

Exploring Relationship between Urban Renewal and Stakeholder Engagement: Bibliometric Analysis

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Received: January 02, 2023

Accepted: January 20, 2023

Published: January 28, 2023

Abstract

The implementation process of urban renewal involved multiple stakeholders with diverse interests which increases the degree of complexity of this type of project. This article attempt to provide a comprehensive overview of the relationship between urban renewal and stakeholder engagement, through a bibliometric analysis, of 64 journal papers, published between 1984 and 2022, collected from SCOPUS database, mapped and visualised using VOSviewer software.

The results highlight the trends in publications, the major contributions, and the influential authors in this topic. There is potential for further research to be conducted based on the findings.

Key words: Bibliometric analysis, SCOPUS, stakeholder engagement, VOSviewer, urban renewal.

INTRODUCTION

With an increasing number of people living in the city, urbanization has increased rapidly in order to meet these needs, resulting in major problems, among which are urban sprawl, degradation and decline of urban centres, and deserted urban areas. In order to address these problems, several countries have incorporated urban renewal as an important component into their urban policies (Zheng et al., 2014). Moreover, urban renewal shares the same meaning of solving a problem about urban decline as other concepts such as urban regeneration, urban revitalization, urban redevelopment, urban rehabilitation, and heritage preservation (Wang et al. 2021).

As part of the urban renewal process, multiple of stakeholders are involved (Wang et al. 2021); However, the concept of stakeholder has been of growing interest in academic research. Since, the publication of the seminal work of Freeman in 1984, titled "Strategic Management: A Stakeholder Approach", the research about stakeholder has reached a turning point where it was more oriented to the management field and research discussed the stakeholder management (Pedrini and Ferri, 2019); recently, the orientation has moved from controlling stakeholders through communication, via them participation in the project, to those who are fully involved in the projects ; from a vision of control to another vision of engagement ,which means managing with and for stakeholders (Lehmann, 2022).

In the light of these advancements, this articles try to apply a bibliometric analyse and aims to provide a comprehensive descriptive analysis overview of the current research about the relationship between urban renewal and stakeholder engagement. The next section present the methodology adopted by this study, followed by a second section that presents and discus results of the bibliometric analysis, the last section concludes the article with some suggestions for possible future research orientations.

METHOD

Literature Identification

To conduct a rigorous bibliometric analysis, we started by conducting an effective literature review, which should be valid, reliable, and repeatable (Xiao and Watson; 2019); to achieve this goal we followed the process and steps

proposed by Xiao and Watson in their research named Guidance on Conducting a Systematic Literature Review (Xiao and Watson, 2019). All documents retrieved in this review are located through the SCOPUS database. As the theme of this review is urban renewal and stakeholder engagement, so these two concepts are used of priority when setting the search rule in the documents titles, abstracts, and keywords of the authors, also we used urban regeneration, urban revitalization, urban redevelopment, urban rehabilitation, heritage preservation as terms related to urban renewal. So the query string for this research was (“urban renewal” OR “urban regeneration” OR “urban revitalization” OR “urban redevelopment” OR “urban rehabilitation” OR “heritage preservation”) AND (“stakeholder engagement”), and 386 documents were initially found.

Then we only retained the documents with restrictions related to year, language, source type, and document type : Since the publication of Freeman's book (1984) Strategic Management: a stakeholder Approach, the attention has turned to stakeholder management and their engagement; there for this review cover documents published from 1984 to 2022, written in English and peer-reviewed academic journal paper; so the source type is Journal excluding book, book series, conference proceeding, multi-volume reference works, newsletter, newspaper, press release, report, and trade journal; and the document types are articles excluding abstract, report, book, book chapter, business article, conference paper, conference review, data paper, editorial, erratum, letter, multimedia, note, press release, report, retracted, review, and short survey. Based on these inclusion criteria, 285 scholarly papers were retained.

Screening for Inclusion

To further evaluate the relevance of the 285 scholarly papers to the research theme “relationship between urban renewal and stakeholder engagement”, we analysed their titles and their abstracts based on stand-alone review. The most common reason for selected articles was a strong focus on the relationship between urban renewal and stakeholder engagement, so we excluded literatures that only focused on one of the two subjects of our theme (urban renewal and stakeholder engagement) or those with a lack focus on the relationship between them. And 66 articles were selected.

Quality and Eligibility Assessment

For ensuring the quality and eligibility of our research, we excluded papers that have been published for many years but have no citations, and have not been published by reputable publishers. Finally, 64 articles were retained.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Publication Trend

Using the SCOPUS database, we identified 64 scholarly publications that discuss stakeholder engagement in the context of urban renewal. As shown in Figure 1, it is possible to observe that the number of papers published in this topic is still very limited throughout the period examined in this review, however a relatively positive trend can be observed since 2019 and peaked in 2021, by increasing from four papers in 2019 to fourteen papers in 2021. In addition, the results indicate a change in the rhythm of publication evolution with a slight decrease in 2022 with a total of nine publications.

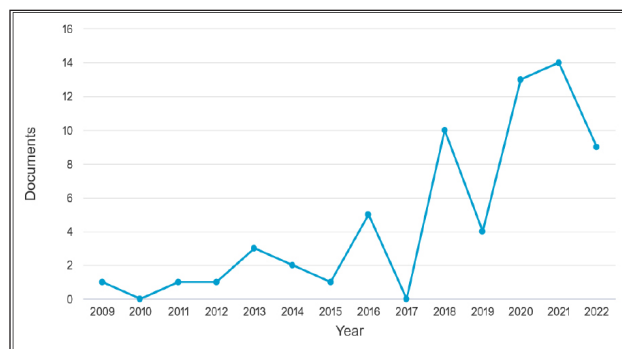


Figure 1. Number of relevant scholarly papers published between 2009 and 2022. Source: SCOPUS database

Journals

This descriptive analysis reveals that stakeholder engagement within urban renewal has received the attention of several journals, where it is discussed in several of them dedicated to sustainable development, environment and innovation,

such as the Journal of Sustainability and the Journal of Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainable Development. The figure 2 illustrates the top 5 journals that have published articles related to this topic.

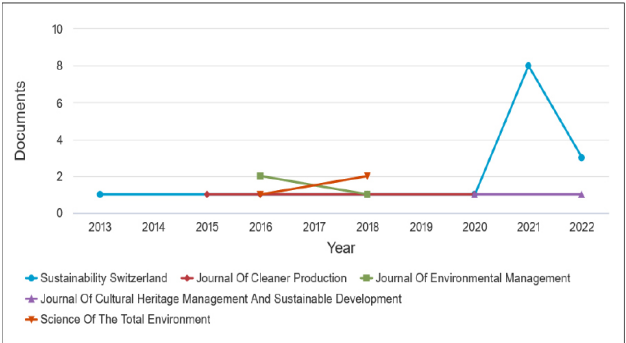


Figure 2. Documents per year by source_ Top 5 journals. Source : SCOPUS database

Subject Area

Furthermore, the theme of stakeholder engagement and urban renewal has attracted the attention of several disciplines. Figure 3 indicates that research in this topic is emerging and that the number of studies is very limited in all fields, moreover, the first position in terms of number of publications per year is shared between environmental sciences and social sciences with 34 articles each, followed by the fields of energy with 20 articles and business management with 19 articles.

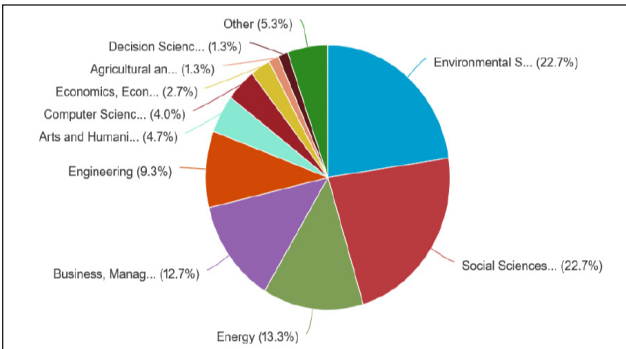


Figure 3. Documents by subject area. Source: SCOPUS database

Geographical Distribution

The review also highlighted the fact that the studies in this research were conducted in countries across almost all continents. In most studies, the focus has been on one country, but it is interesting to note that a small number of articles have a multi-country perspective, suggesting that a research direction that emphasizes stakeholder engagement and urban renewal in the context of implementation may be of interest.

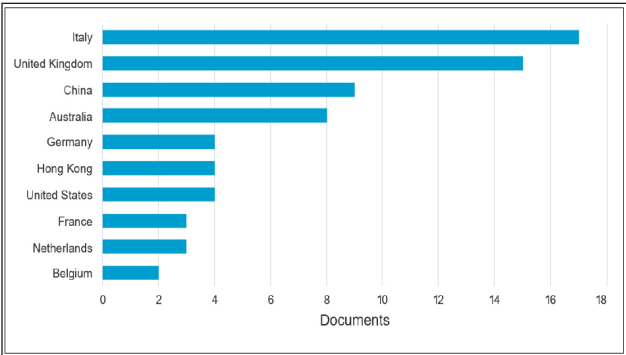


Figure 4. Documents by country or territory (Top 10 countries). Source: SCOPUS database

Overall, the selected papers were published by authors from 34 countries in the world. The countries with 4 or more relevant publications are listed in the table 1. Based on figure 4, European countries dominate the majority of scientific

articles related to stakeholder engagement and urban renewal. Approximately, half of these articles are divided between Italy and United Kingdom, with 26.56% and 23.43% articles, respectively; China is ranked N° 3 with 14%, followed by Australia with 12.5%, and Germany, Hong Kong, and the United States share the fourth rank with 6.25% for each one of them. This distribution can be explained by a long history of urban renewal in this European countries and their ongoing interest to improve and ensure the success of urban renewal project through stakeholder engagement in improving and ensuring the success of urban renewal projects through stakeholder engagement.

Table 1. list of countries which contributed the most.

Country	Documents
Italy	26.56%
United kingdom	23.43%
China	14%
Australia	12.5%
United states of America	6.25%
Hong Kong	6.25%
Germany	6.25%

Collaboration between Countries

Research collaboration between countries with 4 or more publications are demonstrated in figure 5. Italy and United Kingdom occupy the central position in the figure with 17 documents and 15 documents, respectively. Italy is connected closely to United States and Germany in the same cluster. While, United Kingdom is connected closely to Hong Kong, China, and Australia in the second cluster. But both of them are also connected directly to each other and this relation retain the connection between the two clusters. This network diagram show that the international collaboration on the urban renewal and stakeholder engagement is relatively popular, and more researchers from different countries tend to join the collaboration even though they are different in terms of language, culture, and geographical location.

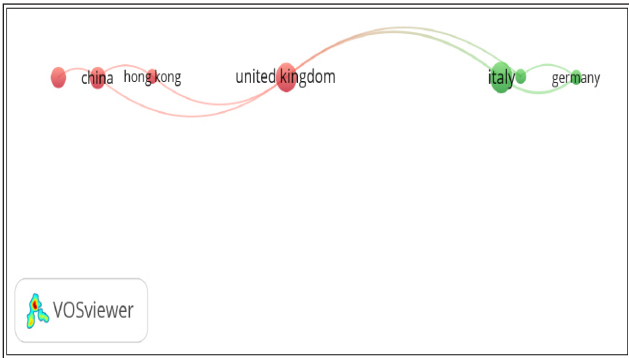


Figure 5. Network visualization of collaboration between countries.

Co-occurrence Analysis

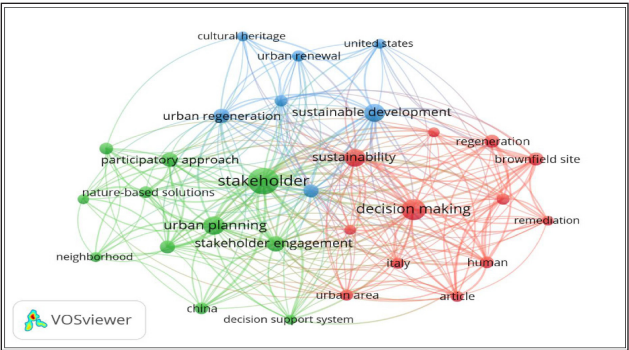


Figure 6. network visualisation of the keyword co-occurrence map

The keyword co-occurrence network map is created based on 632 keywords of the 64 articles, and 30 keywords are filtered by the threshold of four occurrences as shown in figure 6. VOSviewer software is used to divide all keywords

into clusters which represent a major direction in the current research. And given as 3 clusters: red with 12 items, green with 11 items, and blue with 7 items.

The red cluster is the largest one in the three clusters, mainly focuses on the decision making in sustainable urban renewal; The green cluster highlights some stakeholder engagement forms, tools, and possibilities throw, perception, participatory approach, decision support system, co-creation; the blue cluster is the smallest one, where it represents the urban renewal and their categories as strategic sustainable development approach.

Citation Analysis

We used VOSviewer software to analyse the citation network for the research theme stakeholder engagement and urban renewal, and to identify the most influential documents and their authors. In order to achieve this, we set a minimum number of citations for a document to 3, which was met by 48 out of 64 documents, then we have selected the top 10 as shown in table 2.

Table 2. Most influence documents.

Document	Citations
yang r.j. (2014)	119
pizzol l. (2016)	69
rizzo e. (2016)	59
bahadorestani a. (2020)	45
green t.l. (2018)	37
alexandrescu f.m. (2016)	26
alexandrescu f.m. (2018)	19
tonin s. (2020)	9
bobadilla n. (2019)	6
rizzo e. (2018)	3

Although PIZZOL has published the highest number of articles on the topic of stakeholder engagement and urban renewal, as shown in Figure 7, Yang attracted much more attention and ranked first on the list with a total of 119 citations for his article published in 2014, and entitled “An investigation of stakeholder analysis in urban development projects: Empirical or rationalistic perspectives”; Next we find PIZZOL et al. with 69 citations for their article published in 2016, entitled “Timbre Brownfield Prioritization Tool to support effective brownfield regeneration”; then, RIZZO et al. ranked third with 59 citations for their article “Comparison of international approaches to sustainable remediation”; finally, RIZZO et al. appear at the end of the list of the top 10 most cited articles in this topic, with their article published in 2018, entitled “An Information System for Brownfield Regeneration: providing customised information according to stakeholders’ characteristics and needs”.

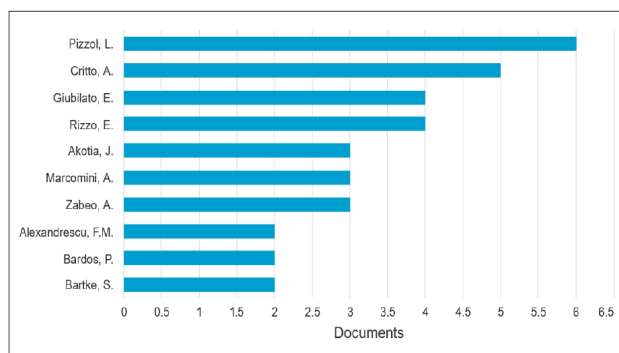


Figure 7. Documents published per author between 2009 and 2022 (top 10). Source: SCOPUS database

CONCLUSION

It has been noted that, while the concepts of urban renewal and stakeholder engagement have long been around, this research indicates that scholarly papers regarding the relationship between them are at an early stage of development.

Additionally, this bibliometric analysis revealed that the number of articles published on this topic is still limited, which calls for a growing academic commitment and additional research efforts to further understand this relationship from all perspectives.

Moreover, the results above reveal the limited research in multiple subject areas, mainly for multidisciplinary, decision sciences, business management, economics, art and humanities, social science, as well as environmental sciences; this could provide an interesting starting point for further research.

In addition, it may be beneficial to pursue a research direction that emphasizes stakeholder engagement and urban renewal in the context of implementation.

Acknowledgments

The authors would thank the university of Constantine 3 Salah BOUBNIDER.

Declaration of conflicting interests

The author(s) declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

Funding

This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

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Citation: Khedidja Chouabbia, Dr. Rachid Slimani, et al. Exploring Relationship between Urban Renewal and Stakeholder Engagement: Bibliometric Analysis. Int J Innov Stud Sociol Humanities. 2023;8(1): 379-385. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.20431/2456-4931.080140>.

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