

PARTNERSHIPS FOR INNOVATION WITH TRADITIONAL COMMUNITIES AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS

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ABSTRACT:

Over the years, there has been an increase in the number of partnerships between communities of traditional peoples (CPTs) and different organizations. These partnerships involving CPTs aim to enhance the creation of value derived from traditional knowledge, based on observations and experiences accumulated over time. We start from the premise that partnerships lead to the development of capabilities for innovation in organizations into the conventional economy (companies) and that both organizations and traditional communities are capable of building partnerships over time, sharing and absorbing relevant knowledge and applying it in different ways. The method used was a systematic literature review (SLR). The results of the literature review revealed two distinct conclusions. First, collaborative partnerships with communities provide innovations for various organizations across different areas using indigenous knowledge; second, these partnerships can also generate capacities for technological and process innovations within the communities, but such outcomes are under-researched.

Keyword: Partnerships; Innovation; Traditional Communities.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): the goals 8 (decent work and properly income generation), 10 (reducing inequalities), and 11 (specifically 11.4 “Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage”).

1. INTRODUCTION

Over the years, with the pursuit of sustainable development, there has been an increase in the number of partnerships formed between communities of traditional peoples (CPTs) and different organizations (e.g. companies, research institutes, universities) (Farias, 2007). This is due to the undeniable value of these communities in preserving both tangible and intangible heritage using indigenous knowledge in

environmentally sustainable production practices (environmental preservation) and social aspects (cultural preservation), as well as territory protection (Levis, et al., 2024). Engaging diverse stakeholders to address grand environmental and social challenges is a current trend (Krasniqi & Jonge, 2022) and, with participation of CPTs, it is expected to address some of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) promoted by the UN, such as the goals 8 (decent work and properly income generation), 10 (reducing inequalities), and 11 (specifically 11.4 “Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage”).

These initiatives involving CPTs aim to enhance the creation of value derived from traditional knowledge, based on observations and experiences accumulated over time (Gadgil et al., 1993). Although the relevance of CPTs and their traditional knowledge for conserving the environment and dealing with climate change is recognized (Cámara-Leret, et al., 2019), the pressure on them as traditional environmentalists create contradictions and frustrations for these populations (Kohler, Brondizio, 2017). It is far from a romantic fairy tale to consider them protectors of nature as this traditional and local population must have the economic means to sustain themselves being able to stay living in their own territories in order to defend them from negative exploration (Kohler, Brondizio, 2017; Flores et al., 2024) and, doing so, contributing to environmental preservation. For that, CPTs may create community businesses to sustainably exploit local biodiversity, and this usually is done through partnerships with different institutions to “bring complementary skills and capacities to obtain financial support in order to expand local practices and technical expertise”. (Levis et al., 2024, p. 8).

Partnerships with these communities must place them in a central position and not as spectators (Tengö et al. 2014), which is fundamental so that their traditional knowledge and practices can be valued and properly combined with Western “scientific” knowledge. This combination may generate innovation for different purposes: environmental, social and economic.

In other words, innovation is a way by which communities can sustain or improve their production practices, their capital goods, livelihoods, and maintain resilience

(Douthwaite et al., 2009). Collaborative innovation refers to cooperation between organizations that possess complementary innovative resources and the ability to enhance performance through the integration of resources and skills (Mishra & Shah, 2009). On the other hand, significant differences exist between types of partners that can determine the type of innovation achieved (Whitley, 2002) and the capability developed to realize this innovation.

Thus, we start from the premise that partnerships lead to the development of capabilities for innovation in organizations into the conventional economy (companies) and that both organizations and traditional communities are capable of building partnerships over time, sharing and absorbing relevant knowledge and applying it in different ways. However, the literature on partnerships with CPTs usually discusses benefits concerning the health or well-being of these peoples (Dawkins et al.; 2010), and in the case of business and innovation topics, it mainly focuses on the partners rather than the communities. Nevertheless, it is important to understand whether traditional communities have also been studied when the topic is innovation. Hence, one question arises: Do partnerships between organizations and communities generate innovation? Therefore, the aim of this study is to present a literature review – both bibliometric and bibliographic - to shed some lights on the development of innovation through partnerships between organizations and communities of traditional peoples.

2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Partnerships for Innovation

Although the concept of what defines innovation may seem simple, unchanged much since the seminal studies by Schumpeter, who defined it as the introduction of a new product, process, or system, innovating is relatively complex. This is because the innovation process involves various aspects of organizations, such as resources and processes, which need to be orchestrated to achieve the innovative outcome, whatever it may be. Thus, it is necessary to develop organizational capabilities to create and

implement innovations (Smith et al., 2008), referred to as innovation capabilities, i.e., the ability to continuously transform knowledge and ideas into new products, processes, and systems for the benefit of the company and its stakeholders (Lawson & Samson, 2001). Innovation is a fundamental source for the success and survival of a company (Abbing, 2010); therefore, it becomes essential that they develop organizational capabilities to manage and create innovation in the long term (Franco & Landini, 2022), what has been termed in the literature as innovation capacity.

The concept of innovation is broad, often related to new products and production processes, but also to new managerial and transactional models, as well as the respective capabilities that lead to these innovations (Zawislak et al., 2012) and encompass both radical and incremental innovations.

In developing this capability to innovate, i.e., to continuously transform existing resources and processes into new products, processes, management skills, or commercial transactions (Zawislak et al., 2012), interorganizational relations with various partners can be relevant. Organizations may resort to collaboration for different reasons aiming at value creation, whether to access knowledge from partners, or to co-create (i.e., co-produce) new knowledge through organizational interaction (Capaldo & Petruzzelli, 2011). Although it is clear that inter-organizational relations are one of the determinants of the development of an organization's innovation, this is still not sufficiently studied (Mendoza-Silva, 2021).

2.2 Traditional Communities and Indigenous Knowledge

Traditional peoples' communities are defined as culturally differentiated groups that have their own forms of social organization, occupying and using territories and natural resources as a condition for their cultural, social, religious, ancestral, and economic reproduction, utilizing knowledge, innovations, and practices generated and transmitted by tradition (Brasil, 2006)¹.

The term Indigenous Knowledge (IK) is not limited to indigenous peoples alone, but to all communities that have developed their own knowledge structure over

generations, hence also called traditional knowledge (Warren, 1992). IK is the local knowledge that is unique to a certain culture or society and forms the basis for decision-making at the local level in agriculture, health, food preparation, education, natural resource management, and a host of other community life activities. It provides problem-solving strategies for the communities and is commonly held by the communities and not individuals. It is tacit knowledge, difficult to codify, embedded in community practices, institutions, relationships, and rituals (Warren, 1992).

IK is stored in the memories and activities of traditional peoples, expressed in the form of stories, songs, folklore, proverbs, dances, myths, cultural values, beliefs, rituals, community laws, local language, agricultural practices, equipment, materials, plant species, animal breeds, etc. It is shared and communicated orally, through specific examples, and through culture. Its means of communication and organization are vital for local decision-making processes and for preserving, developing, and disseminating sustainability (Grenier, 1998). Research on traditional indigenous knowledge among communities around the world documents various social mechanisms that support natural sustainability, use, and resource management in contemporary contexts as traditional peoples adapt to changing conditions (Zent, 2009; Athayde et al., 2017).

3. METHODOLOGY

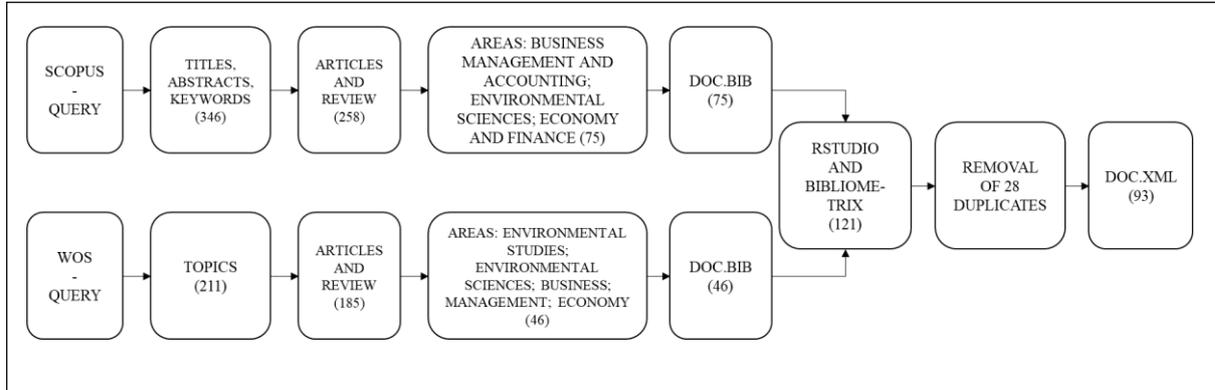
To address the research question, the method used was a systematic literature review (SLR) based on Tranfield et al. (2003). It was chosen because it allows for collecting, selecting, and critically analyzing studies, structuring findings using a categorization model. A systematic literature review begins by clarifying the conceptual boundaries of key terms and offers several advantages: (1) it provides a set of steps that can be replicated to ensure the validity of a review and (2) helps systematically synthesize and analyze accumulated knowledge (Kraus et al., 2020). For better understanding, a bibliometric analysis of the articles selected was also conducted, which is a quantitative

technique that evaluates, maps, and generates statistical indicators about the literature and the gap of the addressed theme (Guedes & Borschiver, 2005).

Data collection was conducted on the date of 21/07/2023, with no publication year limit, employing distinct terms, with the goal to evaluate studies that integrate the fields of theories, partnerships, innovation, and indigenous/traditional knowledge. Two databases were used, which are the main concentrators of publications in the business area: SCOPUS and Web of Science. Searches were conducted with the query: (partnership OR cooperation OR association OR collaboration OR alliance OR union OR compact OR co-partnership OR affiliation OR relationship OR fellowship OR connection) AND innova* AND ("low income communit*" OR "riverside communit*" OR "quilomb* communit*" OR "indigen* communit*" OR "indigen* knowledge" OR "traditional communit*") for titles, abstracts, and keywords. The searches in both databases were limited to the document type "Article" and "Review" and to the thematic areas related to the topic (see figure 1). A total of 121 articles were found, 75 in SCOPUS and 46 in the Web of Science. The other articles that were not included in the study were mostly from the areas of Social Sciences, Medicine, Agriculture, and Biological Sciences in both databases.

After the searches, the next step of the systematic review occurred with the use of the Bibliometrix tool, a tool developed in R. The 121 articles were exported in doc.bib format and imported into the RStudio software with Bibliometrix. After converting the file in the program and removing 28 duplicates, it was exported in the doc.xml format, resulting in a spreadsheet with 93 articles. The next step was done with the Biblioshiny tool, in the tool the doc.xml file was imported into the program providing statistical data such as most relevant sources, source growth, most relevant authors, most cited words, production by year, and production by country.

FIGURE 1 – Flow of article selection

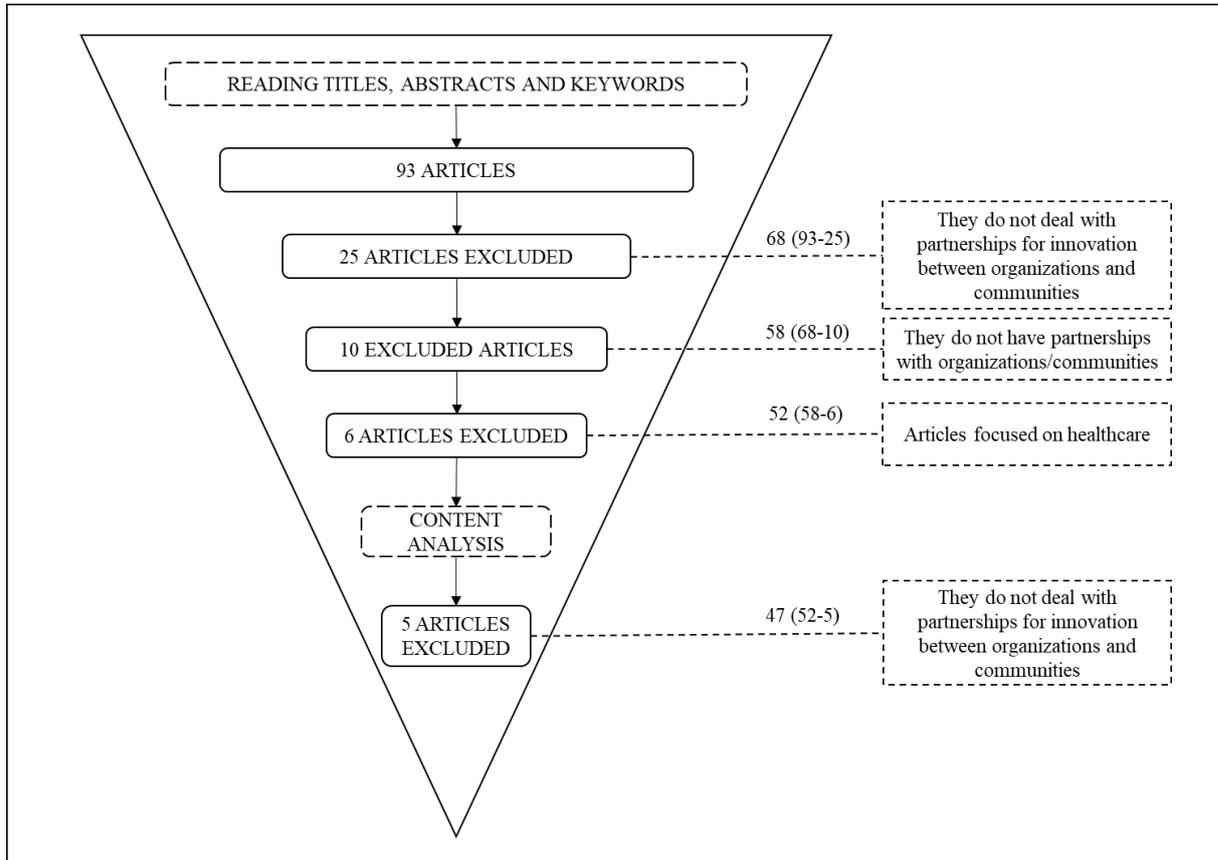


Source: Authors (2024).

The titles, abstracts, and keywords of the 93 articles were then read. A total of 41 articles were excluded because they did not align with the study's objective due to not addressing partnerships for innovation among organizations, not involving partnerships with organizations and communities, or being articles focused on the health sector, as indicated in Figure 2. All 52 eligible articles were analyzed in-depth with the intention of verifying the capacities derived from partnerships for innovation between traditional communities and other organizations.

After reading the 52 articles, 5 more were excluded for not discussing innovation from partnerships between organizations and communities, leaving 47 documents. Fields such as research objectives, results, theoretical and practical contributions/implications, and conclusions were highlighted to define the following criteria: research objectives; types of partnerships, innovation outcomes, and what benefits in terms of capacities were generated. This allowed for a generalized understanding of research approaches in the area.

FIGURE 2 – Flow of article exclusion



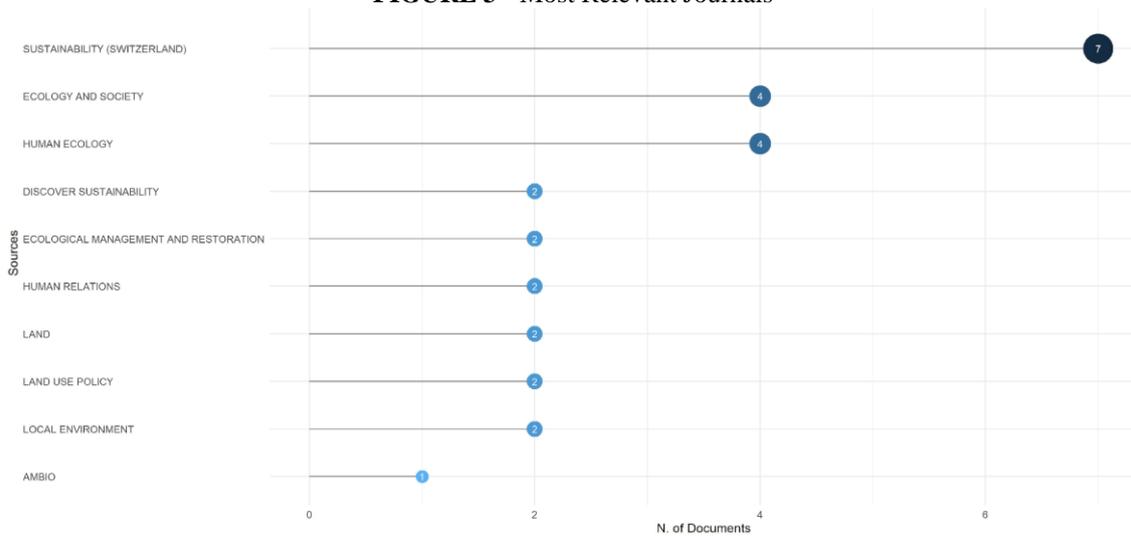
Source: Authors (2024).

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.1 Bibliometric Analysis

The 49 articles selected for this research indicate that the earliest studies related to partnerships, innovation, and traditional communities date back to 1997. As anticipated, there has been a significant evolution in the number of articles over the years, with a marked concentration occurring after 2015. Observing the number of articles published in each journal, most of them are in areas related to ecology and sustainability (Figure 4), and among the 10 journals (corresponding to 28 articles) that most published, none are in the area of innovation management.

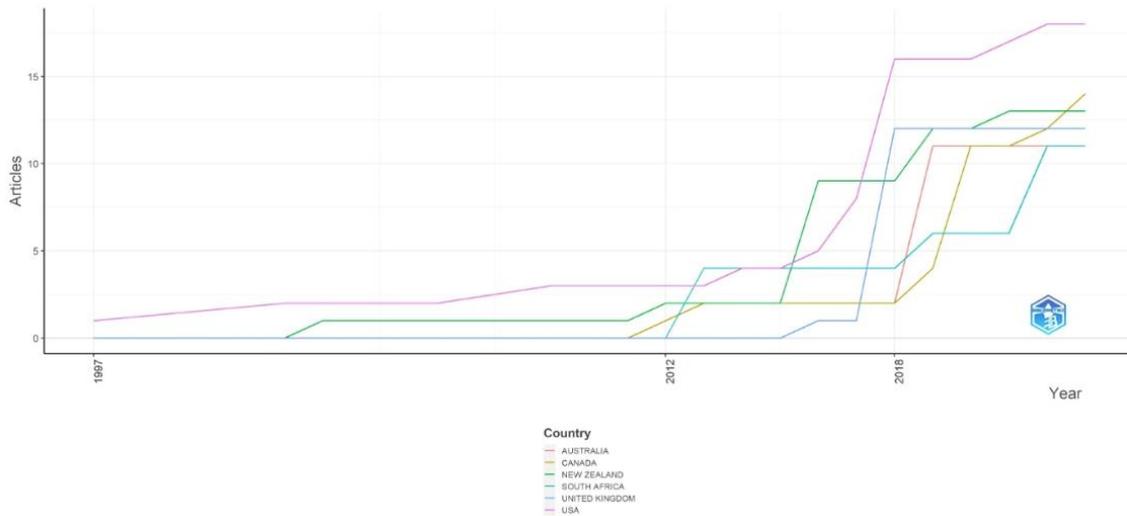
FIGURE 3 - Most Relevant Journals



Source: Authors (2024).

Regarding the countries of the authors (Figure 5), it can be observed that the interest in the themes of partnerships and innovation, connected to the subject of indigenous knowledge and traditional communities, is concentrated among authors from the United States (10), United Kingdom (9), Australia (8), New Zealand (8), Canada (7). It is also worth to see the sharp growth of publications from these countries in the last decade.

FIGURE 4 - Countries by authorship - Number of authors from the country that have articles published in the respective year.

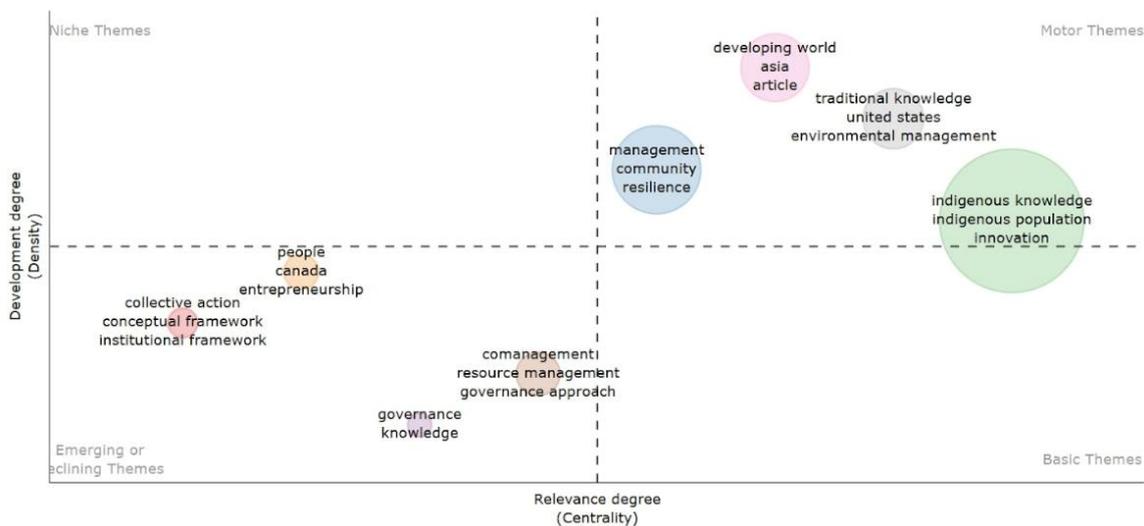


Source: Authors (2024).

Some of these countries appear explicitly in the map with words that most appear in the 47 publications (Figure 6), however other countries (e.g. Brazil) and regions (e.g. Asia and Amazon) also emerged, showing their relevance to the topic addressed. Besides some expected words (Indigenous population or Knowledge, and innovation), some seemed relevant as “Climate change”, followed by “participatory approach” and “partnership approach”. These words also appeared in the analysis of trend topics (Figure 7), however “climate change” is the most recent one.

mostly from developed countries (USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and United Kingdom), it is possible that the papers from our sample deal with traditional populations located in developing countries, such as Brazil, Africa or Asia (as being stated in the words map).

FIGURE 7 – Trend Map



Source: Authors (2024).

On the other hand, with lower density and centrality, are themes considered declining or emergent. In this quadrant, themes related to business and management stand out as governance, resource management and entrepreneurship. This is probably an indication that these are emerging themes as the literature relating partnerships with traditional people regarding business is incipient. Actually, taking a broader perspective, academics and practitioners in the field of business do not value indigenous knowledge, practice and organization systems, in fact they marginalize them (Bastien, et al., 2023).

4.2 Systematic Analysis

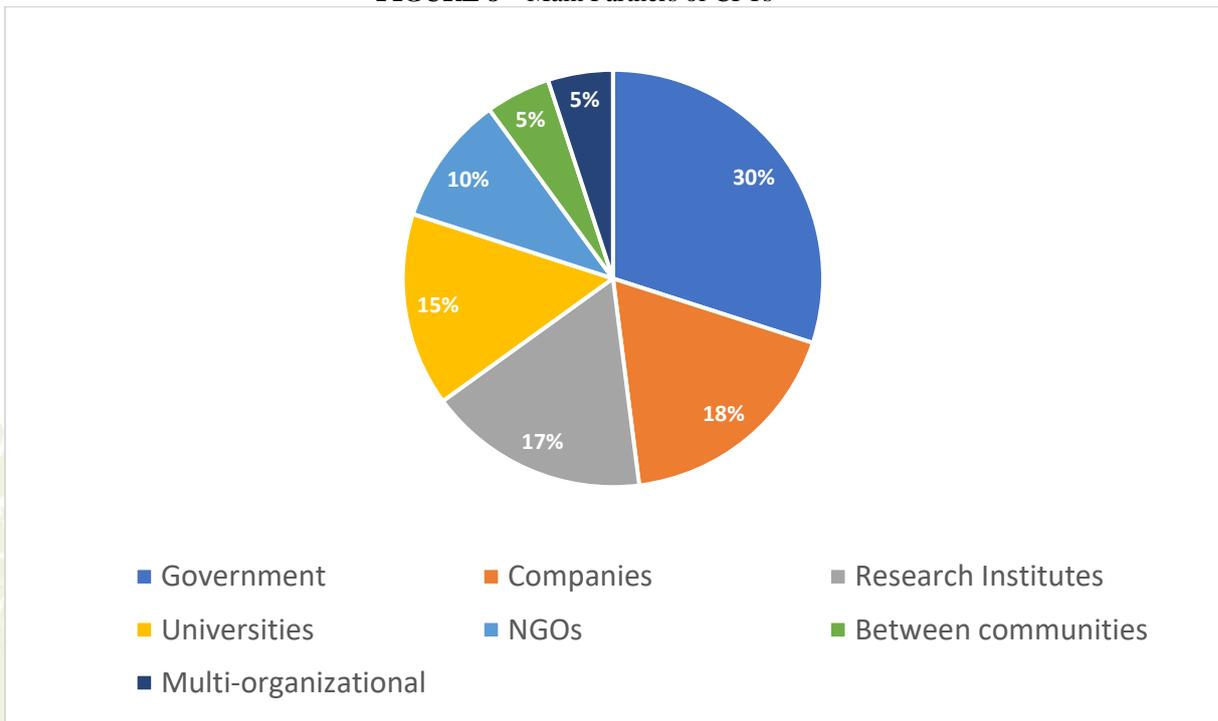
4.2.1 Analysis of Indicators from Evaluated Research

From the review of the articles, it was possible to identify the research methods used and the types of partners with whom the communities engage. Regarding the

methods employed by the selected articles, 68% are qualitative empirical studies, 13% are literature reviews, 9% use a mixed method of qualitative and quantitative analyses, 6% of the articles employ quantitative methods, and 3% use other methods, such as evidence-based approaches.

Another aspect observed is the main partnerships of the communities (Figure 9) in the evaluated studies. We note that the partnerships are quite diverse, predominantly involving CPTs linked to governments, firms, research institutes and universities, accounting for 80% of all partnerships formed. The remaining inter-organizational relationships with CPTs involve Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), other communities, and joint, multi-organizational partnerships (5%).

FIGURE 8 – Main Partners of CPTs



Source: Authors (2024).

4.2.2 Content Analysis of Evaluated Studies

Although indigenous people and knowledge have been discriminated against due to colonization (Bastien et al., 2023), the integration of these knowledges with Western

science, policy, and management practices is being considered in various areas (Harmsworth & Awatere, 2016; Poullos, 2014). Integrated indigenous knowledge with other knowledge helps to promote sustainable innovations at the level of socio-ecological systems (Davies, 2013; Morishige, 2018), as there is broad recognition that the foundations of this knowledge are vital components of environmental management, biodiversity conservation, and sustainability (Gadgil et al., 1993; Berkes et al., 1994; Heckenberger et al., 2007; Pretty et al., 2009; Memon, Sheeran & Ririnui, 2017).

Collaborations with traditional communities enable the ability to identify, assimilate, and exploit indigenous knowledge, benefiting their various partners such as universities, organizations, government agencies, the private sector, and NGOs, allowing for their effective capacity expansions in socio-environmental aspects and innovative improvements (Mason, 2012; Deng & Lu, 2021; Stacey, 2015). This seems to be the primary motivation for creating and developing these "knowledge partnerships" as they have an impact through learning networks and collaborative solutions for various organizational areas (Morishige et al., 2018). These are benefits expected by the partners of traditional communities and were the most observed in the systematic analysis carried out. From that, a categorization emerged for the areas where innovations were generated through interorganizational partnerships with traditional communities (Table 1).

TABLE 1 – Innovations through interorganizational partnerships with traditional communities

Areas of Innovation	Definition	References
Natural Resource Management Capacity / Sustainability	Partnerships formed with communities generate innovative approaches in natural resource management, such as: soil restructuring, climate change, water threats, and estuary restructuring. Improvements in environmental conservation practices, waste management, social management,	Morishige, K., Andrade, P., Pascua, P., Steward, K., Cadiz, E., Kapon, L., & Chong, U. (2018); Chapin, I., Knapp, C., Brinkman, T., Bronen, R., & Cochran, P. (2016); Sultana, P., Thompson, P., Paudel, N., Pariyar, M., & Rahman, M. (2019); Postigo, G. (2021); Bethel, M., Braud, D., Lambeth, T., Dardar, D., & Ferguson-Bohnee, P. (2022); Zuma-Netshiukhwi, G., Stigter, K., & Walker, S. (2013); Zvobgo, L. et al. (2022); Wabnitz, C., Naylor, R., Smith, N., Tuqa, A., & Salto, J. (2023); Douthwaite, B., Beaulieu, N., Lundy, M., & Peters, D. (2009); Santos, R., Flores, N., Coimbra, J.

	resource management, and governance.	C., & Gugelmin, S. (1997); Chamberlain, W., & Anseeuw, W. (2019); Memon, P., Sheran, B., & Ririnui, T. (2003); Onwuegbuzie, H., & Ugwuanyi, I. (2016); Kuru, R., Marsh, A., & Ganley, B. (2021); Cachon, J. (2019); Tengö, M., Brondizio, E., Elmqvist, T., Malmer, P., & Spierenburg, M. (2014); Oyinlola, M., Whitehead, T., Abuzeinab, A., Adefila, A., Akinola, Y., Anafi, F., Farukh, O., Kandan, K., Kim, B., & Mosugu, E. (2018); Barrett, P., Kurian, P., Simmonds, N., & Cretney, R. (2019); Poullos, I. (2014).
Knowledge / Capabilities in Agricultural and Aquacultural Techniques	Partnerships formed with communities for the development of knowledge for operations/process on plantations, species, soil management, tools used, conservation, and marine management.	Harmsworth, G; Awatere S; Robb M, 2016; Davies J; Hill R; Walsh F; Sanford M; Smyth D; Holmes M, 2013; Barrera-Bassols-Bassols N; Zinck J; Van R.E, 2009; Austin B; Vigilante T; Cowell S; Dutton I; Dhanghara D; Mangolomara S; Puermora B; Bundamurra A; Clement Z, 2017; Stacey N; Karam J; Jackson M; Kennett R; Wagey T; 2015; Subba R.S., 2006; Marette C. et al, 2019; Chamberlain, W; Anseeuw W, 2019.
Community Economy and Entrepreneurship	Partnerships with local communities reach alternative markets, utilize knowledge in product development, enhance tourism development through indigenous businesses; and generate employment and income for the region.	Athayde S; Silva-Lugo J; Schmink M; Kaiabi A; Heckenberger M, 2017; Davidson-Hunt I; Turner K; Meis MA; Anderson R; Dana L, 2012; Arqueiro D, 2016; Carlisle S; Kunc M; Jones E; Tiffin S, 2013; Chamberlain W; Anseeuw W, 2019; Ramos-Garcia J; Vargas-Chanes D; Toledo-Lopez A, 2023

Source: Authors (2024).

The first dimension of the evaluated studies relates to the management of environmental resources, as many of the innovations generated by partnerships with communities possessing indigenous knowledge have the potential to address contemporary problems and tend to be economical, ecological, and sustainable. This is because they often use low-cost inputs and are utilized by those who are well-versed in the ecosystems in which they are embedded and know how to preserve them, resulting in

more cost-effective and environmentally friendly solutions (Onwuegbuzie & Ugwuanyi, 2016). Traditional communities are important sources of information for specific issues, aid in decision-making and natural resource management processes, enhance the understanding of environmental health in current policies, and offer the best perspectives for other forms of knowledge to promote sustainability in socio-ecological systems (Sultana et al., 2019). Some of the studies from this group clearly featured ecological innovations as a means, with the ultimate goal linked to an expected social benefit, such as the restoration of degraded areas to improve living conditions of local CPTs, as shown by Barrett et al. (2019). These communities were, of course, involved into the innovation process.

Memon et al. (2003) recognize that indigenous knowledge systems (IK) are important components for environmental management, biodiversity conservation, and sustainability. Institutional support for innovation linked to the collaboration of various stakeholders with traditional communities that possess indigenous knowledge fosters the development of various areas, complementing the practices of modern Western management science for environmental and social improvements (Carlisle, Kunc, Jones & Tiffin, 2013). There is a need for strong links between IK holders and scientists in the new millennium to explore the relationship between different knowledge systems and resource exchange (Subba, 2006). Increasingly, modern science is recognizing the value of knowledge in applied research and the use of participatory mapping approaches (Bethel et al., 2022).

For Stacey et al., (2015) and Subba (2006), organizations such as universities, governments, businesses, and institutes benefit from this cooperative and collaborative relationship, as sustainable development approaches from traditional communities present an opportunity to collaboratively build adaptive resource management based on indigenous values, worldview, and knowledge, while considering social, cultural, and ecological factors (Stacey et al., 2015). There is substantial potential to support the development of equitable research partnerships to unite knowledge systems and create

solutions based on local understanding of cultural, environmental, and social factors (Sultana et al., 2019).

Partnerships provide a deeper understanding of the values, perspectives, and knowledge systems of that region, leading to the construction of multicultural capabilities, aiding improvement in collaborative processes to achieve the desired outcomes (Harmsworth & Awatere, 2016; Poullos, 2014). With ethical and fair treatment in work alongside communities, partnerships result in the creation of numerous innovations (Linnerooth-Bayer & Mechler, 2007; Barrera-Bassols, 2009; Athayde, 2017).

From the in-depth analysis of the articles, it can be observed that some studies emphasize the importance of the partner organizations of the communities having the ability to recognize the value and assimilate external information—indigenous knowledge from the communities, assimilate them, and apply them not only for commercial purposes but also for social and environmental purposes. This is better observed in the Second Dimension of innovation obtained from the partnerships with CPTs. Therefore, this group of analyzed studies is mainly related to access and sharing of indigenous knowledge or practice for operation of natural-based resources, such as practices for sustainable use of soil (Barrera-Bassols et al 2009) or water (Harmsworth et al., 2016).

The creation of value and the advancement of operations from indigenous knowledge are tied to the knowledge absorption capacity, seen as the ability of partner organizations to acquire, assimilate, transform, and exploit these traditional knowledges in the best way possible, similar to the theory presented by Zahra and George (2002). As an example, studies show knowledge acquisition capabilities in agricultural techniques such as plantations, species, soil management, tools and instruments, marine conservation, and fish farming (Table 1, line 2).

Regardless of the area of partnership, through the analyses of this study, it was possible to observe that the innovation resulting from the articulation of Western knowledge with indigenous knowledge are key factors in increasing knowledge

absorption. The implications of these joint initiatives broaden the understanding of the intersections between traditional knowledge and science towards a sustainable future, also benefiting the communities (Athayde et al., 2017). Moreover, in any of the three identified categories of innovation, the systematized literature analysis conducted in this study shows that the vast majority of the sample articles point out the benefits for the partner organizations of the communities.

Despite studies like that of Athayde et al. (2017), only three other articles (Barrera-Bassols, 2009; August, 2002; Chamberlain, 2019) of the 49 analyzed in depth addressed the direct benefits that these partnerships could bring to CPTs, resulting from the acquisition of external knowledge. This is the Third dimension of innovation, and we consider that it is related mainly to economic use for traditional knowledge to generate local income.

The capacity to absorb external Western knowledge generates learning on agroecological issues such as: new techniques for managing natural resources, seasonality, collection and harvesting practices, exploitation in various locations, land rotation techniques (Barrera-Bassols, 2009; Chamberlain, 2019) and the transfer of various types of technology (August, 2002). This may enhance the creation of sustainable businesses and the promotion of indigenous entrepreneurship (Carlisle et al., 2013) with adequate income generation, enabling the permanence of these CPTs in their territories and the positive externalities expected from this (Flores et al., 2024).

Studies like Athayde et al. (2017), present as an opportunity for traditional communities, the strategic partnerships for promoting innovation based on cultural values. These innovations help communities become better at anticipating, responding to tensions, and seizing opportunities offered, such as new technologies or new types of artifacts (a machine, a seed, a database), presenting an adaptive collaboration of resources based on indigenous values, worldview, and knowledge, while taking into account social, cultural, and ecological factors.

5. CONCLUSION AND CONTRIBUTIONS

This article presents a systematic literature review analysis that explores research areas related to partnerships for innovation with traditional communities. The purpose is to understand, based on existing knowledge, how partnerships for innovation between organizations and traditional communities generate innovation.

From the bibliometric analysis conducted, it was observed that there is a scarcity of publications involving traditional communities as a study object in the field of applied social sciences, indicating an opportunity for new research. This scarcity is particularly noted in business journals, which traditionally publish on partnerships for innovation.

The results of the literature review revealed two distinct conclusions. First, collaborative partnerships with communities provide innovations for various organizations across different areas through the use of indigenous knowledge; second, these partnerships can also generate capacities for technological and process innovations within the communities, but such outcomes are under-researched. These are indications that partnerships with traditional communities can generate innovative outcomes.

Therefore, the findings of this study show that partnerships with CTPs can be beneficial for developing innovation, especially environmental and social innovation. This is because it was observed that communities based on traditional practices and knowledge are indeed committed to environmental and social sustainability, as they depend on these for their existence. However, it is relevant to assess whether the pursuit of economic sustainability, i.e., sustainable income generation methods, compromises the other two prisms of sustainability. This indicates a need for further research in the area.

However, there are some limitations of this research that should be considered. In addition to the small number of articles written in the field, there is a scarcity in the studies of partnerships for innovation from the perspective of the communities, hindering a comprehensive approach to understanding the capacities and benefits generated for them, which precludes more elaborate analyses. This shortage of articles may indicate a limitation in the article selection mechanism for analysis, suggesting a need to broaden

the search to local journals or texts in other languages (and also in databases other than those conventionally used in systematized reviews – e. g. WoS and Scopus); it may also indicate a lack of studies assessing the partnerships from the communities' side. Thus, it is suggested that future work could understand how traditional communities are capable of developing innovation capacities from partnerships, absorbing relevant knowledge from external sources, and applying it in various ways through innovation and development strategies.

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NOTE:

¹ In 2006, a law (no. 11.326) was established for the Brazilian people living in rural areas, setting guidelines for the formulation of the National Policy for Family Farming and Rural Family Enterprises, which recognized indigenous extractivists, *quilombolas*, fishermen, and other traditional peoples and communities (PCTs) as beneficiary publics of family farming policies in Brazil (Brail, 2006).