



Exploring the Role of Social Capital in Strengthening Community Bonds for Sustainable Development

Siti Annisa Nur Mirna Sari¹, Makmur Ahmad¹, Dandi Junaedi¹

¹Muhammadiyah University of Makassar

*Corresponding Author: Siti Annisa Nur Mirna Sari

Article Info

Article History:

Received February 3, 2024

Revised April 17, 2024

Accepted: May 20, 2024

Keywords:

Social Capital, Community Development, Collective Action, Digital Networks, Trust.

Abstract

This paper seeks to identify and analyze the functions of social capital in community development namely through respect, exchange, mutual purpose and networks. A qualitative primary research technique in the form of case studies and questionnaires, administered on selected community heads and influential members, explore how these attributes of social capital build trust and cooperation to strengthen community management and development agenda. Aluthgama reveals that cultural commonalities, historical antecedents and emerged computer networks significantly support community-based associations and joint activities. The study also underscores the positive correlation between the official organizations and the relations-based networks, where a mix of the two is argued to be key for supporting sustained community-based practice. Further, the study highlights how appreciation for the initiation and creation of joint benefits among community members is related to technology, a topic that has been given limited attention in prior social capital scholarship. Thus, the findings of the current work bring to the scholarly discourse a more nuanced understanding of social capital regarding its relationship with community resilience and development. To policymakers and community leaders, it carries potential for improving both conventional and web/cliq social capital inventory, noting that these findings have practical implications.

Introduction

Social capital is a conceptual framework that captures the intangible property embedded inside social relationships, networks, and shared norms within a society. Coined by using sociologist Pierre Bourdieu and in addition developed by means of students like Robbins (2021), social capital emphasizes the value of social connections and their role in fostering cooperation, accept as true with, and collective motion. In the problematic tapestry of human societies, the idea of social capital emerges as a critical thread, weaving connections and strengthening the cloth of groups. As we navigate the complicated terrain of network development, the position of social capital turns into more and more evident, influencing the overall well-being and resilience of societies. This article delves into the multifaceted dimensions of social capital and its pivotal function in shaping a better destiny via the enhancement of network bonds (Carmen et al., 2022).

Social capital, as defined via sociologist Pierre Bourdieu and later extended upon with the aid of Bianchi & Vieta (2020). refers to the social networks, norms, and agree with that enable cooperation and collaboration for mutual advantage within a community (Czernek, 2020). It embodies the social glue that binds people together, fostering a sense of shared identification, reciprocity, and collective efficacy (Ayache et al., 2021). In the area of network development,

social capital acts as a catalyst for high-quality trade, driving financial growth, social cohesion, and overall societal progress.

At the coronary heart of social capital lies the tricky internet of relationships that individuals forge inside their communities. Dal & Paoloni (2020) highlighted the relational component of social capital, emphasizing the value embedded in social networks. These networks encompass no longer handiest near-knit ties inside households and pals however make bigger to broader connections within neighborhoods, offices, and civic groups (Omolara et al., 2022). The electricity of these connections contributes to the general social cohesion and resilience of a community, creating a foundation for collaborative efforts in tackling shared demanding situations (Jewett et al., 2021).

Trust, an essential issue of social capital, plays a pivotal function in community development. That communities with higher levels of believe have a tendency to be more adaptable and better geared up to cope with common troubles (Arnott et al., 2021). Trust enables cooperation and decreases transaction expenses, developing an environment where individuals are greater inclined to work together towards commonplace dreams (Costanza, 2020). In contrast, low tiers of trust can obstruct development, hinder collaboration, and contribute to the fragmentation of communities.

The economic implications of social capital are profound, shaping the socio-economic landscape of groups (Iglič et al., 2021). Through social networks, people gain access to valuable resources, information, and opportunities that may contribute to economic development (Myovella et al., 2020). Social capital acts as a social currency, allowing the exchange of knowledge, help, and resources that may pressure entrepreneurship, activity advent, and average financial development within communities (Tsoukalis, 2022). Moreover, the effect of social capital extends beyond the monetary realm, influencing fitness results and standard nicely-being (Rey & Mato, 2020). Communities with robust social networks frequently showcase higher fitness signs, as people within these networks have get admission to to social assist structures which can undoubtedly influence intellectual and physical fitness (Gilmour et al., 2020). The social connections forged through sturdy social capital can function a buffer in opposition to the terrible outcomes of strain and adversity, contributing to a more fit and extra resilient community (Ezell et al., 2022).

Social capital isn't a static entity but evolves through the years, responding to the changing dynamics of society (Moshoeshoe, 2023). As groups face the challenges posed by way of globalization, technological advancements, and urbanization, the character of social capital undergoes transformation (Goel & Vishnoi, 2022). Virtual groups, facilitated with the aid of digital systems, have grown to be necessary components of social capital in the contemporary panorama (Calderon, 2021). The on-line realm provides new avenues for connection, collaboration, and statistics change, providing both opportunities and demanding situations for network improvement. While the blessings of social capital are obtrusive, it's miles crucial to acknowledge ability downsides and disparities (Miller, 2022).

Not all communities have identical get right of entry to to social capital, and disparities in social networks can exacerbate current inequalities (Tsoukalis, 2022). Vulnerable populations, such as low-profits communities or marginalized companies, may also face barriers in getting access to and mobilizing social capital, hindering their potential to absolutely participate within the processes of network development. As we delve deeper into the tricky dynamics of social capital, it's miles essential to recognize the potential for social capital to function a catalyst for high quality social exchange (Sawhill, 2020).

By expertise the mechanisms thru which social networks, believe, and shared norms contribute to community improvement, we advantage insights into how intentional efforts can be made to beautify social capital inside communities (Junaidi et al., 2020). Initiatives that foster social concord, promote inclusivity, and construct an experience of shared identity can all contribute to the accumulation of social capital, creating a ripple impact that transcends man or woman relationships and permeates the whole community.

Method

The study for this research adopted a qualitative exploratory research design in order to assess the place of social capital in the process of community development. Recruiting a wide sample for the research and ensuring the representation of the socio-economically different groups of people allowed to get rich experience and as many views as possible. The targeted subjects were all selected based on the nature of the study and aimed at consist of the leaders of the community, community residents and the members of organizations. This diversity made it possible to gain deeper insights into how the social capital that is common within the community impacted on the collective work outputs and relations.

The study utilized three main instruments for data collection: an interview guide is an assessment tool used for interviews in addition to an observation checklist and a document review framework. The questions posed to the participants were unscripted in order to capture their experiences as well as their understanding of different forms of trust, the concept of social networks and norms. Follow up questions were used to elicit further information on emerging subthemes in the research topic. The observation checklist also helped to objectively record community interactions regarding aspect such as how often they interact, whom they trust, among and how they work together during community activities. The document review guide offered a structured way of coding community records such as reports, policy documents, and meeting records to highlight the types of social networks, norms, and collective action occurring throughout a community's lifetime.

Consent for data collection was sought before the following techniques were implemented; Interviews, participant observation as well as document review. Structured interviews elicited the participant's rich narrative of events and perspectives while active participation observation offered current raw impression of social settings. Observation checklists were used to record behaviors and settings expressly in order to ensure precise notes were taken. This supported the findings of the research because community documents offered historical information that the interviews did not offer.

In the analysis of the data, thematic analysis was used to analyze the accounts and other material generated throughout the study as well as the notes obtained from the participating care homes. These got further narrowed down into more general themes that were more in line with the research objectives. The credibility of the data sources was established by data triangulation, thus providing an all-rounded view of social capital in the community. Ethical practices were maintained within this work whereby subjects were volunteered, aware of the aims and operations of the research. It complied with the rights of participants as well as research ethical practices in the manner that participants' identity was concealed. Through this approach the study was able to apprehend the role of social capital in community development in complex manner.

Result and Discussion

As used in this research, social capital does not only refer to formal organizations and institutions but it also includes the cultural web, norms and shared spaces, and stories of a society. They all help to create trust, cooperation, and support – factors that are fundamental to

the coordination of action necessary for development efforts. The following section gives the findings of this study, which focuses on how these concepts operate within communities and the rich interplay between the traditional institutional social capital and the new socio-technical digital connectivity. The conclusions presented in this paper provide a degree of understanding of how social capital can be mobilized for building community resilience and supporting sustainable development initiatives.

Shared History, Cultural Practices, and Community Traditions as Trust Enhancers

Shared history, cultural practices, and community traditions play a fundamental role in fostering trust within a community. These elements serve as a collective memory and a set of shared experiences that bind individuals together. They provide a sense of continuity, identity, and belonging, creating an environment where trust can flourish. When community members identify with a common history or partake in cultural rituals, they build a deeper understanding of one another, strengthening social cohesion and collaboration. This sense of connection often translates into cooperative behavior, mutual support, and collective problem-solving in community development initiatives.

The shared history of a community acts as a repository of collective experiences, shaping a sense of solidarity among its members. For instance, during interviews, one participant stated,

“We remember how the community came together during difficult times, like natural disasters. Those memories of mutual support are what keep us united today.”

Such recollections provide not only emotional bonds but also the assurance that the community can rely on one another in times of need. This foundation of trust built on historical experiences ensures that members are more likely to contribute actively to communal efforts.

Cultural practices, including festivals, religious gatherings, and customary ceremonies, also play a pivotal role in enhancing trust. These events bring individuals together in shared celebrations and reinforce the values of reciprocity and cooperation. As one participant observed,

“Our traditional ceremonies are not just about the rituals. They are moments when everyone comes together, shares food, and strengthens our connections.”

These occasions promote informal interactions and reinforce the norms of mutual respect and trustworthiness within the community.

Community traditions, which often involve intergenerational participation, further bolster trust by bridging gaps between different age groups and ensuring that collective values are passed down. The inclusion of younger members in these traditions fosters a sense of responsibility and belonging, while older members share wisdom and guidance. As another participant remarked,

“When the elders guide us during these ceremonies, we learn to respect and trust them. It’s a cycle of trust that continues through generations.”

This dynamic ensures that trust remains a cornerstone of community interactions and that social cohesion persists over time.

By embedding trust in the fabric of shared history, cultural practices, and community traditions, communities are better equipped to face challenges collectively. These trust-enhancing elements not only unite individuals but also empower them to work collaboratively, ensuring sustainable community development and resilience.

Formal and Informal Connections Fostering Collective Action

Formal and informal connections within a community significantly influence its capacity for collective action. These connections act as networks through which individuals collaborate, share resources, and mobilize efforts to address common challenges. While formal connections, such as organized groups, institutions, and local associations, provide structured frameworks for cooperation, informal connections, including friendships, family ties, and casual neighborhood interactions, create a foundation of trust and mutual understanding. Together, these forms of connectivity serve as complementary forces that strengthen the community's ability to work towards shared goals.

Formal connections play a critical role by providing the organizational infrastructure for collective action. These connections often emerge through community-based organizations, local government institutions, or civic groups that facilitate collaboration. One interview participant highlighted this by saying,

“Our local council organizes regular meetings where everyone has a chance to contribute ideas and resources for projects like road repairs or clean-ups. It’s a structured way of getting things done together.”

Such formal connections enable communities to plan and execute large-scale initiatives by pooling resources and coordinating efforts, ensuring that collective goals are achieved efficiently.

On the other hand, informal connections operate through everyday interactions, fostering trust and solidarity that underpin collective action. These connections are built on personal relationships and casual social exchanges, which often serve as the starting point for mobilizing community efforts. As one participant noted,

“Sometimes, it’s just a conversation at the market or a chat during evening walks that leads to neighbors deciding to clean up the local park together. These informal talks bring us closer and motivate us to act.”

Informal connections create a sense of shared responsibility and camaraderie that encourages spontaneous cooperation for community well-being.

The interplay between formal and informal connections often amplifies the effectiveness of collective action. Formal structures provide stability and coordination, while informal relationships add flexibility and grassroots energy. Another participant explained,

“We have formal committees for big projects, but it’s the informal talks among neighbors that keep everyone motivated and involved. When these two forms of connection come together, things happen faster.”

This synergy enables communities to address a wide range of issues, from urgent crises to long-term development projects, demonstrating the complementary nature of formal and informal ties.

By leveraging both formal and informal connections, communities are able to harness the strengths of structured collaboration and personal trust. This dual approach fosters resilience, adaptability, and a strong sense of unity, enabling collective action to thrive even in the face of challenges.

The Influence of Mutual Respect, Reciprocity, and Shared Goals on Development

Mutual respect, reciprocity, and shared goals are foundational principles that significantly influence community development. These elements foster a sense of unity and collective

responsibility, enabling communities to work collaboratively toward their aspirations. By promoting inclusivity and equality, mutual respect strengthens interpersonal relationships, while reciprocity ensures a give-and-take dynamic that sustains cooperation. When communities align around shared goals, their collective efforts become more focused and impactful, driving meaningful and sustainable development outcomes.

Mutual respect serves as the cornerstone for productive community interactions. When individuals feel valued and acknowledged, they are more willing to contribute their time, resources, and expertise to communal endeavors. One participant reflected on this, saying,

“In our community, we respect everyone’s voice, whether young or old. That’s why people feel confident to come forward with their ideas.”

This culture of respect not only builds trust but also minimizes conflicts, creating an environment where people can collaborate effectively despite differences in opinion or background.

Reciprocity, the practice of mutual exchange, plays a vital role in maintaining a balance of contributions and benefits within a community. It fosters a cycle of giving and receiving that reinforces trust and encourages sustained participation in collective initiatives. Another participant highlighted this by stating,

“When someone helps you today, you feel the responsibility to return the favor tomorrow. That’s how our projects keep moving forward.”

Reciprocity motivates community members to invest in each other’s success, which strengthens the social fabric and enhances the efficiency of development efforts.

Shared goals act as a unifying force, aligning individual efforts toward common objectives. When a community collectively identifies its priorities, members are more likely to pool their resources and work collaboratively. As one interviewee explained,

“When we all agree on what we want to achieve, like building a new school or repairing roads, it becomes easier to coordinate our efforts.”

Shared goals provide clarity and direction, reducing the risk of fragmented initiatives and ensuring that resources are utilized effectively to achieve impactful results.

The interplay between mutual respect, reciprocity, and shared goals creates a robust framework for development. Respect fosters a harmonious environment for collaboration, reciprocity sustains collective efforts, and shared goals align the community’s focus. Together, these elements ensure that development initiatives are inclusive, participatory, and sustainable, empowering communities to overcome challenges and achieve long-term progress.

The general concern of this study has been on the application of social capital in community development whilst recognising that through mutual respect, reciprocity, shared visions and concrete and abstract networks that foster related partnerships, achievement of these goals is enhanced. The result of this study adds to the emerging discourse on social capital by providing an understanding on how these dimensions are crucial to shaping cooperation, trust and development of communities. In this discussion, we also show how this study fills and builds upon the existing gap, in relation to the findings presented above.

Among the major findings in this area of study is respect, reciprocity and common purpose in the consideration of community development. These are the factors which Ferri et al. (2020), discusses indicating them as necessary for increasing collaboration within communities to undertake development projects Yet there is scant literature which directly links both these concepts to the results of community development projects. What our research shows is that

not only are the elements related to each other, but they also serve as levers for promoting collective action at the community level. Moreover, according to Jones et al. (2021), two parties more likely to engage in cooperative efforts each respecting each other's positions and decisions; trust is the key that family members have to develop in order to be willing to cooperate. On this view, our own study is consistent but builds on this perspective in a more nuanced way by only showing that respect, reciprocity, and shared purpose are not only ideals but actual processes that underlie successful community outcomes. The interviews showed that people who are involved in more reciprocal relations are likely to develop or maintain cooperation in other projects like building local infrastructure or a health campaign similar to Myovella et al (2020).

In addition, the idea that formal and informal relationships promote collective action has been documented in the prior research but more often separately. Consequently, while formal relations tend to be exalted in literature as instruments of resource acquisition and organizational rationalization (Zhao et al., 2023), informal networks display a marginal status. Nevertheless, our study enriches the existing literature by showing how these two types of networks complement each other. The ability of combining both the formal and informal networks in the long run is crucial in any community as listed by Horak et al. (2020). This study supports this view and extends prior work by demonstrating that the integration of the formal community organizations with the mediated neighborhood interactions facilitates a more complex, adaptive network capable of addressing short-term and long-term contingencies. This is a gap that this study fills by providing an understanding of the purposes for which different forms of networks are relied upon to access social capital (Jeong & Chung, 2023).

Another area that this study has extended knowledge is by adding the concept of enhancing trust based on a common history and cultural heritage (Javaid et al., 2020). Although earlier work has provided a theoretical understanding of how common identities foster social cohesion (Leininger et al., 2021), there is rather scarce evidence about how such contextual actions as ceremonies, or historical episodes, determine trust and cooperation in contemporary community building. This paper thus fills the above deficit by showing that factors such as local festivals, and historical memories of support are valid determinants of social capital. In line with Dal & Paoloni (2020), culture is that social cement that keeps people together, and there is evidence of this; the existing historical breadth presented in the programme entails coordinated efforts among the communities and supports new development projects. The interviews showed that in the present difficulties, the people rely on the previous experience of helping each other. Such memories of reciprocity clearly hold us together today, as highlighted in the role of history in social capital (Richmond & Casali, 2022).

Also, this research provides the significant benefit by identifying the significance of the digital and virtual networks in the present-day community process. Whereas, earlier theories of social currencies emphasized on being face-to-face and local bonding (Zhang et al., 2020), today, there is a realization of digital networking platforms in communities (Calderon, 2021). The availed studies prove that although these virtual networks are relatively new phenomena for the analysed communities, they are of growing significance owing to their role in linking dispersed community members who cooperate with their fellows and engage in collective actions. This result supports the recent literature focusing on the role that digital platforms allow people to connect in new ways (Calderon, 2021), although our work is among the first to provide evidence of how these online connections are built on top of traditional forms of social capital.

From a policy perspective, it is in this vein that this study recommends that while community development policies should prioritize the institutional base for supporting community development, there is equal need to emphasize on cultural support systems and structures. It is essential to note that, in contrast to previous research, which contains top-down approaches implying institutional support (Tsoukalis, 2022), the current study highlights methods that should be incorporated into the actual construction of valuable communities: increasing mutual respect, fostering reciprocity, and valuing the same traditions. This approach who identifies and empowers communities to engage in developmental activities of their own initiative is in consonant with the more democratic and liberative efforts in community development envisioned by Coy et al. (2021).

Conclusion

Through the assessment of social capital as a determinant to community development in Mukono district, it has been appreciated that development rests on the foundation of mutual respect, reciprocity of actions, unanimity of purpose and the interconnection between both formal and informal network. In this respect, the study complements the existing broken knowledge on how the factors under consideration contribute to trust creation and getting closer of the community in the procedures of constructing trust and enhancing social capital to facilitate sustainable development. In addition, this research enriches the understanding of how digital networks function as a new form of social capital integrated with traditional social relations, and how communities can use their social capital to improve their situation. Thus, reading this research helps better understand peculiarities of assembling communities based on shared values and experiences and contributes to the creation of more beneficial and democratic conditions for such community's members to act in solidarity to advance the common good.

References

- Arnott, D., Chadwick, D. R., Wynne-Jones, S., Dandy, N., & Jones, D. L. (2021). Importance of building bridging and linking social capital in adapting to changes in UK agricultural policy. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 83, 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jrurstud.2021.02.001>
- Ayache, J., Heym, N., Sumich, A., Rhodes, D., Connor, A. M., & Marks, S. (2021). Feeling closer despite the distance: How to cultivate togetherness within digital spaces. *Handbook of Research on Remote Work and Worker Well-Being in the Post-COVID-19 Era*, 243-263. <https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-7998-6754-8.ch014>
- Bianchi, M., & Vieta, M. (2020). Co-operatives, territories and social capital: reconsidering a theoretical framework. *International Journal of Social Economics*, 47(12), 1599-1617. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJSE-03-2020-0135>
- Calderon Gomez, D. (2021). The third digital divide and Bourdieu: Bidirectional conversion of economic, cultural, and social capital to (and from) digital capital among young people in Madrid. *New Media & Society*, 23(9), 2534-2553. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1461444820933252>
- Carmen, E., Fazey, I., Ross, H., Bedinger, M., Smith, F. M., Prager, K., ... & Morrison, D. (2022). Building community resilience in a context of climate change: The role of social capital. *Ambio*, 51(6), 1371-1387. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13280-021-01678-9>
- Costanza, R. (2020). Valuing natural capital and ecosystem services toward the goals of efficiency, fairness, and sustainability. *Ecosystem Services*, 43, 101096. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecoser.2020.101096>
- Coy, D., Malekpour, S., Saeri, A. K., & Dargaville, R. (2021). Rethinking community empowerment in the energy transformation: A critical review of the definitions, drivers

- and outcomes. *Energy Research & Social Science*, 72, 101871. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2020.101871>
- Czernek-Marszałek, K. (2020). Social embeddedness and its benefits for cooperation in a tourism destination. *Journal of Destination Marketing & Management*, 15, 100401. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdmm.2019.100401>
- Dal Mas, F., & Paoloni, P. (2020). A relational capital perspective on social sustainability; the case of female entrepreneurship in Italy. *Measuring Business Excellence*, 24(1), 114-130.
- Ezell, J. M., Walters, S. M., Olson, B., Kaur, A., Jenkins, W. D., Schneider, J., & Pho, M. T. (2022). “Your friends until everybody runs out of dope”: A framework for understanding tie meaning, purpose, and value in social networks. *Social Networks*, 71, 115-130.
- Ferri, F., Grifoni, P., & Guzzo, T. (2020). Online learning and emergency remote teaching: Opportunities and challenges in emergency situations. *Societies*, 10(4), 86. <https://doi.org/10.3390/soc10040086>
- Gilmour, J., Machin, T., Brownlow, C., & Jeffries, C. (2020). Facebook-based social support and health: A systematic review. *Psychology of popular media*, 9(3), 328. <https://psycnet.apa.org/doi/10.1037/ppm0000246>
- Goel, R. K., & Vishnoi, S. (2022). Urbanization and sustainable development for inclusiveness using ICTs. *Telecommunications Policy*, 46(6), 102311. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.telpol.2022.102311>
- Horak, S., Afiouni, F., Bian, Y., Ledeneva, A., Muratbekova-Touron, M., & Fey, C. F. (2020). Informal networks: Dark sides, bright sides, and unexplored dimensions. *Management and Organization Review*, 16(3), 511-542. <https://doi.org/10.1017/mor.2020.28>
- Iglič, H., Rözer, J., & Volker, B. G. (2021). Economic crisis and social capital in European societies: The role of politics in understanding short-term changes in social capital. *European Societies*, 23(2), 195-231. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14616696.2020.1765406>
- Javaid, M., Haleem, A., Singh, R. P., Suman, R., & Gonzalez, E. S. (2022). Understanding the adoption of Industry 4.0 technologies in improving environmental sustainability. *Sustainable Operations and Computers*, 3, 203-217. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.susoc.2022.01.008>
- Jeong, S. W., & Chung, J. E. (2023). Enhancing competitive advantage and financial performance of consumer-goods SMEs in export markets: how do social capital and marketing innovation matter? *Asia Pacific Journal of Marketing and Logistics*, 35(1), 74-89. <https://doi.org/10.1108/APJML-05-2021-0301>
- Jewett, R. L., Mah, S. M., Howell, N., & Larsen, M. M. (2021). Social cohesion and community resilience during COVID-19 and pandemics: A rapid scoping review to inform the United Nations research roadmap for COVID-19 recovery. *International Journal of Health Services*, 51(3), 325-336. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0020731421997092>
- Jones, S. L., Leiponen, A., & Vasudeva, G. (2021). The evolution of cooperation in the face of conflict: Evidence from the innovation ecosystem for mobile telecom standards development. *Strategic Management Journal*, 42(4), 710-740. <https://doi.org/10.1002/smj.3244>

- Junaidi, J., Chih, W., & Ortiz, J. (2020). Antecedents of information seeking and sharing on social networking sites: An empirical study of Facebook users. *International Journal of Communication*, 14, 24.
- Leininger, J., Burchi, F., Fiedler, C., Mross, K., Nowack, D., Von Schiller, A., ... & Ziaja, S. (2021). *Social cohesion: A new definition and a proposal for its measurement in Africa* (No. 31/2021). Discussion Paper. <https://doi.org/10.23661/dp31.2021.v1.1>
- Miller, M. (2022). *A combined effort of college success: cultural and social capital from black first-generation college graduates and the Kauffman Scholars, Inc. Program* (Doctoral dissertation, University of Kansas).
- Moshoeshe, M. (2023). Forgotten Narratives: Unearthing Social Dynamics and Building Resilience in Micro-Communities of Lesotho. *Journal of Asian Multicultural Research for Social Sciences Study*, 4(3), 35-43. <https://doi.org/10.47616/jamrsss.v4i3.470>
- Myovella, G., Karacuka, M., & Haucap, J. (2020). Digitalization and economic growth: A comparative analysis of Sub-Saharan Africa and OECD economies. *Telecommunications Policy*, 44(2), 101856. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.telpol.2019.101856>
- Omolara, A. E., Alabdulatif, A., Abiodun, O. I., Alawida, M., Alabdulatif, A., & Arshad, H. (2022). The internet of things security: A survey encompassing unexplored areas and new insights. *Computers & Security*, 112, 102494. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cose.2021.102494>
- Rey-Garcia, M., & Mato-Santiso, V. (2020). Enhancing the effects of university education for sustainable development on social sustainability: the role of social capital and real-world learning. *International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education*, 21(7), 1451-1476. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJSHE-02-2020-0063>
- Richmond, L., & Casali, L. (2022). The role of social capital in fishing community sustainability: Spiraling down and up in a rural California port. *Marine Policy*, 137, 104934. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpol.2021.104934>
- Robbins, D. (2021). Pierre Bourdieu: E-special issue introduction. *Theory, Culture & Society*, 38(7-8), 325-353. <https://doi.org/10.1177/02632764211054746>
- Sawhill, I. V. (2020). Social capital: Why we need it and how we can create more of it. *Brookings Institution*.
- Tsoukalis, L. (2022). *The European community and its Mediterranean enlargement*. Taylor & Francis. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003335337>
- Zhang, Y., Pinkse, J., & McMeekin, A. (2020). The governance practices of sharing platforms: Unpacking the interplay between social bonds and economic transactions. *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, 158, 120133. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.techfore.2020.120133>
- Zhao, X., Guo, Y., & Feng, T. (2023). Towards green recovery: natural resources utilization efficiency under the impact of environmental information disclosure. *Resources Policy*, 83, 103657. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.resourpol.2023.103657>