

Mapping Public Policy and Governance Research in Indonesia: A Bibliometric Analysis

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ABSTRACT

This study maps the development of public policy and governance research in Indonesia by examining publication trends, thematic patterns, research actors, and keyword relationships. A bibliometric analysis was conducted using Scopus-indexed publications within the defined study period. Following a PRISMA-based selection process, 52 documents were included in the final corpus and analyzed using VOSviewer and Microsoft Excel. The analysis examined publication trends by year, country, author, and affiliation, as well as keyword co-occurrence and overlay patterns. The findings show that research on public policy and governance in the selected corpus has expanded in recent years, with prominent themes including collaborative governance, public policy, regulation, environmental governance, community participation, and sustainable development. The keyword network identifies seven thematic clusters, indicating that governance research in the corpus spans collaborative, regulatory, community-based, regional, environmental, and institutional dimensions. The overlay analysis further indicates changes in the prominence of research themes across publication years. The findings provide a bibliometric map of the structure and thematic development of public policy and governance research associated with Indonesia and identify areas that may inform future research agendas.

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INTRODUCTION

Since the 1998 reform era, the area of public policy and governance studies in Indonesia has experienced substantial change. A paradigm shift in governance from a traditional bureaucratic model to one that is more transparent, cooperative, and participatory has been fueled by political and public administration reforms ([Yazid & K. Pakpahan, 2020](#)). Good governance, collaborative governance, digital governance, and adaptive governance have taken center stage in Indonesian public administration and public policy studies in recent decades ([Marwan et al., 2022](#)). Information technology developments, public transparency demands, bureaucratic reforms, and the introduction of the Electronic-Based Government System (SPBE), which has reinforced digital integration in governance, have all had an impact on this shift. These modifications have led to a rise in scholarly interest in a number of governance-related topics, including community involvement, public service innovation. The SPBE framework has been

pivotal in enhancing digital governance promoting transparency, accountability, and efficiency in public institutions ([Imandeka et al., 2026](#))

Scientific papers on public policy and governance in global databases like Scopus exhibit a notable rising trend in tandem with these advances. This increase in publications is a reflection of Indonesian academics' rising interest in governance studies in both domestic and international contexts ([Santoso, 2025](#)). Nevertheless, there are very few studies that use a bibliometric approach to precisely and thoroughly map the evolution of public policy and governance research in Indonesia. In actuality, bibliometric analysis is essential for determining future research paths within a field of study as well as research trends, prevalent themes, author collaboration networks, and the most productive institutions ([Gracio et al., 2023](#)). In order to give a thorough picture of the intellectual framework, research dynamics, and prospects for further governance research, this study uses bibliometric analysis to chart the evolution of public policy and governance studies in Indonesia ([Donthu et al., 2021](#)).

One of the primary subfields of political science and public administration that investigates how the government makes decisions on a range of public concerns is public policy studies. According to Harold Lasswell, public policy is concerned with "who gets what, when, and how," which highlights how resources and power are distributed throughout society ([Szarfenberg, 2018](#)). Public policy, on the other hand, is anything the government decides to do or not do, according to Thomas Dye. Later, David Easton strengthened this strategy by adopting a political systems viewpoint, which sees public policy as the outcome of interactions between the governmental system's inputs, processes, outputs, and feedback ([Kantoroeva et al., 2022](#)). The policy process method has developed into a crucial framework for elucidating the phases of policy creation, execution, assessment, and modification as a dynamic process impacted by public, bureaucratic, and political actors ([Weible, 2023](#)).

A paradigm change from "government" to "governance" is reflected in the development of governance theory, which emphasizes the value of cooperation between the public and private sectors as well as civil society in public administration. Good governance, which emphasizes the values of accountability, transparency, involvement, efficacy, and the rule of law in the management of government, is an evolution of the notion of governance ([Herasymiuk et al., 2020](#)). According to Rhodes, governance is a web of relationships amongst interdependent parties involved in the formulation of public policy. This idea was later developed by Pierre and Peters using a network governance paradigm, which emphasizes the importance of relationships between organizations and non-state players in contemporary governance ([Hadorn, 2024](#)). Ansell and Gash also presented collaborative governance as a form of cross-sectoral cooperation to collaboratively tackle public concerns. The idea of governance has also changed in the digital age to become digital governance, which makes use of digital platforms, big data,

artificial intelligence, and information technology to improve the efficacy of government and the quality of public services ([Shilbury et al., 2016](#)).

Bibliometric analysis has grown in popularity in the social sciences and public administration as a means of comprehending advances in public policy and governance research. Bibliometric analysis is a quantitative method for tracking the evolution of knowledge based on scientific publications, citation patterns, collaboration networks, and the emergence of research areas ([Tomar et al., 2025](#)). Finding thematic growth, intellectual structures, and emerging trends in a subject of study requires the use of this method. Citation analysis, which gauges the influence of publications, co-authorship, which looks at author collaboration networks, co-occurrence, which maps keyword links, and bibliographic coupling, which finds linkages across research, are important indicators in bibliometric analysis ([García-Villar & García-Santos, 2021](#)). In actuality, bibliometric analysis usually makes use of programs like VOSviewer, with primary data sources taken from global databases like Scopus, which provides comprehensive and consistent coverage of scientific publications ([Jayasree & Baby, 2019](#)).

Recent years have seen notable advancements in bibliometric research in the domains of public policy and governance. Research trends in public policy, collaborative governance, good governance, and digital governance have been traced across different nations and regions by a number of studies ([Rahmah et al., 2025](#)). While studies on digital governance mainly focus on the digital transformation of government, e-government, and smart governance, bibliometric research on collaborative governance typically concentrates on patterns of collaboration among actors in addressing public challenges ([Neverov, 2020](#)). Furthermore, studies on good governance emphasize the importance of accountability, openness, bureaucratic reform, and public service excellence. However, the majority of this research is still sectoral in nature and has not yet thoroughly mapped the connection between governance reform and public policy studies in the Indonesian setting ([Harun et al., 2019](#)).

Although previous bibliometric studies have examined specific dimensions of governance, including collaborative governance, digital governance, decentralization, and public administration, these studies tend to address individual themes rather than examining the relationships among public policy, governance, institutional actors, and emerging thematic areas within an Indonesia-focused corpus ([Urbaningrum et al., 2026](#)). Consequently, the existing literature provides limited evidence on how these themes are structurally connected, which institutions and authors are most visible within the corpus, and how thematic prominence changes across publication years ([Jones & Garadian, 2026](#)). This study addresses this gap by providing an integrated bibliometric mapping of public policy and governance research associated with Indonesia. Rather than treating Indonesia only as a geographical context, the study combines publication trends, country and institutional distribution, author productivity, keyword co-occurrence, thematic

clustering, and temporal overlay analysis to identify the structure and evolution of the research field ([Razak et al., 2026](#)).

Based on this research background, this study is organized around a number of important research questions: how have publications on public policy and governance in Indonesia changed in international scientific databases ([Fu et al., 2024](#)); what are the most prevalent and developing themes in governance research; who are the most significant authors, institutions, and journals in this field ([Bolton & Park, 2026](#)); how are patterns of research collaboration among authors and between institutions changing ([Kosmützky & Krücken, 2023](#)); and what are the future directions and opportunities for research in public policy and governance studies in Indonesia. Through the use of bibliometric analysis, these questions are intended to offer a thorough mapping of the intellectual structure, publication dynamics, and development of governance research issues in Indonesia ([Zhu, 2025](#)).

The purpose of this study is to trace the progress of Indonesian public policy and governance studies publications in worldwide scientific databases, as well as to identify the growing thematic evolution and intellectual structure in these domains ([Santoso, 2025](#)). In order to determine the most prevalent and related themes in governance studies, this study also attempts to examine research trends based on keyword co-occurrence. The transition to digital governance, collaborative governance, adaptive governance, and public policy innovation in the digital age are among the emerging themes that are anticipated to represent new directions in Indonesian governance studies through the use of bibliometric analysis ([Imandeka et al., 2026](#)).

For the advancement of public administration and governance studies in Indonesia, this study has theoretical, practical, and methodological value. By defining the intellectual framework, the evolution of research themes, and the dynamics of governance studies in the Indonesian setting, this study theoretically strengthens the literature mapping on the development of public policy and governance studies ([Wahyurudhanto, 2020](#)). In practical terms, the findings of this study are anticipated to be a valuable resource for scholars, researchers, and policymakers in comprehending the direction of governance research, covering strategic topics like collaborative governance, digital governance, and public policy innovation ([Moussa et al., 2026](#)). Additionally, this study provides an analytical model for bibliometric research in the domains of political science and public administration by employing analytical tools like VOSviewer and Biblioshiny to systematically and quantitatively map research trends, collaboration networks, and thematic developments ([Gandonou et al., 2025](#)).

METHOD

In order to investigate the evolution of public policy and governance studies in Indonesia, this study uses bibliometric analysis in a quantitative manner. Because this study focuses on methodically quantifying and mapping scientific publication data based

on bibliometric variables including the quantity of publications, citations, author collaboration networks, and correlations among research keywords, the quantitative technique was selected ([Prianto et al., 2026](#)). Previous bibliometric research published in *Spirit Publik* demonstrates the application of Scopus-based bibliometric analysis and VOSviewer to identify research patterns and thematic development ([Sulistiyana & Cristyani, 2024](#)). Building on this approach, the present study applies a broader Indonesia-focused corpus to examine the development of public policy and governance research across publication trends, institutional actors, keyword relationships, and temporal.

Through the visualization of scientific data, bibliometric analysis is used to uncover intellectual structures, the development of research themes, and publication dynamics in the domains of public policy and governance ([Kokate et al., 2025](#)). Based on publishing data indexed in international scientific databases, this approach allows scholars to obtain a thorough picture of research trends, significant academic players, and the direction of governance studies in Indonesia.

The Scopus database was chosen as the study's data source because to its broad coverage of international scientific publications, consistent format, and popularity in bibliometric research. A methodical and thorough examination of advancements in public policy and governance studies is made possible by the Scopus database's extensive information on scientific papers, citations, authors, institutions, and research keywords ([Hajar et al., 2025](#)). In light of digital transformation, bureaucratic reform, and changes in Indonesian government governance over the past few years, this study examines trends in governance and public policy research using the publishing period from 2016 to 2026. The choice of this time frame also attempts to pinpoint the most recent study topics and new problems in governance studies that have surfaced in the post-pandemic age and the digital revolution of government.

The PRISMA-based selection process was conducted to systematically identify and screen Scopus-indexed publications related to public policy and governance research in Indonesia. The search covered publications within the 2016–2026 study period using a predefined Scopus search strategy and eligibility criteria ([Malik et al., 2026](#)). The initial search identified 111 records. The records were subsequently screened and assessed according to the predefined eligibility criteria, including publication year, document type, language, and open-access status ([Bertuol et al., 2026](#)). After the screening and eligibility assessment, 52 documents were retained and included in the final bibliometric analysis. The complete selection process is presented in Figure 1.

This study used the Scopus database as the primary source of bibliographic metadata because of its broad coverage of peer-reviewed international publications and its structured metadata on authors, affiliations, keywords, publication years, and countries. The search period was restricted to publications from 2016 to 2025, so that all publication years included in the analysis represented completed calendar years.

The search was conducted in the title, abstract, and keyword fields using the following Boolean query:

TITLE-ABS-KEY("Development" AND "Public Policy" AND "Governance" AND "Indonesia") AND PUBYEAR > 2015 AND PUBYEAR < 2026 AND LIMIT-TO(DOCTYPE, "ar") AND LIMIT-TO(LANGUAGE, "English")

Only journal articles written in English and published between 2016 and 2025 were included. Conference proceedings and other document types were excluded because the study focuses on peer-reviewed journal literature. No open-access restriction was applied because bibliometric analysis relies primarily on bibliographic metadata rather than access to the complete article text. This approach reduces the risk that the composition of the research corpus is affected by differences in publication-access models ([Figure 1](#))

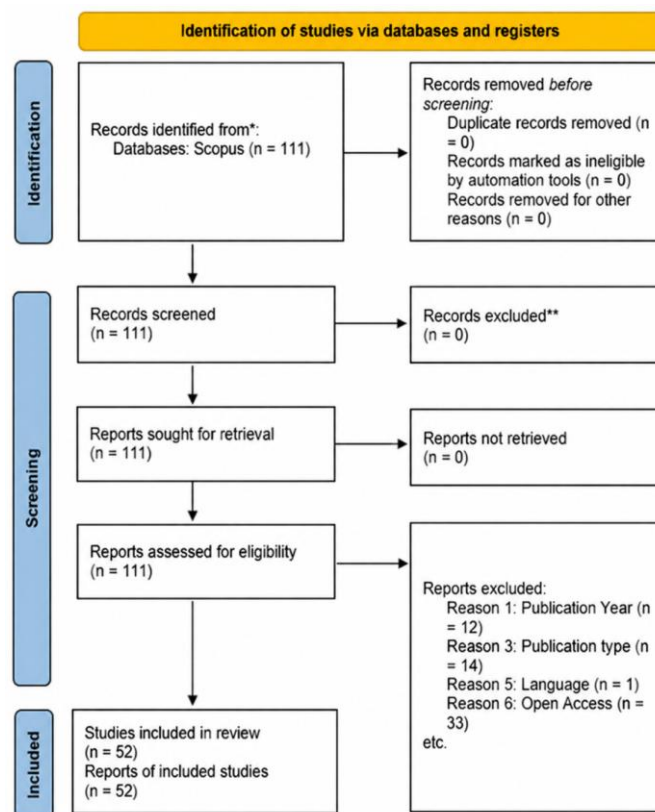


Figure 1. PRISMA Flowchart of the Study Selection Process, 2016–2026

Source: Author's elaboration based on Scopus database data.

The Scopus search identified 111 records within the defined search strategy and study period of 2016–2026. Following the screening and eligibility assessment, 59 records were excluded based on publication year, document type, language, and open-access criteria, leaving 52 documents for the final bibliometric analysis ([Ooi & Thangadurai, 2025](#)). Specifically, 12 records were excluded based on publication year, 14 based on document

type, 1 based on language, and 32 based on open-access status. A selection procedure based on several inclusion and exclusion criteria, including publication year, publication type, language, and open access status, was then carried out at the eligibility stage ([Spray et al., 2025](#)). According to the screening results, several documents 12 for publication year, 14 for publication type, 1 for language, and 32 for open access were eliminated because they did not fit the study criteria. Following the completion of the selection procedure, 52 documents that satisfied the requirements were acquired and utilized as the main source of information for this study's bibliometric analysis.

In order to analyze, map, and visualize bibliometric data about public policy and governance studies in Indonesia, the data analytic methodologies employed in this work make use of VOSviewer and Microsoft Excel software. While VOSviewer was used to methodically create visualizations of networks and linkages among study pieces, Microsoft Excel was utilized for grouping, tabulating, and descriptive analysis of published data ([Malmqvist et al., 2019](#)). Documents by year are used to monitor the annual growth in publications; documents by author are used to identify the most productive authors; documents by country are used to evaluate national contributions to publications; and documents by affiliation are used to map the most active universities or institutions and to determine the most popular areas of study in governance research ([Narayanan & Pradhan, 2023](#)). Furthermore, this study uses thematic mapping to determine the development of major themes and emerging themes, keyword co-occurrence analysis to map relationships among research keywords, overlay visualization, and network visualization to thoroughly illustrate patterns of relationships, collaboration, and the evolution of research within the fields of public policy and governance.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the Scopus bibliographic data, this section examines publication patterns and thematic development in public policy and governance research associated with Indonesia. VOSviewer and Microsoft Excel were used to analyze publication trends, author productivity, institutional contributions, research collaboration, keyword co-occurrence, and thematic development. The bibliometric visualizations, including network and overlay visualizations, were used to identify relationships among research themes and their temporal distribution within the analyzed corpus. The results are interpreted as patterns of scholarly research activity and thematic attention rather than as direct evidence of changes in governance practices in Indonesia.

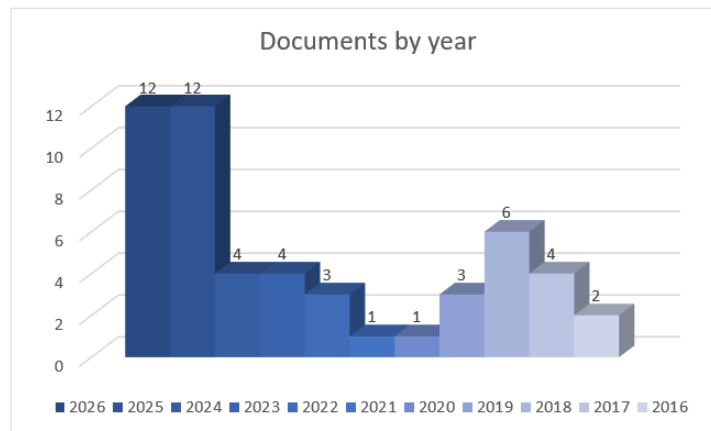


Figure 2. Export the data to a CSV file or Excel document by Year
Source: Databases Scopus 2016-2026

The Scopus publication records show variations in the number of articles on public policy and governance associated with Indonesia during the 2016–2025 observation period (Figure 2). Publication output was relatively limited in the earlier years, followed by fluctuations and higher levels of publication in several of the later years. The distribution indicates that scholarly attention to public policy and governance varied across the study period, with some years recording substantially more publications than others.

The increase in publication output in the later part of the observation period may indicate greater scholarly attention to issues related to governance, public policy, bureaucratic reform, collaboration, and digital transformation. However, the annual publication counts should be interpreted as changes in the volume of research indexed in Scopus rather than as evidence that governance practices in Indonesia changed in the same direction. The results therefore describe the development of the research literature rather than the development of governance practice itself.

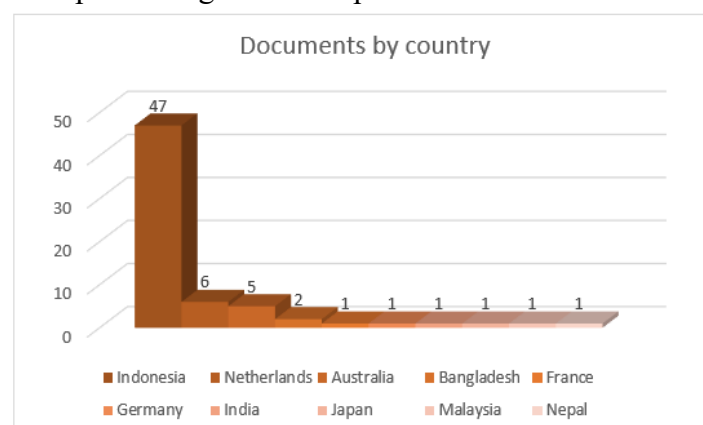


Figure 3. Export the data to a CSV file or Excel document by Country
Source: Databases Scopus 2016-2026

[Figure 3](#) presents this distribution by country. The distribution of research papers on public policy and governance studies according to the country of origin or research affiliation of the authors is displayed in "Documents by Country." With 47 publications, Indonesia is the nation with the most, according to the analysis results, demonstrating the dominance and high degree of scholarly interest in governance studies in the Indonesian context. There are also contributions from a number of other nations, including Bangladesh with two documents, Australia with five, and the Netherlands with six. Other nations, including France, Germany, India, Japan, Malaysia, and Nepal, each submitted a single document. These results show that Indonesian public policy and governance studies are not only growing on a national level but are also starting to engage in international cooperation with other nations in the advancement of governance research, public administration reform, and government governance transformation.

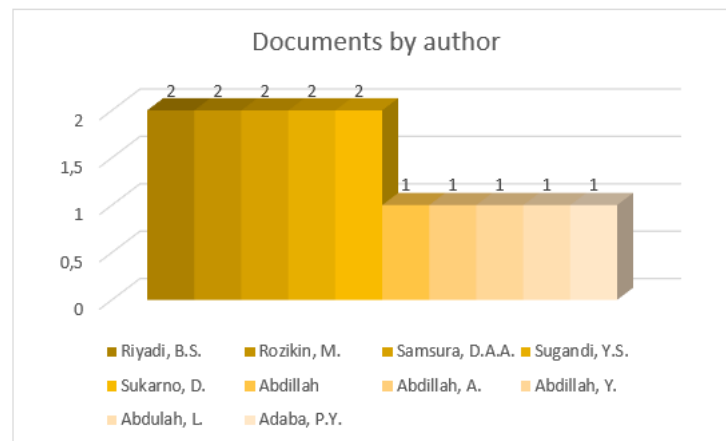


Figure 4. Export the data to a CSV file or Excel document by Author
Source: Databases Scopus 2016-2026

[Figure 4](#) presents the publication distribution by author. The distribution of the number of publications by author in the examined public policy and governance research is displayed under "Documents by Author." According to the visualization results, a number of authors Riyadi, B.S., Rozikin, M., Samsura, D.A.A., Sugandi, Y.S., and Sukarno, D. have contributed the most publications, each with two papers. Other writers, including Adaba, P.Y., Abdullah, L., Abdillah, A., and Abdillah, Y., each have one published work. These results show that different writers with comparatively equal levels of productivity continue to contribute to research in the domains of public policy and governance. These findings also point to important chances to increase scholarly cooperation and boost research output in Indonesian public policy and governance studies, especially in the context of public policy innovation and government governance reform.

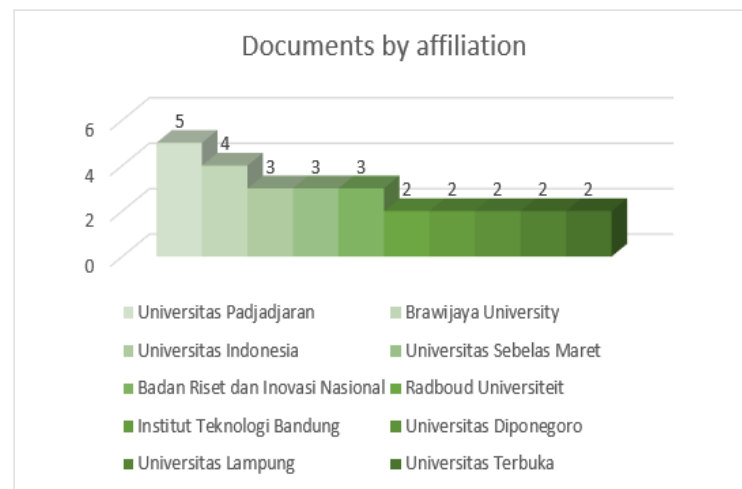


Figure 5. Export the data to a CSV file or Excel document by Affiliation

Source: Databases Scopus 2016-2026

Figure 5 presents the distribution by affiliation. "Documents by Affiliation" displays the distribution of publications in the domains of public policy and governance studies by the affiliations or institutions of the authors. According to the analysis, Padjadjaran University has five publications, the most, followed by Brawijaya University with four. In the meantime, three papers were generated by the National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), Sebelas Maret University, and the University of Indonesia. Furthermore, two papers were supplied by a number of other universities, including Radboud University, Bandung Institute of Technology, Diponegoro University, Lampung University, and the Open University. These results show that universities and national research organizations that actively produce research on governance, bureaucratic reform, digital governance, and public policy innovation dominate the development of public policy and governance studies in Indonesia. The findings also show how international organizations have contributed to the advancement of governance studies in Indonesia through international scholarly cooperation.

Keyword co-occurrence analysis was conducted using VOSviewer. The analysis used choose the actual setting] as the unit of analysis. A minimum occurrence threshold of occurrences was applied, resulting in keywords being retained for network construction. It was used to calculate co-occurrence links, and VOSviewer's association-strength normalization was applied to construct the network. Before network construction, keywords were screened for spelling variations, duplicate terms, singular/plural forms, and equivalent terminology. A thesaurus file [was/w was not] used to standardize keyword variants. The resulting keyword list was then used to generate the co-occurrence network and thematic clusters.

VOSviewer generated the clusters algorithmically according to the strength of relationships among keywords. The cluster labels presented in this study were subsequently assigned by the authors based on the dominant and closely connected keywords within each cluster. Thus, the labels represent interpretive summaries of the VOSviewer-generated clusters and are not labels automatically assigned by the software.

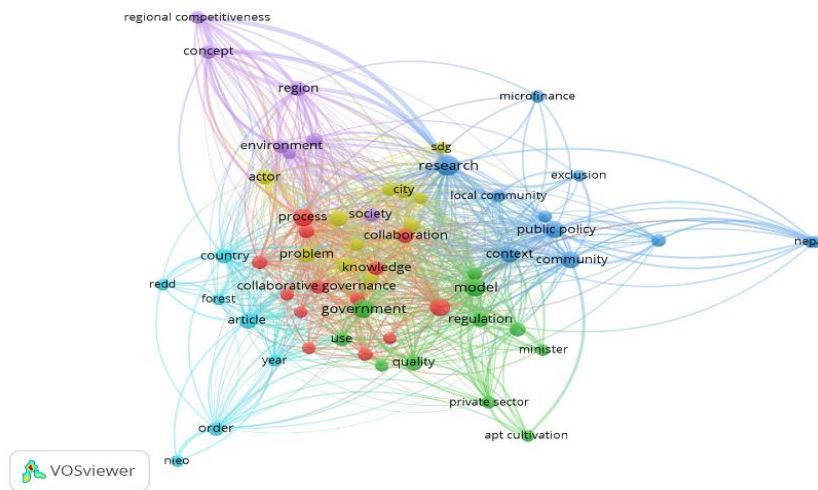


Figure 6. Co-occurrence Network Visualization

Source: VOSviewer 2026

[Figure 6](#) presents the keyword co-occurrence network. The findings of a keyword co-occurrence analysis in public policy and governance research are shown in this network visualization made with VOSviewer. The relationships among research terms, separated into multiple clusters based on thematic relevance, are depicted in this image. Each hue stands for a collection of related research topics that make up the intellectual framework of governance studies. Themes like public policy, collaborative governance, regulation, government, society, cooperation, and research predominate in the major clusters, suggesting a concentration on public policy transformation, government governance, and actor collaboration. Furthermore, links to other themes like the environment, regional competitiveness, SDGs, local community, and the private sector show that governance studies are developing in a multidisciplinary way and are connected to issues of public governance innovation, sustainable development, and community involvement. The visualization's findings also show that Indonesian governance studies are moving toward adaptive and collaborative governance strategies that include a range of stakeholders in the formulation of public policy.

Table 1. Keyword Cluster Classification in Public Policy and Governance Studies

Cluster	Color	Dominant Keywords	Theme Focus
Cluster 1	Red	collaborative governance, government, process, society, actor, regulation	Collaborative governance and public policy processes
Cluster 2	Green	model, regulation, quality, private sector, minister	Public sector governance and regulatory models
Cluster 3	Blue	public policy, local community, context, exclusion, Nepal	Public policy and local communities
Cluster 4	Yellow	collaboration, knowledge, city, SDGs	Collaboration and sustainable development
Cluster 5	Purple	concept, region, regional competitiveness	Governance and regional competitiveness
Cluster 6	Tosca	country, REDD, forest, article	Environmental governance and environmental policy
Cluster 7	Light Blue	order, NIEC	Structure and governance system

Source: VOSviewer 2026

[Table 1](#) summarizes the keyword clusters. The study themes are grouped in the cluster table above according to the findings of the VOSviewer keyword co-occurrence analysis. In studies of public policy and governance, each cluster is a collection of keywords with high co-occurrence and strong correlations. The themes of collaborative governance, government, process, society, actor, and regulation are highlighted in Cluster 1 (highlighted in red), which reflects the predominance of research on public policy processes and collaborative governance. Cluster 2, which is highlighted in green, focuses on private sector participation in government administration, regulation, governance frameworks, and service quality. Cluster 3, on the other hand, emphasizes exclusion, local communities, and public policy, suggesting a focus on social inclusion and community-based public policy. Themes including cooperation, knowledge, cities, and the SDGs—all of which are connected to sustainable development and urban cooperation—are included in Cluster 4. Cluster 5 discusses governance in relation to regional development and competitiveness. Furthermore, Cluster 6 emphasizes environmental governance subjects like REDD and forests, demonstrating the expanding corpus of research on environmental governance, whereas Cluster 7 deals with government governance structures and processes. Overall, the clustering analysis's findings show that Indonesian governance studies are developing in a multidisciplinary way, with a growing emphasis on cooperation, digitalization, sustainability, and innovative public policy.

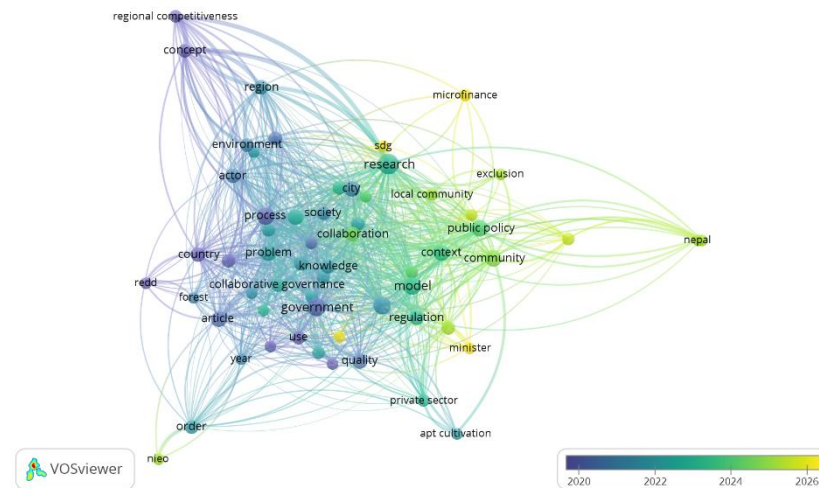


Figure 7. Co-occurrence Overlay Visualization

Source: VOSviewer 2026

Figure 7 presents the keyword co-occurrence overlay. The VOSviewer overlay visualization shows how study themes in public policy and governance studies have changed over time according to the year of publication. The visualization's hues correspond to the research's time periods; blue denotes earlier research themes, while yellow denotes the most recent ones. The graphic shows that traditional governance, collaborative governance, society, process, and environmental governance were the main topics of early research. The colors ranging from green to yellow show how, over time, research started to move toward more modern topics including public policy, local communities, regulation, the SDGs, collaboration, and research. Furthermore, a shift in the focus of governance research toward more flexible, cooperative, and sustainability-based methods is shown by the introduction of themes like digital governance, community participation, and sustainable development. These results show that the dynamics of digital revolution, public engagement, and the need for creative governance focused on sustainable development are all having a growing impact on the growth of governance studies in Indonesia.

The study's findings show that public policy and governance studies have grown significantly in Indonesia in recent years, especially between 2025 and 2026. Growing scholarly interest in governance, bureaucratic reform, and the evolution of public administration in the digital era is reflected in this increase in publications (Maksum & Lutfi, 2025). These results are consistent with advances in governance theory that highlight a paradigm shift from "government" to "governance," as defined by Rhodes and Pierre and Peters, wherein governance is no longer exclusively state-centered but involves a variety of actors, including local communities, the private sector, and civil society. The

keyword co-occurrence results show that the topics of collaborative governance, public policy, regulation, and community predominate ([Godenhjelm et al., 2016](#)). This suggests that Indonesian governance research is increasingly shifting toward collaborative and participatory approaches in the public policy-making process. Furthermore, the rise of themes like environmental governance, sustainability, and the SDGs indicates that sustainable development concerns are starting to take center stage in Indonesian governance studies ([Mukhlis & Perdana, 2022](#)).

However, the overlay visualization's findings show that study themes have shifted from traditional governance to more modern developments like digital governance, adaptive governance, and community participation. These results show that the dynamics of digital government transformation, information technology breakthroughs, and the increasing need for more efficient, transparent, and flexible public services all have an impact on the growth of governance studies in Indonesia ([Suprayitno et al., 2024](#)). Universities and research institutes are vital to the advancement of governance studies in Indonesia, as seen by the prominence of organizations like Padjadjaran University, the University of Indonesia, Brawijaya University, and BRIN. The study's findings do, however, also demonstrate that authors' productivity is still widely distributed and that no single author is dominant, suggesting that there are still many of chances for research collaboration ([Wahyuni, 2023](#)). As a result, this study confirms that, in response to the difficulties of public administration in the contemporary era, Indonesian governance studies will increasingly concentrate on cross-sectoral cooperation, the digitalization of government administration, public policy innovation, and sustainable development ([Imron et al., 2022](#)).

CONCLUSION

The results of this study show that public policy and governance studies in Indonesia have changed significantly in the last few years, especially with the increased emphasis on digital governance, collaborative governance, bureaucratic reform, and sustainable development. The bibliometric analysis's findings demonstrate that the number of scientific publications on governance studies in the Scopus database is still rising, showing an increase in scholarly interest in more transparent, adaptable, and participatory aspects of government governance. The prevalence of topics like collaborative governance, public policy, regulation, society, community engagement, and sustainable development suggests that Indonesian governance research has moved away from a hierarchical government approach and toward governance that prioritizes cross-sectoral cooperation and the participation of multiple actors in the formulation of public policy. Additionally, a shift in research themes toward digital governance, adaptive governance, and environmental governance areas more pertinent to the difficulties of contemporary public administration and the digital transformation of government is revealed by the outcomes of network visualization and overlay visualization.

Although author collaboration patterns are still very dispersed, our analysis also revealed that universities and national research institutes play a major role in the development of governance studies, offering substantial prospects for future research network strengthening. Theoretically, by using a bibliometric analytic approach, this study significantly strengthens the literature mapping on the evolution of within the analyzed corpus, research attention has become increasingly concentrated on collaborative governance, public policy, regulation, community participation, environmental governance, and sustainable development. The keyword and overlay analyses indicate changes in the prominence of research themes across the publication period, rather than directly demonstrating changes in governance practices in Indonesia. Methodologically, this study shows that a systematic mapping of the intellectual structure, theme evolution, and interrelationships among works in the field of governance may be achieved by using VOSviewer. In order to enhance the future development of governance studies in Indonesia, it is advised that future research broaden the scope of international databases, incorporate bibliometric analysis with systematic literature reviews, and deepen studies on digital governance, artificial intelligence in public administration, smart governance, and collaborative policymaking.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest regarding the research, authorship, or publication of this article.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTION

All authors contributed to the development of this article. Their contributions included conceptualization, methodology, data collection, data analysis, interpretation of the findings, and manuscript preparation and revision. All authors reviewed and approved the final version of the manuscript. BSK: Manuscript Preparation, Data Collection, Data Analysis and Revision; SWT: Conceptualization, Methodology and Interpretation of The Findings.

ETHICAL STATEMENT

This study uses bibliographic data obtained from published academic literature and does not involve direct participation of human subjects or the collection of personal data. Therefore, ethical approval was not required for this study.

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DECLARATION OF GENERATIVE AI

Generative AI tools were used to assist with language refinement and editorial improvement during the preparation of this manuscript. The authors reviewed and revised the resulting text and take responsibility for the accuracy, integrity, and final content of the article.

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