

From Villages to Knowledge: A Bibliometric Analysis of Community Learning and Capacity Building In Rural Development

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ABSTRACT

This study maps rural and village development research (2001–2025) with a focus on community learning and capacity building. Addressing the gap that no prior bibliometric study has integrated village development policy, community learning, and capacity building within a single framework, this research employs a quantitative bibliometric design analyzing 219 Scopus-indexed English articles (filtered from 335 records retrieved on January 1, 2026). Data were processed using Bibliometrix and Biblioshiny in R Studio. The results show a 13.64% annual publication growth rate, with China, India, and Indonesia as leading contributors, and dominant themes centered on capacity building, sustainability, governance, empowerment, and social capital. These findings offer evidence-based guidance for strengthening Village Fund and BUMDes policies and identifying future research directions.

Keywords: bibliometric analysis, rural development, village development, capacity building, community learning

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini memetakan perkembangan kajian pembangunan desa dan perdesaan periode 2001–2025 dengan fokus pada pembelajaran komunitas dan penguatan kapasitas. Menjawab kesenjangan belum adanya studi bibliometrik yang mengintegrasikan kebijakan pembangunan desa, pembelajaran komunitas, dan capacity building dalam satu kerangka analitis, penelitian ini menggunakan desain bibliometrik kuantitatif dengan menganalisis 219 artikel berbahasa Inggris terindeks Scopus (disaring dari 335 dokumen yang dikumpulkan pada 1 Januari 2026). Data diolah menggunakan Bibliometrix dan Biblioshiny pada R Studio. Hasil menunjukkan pertumbuhan publikasi tahunan sebesar 13,64%, dengan Tiongkok, India, dan Indonesia sebagai kontributor utama, serta tema dominan mencakup capacity building, keberlanjutan, tata kelola, pemberdayaan, dan modal sosial. Temuan ini memberikan dasar berbasis bukti untuk penguatan kebijakan Dana Desa dan BUMDes serta arah penelitian pembangunan perdesaan ke depan.

Kata Kunci: analisis bibliometrik, pembangunan pedesaan, pembangunan desa, penguatan kapasitas, pembelajaran komunitas.

A. INTRODUCTION

Rural and village development has become a critical component in achieving sustainable development objectives, particularly in developing countries where a large proportion of the population resides in rural areas (Del Arco et al., 2021). Rural development programs are significantly impacted by the hampered development of communities and management directed towards decentralization. The Indonesian government has committed to improving village welfare through various initiatives in support of Law No. 6 of 2014 concerning Villages in Indonesia (Sebayang et al., 2023). One key initiative is the Village Fund, which allocates funds annually from the state budget to promote village progress and improve the welfare of local communities. This policy framework is reinforced by Law No. 3 of 2024, which revises the Village Law and reaffirms the government's commitment to sustainable village development. The objectives of village development, according to Article 78 Paragraph (1) of Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 3 of 2024, are to improve community welfare, enhance quality of life, and address socioeconomic disparities through the provision of basic needs, development of village infrastructure, development of local economic potential, and sustainable use of natural resources and the environment (*Undang-Undang Republik Indonesia Nomor 3 Tahun 2024 Tentang Perubahan Kedua Atas Undang-Undang Nomor 6 Tahun 2014, 2024*).

This development paradigm emphasizes that successful rural development requires both financial resources and the enhancement of institutional capacity alongside community learning processes (Yu et al., 2024). Government Regulation No. 11 of 2021 concerning Village-Owned Enterprises (*BUMDes*) delineates the legal framework enabling villages to create economic entities capable of proficiently managing local resources, forming partnerships, and converting village economic potential into avenues for community welfare (Pane et al., 2022). This rule establishes *BUMDes* as a dual-purpose institution: serving as an economic catalyst for the village and a means of community empowerment. Regulation No. 7 of 2023 by the Ministry of Village, Development of Disadvantaged Regions, and Transmigration underscores that fortifying village economic institutions, especially *BUMDes*, is a national priority for the allocation of Village Funds in 2024 (Rashed et al., 2025). This emphasizes that *BUMDes* is not only an administrative entity but a crucial tool for converting Village Funds into practical, community-oriented economic strength.

The effectiveness of village development initiatives depends on many factors, including community engagement, local capacity, quality of governance, and the ability to mobilize and sustain community learning processes. These factors vary regardless of policy framework and financial resources (Adam et al., 2024; Kusmayad et al., 2024). Revenues of Village-Owned Enterprises (*BUMDes*) receiving Village Funds increased by 25% in 2024 compared to the previous year, according to the latest data from the Ministry of Villages, Development of Disadvantaged Regions, and Transmigration (Hilmawan et al., 2023; Sofyana et al., 2025).

However, some BUMDes face significant operational challenges, such as human resource shortages, management failures, and an inability to capitalize on local economic opportunities. Previous studies have shown that although Village Funds play a crucial role in sustainable village development and empowerment, there is no significant relationship between the increase in the number of BUMDes and increases in Village Original Income (*PADes*) (Kania et al., 2021; Syahrir & Ibrahim, 2025). Furthermore, the rapid growth of Village-Owned Enterprises (*BUMDes*) has not been accompanied by a proportional increase in their effective utilization and impact on community economic independence (Readi et al., 2025; Safri et al., 2025).

The field of research on the intersection of rural development policy, capacity building, and community learning is complex and evolving. This requires a thorough analysis of existing research to understand how these dimensions interact with each other. Bibliometric analysis is one solution, using a systematic and objective approach to map the intellectual structure of a research field and identify key themes, significant works, collaborative networks, and emerging trends. Through bibliometric analysis, this study aims to provide an overview of the development of rural development economics studies, particularly those focused on community learning and capacity building.

Previous bibliometric studies in similar fields have demonstrated that this method works well for synthesizing a large body of literature and identifying research trends. For example, studies on community-based natural resource management (Budiono, 2025; Mansyur & F, 2026), bibliometric analyses of rural development (Nasution et al., 2025), and social learning in environmental management (Siao et al., 2022) have provided important insights into the discipline's development, underlying foundations, and methodological trends.

However, there is a gap in bibliometric research examining how skills development, community learning, and village development policies are interconnected, particularly in the context of village fund policies and village-owned businesses. This gap is particularly significant given the increasing number of village development projects worldwide and the growing interest in community-based development approaches in policy and practice. This study addresses this question. The intellectual framework of rural and village development is described in this study through bibliometric analysis, with a focus on community creativity and learning. This study aims to explain the history of this field, its current state, and future research prospects by analyzing the existing literature.

This research is of significant academic importance. By considering the research context, officials can make data-driven decisions about rural projects such as the distribution of Village Funds and the formation of Village-Owned Enterprises (*BUMDes*). Understanding the most common methods for building community skills and supporting community learning makes it easier for practitioners to develop programs at the village level. Thematic mapping helps researchers identify under-researched or newly explored topics.

To support this research, a conceptual framework linking three key elements of village and rural development: community capacity building, community learning, and village development policy, is used to support this research. The rural development approach, which shifts from a top-down, sectoral model to a more place-based, integrated, and inclusive model, emphasizes the importance of local context and community control over the development process (Ploeg & Long, 1994; Woods, 2010). This method aligns with the concept of endogenous development, which emphasizes the development of local resources, knowledge, and social capital as the foundation for sustainable development (Ray, 2006). This orientation is evident in Indonesia's Village Fund policy and the strengthening of BUMDes as an institutional tool for village development. This transformation is part of the global decentralization movement and efforts to reduce the distance between cities and villages. However, adequate planning, implementation, and oversight capacity at the local level is required due to the large allocation of public investment to villages (Antlöv et al., 2016). Therefore, this study systematically describes the progress of knowledge related to community skills, collective learning, and village development policies through bibliometric analysis.

Improving village capacity cannot be achieved through technical training alone, as it requires enhancing their capacity to manage local institutions and public investments. In this situation, capacity building occurs at three levels simultaneously: the individual, the group or organization, and the larger system. Therefore, short-term training interventions are unnecessary; instead, an inclusive, contextual, and long-term approach is needed (Baser & Morgan, 2011; Eade, 1997; Kaplan, 1999; Morgan, 2006). Villages need more than just technical skills; they also need adaptive capacity, namely the ability to learn, innovate, and consistently respond to change. This adaptive capacity relies on collaboration, social networks, and trust (Pelling & High, 2005). Village economic institutions such as Village-Owned Enterprises (*BUMDes*) are a strategic place to combine practical skills development and strengthening adaptive capacity.

Furthermore, the complex dynamics of village development require continuous community learning. This process emphasizes interaction, discussion, and collective reflection as a way to build shared understanding and contextual solutions, according to social learning theory (Wenger, 1998). Participatory planning, peer networks, and multi-stakeholder platforms enable communities to integrate diverse knowledge and apply it to development practices (Reed et al., 2010). Therefore, capacity building and community learning cannot be achieved independently but are closely linked to village development policies and institutional designs such as the Village Fund and Village-Owned Enterprises (*BUMDes*). To date, this relationship has not been fully elucidated in bibliometric research.

Based on this foundation, this study has three key characteristics. First, it is the first bibliometric study to examine the relationship between village development policies, community learning, and capacity building simultaneously. Previous studies have typically addressed these topics separately. Second, this study explicitly uses the Indonesian policy

context, specifically the Village Fund and BUMDes, as a framework for analysis. This fills an important gap in the relatively limited international literature on village governance in Southeast Asia. Third, this study provides a comprehensive and up-to-date thematic mapping of the field's progress using a 25-year analysis span (2001–2025) and the latest Scopus dataset as of January 2026.

Specifically, this study answers the following questions: (1) What are the trends in academic publications and the current state of research on rural and urban development related to capacity building and community learning? (2) Which individuals, institutions, and countries have had the greatest influence in shaping this field? (3) What are the key topic clusters, the most popular conceptual frameworks, and the latest research trends? By answering these questions, this study aims to provide a comprehensive overview that will help academics, practitioners, and policymakers identify current research sources and help them find a path forward.

B. RESEARCH METHOD

The bibliometric method, along with a systematic literature review, offers a numerical way to understand trends in research about civic disposition by uncovering common patterns, important topics, and the main structure of the field (Ma’rifatun et al., 2025). In line with this approach, the study population consisted of all Scopus-indexed scholarly publications that discussed rural or village development in relation to capacity building or community learning. The final sample consisted of 219 peer-reviewed English-language articles (2001–2025), which were screened from an initial pool of 335 documents using the criteria in Table 1. This study used a bibliometric research methodology to map the academic literature on rural and village development, with a particular emphasis on community learning and capacity building. Bibliometric analysis was chosen because it allows for a systematic and objective evaluation of a large body of literature (Donthu et al., 2021).

Table 1. Search strategies and retrieved document numbers

Including and excluding criteria	Document number
Advanced search query TITLE-ABS-KEY ("village development" OR "rural development") AND TITLE-ABS-KEY ("capacity building" OR "community learning")	Total documents retrieved = 335
Limiting to publication years (2001-2025)	Last 25 years = 316
Limiting to document type	Article = 228
Limiting to language	English = 219

Source: <https://www.scopus.com/>

The Bibliometrix package and its web-based interface, Biblioshiny, were used in R Studio to analyze data retrieved from Scopus on January 1, 2026, and exported in CSV format. These steps can be broadly divided into three main stages. First, data collection and export: relevant documents were identified in Scopus and exported as CSV files.

Second, data processing and analysis: files were imported into Biblioshiny for descriptive analysis (publication trends, citation metrics, document age), collaboration network mapping (authors and countries), and thematic and keyword mapping. Third, interpretation and synthesis. Results were visualized through trend graphs, network diagrams, treemaps, and thematic maps. Interpretation was then performed to elucidate the intellectual structure, key research clusters, and emerging trends in the field.

C. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Result

Main information about the data

The dataset covers a timespan from 2001 to 2025 and comprises a total of 219 scholarly documents published across 153 different academic journals. The annual growth rate of publications reaches 13.64%. The average age of the documents is 8.16 years. The documents receive an average of 17.41 citations per article. Collectively, these publications cite 1,952 references. The dataset includes 804 Keywords Plus (ID) and 794 Author's Keywords (DE). The study revealed the involvement of 745 authors, with 42 documents written by a single author. Collaboration patterns showed an average of 3.5 co-authors per document, while international co-authorship reached 34.25% of the total publications.

Table 2. Main information about the data

Description	Results
Timespan	2001:2025
Sources (Journals)	153
Documents	219
Annual growth rate %	13.64
Document average age	8.16
Average citations per doc	17.41
References	1952
Document contents	
Keywords plus (ID)	804
Author's keywords (DE)	794
Authors	
Authors	745
Authors of single-authored docs	42
Authors collaboration	
Single-authored docs	42
Co-Authors per Doc	3.5
International co-authorships %	34.25

Top relevant articles

Table 3 presents a detailed list of the top 10 most relevant articles, selected based on relevance and contribution to addressing the key issues within the field of study.

Table 3. Top 10 most relevant articles

No	Document Tittle	Journal Tittle	Authors	Citations
1	A Study on the Mechanism of Female	Sustainability	Gao et al.	2

	Participation in Rural Development of Yunnan on Their Capacity Building for Sustainable Development—Based on Cognitive, Emotional and Behavioural Perspectives	Switzerland	(2024)	
2	Between capital investments and capacity building-Development and application of a conceptual framework towards a place-based rural development policy	Land Use Policy	Zasada et al. (2015)	37
3	Rural development practice in practice: Issues arising in Scotland and Northern Ireland	Community Development Journal	Shortall & Shucksmith (2001)	74
4	Delivering integrated rural development: Insights from Northern Ireland	European Planning Studies	Scott (2002)	29
5	Predicting determinant factors and development strategy for tourist villages	Decision Science Letters	Ariyani et al. (2023)	13
6	Capacity-Building Catalysts: A Qualitative Assessment of Nonprofit Capacity Building by Community Foundations in Illinois	Foundation Review	Bingle (2019)	0
7	Disintegrated rural development? Neo-endogenous rural development, planning and place-shaping in diffused power contexts	Sociologia Ruralis	Shucksmith (2010)	312
8	People's participation in rural development projects in the North-West Frontier Province of Pakistan: A comparative review and analysis of Sarhad Rural Support Programme (SRSP) and Integrated Rural Development Project (IRDP)	African and Asian Studies	Shah (2009)	4
9	Building evaluation capacity in Spain: A case study of rural development and empowerment in the European union	Evaluation Review	Díaz-Puente et al. (2008)	27
10	Searching for a capacity building model in social work education in China	International Journal of Phytoremediation	Ku et al. (2005)	25

Distributions of the publications by year

In the early stages (2001–2007), research output was relatively low and sporadic, with only 1–3 articles published per year. Publications saw a significant increase in 2008, when they rose to 6 articles. A consistent increase occurred in 2009 and 2010, when publications rose to 7 and 8 articles, respectively. The number of publications rose sharply to 14 articles

in 2012; then decreased to 5 to 9 articles from 2013 to 2018. It then increased again to 12 articles in 2019 and peaked again in 2020. Then it decreased again to 13 and 12 articles in 2021 and 2022, respectively. In 2023, there was a temporary decline. In 2024, the number of published articles increased to 22 and in 2025, it reached its highest point with 43 articles. These increases and decreases can be seen in Figure 1.

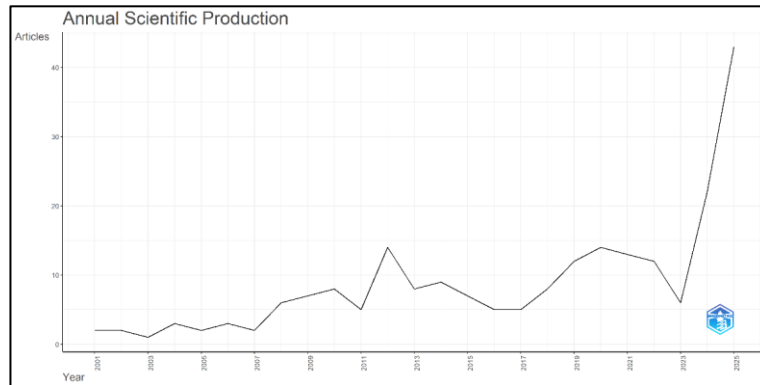


Figure 1. Distributions of the publications by year

Trend topics regarding years

From 2009 to 2013, the main topics were rural areas, rural economy, local participation, and community development. From 2013 to 2017, the most important keywords were capacity building, governance approaches, participatory approaches, empowerment, and social capital. Around 2018–2019, rural development and decommissioning showed high frequency and covered a wider temporal range. In the most recent period (2020–2025), terms such as agriculture, sustainable development, and regional planning have become increasingly popular, along with country-specific terms such as Indonesia and China. These trend topics can be seen in Figure 2.

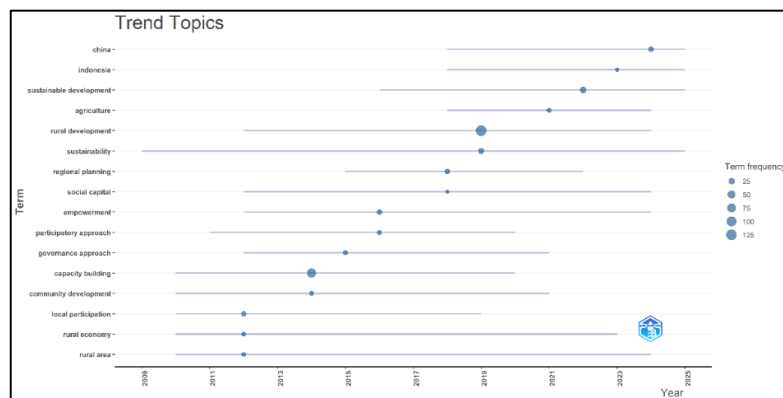


Figure 2. Trend topics between 2001 and 2025

Distributions of the publications by countries

Figure 3 shows the distribution of research publications by country of sponsoring authorship. China contributed 17 publications, or 7.8%, with 9 SCPs and 8 MCPs, each with a MCP share of 47.1%. India followed with 14 publications (6.4%), with 11 SCPs and 3 MCPs. The United Kingdom contributed 12 publications (5.5%), with 9 SCPs and 3 MCPs. The United States contributed 11 publications (5.0%), with 7 SCPs and 4 MCPs (a MCP

share of 36.4%). South Africa contributed 10 publications (4.6%), with 7 SCPs and 3 MCPs; Australia and Italy each contributed 8 publications (3.7%), each with 5 SCPs and 3 MCPs; Iran contributed 6 publications (2.7%), evenly divided between SCPs and MCPs (a MCP share of 50%). and Japan contributed 5 publications (2.3%), with the highest MCP proportion of 60%.

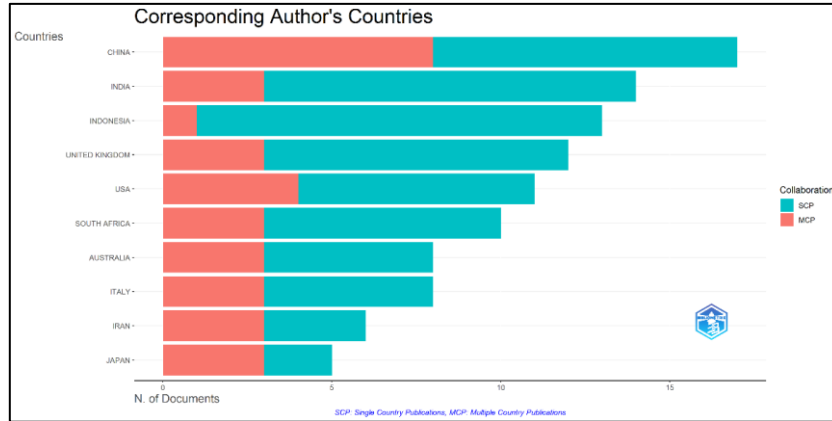


Figure 3. Distributions of the publications by countries

Distributions of the publications by sources

Figure 4 shows the most relevant journals contributing to research on rural and urban development, particularly in capacity building and community learning. The Journal of Rural Studies was the leading source with 13 publications; Sustainability (Switzerland) followed with 10 publications. Land contributed five publications; the Journal of Land, Journal of Community Development, Journal of International Forestry Review, and Journal of Rural Development each contributed four publications; and the African Journal of Hospitality, Tourism, and Leisure, European Countryside, and Land Use Policy each contributed three publications.

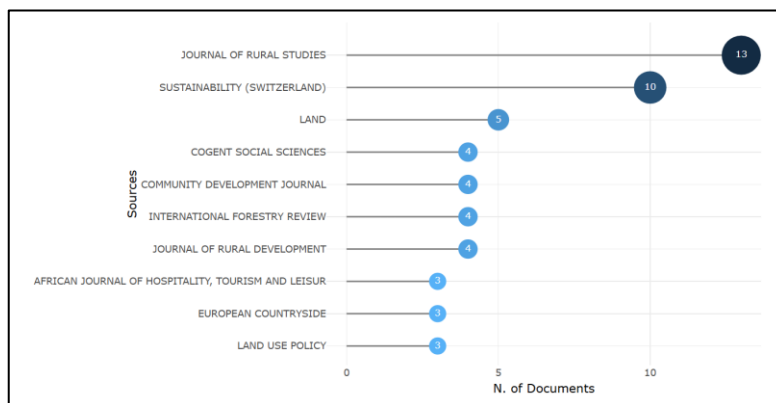


Figure 4. Distributions of the publications by sources

Top contributing authors

Based on Figure 5, the temporal distribution of authors' production illustrates varying patterns of scholarly engagement in rural and village development research over the period from 2005 to 2025. LIU J stands out as the most consistently productive author, with publications appearing around 2015, 2021, and extending to 2025. LI Y and LIU H show

outputs concentrated between 2018 and 2025. ACHARYA D and HAVLICEK T show contributions mainly between 2018 and 2025. AGARWAL SK, BAHUGUNA A, MAIKHURI RK, and NEGI VS exhibit earlier contributions clustered around 2010. KU BH-B shows engagements around 2005 and a subsequent publication in 2011.

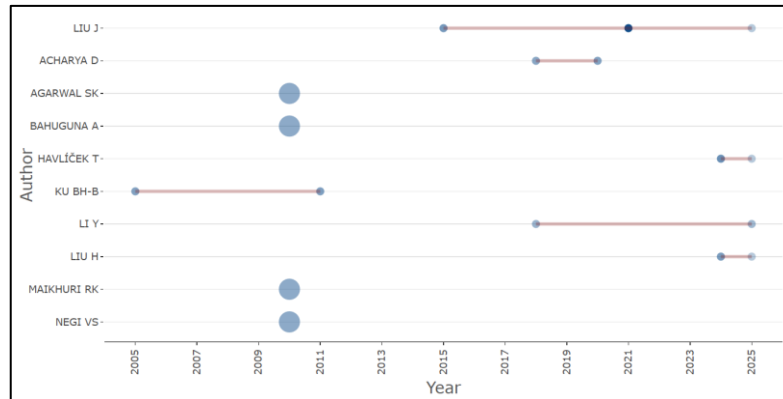


Figure 5. Top 10 contributing authors

Co-Occurrence analysis

Figure 6 illustrates the co-occurrence network of keywords. The most prominent and central cluster is dominated by rural development. Capacity building shows strong connections with community development, empowerment, stakeholder participation, decentralization, and social capital. A significant cluster includes sustainable development, rural policy, rural planning, strategic approaches, and rural areas. Another cluster encompasses economic development, innovation, agriculture, food security, regional planning, and geographical contexts such as Asia, Europe, Indonesia, and developing countries. Smaller clusters address poverty, climate change, and smallholders.

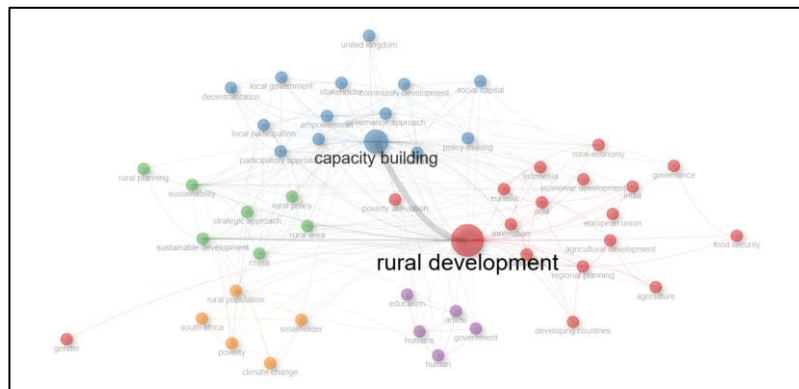


Figure 6. Co-Occurrence network

Tree-map analysis

Figure 7 presents the tree-map visualization of the top 50 most frequent keywords used across the analyzed documents. The keyword rural development emerges as the most prominent, accounting for 128 occurrences (20%), followed by capacity building with 78 occurrences (12%). Sustainable development accounts for 27 occurrences (4%) and sustainability for 21 occurrences (3%). Geographical contexts such as China, Indonesia,

Asia, India, and South Africa are also present. Keywords related to vulnerability and social issues are also identified.

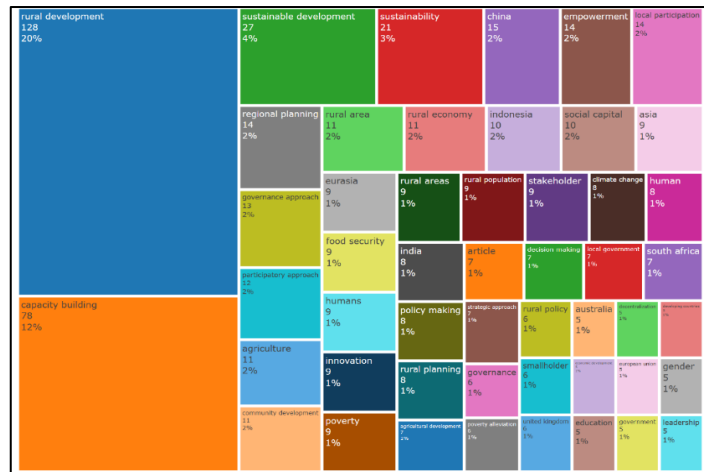


Figure 7. Tree-map visualization

Thematic-map analysis

Figure 8 illustrates the thematic map based on keyword centrality (relevance) and density (development), revealing the structural evolution of research themes in rural and village development studies. The quadrant of basic themes is dominated by rural development, capacity building, and sustainability. The motor themes quadrant features humans, poverty, rural population, governance approach, climate change, and India. In the niche themes area, keywords such as regional planning, rural area, and Indonesia appear. The emerging or declining themes quadrant includes agriculture, food security, livelihoods, sustainable development, China, and gender.

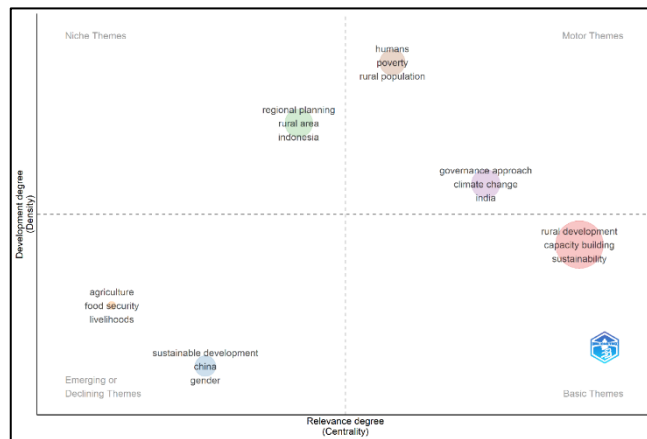


Figure 8. Tree-map visualization

Discussion

Table 2 provides a comprehensive overview of the bibliometric data across the studied fields. Research output has been steadily increasing over time, as indicated by an annual growth rate of 13.64%. The average age of documents in this field is 8.16 years, indicating a wealth of prior literature and the addition of new academic research. The

articles have moderate to high academic value, as demonstrated by the fact that each article has an average of 17.41 citations. The 1,952 references indicate a wealth of theoretical and empirical research on the subject. The extensive keyword structure demonstrates the breadth of the concept, and the 34.25% co-authorship indicates the global importance of this research topic.

Table 3 reveals that the most relevant article is “*A Study on the Mechanism of Female Participation in Rural Development of Yunnan on Their Capacity Building for Sustainable Development-Based on Cognitive, Emotional, and Behavioral Perspectives*”. This study analyzes the mechanisms of women's participation in rural development and its influence on sustainable development capacity, using the Theory of Planned Behavior as a theoretical foundation. The study examines five indicators of participation (cognitive, emotional, and behavioral) along with external factors such as the environment, family economy, human capital, social networks, and family roles, through a survey of women in a former impoverished region in Yunnan Province, China. Structural Equation Modeling analysis shows that cognitive, emotional, and behavioral participation have a positive effect on sustainable development capacity, with cognitive participation also increasing behavioral participation. Furthermore, the external environment acts as a moderating variable, strengthening the influence of the economic and human capital dimensions on sustainable development capacity. This study contributes by developing a model and instrument for measuring rural women's participation and sustainable development capacity.

Figure 1 illustrates the distribution of publications by year. Between 2001 and 2025, research has varied year by year. This indicates that this topic has been developing gradually for a long time, with some significant changes and advances in recent years. From 2001 to 2007, this research field was still new, and academics were less interested in it because it was still very new. The first peak of research occurred in 2012. From 2013 to 2018, this research topic gained importance in academia. The number of publications reached 43 in 2025, indicating that this research topic has become highly relevant in academia. Overall, the annual scientific output shows a significant increase over the long term, indicating that the discipline is new and rapidly developing.

The year-over-year trend analysis in Figure 2 shows that capacity building and community learning have become important and ongoing topics in the rural and village development literature. The initial focus on key topics and specific contexts indicates an early phase in understanding the framework of participation and the rural environment. Capacity building, governance, and social capital increased from 2013 to 2017, indicating a growing interest in enhancing community learning systems and group activities as essential components of long-term rural development.

The rise of sustainability from 2018 to 2019 indicates a conceptual evolution in the field toward a systems-focused and sustainable development framework. The shift to geographically specific keywords from 2020 to 2025 indicates academics' focus on applied, policy-relevant studies in specific rural areas of the country and region.

Figures 3, 4, and 5 show the distribution of publications over time by country, source, and author. China had the highest contribution with 17 publications (7.8%), followed by other countries with lower contributions, as shown in Figure 3. The Journal of Rural Studies was the most productive journal, according to Figure 4, with 13 publications on rural and urban development, particularly capacity building and community learning. Meanwhile, LIU J was the most consistently productive journal, with publications from 2015 to 2025, demonstrating consistent scholarly engagement in rural development research.

The research landscape is highly interconnected, as demonstrated by the emergence of a shared network in Figure 6. Rural development is the primary topic, but others include capacity building, governance, poverty, and economic growth. Rural development is a key focus of scholarly research because of its critical importance. Many believe that building community capacity and institutions is a crucial way to bring lasting change to rural areas. This is because empowerment, participation, and social capital are closely linked to capacity building. The Vulnerability Cluster demonstrates that rural populations face persistent challenges and that development is necessary to reduce poverty. This structure demonstrates that development institutions and community learning are two important ways to achieve sustainable rural and village development.

A similar analysis of the tree map in Figure 7 demonstrates that most research focuses on capacity building and rural development. This supports social inclusion, deterrence, governance, and economic development. Most research on rural development is conducted in developing and emerging economies, indicating a global reach. The themes of governance and participation highlight the importance of having inclusive decision-making processes and institutional structures. This distribution also demonstrates the importance of community learning and institution-building to address major rural issues and achieve long-term development goals.

According to the theme map in Figure 8, research on rural development is now shifting from traditional topics to capacity building, will, governance, and people-centered issues. The main theme quadrants indicate that rural development, capacity building, and deterrence are the most frequently discussed issues in the literature. Increasing research focuses on people-centered development, vulnerability, governance processes, and environmental issues, according to the main themes. There are distinct lines of research that appear separate from each other, as represented by specific subject areas. Sometimes, these lines illustrate planning studies specific to a specific field or technical area. While still relevant, traditional issues such as agriculture and food security appear to be increasingly irrelevant. This indicates a conceptual shift in rural and village studies toward an institutional, social, and adaptive development approach.

D. CONCLUSION

Through a bibliometric analysis of 219 Scopus-indexed articles published between 2001 and 2025, which directly address the question posed in the title, this study maps the frontier of knowledge on community learning and capacity building in rural and village

development. The findings reveal a field experiencing rapid and robust growth (13.64 percent per year), led by scholars from China, India, and Indonesia. Most of the major findings are published in the *Journal of Rural Studies*. Two main themes, rural development and capacity building, form the intellectual core of this frontier. This second theme relates to poverty, governance, empowerment, and social capital.

These results confirm that institutional capacity building and community learning are essential components of modern rural development studies, not peripheral topics. The capacity building theme is crucial for Indonesia to align its Village Fund strategy with sustainable community learning programs, which will strengthen Village-Owned Enterprises (BUMDes) and village governance. Future research should include underrepresented regions.

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