The first finding from a bibliometric analysis concerning a missing environment-nurturing cultural value

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Purpose

This short piece of communication has the sole purpose of identifying some evidence, supporting our view regarding a possible missing environment-nurturing cultural value [1]. Here, we attempt to examine the presence of cultural studies within the boundary of climate change research.

Method

In what follows, we employ the bibliometric approach that has been presented in Nguyen & Vuong (2020) [2]. First, the keywords of Haunchild, Bornmann & Marx [3] are used to search for climate change-related literature. Then, the number of publications is narrowed down according to the Research Areas appointed by the WoS. Eventually, the number of cultural studies is acquired. The whole procedure is displayed in Figure 1. The search is conducted on November 8, 2020. It should be noted that we do not limit the search results by language, document type, or publication time when seeking the first collection on the WoS database.

Figure 1: Searching procedure

Findings

The preliminary result shows that there are 356,882 documents related to climate change research. When the scope is narrowed down to Social Sciences and Humanities research related to climate change, we obtain 45,385 records, which account for 12.72% of the total documents. There remain only 220 documents (0.06% of the total publications) when we select solely 'Cultural Studies' research area (see Figure 2).

Figure 2: Percentage of Cultural Studies in climate change research

Among 220 documents, 187 records are research articles, 13 records are editorial materials, 13 records are books or book reviews, seven records are proceeding papers, and one record is a review paper. Although the first research was conducted in 2004 [4], a majority of the documents (98.18%) were published after 2009.

Remarks

To conclude, we observe the existence of cultural studies within the boundary of climate change research. Still, its portion, which contributes less than 0.1% of the total publications, is relatively minute that can be neglected.

We are aware that this finding is preliminary, and our statement in [1] can potentially be somewhat subversive by nature. Therefore, this communication has no intention of making any conclusion. It rather keeps the finding clean and clear for later use. The effort represents our approach of enabling the mindsponge process to work better and more efficiently in discovering a new paradigm that supports the nurturing of nature and a sustainable environment [5].

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