

Original Article<https://doi.org/10.54692/amr.2026.31226>**Mapping the Nexus of Private Public Partnership and Sustainable Entrepreneurship: A Systematic Literature Review and Bibliometric Analysis****Asad UR Rahman¹, and Muhammad Muzammil Masood²**¹Department of Commerce, Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan, Pakistan²Department of Commerce, Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan, PakistanCorresponding Author: Muhammad Muzammil Masood Email: masoodmuzammil971@gmail.com© 2026 by the Author(s). Published by AMR, under the CC-BY license

Abstract

Public private partnerships (PPPs) shall have to be encouraged in today's new phase of socio-economic development and Sustainable Entrepreneurship (SE) is a vital element of it. Researchers and policy makers are realizing the importance of research on PPPs and SE. This study has provided helpful insights by conducting a bibliometric analysis and systematic literature review to explore the development, content and future research agenda. In this study, the guidelines used was, "PRISMA" and "The dimensions.ai database" approach. From a total of 118 articles, 35 were initially screened based on the following: "only journal articles", "between 2015 and 2025", "open access", and "keywords". In the "Biblioshiny.ai with R Studio", the 35 articles were analyzed. The results showed that there was an evident upsurge of publications in 2021 which reached its peak in 2025. Leading are the "International Journal of Advanced and Applied Sciences" and "Social Science & Medicine". "Russia" and "Ukraine" are identified most contributing countries. The keyword analysis and word cloud re-occur the words "Development", "education", "economic" and "digital". Themes emerging from the thematic mapping are: "entrepreneurship", "sustainability" and "public-private partnerships", whereas "youth" and "frameworks" are emerging themes to be included. The results briefly summarized the relationship between "PPP" and "SE", and provided an in-depth description of the history, current status and future trajectories of research on the intersections of "PPP" and "SE".

Keywords: Public-Private Partnership, Sustainable Entrepreneurship, Systematic Literature Review, Bibliometric Analysis, Dimensions.ai, Biblioshiny

1. Introduction

In today's fast-changing global environment, marked by swift socio-economic changes and complex societal problems (Karamchand, 2021). The need for sustainable development has never been more demanding (Sikhwari & Kugara, 2025). Achieving sustainability is dependent on developing collaborative relationships between the public and private sectors, such as Public-Private Partnership (Hereafter: PPP) (Frovol, 2018; Lakhyzha & Yehorycheva, 2019; TULAI et al., 2022), and encouraging entrepreneurial activities that combine environmental, social, and economic factors, known as Sustainable Entrepreneurship (Hereafter: SE)(Khodakivska, 2022; Uktamov et al., 2024).

Two related concepts are now considered key drivers of innovation, effective use of resources, and broader economic growth. PPP provide a way for governments to tap into the private sector's efficiency, funds, and innovative ideas to deliver public goods and services (Frovol, 2018; Herbst, 2023). Traditional public financing or private companies may fall short in covering these costs, as noted by Dela Cruz, (2020); Muneera et al., (2025); Zvavahera, (2025). Entrepreneurship with a focus on sustainability is often used to address inequalities, a business approach that moves beyond making a profit to address social and environmental concerns (Iwara & Kilonzo, 2025; Perwitasari et al., 2025). This approach helps to achieve sustainable development goals and economic development (Sikhwari & Kugara, 2025). The intersection of these two areas holds vast potential for building strong economies and fair societies (Sikhwari & Kugara, 2025).

Existing studies often delve into either PPP or SE in isolation including (Bärnreuther, 2022; Zvavahera, 2025), or provide fragmented insights into their intersections (Kovtun, 2023). A comprehensive understanding of both concepts is hindered by the knowledge gap, which prevents the recognition of their primary focus where future research should be prioritized on PPP's and SE (Karamchand, 2021) Examples of challenges are entrepreneurial resilience (Boustani & Hajj, 2023), digital transformation (Adi Syahid et al., 2025; Voronchak & Vovk, 2021), and policy implementation (Bukhari et al., 2025) that need thorough research.

To fulfill this critical knowledge gap, this study intends to offer a valuable understanding by performing a bibliometric analysis and systematic review of the literature. By using progressive

analytical tools, this study examines systematically the evolution, thematic focus, and future research directions in the field of “Public-Private Partnership” and “Sustainable Entrepreneurship” through following research questions;

- What are the most influential journals, authors, and countries contributing to the research on Public-Private Partnerships and Sustainable Entrepreneurship?
- What has been the primary thematic focus of literature at the intersection of Public-Private Partnerships and Sustainable Entrepreneurship?
- What are the potential future research directions for Public-Private Partnerships and Sustainable Entrepreneurship?

This study aims to suggest researchers and policymakers, through bibliometric analysis and systematic literature reviews about extant, existing, and future research about PPPs and SE research. The primary objective is to create more efficient methods for socio-economic development and sustainability (Sikhwari & Kugara, 2025).

2. Methodology

In this research, a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) methodology was used to confirm an objective and transparent approach to article identification, selection, inclusion criteria, and further analysis. The article selection process was conducted strictly following the PRISMA guidelines suggested by Page et al., (2021). PRISMA is recognized as standard procedure for conducting SLRs across research field. The flow of the methodology is conceptually illustrated in Figure 1, illustrating the identification, screening, eligibility, and inclusion phases.

Identification of relevant keywords and selection of an appropriate database was employed in the initial phase of research. The “Dimensions. Ai” database was used for this study because it has a wide range of scholarly publications, grants, patents, and policy papers, which is essential for understanding the complexities of “PPP” and “SE” research from a broad and interdisciplinary angle. The terms “Public-Private Partnership” *AND* “Entrepreneurship” *AND* “Sustainable” were chosen as keywords for the search query. These keywords were put into the database initially found 118 documents.

To adhere to the PRISMA flow diagram, a structured screening process was employed, and specific inclusion criteria were used to reduce the number of articles for final analysis. The first

filter, “Open Access”, shortlisted only 56 documents. Subsequently, articles published in “2015 and 2025” were selected. This filter further reduced the pool to 51 documents. To ensure the inclusion of peer-reviewed scholarly content, only “journal articles” and shortlist articles are included. Finally, rigorous manual skimming of these 50 shortlisted articles was conducted by the authors. In this final screening, a total of 35 articles were ultimately considered eligible and included for detailed bibliometric analysis in this review.

Data Analysis were conducted using more than one tools. i.e., “Biblioshiny” were used for the detailed bibliometric analysis; it is an open-source tool available within “R, R-Studio” on the recommendations of Aria & Cuccurullo, (2017). In bibliometric analysis two dimed two magnitudes were assessed. Firstly as, performance analysis, which tells about “scientific productivity, overall evaluation of the field”, Secondly, as scientific maps that unveils the “research’s structure, progression, and key contributors” (Cobo et al., 2011). On the Other hand, “VOSviewer” was used to visualize the keyword co-occurrence network visualization.

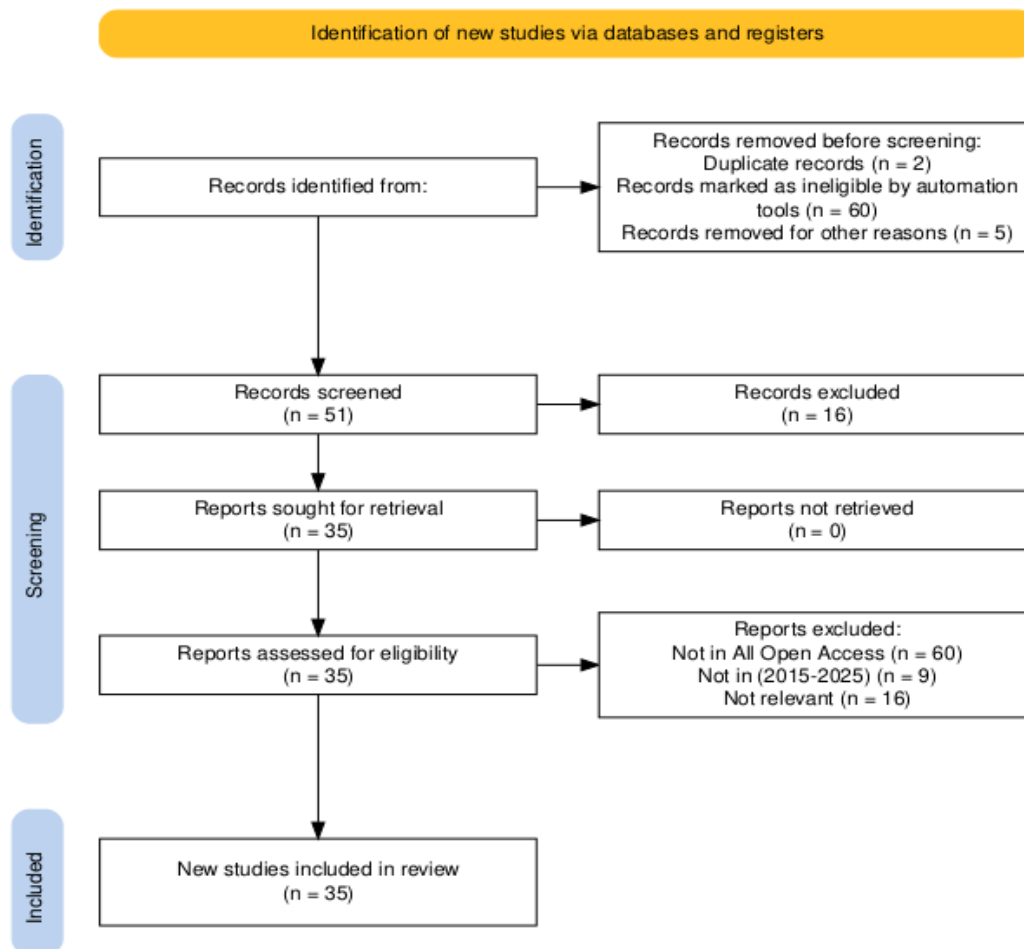


Figure 1: PRISMA flow diagram (Author's own creation)

3. Results

3.1. Trend of Publication

In Figure 2, the Annual scientific production shows a focus of researchers toward “PPP” and “SE”, the annual publication trend. In the years “2016-2020”, the publications remained low, ranging from 1,2 and 0. But a significant surge can be witnessed in the years “202-2023”, the publications increased from a range of 2 to 6, and in 2024 it dipped to 4. The number of publications showed a remarkable increase, peaking at 12 articles in 2025. This growth highlights the recent emergence and significance of research in the field of “PPP” and “SE”.

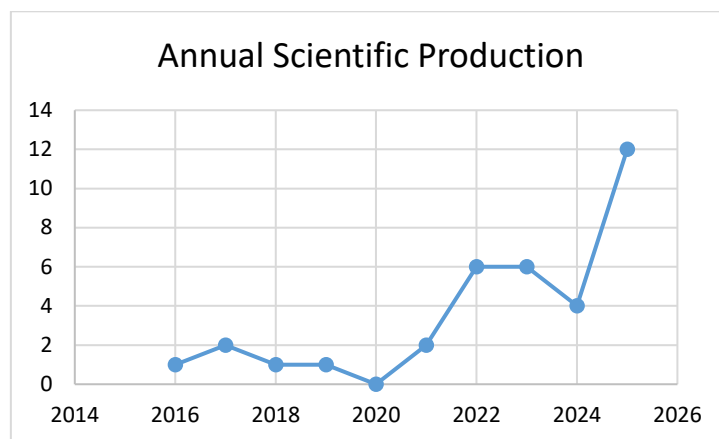


Figure 2: Trend of publication (Source: Authors' own creation using Biblioshiny)

3.2. Leading Journals

Table 1 shows leading journals contributing to the scholarship on “PPP” and “SE”. “*International Journal of Advanced and Applied Sciences*” emerged as the top journal with 27 total citations (h, g, m-indexes of 1, 1, and 0.25), with 1 published article in 2022. Journals, “*Social Science & Medicine*” and “*Globalization and Health*” both documented 17 total citations (h, g, m-indexes of 1, 1, and 0.25) and (h, g, m-indexes of 1, 1, and 0.1) published 1 article in 2022 and 1 article in 2016. The journal “*Sustainability*” showed 10 total citations and 2 publications in 2022 (h, g, m-indexes of 1, 2, and 0.25). Other notable journals include “*Journal of Law and Sustainable Development*” with (4 and citations 1 publication in 2023), “*Forestry Engineering Journal*” with (3 citations, 1 publication in 2017), and “*Journal of European Economy*”, “*Baikal Research Journal*”, “*Outlines of Global Transformations: Politics, Economics, Law*”, and “*Odessa National University Herald Economy*” (all with 2 citations and 1 publication each in various years). These journals demonstrate significant contributions to scholarship as key platforms for research findings and influential academic exchange.

Table 1: Most globally cited journals

Journal	Total Citation	h-index	g-index	m-index	Pub	PY- Start
“International Journal of Advanced and Applied Sciences”	27	1	1	0.25	1	2022
“Social Science & Medicine”	17	1	1	0.25	1	2022
“Globalization And Health”	17	1	1	0.1	1	2016
“Sustainability”	10	1	2	0.25	2	2022

“Journal of Law and Sustainable Development”	4	1	1	0.33	1	2023
“Forestry Engineering Journal”	3	1	1	0.11	1	2017
“Journal of European Economy”	2	1	1	0.25	1	2022
“Baikal Research Journal”	2	1	1	0.25	1	2022
“Outlines of Global Transformations: Politics, Economics, Law”	2	1	1	0.125	1	2018
“Odessa National University Herald Economy”	2	1	1	0.2	1	2021

3.3. Most influential authors

Table 2 shows numerous highly influential authors who significantly contributed to the field of “PPP” and “SE”. “Khodakivska” stands as the most impactful author with total citation count of 27, and (h, g, m-indexes of 1,1, and 0.25). Subsequently, a group of authors including “Bärnreuther“, “Nwadiuko”, “Wang”, “Urekeshova”, and “Skrynnikova & Topcheev”, each have 17 total citations with(h, g, m-indexes of 1, 1, and 0.1 to 0.25). One more significant group, including “Tulai”, “Samarukha”, “Frovol”, and “Voronchak & Vovk”, each recorded 10 total citations with (h, g, m-indexes of 1, 1, and 0.25). These authors have a substantial citation impact within the research area and are pivotal in shaping the scholarship on “PPPs” and “SE”.

Table 2: Most influential authors

Author	TC	h-index	g-index	m-index
(Khodakivska, 2022)	27	1	1	0.25
(Bärnreuther, 2022)	17	1	1	0.25
(Nwadiuko et al., 2016)	17	1	1	0.1
(Wang et al., 2022)	17	1	1	0.1
(Urekeshova et al., 2023)	17	1	1	0.1
(Skrynnikova & Topcheev, 2017)	17	1	1	0.1
(Tulai Et Al., 2022)	10	1	1	0.25
(Samarukha, 2022)	10	1	1	0.25
(Frovol, 2018)	10	1	1	0.25
(Voronchak & Vovk, 2021)	10	1	1	0.25

3.4. Most Global Cited Documents

Table 3 shows that the articles with top citation counts represent highly impactful works in the field. Notably, the document by Khodakivska, (2022), titled “*Sustainable development of*

regions: *Modeling the management of economic security of innovative entrepreneurship*”, in “*International Journal of Advanced and Applied Sciences*” is on the lead with 27 total citations. Document by Bärnreuther, (2022), titled “*Disrupting healthcare? Entrepreneurship as an innovative financing mechanism in India’s primary care sector*” in journal, “*Social Science & Medicine*” and Nwadiuko et al., (2016), with title, “*Giving back: a mixed methods study of the contributions of US-Based Nigerian physicians to home country health systems*” in journal, “*Globalization And Health*” both documented 17 total citations. The document of Wang et al., (2022), in “*Sustainability*”, has accumulated 10 citations. Moreover, significant contributions include Urekeshova et al., (2023), in “*Journal Of Law And Sustainable Development*” with 4 citations, Skrynnikova & Topcheev, (2017), in “*Forestry Engineering Journal*” with 3 citations. Above mentioned highly cited documents frequently introduce key concepts, methodologies, or empirical findings influencing the further research in scholarship of “PPP” and “SE”.

Table 3: Most global cited documents

Authors	Journal	Title	Total Citation
(Khodakivska, 2022)	International Journal of Advanced and Applied Sciences	“Sustainable development of regions: Modeling the management of economic security of innovative entrepreneurship”	27
(Bärnreuther, 2022)	Social Science & Medicine	“Disrupting healthcare? Entrepreneurship as an innovative financing mechanism in India’s primary care sector”	17
(Nwadiuko et al., 2016)	Globalization and Health	“Giving back: a mixed methods study of the contributions of US-based Nigerian physicians to home country health systems”	17
(Wang et al., 2022)	Sustainability	“The effects of investment in major construction projects on regional economic growth quality: a difference-in-differences analysis based on PPP policy”	10
(Urekeshova et al., 2023)	Journal of Law and Sustainable Development	“Development of the labor market in the context of Kazakhstan’s digital economy and the concept of sustainable development”	4
(Skrynnikova & Topcheev, 2017)	Forestry Engineering Journal	“Development of forest economy of the Malolesnogo region: experience and prospects”	3
(Tulai Et Al., 2022)	Journal of European Economy	“Methodological and practical guidelines for the development of environmental	2

(Samarukha, 2022)	Baikal Research Journal	entrepreneurship within the framework of public-private partnership” “Prerequisites for the revolutionary industrial and technological transformation of the economy of Russia”	2
(Frovol, 2018)	Outlines of Global Transformations Politics Economics Law	“Public-private partnership as a timely innovation factor of the USA”	2
(Voronchak & Vovk, 2021)	Odessa National University Herald Economy	“Corporate social responsibility in the conditions of digital transformation of economic systems”	2

3.5. Country Scientific Production Map

Figure 3 demonstrates the leading countries in the deepest shade of blue. Data sourced from the “dimensions.ai” database reveals the top countries that make significant contributions in the research on “PPP” and “SE”. The top contributors of documents are the countries “Russia” and “Ukraine” with 4 documents each, followed by “South Africa” and “United States of America” with 2 documents each as seen in figure 4. Other countries, such as “Australia”, “China”, “France”, “Indonesia”, “Lebanon”, “Switzerland” and “Uzbekistan” each provided with 1 document. This geographic distribution is indicative of the general interest and involvement in this field of research around the world.

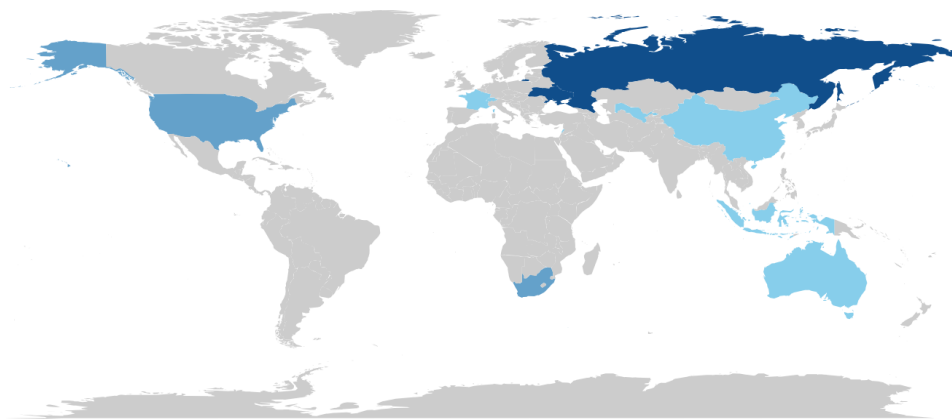


Figure 3: Country Scientific Production Map

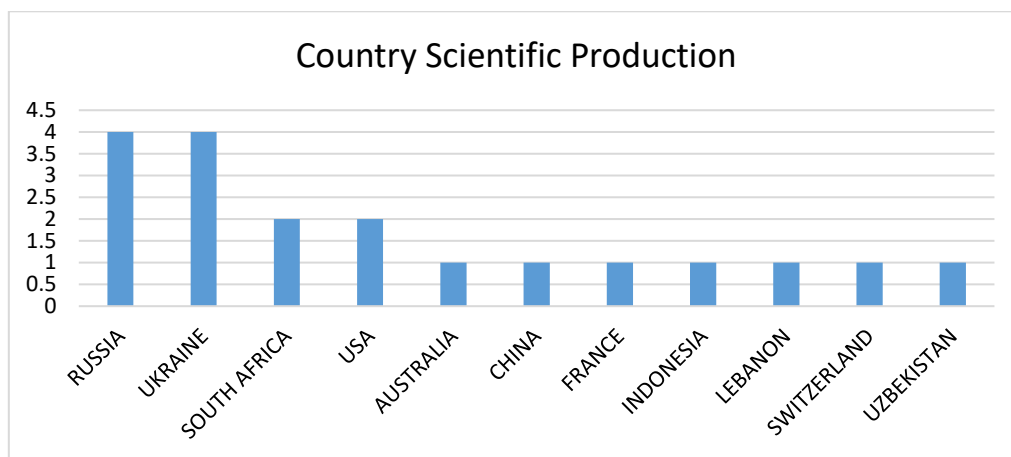


Figure 4: Country Scientific Production

3.6. Keyword Co-occurrence Network Visualization

The author's visualization of the keyword co-occurrence network created by "VOSviewer" from the abstracts of the analyzed articles is shown in Figure 5, and this was used to examine the relationships between the key terms in the research field. The structure of this network shows clearly some groups of concepts, and the thickness of the connecting lines shows the strength of the co-occurrence between them. There is one prominent cluster (e.g., in red) that is closely connected to "public-private partnership", "entrepreneurship", "economy", "innovation", "sustainable development", "initiative", indicating that the economic and development-related aspects of public-private partnerships are central. Another cluster (shown in green) has "entrepreneur" in the center, surrounded by "economic growth", "entrepreneurial ecosystem" and "business", highlighting the core elements of entrepreneurship in this cluster. A third cluster (e.g., in blue) is 'opportunity', 'government' and 'org', indicating the importance of the role of governmental bodies and organizational structures that can create opportunities in 'PPP' and 'SE'. The interdisciplinary nature of the research is highlighted in the interconnections of these concepts, for example, the research concept of "sustainable development" is related to the research concept "public-private partnership" and "entrepreneurship".

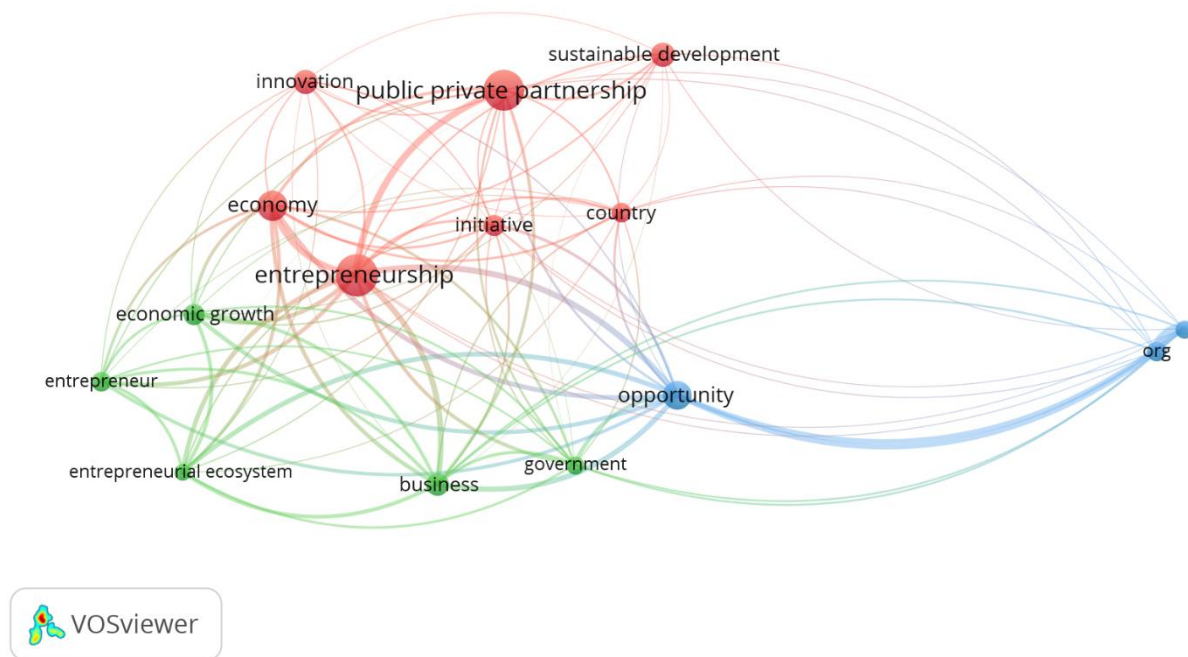


Figure 5: Keyword Co-occurrence Network Visualization

4. Trends and Future Research Directions

4.1. Word Cloud

The word cloud (see Figure 6) created by the author from the keywords and abstracts of the analyzed articles, gives an immediate visualisation of the most occurring terms in the research domain Public-Private Partnerships and Sustainable Entrepreneurship. The larger, bolder letters in the word cloud represent words that are more likely to be used. The top three terms that were seen more than once are “development”, “education”, “economic”, “public-private”, “digital”, “entrepreneurship”, and “sustainable”. This reflects the priority of the developmental, educational and economic dimensions of these partnerships as well as the increased significance of digital transformation and the fundamental principles of entrepreneurship and sustainability. In the field of research, other key terms are “policy”, “research”, “social”, “innovation”, “growth”, “support”, “business”, “challenges”, and “opportunities” suggesting the broad scope of the subject and the various scales being investigated.



Figure 6: Word Cloud

4.2. Trend Topics

Figure 7 depicts the selected evolution of keywords over the time span of 2016-2025 through their trend topics, highlighting emerging and enduring research interests. There are mentions of “medical” and “diaspora” early in the period (circa 2016-2018) indicating early niche interests. With the advancement of the field, terms such as “cooperation”, “region” and “forest” appear at 2018-2019. In 2020, “PPP” and “interviews” become more relevant, as does “established”, suggesting an interest in practical aspects and methodologies of the Public-Private Partnership (PPP). Later, in (2021-2025), a clear shift is observed, with topics like “environmental”, “implementation”, “based”, “policy”, “education”, “entrepreneurial”, “sustainable”, “development”, “economic”, and “digital” becoming dominant. The circles of large sizes signify a more frequent occurrence in the literature, confirming their sustained growth and importance in the literature on “PPP” and “SE”.

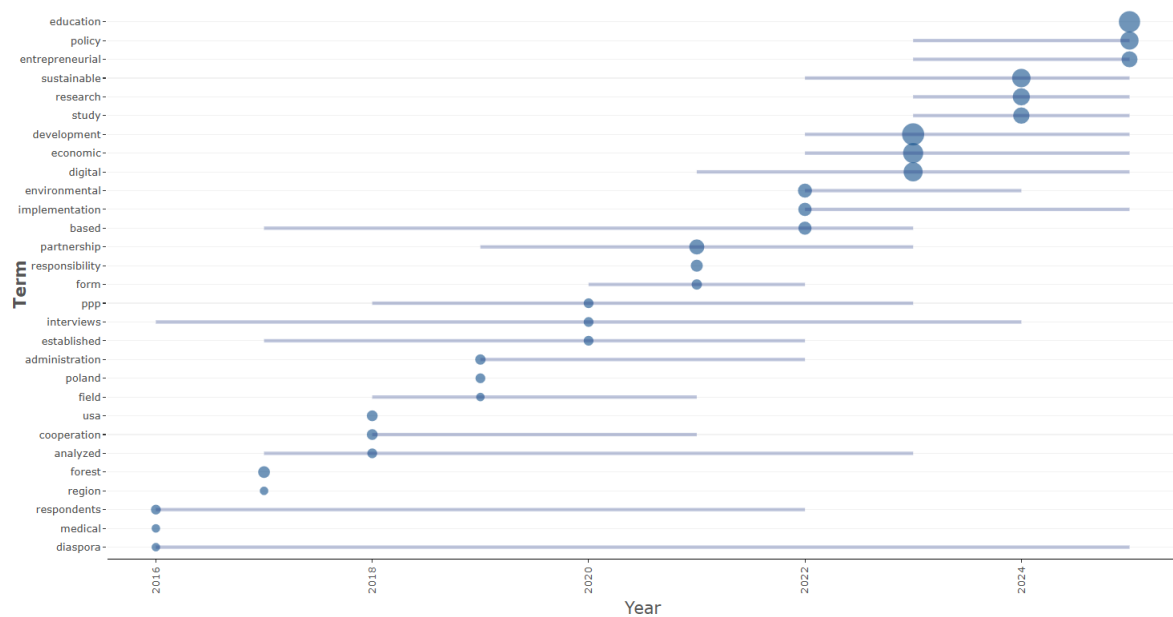


Figure 7: Trend Topics

4.3. Thematic Map

Figure 8 shows the thematic map, which offers a research domain view by distributing themes cross-sectional in 4 quadrants based on their centrality and density, as proposed by Cobo et al., (2011).

Quadrant No.1 (Motor Theme with high centrality and high density); Located in the top-right quadrant i.e., “entrepreneurship”, “sustainable”, and “public-private” are identified as motor themes. The concepts are vital in scholarship and endured substantial development by researchers over time, High centrality shows strong interactions with other clusters, and high density reflects internal establishment and progression.

Quadrant No.2 (Niche Theme with low centrality and high density); Located in the top-left quadrant, i.e., “policy”, “research”, and “digital” exhibit a development (high density) but lack strong connections to other themes (low centrality), suggests that, the topics are extensively explored internally but, their connections are weaker with broader themes in “PPP” and “SE” Scholarship.

Quadrant No.3 (Emerging or Declining Theme with low centrality and low density); Located in the bottom-left quadrant, it appears largely empty, suggesting that most identified themes have at least some vacuum of development or relevance within the current scope. the themes

with both low density and centrality. It signifies the frail and peripheral nature due to either emerging or declining trends.

Quadrant No.4 (Basic Theme with high centrality and low density); Located in the bottom-right quadrant, the theme in this quadrant generally have less advancement the motor themes (low density), but show influence to other topics (high centrality). Entrepreneurship, sustainable and public-private also indicate a high relevance and centrality in this quadrant, but also indicate an additional development potential (density) in the quadrant: These are highly relevant and central, but these can be reinforced internally.

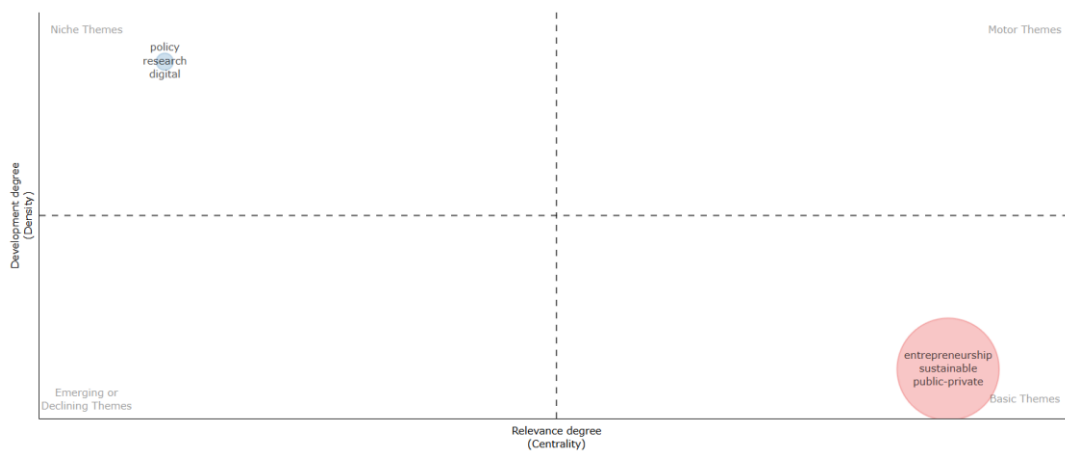


Figure 8: Thematic Map

5. Discussion and Future Research Directions

5.1. Discussion

The purpose of this research was to conduct an in-depth bibliometric study of the Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) and Sustainable Entrepreneurship (SE) fields based on 35 articles that appeared on Dimensions.ai. The results indicate that the research field is dynamic and continuously developing, with an evident increase in publications from 2021 to a higher rate of 31.8% per year in 2025. This represents a growing awareness of the important role of “PPP” and “SE” in Socio-economic development.

In addition to the well-known business journals, “International Journal of Advanced and Applied Sciences” and “Social Science & Medicine” are recognized as important journals, transcending the boundaries of business schools and stepping out into other disciplines of applied sciences, social sciences, and public health. The important role of “Russia” and

“Ukraine” as the top contributors illustrates high geographical value and specific views, which will become a fruitful basis for comparative analysis of context specific issues and future development of public-private partnerships and social entrepreneurship.

The term “development”, “education”, “economic” and “digital” are always among the top-ranked terms identified through keyword analysis and are reflected in the various word frequency visualizations, as well as in the hierarchy-based data representations. It reflects the importance of the role of public-private partnerships and social entrepreneurship in achieving social progress, the need for proper training for the development of long-term entrepreneurial orientations, economic impacts and the transformative power of digital technologies. This is in line with the global initiatives for digital transformation and sustainable development. The network of relationships between keywords also demonstrates the close links between the concepts of public-private partnership, entrepreneurship, economy, innovation, and sustainable development, highlighting the interdependence of these concepts. The emergence of “opportunity” and “government” in relation to “business” highlights the importance of creating entrepreneurial environments, as well as policy-enabled frameworks and partnerships between the public and private sector.

Thematic categorization helps to make sense of the academic organization of a field. The concept of Entrepreneurship, Sustainability and Public-Private Partnerships are well established and are central themes, substantiating their basic significance and already existing body of knowledge. Early research areas that are beginning to arise are “youth” and “frameworks”, which represent new horizons. The focus on “youth” is recognition of their potential to provide creative solutions to sustainable problems via entrepreneurship and public-private partnerships. The emphasis on “frameworks” indicates the need for more structured, flexible approaches in developing and evaluating public-private partnership and social entrepreneurship projects. Some of these themes, such as “Policy”, “Research”, and “Digital”, are more focused at the micro level and will have greater impact if better integrated with the broader public-private partnership/social entrepreneurship conversation.

5.2. Future Research Directions

On the basis on the trend topics and thematic map, some basic gaps and possible directions for future research are identified on Public-Private Partnerships and Sustainable Entrepreneurship.

Digitalization and Emerging Technologies: Understand the potential of applying Artificial Intelligence, blockchain, big data, and IoT technologies to improve transparency, efficiency and accountability in PPPs, and create new sustainable entrepreneurship frameworks (Adi Syahid et al., 2025; AL-Ghaili et al., 2024). Examine the difficulties relating to the adoption of these technologies (Baltutite & University, 2022; Voronchak & Vovk, 2021).

Youth Engagement and Empowerment: Focus on factors influencing the engagement of youth in sustainable entrepreneurial ventures; role of education and policy in youth led SE; challenges faced by young sustainable entrepreneurs (Mwaitete, 2024; Tomkevich, 2025). Develop and explore PPP designs for youth empowerment in sustainable development.

Robust Frameworks Development: Focus on empirically testing broad frameworks and models for the design, implementation and evaluation of PPP that incorporate sustainability. This involves performance assessment, ethical governance and risk management systems for multi-disciplinary projects.

Context-Specific and Comparative Analyses: Conduct detailed analyses of specific cases in contexts of developing countries, such as Russia and Ukraine, to understand the different motivators, barriers, and factors that drive success of public-private partnerships and social entrepreneurship (Kropelnyska et al., 2025; Samarukha, 2022). The comparative studies conducted in the different areas will provide lessons learned on best practices.

Policy and Regulatory Environments: Assess the impact of policy inducement, regulatory arrangement and legal regime on the facilitation of public-private partnerships for sustainable development and growth of sustainable entrepreneurial ecosystems (Haj Youssef et al., 2025; Neupane et al., 2023). Discuss the government procurement, tax incentives and intellectual property rights (Lakhyzha & Yehorycheva, 2019)

Impact Assessment and Long-Term Sustainability: Develop meaningful models and tools for long-term and sustainable assessment of environmental, social and economic impacts of public-private partnerships and social entrepreneurship (Adi Syahid et al., 2025; AL-Ghaili et al., 2024). Focus on ensuring sustainability programs endure and their growth potential as well as the sustained returns of public-private partnerships (Sikhwari & Kugara, 2025).

6. Implications

This study is very significant to the body of knowledge for P3, the Sustainable Entrepreneurship body of knowledge. Bibliometric results indicate influential journals, authors and geographic distribution, assisting researchers to point towards key publications and collaborators. Secondly, Biblioshiny's visualizations offer a structured and concise overview to new scholars of large volumes of information such as international collaboration, keywords of interest or topics that have not been explored. Thirdly, the identified thematic clusters provide excellent resources for researchers focused on sustainable development partnerships or partnership models, leading to insightful discussion of the literature, extension of existing literature and theoretical underpinning of PPPs and SE interconnections. These results provide insights at the organizational and policy level on the track of change and the focus of PPPs and SE to pursue wider socio-economic and environmental objectives. The study sets the groundwork for policy formulation allowing policy-makers to create policies that foster quality and effectiveness of public-private partnerships and strong sustainable entrepreneurial ecosystems for the benefit of both sectors and policymakers. It also helps senior managers in both the public and private sectors in the decision making process in terms of operational strategies and resource allocation for sustainable development projects..

7. Limitations and Recommendations

This paper reviews the literature on Public-Private Partnerships and Sustainable Entrepreneurship in a comprehensive way. It has, however, its limitations. The exclusive use of one database (Dimensions.ai) means that the articles in this database alone are included, which may reduce the amount of insight that can be gained from other important databases (e.g. Web of Science, Scopus, Google Scholar). Works that are not open access but have been included may have been excluded by specific inclusion criteria (2015-2025 and open access).

There is also subjectivity involved in the manual screening process. These limitations should be taken into account when analyzing results because they may only be applicable if valid periodically. Future research should involve the use of other comprehensive databases and new publications for a more comprehensive understanding. In addition, various review procedures e.g. qualitative systematic review or meta-analysis should be examined to gain new insights. More detailed analysis in future research studies might be done on a sector or geographic level to get deeper information.

8. Conclusion

The research undertaken carried out a bibliometric analysis of the 35 Publications on public-private partnership (PPP) and sustainable entrepreneurship (SE) available on Dimensions.ai. The remarkable growth in publications, especially from 2021 and 2025, with an increase of 31.8% on a yearly basis in 2025 is among the key findings. The leading journals are ‘International Journal Of Advanced’ and ‘Social Science & Medicine’, while ‘Russia’ and ‘Ukraine’ are the top contributing countries. When analyzing keywords, word clouds and tree-maps appear to show that the following key words are central themes: “development”, “education”, “economic”, “digital”. Motors that are identified through thematic mapping are ‘entrepreneurship’, ‘sustainability’, and ‘public-private partnerships’ with ‘youth’ and ‘frameworks’ as development themes. The findings answer the research questions effectively and outlines a comprehensive review of the work done in the past, present and future research areas. The study makes a significant contribution in identifying trends, influential contributors and gaps in research and provides insights for policy makers, management and research. Although it was restricted to a single database, this research offers an accurate overview and future researchers are urged to include more than one.

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