

Government Metagovernance and Sustainable Development Goal Localization Across Political Systems: A Systematic Review

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Abstract

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) localization requires governments to translate global goals into locally meaningful policies, institutions, implementation, and learning. Governments therefore act not only as hierarchical implementers but also as metagovernors that steer, coordinate, mobilize resources, facilitate participation, and organize accountability. This study examines how government metagovernance operates in SDG norm localization, how its mechanisms relate to localization effectiveness, and how these relationships vary across democratic, non-democratic, and hybrid contexts. A qualitative-comparative Systematic Literature Review was conducted using PRISMA 2020-informed procedures. The final corpus comprised 69 publications identified through a primary Scopus search restricted to 2016-2026 and supplementary discovery, with relevant studies outside the primary period retained where substantively relevant. Publications were included when they addressed government/metagovernance, SDG localization, governance capacity, political-system context, or localization effectiveness and provided sufficient evidence for extraction. Four metagovernance categories were coded: steering and coordination; intermediation and participation; resource and information mobilization; and accountability and learning. Localization effectiveness was coded through policy and institutional integration, participation and local ownership, accountability and transparency, and implementation, adaptation, and learning. The synthesis indicates that political systems do not mechanically determine localization effectiveness; political context and government capacity shape how metagovernance is configured and translated into substantive localization.

Keywords: *Government Metagovernance, SDG Localization, Political Systems, Government Capacity, Governance Effectiveness*

INTRODUCTION

SDG localization requires more than formal adoption of global targets. It involves interpreting, adapting, institutionalizing, implementing, monitoring, and modifying global norms within specific institutional and territorial contexts. Recent studies show that localization becomes substantive when SDGs are connected with planning, budgeting, indicators, implementation, reporting, and administrative practice (Gupta & Sigdel, 2024; Luhtala et al., 2025; Saiu & Blečić, 2026; Xu et al., 2026).

The process is multi-level and multi-actor because local governments interact with national authorities, communities, civil society, private organizations, knowledge actors, and other institutions. Government therefore acts not only as a hierarchical implementer but also as a steering, coordinating, facilitating, brokering, resource-mobilizing, and learning actor (Masuda et al., 2022; Sørensen & Torfing, 2009).

Metagovernance captures these functions and examines how governments shape the conditions for governance. This is important because SDG localization requires coordination across sectors and levels while balancing coordination with local autonomy, participation with administrative capacity, and accountability with policy flexibility.

Political systems provide an important context for these processes. Democratic institutions may create opportunities for participation, transparency, accountability, deliberation, and diverse information, whereas more centralized systems may facilitate concentrated coordination and rapid

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resource mobilization. These differences do not mean that one political-system category automatically produces more effective localization.

Comparative studies show variation within political systems and similar outcomes produced through different institutional mechanisms (Ho et al., 2022; Kaim & Kubbe, 2025; Morales-Casetti et al., 2025). Understanding these configurations is practically important because national and local SDG institutions operate under different constraints and capacities. A mechanism-based perspective can identify which combinations of coordination, participation, resources, information, accountability, and learning matter under specific conditions.

Existing literature has advanced knowledge of SDG localization and metagovernance, but these strands remain insufficiently integrated. Sever et al. (2025) emphasize local actors, governance structures, and contextual adaptation, while Xu et al. (2026) show how localization interacts with existing governance contexts. Metagovernance research explains how public authorities influence governance networks through steering, coordination, framing, and network management (Meuleman, 2021; Sørensen & Torfing, 2009).

Christopoulos et al. (2012) further highlight information, learning, deliberation, empowerment, and coordination in cross-sectoral sustainable-development governance. Yet government capacity, metagovernance mechanisms, political-system conditions, and localization effectiveness have not been sufficiently integrated into a single comparative analytical structure.

This study addresses that gap by integrating these literatures into a mechanism-based explanation of how government action contributes to substantive localization under different political contexts. It treats the political system as a contextual condition, government capacity as an enabling condition, metagovernance as the governmental mechanism, multi-actor governance as the relational process, and localization effectiveness as the outcome.

It asks: RQ1: What roles and mechanisms of government metagovernance are identified in SDG norm localization? RQ2: How does metagovernance influence localization effectiveness? RQ3: How does the literature explain variation across democratic, non-democratic, and hybrid contexts?

LITERATURE REVIEW

SDG Localization and Substantive Institutionalization

SDG localization refers to the process through which global goals acquire locally meaningful institutional and policy forms. It involves interpretation, negotiation, policy integration, budgeting, implementation, monitoring, and learning (Saiu & Blečić, 2026; Xu et al., 2026).

Formal strategies and indicators are insufficient when disconnected from planning and administrative practice (Gupta & Sigdel, 2024; Luhtala et al., 2025). Localization can therefore be viewed as a continuum from adoption and translation to institutionalization, implementation, monitoring, and adaptation, allowing effectiveness to be assessed through substantive institutional change.

Government Metagovernance

Metagovernance conceptualizes government as an actor that shapes the conditions for governance through network design, framing, coordination, facilitation, network management, and participation (Sørensen & Torfing, 2009). Meuleman (2021) emphasizes context-sensitive combinations of hierarchical, network, and market modes, while Christopoulos et al. (2012) highlight information, learning, deliberation, empowerment, and coordination.

In SDG localization, governments may act as steers, brokers, intermediaries, facilitators, and orchestrators (Masuda et al., 2022). Steering is not synonymous with control: excessive centralization may constrain local autonomy, whereas weak coordination may produce fragmentation. The analytical issue is therefore how government capacity is converted into

appropriate metagovernance. Partnership governance research also highlights institutional capacity, inclusion, and transparency (Bäckstrand et al., 2022).

Government Capacity

Government capacity is treated as an enabling condition rather than a synonym for metagovernance. It encompasses organizational, fiscal, planning, informational, digital, adaptive, and collaborative capabilities that enable public authorities to formulate, coordinate, implement, monitor, and adjust policy (Chen et al., 2025; Grin, 2025; Salvador & Sancho, 2023).

Governments may have substantial resources but fail to manage inter-organizational relationships effectively, while resource-constrained governments may compensate through intermediary, network-management, or partnership strategies. The question is therefore how available capacity is transformed through metagovernance.

Political Systems as Context

Political systems influence conditions surrounding participation, information, accountability, legitimacy, state–society relations, and resource mobilization. Democratic, non-democratic, and hybrid categories follow classifications or descriptions used by the reviewed studies rather than a universal regime index. Democratic contexts may broaden participation and accountability, while centralized systems may facilitate coordination and resource mobilization, but neither establishes a deterministic relationship with localization outcomes (Ho et al., 2022; Linde & Karlsson, 2013; Morales-Casetti et al., 2025; Xia & Guan, 2017).

Political systems therefore serve as contextual conditions that shape capacity and metagovernance. For comparative coding, a study received a democratic, non-democratic, or hybrid code only when the publication explicitly identified or described that context. Comparative studies could receive multiple codes, while studies without explicit regime classification were not assigned one because the literature uses heterogeneous regime concepts and indicators.

Conceptual Framework

The review integrates four strands: SDG localization, metagovernance, government capacity, and political-system context. The framework is theory-informed and deductively structured in its initial coding, while remaining open to evidence outside the initial categories. It is therefore an organizing analytical framework rather than a predetermined causal model. The proposed mechanism is:

The framework also incorporates a feedback process: monitoring and learning → feedback → adjustment of metagovernance → subsequent localization practices. Metagovernance is thus iterative rather than a one-time steering intervention, allowing governance arrangements to change in response to implementation experience.

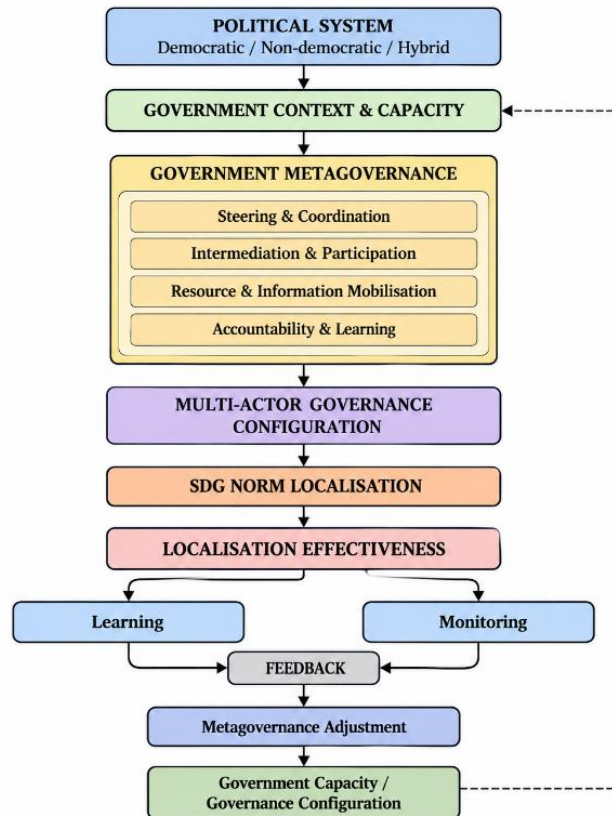


Figure 1. Conceptual Framework

RESEARCH METHOD

Research Design and Literature Identification

This study used a qualitative, comparative Systematic Literature Review informed by PRISMA 2020 procedures. The primary Scopus search was conducted on 4-5 September 2026 using TITLE-ABS-KEY. The primary Boolean query was: TITLE-ABS-KEY ("Government Governance Capacity" AND "SDG Localization Governance" AND "Democratic Authoritarian Governance" AND "Democratic Authoritarian Regimes")

The primary search was restricted to 2016–2026, document type Article, Social Sciences, English, and Q1-Q2 journals, producing 54 records. Supplementary discovery was conducted on 5 September 2026 in Scopus AI and Scite AI using the same prompt: "Effectiveness of government roles in metagovernance of SDG localization". Scopus AI returned 58 records, with 39 passing initial screening; Scite AI returned 19, with 15 passing.

These tools were used only for literature discovery; the underlying publications were the units of analysis. The primary Boolean string did not include "metagovernance" as a standalone term; it was treated as the analytical focus linked to government capacity, SDG localization governance, and political-system terms. "Localization" is retained only in the exact search string or AI prompt; the manuscript otherwise uses "localization".

Table 1. Supplementary AI-Assisted Literature Discovery

Discovery Route	Search Date	Exact Prompt	Records Retrieved	Passed initial Screening
Scopus AI	5 September 2026	"Effectiveness of government roles in metagovernance of	58	39

		SDG localization"		
Scite AI	5 September 2026	"Effectiveness of government roles in metagovernance of SDG localization"	19	15

The AI-assisted counts represent discovery-stage results, not final included studies. Consolidation considered overlap, substantive eligibility, accessibility, and extractable evidence; 44 publications were retained as additional studies from the 39 Scopus AI and 15 Scite AI records that passed initial screening.

Eligibility, Screening and Evidence Base

The primary Scopus route produced 54 records. Two duplicates, ten out-of-period records, and four records failing the Q1-Q2 publication-selection criterion were removed, leaving 38; two were excluded after screening. Of 36 full texts sought, 11 were unavailable, resulting in 25 eligible publications.

After consolidation, overlap removal, and eligibility and accessibility assessment, 44 additional publications from the AI-assisted routes were retained, giving a final corpus of 69. The 2016-2026 restriction applied only to the primary Scopus route, so relevant foundational studies outside that period could remain in the supplementary corpus. Q1-Q2 was a publication-selection criterion, not a proxy for methodological quality.

Data Extraction, Coding, and Comparative Synthesis

Data extraction covered publication characteristics, geographical and political context, government capacity, metagovernance mechanisms, actors, norm translation, institutionalization, implementation, monitoring, adaptation, and localization outcomes. RQ1 used four metagovernance coding categories: steering and coordination; intermediation and participation; resource and information mobilization; and accountability and learning. These categories organize recurring mechanisms rather than represent newly discovered independent variables.

For RQ2, localization effectiveness was coded separately as policy and institutional integration; participation and local ownership; accountability and transparency; and implementation, adaptation, and learning. This separates governmental mechanisms from associated outcomes. RQ3 compared democratic, non-democratic, and hybrid contexts. Because studies use heterogeneous concepts, indicators, scales, and regime classifications, thematic frequencies indicate corpus prevalence rather than causal effects.

Quality assessment considered substantive relevance, clarity and sufficiency of evidence, accessibility for systematic extraction, and usefulness for comparative synthesis. A single researcher conducted screening, extraction, and coding; no independent double screening, second-coder verification, or inter-coder reliability coefficient was calculated.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

RQ1: Government Metagovernance Mechanisms

Appendix A provides study-level characteristics for all 69 publications, including study number, first author, year, location/context, and method, making the evidence base traceable without expanding the main narrative. Steering and coordination include framing, network design and management, intergovernmental coordination, facilitation, and orchestration.

These functions connect fragmented sectors and governance levels (Sørensen & Torfing, 2009; Meuleman, 2021), but the literature also identifies tension between coordination and

autonomy. [Saurav & Larsen \(2026\)](#) show how SDG localization can appear formally localized while remaining centralized in practice. Steering is therefore strategic organization of interdependencies rather than direct hierarchical control.

Intermediation and participation concerns connect public agencies, communities, civil society, private actors, knowledge providers, and partnerships. Local governments can facilitate network building, knowledge exchange, co-creation, and local ownership ([Bilsky et al., 2021](#); [Masuda et al., 2022](#)). Participation nevertheless varies in substantive quality: consultation without influence differs from participation in agenda-setting, interpretation, decision-making, and implementation. [Waldmüller et al. \(2022\)](#) further show the importance of relational and locally grounded knowledge in reshaping sustainable-development meaning.

Resource and information mobilization includes financial, organizational, technological, human, and informational resources. Organizational capabilities are associated with municipal SDG achievement ([Grin, 2025](#)), while digital-government development may strengthen transparency and governance capacity ([Bu, 2025](#)). Capacity refers to the resources and capabilities government possesses or can mobilize; metagovernance concerns how it converts these into coordination and relationship management.

Accountability and learning include monitoring, transparency, evaluation, reflexivity, and policy adaptation. [Sari et al. \(2022\)](#) illustrate the relevance of performance auditing for SDG implementation, while [Bowen et al. \(2017\)](#) identify accountability and learning as governance challenges. Consequently, metagovernance is iterative: governments establish arrangements, monitor performance, learn from implementation, and adjust governance practices.

RQ2: Metagovernance and Localization Effectiveness

The review distinguishes four localization outcomes from the four metagovernance mechanisms. Steering and coordination relate to policy and institutional integration because they link SDG targets to planning, budgeting, indicators, and administrative systems ([Gupta & Sigdel, 2024](#); [Luhtala et al., 2025](#)). Intermediation and participation support local ownership because localization involves interpreting and adapting through local knowledge and interaction ([Bilsky et al., 2021](#); [Waldmüller et al., 2022](#)).

Resource and information mobilization supports implementation capacity because local commitments require financial, organizational, technological, and informational resources. Where these are weak, formal commitments may not translate into implementation. Government capacity is therefore an enabling condition, not the same phenomenon as metagovernance.

Accountability and learning are associated with accountability, monitoring, adaptation, and institutionalization. Monitoring and feedback help identify implementation gaps and adjust policies. The literature therefore supports a localization continuum: adoption → translation → integration → institutionalization → implementation → monitoring → adaptation. Effectiveness should not be inferred merely from the existence of local SDG strategies.

Corpus-level coding indicates that implementation, adaptation, and learning appeared in 40 of 69 studies (58.0%); participation and local ownership in 32 (46.4%); accountability and transparency in 23 (33.3%); and policy and institutional integration in 18 (26.1%). These categories are multidimensional and non-exclusive, so percentages do not measure relative effectiveness.

Table 2. Coding Distribution of Localization Effectiveness

Localisation outcome	Studies	Share
Implementation, adaptation and learning	40	58.0%
Participation and local ownership	32	46.4%

Accountability and transparency	23	33.3%
Policy and institutional integration	18	26.1%

Table 3. Coding Distribution of Metagovernance Mechanisms

Metagovernance Mechanism	Studies	Share
Resource and information mobilization	33	47.8%
Steering and coordination	30	43.5%
Accountability and learning	25	36.2%
Intermediation and participation	23	33.3%

The distributions show thematic visibility in the 69-study corpus, not causal importance. Because studies could receive multiple codes, percentages cannot be added to 100%.

RQ3: Political-System Contexts and Metagovernance

Political systems shape the institutional conditions in which metagovernance operates, but the literature does not establish a deterministic relationship between regime type and effectiveness. Democratic settings can provide opportunities for participation, transparency, accountability, and diverse information, yet may coexist with executive dominance, institutional legacies, or limited administrative capacity ([Kaim & Kubbe, 2025](#)).

Non-democratic contexts may enable concentrated coordination and rapid resource mobilization while constraining independent information, transparency, and substantive participation. The reviewed literature nevertheless shows variation within these settings. [Xia & Guan \(2017\)](#) examine grassroots self-governance in an authoritarian context, while [Adiputri \(2018\)](#) examines institutional change during Indonesia's transition from authoritarianism to democracy. These cases caution against treating regime categories as homogeneous governance configurations.

Hybrid contexts combine democratic institutions with centralized or restrictive practices. [Ho et al. \(2022\)](#), comparing India and China, show that different institutional mechanisms can implement similar social-policy objectives. [Morales-Casetti et al. \(2025\)](#) likewise find variation in relationships among governance, democracy, well-being, and SDG achievement across SDG dimensions. Political systems therefore matter primarily through conditions for capacity, information, legitimacy, participation, coordination, and accountability.

A conservative descriptive coding was applied only where publications explicitly used democratic, non-democratic/authoritarian, or hybrid terminology in the title or stated study context. On this basis, 21 of 69 publications contained an explicit regime-type classification: 16 included a democratic context, 15 a non-democratic/authoritarian context, and 3 a hybrid context. Because comparative studies can receive multiple codes, these counts are not mutually exclusive and do not represent regime prevalence in the wider literature.

Table 4. Descriptive Coding of Explicit Political-System Contexts

Political-system Context	Studies	Share of 69-study corpus
Democratic context	16	23.2%
Non-democratic/authoritarian context	15	21.7%
Hybrid context	3	4.3%

Note: Contexts are multi-coded and based only on explicit regime terminology in the reviewed publication. Therefore, percentages do not sum to 100%.

Integrated Mechanism and Theoretical Contribution

The findings support the sequence: Political system → Government context and capacity → Government metagovernance → Multi-actor governance configuration → SDG norm localization → Localization effectiveness, with a feedback loop: Monitoring and learning → Feedback → Adjustment of metagovernance. The framework does not claim a statistically established causal pathway; it integrates concepts often treated separately.

Political systems provide context; capacity supplies enabling resources; metagovernance converts capacity into steering, intermediation, mobilization, accountability, and learning; governance configurations mediate actor interactions; and localization represents institutional and practical transformation of SDG norms.

The principal contribution is mechanism-based rather than regime-ranking based. The relevant question is how political contexts condition the ways governments mobilize capacity and configure metagovernance. This perspective also makes sustainability trade-offs visible: stronger coordination may improve policy coherence but reduce autonomy, while extensive participation without sufficient coordination or resources may produce fragmented implementation.

CONCLUSIONS

This systematic review examined how government metagovernance contributes to SDG norm localization, how specific mechanisms relate to effectiveness, and how relationships vary across political contexts. Based on 69 publications, government operates not only as a hierarchical implementer but also as a metagovernor shaping institutional conditions, actor relationships, resources, information, accountability, and learning.

For RQ1, four metagovernance categories organize the evidence: steering and coordination; intermediation and participation; resource and information mobilization; and accountability and learning. For RQ2, these mechanisms relate to distinct but interconnected outcomes: steering and coordination to policy and institutional integration; intermediation and participation to local ownership and inclusion; resource and information mobilization to implementation capacity; and accountability and learning to monitoring, adaptation, and institutionalization. Formal SDG adoption alone is therefore insufficient to demonstrate substantive localization.

For RQ3, political systems condition the institutional environment in which capacity and metagovernance operate, but the evidence does not support a deterministic relationship between regime type and localization effectiveness. Different mechanisms may produce similar outcomes, and variation may occur within the same political-system category. The analytical focus should therefore be on governance configurations and mechanisms rather than regime labels alone.

Practically, national SDG institutions can strengthen vertical coordination with local governments while preserving meaningful participation. Local governments can use metagovernance to connect planning, resources, actors, information, monitoring, and adaptation rather than treating localization as reporting.

LIMITATIONS & FURTHER RESEARCH

This study has several limitations. First, the search relied primarily on Scopus and was supplemented by Scopus AI and Scite AI; relevant studies outside these routes may have been missed, and AI-assisted discovery may introduce selection or ranking bias despite eligibility assessment. Second, 11 primary-search full texts and one additional publication could not be sufficiently accessed for systematic extraction.

Third, Q1-Q2 was a publication-selection criterion rather than a formal quality appraisal and may underrepresent lower-quartile, non-indexed, grey-literature, and non-English research. Fourth, political-system classifications varied, especially for hybrid and transitional contexts, so

regime categories were assigned only when explicitly identified by source studies.

Finally, a single researcher screened, extracted, and coded the data without independent double screening, second-coder verification, or inter-coder reliability assessment. Findings should therefore be interpreted as a qualitative, mechanism-based synthesis rather than a statistical estimate of causal regime effects.

Future research should test the proposed mechanism through comparative and longitudinal designs, develop more consistent indicators of metagovernance and localization effectiveness, examine hybrid contexts, and trace SDG norms from global interpretation and national translation to local institutionalization, budgeting, implementation, monitoring, learning, and adaptation.

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APPENDIX

Appendix A. Study Characteristics of the 69-Publication Corpus

The table below reproduces the study-level characteristics extracted from the 69-publication dataset. Political-system context is not imposed where the source study does not explicitly classify it.

No.	Study	Author(s)	Year	Location / Context	Method
1	Towards Transformative Climate Governance: Capacities and Constraints for Local Government in Aotearoa New Zealand	Gangadari K. Ranawaka, Anna L. Berka, Karen F. Hytten & Florentine D. van Noppen	2026	Aotearoa/New Zealand; fokus pada pemerintah lokal, dengan bukti dari 6 otoritas lokal perkotaan	Systematic literature review menggunakan Scopus dan Google Scholar; 145 sumber setelah penghapusan duplikasi dan 65 sumber dianalisis lebih lanjut menggunakan NVivo.
2	Beyond “scaling down” the sustainable development goals: an evaluative framework for assessing subnational sustainability strategies	Valeria Saiu & Ivan Blečić	2026	Italia; seluruh region dan autonomous provinces	Comparative mixed-methods: qualitative content analysis, structured coding, dan semi-quantitative indicators terhadap seluruh strategi pembangunan berkelanjutan regional Italia.
3	How SDG localization interacts with existing governance contexts	Ji Xu, Shirin Malekpour, Cameron Allen & Michael Mintrom	2026	Lintas negara/kota; dominan Eropa, terutama Italia dan Spanyol, serta Global North dan Global South	Systematic literature review menggunakan Scopus, dengan proses screening, extraction dan thematic analysis.
4	Tracking governance and SDG progress in Africa: falling behind or leading the way?	Prince Gyimah, Kingsley Opoku Appiah & Kwadjo Appiagyei	2026	46 negara Afrika, 2015–2022	Quantitative panel data terhadap 46 negara Afrika 2015–2022 menggunakan pooled panel

					<i>regression, ordered probit dan regional interaction effects.</i>
5	Development of artificial intelligence, digital finance, and enhancement of government governance capacity	Liyang Zhang & Zhiwei Qi	2026	<i>31 provinsi di China, 2009–2023</i>	<i>Quantitative panel regression, moderating-effect analysis, threshold regression dan instrumental variable.</i>
6	The Affect, Context, and Target (ACT) Framework: A systematic and narrative review of emotions and collective action across democratic-authoritarian regimes and tight-loose cultures	Özden Melis Uluğ, Nevin Solak, Yasemin Gülsüm Acar, Maria Chayinska, Emma F. Thomas & Nicole Tausch	2026	<i>Lintas negara; full democracies, flawed democracies, hybrid regimes dan authoritarian regimes</i>	<i>Systematic and narrative review mengikuti PRISMA; 156 artikel dan 811 emotion–collective action links dikoding dalam sembilan dimensi.</i>
7	Territorial planning and the fragmented localization of the SDGs: Insights from Southwestern Colombia	Efraim Parra & Paula Garizado	2026	<i>12 municipalities in Southwestern Colombia</i>	<i>Comparative document-based research terhadap 5.671 programmatic outputs dalam Territorial Development Plans 2024–2027.</i>
8	The role of digitalization in promoting the sustainable development goals: An empirical assessment of Italian local governments	Marco Bisogno, Beatriz Cuadrado-Ballesteros, Francesca Manes-Rossi & Noemi Pena-Miguel	2026	<i>108 Italian provincial capitals</i>	<i>Quantitative econometric analysis terhadap 108 pemerintah lokal Italia dengan lag satu tahun antara digitalization dan SDG implementation.</i>
9	Localized in Form, Centralized in Practice: SDG Localization, Ambiguous	Devashish Saurav & Peter Bille Larsen	2026	<i>Tawang District, Arunachal Pradesh, India; komunitas pastoral Monpa</i>	<i>Mixed-method: ethnographic fieldwork, participant observation, semi-</i>

	Politics and the Marginalization of Pastoral Commons in Arunachal Pradesh, India				<i>structured interviews dan policy/document analysis.</i>
10	Sustainable Development and Democratic Resilience in the European Union	Radoslav Ivančák & Jiří Dušek	2026	<i>Uni Eropa dan negara-negara anggotanya</i>	<i>Qualitative concept-driven research: policy/document analysis, structured literature review, and comparative institutional perspective.</i>
11	Boon or Bane?: The Hybrid Institutional Complex for the Sustainable Development Goals	Jack Taggart & Benjamin Faude	2025	<i>Global governance / SDG governance</i>	<i>Conceptual/theoretical analysis dalam Special Section. Tidak menggunakan dataset empiris sendiri; artikel mengembangkan argumentasi dan mengintegrasikan temuan dari kontribusi empiris lainnya.</i>
12	Organizational capabilities and the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals in Brazilian municipal governments	Eduardo Grin	2025	<i>4.567 pemerintah municipal di Brazil</i>	<i>Kuantitatif; data 4.567 dari 5.570 municipalities Brazil; multivariate regression/OLS. Menganalisis SDG 3, 4, 6, 8, 13, dan 16.</i>
13	Autocracies win the minds of the democratic public: how Japanese citizens are persuaded by illiberal narratives propagated by authoritarian regimes	Tetsuro Kobayashi, Yuan Zhou, Lungta Seki & Asako Miura	2025	<i>Jepang; dengan narasi berasal dari China dan Rusia</i>	<i>Online survey experiment, Jepang; Study 1 membandingkan 12 narasi illiberal dan mainstream; Study 2 menguji paparan dua sisi. Sampel dirancang 2.500 warga Jepang usia 18–79 tahun dengan quota sampling.</i>

14	From global development to local responsibility: Framing the scale of the Sustainable Development Goals in Norway	Mathias Brynildsen Reinar & Aase Kristine Lundberg	2025	Norwegia	<i>Analisis kebijakan pemerintah periode 2015–2022 dikombinasikan dengan wawancara aktor nasional.</i>
15	Political stability and good governance as catalysts for achieving sustainable cities, clean energy, and responsible consumption: evidence from an emerging economy	Shahid Mahmood, Asifa Iqbal, Amel Ali Alhussan & El-Sayed M. El-kenawy	2025	Pakistan	<i>Kuantitatif; survei; 504 responses; data dari pemerintah, NGO, policymakers, experts, dan community leaders; dianalisis menggunakan SmartPLS/SEM.</i>
16	Synergistic modelling of green and digital local government on sustainable development performance: a case study of booming city	Suci Megawati, Galih Wahyu Pradana, Deby Febriyan Eprilianto, Hamsinah & Muhammad Rezky Syamsul	2026	Surabaya, Indonesia	<i>Kuantitatif; survei terhadap 217 civil servants Surabaya; purposive sampling; structured questionnaire; PLS-SEM.</i>
17	Who Is the Master of Disasters? A Comparative Analysis of COVID-19 Crisis Response and Resilience in Democracies, Hybrid Regimes, and Autocratic States	Arielle Kaim & Ina Kubbe	2025	150 negara	<i>Kuantitatif-komparatif; 150 negara; Democracy Index, Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Index dan State Resilience Index; correlation dan regression analysis.</i>
18	Progress towards achieving the 17 sustainable development goals: the role of governance, democracy and well-being	Marjorie Morales-Casetti, Marco Bustos-Gutiérrez, Ángela Araya-Muñoz & Vicente	2025	120 negara dengan data lengkap dari basis 163 negara	<i>Kuantitatif; 17 multiple linear regression models; data SDG Index 2023 dan variabel governance/democracy/well-being dari berbagai database;</i>

		Zúñiga-Valdebenito			valid N = 120 negara.
19	The effect of digital government construction on the enhancement of public governance capacity: An analysis based on financial information transparency	Fanhao Bu	2025	<i>Provinsi-provinsi di China</i>	<i>Kuantitatif; provincial panel data China 2010–2023; regression analysis, regional heterogeneity, mediation, moderation dan 2SLS untuk endogeneity.</i>
20	Rise of Sustainable Corporate Governance in Emerging Economies: Perspective of Government Auditor Capacity and Legislation	Benjamin Kwakutsey Azinogo & Lourens Erasmus	2025	<i>Ghana, Sierra Leone & South Africa</i>	<i>Eksploratif-kualitatif; online focus groups; peserta berasal dari Supreme Audit Institutions; dilanjutkan semi-structured validation interviews dengan 25 government auditing specialists.</i>
21	Politics matters! Political will as a critical condition for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals	Marianne Beisheim et al.	2025	<i>11 negara: Belarus, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Kenya, Palestine, Republic of Korea, Russia, South Africa, Sudan</i>	<i>Pendekatan induktif, exploratory comparative country studies. Menggunakan 11 kasus negara, VNR, literatur, serta analisis country experts. Penulis secara eksplisit menyatakan bahwa kasus tersebut bukan sampel yang representatif.</i>
22	Accelerating the achievement of SDG 6 via adaptive capacity mainstreaming into water governance	Oluwaseun Omolaja Fadeyi, Enoch Bessah & Olusola Oluwayemisi Ololade	2025	<i>Nigeria; dengan perbandingan situasional Ghana dan Kenya</i>	<i>Narrative review dengan pencarian sistematis pada Scopus, WoS, ERIC, WorldCat serta Google Scholar, Google dan Bing;</i>

	strategies: a case study of Nigeria				<i>dilengkapi comparative situational analysis.</i>
23	Inside out/outside in – The balance between internal and external localisation of the Sustainable Development Goals in Swedish municipalities	Sara Gustafsson & Venus Krantz	2025	<i>Tiga pemerintah kota di Swedia</i>	<i>Kualitatif; wawancara dan analisis dokumen pada tiga municipality. Wawancara dilakukan April–Juni 2020 dan dianalisis secara tematik.</i>
24	Local Government Governance Capacity, Audit Supervision, and the Equalization Level of Basic Public Services: Evidence from Yangtze River Delta Region in China	Hao Chen, Shirui Dong, Yaying Xu & Yingying Hua	2025	<i>16 kota inti Yangtze River Delta, China</i>	<i>Kuantitatif, dynamic panel menggunakan system-GMM terhadap 16 kota. Audit supervision diuji sebagai variabel moderasi.</i>
25	Glocalizing sustainability: how accounting begins for sustainable development goals in city administration	Mika Luhtala, Olga Welinder & Elina Vikstedt	2024	<i>Enam kota terbesar di Finlandia</i>	<i>Holistic multiple case study; VLR, city strategies, budget plans, financial statements, participant observation dan semi-structured interviews.</i>
26	A Proposal of Party Systems Typology for Democratic and Pluralist Authoritarian Regimes. Its Application to the Maghreb Countries	Inmaculada Szmolka & Lucía G.-del-Moral	2019	<i>Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria</i>	<i>Comparative typological analysis terhadap data pemilu beberapa periode di tiga negara Maghreb.</i>
27	Government Governance Capacity, Public Environmental Awareness, and	Xing Xiong, Xinghou Yu, Yuxin Wang, Xiaosong Jiang & Wenhong He	2024	<i>Tujuh kota di China: Beijing, Chongqing, Chengdu, Wuhan, Shanghai,</i>	<i>Kombinasi kualitatif-kuantitatif; survei terhadap 610 responden dan</i>

	Satisfaction with Environmental Governance			<i>Shenzhen, Guiyang</i>	<i>Structural Equation Modeling (SEM).</i>
28	Financial Sustainability and Sustainable Development in Local Governments: Empirical Insights	Marco Bisogno, Beatriz Cuadrado-Ballesteros, Francesca Manes-Rossi & Noemi Peña-Miguel	2024	<i>Municipality di Italia dan Spanyol; 103 municipality per negara pada 2018 dan 2020</i>	<i>Kuantitatif; paired samples pemerintah lokal Italia-Spanyol, 412 observations, data SDG 2018–2020, data finansial dan non-finansial serta variabel politik dan sosial ekonomi.</i>
29	Integrating Sustainable Development Goals in local plans: Unlocking practices and challenges of local governments in Nepal	Anil Kumar Gupta & Tulasi Sharan Sigdel	2024	<i>Delapan local governments di Nepal</i>	<i>Qualitative case study; delapan local governments dan 14 pejabat diwawancarai secara mendalam.</i>
30	Energy Governance in China: A Mixture of Democratic Environmentalism and Authoritarian Environmentalism	Chenxi Zhang	2024	<i>China</i>	<i>Kualitatif; analisis dokumen resmi, publikasi akademik, media, laporan NGO/IGO, wawancara terbatas dan studi kasus representatif. Temuan dikonfirmasi melalui sedikitnya tiga sumber.</i>
31	Addressing Institutional Challenges in Sustainable Development Goals Implementation: Lessons from the Republic of Korea	Kyung Ryul Park & Young Shil Park	2024	<i>Republic of Korea</i>	<i>Single embedded interpretive case study; interpretivist approach; dokumen resmi, observasi partisipatif, 8 wawancara semi-terstruktur dengan 7 ahli, dan dua focus group discussions.</i>
32	Local Governments Facing	Miquel Salvador & David Sancho	2023	<i>Konteks pemerintahan lokal; tidak</i>	<i>Literature-based conceptual analysis yang menghasilkan</i>

	Turbulence: Robust Governance and Institutional Capacities			<i>terbatas pada satu negara</i>	<i>model evaluatif. Model kemudian dirancang untuk dapat diuji melalui studi kasus dengan dokumen, rencana strategis, laporan monitoring/evaluasi, sistem informasi, wawancara dan pertemuan kelompok.</i>
33	Agenda 2030 and the Challenges of the Sustainable Urban Development Goals in Brazil: The Case of Jundiaí	Eduardo José Grin & Igor Pantoja	2023	<i>Brazil, khususnya Jundiaí, São Paulo</i>	<i>Case study Jundiaí dengan analisis perkembangan Agenda 2030 pada tingkat nasional dan lokal, dokumen perencanaan, indikator dan kebijakan kota. Fokus empiris pada proses territorialization/localization SDGs.</i>
34	The “Ironic Impact” of Pro-Democracy Activists: How Pro-Democratic Frames Undermine Support for Local Policy-Based Protests in Authoritarian Regimes	Mai Truong	2023	<i>Vietnam</i>	<i>Internet-based survey experiment terhadap 1.080 pengguna internet Vietnam; 958 menyelesaikan survei. Responden diberi treatment melalui Facebook post dengan variasi frame dan identitas endorser.</i>
35	Missing the SDGs: Political Accountability for Insufficient Environmental Action	Lena Partzsch	2023	<i>Global; menggunakan ilustrasi berbagai konteks, termasuk Jerman</i>	<i>Pendekatan teoretis dengan fokus empiris, menggunakan literatur dan berbagai studi kasus untuk mengidentifikasi mekanisme accountability dalam Agenda</i>

					2030.
36	The Effects of COVID-19 on Domestic and International Security in Democratic and Authoritarian Regimes	Kristen Topping, Yousef Hosny, Lance Y. Hunter & Yufan Yang	2023/2024	Global; berbagai negara demokratis dan otoriter	Historical qualitative review dengan perbandingan demokrasi dan rezim otoriter serta contoh kasus dari berbagai kawasan. Klasifikasi rezim menggunakan Freedom House dan Varieties of Democracy.
37	SDG Localization: Finding the Middle Ground to Top-Down and Bottom-Up Approaches with the Help of Digital Networking	Thomas A. Reuter	2023	Global; contoh Eropa, Jepang, Amerika Serikat dan negara lain	Brief conceptual report, berbasis literatur, pengalaman praktis dan analisis berbagai inisiatif lokalisasi. Bukan studi empiris komparatif.
38	SDG Localization: Mobilizing the Potential of Place Leadership Through Collective Impact and Mission-Oriented Innovation Methodologies	Cathy Boorman, Brad Jackson & Ingrid Burkett	2023	Global; berbagai komunitas/kota, dengan contoh Barcelona, Greater Manchester, Kanada, Australia, dll.	Conceptual/practic e-based literature analysis, menggabungkan literatur teoritik dan praktik CI/MOI.
39	Scientific Evidence on the Political Impact of the Sustainable Development Goals	Frank Biermann et al. (18 penulis)	2022	Global; analisis lintas negara dan tingkat governance global-lokal	Meta-analysis atas lebih dari 3.000 studi, dianalisis oleh tim 61 scholars; mencakup studi kasus, studi komparatif, analisis kebijakan, survei/interview dan dataset kuantitatif.
40	Remaking the Sustainable Development Goals: Relational	Johannes M. Waldmüller, Mandy Yap & Krushil Watene	2022	Ecuador, Australia, Aotearoa New Zealand	Comparative qualitative case studies terhadap tiga kasus di

	Indigenous Epistemologies				<i>wilayah Andean-Pacific.</i>
41	Social Policies in Democratic and Authoritarian Regimes: Comparing the Introduction and Implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee in India and Dibao in China	Carmen Jacqueline Ho, Daniel Béland, Dragana Bodruzic, Shih-Jiunn Shi & Zainab Nizar	2022	<i>India dan China</i>	<i>Comparative case studies dan process tracing, menggunakan penelitian terdahulu, buku akademik, jurnal, laporan kebijakan dan dokumen.</i>
42	Political Oppositions in Democratic and Authoritarian Regimes: A State-of-the-Field(s) Review	Ludger Helms	2023	<i>Komparatif lintas demokrasi dan otoritarianisme</i>	<i>State-of-the-field/literature review, dengan menelaah penelitian mutakhir tentang oposisi politik dalam demokrasi dan autokrasi.</i>
43	Exploring the Role of Local Governments as Intermediaries to Facilitate Partnerships for the Sustainable Development Goals	Hiromi Masuda, Shun Kawakubo, Mahesti Okitasari & Kanako Morita	2022	<i>Jepang, khususnya konteks pemerintah lokal dan partnership</i>	<i>Studi kasus kualitatif terhadap inisiatif pemerintah lokal Jepang, dengan analytical framework mengenai berbagai intermediary roles.</i>
44	Mapping Sustainability across the World: Signs, Challenges and Opportunities for Democratic Countries	Bogdan Ștefanachi, Silviu-Petru Grecu & Horia Costin Chiriac	2022	<i>193 negara, lintas kawasan geografis</i>	<i>Quantitative longitudinal comparative study, menggunakan data sekunder 193 negara periode 2015–2021, descriptive dan inferential statistics.</i>
45	Performance Auditing to Assess the Implementation of the Sustainable Development	Dwi Amalia Sari, Chris Margules, Han She Lim, Jeffrey A. Sayer, Agni Klintuni	2022	<i>Indonesia: Riau, Sumatera Selatan, Maluku dan Nusa Tenggara Barat</i>	<i>Performance audit, document analysis, interviews, data verification, multi-criteria analysis dan network</i>

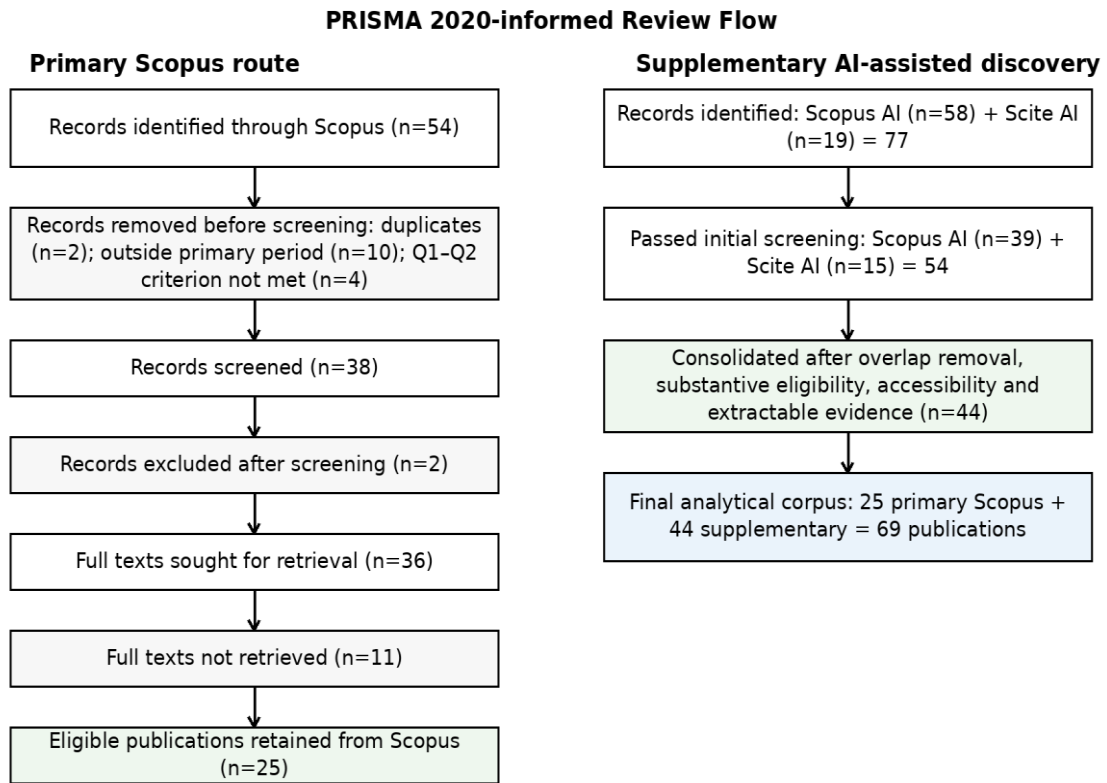
	Goals (SDGs) in Indonesia	Boedhihartono, Colin J. Macgregor, Allan P. Dale & Elizabeth Poon			<i>analysis menggunakan Gephi.</i>
46	Governing SDG Partnerships: The Role of Institutional Capacity, Inclusion, and Transparency	Karin Bäckstrand, Faradj Koliev & Aysem Mert	2022	<i>Global; 1.631 SDG partnerships pada tujuh environmental SDGs</i>	<i>Mixed methods: descriptive statistics atas dataset partnership, participatory observation pada HLPF 2019, dan 20 semi-structured interviews. Dataset mencakup 1.631 initiatives.</i>
47	Local Governments and SDG Localisation: Reshaping Multilevel Governance from the Bottom up	Edgardo Bilsky, Anna Calvete Moreno & Ainara Fernández Tortosa	2021	<i>Global/lintas negara; berbagai pengalaman local governments dan VLR/VSR</i>	<i>Analisis kualitatif terhadap perkembangan global SDG localization, VLR/VSR dan respons pemerintah lokal terhadap COVID-19.</i>
48	Accountable Government through Collaborative Governance?	Eva Sørensen & Jacob Torfing	2021	<i>Konteks representative democracy; terutama public governance dan local collaborative arrangements</i>	<i>Prospective/conceptual review yang mengembangkan heuristic framework untuk studi empiris mengenai accountability dalam collaborative governance.</i>
49	Public Administration and Governance for the SDGs: Navigating between Change and Stability	Louis Meuleman	2021	<i>Global, dengan banyak contoh negara EU</i>	<i>Critical literature review dan sintesis penelitian tentang institutionalization SDGs serta governance approaches.</i>
50	Balancing Governance Capacity and Legitimacy – How the Norwegian Government	Tom Christensen & Per Lægreid	2020	<i>Norwegia</i>	<i>Qualitative case study mengenai respons pemerintah Norwegia terhadap COVID-19.</i>

	Handled the COVID-19 Crisis as a High Performer				
51	Localizing the Sustainable Development Goals: The Case of Tanzania	Kristina Jönsson & Magdalena Bexell	2021	<i>Tanzania, khususnya Dar es Salaam dan Dodoma</i>	<i>Explorative case study, analisis dokumen kebijakan dan 28 semi-structured interviews.</i>
52	Framing Metagovernance in the Context of Developing Democracies: An Institutional Viewpoint	Athaula A. Rasheed	2020	<i>Developing democracies; Ghana, Mexico, Argentina, Maldives, Malaysia dan negara berkembang lainnya</i>	<i>Qualitative conceptual/literature-based research dengan kajian literatur metagovernance, political economy dan development studies.</i>
53	Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Decentralisation and the Role of Local Governments: A Systematic Review	Joydeep Guha & Bhaskar Chakrabarti	2019	<i>Berbagai negara</i>	<i>Systematic literature review mengenai decentralisation dan local government.</i>
54	Balancing Institutions for Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals Through 'Network Within Hierarchy'	Ryan Wong	2019	<i>Finlandia, Jerman dan Republik Ceko</i>	<i>Qualitative comparative case study; 53 wawancara dengan birokrat, civil society dan akademisi serta analisis dokumen.</i>
55	The Legislature and Agenda Politics of Social Welfare: A Comparative Analysis of Authoritarian and Democratic Regimes in South Korea	Jaemin Shim	2019	<i>Korea Selatan, 1948–2016</i>	<i>Quantitative longitudinal analysis menggunakan sekitar 60.000 bills dan logistic regression.</i>

56	The Empowerment of Parliament in the Transition from an Authoritarian to a Democratic Regime: Indonesian Experiences and Problems	Ratih Adiputri	2018	<i>Indonesia</i>	<i>Qualitative institutional/historical case study.</i>
57	Steering the Poverty-Environment Nexus in Central Asia: A Metagovernance Analysis of the Poverty Environment Initiative (PEI)	Sarah Challe, Stamatios Christopoulos, Michael Kull & Louis Meuleman	2019/2020*	<i>Tajikistan, khususnya district/local development planning</i>	<i>Qualitative case study; analisis dokumen PEI dan wawancara stakeholder.</i>
58	The Capacity of Local Governments in Nepal: From Government to Governance and Governability?	Keshav K. Acharya	2018	<i>Nepal; local governments di tujuh provinsi</i>	<i>Qualitative empirical study terhadap local governments di tujuh provinsi melalui wawancara dengan pejabat lokal, citizen forums, CSOs, political parties dan experts.</i>
59	Authoritarian Regimes in Democratic Regional Organisations? Exploring Regional Dimensions of Authoritarianism in an Increasingly Democratic West Africa	Edward Stoddard	2017	<i>West Africa; ECOWAS dan African Union</i>	<i>Qualitative regional analysis terhadap ECOWAS, AU serta interaksi regional formal dan informal.</i>
60	Do authoritarian regimes receive more Chinese development finance than	Tobias Broich	2017	<i>53 negara Afrika</i>	<i>Kuantitatif; panel 2000–2011; OLS, Fixed Effects, Random Effects, 2SLS; empat</i>

	democratic ones? Empirical evidence for Africa				<i>indikator demokrasi</i>
61	Implementing the “Sustainable Development Goals”: towards addressing three key governance challenges— collective action, trade-offs, and accountability	Kathryn J. Bowen, Nicholas A. Cradock- Henry, Florian Koch, James Patterson, Tiina Häyhä, Jess Vogt & Fabiana Barbi	2017	<i>Global/implement asi SDGs lintas negara dan level governance</i>	<i>Conceptual/literatu re review yang diperkaya pengalaman penulis dan dialog science- policy</i>
62	Practicing democratic citizenship in an authoritarian state: grassroots self-governance in urban China	Ying Xia & Bing Guan	2017	<i>19 komunitas permukiman di Beijing, China</i>	<i>Studi kasus kualitatif; fieldwork, wawancara, forum daring; snowball sampling pada aktivis pemilik rumah</i>
63	Budgetary change in authoritarian and democratic regimes	Frank R. Baumgartner, Marcello Carammia, Derek A. Epp, Ben Noble, Beatriz Rey & Tevfik Murat Yildirim	2017	<i>Brazil, Turkey, Malta dan Russia</i>	<i>Comparative longitudinal study; analisis perubahan anggaran sebelum/sesudah perubahan rezim</i>
64	Common But Differentiated Governance: A Metagovernance Approach to Make the SDGs Work	Louis Meuleman & Ingeborg Niestroy	2015	<i>Konseptual/globa l; fokus implementasi nasional dan subnasional SDGs</i>	<i>Analisis konseptual dan pengembangan kerangka; ilustrasi berbagai governance arrangements</i>
65	The Dictator's New Clothes: The Relationship Between E- Participation and Quality of Government in Non-Democratic Regimes	Jonas Linde & Martin Karlsson	2013	<i>Negara-negara non-demokratis secara cross- national</i>	<i>Kuantitatif time- series cross-section; Random Effects dan Fixed Effects; sekitar 80-an negara</i>
66	Advancing the Governance of	Stamatios Christopoulos,	2012	<i>Croatia, Nepal & Mongolia</i>	<i>Studi kasus komparatif; analisis</i>

	Cross-Sectoral Policies for Sustainable Development: A Metagovernance Perspective	Balazs Horvath & Michael Kull			<i>dokumen proyek, proposal, evaluasi, laporan dan wawancara</i>
67	The Cultural Dimension of Metagovernance: Why Governance Doctrines May Fail	Louis Meuleman	2009/2010	<i>UK, Netherlands, Germany & European Commission</i>	<i>Kualitatif; ideal types, comparative case study dan grounded theory</i>
68	Political Participation and Regime Stability: A Framework for Analyzing Hybrid Regimes	Joakim Ekman	2009	<i>Tanzania, Russia & Venezuela</i>	<i>Comparative case study; analisis indeks demokrasi, data pemilu dan survei opini publik</i>
69	Making Governance Networks Effective and Democratic Through Metagovernance	Eva Sørensen & Jacob Torfing	2009	<i>Konseptual; governance networks pada berbagai level, terutama konteks public governance</i>	<i>Analisis konseptual/theoretical synthesis; pengembangan tipologi dan inventory instrumen metagovernance</i>

Appendix B. PRISMA 2020-Informed Review Flow

Note: 2016–2026 was the eligibility window for the primary Scopus route. Supplementary AI-assisted discovery was not retrospectively restricted to that period; relevant foundational studies outside the primary period could be retained.