

Empowering Women through Entrepreneurship Education: A Pathway to Economic Prosperity in Indonesia

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Abstract

Gender equality is an important focus to discuss as the basis of the global movement for women's empowerment. To achieve economic prosperity in Indonesia, one of the women empowerment programs that can be implemented is the provision of entrepreneurship education. With an emphasis on innovation and skill development, this study highlights how entrepreneurship education not only creates better job opportunities, but also significantly improves women's competitiveness in the workforce. It is therefore necessary to explore the relationship between entrepreneurship education and women's empowerment in the context of sustainable economic prosperity in Indonesia. This study uses the Systematic Literature Review (SLR) method through the Watase Uake website. Data was obtained through analysis of relevant articles from reputable journals. The analysis shows that entrepreneurship education helps women develop the skills needed to manage businesses, understand finances and respond to market changes, contributing to financial independence and family well-being. The findings of this study are that entrepreneurship education has a significant role in increasing women's participation in sustainable economic sectors and positively impacting national economic growth through greater empowerment of women in sustainable and environmentally friendly economic activities. Through women's economic empowerment, it is hoped that community welfare can be achieved more equitably, fairly and sustainably in the long term.

Keywords

Economic Empowerment, Economic Prosperity, Entrepreneurship Education, Sustainable Economic, Women's Empowerment.

1. Introduction

Women's empowerment has arisen as a prominent global movement, particularly highlighted in UN Sustainable Development Goal 5, which aspires to promote gender equality and empower women (United Nations Communications Group). This movement is critical in addressing the inequities experienced by women (Sanze et al., 2024). The state of gender equality in Indonesia shows that despite efforts made through various policies and development plans, there are still significant challenges in achieving gender equality (Siscawati et al., 2020; Pratiwi et al., 2024). One of them is in full economic participation. Women's empowerment is the process of women gaining the ability to make decisions in all aspects of life, increasing their self-esteem, and influencing social change. It enables women to participate more actively in economic activities that are important for overall economic growth. Women's participation in the economic sector promotes financial independence and overall empowerment.

Furthermore, women's economic empowerment promotes social transformation, raises knowledge about women's rights, and diminishes gender inequity (Aswandi & Kholibrina, 2020; Susilawati et al., 2022). Entrepreneurship education is emerging as a strategic approach to equip women with the essential information, skills, and confidence to actively participate in all parts of life, including economic, social, and political arenas (Yoo et al., 2023). The focus of entrepreneurship education is to provide an understanding of business management, marketing, finance, business planning and innovation, which are essential for individuals who want to enter the business world. Entrepreneurship education not only develops technical skills in business management but also helps shape positive entrepreneurial attitudes and increase readiness to face challenges in the competitive business world (Lee et al., 2024). Entrepreneurship education also seeks to enhance women's economic independence, broaden job opportunities, and promote women's involvement in entrepreneurship. These efforts collectively contribute to poverty reduction and sustainable development. (Hajiyeva et al., 2024). Women's economic empowerment not only benefits individuals, but also has a broader positive impact on society and the economy (Bobek et al., 2022).

This study intends to investigate the correlation between entrepreneurship education and women's empowerment in relation to sustainable economic development in Indonesia. Entrepreneurship education not only enhances job prospects but also boosts women's competitiveness at work. This, in turn, can significantly drive inclusive economic growth. In this context, it is crucial to appreciate the role of entrepreneurship education in empowering women to acquire skills that meet market demands, while also enhancing their ability to navigate through the evolving landscape of work. This study uses a systematic literature review method as the research approach. The purpose of this review is to analyse the literature on women's empowerment through entrepreneurship education that has been published between 2014 and 2024. Specifically, this research leads to the following questions:

RQ1: What are the obstacles to implementing women's empowerment in Indonesia?

RQ2: To what extent can entrepreneurship education help women develop market-relevant skills?

RQ3: What is the role of entrepreneurship education in increasing women's participation in sustainable economic sectors in Indonesia?

2. Literature Review

In language, empowering means empowerment, while technically, empowerment can be equated with the term development. Empowerment is a widely used term by different actors, such as activists, feminists, and policy makers (Hennink et al., 2012). Empowerment represents enhancing an individual's or group's capacity to make significant decisions and bring those decisions to life through their desired actions and outcomes (Petesch et al., 2005; Ali, 2021). Empowerment can be explored via three intertwined dimensions: agency, resources, and achievement (Kabeer, 2005). The notion of empowerment is starting to be utilized to motivate and empower women to participate in diverse initiatives aimed at enhancing their quality of life. One of the originators of the concept of women's empowerment is Naila Kabeer. Kabeer interpreted that there was a need to re-transform the power relationship between women and men, due to women having more power over their own lives. Over time, Kabeer felt the need to deconstruct her notion of power to consider empowerment. Women's empowerment should be aimed at building women's power as a decision group (Kabeer, 1999; Quyen, 2020). Women's empowerment refers to women being authorized to make decisions in matters relating to various aspects of life that enable them to handle or manage risks and improve their well-being and status. Empowered women can feel their self-worth and can choose and influence social change for themselves and others (Tiwari & Malati, 2023).

Entrepreneurship education is among the fastest growing topics of study worldwide, garnering increased interest for its ability to bridge contemporary business practices with academic theory (Wahid & Sarfiah, 2021; Mulyana et al., 2022). Entrepreneurship education is characterized by participatory learning that is linked to business and community initiatives (Boon et al., 2013; Indrajaya et al., 2024). There are two primary schools of thought regarding entrepreneurship: the causal approach and the effectuation approach. The causal approach regards entrepreneurship as intricately linked to economic plans and strategies focusing on the impact of education on the level of business development. The effectuation strategy accounts for the uncertain environment by recommending entrepreneurs to employ available resources based on their availability (Ratten & Usmanij, 2021). Entrepreneurship education aims to cultivate a greater number and higher quality of entrepreneurs through the enhancement of skills and provision of essential information needed to identify and leverage economic opportunities (Jones & English, 2004; Lee et al., 2018; Smolka et al., 2023). According to Bae et al. (2014), this type of schooling has a good impact on entrepreneurial inclinations. The implementation of entrepreneurial activities should be able to give confidence to the business activities carried out by the discovery and development and encourage entrepreneurial activities, through education, knowledge skills with creativity and innovation have a critical attitude and reflective thinking in developing the practice of business activities (Globalisation, 2004). The approach to developing entrepreneurial activities can be done in the practice and development activities that are engaged in the daily environment.

Economic empowerment is a process that tries to decrease poverty, empower the poor, and help them attain self-sufficiency and a better quality of life. Many research has focused on economic empowerment and enhancing the poor's quality of life (Hapazari & Hapazari, 2019). Economic empowerment fosters a sense of identity and trust among marginalized communities. Economic empowerment entails the reduction of poverty and the facilitation of opportunities for social advancement. By focusing on inclusive economic growth, economic empowerment aims to reduce income inequality and provide sustainable livelihoods. Economic empowerment also promotes sustainable practices that conserve natural resources while supporting local economies. This approach ensures that economic growth does not compromise

environmental integrity and benefits both the economy and ecosystems (Winterford et al., 2020). Economic empowerment creates an inclusive economic environment where marginalized groups, especially women and indigenous peoples, can thrive. It focuses on building trust, providing access to resources, and ensuring that economic growth benefits everyone, thus promoting a more equitable society. Women's empowerment to the nation's economic growth and provide a positive impact in increasing the ability of skills and expertise in developing entrepreneurship that will support the progress of economic development, in an environment where people are (Thoriq et al., 2024).

3. Methods

To comprehend the impact of entrepreneurship education on women's empowerment within the framework of sustainable economic development, the utilization of the Systematic Literature Review (SLR) technique in the current study is deemed highly pertinent. A thorough examination of academic literature within a specific field is imperative for the identification of research inquiries and the establishment of a robust groundwork for forthcoming research endeavors. This approach allows the reviewer to identify, assess and interpret findings from relevant research in a systematic and thorough manner (Amjad et al., 2023; Friska et al., 2023). Thus, through a systematic literature review, the reviewer was able to explore more deeply the aspects of women's empowerment, entrepreneurship education, and economic empowerment, and how these factors interact with each other in shaping sustainable economic prosperity in Indonesia.



Figure 1. Prism Analysis Report

The systematic literature review data in Figure 1 is presented in the form of a Prism Report. Prism is a set of guidelines that aims to improve the quality and consistency of systematic literature review report. The data used in the prism analysis was collected with the help of the Watase Uake website with article coverage from Scopus. The keywords women's empowerment, entrepreneurship education, and economic empowerment were used as references, and the keywords Women's Empowerment in Indonesia, Women's Entrepreneurship Education, and Women's Economic Empowerment through Entrepreneurship were entered into the search to determine the relationship between each of these factors. Article criteria were collected from Scopus indexed from Q1 to Q4. The criteria were also applied to the publication year range of the articles from 2014 to 2024. By using the keywords and criteria that have been determined, the aim is to collect data in the form of relevant articles according to the topic for a systematic literature review on women's empowerment. The results of the keyword search resulted in 36 articles, which were then selected based on the criteria, 28 articles were found to be relevant to the topic for the systematic literature review and 12 articles were found that did not pass the screening test on the Watase Uake website. Thus, 16 articles relevant to the topic will be discussed in this review.

4. Results

The number of publications analysed was 36 with the oldest article dating back to 2015 and the most recent dating back to 2024. Based on Figure 2, there are seven articles from 2024, seven articles from 2023, four articles from 2022, two articles from 2021, five articles from 2020, five articles from 2019, one article from 2018, three articles from 2017, one article from 2016, and one article from 2015.

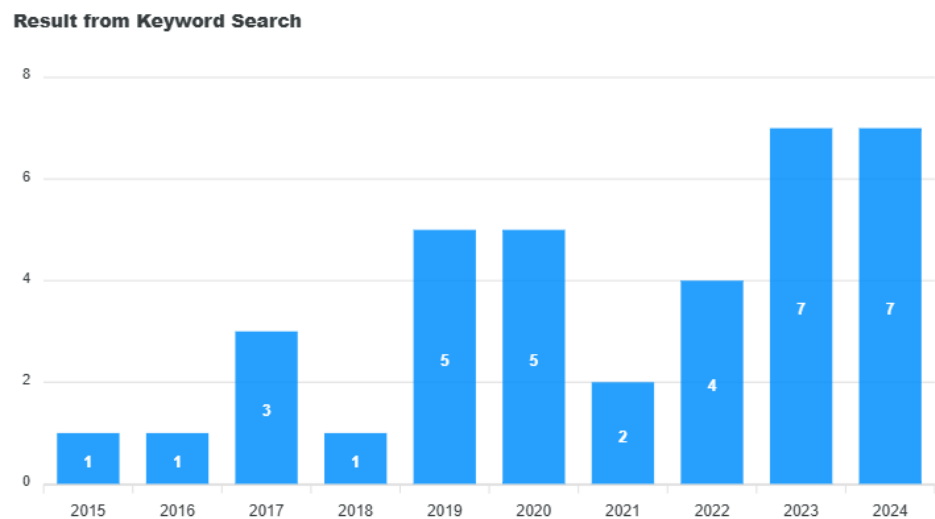


Figure 2. Keyword Result Graph

The articles were then screened based on the criteria and a total of 28 articles were found that were relevant to the topic for the systematic literature review with 12 articles that did not pass the screening test on the Watase Uake website. Table 1 shows the types of journals in which the articles were published.

Table 1. Journal Publications

Journal Name	Number of Papers	Journal Rank	H-Index	Publisher
World Development	1	Q1	219	Elsevier B.V.
Energy for Sustainable Development	1	Q1	83	Elsevier B.V.
International Journal of Ethics and Systems	1	Q1	31	Emerald Group Publishing Ltd.
Journal of Management History	1	Q1	27	
Higher Education	1	Q1	127	Springer Netherlands
Research in Science Education	1	Q1	67	
Sustainability	1	Q2	169	Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute (MDPI)
Economies	1	Q2	34	
International Journal of Financial Studies	1	Q2	30	Cogent OA
Cogent Business & Management	1	Q2	44	
Australasian Accounting, Business and Finance Journal	1	Q2	21	University of Wollongong
Development Studies Research		Q2	18	Taylor and Francis Ltd.
International Journal of Rural Management	2	Q2	15	Sage Publications India Pvt. Ltd
Jurnal Ilmu Sosial dan Ilmu Politik	1	Q3	5	Universitas Gadjah Mada - Faculty of Social and Political Sciences'
International Journal of Diplomacy and Economy	1	Q4	9	Inderscience

The articles gathered through the Watase Uake website were previously sourced using the keywords Women's Empowerment in Indonesia development of Women's Empowerment, Women's Entrepreneurship Education development of Entrepreneurship Education, and Women's Economic Empowerment through Entrepreneurship development of Economic Empowerment. The results of the search for articles that have been categorized based on variable keywords are compiled from the articles presented in Table 1 and then used as a reference to answer research questions.

The results highlight that women's empowerment is a process that enables women to access resources, skills and opportunities that improve their position in the family and society (Aswandi & Kholibrina, 2020). Empowerment involves improving economic capabilities through access to finance and entrepreneurship education (Rahayu, 2020), improving financial literacy (Rozalinda et al., 2024), and increasing women's role in household and public decision-making. Women's empowerment also involves changes in social structures and power that enable women to participate more actively in the economic and social sectors, and give women independence and equality in various aspects of life (Indarti et al., 2019).

Entrepreneurship education that gives women financial independence contributes directly to improving family welfare. With better income, women can improve their family's quality of life, including in terms of education, health and other basic needs. Improved family welfare creates a positive impact on society as more empowered women tend to have influence in family decision-making leading to better resource management (Hendrarti et al., 2024). Overall, women's economic

empowerment contributes to national economic growth, as more women engage in economic activities that create additional value.

5. Conclusion

Women's empowerment in Indonesia has shown progress in improving access to the economy, education and participation in decision-making. However, barriers faced by women include social and cultural norms that limit decision-making in the technical and public sectors, and limited access to entrepreneurial education, capital and technology. Solutions include training programs that are relevant to the current market, reforming social and cultural norms, expanding access to finance, mentoring, and implementing gender mainstreaming. Entrepreneurship education helps women develop skills in managing businesses and capital and responding to market changes, which increases financial independence, income and confidence. In addition, entrepreneurship education supports women's participation in sustainable economic sectors, such as sustainable agriculture and renewable energy, contributing to economic prosperity, family well-being and national economic growth.

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