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The Global Trends in Research on Foreign Investment Attraction from 2014 to 2023

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Abstract- This study examines global trends in foreign investment attraction from 2014 to 2023. Bibliographic analysis shows that the number of foreign investment publications increased significantly with an annual growth rate of 8.06%. Factors affecting foreign investment attractiveness include business environment, financial policies, and institutional quality, with countries with strong democratic structures being more attractive to investors than authoritarian countries. The study also identified the most influential authors and institutions and noted the high level of international cooperation between them. However, there are still gaps in the literature regarding technology adoption and the comparison between FDI and portfolio investment. Future research is recommended to further investigate the factors that influence foreign investment and the characteristics of investment in different policy contexts.

Keywords: Global Trends, Foreign Investment, Attractiveness of Foreign Investment.

I. INTRODUCTION

Global trends are significant patterns or transformations occurring in the world across various aspects, such as economics, social issues, technology, environment, and culture. These phenomena include consumer behavior, technological advancements, climate change, and dynamics in international markets.

In financial matters, a venture can be started as the exertion to distribute capital or other resources at the display time with the trust of gaining a benefit within the future. The party locks in in speculation exercises and is by and large alluded to as a financial specialist. Financial specialists can be categorized into two groups: person or retail financial specialists and regulation speculators. The goal behind the venture is to supply financing to parties in require, empowering them to realize and upgrade their efficiency. Furthermore, speculators ordinarily seek to moderate the effect of inflation and decrease their tax burden [1]. Financing sources, especially foreign sources, usually consist of foreign debt or foreign investment. On the other hand, outward investment can be divided into two aspects: direct outward investment and securities outward investment, each of which has different characteristics. Foreign direct investment is a form of long-term investment by foreigners that includes business establishment, factory construction, and purchase of capital goods and raw materials. This investment allows investors to be directly involved in the supervision and management of the company. Meanwhile, foreign securities investment is an investment made by foreigners in the form of financial assets such as stocks or bonds, and the investor does not have any influence on the company's management decisions [2].

Foreign investment attractiveness can be measured using various variables. Among the main factors are the business environment, economic factors, tax and monetary policies, quality of institutions, and the role of democracy. In addition, foreign investors are usually attracted to countries with greater political freedom, even if they have higher levels of corruption than their own countries. In general, countries with stronger democratic structures are more attractive to foreign investors than countries with authoritarian economies. Economic health and political freedom make these countries suitable for attracting foreign investors [3]. Countries with better legal certainty tend to be more attractive to foreign investors, according to a study conducted by the World Economic Forum [4]. Government policies are needed to create a favorable environment for increased investment activities [5]. Foreign capital also contributes to reducing balance of payments problems and inflation rates, thereby strengthening the domestic and private business sectors in the host country [6].

II. RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses a study of bibliometric indicators, which are widely used as a research performance evaluation tool. Indicators in the database are designed to retrieve secondary usage information from the system [7].

However, one of the key issues in the field of scientometrics is mapping the epistemological (knowledge) structure of science as a whole. The main focus is to monitor the dynamics and evolution of the identified structures, especially in terms of the emergence of new research topics. This has been a major concern and focus in the development of scientometrics. One important issue in mapping the structure of science is that the time it takes to produce highly cited publications, the basis of co-citation mapping, may be time-consuming enough to detect the emergence of new research topics. In contrast, bibliographic methods have clear advantages over co-citation clustering approaches in terms of detecting new emerging topics. One disadvantage of citation-based methods is that they often produce very sparse data matrices. This can pose a challenge in analyzing and interpreting the results of mapping the structure of knowledge [8].

Investment is the engine of the economy and thus plays an important role in regional production. Both foreign and domestic investment contribute to the economic growth of a region or part of a country [9]. State authorities influence investment decisions. As a result, poor governance structures affect investment and create uncertainty in economic activity [10]. Research has identified several authors and institutions as the most influential in foreign investment research. Cooperation between the two parties often leads to broader and deeper research, thus strengthening our understanding of the dynamics of foreign investment. However, there is a gap in the existing literature regarding technology adoption and foreign investment. Little research investigates how new technologies can influence foreign investment decisions, especially in developing countries. Future research can address this gap by examining the relationship between technological innovation and foreign investment strategies. In addition, the characteristics and differences between foreign direct investment and foreign securities investment should be considered. In different national contexts, each type of investment has a different impact on economic growth and market stability. Understanding these differences can help develop more effective policies to attract sustainable foreign investment. Lower real interest rates mean that more projects are moved overseas from a profit-making point of view. This suggests that as real interest rates increase, the interest of foreign investors decreases [11].

Identify the most influential authors and institutions, and calculate the number of international collaborations and co-authors per document. The results of the analysis will be interpreted to identify patterns and trends in foreign investment research and provide recommendations for future research.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Main Information

Table 1: Main Information

Description	Results
MAIN INFORMATION ABOUT DATA	
Timespan	2014:2023
Sources (Journals, Books, etc)	2293
Documents	4843
Annual Growth Rate %	8.06
Document Average Age	4.77
Average citations per doc	14.45
References	229371
DOCUMENT CONTENTS	
Keywords Plus (ID)	5908
Author's Keywords (DE)	10295
AUTHORS	
Authors	10892
Authors of single-authored docs	1451
AUTHORS COLLABORATION	
Single-authored docs	1605
Co-Authors per Doc	2.58
International co-authorships %	22.63

DOCUMENT TYPES	
article	3447
book	170
book chapter	751
conference paper	244
conference review	5
data paper	2
editorial	13
erratum	8
note	20
retracted	4
review	178
short survey	1

The data covers journal publication information from 2014 to 2023, showing that 2,293 sources contributed to a total of 4,843 documents with an annual growth rate of 8.06%. The average document age was 4.77 years, with 14.45 citations per document and a total of 229,371 references. A total of 5,908 additional keywords and 10,295 author keywords. In this case, there were a total of 10,892 authors, with 1,451 of them writing documents singly. Author collaboration was seen in the 1,605 singly authored documents, an average of 2.58 co-authors per document, and 22.63% international collaboration. Document types varied, including 3,447 articles, 170 books, 751 book chapters, as well as various other document types. The overall data provides important insights into publication and collaboration trends in the analyzed research fields.

Most Relevant Sources

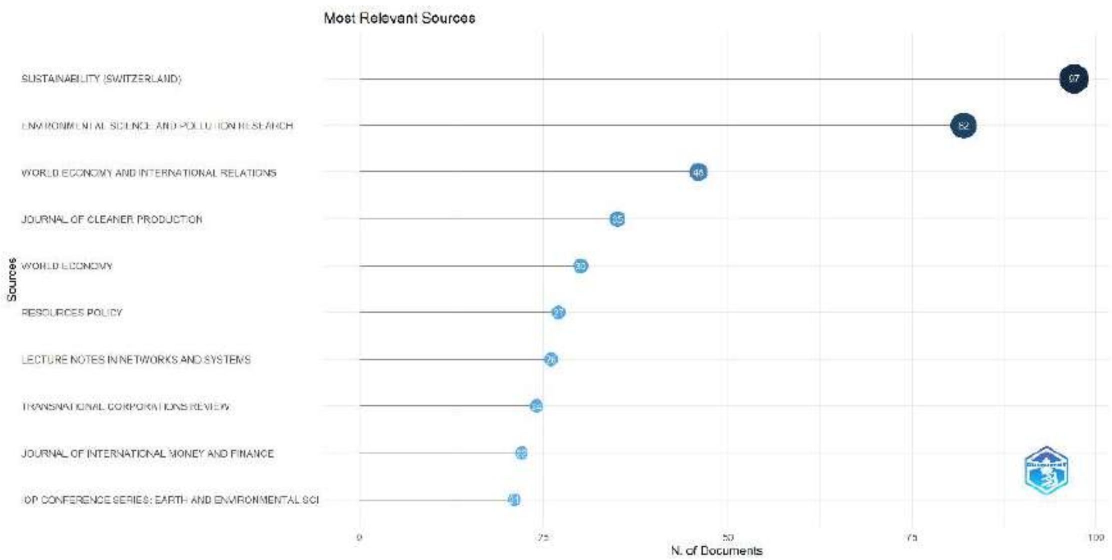

Figure 1: Most Relevant Sources

An analysis of publications from 2014 to 2023 shows that Sustainability (Switzerland) is the main source with 97 articles, followed by Environmental and Pollution Science Research (82 articles), which highlights environmental and pollution issues. World Economy and International Relations (46 articles) discusses global economic interconnections and international relations, while the Journal of Cleaner Production (35 articles) focuses on clean production and sustainability. Publications on the theme of "world economy" produced 30 articles related to international trade and economic policy. Resources Policy (27 articles) reviewed sustainable resource management policies, while Lecture Notes in Networks and Systems (26 articles) highlighted the role of technology in sustainability. Multinational Enterprise Review (24 articles) discusses the role of multinational corporations, Journal of International Money and Finance (22 articles) examines the global monetary system, and IOP Conference Series: Earth and Environmental Sciences (21 articles) contains proceedings related to earth and environmental sciences.

Most Relevant Authors

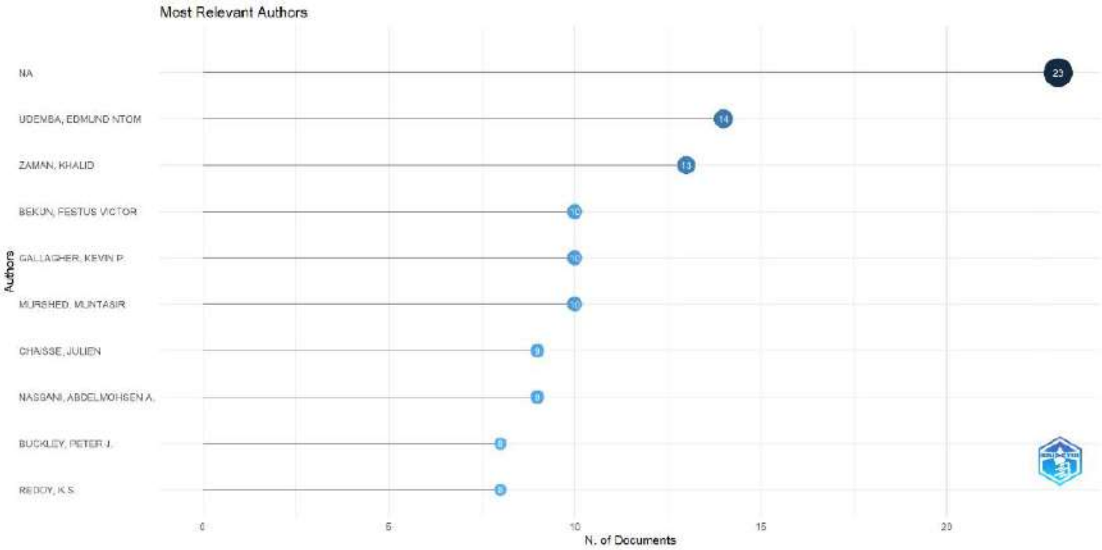

Figure 2: Most Relevant Authors

Most Relevant Authors displays a list of the most relevant authors, with the number of documents written by each author. The author with the most documents is NA with 23 documents. In addition, several other authors have a large number of documents, namely UDEMBA, EDMUND NTOM with 14 documents, ZAMAN, KHALID with 13 documents, and BEKUN, FESTUS VICTOR, GALLAGHER, KEVIN P., and MURSHED, MUNTASIR with 10 documents each. Meanwhile, the other authors who have the number of documents below 10 are CHASSE, JULIEN, and NASSANI, ABDELMOHSEN A., with 9 documents each, and BUCKLEY, PETER J., and REDDY, K.S., with 8 documents each. Overall, the figure provides information on the authors who contributed the most documents.

Most Frequent Words

Figure 3: Most Frequent Words

The biblio data provided shows the frequency of frequently occurring words in the context of foreign investment and related economic topics. The term “Foreign Direct Investment” (FDI) appears the most 715 times, reflecting the primary focus on foreign investment. It was followed by the words “investment” and "China", indicating the importance of foreign direct investment in the Chinese economy. Other words such as "economic development", "sustainable development", and "economic growth," show attention to the economic and social impacts of investment. Environmental issues are also expressed in words such as "carbon dioxide," "global warming," and "climate change," indicating the importance of sustainability in economic growth. Furthermore, terms such as "international trade" and "globalization" indicate the relationship between investment and world market trends. Collectively, these data reflect the intersection of investment, economic growth, and environmental challenges in a global context.

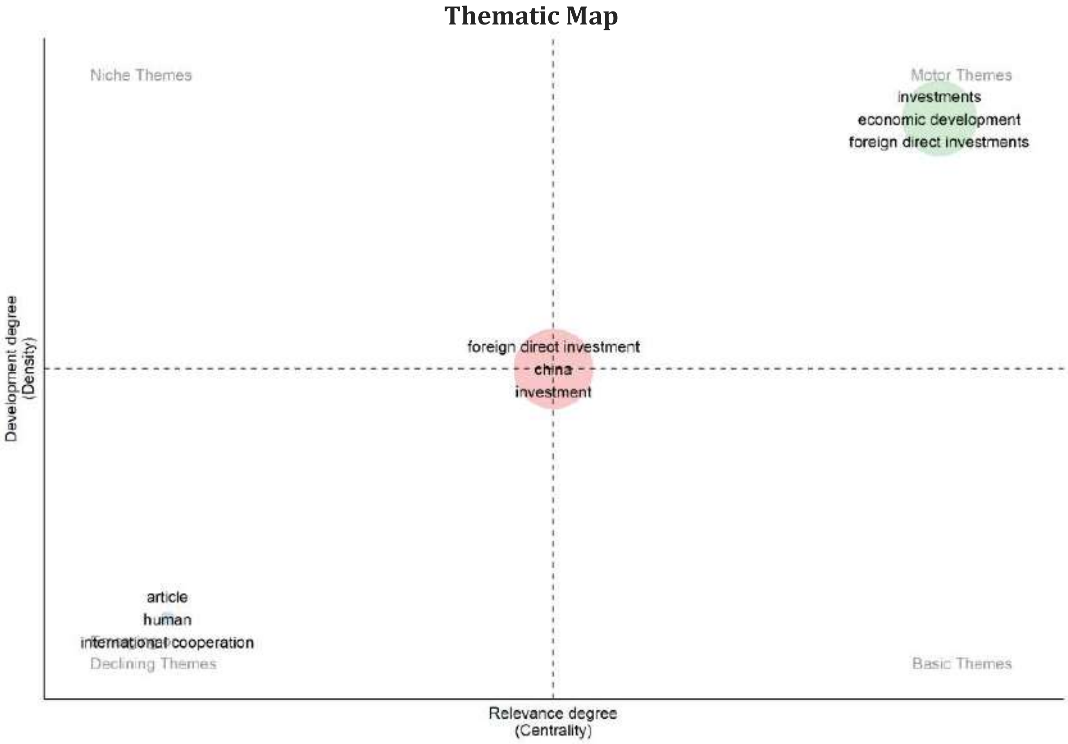

Figure 4: Thematic Map

The mapping of themes reveals three main categories: Niche Themes with low relevance and development (e.g., "article," "human," "international cooperation"), Declining Themes whose relevance is declining, and Motor Themes that have high relevance and development, such as "investments," "economic development," and "foreign direct investments." The theme "foreign direct investment – China" emerges as a dominant topic that has received widespread attention in the literature.

IV. CONCLUSION

A bibliometric analysis of publications related to foreign investment attractiveness for the period 2014–2023 shows consistent growth of 8.06% per year, indicating high academic interest in issues of foreign direct investment, economic development, sustainability, and environmental impact. Key determining factors include a conducive business climate, supportive fiscal policies, and institutional quality, with democratic countries tending to be more attractive to investors. Several authors and institutions have been identified as having significant contributions, accompanied by high levels of international collaboration. However, there are still research gaps, particularly regarding technology adoption and comparisons between foreign direct investment and foreign portfolio investment. Moving forward, studies should highlight the role of technological innovation and the characteristics of each type of investment in driving sustainable economic growth across various countries.

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VI. OPEN DATA

https://data.mendeley.com/datasets/8c4vk794tn/1

VII. AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Muhammad Kevin Dahlan: *Conceptualization; Methodology; Software; Formal analysis; Investigation; Resources; Writing – original draft; Writing – review and editing.*

Audio Valentino Himawan Marhendra: *Conceptualization; Methodology; Software; Validation; Formal analysis; Investigation; Writing – original draft; Writing – review and editing; Supervision; Funding acquisition.*

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