



## [ID72] THE ROLE AND POTENTIAL OF INCLUSIVE INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES: A BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS

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## **Abstract**

The uneven development of regions and countries is amply demonstrated in the literature and socio-economic statistics. One of the reasons for this issue can be the lack of innovation processes in these spaces. In effect, innovation is a fundamental driver of economic growth. In this sense, the concept of inclusive innovation (INCINN) entered the debate about development and innovation. INCINN is defined as all innovations that are developed for vulnerable groups of people in peripheral regions or by these same groups (Foster and Heeks, 2013). The latter approach – these people creating innovations – is the most interesting in terms of learning and interaction dynamics. This paper aims to examine the evolution of the concept of INCINN on scientific bases by multiple bibliometric analyses and identifies the main topics related to these innovations, especially sustainability. This study employed the bibliometrix software (Aria and Cuccurullo, 2017) for doing the various bibliometric analysis. Here, we use the Scopus database that offers rich information about the selected publications. Only articles, we searched the terms "inclusive innovation(s)" in the title, keywords, or abstract (203 selected documents, particularly between 2010 and 2023). After data verification, we carried out basic analysis (scientific production, citations, sources, author's aspects, etc.); co-occurrence, co-citation, and collaboration networks; and country collaborations. Although the relative relevance of this production (two hundred papers in the last fourteen years), these documents about INCINN present an increasing impact over time, not only in the number of articles but also in citations (with average citations per article more than 20). The diversity of sources (journals) and authors is well recognized in the analysis and also in a good spatial distribution of production in many countries around the world (53 countries), especially in USA, South Africa, and UK. However, the countries' collaboration between researchers is centred on USA, Europe, and Australia, despite most studies being about developing countries. Through the network approach (co-occurrences) we can highlight as motor themes, beyond the obviously very INCINN and developing countries, the terms sustainable development and electronic money/financial inclusions. Moreover, environmental sustainability is an important thematic of intermediation (between centrality) between innovation and the fight against poverty in developing countries. The findings demonstrate that the sustainability topic is prominent in academic production about INCINN and stress the same relationship verified in theoretical terms (Tartaruga and Sperotto, 2021).

**Keywords** | Innovation, inclusion, sustainable development, network analysis, bibliometric analysis.

## References

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