

Chapter 1

Global Trends in Waste Management Research Within the Tourism and Hospitality Sector: A Bibliometric Analysis

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ABSTRACT

This chapter presents a bibliometric analysis of 280 research publications on waste management in the tourism and hospitality industry. Using Bibliometric R and the Web of Science database, this study examined several key factors, including publication and citation trends, author productivity and influence, leading organisations, countries, journals, and common themes in the field. The data show a steady rise in the number of publications and citations over time, reflecting the growing recognition of the importance of waste management in the tourism sector. This increase has been especially noted in recent years and is driven by a broader societal shift toward environmental awareness and the need for sustainable practices. The analysis of author productivity highlights varying levels of impact within the field, with some individuals making particularly significant contributions. Additionally, the study identifies key organizations, countries, and journals essential for advancing research on waste management in tourism.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Bibliometric techniques use statistical tools to assess and measure the growth of literature in a specific field. This approach is reliable for uncovering historical developments (Batistic & Kase, 2015) and identifying numerical patterns in publications on a particular topic. It also provides a way to connect the micro-level perspectives of journals and institutions with the macro-level view of national and global trends. This chapter aims to analyse and document the patterns of waste management research in tourism and hospitality from 1996 to 2023. Through a bibliometric analysis, this chapter offers a concise summary of the most noteworthy research achievements. Peer-reviewed articles on waste management were reviewed, focusing on factors such as the distribution of articles over time, the most relevant subject categories, leading scientific journals, and the most active countries and institutions. Additionally, a content analysis of the author's keywords was performed. This chapter also explores key metrics, including the total local citation score (TLCS), total global citation score (TGCS), and average local citation frequency of an item in the collection (ALCS).

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Waste Management in Hospitality and Tourism

The global tourism industry is anticipated to expand significantly in the coming years, albeit accompanied by escalated waste generation. The amount of waste produced per tourist per day is approximately 1.6 kg, according to Obersteiner et al. (2021). Wealthier countries report higher waste generation per tourist and more advanced waste management practices, whereas poorer countries rely predominantly on landfill disposal methods (Ezeah et al., 2015). A study conducted among 120 hotels in Hoi An, Vietnam, revealed that hotels generate approximately 2.5 kg of solid waste per guest per day, with 58.5% being biodegradable, 25.8% recyclable, and 15.7% categorised as other waste (Pham et al., 2019). Various factors influencing the volume and composition of waste include hotel size, pricing range, type of restaurant, and the presence of a garden on the premises. According to Pirani and Arafat (2014), waste generated by tourism and hospitality comprises approximately 37–72% organic waste, 6–40% paper and cardboard, 5–15% plastic, and 3–14% glass. Around one-third of the hospitality sector's waste is food waste, of which almost one-third comes from plate waste, which refers to unused edible food on guests'

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