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SDG 17: PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

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Abstract. *SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals is the foundation of global development goals achievement. The research looks at ways to approach SDG 17 through financial infrastructure, public–private partnerships, technical measures and multisectoral initiatives. In addition to identifying barriers, such as power differentials and financial constraints, and highlighting important facilitators, including governance structures, regulatory support and cross-sector collaboration, the study, by conducting a comprehensive literature review, provides suggestions for developers and designers; further, the study outlines macro and micro-level facilitators, which can help overcome barriers and aid the implementation of health design interventions. Which means, digital polemics, inclusive quotas, as well as creative funding approaches, can make collaborations more effective. The study contributes to the emerging dialogue on sustainable development by illuminating both practices that are working and practices that need further exploration regarding international cooperation.*

Keywords: SDG 17, Sustainable Development Goals, Partnerships for the Goals, Public-Private Partnerships, Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration, Global Governance, Financial Mechanisms, Technological Innovations, Policy Integration, and Sustainable Development.

1 INTRODUCTION

Sustainable Development Goal 17 (often referred to as SDG 17 or Global Goal 17) is all about fostering "collaborations for the objectives." This goal is one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals that the United Nations introduced back in 2015, aiming to "enhance the means of execution and invigorate the global partnership for sustainable progress." To achieve all these goals by 2030, SDG 17 emphasises the importance of creating fair and equitable partnerships across different industries and nations. Countries are encouraged to align their policies to make this happen. To foster sustainable development across the globe, SDG 17 presents a vision for enhancing fairer trade and coordinated investment efforts. By leveraging the SDGs as a shared framework and common vision for navigating our collective future, it aims to bolster and accelerate collaboration between developed and developing countries. The goal is to encourage fair trade practices and

promote global commerce. This objective is broken down into five key areas—finance, technology, capacity building, trade, and systemic challenges—comprising 17 milestones that need to be achieved by 2030. Progress towards these goals will be assessed using 25 indicators, with each goal seen as a potential pathway for implementation.

The United Nations created a series of 17 global goals known as the Sustainable Development Goals, which are intended to be implemented by 2030. Collaborations between governments, the commercial sector, and civil society are essential to a successful, sustainable development plan. People and the environment should be given priority at all levels—global, regional, national, and local—and such inclusive partnerships should be based on shared values, beliefs, and goals.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW:

Hussain, S., Tan, J. Y., Di Ruggiero, E., Osman, A. E. B., & Trowbridge, J. (2022). The International Journal of Public Health, 1604351, 67, delves into intersectoral action as a strategy for implementing multistakeholder partnerships aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. This research investigates how the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) focus on enhancing social and ecological health determinants. It looks at how SDG 17, which underscores the importance of robust multi-stakeholder partnerships and policy coherence, can be realized through intersectoral action (IA).

Gössling, T., Nonet, G. A.-H., Bryson, J. M., & Van Tulder, R. (2022). This piece outlines the Sustainable Development Goals special issue focused on multi-stakeholder involvement. Published in the Journal of Business Ethics, 180(4), 945-957, the essay highlights that we’re not quite on track to achieve the 2030 Agenda. It stresses the importance of getting various stakeholders involved for sustainable development. While the 17 SDGs provide a new lens on global sustainability efforts, they also call for increased collaboration and engagement from a diverse range of players.

Bagur-Femenías, L., Palau-Pinyana, E., and Llach, J. (2023). In their systematic review published in Management Review Quarterly, 74(3), 1559-1588, they explore how the commercial sector can embrace the SDGs. This thorough analysis sheds light on how businesses can contribute to the UN's goals and outlines key strategies for private sector involvement. The aim is to connect academic research with real-world applications by pinpointing the factors that support corporate sustainability initiatives.

Suarez-Herrera, J. C., Díaz-Castro, L., & Zúñiga, R. A. A. (2024). Their article in Healthcare, 12(12), 1198, dives into critical issues in global health and the strategies employed by the World Health Organisation (WHO) to tackle them. It underscores the necessity of evaluating the health impacts of globalisation and economic crises while promoting sustainable healthcare practices centered around human needs. Rehn, C., Ndejjo, R., Wanyenze, R., Biermann, O., Nordenstedt, H., Leander, K., Niemi, M., Helldén, D., and Alfvén, T. (2023)

Molina, Á. A. A. presents a scoping review on how to weave the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals into global higher education in Global Health Action, 16(1), 2190649. This research examines how universities can incorporate the SDGs into their curricula to boost student awareness and enhance their capabilities.

3. METHODOLOGY:

To explore the latest research trends and developments surrounding Sustainable Development Goal 17 (SDG 17): Partnerships for the Goals, this study employs a bibliometric analysis approach. This method is a quantitative one that systematically analyzes academic literature using statistical and computational techniques. To ensure a comprehensive overview of relevant research, we sourced our data from well-known scientific databases. We examined key bibliometric indicators such as co-citation analysis, co-authorship networks, source analysis, and keyword analysis. This methodological approach enhances our understanding of collaborative efforts aimed at achieving sustainable development, providing valuable insights into the evolving academic landscape of global partnerships.

The dataset, which comprises 31 papers, indicates that interest in SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals is on the rise. The significant number of citations for each work highlights its academic importance and influence. A diverse group of authors has contributed to this dataset, and the high volume of co-authored papers reflects a strong trend toward collaboration. Additionally, international co-authorship is prevalent, emphasizing the global nature of research on SDG 17.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

The study took a deep dive into how partnerships play a crucial role in reaching global sustainability goals. It looked closely at research trends, collaboration among authors, and the main topics being explored. The findings showed a notable drop in citations per publication, going from over five in 2022 to about two in 2024. This could hint at a shift in what scholars are focusing on or perhaps new research priorities emerging. In a similar vein, the annual scientific output varied, with a gradual increase in 2024 following a decline in 2022 and 2023.

When analysing research journals, it was clear that key publications, like Environmental Science and Pollution Research, consistently increased their output, while PLOS ONE maintained a steady stream of articles, showcasing a diverse range of research sources. Notable contributors such as Kim RE, Biermann F, Dinis MAP, and Ruggiero E demonstrated strong collaborative ties, with Kassem HS leading the pack in terms of publication numbers. There were opportunities for greater research impact, but some groups remained isolated, while others excelled in interdisciplinary collaboration. Major research clusters emerged through thematic analysis using bibliometric tools like VOS viewer. Established themes formed a tightly-knit red cluster, while newer and more specialised topics were grouped into a blue cluster, signalling fresh areas of exploration. The study also highlighted that the United States and the United Kingdom played significant roles in international academic collaborations.

Even with all the progress we've made, effective collaborations still face hurdles like power imbalances, complicated regulations, and tight budgets. We could really enhance the research and implementation of SDG 17 by tackling these issues head-on. This could involve fostering better interdisciplinary teamwork, exploring innovative financial solutions like blended finance, and leveraging digital tools such as blockchain and AI to boost transparency. Ultimately, the evolution

of SDG 17 research highlights the ongoing need for dedicated efforts to promote sustainable development and strengthen global partnerships.

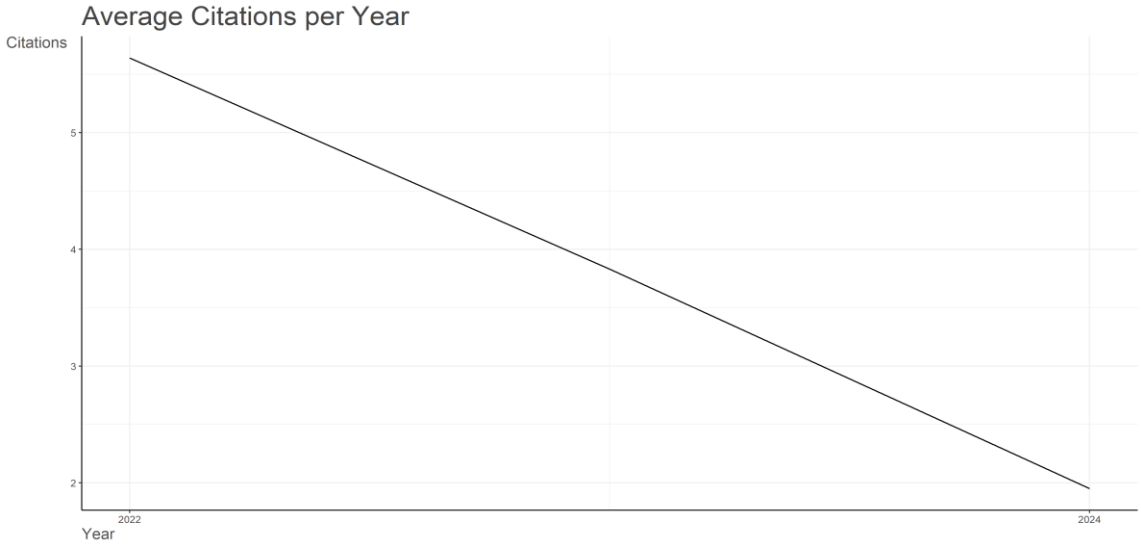

Fig 1. Average citations per year

The chart above illustrates the trend in average annual citations from 2022 to 2024. You can see a downward slope, indicating that the number of citations has been gradually falling. By 2024, the average citations per article dropped to nearly two, down from over five in 2022. This decline suggests that interest in the research topic may have waned recently, or perhaps newer publications are receiving fewer citations. Various factors could be at play here, such as the emergence of new research areas, shifts in academic focus, or changes in how citations are made.

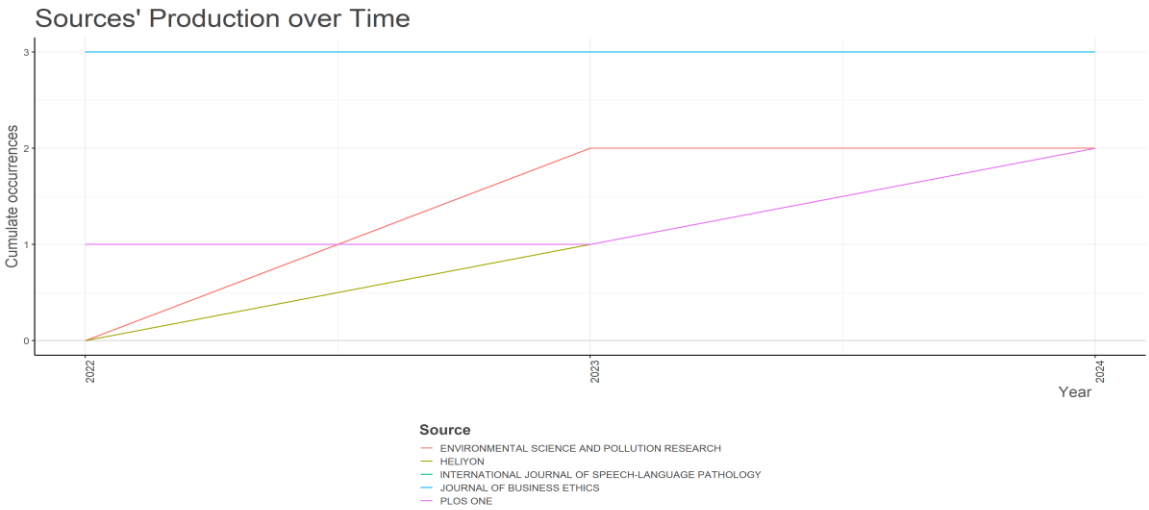

Fig 2. Cumulative occurrences

The graph above illustrates the cumulative incidence of research publications from various sources over time, specifically from 2022 to 2024. It highlights contributions from journals like Environmental Science and Pollution Research, Heliyon, the International Journal of Speech-

Language Pathology, the Journal of Business Ethics, and PLOS ONE.

- Environmental Science and Pollution Research is seeing a steady increase in publications, reflecting a growing interest in this area.
- Heliyon shows a similar upward trend, which points to its expanding role in sharing research related to SDG 17
- PLOS ONE maintains a consistent output, demonstrating its ongoing contribution to the field over the years.
- Both the International Journal of Speech-Language Pathology and the Journal of Business Ethics are experiencing gradual increases in their publication rates, indicating a rising interest and continuous growth in research.

In summary, the graph suggests that the sources contributing to SDG 17 research are becoming more varied, with some journals producing more relevant articles than others.

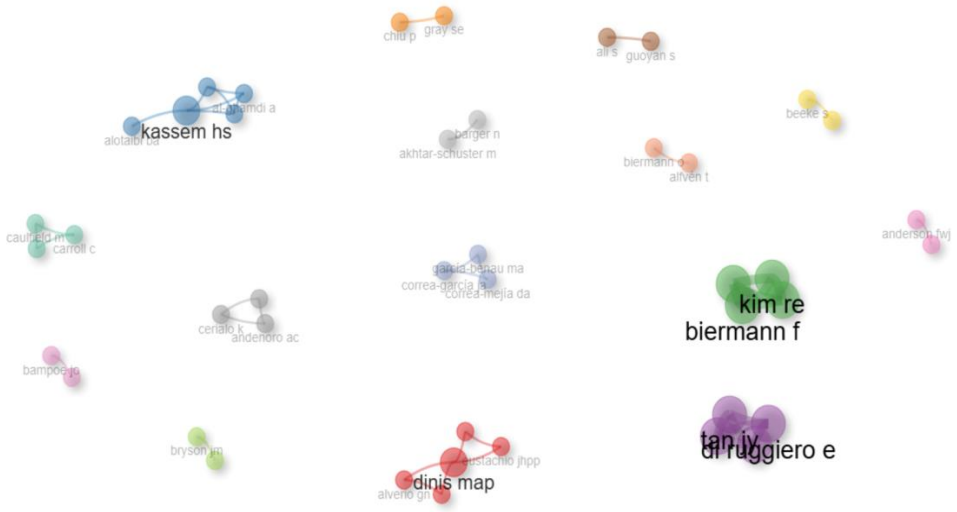

Fig 3. Collaboration network of authors

The above figure (i.e., Figure 3) showcases a network of authors collaborating on SDG 17 research. Each node represents an author, and the links between them indicate co-authorship. Notable contributors, like Kim RE, Biermann F, Dinis MAP, and Ruggiero E, are highlighted due to their close working relationships. Different research groups are shown in various colours; for instance, the green and red groups demonstrate strong collaboration, while others remain more isolated. This network highlights opportunities for enhanced multidisciplinary collaboration, which could boost the impact and connectivity of research efforts.

Fig 4. Authors' production over time

The image also presents the research output of these authors over time, based on total citations per year (TC per Year) and the number of articles published. Kassem High School stands out with the most publications, represented by the largest bubble. Other authors, like Dinis MAP, Biermann F, and Di Ruggiero E, have published fewer papers. The history shows that some authors have been consistent contributors, while others have maintained a steady publishing rate. This visualisation is useful for spotting key contributors and trends in research output over time.

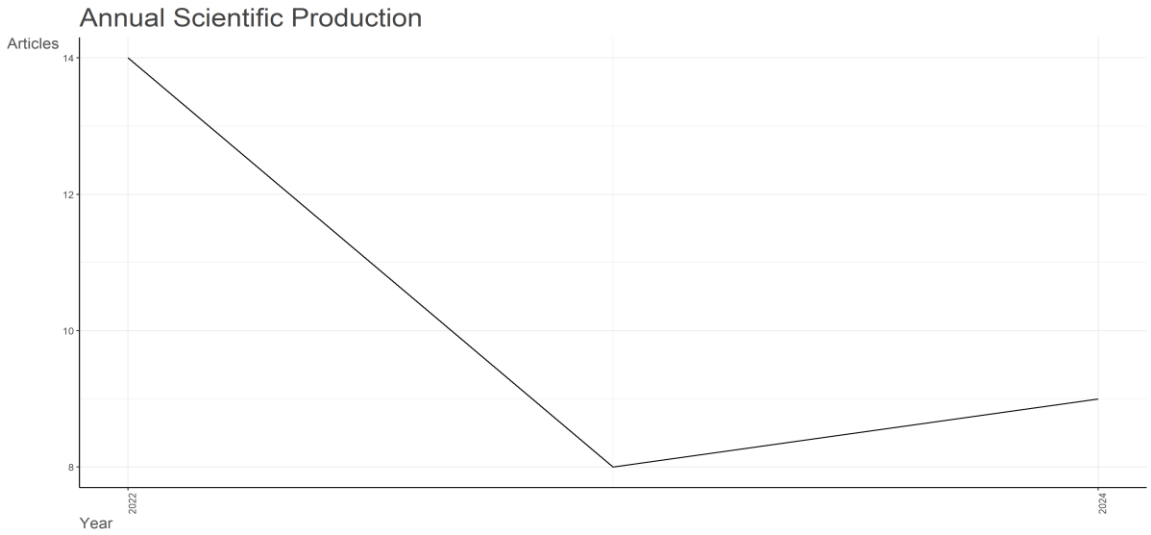

Fig 5. Annual scientific production graph

The number of publications released between 2022 and 2023 saw a notable drop, going from 14 in 2022 down to around 8 in 2023, as shown in the Annual Scientific Production graph. However, a slight uptick in 2024 hints that research activity might be on the rise again. This trend suggests that while scientific output initially fell, there are likely ongoing efforts to increase the number of publications.

4.1. Keywords

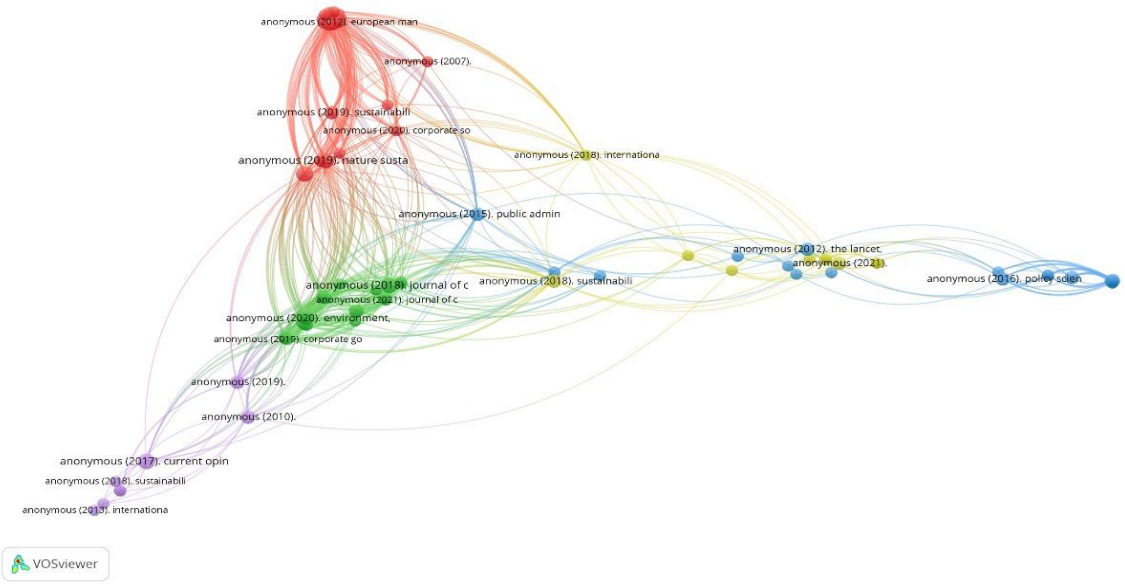

Fig 6. Bibliometric analysis of keywords

This network visualisation created by VOS viewers serves as a bibliometric analysis, mapping out the connections between citations, research topics, and scholarly works. Each node represents either a publication or a keyword, with different colours indicating various clusters of related studies. Larger nodes signify works that are cited more frequently or are particularly influential, while the connections between them illustrate relationships.

Lines (or edges) depict relationships like co-citations or keyword co-occurrence. The thick red cluster in the upper left suggests a well-established and closely linked research area, possibly a dominant topic in the field. In contrast, the blue nodes on the right appear to be more loosely connected, representing newer or more specialized subjects. This visualisation highlights key research trends, significant findings, and the interconnections among various issues in the academic landscape.

4.2 Co-Citation Author

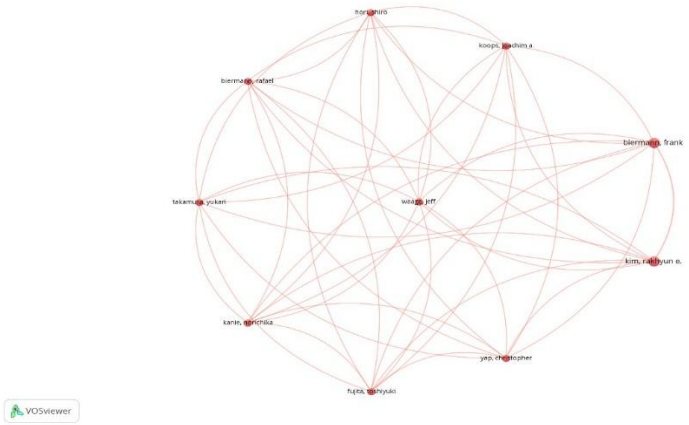

Fig 7. Co-authorship relations

The VOS viewer network visualisation also illustrates the relationships between co-authors among researchers. The lines connecting each node, which represents an author, indicate collaborative efforts, such as co-authored papers. The density and number of these links suggest strong collaboration patterns among these experts. The interconnectedness of the network implies that these researchers frequently work together, forming a tight-knit academic community. Some authors, like "Biermann, Frank" and "Horishiro," appear to have numerous connections, indicating their significant roles within this collaborative network. This visualisation helps identify leading scholars and collaboration trends within a specific topic.

4.3Author

Fig 8. Network Analysis

This graphic representation of a bibliometric network in the VOS viewer likely showcases the connections between various scholarly works or sources through keyword co-occurrence analysis or citation analysis. The lines connecting the nodes illustrate the strength of their relationships, while the nodes themselves represent individual sources. The red and green clusters highlight two distinct yet related subjects, indicating different thematic groupings. The linear pattern of the visualisation suggests a progression or connection between study themes over time. This network helps us see how different publications influence each other and contribute to the overall body of knowledge in a specific field.

4.4. Country

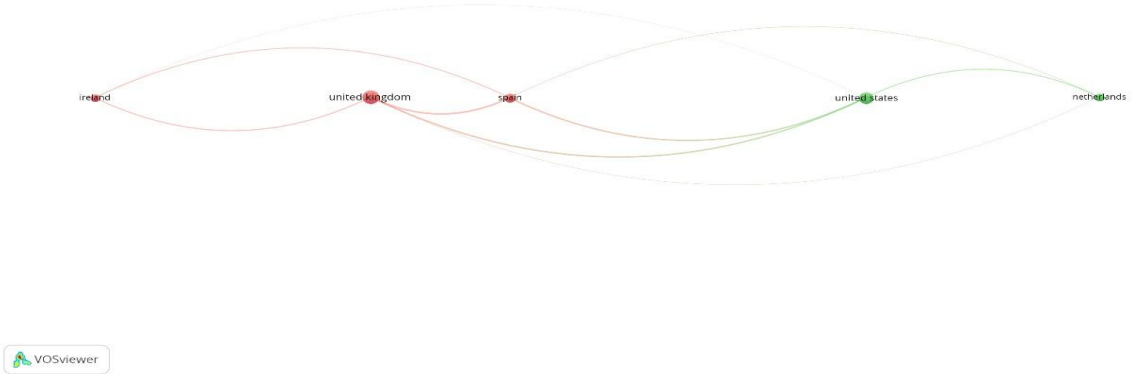

Fig 9. Country-based relations

In this VOSviewer visualisation, we see a network of nation-based links, likely focusing on co-authorship trends, research citations, or academic collaborations. Each node represents a different country, and the connecting lines show the extent of their interactions. The United Kingdom stands

out as a key player in the red cluster, linked to Ireland and Spain. Meanwhile, the green and red colour clusters indicate two separate but interconnected groups. The Netherlands and the United States are also linked within the green cluster. This structure illustrates how research and communication networks are distributed across various locations, highlighting significant points of connection between them.

4.5Citation

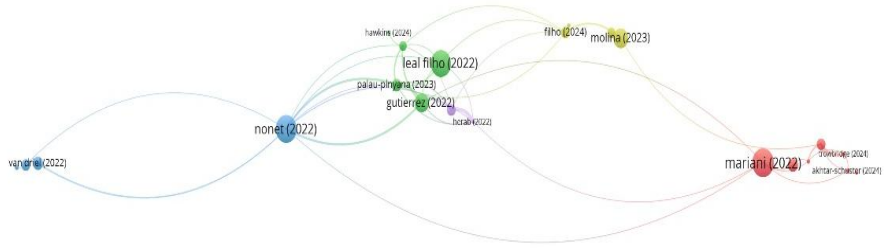

Fig 10. Academic citations or Co-authorships

This VOSviewer visualisation showcases a network of academic citations and co-authorships, where each node represents an author, and the lines connecting them illustrate their collaborative or citation relationships. The different colours indicate various clusters that may be tied to specific research themes. For instance, "Nonet (2022)" stands out as a central hub, linking to several other authors like "Leal Filho (2022)" and "Gutierrez (2022)," who also connect to even more scholars. The clusters—colored yellow, red, green, and blue—spotlight unique yet interconnected research areas.

4.6. Co-Author

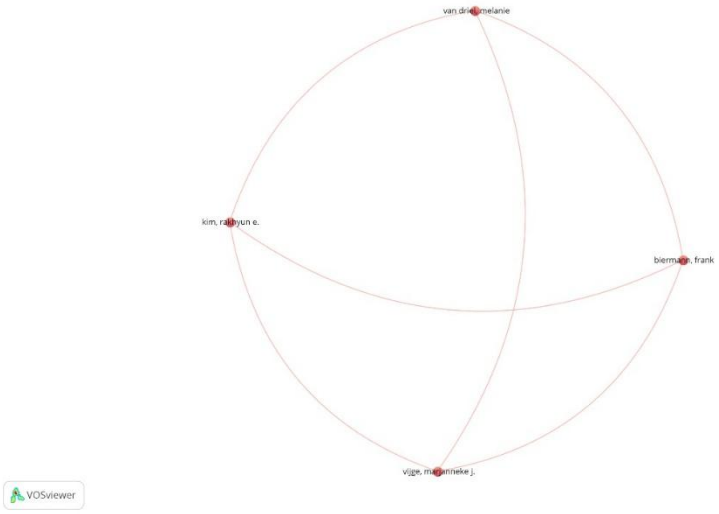

Fig 11. Small network of collaborations or citations

This VOS viewer visualisation reveals a modest network of scholarly partnerships and citations, where each node represents an author, and the lines connecting them illustrate their relationships.

The connections among the four authors—Frank Biermann, Marjanneke J. Vijge, Rakhyun E. Kim, and Melanie van Driel—form a structured collaboration network. These researchers have either worked closely together or frequently cited one another, as shown by their symmetrical positioning, which also indicates a balanced pattern of co-authorship or citations. The similar colours suggest they belong to the same research cluster and are likely focused on a shared academic topic.

4.7. Sources

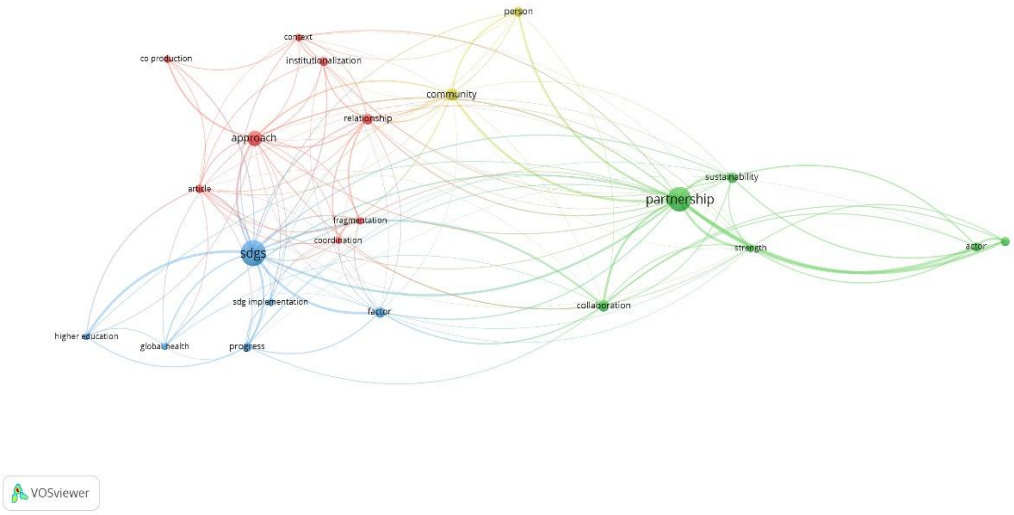

Fig 12. Conceptual network

The visualisation also depicts the conceptual network related to partnerships, approaches, and research surrounding the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Different colours represent clusters of closely related topics. The blue cluster revolves around "SDGs," connecting with terms like "progress," "higher education," and "global health," hinting at discussions about the impact and implementation of the SDGs. The green cluster highlights partnerships as a pathway to achieving sustainable goals, linking terms like "partnership," "sustainability," "collaboration," and "actor." Meanwhile, the red cluster focuses on "approach," associated with "co-production," "institutionalisation," and "relationship," indicating that various methods and frameworks are being explored in this context. Lastly, the yellow cluster, featuring terms like "community" and "person," suggests that these discussions have a social dimension. Overall, the network illustrates how collaborations, methodological approaches, and the implementation of SDGs are interconnected in sustainability research.

5. CONCLUSION

Partnerships play a vital role in achieving global sustainability goals, as emphasised by Sustainable Development Goal 17 (SDG 17). This report underscores the importance of public-private partnerships, multi-stakeholder collaborations, and advancements in technology and finance for reaching SDG 17. While international academic cooperation and research contributions have made

notable progress, challenges such as power imbalances, regulatory fragmentation, and financial constraints persist. By addressing these issues through interdisciplinary collaboration, digital tools, and innovative funding sources, we can significantly enhance global partnerships. Ultimately, strengthening cooperative efforts is key to advancing sustainable development and ensuring the successful implementation of the SDGs.

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