Scopus-based Bibliometric Analysis of Extreme Poverty Alleviation

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Abstract. No Poverty is the first sustainable development goal. Research on extreme poverty is a common focus of interest. This article aims to conduct a bibliometric analysis to review the literature on extreme poverty, discuss the dimensions, and provide some ideas for future research. We collected 517 articles in extreme poverty published in the period 1981-2024 from the Scopus database. Article processing and visualization were carried out using VOSviewer, R Studio, and Excel, which summarized the characteristics of these articles. This study considered the most contributing scientific matters, such as authors, journals, topics, institutions, and countries. The limitation of this study is that it only uses Scopus-based articles but does not analyze other articles on the same topic available on different platforms. This study provides a cross-sectional review of scientific papers related to extreme poverty and the highest-ranking journals that will help to better understand the development of literature in this field.

Keywords: Extreme Poverty, Bibliometric, Analysis, Sustainable Development Goals

1. Introduction

Poverty alleviation is a major goal for countries and organizations around the world and a top priority of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a set of global goals that will be implemented in 2015-2030 and hold the promise of significant progress in this area. The problem of extreme poverty has been going on since the years before the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) occurred. Extreme poverty is defined as food insecurity/hunger, which distinguishes survival needs from the desire to have material possessions[1]. A person is categorized as extremely poor if their expenditure is below USD 1.9 PPP (*purchasing power parity*)[2]. The global challenge remains enormous, with global poverty alleviation efforts recently set back by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the World Bank, global extreme poverty increased in 2020 for the first time in more than two decades, with the number of extremely poor people expected to grow to around 150 million by the end of 2021. This extreme poverty has negative impacts on society, such as violence and disease, which can lead to death[3]. In this case, solving poverty requires justice and equality. As mentioned in the book "Social Equity and the Public Administration*"*[4], justice from all institutions that serve the public directly or through contracts in public services, equality and implementation of fair public policies, and a commitment to advancing justice and equality in the formation of public policies.

Research on poverty alleviation in a global context has been widely conducted. Although much research has been undertaken to address poverty, this issue remains controversial because poverty alleviation strategies are not always relevant to various social situations[5]. Some strategies may be effective in specific contexts, while others are more appropriate in different conditions. Although much research has been done, analyses that provide an overview of academic knowledge in poverty alleviation still need to be completed.

Furthermore, the trend towards scientific specialization and interdisciplinary approaches has not fully explained the relationship between core and peripheral research areas[6]. Different studies are often segmented, as researchers work separately based on the context of poverty in their respective countries or their research sub-fields. Lack of communication and interaction may affect the progress of poverty alleviation research, especially in the context of globalization. With less than 6 years left to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, it is imperative to review the previous literature with a more integrated approach in this era of uncertainty. Thus, given its social impact, the concept of poverty needs to be examined more deeply to understand its effects on the poor and vulnerable social groups[7].

Related to the description of the research results that have been conducted, it can be seen that research related to poverty is necessary because it is related to efforts to improve community welfare and the main objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs'). However, the development of poverty research has not been mapped well. Related to this background, the researcher intends to answer it with the following research questions:

RQ1. What are the publication trends in poverty research?
RQ2. What are the keywords frequently used in poverty research?
RQ3. Which leading institutions, countries and sourches contribute to poverty-related research?
RQ4. Which leading journals contribute to research on poverty?
RQ5. What are some possible and important future research questions to investigate?

The limitation of this study is that it only uses Scopus-based articles but does not analyze other articles on the same topic available on different platforms. This article is structured into several parts.

2. Literature Review

The word 'poverty', comes from Old French from the word "poverte" or in Latin "paupertas". In developing countries the main work of development is to overcome poverty. Poverty in developing countries is like explaining "why are we poor"[8]. Kunarjo said that in the vicious circle of poverty, the root of poverty is low income. Low income not only affects low savings rates but also affects low education and health so that the productivity of existing resources becomes low. Poverty is a complex condition and involves many interrelated factors that cause people in the poor category to remain in the trap of helplessness. These interrelated factors include low income, physical weakness, isolation, alienation, vulnerability, and lack of political and bargaining power. Poverty has characteristics such as: uninhabitable houses made of low-quality building materials, very minimal equipment, uncertain income, market imperfections, backwardness, lagging, lack of capital, low investment, low productivity, low savings, low income [9].

Poverty, especially in rural areas, is a problem of powerlessness, isolation, vulnerability and physical weakness. Poverty eradication certainly does not only look at it from an economic perspective, but other factors also need to be considered carefully. Poverty is seen from an economic perspective, so the government takes a poverty alleviation policy with social assistance. While other factors, such as local wisdom emerge from within the community itself as a result of the interaction between the community and its environment[10].

According to the World Bank, extreme poverty is defined as a condition of inability to meet basic needs, such as food, drink, clean water, proper sanitation, health, shelter, education, and access to information that is not only limited to income, but also access to social services. Extreme poverty is also defined as a condition where the welfare of society is below the poverty line. Poverty is an absolute and relative condition that causes a person or group of people in a

region to not have the ability to meet their basic needs according to certain values or norms that apply in society due to natural, cultural and structural causes[11].
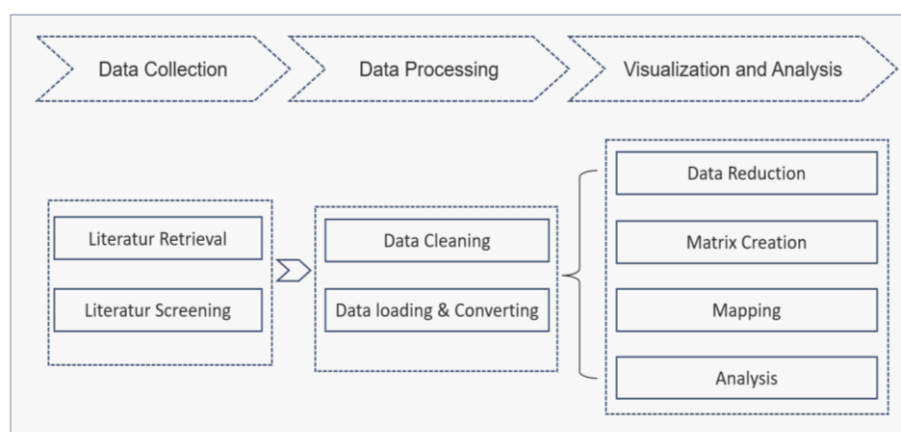
3. Methodology

Figure 1. Bibliometric analysis research framework

This article was compiled using bibliometric analysis, a method for analyzing the development process and structure of knowledge in a particular research field[12]. Bibliometrics can describe the overall picture of a particular research field at the macro level and can also analyze hot topics in the micro field, so it is widely used by researchers who apply it in their research. With support from mathematics and statistics, bibliometrics can be applied to analyze various literature samples such as books, periodicals, and policy texts[13]. The standard bibliometric procedure includes document collection, data processing, visualization, and analysis. In bibliometrics, several analyses were carried out as follows: keyword cartography analysis, bibliometric author citation analysis, bibliometric co-citation analysis of papers, bibliometric reference co-citation analysis, journal co-citation cartography, trend analysis by dividing it into three periods in the last decade and qualitative content analysis[14]. Extreme poverty is a concept in this study, so researchers search for all publications on extreme poverty. Publications used in this study are limited to publications categorized in Scopus with a predetermined period. Researchers can see the relationship between publications using bibliometric methods by obtaining these publications.

3.1. Collecting Data

The data used in this study are publications on extreme poverty categorized in Scopus from 1981 to 2024. To select publications, specific criteria, namely poverty and extreme poverty, were applied when searching for Scopus publications. In this study, we collected 517 articles on extreme poverty published from 1981 to 2024 from the Scopus database. Article processing, matrix construction, and visualization were carried out using VOSviewer and R Studio, which summarize the characteristics of these articles. This study also uses Microsoft Excel to generate graphs and charts. This study considers the most contributing scientific

matters, such as authors, journals, topics, institutions, and countries, as parameters for analyzing articles.

Keyword selection strategy is a very important part of the success of data collection because the accuracy in choosing the right keywords greatly affects the amount produced. To ensure the selection of all or most of the relevant papers from the scopus index, this study has used the selected keyword, namely "extreme poverty". This keyword is more likely to produce most papers on this topic. Then, this paper has filtered the data obtained and limited it to the category, English language, journal as source, article, and review as type. We also have articles included in relevant categories such as poverty, extreme poverty, poverty areas, poverty alleviation, social support, economics, qualitative, quantitative, etc. After meeting the inclusion and exclusion criteria, 517 articles remain for this study.

Figure 2. Scopus Publication Search Results with Extreme Poverty Criteria

From the image above, we get some primary information obtained from bibliometric analysis. The main information is related to scientific publications. The following is a description of the elements contained in the image. The timespan of the publications analyzed, namely from 1981 to 2024. The total number of sources analyzed in the dataset is 396. The annual growth rate of the documents analyzed is 8.76%. The total number of authors involved in all documents is 2135. The number of documents written by one author is 70. The percentage of documents co-authored by international authors is 34.82%. The average number of authors in each document is 4.32. The number of keywords used by the authors is 1589. There are no references listed in this dataset. The average age of documents in the dataset is 7.1 years. The average number of citations per document is 20.02.

4. Results

This article presents the results in six main classifications. The first section is the publication. The second section is trends in poverty research, keywords frequently used. The third section is leading institutions, countries, and sources that contribute to poverty-related research. The fourth analysis is leading journals that contribute to research on poverty. The fifth is one possible and important future research question to investigate.
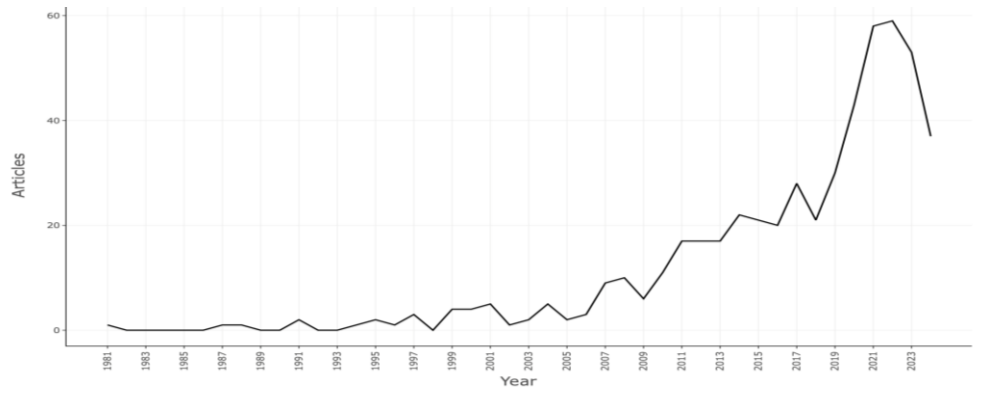
4.1. Trend of Publication

Figure 3. Trend Graph of the Number of Articles on Extreme Poverty

This graph shows the number of articles on extreme poverty published annually from 1981 to 2024. For several years, including 1982-1986, 1989, 1990, 1992, 1993, and 1998, Scopus articles were not published. It illustrates how the number of scientific articles published has gradually increased over the years, with a sharp acceleration in the last period, starting around 2016 and reaching a peak in 2021. In the early period from 1981 to 2000, the number of articles published each year was very low, with the graph almost approaching zero. After 2000, a slight increase fluctuated but remained low until 2010. The highest peak in article production occurred around 2021, when the number of articles reached almost 59 per year. After that, there is a slight decrease in 2023 and 2024, although the number of articles remains high compared to previous years.

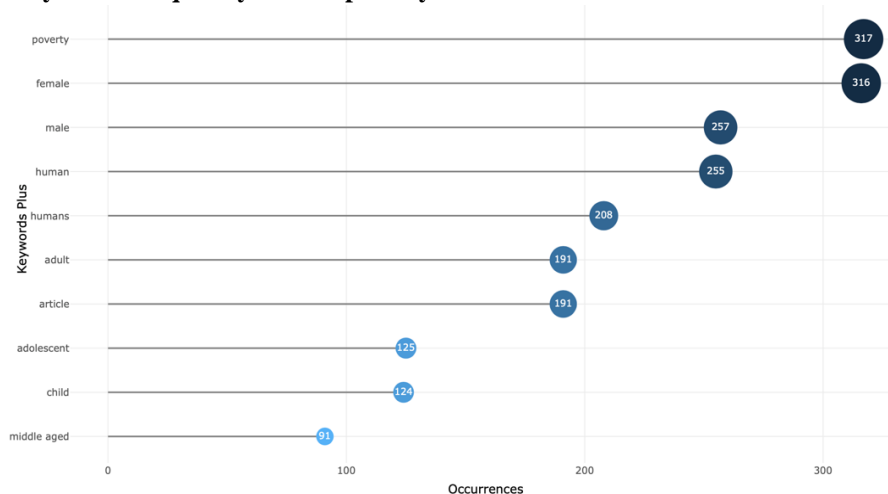## 4.2. Keywords frequently used in poverty research

Figure 4. Dimensions of frequently used words

Figure 5. Frequently used words

The image below is a Word Cloud generated from text analysis, showing the most frequently occurring words in a particular dataset or literature related to poverty. Poverty is one of the most significant words in the middle, indicating that this is the main topic of the literature or data analyzed. Females, males, and humans are also displayed in large size, indicating that gender and humans, in general, are frequently mentioned subjects in relation to poverty. The size of each word represents the frequency of its occurrence in the document. More significant words such as female, male, poverty, human, and article are the most frequent, indicating the main theme that is often discussed.

Keywords by Demographic Group include female and male, which appear as major words, indicating that poverty studies tend to discuss gender roles and how poverty affects men and women differently. Words such as adolescent, adult, child, infant, and middle-aged indicate the different age groups frequently discussed in the poverty literature. Several words related to the type of study conducted, such as article, major clinical study, controlled study, cross-sectional study, and prevalence, indicate that the topic of poverty is analyzed using various research methods. Words such as socioeconomics, risk factor, prevalence, and rural population suggest that socioeconomic factors and the prevalence of poverty in rural areas are important parts of the analysis. Infant, child, and adolescent may also relate to the impact of poverty on health and development at different life course stages.

4.3. Institutions, countries and sourches contribute to poverty-related research

Table 2. Most productive countries in the field of extreme poverty

Rank	Country	Freq	TC	Average Article Citations	Articles
1	USA	402	3182	41,30	77
2	BRAZIL	217	274	9,80	28
3	CHINA	154	335	12,90	26
4	UK	131	1151	48,00	24
5	MEXICO	100	185	8,40	22
6	CANADA	84	236	13,10	18
7	SOUTH AFRICA	78	293	19,50	15

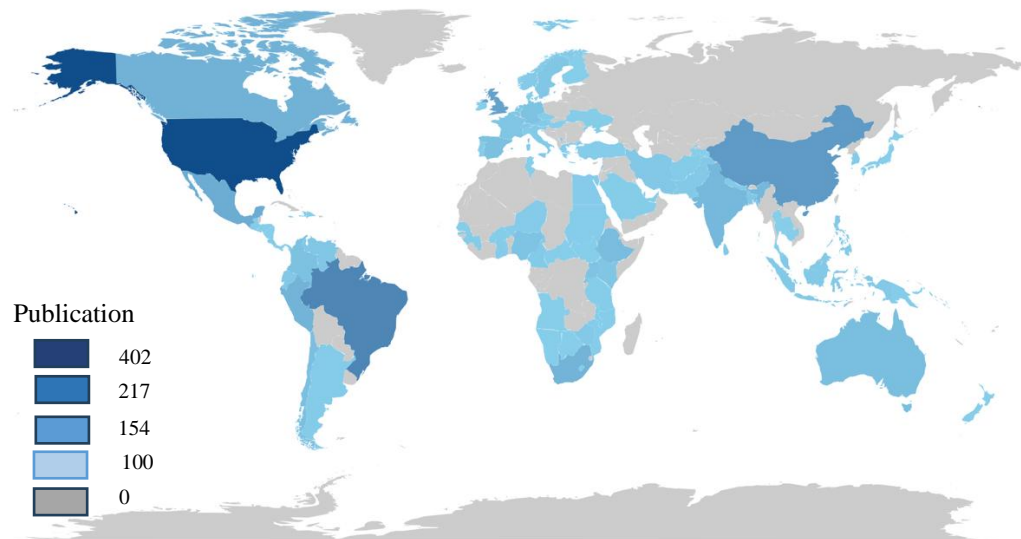| Rank	Country	Freq	TC	Average Article Citations	Articles
8	PERU	77	183	10,20	18
9	INDIA	63	113	10,30	11
10	ETHIOPIA	51	183	12,20	15
11	AUSTRALIA	46	241	24,10	10
12	CHILE	42	68	7,60	9
13	SPAIN	40	334	27,80	12
14	GERMANY	32	370	37,00	10
15	NIGERIA	31	111	18,50	6
16	UGANDA	29	56	11,20	5
17	FRANCE	25	60	8,60	7
18	NETHERLANDS	23	68	17,00	4
19	SWEDEN	21	91	18,20	5
20	BANGLADESH	20	130	26,00	5

Figure 6. Distribution of producing countries in the area of extreme poverty

The image above shows a world map depicting the distribution of different colours across countries. This map is a thematic map, where the intensity of the colour indicates the difference in scientific publications in each country. Dark blue countries, such as the United States and Brazil, are shown to have a dark blue colour, indicating a very high level of scientific production. Light blue countries, such as Canada, Argentina, most European countries, India, Australia, and China, are shown to have a lighter blue colour, indicating a significant but lower scientific contribution compared to countries in dark blue. Grey countries: Some countries in Africa, Central Asia, and Greenland, indicating that their scientific data is not available or their scientific contribution is very low.
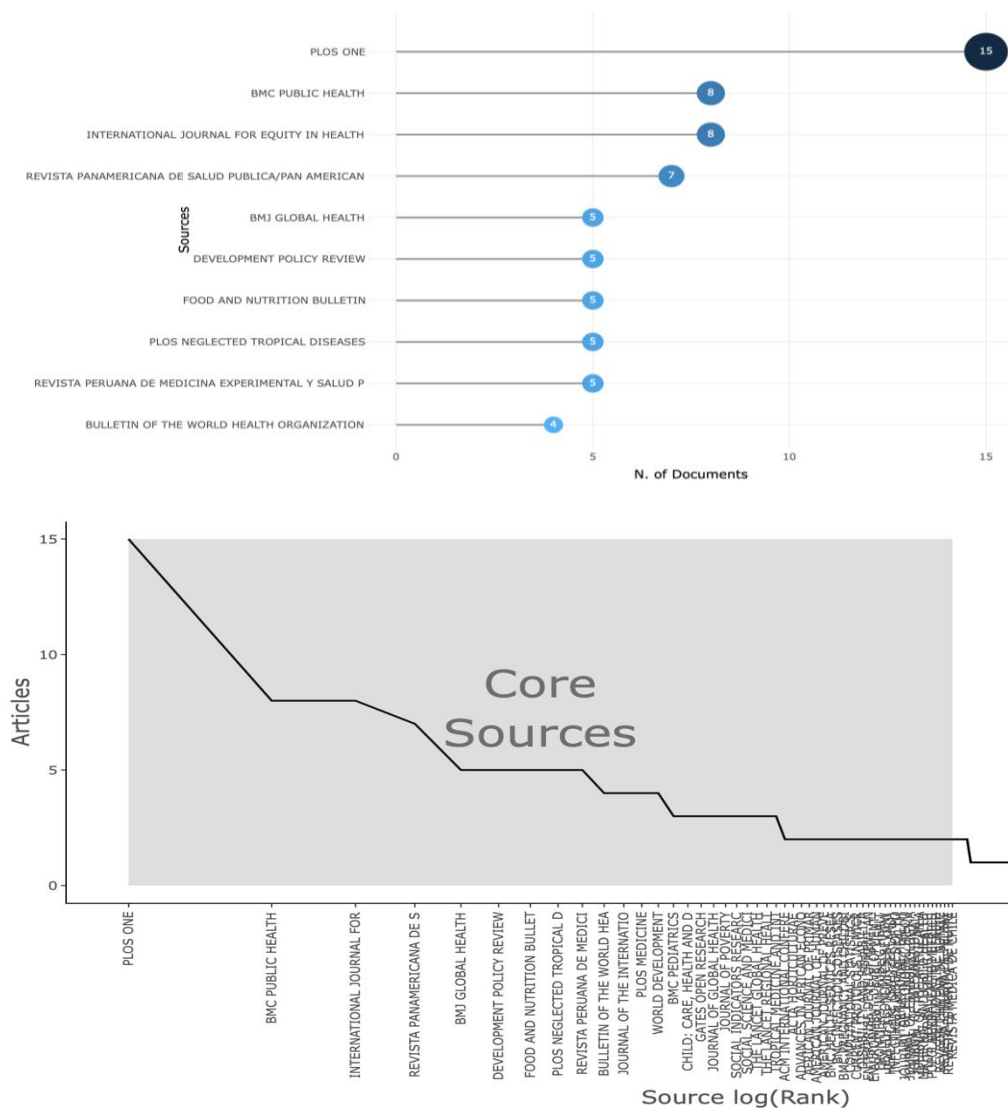
4.4. Most influential sources

Figure 7. Most Relevant Sources

This image visualizes the number of documents published by various sources/scientific journals, explaining the number of documents published by each source on a scale from 0 to 15 documents. The more significant and further to the right the dot's position, the higher the number of documents published. The image above lists relevant scientific journals, sorted from top to bottom by the number of documents published, including the following. PLOS ONE is the source with the highest number of documents, which is 15 documents[15], [16], [17], [18], [19], [20], [21], [22], [23], [24], [25], [26], [27], [28], [29]. BMC Public Health and the International Journal for Equity in Health have 8 documents[30], [31], [32], [33], [34], [35], [36], [37]. Revista Panamericana de Salud Publica/Pan American has 7 documents[38], [39], [40], [41], [42], [43], [44]. BMJ Global Health, Development Policy Review, Food and Nutrition Bulletin,

PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases, and Revista Peruana de Medicina Experimental y Salud P
published 5 documents[45], [46], [47], [48], [49]. Bulletin of the [50], [51], [52], [53] published
4 documents.

Table 4. Most Influential Journal Articles

Title	Authors	Source	Year	Total Citation
URBANIZATION PATTERNS AND POVERTY REDUCTION: A NEW PERSPECTIVE TO EXPLORE THE COUNTRIES ALONG THE BELT AND ROAD	CHEN M;SUI Y;LIU W;LIU H;HUANG Y	HABITAT INTERNATIONAL	2019	65
CONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFER PROGRAMS AND THE HEALTH AND NUTRITION OF LATIN AMERICAN CHILDREN	SEGURA-PÉREZ S;GRAJEDA R;PÉREZ-ESCAMILLA R	REVISTA PANAMERICANA DE SALUD PUBLICA/PAN AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PUBLIC HEALTH	2016	49
LOCATING POOR LIVESTOCK KEEPERS AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TARGETING	THORNTON PK;KRUSKA RL;HENNINGER N;KRISTJANSON PM;REID RS;ROBINSON TP	LAND USE POLICY	2003	31
DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, AND QUALITY CONTROL OF NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS FOR A NATIONAL SUPPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME IN MEXICO	ROSADO JL;RIVERA J;LOPEZ G;SOLANO L	FOOD AND NUTRITION BULLETIN	2000	22
CARE IN THE POSTPARTUM PERIOD IN A POOR NEIGHBORHOOD IN SANTIAGO, CHILE	ALVARADO R;ZEPEDA A;RIVERO S;RICO N;LOPEZ S;DÍAZ S	STUDIES IN FAMILY PLANNING	1999	19
INDOOR AIR POLLUTION IN A ZONE OF EXTREME POVERTY OF METROPOLITAN SANTIAGO; [CONTAMINACIÓN INTRADOMICILIARIA EN UN SECTOR DE EXTREMA POBREZA DE LA COMUNA DE LA PINTANA]	CÁCERES L D;ADONIS P M;RETAMAL G C;ANCIC C P;VALENCIA G M;RAMOS S X;OLIVARES V N;GIL H L	REVISTA MEDICA DE CHILE	2001	18
LET CHILDREN PLAN NEIGHBORHOODS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE: A SUSTAINABLE CHILD-FRIENDLY CITY APPROACH	TAYEFI NASRABADI M;GARCÍA EH;POURZAKARYA M	LOCAL ENVIRONMENT	2021	15
CHANGE IN FOOD AND ENERGY CONSUMPTION AMONG THE ULTRA POOR: IS THE POVERTY REDUCTION PROGRAMME MAKING A DIFFERENCE?	HASEEN F	ASIA PACIFIC JOURNAL OF CLINICAL NUTRITION	2007	11

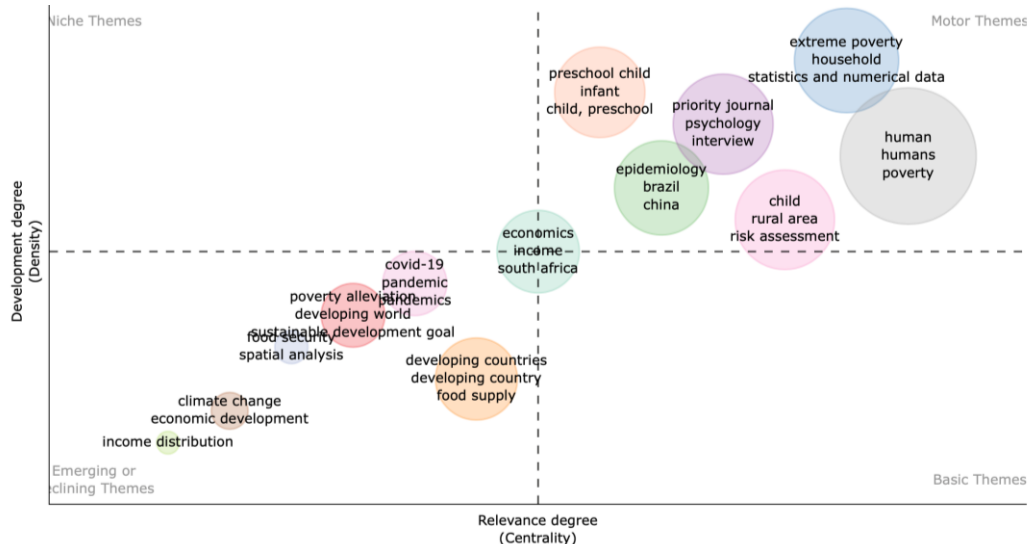| Title	Authors	Source	Year	Total Citation
WHEN AGENCY TURNS INTO A RISK FACTOR: A LITERATURE REVIEW OF THE NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES OF CHILDREN'S AGENTIC BEHAVIORS ON THEIR PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING	CAVAZZONI F;FIORINI A;VERONESE G	TRAUMA, VIOLENCE, AND ABUSE	2023	8
DO MORE EDUCATED NEIGHBOURHOODS EXPERIENCE LESS PROPERTY CRIME? EVIDENCE FROM INDONESIA	NGUYEN HTM	INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	2019	8

Figure 8. Thematic Map

The image above is a Thematic Diagram that visualizes various themes identified in the data analysis in the study. The further to the right, the more important the theme is globally. The higher the position, the more mature the theme is. Themes at the bottom have the potential to develop further in the upper Right Quadrant. The themes here have high relevance and good development. They are considered core themes in the field: Extreme poverty, household, statistics and numerical data, human, poverty, and humans lower Right Quadrant.

The themes here are highly relevant to the research but have a relatively low level of development. They are important underlying themes but have not been fully developed. Lower Left Quadrant Themes here have low relevance and development. They can be emerging or declining themes. The upper left quadrant is the theme that has high development but low global relevance. These themes are usually specific to a particular research area. In this figure, there are no themes occupying this quadrant. The size of the circle reflects the frequency or number

of documents related to the theme. The larger the circle, the more frequently the theme appears in the dataset.
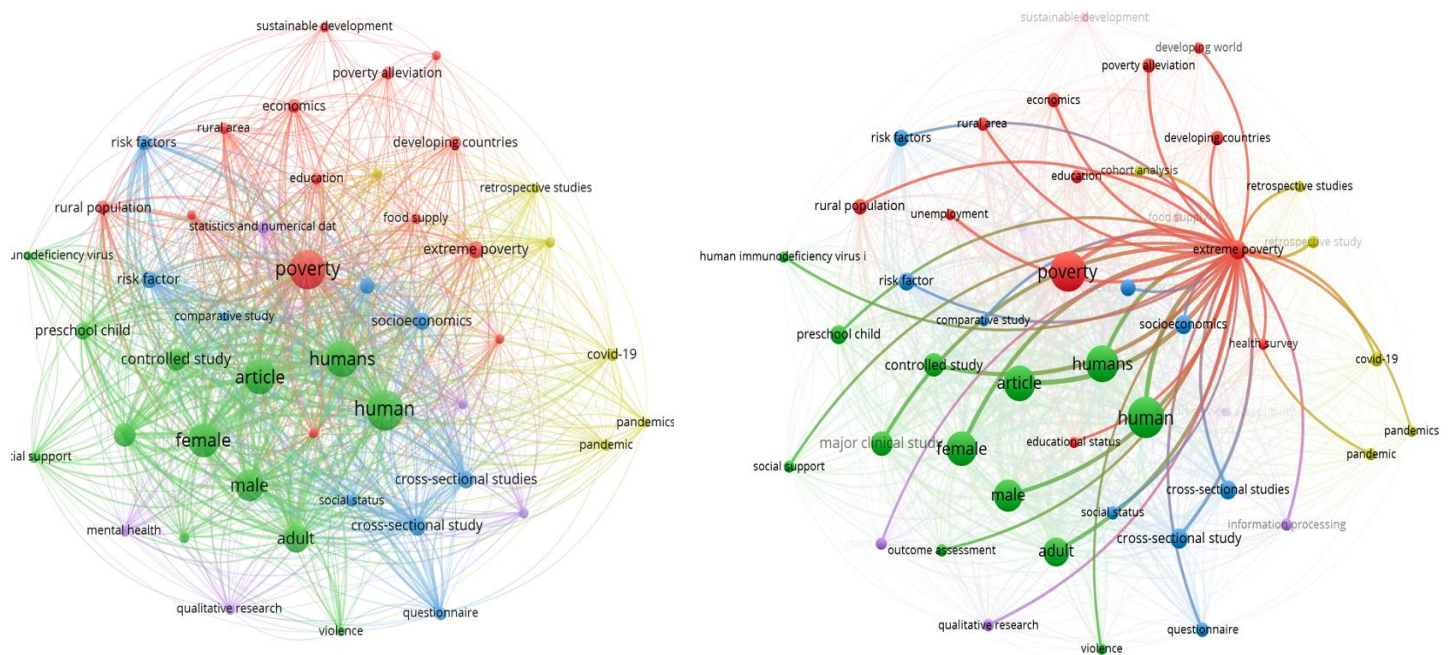
4.5. Frequent Occurrence of Keywords

Figure 9. Identification of main keywords in the literature

After observing the image above, each node in this image represents a keyword. Keywords Plus are effective keywords for bibliometric analysis. Plus, Keywords are words or phrases generated automatically from the titles of cited articles, thereby limiting the bias and risks associated with manually tagging content[54]. The larger the node, the more frequently the keyword appears in the document. The lines connecting the nodes indicate the relationship or co-occurrence between two keywords in a document. The thicker the line, the stronger the relationship between two keywords. The colour of the nodes represents clusters of keywords that frequently appear together. Each cluster shows related themes; here is the relationship between each keyword.

a. Red Cluster

Related to the topic of "extreme poverty" and global development issues, with terms such as "developing countries," "economics," "extreme poverty," and "sustainable development."

b. Green Cluster

Describes terms that are more related to scientific studies and research methodologies, such as "controlled study," "humans," "male," "adult," and "article," indicating a focus on studies involving human subjects.

c. Blue Cluster

May be related to aspects of risk and factors that influence poverty, such as "risk factors," "unemployment," and "rural population."

d. Other Clusters

Terms such as "pandemic," "COVID-19," and "health survey" that are in specific clusters indicate that extreme poverty is also analyzed in the context of global health, especially the impact of the pandemic.

In the network visualization, "extreme poverty" has a very close relationship with "poverty" as the central keyword. These two terms are connected by a bold line indicating that "extreme poverty" is a general subtopic or central dimension of poverty. This relationship is also strengthened by connections to several other keywords such as "developing countries", "economics", "social factors," and "education," which illustrate that extreme poverty is often studied in the context of developing countries, economic factors, and social conditions. In addition, the terms "COVID-19" and "pandemic" indicate that recent studies have also looked at the impact of the pandemic on extreme poverty. Overall, "extreme poverty" is an integral part of the broader discussion on poverty and is often associated with economic, social, and health factors. Different colors help group similar themes, providing a sense of how different research themes relate to each other in the context of poverty and development.
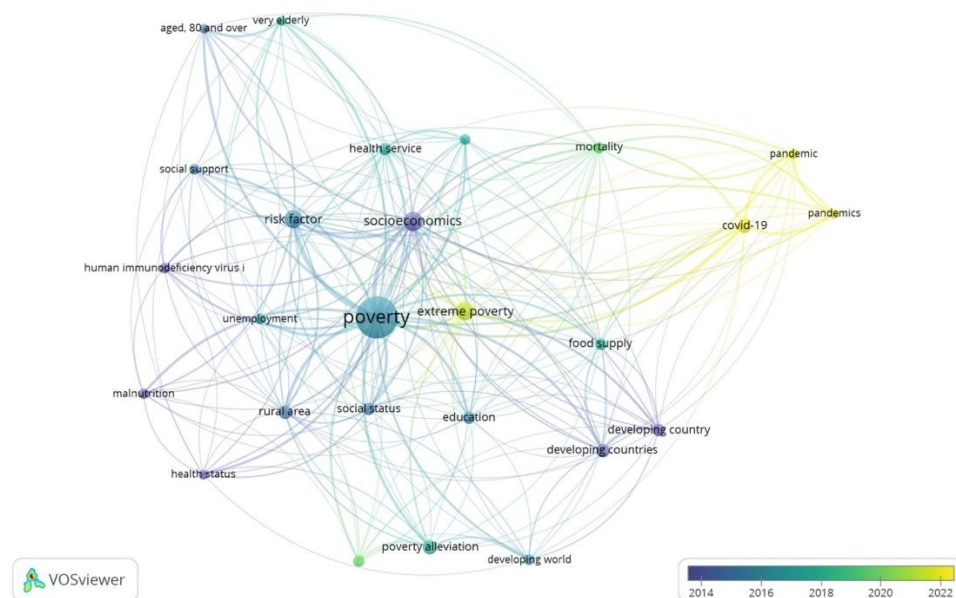

Figure 10. Visualization of research themes each years

The image above is a network visualization that shows the relationships between keywords in a collection of research or publications. It shows the evolution of discussions on poverty from 2014 to 2022, with a recent focus on the impact of the pandemic. The main keywords include extreme poverty, poverty alleviation, sustainable development, economic development, and developing countries Poverty remains a key topic that is closely linked to socio-economic factors such as unemployment, education, and health status. The COVID-19 pandemic has emerged as a key theme in recent years, with a significant impact on vulnerable populations. This image provides a visual mapping of the various themes related to poverty, health, economics, and development. Yellow Cluster is the newest research cluster in 2022. The keywords extreme poverty, COVID-19 and pandemic stand out in the yellow cluster, indicating a recent focus on the pandemic and its impact on poverty, a possible topic for future research.

5. Discussion

This article presents a bibliometric analysis of extreme poverty, which is the main focus of the first Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): no poverty. The study uses 517 articles published between 1981 and 2024, taken from the Scopus database. Tools such as VOSviewer, R Studio, and Excel are used to process and visualize the data, providing an overview of the characteristics of the articles. The review focuses on the most significant scientific contributions, including authors, journals, topics, institutions, and countries, and provides an in-depth insight into the development of the literature on extreme poverty. However, one of the main limitations of this study is the use of data only from Scopus, without considering other articles published on different platforms.

This paper highlights several future research themes that focus on a broader understanding of the factors contributing to extreme poverty and potential solutions. Here are some possible and crucial future research questions that could be explored:

a. **Impact of Policy Interventions:** How do different policy interventions, such as cash transfers or social protection schemes, affect long-term extreme poverty reduction?

b. **Post-Pandemic Poverty Recovery:** In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, what are the most effective strategies to help individuals who have fallen back into extreme poverty recover?

c. **Effectiveness of extreme poverty policies:** Are extreme poverty reduction policies effective, and what strategies can be implemented to address this?

d. **The Role of Education and Health Services:** What role does access to education and health services play in breaking the cycle of extreme poverty in the long term?

e. **Sustainability and Climate Change:** How do sustainability and climate change efforts affect the dynamics of extreme poverty, particularly in regions that rely heavily on agriculture?

This study is expected to be the basis for further research that will enrich the discussion and understanding of this issue and provide insight for policy makers in formulating strategies to eradicate extreme poverty worldwide.

6. Conclusion

This study aims to provide an overview of the development of literature related to extreme poverty. Five questions were developed to guide this study in mapping the thematic

structure and conceptualization of extreme poverty. Using bibliometric tools, this article shows trends and patterns in research and identifies significant contributions that have helped deepen the understanding of extreme poverty. This study is expected to be a basis for further research that will enrich the discussion and understanding of this issue and provide insights for policymakers in formulating strategies to eradicate extreme poverty worldwide.

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