

Six Decades of Economic Inquiry in Sudan: Trends and Insights

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ABSTRACT

This study compiles and assesses six decades of economic research in Sudan. Descriptive statistics are presented based on an extensive analysis of 687 articles. Studies were obtained via keyword searches in digital libraries, including Scopus, Google Scholar, and the Elicit AI tool. Papers were manually categorised into refereed or non-refereed publications. Most papers were published in refereed journals, followed by working papers. Trend analysis over time was conducted to analyse both paper counts and citations. It showed a sharp increase in publications between 2006 and 2012. This increase can be attributed to the significance of this period in Sudan's history due to the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in 2005 and South Sudan's 2011 secession. Concerning fields and subfields, most reviewed papers were on the topic of macroeconomics, followed by development economics. Moreover, most of the papers were written by a single author, suggesting a lack of opportunities for collaborative research. Also, the analysis by gender shows that women play a minor role in Sudanese economic research. Text analysis of abstracts is used to generate a thematic analysis of the published research. Conclusion, limitations, policy recommendations, and recommendations for the future are then presented.

Keywords: Sudan, economic research, bibliometrics, bibliometric analysis, journals

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