

OPEN GOVERNMENT: A BIBLIOGRAPHIC STUDY OF THE SEMARANG AND GWANGJU EXPERIENCES

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Abstract

This study aims to analyze the open government bibliometrics of Semarang and Gwangju, two of the 110 local governments that are members of the OGP. This study uses a qualitative approach with bibliometric analysis methods. Data were obtained from Google Scholar using Publish or Perish and analyzed using Vosviewer. The results of this study show that from each of the 150 Semarang and Gwangju papers, there are 5470 citations, 42 h-indexes, 116 keywords, 1293 total link strength, and 507 occurrences in the Semarang paper. Whereas in the Gwangju paper, there are 3650 citations, 30 h-indexes, 143 keywords, 1143 total link strength, and 479 occurrences. In the 2020–2022 period, Semarang has established four open government policies, while Gwangju has two. The alignment of the policies of the two local governments with the papers of the scholars allows for a positive contribution to the Semarang and Gwangju open government policies.

Keywords: Open government, Semarang, Gwangju, Bibliometric analysis

INTRODUCTION

In the last decade, many people in various countries have considered that open government is a powerful tool for carrying out administrative reforms and government transformations (Moon 2020; Piotrowski, Berliner, and Ingrams 2022). Open government is a public management reform trend that aims to form a transparent and collaborative government structure (S. A. Afandi, Afandi, and Erdayani 2022). Although the term open government is not new, various social contexts and advances in information technology have contributed to the way open government is conceptualized (Tai 2021; Wirtz, Weyerer, and Rösch 2019). The definition of open government can be traced to the Obama administration, which focused on the intensive use of information technology to facilitate government transparency, community participation, and public collaboration (M. Afandi and

Afandi 2018). Open government has been an interesting agenda being promoted by many governments since the 2000s. Open government initiatives have been widely introduced not only in Western democracies but also in Asian countries (Gil-Garcia, Gasco-Hernandez, and Pardo 2020; Prasty, Misran, and Nurmandi 2021).

Many governments have expanded open government; for example, the Obama Administration announced the Open Government Directive in 2009 and took a leading role in forming the Open Government Partnership (OGP), a multinational effort to promote open government worldwide (Bonina and Eaton 2020; Schmidhuber and Hilgers 2021). OGP is based on the idea that open government is more accessible, responsive, and accountable to citizens, and that improving relations between communities and government has long-term and exponential benefits for everyone (Gao, Janssen, and Zhang 2021).

OGP is a broad partnership that includes members at the national and local levels. Currently, 73 countries and 110 local governments are OGP members. Semarang and Gwangju are two of the 110 local governments that are members of the OGP. Semarang and Gwangju have jointly joined the OGP since 2020. This study aims to analyze the bibliometrics of the open government in Semarang and Gwangju. Local governments are considered to be closer to the people, and their work has a more direct impact on people's daily lives than that of national-level governments. However, local governments often have inadequate resources that require various supports. This study seeks to support local governments in implementing open government, particularly the Governments of Semarang and Gwangju.

Open Government

The origins of open government can be traced back to the codification of Athenian law in Greece, but the Visigothic Code of the Kingdom of Sweden is considered the beginning of a modern open government initiative that pays attention to citizens' right to information (Moon 2020). Open government has become an important strategy for administrative reform that has encouraged countries around the world to design and implement initiatives related to access to information, transparency, participation, and collaboration (Gil-Garcia, Gasco-Hernandez, and Pardo 2020).

Openness has been considered one of the most important characteristics of a democratic government. Historically, a number of aspects were highlighted in order to promote openness in the public sector (Heywood 2014). The old term open government refers to the freedom of information made available to citizens so that they can hold government authorities transparent and accountable, emphasizing the contribution of freedom of information laws to increased transparency, accountability, and public trust, although their contribution is often constrained by the political environment. Traditional approaches to freedom of information are being reconsidered and reshaped as web technologies offer new channels whereby more information can be provided simultaneously to many anonymous people beyond the constraints of time and space (Moon 2020).

This has led to open government initiatives that emphasize the reuse of public information as well as the proactive provision of public information before citizen requests. There have been dramatic changes in many aspects in the shift from conventional freedom of information approaches to citizens' right to know (so-called old open government) to newer open government approaches, both at the country level (i.e., open government data from the US) and at international levels such as open government partnership (S. A. Afandi et al. 2022, 2023).

Since the Obama Memorandum for Heads of Departments and Executive Agencies in 2009, open government has attracted enormous public and academic attention (Ruijter and Meijer 2020). Open government aims to create a transparent and collaborative government through the involvement of citizens (Zulfa and Afandi 2023). Open government wants to make government more efficient and prepare it to face the challenges of the digital era (Subedi, Nyamasvisva, and Pokharel 2022). Currently, open government is popular in various parts of the world, including the European Union, Australia, and Asia (V. Wang and Shepherd 2020). Open government is not a new concept and has historically been used in a variety of contexts. However, open government is still a growing area of research. For this reason, this open government study is interesting to do.

Bibliometrics

Early discussion of bibliometrics began in the 1950s, which shows that bibliometrics is not new. However, the proliferation of bibliometrics is fairly recent, as seen by the

growth in social sciences on Google Scholar using "bibliometrics" as keywords, article titles, and abstracts (Gao, Janssen, and Zhang 2021). Publication using bibliometrics has grown over the years, with an average of 1021 publications in the last decade. Bibliometrics has been applied in various fields of research (Donthu et al. 2021).

Bibliometrics is popular and rigorous for exploring and analyzing large amounts of scientific data. This makes it possible to unpack the evolutionary nuances of a particular field while highlighting emerging areas in that field (Donthu et al. 2021). Bibliometrics has gained immense popularity in the research field over the last few years, and its popularity can be attributed to the advancement, availability, and accessibility of bibliometric software such as Gephi, Leximancer, Vosviewer, and scientific databases such as Scopus, Web of Science, and Google Scholar. The popularity of bibliometrics is due to its use for handling large amounts of scientific data and generating high research impact (Moral-Muñoz et al. 2020).

Scholars use bibliometrics for a variety of reasons, such as to uncover emerging trends in articles and journals. Bibliometric studies can build a strong foundation for advancing a field in new and meaningful ways; it enables and empowers scholars to: (1) gain an overall picture; (2) identify knowledge gaps; (3) acquire new ideas for investigations; and (4) position their contributions in the field (Gaviria-Marin, Merigó, and Baier-Fuentes 2019). The most common indicators in bibliometric studies include: (1) the number of publications, as an indirect measure of knowledge production; (2) the number of citations, as a measure of scientific impact and international visibility; and (3) the h-index, as a representative measure of scientific achievement (Dias 2019; X. Wang, Xu, and Škare 2020).

METHOD

This study uses a qualitative approach with bibliometric analysis methods. Researchers use bibliometric analysis to highlight important insights drawn from the scientific literature each year (Kulsum et al. 2022). This study uses secondary data sourced from the Google Scholar database with the keywords "open government Semarang" and "open government Gwangju." Data is limited in the 2012–2022 timeframe, with a total of 300 papers. Data was obtained using the Publish or Perish

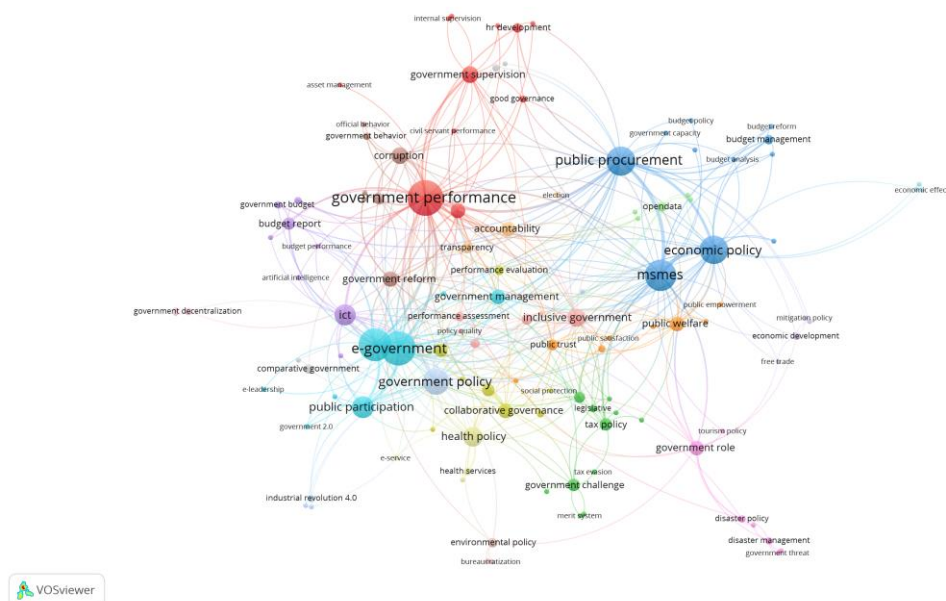
application, stored in the form of an RIS file, and then processed using the Vosviewer application to obtain a bibliometric map.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Trends in Semarang and Gwangju Open Government

Through the Publish or Perish, 150 Semarang open government papers were randomly obtained within the last decade. The paper has been cited 5470 times, obtaining an h-index score of 42 and a g-index of 63. The h-index is an index that measures the productivity and impact of a paper published by a scholar. This index is based on the number of papers produced by an undergraduate and the number of citations received from other publications. Similar to the h-index, the g-index is also a citation metric at the individual author level. However, this index is calculated based on the distribution of citations received by a scholar's paper. This index also pays attention to the average number of citations. Figure 1 is a network visualization generated from the Semarang keyword paper.

Figure 1.
Network Visualization Semarang



Source: Vosviewer

This visualization represents keywords via labels and circles. The weight of each keyword determines the size of the label and circle. The more frequently a

keyword appears, the larger the size of the resulting label and circle will be. The cluster where the keyword is located determines the color in this visualization (table 1). The lines in this visualization show the relationship between keywords, while the position of the keywords shows how closely the relationships are between keywords. The closer the relationship between keywords, the closer the location of these keywords.

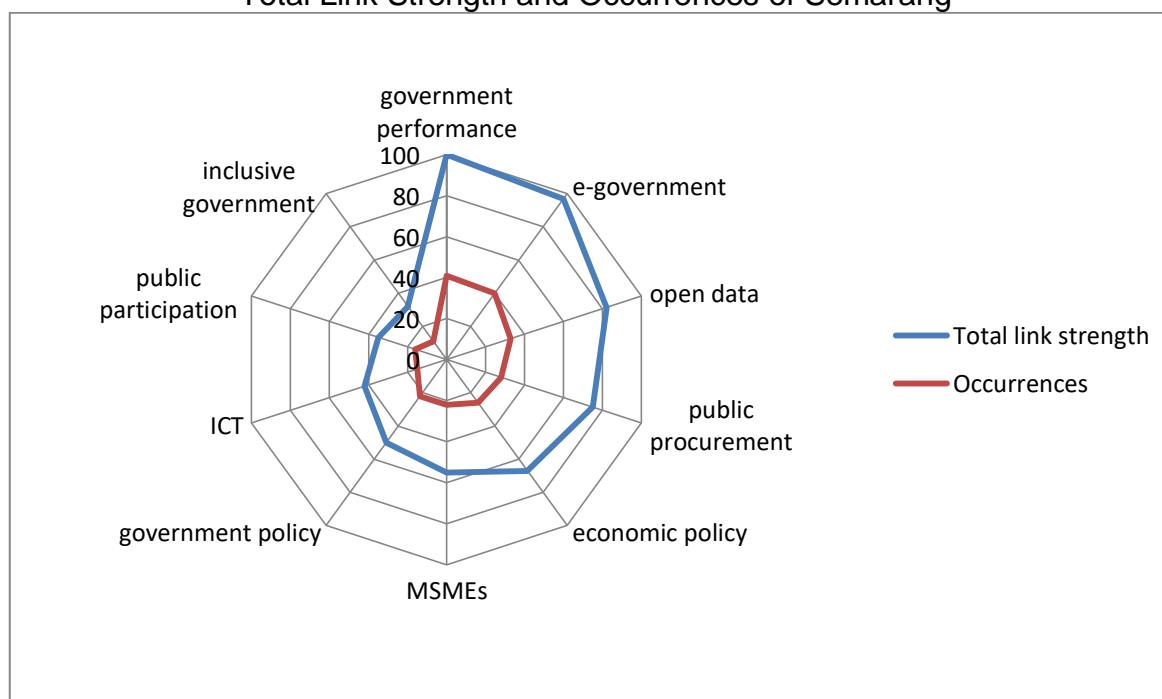
Table 1.
 Semarang Cluster

Cluster	Items
1	government capability, government threat, MSMEs, economic development, disaster management, disaster policy, free trade, mitigation policy, urbanization, mass media, tourism policy, government role
2	collaborative governance, government strategy, policy quality, social media, education policy, performance evaluation, government support, performance assessment, inclusive services, e-learning, social protection
3	government performance, government weakness, government supervision, policy evaluation, hr development, good governance, civil servant performance, fiscal health, performance supervision, internal supervision, asset management
4	government challenge, policy effects, accessibility, tax policy, legislative, efficiency, gender, merit system, office recruitment, tax evasion, tax revenue
5	government reform, corruption, government official, government behavior, parliament, political culture, official behavior, government intervention, economic effect, economic increase
6	public procurement, MSMEs, budget management, budget reform, economic policy, fiscal transfers, budget analysis, budget quality, government capacity
7	open data, government 2.0, e-government, public participation, government management, big data, smart city, e-leadership
8	inclusive government, open government data, government innovation, government leadership, public leadership, energy policy, investment policy, government initiative
9	government regulations, ICT, artificial intelligence, budget report, government budget, performance quality, budget performance, internal control
10	service quality, public trust, public welfare, public satisfaction, food policy, public response, human development, public empowerment
11	government readiness, society revolution 5.0, industrial revolution 4.0, government policy, development policy, comparative government, good government
12	responsibility, e-service, health policy, health services, bureaucratization, environmental policy, NGOs
13	decentralization policy, government decentralization, political devolution, election, accountability, transparency

Source: Vosviewer, 2023

In all the Semarang papers, there are a total of 116 keywords (keywords that appear more than once are counted as one keyword). These keywords are grouped into 13 clusters with various numbers. This grouping is based on the relationship between keywords (Figure 1), so that each cluster focuses on certain issues. There are 12 keywords in cluster one; 11 keywords each in clusters two, three, and four; 10 keywords in cluster five; 9 keywords in cluster six; 8 keywords each in clusters seven, eight, nine, and ten; 7 keywords each in clusters eleven and twelve; and 6 keywords in cluster thirteen. Of all these keywords, a total link strength score of 1293 and occurrences of 507 were obtained.

Figure 2.
 Total Link Strength and Occurrences of Semarang



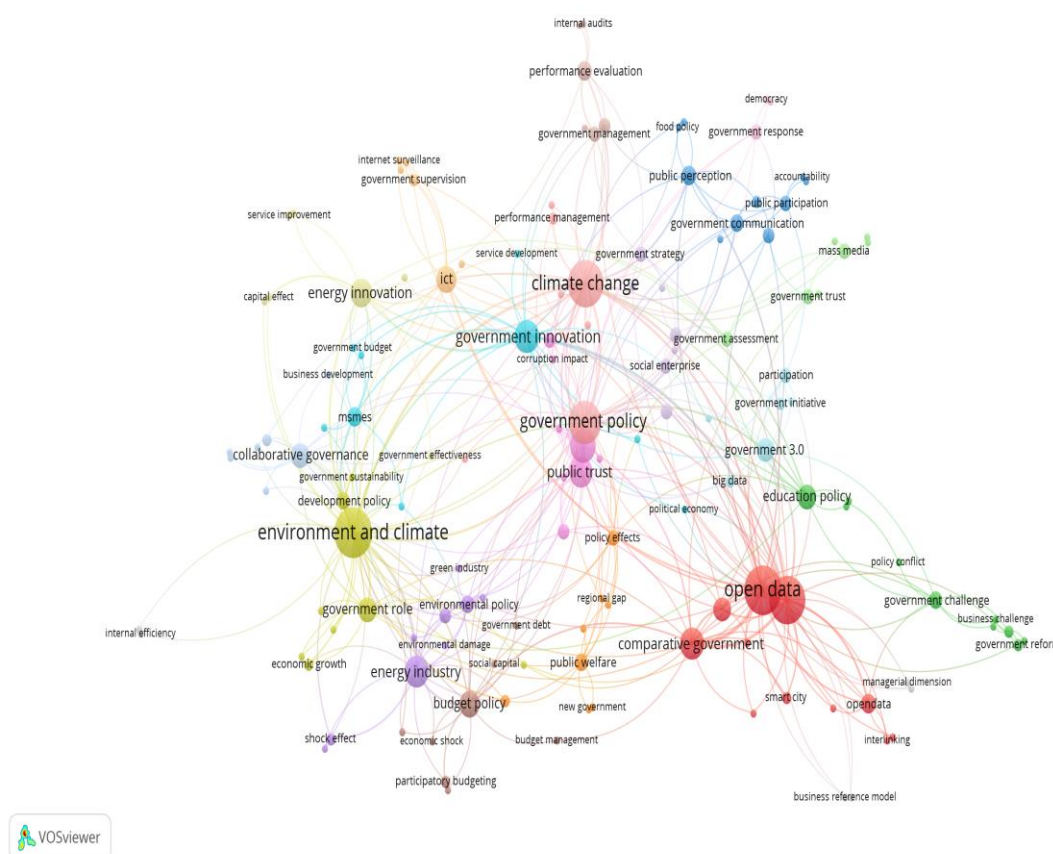
Source: Vosviewer, 2023

Government performance (total link strength 100 and occurrences 41); e-government (total link strength 97 and occurrences 40); open data (total link strength 82 and occurrences 33); public procurement (total link strength 75 and occurrences 28); economic policy (total link strength 67 and occurrences 26); MSMEs (total link strength 55 and occurrences 22); government policy (total link strength 50 and occurrences 22); ICT (total link strength 42 and occurrences 15); public participation (total link strength 35 and occurrences 16); inclusive government (total link strength 32 and occurrences 11), is a keyword that dominates the Semarang paper. Total link

strength shows the link strength of a keyword with other keywords, while occurrences show the total occurrence of a keyword in all documents.

Using the same method, 150 Gwangju open government papers obtained 3650 citations, an h-index of 30, and a g-index of 52. There were 143 keywords, 18 clusters, 1143 total link strengths, and 479 occurrences. Based on the network visualization (figure 3), there are eighteen clusters from all keywords, said Gwangju (table 2).

Figure 3.
Network Visualization Gwangju



Source: Vosviewer, 2023

In the Gwangju cluster, there are 11 keywords in cluster one; 10 keywords each in clusters two, three, and four; 9 keywords each in clusters five and six; 8 keywords each in clusters seven, eight, and nine; 7 keywords each in clusters ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, and fifteen; and 6 keywords respectively in clusters sixteen, seventeen, and eighteen.

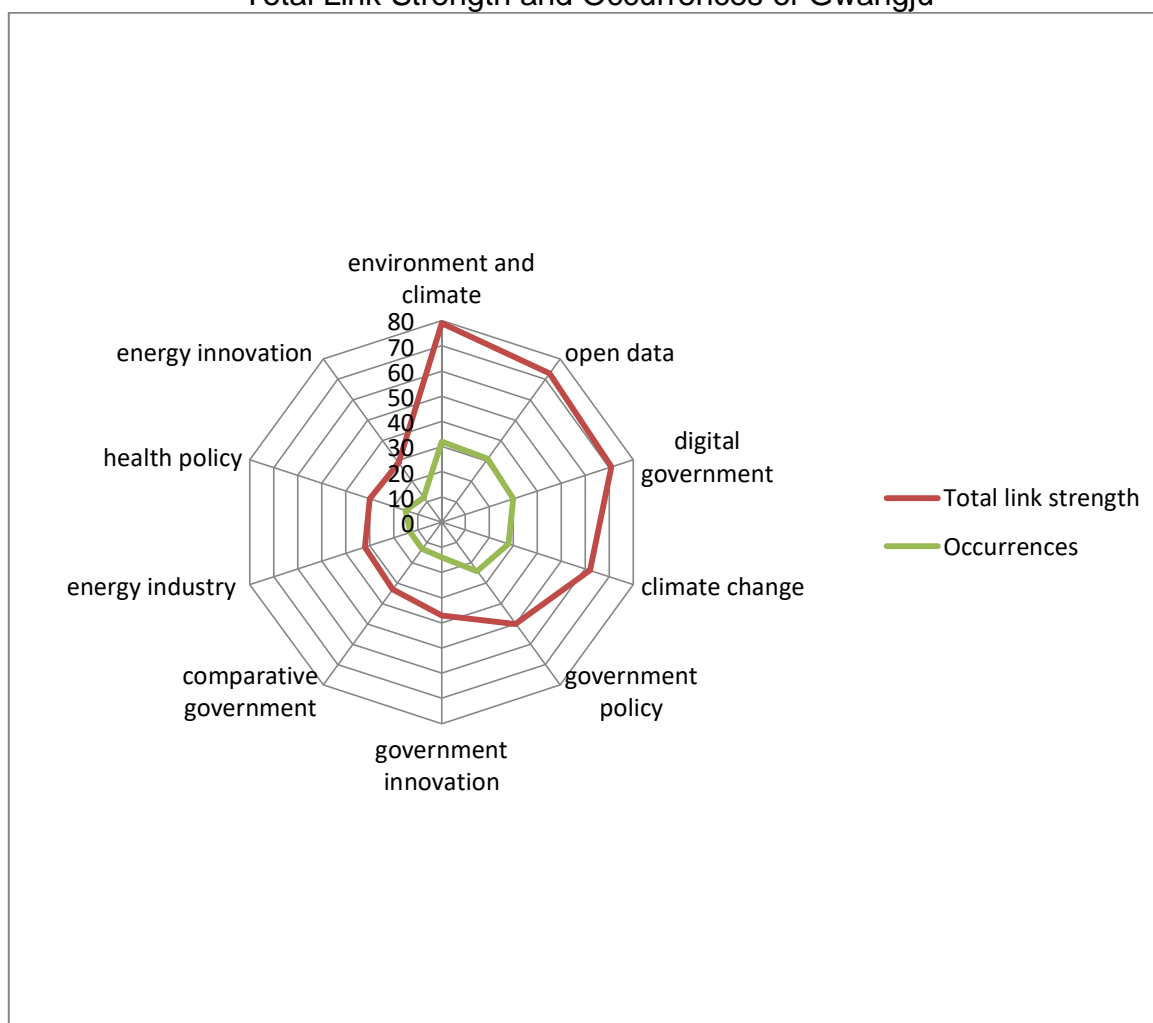
Table 2.
 Gwangju Clusters

Cluster	Items
1	comparative government, data quality, digital government, open data, government readiness, interlinking, knowledge graph, open government data, planning approach, policy implementation, smart city
2	government reform, government challenge, bipartite politicization, business challenge, education policy, policy conflict, politics, proactive government, responsive government, technology improvement
3	accountability, budgeting process, communication effectiveness, communication strategy, food policy, food safety, government communication, public participation, public perception, social media
4	government budget, budget support, msme, neosocial government, regional industry, government innovation, climate change, performance improvement, political economy, service development, business reference model
5	government capability, development policy, economic growth, environment and climate, environmental issue, government role, government sustainability, industrial development, knowledge network
6	economic effect, environmental damage, environmental policy, environmental sustainability, energy industry, green industry, macro economy, shock effect, trade balance
7	budget policy, fiscal decentralization, budget management, economic shock, government debt, government efficiency, participatory budgeting, social capital
8	policy effects, community resilience, economic development, new government, public support, public welfare, regional gap, social gap
9	democracy, government response, inequality, government development, institutional dimension, managerial dimension, internal efficiency, turnover intention
10	energy innovation, capital effect, company performance, employment policy, government effectiveness, service improvement, service innovation
11	corruption impact, health policy, nutrition policy, political ideology, public health, public trust, transparency
12	government policy, government agency, government performance, performance management, cultural policy, public aspiration, stimulation program
13	government assessment, government trust, antecedent peculiarities, discursive conflict, government official, mass media, policy issues
14	government intervention, digital content, government strategy, network centralization, policy evaluation, policy path, social enterprise
15	collaborative governance, government competitiveness, business development, economic performance, labor market, political institution, social service
16	government initiative, government 3.0, big data, collective intelligence, participation, public attitude
17	government capacity, government management, internal audits, performance evaluation, public interest, public satisfaction
18	ICT, cyber threat, government restructure, government supervision, internet surveillance, security threat

Source: Vosviewer

The keywords that dominate the Gwangju paper (Figure 4) are: environment and climate (total link strength 79 and occurrences 32); open data (total link strength 73 and occurrences 31); digital government (total link strength 71 and occurrences 30); climate change (total link strength 62 and occurrences 28); government policy (total link strength 50 and occurrences 24); government innovation (total link strength 37 and occurrences 14); comparative government (total link strength 33 and occurrences 13); energy industry (total link strength 32 and occurrences 13); health policy (total link strength 30 and occurrences 15); and energy innovation (total link strength 29 and occurrences 12).

Figure 4.
 Total Link Strength and Occurrences of Gwangju



Source: Vosviewer, 2023

Semarang and Gwangju Open Government Policy

The governments of Semarang and Gwangju joined the Open Government Partnership in 2020 in an effort to implement open government. The Semarang and

Gwangju governments have established several policies as a form of their commitment to supporting open government. The policies of the two local governments are contained in the Semarang Action Plan 2020-2022 and the Gwangju Action Plan 2020-2022.

Table 3.
 Semarang and Gwangju Open Government Policies

Government	Policy
Semarang	Increase the number of users on the Lapor Hendi platform
	Procurement through the Gulo Asem platform
	Improving the Semarang One Data platform
	Increasing the participation of vulnerable groups in development planning
Gwangju	Climate change management
	Building an energy information platform

Source: Government of Semarang and Government of Gwangju, 2023

The Semarang government has established four policies to support open government in Indonesia. Public participation, open data, public procurement, MSMEs, inclusive government, and e-government (Figure 2) are the focus of scholarly papers that are aligned with Semarang government policies in achieving open government. This alignment allows for a positive contribution from scholarly papers to Semarang Government policies.

First, increase the number of users of the Lapor Hendi platform. Lapor Hendi is a public complaint channel for Semarang City in the form of websites and social media (Open Government Semarang 2020). This platform has not been able to provide inclusive services (Naurisma and Naryoso 2020; Ramadhan and Priyadi 2020). This platform does not yet have special features that accommodate complaints from vulnerable groups (women and persons with disabilities) (Roostam and Yuwanto 2022; Setyarini 2022; Ulumuddin and Senoprabowo 2020). Through this policy, the Semarang government can provide special features for vulnerable groups. This policy can improve the delivery and handling of the aspirations of vulnerable groups and make Semarang a responsive and inclusive city.

Second, procurement through the Gulo Asem platform. The Semarang government seeks to support SMEs through the Gulo Asem platform (Open Government Semarang 2020). The Semarang government has conducted outreach to all government agencies to procure food and beverages using the Gulo Asem platform (Arkananta, Astuti, and Marlina 2022; Harini, Wulan, and Agustina 2022). In

addition, the Semarang Government also provides guidance to SMEs (Hasiholan and Amboningtyas 2021; Safitri and Badjuri 2022). Gulo Asem is an electronic market to support residents' economic recovery programs and empower MSMEs in Semarang. Policies can provide benefits to the community and increase the transparency and accountability of food and beverage procurement in the city of Semarang.

Third, improve the Semarang One Data platform. The Semarang government is committed to improving the Semarang One Data platform to become an open, real-time, and integrated data portal (Open Government Semarang 2020). The Semarang government already has a road map for the development of Semarang One Data towards big data analysis. The data available on this platform is collaborative in nature, sourced from the Central Bureau of Statistics, Regional Apparatus Organizations, and the community (Pradana et al. 2020; Wahyuni, Purwaningsih, and Herlina 2021). This platform also provides an Economic Digital Analysis feature that suits the needs of the Semarang government and MSMEs (Setiawan and Aindita 2022; Wahyuni, Purwaningsih, and Herlina 2021). The development of this platform can ensure public convenience in accessing data and become the basis for policymaking. This policy can also increase the compliance of the Semarang government to complete the data so that the public obtains the latest valid data.

Fourth, increasing the participation of vulnerable groups in development planning. The Government of Semarang provides access to vulnerable groups to participate in development planning through the Development Planning Meeting (Open Government Semarang 2020). This policy aims to accommodate suggestions from vulnerable groups in the implementation of government programs. The low participation of vulnerable groups (women and persons with disabilities) in development planning has had an impact on the effectiveness of government programs (Erialdy and Muhtadi 2021; Razak, Azuz, and Ibrahim 2020). This policy can make Semarang a responsive and inclusive city. Holding a Development Planning Meeting involving vulnerable groups is not only aimed at the interests of the government but will also greatly benefit vulnerable groups.

Unlike the Semarang government, which established four policies to support open government in Indonesia, the Gwanju government has established two policies

to support open government in Korea. Environment and climate, climate change, open data, the energy industry, and energy innovation (Figure 4) are the focus of scholarly papers that are aligned with the Gwangju government's policy of achieving open government. Similar to the Semarang paper, the alignment between the Gwangju paper and the Gwangju open government policy allows for a positive contribution from the scholarly papers to the Gwangju government policy.

First, tackling climate change (Open Government Gwangju 2020). Public demands for policy changes in response to the climate crisis continue. In response, the government of Gwangju launched a public-private partnership (Carbon Neutral City Promotion Committee) (G. Y. Choi, Song, and Lee 2020; Soohye Kim and Kim 2021). This partnership implements policies on energy conversion, resource recycling, and transportation with the goal of achieving carbon-neutral cities by 2045 (Amoruso, Sonn, and Schuetze 2022; Baek and Kim 2020; Body and Legend 2020). Public participation is needed in an open government. This policy can fully achieve its goals if the majority of the public participates. This is very possible because the government has guaranteed public participation through the Climate Crisis Emergency Action Group. Voluntary public participation in reducing food waste, using public transportation, and reducing energy use will increase policy effectiveness.

Second, building an energy information platform (Open Government Gwangju 2020). Activists consistently raise the issue of the importance of developing energy information systems (Cho, Kim, and Jeon 2020; Mo 2022). The absence of an energy use information system makes it difficult for the public to control the energy consumption they use (B. J. Kim, Kim, and Yoo 2022; Mo 2021). To overcome this, the Government of Gwangju built a platform that can monitor the use of distributed energy (gas, electricity, heat, and water) and provide local energy consumption data after consultation with the Carbon Neutral City Promotion Committee (S. Choi 2021; Suyi Kim 2020). Through this policy, energy use by the public can be displayed in a data format so that public participation can be increased to save energy. Available data can also be used as a basis for verifying the effectiveness of energy policy projects.

CONCLUSION

The Governments of Semarang and Gwangju have joined the OGP since 2020. From 150 Semarang papers, 5470 citations, an h-index of 42, and a g-index of 63 were obtained. There were a total of 116 keywords, 13 clusters, 1293 total link strengths, and 507 occurrences in the Semarang paper. Meanwhile, from 150 Gwangju papers, 3650 citations, an h-index of 30, and a g-index of 52 were obtained. There were a total of 143 keywords, 18 clusters, 1143 total link strengths, and 497 occurrences in the Gwangju paper.

Increasing users of the Lapor Hendi platform, procuring through the Gulo Asem platform, improving the Semarang One Data platform, and increasing the participation of vulnerable groups in development planning are the four 2020–2022 open government policies that have been established by the Semarang government. Meanwhile, tackling climate change and building an energy information platform are two open government policies for 2020–2022, set by the Gwangju government.

The Semarang and Gwangju papers each have alignment with the open government policies of their respective local governments. Public participation, open data, public procurement, MSMEs, inclusive government, and e-government are the focus of the Semarang paper, which is aligned with Semarang open government policies. Meanwhile, environment and climate, climate change, open data, energy industry, and energy innovation are the focus of the Gwangju paper, which is also aligned with the Gwangju open government policy. This alignment allows the positive contribution of the scholarly studies to the two local governments.

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