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A Holistic Examination Of Challenges, Strategies, And Solutions For Empowering Women Entrepreneurs: A Bibliometric Analysis

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Abstract

The complexities and adversities confronting female entrepreneurs is being sought to be identified through a wide range of research papers which has been outlined in this footnote bibliography. It examines the gender landscape within the diverse stages of entrepreneurship by pointing out the factors that stop women like limited access of funding, poor networking, juggling family duties in perception of society. Besides this, the literature review section expands on the impacts of these elements and split the experiences of female entrepreneurs across the world to show the varied ways in which this is manifested. It captures resource rich ideas, state of the art and employing strategic approaches when dealing with the barriers and inclusion ecosystem. The study depicted from 749 Scopus database papers published between 2014 to May 2nd, 2024. The sample procedure was performed using the PRISMA method. First of all, the articles were shortlisted limit to the keyword's women entrepreneurs or women entrepreneurship and challenges or barriers. The limit is only for the subject area social sciences. The remaining dataset was sorted with an emphasis on articles based on document type and language. The software program VOS viewer, which is used to visualize bibliometric networks, enabled a co-occurrence keyword analysis to identify the most significant themes. In order to provide a systematic approach to data analysis and interpretation, this procedure was followed by creating a table by pivoting and sorting the Scopus database. The results also show that 33 publications done in international journal of gender and entrepreneurship. The six clusters that were taken from the Scopus database systematically captured attention to the repeated terms entrepreneur and entrepreneurship. The highest number of publications done in 2023. In terms of the total number of published publications, the US and UK were tied for first place, but the UK had more citations.

Keywords: Entrepreneurship, Entrepreneurs, Women entrepreneur, Women Entrepreneurship, Challenges, Barriers



Introduction

In today's rapidly changing market landscape, startups have the potency to introduce fresh ideas and solutions. By staying alert to market shifts and embracing innovative strategies, these ventures aim to interrupt conventional norms. Amidst the demand for adaptability, such initiatives transcend mere commercial ventures. They play a pivotal role in helping businesses navigate evolving industry dynamics and meet changing consumer needs, thereby fostering economic growth. Entrepreneurship emerges as a beacon of hope amid economic uncertainty, attracting individuals seeking autonomy among labor market transformations and industry disruptions. Beyond survival, entrepreneurship fuels creativity, empowering individuals to address pressing challenges with inventive solutions. Moreover, its ethos of resilience enables swift adaptation to market fluctuations and the seizing of new opportunities. As entrepreneurship flourishes, it becomes a catalyst for job creation, innovation, and economic diversification, driving sustainable and inclusive growth. Embracing entrepreneurship becomes imperative for economies navigating the complexities of today's world, paving the path towards prosperity for all.

Entrepreneurship is a potent blend of creativity, risk-taking, and opportunity that thrives in the business world. By their daring imaginations and dangerous exploits, the entrepreneurs, or business alchemists as they can be called, transform ideas into valuable coins and mold the economic landscape. Women's ideas are strong catalysts that advance society and enhance local communities. Women's viewpoints, which are based on depth of understanding and guarantee that solutions speak to a range of needs and experiences. Women's ideas create opportunities for inclusive growth, individual empowerment, and the development of a more equitable and prosperous future for all by utilizing creativity and innovation. Women entrepreneurs coming up with creative ways to overcome obstacles they face in their pursuit of corporate success. Unlike the traditional entrepreneur's old-fashioned way of doing things, they use their official and exceptional business expertise to establish and manage various kinds of factories. Women entrepreneurs are demonstrating to the next generation and beyond that not only is economic growth feasible, but also that gender preconceptions can be broken by serving as a force for innovation, a leader, and an exponent of the will. Women entrepreneurs are those who take on demanding roles in order to achieve financial independence and fulfill personal requirements. Women are running their own businesses in greater numbers, but many of them are finding it difficult to succeed. According to Brush et al. (2006), studies show that firms run by women receive much less venture capital funding than those managed by men, which makes it difficult for women entrepreneurs to obtain expansion capital. Other obstacles that women-owned firms have in cross-border e-commerce are highlighted in the APEC toolkit. These include worries about digital security, a lack of financial literacy, and issues navigating trade and customs laws (Hutchings et al., 2020). Women-Led High-Growth Enterprise Taskforce Report from the UK Government highlights more of the interconnected obstacles that women must overcome to achieve high growth, such as prejudices in the investment community and their propensity to work in less economically productive fields (Women-Led High-Growth Enterprise Taskforce., 2024).



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It is imperative that these obstacles be overcome to support wider economic and social advancement as well as the success of female entrepreneurs. As studied by Akram et al. (2019), that it is more crucial than ever to encourage women to start their own businesses since these companies can be essential in solving urgent global issues. In order to establish a more equal entrepreneurial ecosystem for women, policymakers, investors, and other stakeholders must work together.

The literature on women in entrepreneurship highlights a number of obstacles and difficulties faced by female entrepreneurs. A few of these include the dearth of business acumen and professional qualifications, the challenge of securing funding, the barriers to professional networking, social and cultural divides, legal discrimination like the denial of land rights, the unequal treatment of job opportunities, and the pervasive influence of the glass ceiling effect (Ahmetaj et al., 2023; Goswami et al., 2019; Leitch & Harrison, 2016; Rashid & Ratten, 2020; Tripathi & Singh, 2018).

Many scholars believe that women entrepreneurs will become more prevalent in the twenty-first century, particularly in developing nations. Owing to its economic and social significance, research in the recent past has concentrated on examining its driving forces and accomplishments. Additionally, scholars have identified various viewpoints on entrepreneurship in many countries and cultures and have advocated for more research. Understanding what inspires and hinders female entrepreneurs in post-communist nations was the goal of the study. Similar proportions of women in Tirana, Albania, believed that their gender either benefited or hindered their business, although a larger percentage of them had assistance from their families and partners or had inherited a family company. Particular focus is given to the various aspects of entrepreneurship growth that affect women (Ahmetaj et al., 2023). Women's entrepreneurship plays a critical role in driving economic growth in emerging economies, especially in SAARC nations. A thorough study of the literature covering 23 years highlights the significant obstacles that female entrepreneurs must overcome, such as restricted access to capital, discrimination based on gender, cultural norms, and the difficult balancing act between commercial endeavors and family obligations. It is critical to address these issues in order to foster an inclusive business culture that enables women to overcome barriers and make significant contributions to economic advancement (Rashid & Ratten, 2020).

Globally, there are several obstacles that prevent female entrepreneurship from reaching its full potential as a force behind social emancipation and economic progress. Ten typical obstacles that prevent women from pursuing their entrepreneurial goals are highlighted by a thorough analysis of the body of research and professional perspectives. The obstacles that women face in starting and expanding their enterprises are numerous and include things like societal preconceptions, cultural standards, and restricted access to cash and resources. Recognizing and removing these obstacles is a necessary first step in creating an atmosphere that is more encouraging for female entrepreneurs, allowing them to prosper and make significant contributions to economic growth (Tripathi & Singh, 2018). In addition, Women entrepreneurs confront significant obstacles from various sources, such as a lack of technical expertise, funding, family support, work-life balance, and limited mobility, as the literature has extensively documented (Ahmetaj et al., 2023; Goswami et al., 2019; Leitch & Harrison, 2016; Rashid & Ratten, 2020).



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Research Question

How do various authors, countries, journals, and years contribute to the comprehensive understanding of challenges, strategies, and solutions for empowering women entrepreneurs?

Research Objectives

- 1.To analyze the contribution of different countries to the research on challenges, strategies, and solutions for empowering women entrepreneurs.
- 2.To identify the key journals publishing research on empowering women entrepreneurs and assess their significance in shaping the discourse.
- 3.To assess the temporal trends in research output related to empowering women entrepreneurs from 2014 to 2024.
- 4.To analyze the occurrence and co-occurrence of keywords associated with empowering women entrepreneurs, elucidating prevalent themes and areas of focus within the literature.

Research Methodology

Tranfield et al. (2003) presented a methodology aimed at developing evidence-informed management knowledge through systematic review. The article outlines a structured approach to conducting systematic reviews in management research, emphasizing the importance of rigorous methods to ensure the reliability and validity of findings. The authors propose a framework consisting of several key stages, including defining the research question, conducting a comprehensive literature search, appraising the quality of included studies, synthesizing the evidence, and drawing conclusions. They argue that this systematic approach can enhance the credibility of management knowledge by providing a transparent and replicable process for synthesizing existing evidence. According to Tranfield et al. (2003) framework offers valuable insights for researchers seeking to generate evidence-informed management knowledge through systematic review methodologies. Mapping and analyzing the body of literature to identify potential research opportunities and knowledge gaps is the goal of a literature review (Saunders et al., 2009). As was indicated in the previous section, while many studies have addressed the difficulties and obstacles, no review has brought these studies together and provided a deeper comprehension of this crucial area of research, particularly in the social sciences. The steps of a systematic literature review are shown in Figure 1



Figure 1: Steps Of Systematic Literature Review



Research Identification

Examining and assessing prior research on challenges and obstacles faced by women entrepreneurs is the first phase in this study.

Search Strategy

This step is a vital part of every systematic literature review as choosing the best search strategy, i.e. Women Entrepreneurs, and identification of search keywords is a crucial task. The present study has chosen the Scopus database as a "Challenges and Barriers faced by women Entrepreneurs" to perform a literature review and the search terms that were used to explore the titles and abstracts of the papers in this literature review are: "Women Entrepreneurs" OR "Women Entrepreneurship".

Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

In this section selection criteria are defined by establishing the concepts of inclusion and exclusion. Table 1. illustrated the inclusion and exclusion criteria

Table 1. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

Inclusion Criteria	Exclusion Criteria
papers published during the period from year >2013 and < 2025 excluded. subject 2014- to 2 may 2024 were included. area other than social sciences is papers' title and keywords from extracted eliminated. exclude book chapter 45, file of scopus related to only 'women review 14, book 4, conference paper 12. entrepreneur's or 'women the articles written other than English entrepreneurship' and 'challenges' or language eliminated, Russian 3, Spanish 'barriers' only articles from document 3 Portugal 1 article. type were included. subject area included only social sciences. articles written in the English language and related to social sciences subjects were included.	

Data Extraction

The data used was taken from a reliable database (Scopus) to address the studied research question. With a vast array of subjects and fields covered, Scopus is regarded as the largest database in the world for citations and abstracts from reliable websites and peer-reviewed bibliographies. It has astute features like tracking, analysis, and searches for visualization. To ensure the data remains current and manageable, only articles published between 2014 and 2024 were considered. This timeframe allows for an up-to-date analysis of trends and developments in the field, reflecting the most recent research and insights.

Data Analysis

At this point, future research directions were determined, and a summary of the publications included in the study was produced using the descriptive analysis. The primary features of the articles included in the bibliometric analysis on empowering women entrepreneurs were condensed into a summary by the



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descriptive analysis carried out in this study. In the bibliometric analysis phase, data is meticulously scrutinized to uncover patterns, trends, and relationships within scholarly literature. This process involves systematic examination of publication metadata, citation counts, authorship patterns, and collaboration networks, among other factors. As highlighted by Eck and Waltman (2014) bibliometric analysis entails the quantitative assessment of scientific output, providing valuable insights into the structure and dynamics of research domains. Moreover, Waltman et al. (2011) advocate for the integration of advanced statistical techniques, such as network analysis and text mining, to uncover hidden patterns in bibliometric data. Furthermore, Glänzel and Moed (2002) underscore the role of bibliometric analysis in informing decision-making processes in academia, funding agencies, and research institutions. Finally, Hicks et al. (2015) highlighted the value of bibliometric indicators in assessing research impact and informing strategic planning initiatives.

Results and Discussion

This section examines and discusses the outcome of the search related to digital transformation in the field of social sciences and will provide insight into the subject, major trends, and potential gaps for future research.

Description of Studies

The data used was taken from a reliable database (Scopus) to address the study's research question. With a vast array of subjects and fields covered, Scopus is regarded as the largest database in the world for citations and abstracts from reliable websites and peer-reviewed bibliographies. It has astute features like tracking, analysis, and searches for visualization. Only articles published between 2014 and 2024 were taken into consideration in order to prevent receiving an excessive number of publications as search results.

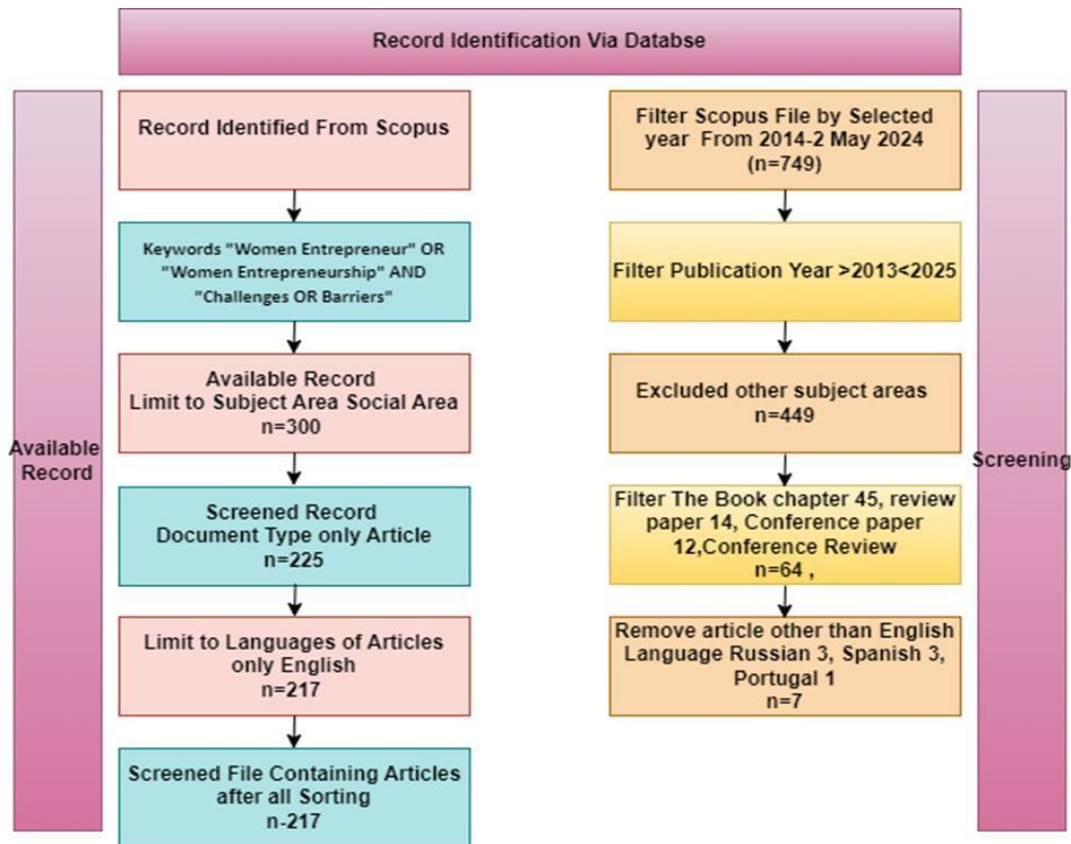


Figure 2: Prisma Flow-Chart For Studies Selection

According to the PRISMA declaration, Figure 1 illustrates the procedures used for the selection of studies in the systematic review process (Liberati et al., 2009; Page et al., 2021). The first step entails utilizing the terms "women entrepreneurs" OR "women entrepreneurship" AND "challenges" OR "barriers" to search the Scopus database for papers. The results show that there are 749 studies. The data from these investigations was stored in CSV files, which are divided into the following sections: Authors' names (i), paper title (ii), journal name (iv), volume and issue number (v), affiliation (vi), abstract (vii), keyword (viii), document type, etc. With the subject set "Social Sciences," only research published between 2014 and 2024 were included in the search results to prevent receiving an excessive number of studies. 300 articles were received after sorting. Article selection reduces the total number of articles from 300 to 225. The only articles selected that remained 21 were in English. Refer to Figure 2.



Co-Occurrence of All Keywords

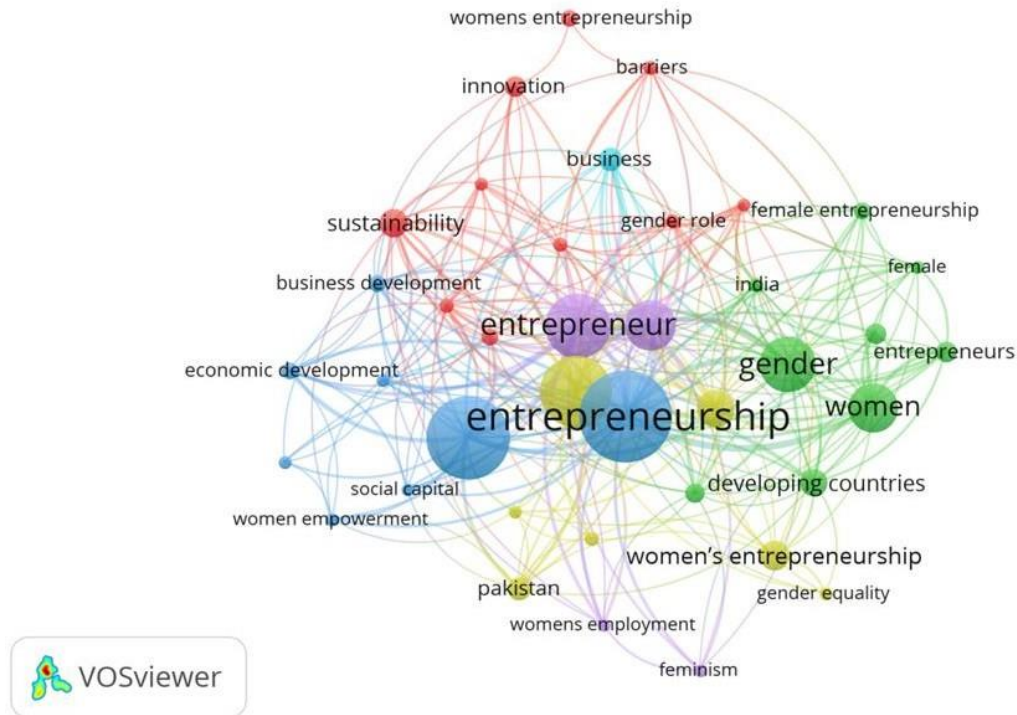


Figure 3. Co-occurrence of All Keywords

Figure 3 emphasizes on women entrepreneurs specifically, this vibrant network visualization seems to depict important terms and concepts associated with entrepreneurship. These are some conclusions drawn from the picture. The main phrase, "entrepreneurship," is more significant and well-known. This implies that the visualization's background revolves around the theme of entrepreneurship. "Gender," "women," and "women entrepreneurs" are further key phrases. These words most likely have a big impact on the conversation. Distinct clusters or groups of related topics are represented by different colors. Although the image doesn't include precise cluster labels, we can nevertheless deduce theme groupings from relationships and proximity. The importance of female entrepreneurs, gender-related challenges, and empowerment within the business ecosystem are all highlighted by this image. It's an amazing illustration of related concepts.



Co-Occurrence Of Author Keywords

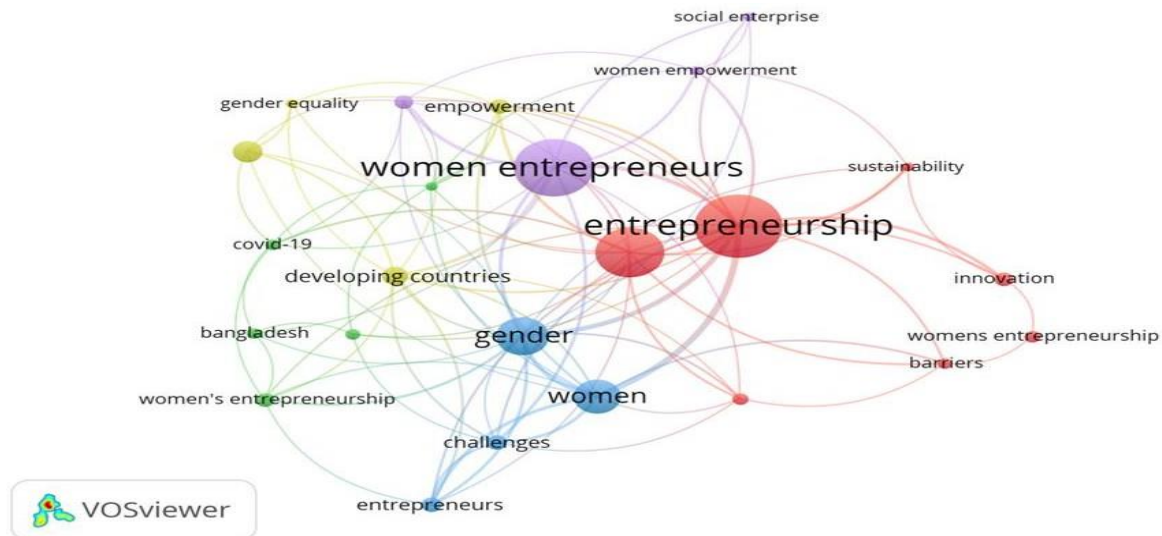


Figure 4. Co-occurrence of Author Keywords

In Figure 4 important words and ideas associated with entrepreneurship are represented by the VOSviewer graphic, which focuses especially on female entrepreneurs. Based on the photograph, the following observations are made: The main phrase, "entrepreneurship," is more significant and well-known. This implies that the visualization's background revolves around the theme of entrepreneurship. "Gender," "women," and "women entrepreneurs" are further key phrases. These words most likely have a big impact on the conversation. The interconnections drawn between various words illustrate the intricate webs of relationships and common ground present in the discourse surrounding female entrepreneurs. The focus of this discussion is "women empowerment," which highlights how important it is to allow women to have leadership positions in businesses. in "Bangladesh." "COVID-19" have highlighted the global context, which has brought with it new difficulties as well as unique opportunities for growth and resilience. The concept of "sustainability" is essential to business operations because it ensures that women's entrepreneurship generates long-term social and economic benefits and aligns with the broader goals of "gender equality". The goal of "empowerment" is to increase women's agency and autonomy while promoting an equitable and varied entrepreneurial environment. Different hues indicate different groupings or clusters of linked ideas. In summary, this graphic highlight the importance of female entrepreneurs, challenges pertaining to gender, and empowerment in the context of the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Cluster Analysis Of Co-Occurrence Of Keywords

Table 2: Cluster 1 Analysis

Keywords	Cluster	Total Link Strength	Occurrences
Bangladesh	1	16	7
Barriers	1	17	6



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Gender Relations	1	21	5
Gender Role	1	30	6
Innovation	1	14	9
SMEs	1	17	5
Sustainability	1	40	13
Women Entrepreneur	1	13	6
Womens Entrepreneurship	1	2	7
Womens Organization	1	29	6

VOSviewer, a tool for visualizing and analyzing scientific literature. Keywords are the terms or phrases that have been identified and analyzed within the dataset. Keywords are often grouped into clusters based on their semantic similarity or co-occurrence patterns. In this case, all keywords belong to Cluster 1. Link Strength indicates the strength of the connections or associations between keywords within the cluster. A higher link strength suggests a stronger relationship or association between the keywords. Occurrences shows how many times each keyword appears within the datasets. It gives an idea of the frequency or prevalence of each keyword. Based on this interpretation, it seems that Cluster 1 primarily focuses on topics related to gender entrepreneurship, innovation, sustainability, and barriers, with varying degrees of emphasis on each topic within the cluster.

Table 3. Cluster 2 Analysis

Keywords	Cluster	Total link strength	Occurrences
Challenges	2	16	9
Developing Countries	2	27	12
Entrepreneurs	2	27	9
Female	2	19	5
Female Entrepreneurship	2	14	7
Gender	2	66	29
India	2	21	6
Women	2	53	25
Women's Entrepreneurship	2	20	8

Cluster 2 seems to focus on the intersection of gender and entrepreneurship, particularly in developing countries like India. Keywords like "gender," "women," "entrepreneurs," and "female entrepreneurship" suggest strong emphasis on the role of women in entrepreneurship and economic development. Challenges specific to female entrepreneurs in developing countries, as well as the general gender dynamics in entrepreneurship, are prominent topics within this cluster.



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Table 4: Cluster 3 Analysis

Keywords	Cluster	Total link strength	Occurrences
Business Development	3	26	7
Economic Development	3	23	7
Entrepreneurship	3	102	53
Social Capital	3	18	5
Social Enterprise	3	8	5
Sustainable Development	3	22	5
Women Empowerment	3	13	5
Women Entrepreneurs	3	78	47

Keywords in cluster 3 revolve around general entrepreneurship and its role in economic development. Entrepreneurship" is a central theme, with a high total link strength and occurrence count, indicating its importance within the cluster. Other related concepts include business development, sustainable development, and social.

Table 5: Cluster 4 Analysis

Keywords	Cluster	Total link strength	Occurrence
Covid-19	4	8	6
Empowerment	4	54	18
Gender Equality	4	6	5
Pakistan	4	22	10
Social Media	4	10	5
Women Entrepreneurship	4	59	39
Women's Entrepreneurship	4	13	14

Cluster 4 highlights the intersection of women's entrepreneurship and empowerment, especially in the context of COVID-19 and countries like Pakistan. Key terms include "women entrepreneurship," "empowerment," "covid-19," "Pakistan," and "women's entrepreneurship." There's a notable link strength between "women entrepreneurship" and "empowerment," indicating a strong association between these concepts. The cluster suggests a focus on how women's entrepreneurship can contribute to empowerment despite challenges like the COVID-19 pandemic.

Table 6: Cluster 5 Analysis

Keywords	Cluster	Total Link Strength	Occurrence
Entrepreneur	5	125	35
Feminism	5	12	5



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Womens Employment	5	19	5
Womens Status	5	97	26

Cluster 5 discusses entrepreneurship in relation to gender status and feminism. It explores topics like women's employment and their status in society, with a significant emphasis on entrepreneurship. The term "entrepreneur" has the highest link strength, suggesting a central focus on entrepreneurship within this cluster.

Table 7: Cluster 6 Analysis

Keywords	Cluster	Total link strength	Occurrence
Business	6	33	10

Cluster 6 encompass a broader range of topics related to business and entrepreneurship. While terms like "business" and "entrepreneur" are present, there's less focus on gender-specific issues compared to other clusters. It discusses general topics like business development and possibly includes discussions on entrepreneurship in a more neutral context.

Occurrence of Studies by Publication Year

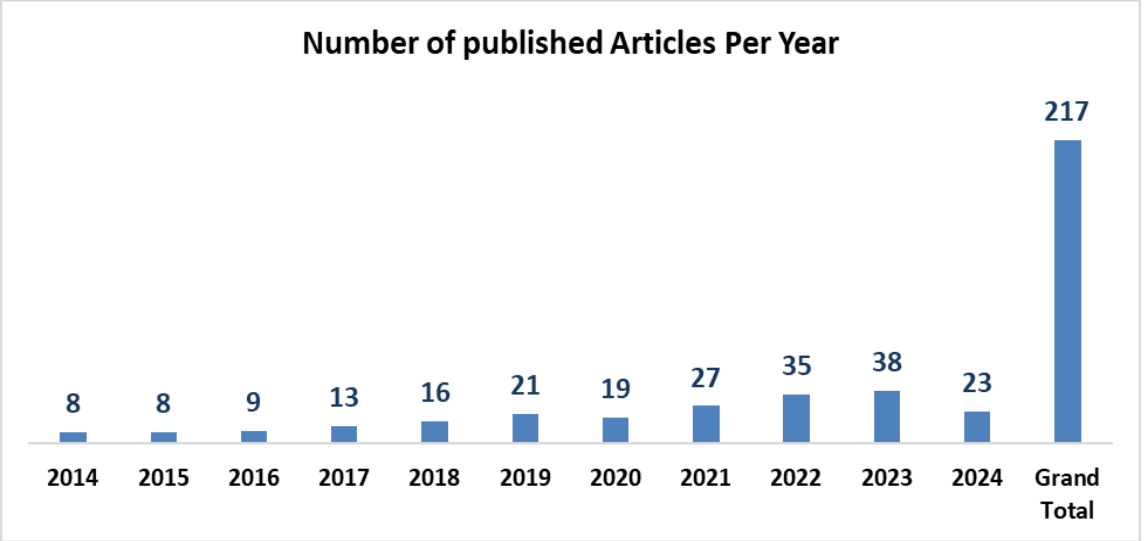


Figure 5. Occurrence of studies by publication year

Figure 3 reveals that The bar graph titled "Number of Published Articles" illustrates the evolution of published articles from 2014 to 2024. Initially, in 2014, there were only 8 articles published, followed by a slight increase in 2015 and 2016, with 9 articles each. The trend continues with gradual growth in subsequent years until 2020, where there were 19 articles published. Notably, 2021 witnessed a significant jump, with 27 articles, indicating a notable surge in research output. However, the most striking observation is the exponential rise in 2024, where a staggering 217 articles were published, dwarfing the numbers of previous years. This exceptional surge suggests a possible breakthrough or a substantial increase in research activity within the field represented by the graph. Such a remarkable increase could signify various factors like technological advancements, increased



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funding, or a heightened interest in the subject matter. Overall, the graph encapsulates a dynamic narrative of growth and acceleration in research output, culminating in a remarkable spike in 2023.

Occurrence of Studies by Journal

Table 8. Occurrence of Studies Published by the Journal

Journals	Published Articles	Percentage
International Journal of Gender and Entrepreneurship	33	15.2%
Sustainability (Switzerland)	12	5.5%
Journal Women's Entrepreneurship and Education	12	5.5%
Emerald Emerging Markets Case Studies	12	5.5%
Gender in Management	10	4.6%
Journal of Sustainable Tourism	4	1.8%
Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship	4	1.8%
Journal of African Business	4	1.8%
International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy	4	1.8%
New England Journal of Entrepreneurship	3	1.4%
Journal of Entrepreneurship Education	3	1.4%
International Journal of Scientific and Technology Research	3	1.4%
Gender, Work and Organization	3	1.4%
Entrepreneurship and Regional Development	3	1.4%
Cross Cultural and Strategic Management	3	1.4%
12 Journals Have 2 Publication	24	11%
80 Journals Have 1 Publication	80	36.9%
Grand Total	217	100.0%

In Table 8, breakdown of published articles reveals a diverse landscape of scholarly contributions across various journals, reflecting the multifaceted exploration of gender and entrepreneurship. Topping the list is the "International Journal of Gender and Entrepreneurship," accounting for 15.2% of the total publications, with 33 articles. Following closely are "Sustainability (Switzerland)," the "Journal of Women's Entrepreneurship and Education," and "Emerald Emerging Markets Case Studies," each contributing 5.5% with 12 articles apiece. These journals serve as pivotal platforms for advancing discourse and research in the intersection of gender dynamics and entrepreneurial endeavors. Furthermore, a range of other journals has also made significant contributions, albeit with fewer articles.



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Journals such as "Gender in Management," "Journal of Sustainable Tourism," and "Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship" each published 4 articles, reflecting the breadth of research interests within this domain. Moreover, there is a notable presence of interdisciplinary journals like "International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy," emphasizing the broad relevance and implications of gendered perspectives in entrepreneurship across various academic disciplines. Interestingly, the data also highlights the long tail distribution, with a substantial portion of publications dispersed among a myriad of journals, each contributing to the rich tapestry of research in gender and entrepreneurship. These range from specialized outlets like the "Journal of Agricultural Extension" to broader platforms like "World Development" and "SAGE Open." Additionally, it's noteworthy that 80 journals contributed only one publication each, indicating a wide dissemination of research across a diverse array of academic forums. In sum, the comprehensive breakdown underscores the depth and breadth of scholarly engagement with gender and entrepreneurship, spanning across a multitude of journals and reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of this field of inquiry.

Published Articles Journal's Category and Country

Journal	Classification	Country
International Journal of Gender and Entrepreneurship	Q2	UK
Sustainability (Switzerland)	Q1	Switzerland
Journal Women's Entrepreneurship and Education	Q3	Serbia
Emerald Emerging Markets Case Studies	Q2	UK
Gender in Management	Q2	UK
Journal of Sustainable Tourism	Q2	UK
Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship	Q3	Germany
Journal of African Business	Q2	US
International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy	Q3	UK
New England Journal of Entrepreneurship	Q3	UK
Journal of Entrepreneurship Education	Q4	US
International Journal of Scientific Technology Research	Q4	US
Gender, Work and Organization	Q2	UK
Entrepreneurship and Regional Development	Q2	UK
Cross Cultural and Strategic Management	Q3	UK
World Journal of Entrepreneurship, Management and SD	Q3	UK
World Development	Q1	UK
Small Enterprise Research	Q3	UK
SAGE Open	Q4	US
Quality and Quantity	Q3	Netherlands
Public Administration and Policy	Q2	UK
Journal of International Women's Studies	Q3	US



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Journal of Entrepreneurship and Innovation inQ2		Singapore
Emerging Economies		
Journal of Agricultural Extension	Q3	Nigeria
International Journal of Religion	Q4	Peer-reviewed Journal
Community Development	Q2	UK
Advanced Science Letters	Q4	Peer-reviewed Journal
World Journal of English Language	Q3	US
Work, Employment and Society	Q2	UK
Women's Studies International Forum	Q2	UK
Voluntas	Q2	US
Tourism Planning and Development	Q2	UK
Sustainable Development	Q2	UK
Space and Culture, India	Q3	India
South Asian Journal of Business Studies	Q3	UK
South African Review of Sociology	Q3	South Africa
Social Indicators Research	Q3	UK
Social Enterprise Journal	Q2	UK
Samarah	Q3	Indonesia
Romanian Journal of Geography	Q4	Romania
Qualitative Report	Q3	US
Przestrzen Społeczna	Q4	Poland
Problems and Perspectives in Management	Q3	Ukraine
Open House International	Q3	UK
Mobile Media and Communication	Q3	US
Middle East Critique	Q3	US
Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences	Q4	Greece
Library Philosophy and Practice	Q4	Peer-reviewed Journal
Legal Issues of Economic Integration	Q3	Netherlands
Latin American Research Review	Q2	US
Journal of Sustainability Science and Management	Q4	Malaysia
Journal of Liberty and International Affairs	Q3	Macedonia
Journal of International Education in Business	Q3	UK
Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Research	Q3	US
Journal of Extension	Q4	US
Journal of Environmental Assessment Policy and Management	Q3	Singapore
Journal of Entrepreneurship and Public Policy	Q3	UK
Journal of Engineering Education Transformations	Q2	India
Journal of Education Culture and Society	Q4	Peer-reviewed Journal
Journal of Ecotourism	Q3	UK



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Journal of Business Ethics	Q2	Netherlands
Journal of Applied Communication Research	Q2	UK
Journal of Applied Biobehavioral Research	Q2	US
Journal of Agriculture and Rural Development in the Tropics and Subtropics, Supplement	Q3	Germany
Journal of Agricultural Education and Extension	Q3	UK
Japanese Journal of Sociology	Q2	Japan
International Social Work	Q2	UK
International Social Science Journal	Q3	UK
International Review of Administrative Sciences	Q2	UK
International Quarterly for Asian Studies	Q4	Asia
International Migration	Q2	UK
International Journal of Sustainable Society	Q2	UK
International Journal of Media and Information Literacy	Q2	US
International Journal of Maritime History	Q3	US
International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction	Q2	UK
International Journal of Diplomacy and Economy	Q3	UK
International Journal of Asian Business and Information Management	Q3	US
Intangible Capital	Q3	Spain
Industry and Higher Education	Q3	US
Industrial and Commercial Training	Q3	UK
Indian Journal of Economics and Development	Q2	India
IDS Bulletin	Q4	UK
Humanities and Social Sciences Reviews	Q4	-
Human Relations	Q4	US
Globalizations	Q2	UK
Global Networks	Q2	UK
Geojournal of Tourism and Geosites	Q4	-
GeoJournal	Q4	-
GEMA Online Journal of Language Studies	Q3	Malaysia
Frontiers in Education	Q3	Switzerland
European Journal of Development Research	Q2	UK
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion	Q2	UK
Environmental Innovation and Societal Transitions	Q2	Netherlands
Entrepreneurial Business and Economics Review	Q3	Poland
Economies	Q4	-
Cogent Social Sciences	Q2	UK
Central European Management Journal	Q2	Poland
CASE Journal	Q2	UK
Career Development International	Q2	UK
Business Strategy and the Environment	Q2	UK
Business and Society Review	Q3	UK



Asian Women	Q3	South Korea
Asian Social Science	Q4	Peer-reviewed Journal
Asian Journal of Women's Studies	Q3	UK
Arab Gulf Journal of Scientific Research	Q2	UAE
African Journal of Science, Technology, Innovation & Development	Q3	UK
African Journal of Food, Agriculture, Nutrition & Development	Q2	Kenya

Table 9 shows a wide range of scholarly journals are available on the list, which is arranged according to the subjects and countries of origin. These journals address many different subjects, including sustainability, management, tourism, entrepreneurship, and gender studies. Every publication on the list is a distinct work of literature committed to furthering understanding and investigation in its field. Because different disciplines are interconnected and collaborative efforts are necessary to address complex global challenges, the categories emphasize the interdisciplinary nature of academic inquiry. The journals' geographic distribution further emphasizes the international scope of academic research, with papers coming from many different nations, including the US, UK, Serbia, Germany, Nigeria, and Switzerland. This diversity of nationalities not only enhances the scholarly conversation also fosters cross-cultural understanding and collaboration among researchers and scholars worldwide.

Occurrence of Studies Based on Country

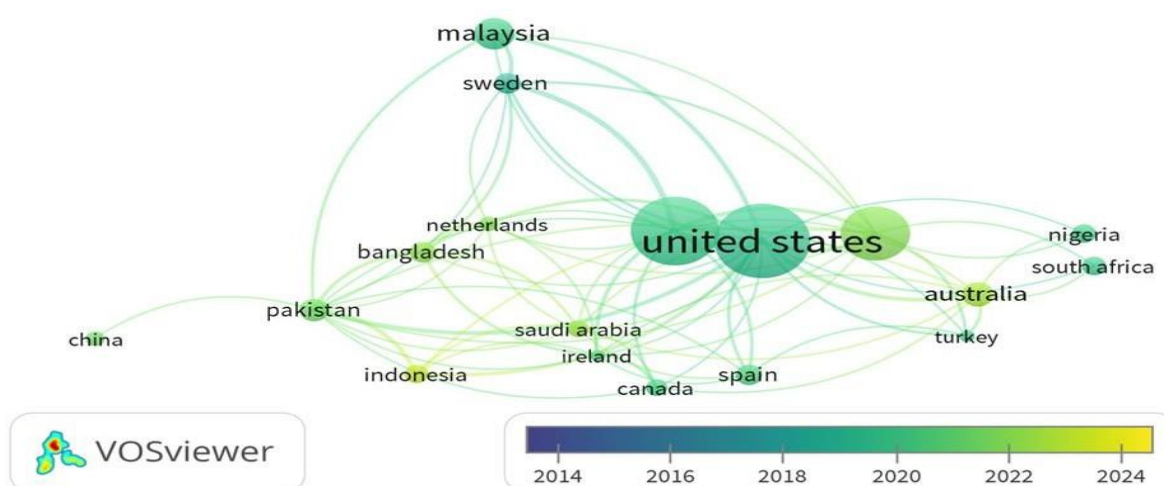


Figure 9: Occurrence Of Studies Based On Country

The country-wise distribution of studies is vital in identifying the global status of research on the subject and illustrating the overall maturity of the literature (Alshehhi et al., 2018). Figure 4 reveals the ranking of the countries that have contributed most to the field. It is observed that the so-called industrialized nations such as Germany (42 articles) are placed first, followed by Russia (41 articles) and the United States (28 articles) which have contributed the most.



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Germany and United States unsurprisingly are at the top position of the list as these nations are primarily influenced by “the size of their markets, also have a strong education and research system as well as business- friendly environment” (Mahraz et al., 2019). Besides, Russia is also in the top five ranking as it has fundamentally sound infrastructure, connection, and knowledge creation. Furthermore, these three countries fall in developed economies, which denotes that more focus is given to digital transformation studies in developed countries. In general, the number of studies published in developing nations is much lower than in developed ones, even though now some emerging countries have started giving more importance to this topic.

Table 10. Country wise Publications

Country	Articles	Citations
United states	37	697
United Kingdom	34	768
Turkey	26	113
Sweden	14	336
Spain	11	138
South Africa	10	121
Nigeria	9	79
Pakistan	9	190
Saudi Arabia	9	102
Ireland	8	146
Malaysia	8	121
Netherlands	8	69
India	7	91
Indonesia	7	15
Canada	6	74
China	6	48
Australia	5	42
Bangladesh	5	81

The number of research articles published and the number of citations for each country are listed in the table. In terms of citations and article counts, the United States and the United Kingdom are in the lead, indicating that they are significant contributors to research. While some nations like South Africa and Nigeria receive substantial citations despite producing fewer articles than others, others like Turkey, Sweden, and Spain also demonstrate strong participation in research. This demonstrates the significance of their study. Despite having modest outputs,



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nations like Australia, China, Canada, and Indonesia nevertheless make significant contributions to international research. All things considered, the table provides a summary of the research activities in each nation and their influence on the scholarly community.

Author Citation



Figure 10: Author Publications & Citation

Figure 10 shows the Author name having more citations from 2014 to 2nd May 2024 highest cited articles was from the author Marlow, Susan & Alkhaled, Sophie.

Table 11: Author Publication and Citation

Author	Articles	Citations
Marlow, susan	2	180
Alkhaled, sophie	2	118
Ozkazanc-pan, banu	2	104
Henry, Colette	2	84
Villares-varela, maría	2	68
Mcadam, maura	2	61
Essers, caroline	3	50
Zguir, mariem fekih	2	32
Nyagadza, brighton	2	22
Hagelaar, Geoffrey	2	18
Islam, mohammad amirul	2	18
Materia, valentina c.	2	18
Mozumdar, lavlu	2	18
Omta, s.w.f.	2	18
Jaim, jasmine	2	12



Authors having 100 plus citations are Marlow, Susan, Alkhaled, Sophie, Ozkazancipan, Banu. These 6 Authors have the highest citation among all other authors that published their work.

Conclusion

Academic literature on the barriers and difficulties faced by female entrepreneurs is still developing, which calls for more thorough investigation, a better comprehension of requirements, and a well-thought-out long-term plan. In order to provide a thorough summary based on 217 research published between 2014 to May 2, 2024, this report sought to evaluate the difficulties and impediments faced by female entrepreneurs in the social sciences. The analysis showed a tendency of increasing publications annually, with a peak in 2023, highlighting the topic's growing significance in the social sciences. A thorough analysis of the studies revealed that the top three countries contributing to this study are the United States, the United Kingdom, and Turkey, with 37, 34, and 26 papers contributed, respectively. In these three countries, the citation counts for these papers are 697, 768, and 113. This pattern indicates that the topic is receiving more attention and importance on a worldwide scale. Additionally, the review classified the journal papers into publications falling into the 40 Y, 28 X, and 40 W categories. Sustainability (Switzerland) (5.5%), the International Journal of Gender and Entrepreneurship (15.2% of published articles), and the Journal of Women's Entrepreneurship and Education (5.5%) are the top 3 journals that publish research on women entrepreneurs. This distribution shows how important journals have been in publishing research findings on this topic. Six clusters were also formed in result of keyword analysis, and these represent the various themes and focus points that are present in this field of study. There are limits to this study, despite the fact that these findings considerably improve our understanding of the hurdles experienced by women entrepreneurs. These clusters help in comprehending the various characteristics of the challenges and barriers faced by women entrepreneurs. Firstly, the overview was limited to research that was reported in publications from 2014 to 2024 and was indexed in the Scopus database. For more comprehensive understanding, future studies could make use of additional databases like Web of Science (WOS). Secondly, a longer analysis period might enhance the findings' generalizability. Thirdly, future studies should encourage fresh scholarly investigations and offer useful information to practitioners. Taken together, the expanding body of research highlights the need of tackling the issues that women entrepreneurs face. To promote this new paradigm and create a more welcoming and encouraging atmosphere for women in entrepreneurship, this trend necessitates continued research and useful solutions.

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