrepreneurship’. While all of their work together contributes to the advancement of the field, each of their individual work focuses on different aspects of the field: (i) Jose Carlos researches the social entrepreneurship and the social entrepreneurship and the social entrepreneurship. He studies how contemporary youth see and use social entrepreneurship as a tool and how it can transform the social entrepreneurship. (ii) Yanto primarily researches entrepreneurial intentions, particularly, the factors that drive people to entrepreneurship. (iii) Bruno studies the pyramid model and its relevance to social entrepreneurship. He describes the gaps of this approach in relation to contemporary issues, the sustainable development goals, and the problem of providing affordable solutions to the socially and economically underserved people.

For this study, the most important journals in this field are the *Journal of Social Entrepreneurship* and *Business Horizon*. This is also the journal that the most social entrepreneurship research has been published in. The most cited articles in this field and the journals in which they were published are shown in Table 4.

Even though the Journal of Social Entrepreneurship has published the most articles on social entrepreneurship, Business Horizon has more citations outside the top 20 journals. This shows that the articles it publishes have more influence. Table 2 and Figure 2 illustrate the interdisciplinary nature of social entrepreneurship research. Publications in the field concentrate on emerging topics like innovation, creating shared value, and developing social enterprises. Key themes in social entrepreneurship include tenacity and solving social problems. Key writings on these themes are typically printed in more specialized journals, featuring, uniquely in this context, the Journal of

Entrepreneurship Research, which focuses on publishing work related to the social value of creation, social networks, and their integration within entrepreneurship or business as a whole. These journals help redefine the conversation around social entrepreneurship and its relational dynamics with other innovative frameworks and sustainability.

The highest number of citations in the paper comes from the work of Sophie Bacq for her all-encompassing approach to citation analysis. The proposed social entrepreneurship business models are linked to keywords and obstacles, including emerging frameworks and rapidly developing virtual spaces. This study is of significant value to both theory and practice.

To start, it emphasizes how social entrepreneurship can help solve important social problems. Second, it introduces the concept of a "Virtual Idea Blitz," a method to speed up the creation and prototyping of solutions for urgent problems within the social entrepreneurship framework. Figure .6 Based on the trends, it is recommended that the analysis be given more focus as a key practice area for social entrepreneurs.

Trends in social entrepreneurship that have recently emerged call for using analysis to identify societal problems. One driving force behind this evolution is the work of the United Nations, which in 2015 adopted 17 Sustainable Development Goals that have shaped and influenced the development of social entrepreneurship in scope and focus worldwide. Another emerging trend is entrepreneurship education, where potential entrepreneurs are trained with the knowledge and skills needed to address existing societal issues through innovation (Jones & Iredale, 2010). In developing the concept of social entrepreneurship, schools play a particularly important role in shaping socially responsible entrepreneurs who can solve the world's most urgent problems with their initiatives. The growing interest and relevance of social entrepreneurship demonstrate that it can address both social and economic objectives.

Participation in innovation processes, producing social value, and developing the entrepreneurial environment all together constitute the SE's pillars (Morris et al., 2021; Mair & Martí, 2006). One major trend in social innovation portrays the multiple facets of social entrepreneurship aimed at developing solutions to critical social and environmental issues (Mulgan, 2006). Hence, the most cited work in social entrepreneurship demonstrates how the theme has attained fundamental importance in advocating for social change and sustainable development, thereby constructing the body of work in this area.

For the most important issues, the social entrepreneurship research themes have changed significantly as shown in Figure 6. From 2010 to 2013, scholarship in social entrepreneurship focused on the previously dominant themes as the research area of interest remained largely the same. But by 2015, there was greater emphasis on the economic aspects of social entrepreneurship. The focus then was on the financial viability and economic value of social businesses. By 2018, the thematic range had broadened to include social development, the SDGs, social innovation, value creation, and other themes, uncovering an interest then in community and collaborative approaches to solving social problems. Between 2019 and 2024, there was a remarkable increase in focus on social entrepreneurship, highlighting its importance as a viable strategy for solving worldwide challenges. Considering the countries, it is interesting to note that the ones with the most publications on "social entrepreneurship" also demonstrate the highest levels of collaboration. This suggests a strong mutual exchange and cooperation on valuable scientific results. The U.S., the U.K., India, Spain, Malaysia, Australia, and China are notable for their policies and practices that have enabled broad social networking and collaborative relationships with other countries.

5. CONCLUSION

This bibliometric examination underlines the importance of social entrepreneurship while underscoring the small number of documents devoted to the subject in the Journal of Enterprise Communities. That presents a distinct research void that needs more attention directed at social entrepreneurship. Social entrepreneurship, for years, has sustained an increase in the volume of research being produced. Therefore, authors such as Jose Carlos, Yanto, and Bruno during the period under study produced admirable scholarship in the quest for understanding social entrepreneurship. Scholarship in this area has in the last few years concentrated more on social innovation, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), value creation, and entrepreneurial education.

Because of the developing importance of social entrepreneurship, there will always be a higher demand for research that matches the trends and expansion of the discipline. This research could be enhanced by studying social

entrepreneurship and its correlation to technological innovation, entrepreneurial resilience, and novel value creation strategies. The prospective value-creating role of social entrepreneurship technology will be pivotal for social innovation. Furthermore, longer longitudinal studies, integrating various languages, and studying multiple countries at the same time will capture the breadth and depth of understanding of these activities. This work underscored that the figures were taken from the reputable Scopus database. Nonetheless, other databases, such as the Web of Science (WOS), can also be used for similar analyses which can be conducted using the R programming language. Additionally, the bibliometric technique employed in this study can be used beyond the SCI/SSCI index, as it examines other data sources and different periods.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare concerning the research, authorship, or publication of this article.

AUTHOR'S CONTRIBUTION:

Author 1: Conceptualization, Data curation, Formal analysis, Investigation, Visualization, Writing the original draft. Construction of the article; data formatting and analysis; method application; article development and writing.

Author 2: Conceptualization, Data curation, Funding acquisition, Investigation, Methodology, Project administration, Supervision, Writing, and Review.

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