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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-56450

Title: A Bibliometric Investigation of the Role of Economic Support in Advancing Women's Empowerment

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity			✓	
Significance	✓			

Reviewer's ID: JPR-130

Detailed Reviewer's Report

1. Overall Evaluation

The manuscript presents a comprehensive bibliometric analysis of research on economic support and women's empowerment using Scopus-indexed publications (2020–2026). The study applies performance analysis and scientific mapping techniques to identify publication trends, leading authors, influential journals, thematic evolution, and global collaboration networks. The topic is highly relevant in the context of global development priorities such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (especially SDG 5: Gender Equality). The research is timely, methodologically structured, and contributes meaningful insights into the intellectual architecture of the field. However, despite its strengths, the manuscript requires substantial improvement in language clarity, conceptual alignment, and depth of critical interpretation.

2. Strengths of the Study

- Addresses a globally important issue: women's economic empowerment.
- Aligns with international development discourse and policy debates.
- Focuses on a rapidly expanding research area (2020–2026).
- Clearly defines inclusion and exclusion criteria.
- Presents a transparent Scopus search strategy.
- Uses established bibliometric tools (Bibliometrix and VOSviewer).

REVIEWER'S REPORT

- Combines performance analysis with multiple scientific mapping techniques.
- Co-authorship network identifies collaboration clusters.
- Co-citation analysis reveals theoretical foundations.
- Bibliographic coupling highlights intellectual cohesion.
- Thematic mapping explains maturity and thematic development.
- Global collaboration network provides geographic insights.
- Identifies knowledge concentration and global research asymmetry.
- Suggests integration of empowerment with digital inclusion and sustainability.
- Provides clear future research directions.

3. Areas for Improvement

3.1 Language and Academic Writing (Major Issue)

- Numerous grammatical errors and awkward sentence constructions.
- Repetition and unclear phrasing reduce readability.
- Some sections lack academic precision.

Improvement Needed: Professional language editing and structural refinement.

3.2 Conceptual Clarity

- The distinction between “economic support,” “economic empowerment,” and “financial inclusion” is not clearly theorized.
- The search strategy appears broader than the stated focus on economic support.

Improvement Needed: Strengthen theoretical framing and align research objectives more clearly with the search strategy.

3.3 Interpretation of Results

- Some conclusions (e.g., thematic maturity, structural stabilization) are overstated.
- Decline in publication after 2024 may be due to indexing delay rather than actual reduction.

Improvement Needed: More cautious and evidence-based interpretation.

3.4 Methodological Transparency

- Total number of final retrieved articles should be clearly stated in the Results section.
- A flow diagram summarizing data filtering would improve clarity.

REVIEWER'S REPORT

3.5 Technical Refinement

- Standardize terminology (“Women empowerment” → “Women’s empowerment”).
- Improve figure labeling and consistency.
- Reduce redundancy in discussion.