Mapping the Research Landscape of Community Participation in Megaproject-induced Displacement: A Knowledge Domain Analysis

Marleen Patrick*

Department of Management Sciences, Delft University of Technology, De Vries van Heystplantsoen 2, 2628 RZ Delft, Netherlands

Introduction

Megaprojects have become increasingly common in modern development initiatives, often resulting in the displacement of local communities. Understanding the dynamics of community participation in such instances is crucial for mitigating adverse impacts and fostering sustainable development. This article presents a comprehensive knowledge domain analysis of research focused on community participation in megaproject-induced displacement. Through bibliometric analysis and visualization techniques, key themes, trends, and research gaps are identified, providing insights for policymakers, practitioners, and researchers.

Description

Megaprojects, characterized by their scale, complexity, and significant impact on local communities, have become ubiquitous in contemporary development efforts worldwide. While these projects hold the promise of economic growth and infrastructure development, they frequently entail the displacement of communities, disrupting social structures and livelihoods. In this context, understanding the role of community participation in mitigating the negative effects of displacement and promoting sustainable development is paramount. This article aims to conduct a knowledge domain analysis of research focused on community participation in megaproject-induced displacement, elucidating the prevailing themes, trends, and areas for further exploration [1].

To conduct this analysis, a systematic review of academic literature was undertaken using databases such as Scopus, Web of Science, and Google Scholar. Keywords including "community participation," "megaproject," "displacement," and related terms were used to identify relevant articles published over the past two decades. Bibliometric analysis techniques, including co-citation mapping and keyword co-occurrence analysis, were employed to visualize the knowledge domain and identify prominent themes and research clusters [2].

The analysis revealed several key themes and trends within the research landscape of community participation in megaproject-induced displacement:

Community Empowerment: A prominent theme in the literature is the empowerment of affected communities through meaningful participation in decision-making processes related to megaprojects. Research in this area explores mechanisms for enhancing community agency, fostering dialogue between stakeholders, and promoting inclusive governance structures [3].

Social Impact Assessment: Many studies focus on the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) of megaprojects and the role of community participation in this process. Researchers examine methodologies for assessing the socio-economic, cultural, and environmental impacts of displacement, as well as strategies for incorporating community perspectives into SIA frameworks.

Effective stakeholder engagement emerges as a critical factor in promoting community participation and mitigating conflict in megaprojects. Research in this domain examines strategies for engaging diverse stakeholders, building consensus, and resolving disputes through dialogue and negotiation [4].

Another prevalent theme is the restoration of livelihoods and the resettlement of displaced communities. Studies investigate the efficacy of resettlement policies and compensation mechanisms, as well as the socio-economic challenges faced by displaced populations and strategies for promoting their sustainable integration into new environments.

Research also highlights the importance of institutional and policy frameworks in facilitating community participation and ensuring accountability in megaprojects. Scholars examine the role of government regulations, international standards, and multi-stakeholder partnerships in promoting transparency, equity, and social justice.

Despite the wealth of research on community participation in megaproject-induced displacement, several gaps and opportunities for further inquiry remain:

Many studies focus on specific case studies or regions, limiting the generalizability of findings. Future research should strive to incorporate diverse contexts and comparative analyses to enhance the robustness of findings and identify context-specific factors influencing community participation outcomes.

Most existing research offers snapshots of community participation dynamics at particular stages of megaproject development. Longitudinal studies tracking the evolution of community engagement processes over time could provide valuable insights into the long-term impacts of displacement and the efficacy of participatory interventions.

While much research focuses on community-level dynamics, there is a need for more research examining the interactions between local, national, and global factors shaping community participation outcomes in megaproject-induced displacement scenarios.

Further methodological innovation is needed to enhance the rigor and validity of research on community participation in megaprojects. Mixed-methods approaches, participatory action research, and qualitative comparative analysis are potential avenues for advancing methodological pluralism and triangulating findings [5].

Address for Correspondence: Marleen Patrick, Department of Management Sciences, Delft University of Technology, De Vries van Heystplantsoen 2, 2628 RZ Delft, Netherlands, E-mail: marleenpatrick@gmail.com

Conclusion

This knowledge domain analysis provides a comprehensive overview of research on community participation in megaproject-induced displacement. By synthesizing existing literature and identifying key themes, trends, and research gaps, this analysis offers valuable insights for policymakers, practitioners, and researchers seeking to promote sustainable development and social justice in

the context of megaprojects. Moving forward, interdisciplinary collaboration, methodological innovation, and a commitment to contextual sensitivity will be essential for advancing knowledge and informing policy and practice in this critical area.

Acknowledgement

None.

Conflict of Interest

None.

References

1. Moscati, Annika, Peter Johansson, Rahel Kebede and Amy Pula, et al. "Information exchange between construction and manufacturing industries to achieve circular economy: A literature review and interviews with Swedish experts." *Bldg* 13 (2023): 633.

2. Anastasiades, Kostas, Johan Blom and Amaryllis Audenaert. "Circular construction indicator: assessing circularity in the design, construction, and end-of-life phase." *Recycl* 8 (2023): 29.

3. Carvalho, Helena, Susana Duarte and Virgilio Cruz Machado. "Lean, agile, resilient and green: divergencies and synergies." *IJLSS* 2 (2011): 151-179.

4. Diaz-Elsayed, Nancy, Annabel Jondral, Sebastian Greinacher and David Dornfeld, et al. "Assessment of lean and green strategies by simulation of manufacturing systems in discrete production environments." *CIRP Ann* 62 (2013): 475-478.

5. León, Hilda C. Martínez and Javier Calvo-Amodio. "Towards lean for sustainability: Understanding the interrelationships between lean and sustainability from a systems thinking perspective." *J Clean Prod* 142 (2017): 4384-4402.

How to cite this article: Patrick, Marleen. "Mapping the Research Landscape of Community Participation in Megaproject-induced Displacement: A Knowledge Domain Analysis." *Int J Econ Manag Sci* 13 (2024): 725.