

CHARACTERIZING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FOREST DEPENDENT PEOPLES AND STATE FOREST MANAGEMENT INSTITUTIONS IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

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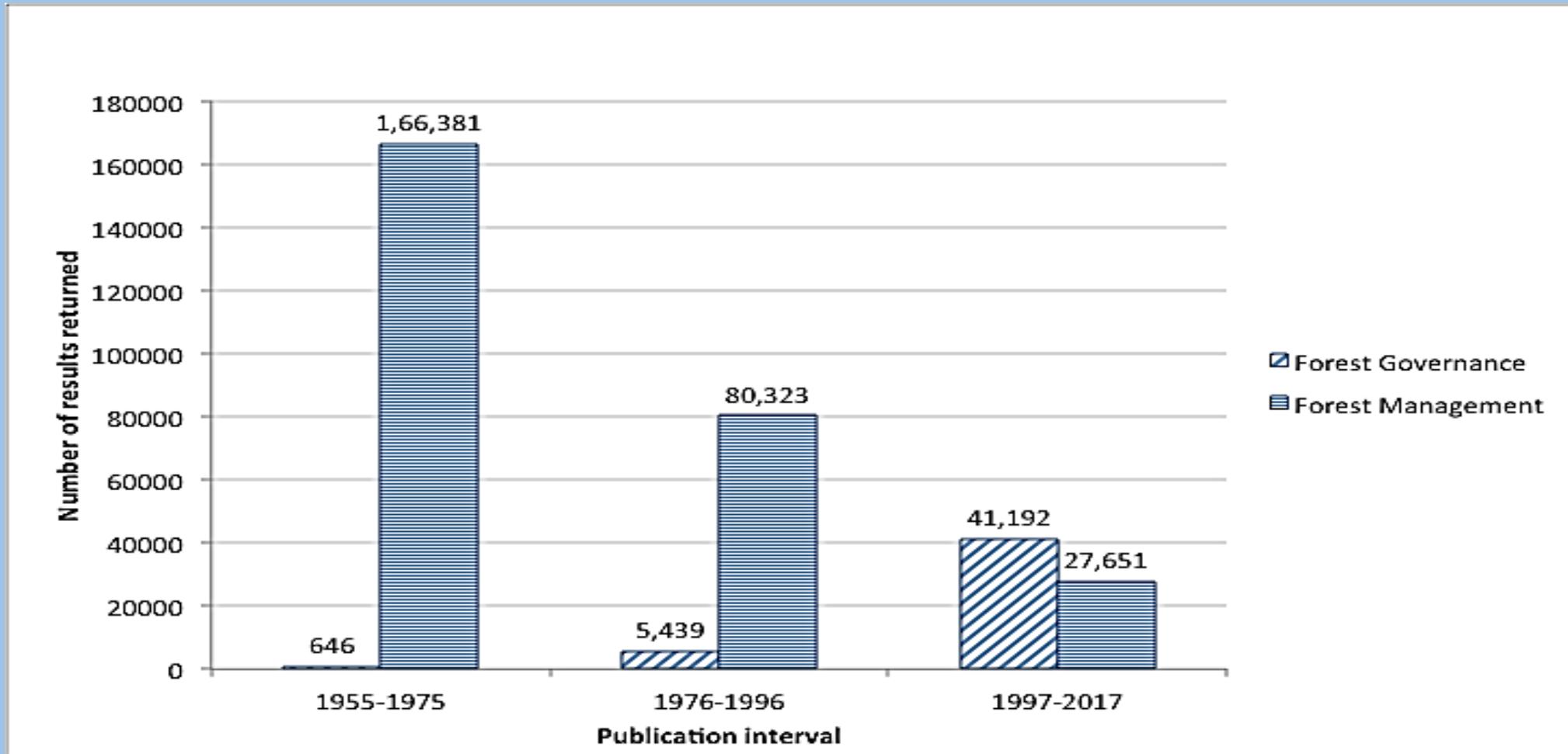
Systematic Review of Literature

- Bibliographic database JSTOR and search engine Google Scholar

Identification Criteria

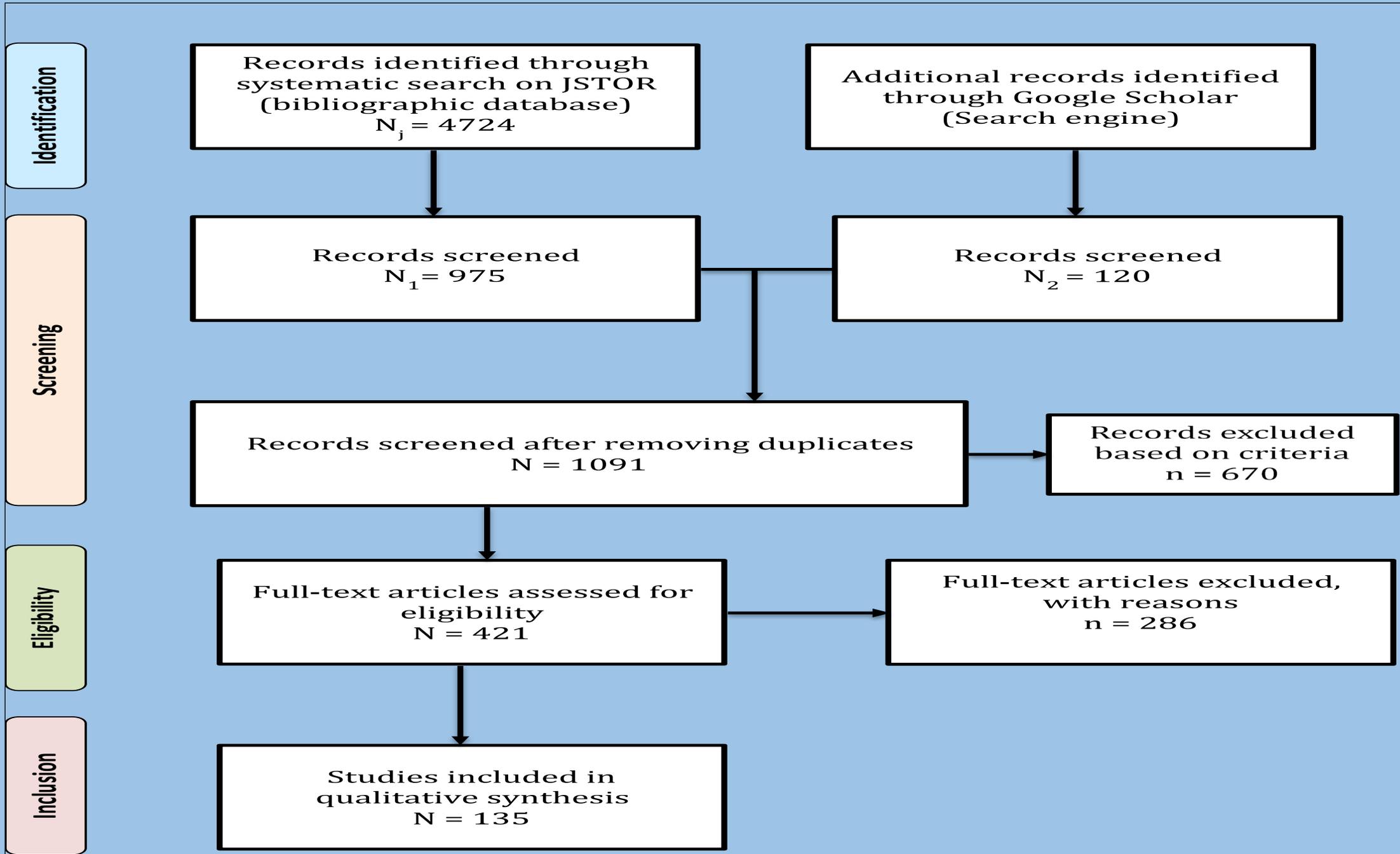
- (i) the article should include at least one reference to both state forest institutions (forest department/ forest service/ forest bureaucracy/ foresters) and communities (or community)
- (ii) only journal articles in English were included;
- (iii) Published between 1997 and 2017.

Trends in usage of terms "management" and "governance" with "forest*" in JSTOR



Inclusion eligibility criteria based on title and abstract of article

- i) research is based on the Global South
- ii) article is based on empirical research findings
- iii) there is a direct or indirect reference to the relationship between FD and FP

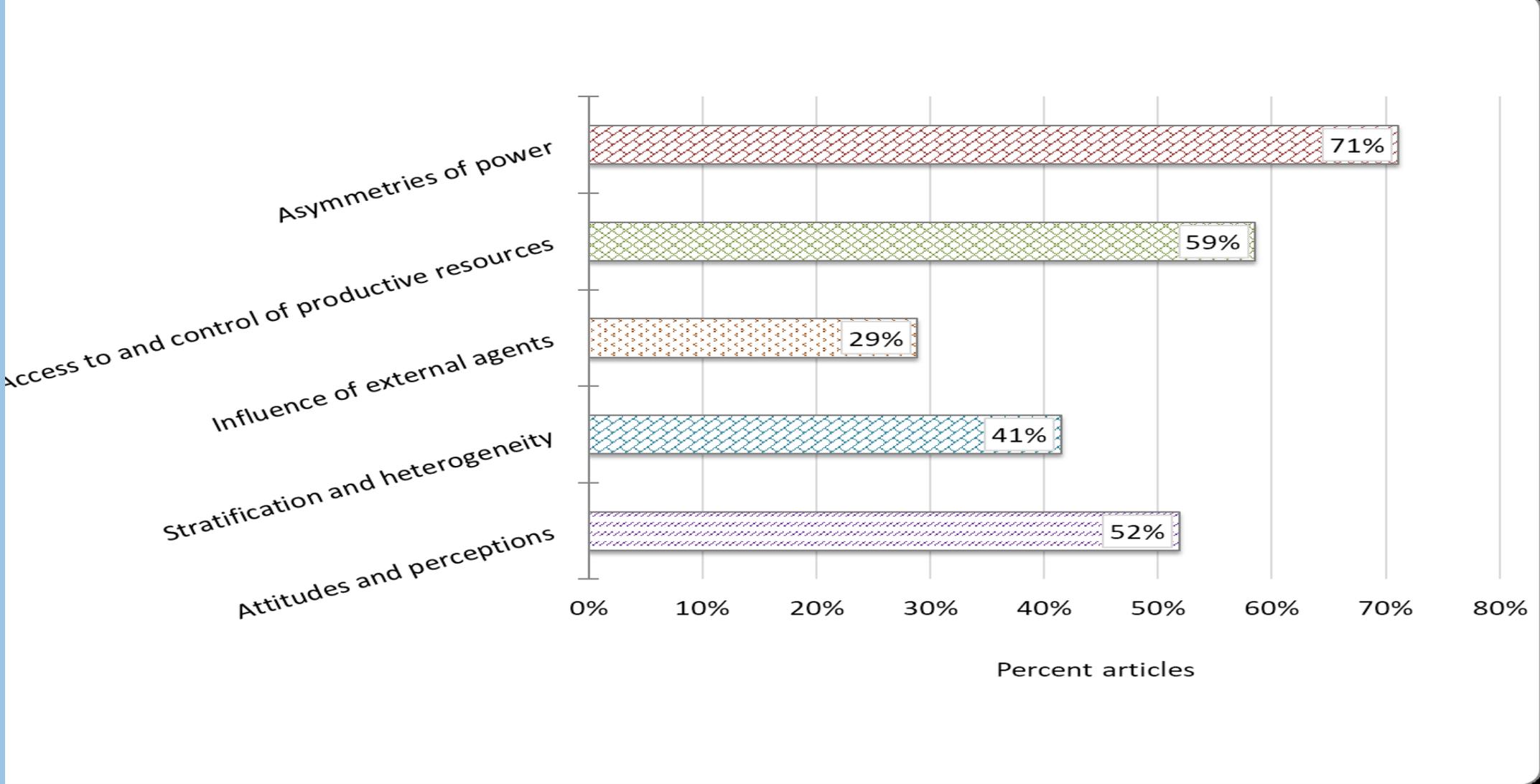


Thematic Coding

- a) Asymmetries of power;
- b) Access to and control over productive resources;
- c) Knowledge, perceptions and attitudes;
- d) Stratification and heterogeneity;
- e) Influence of external factors or agents (including donors, NGOs, markets, etc.)

89% articles referred to more than one theme. Most connected 3 themes

Major themes across articles



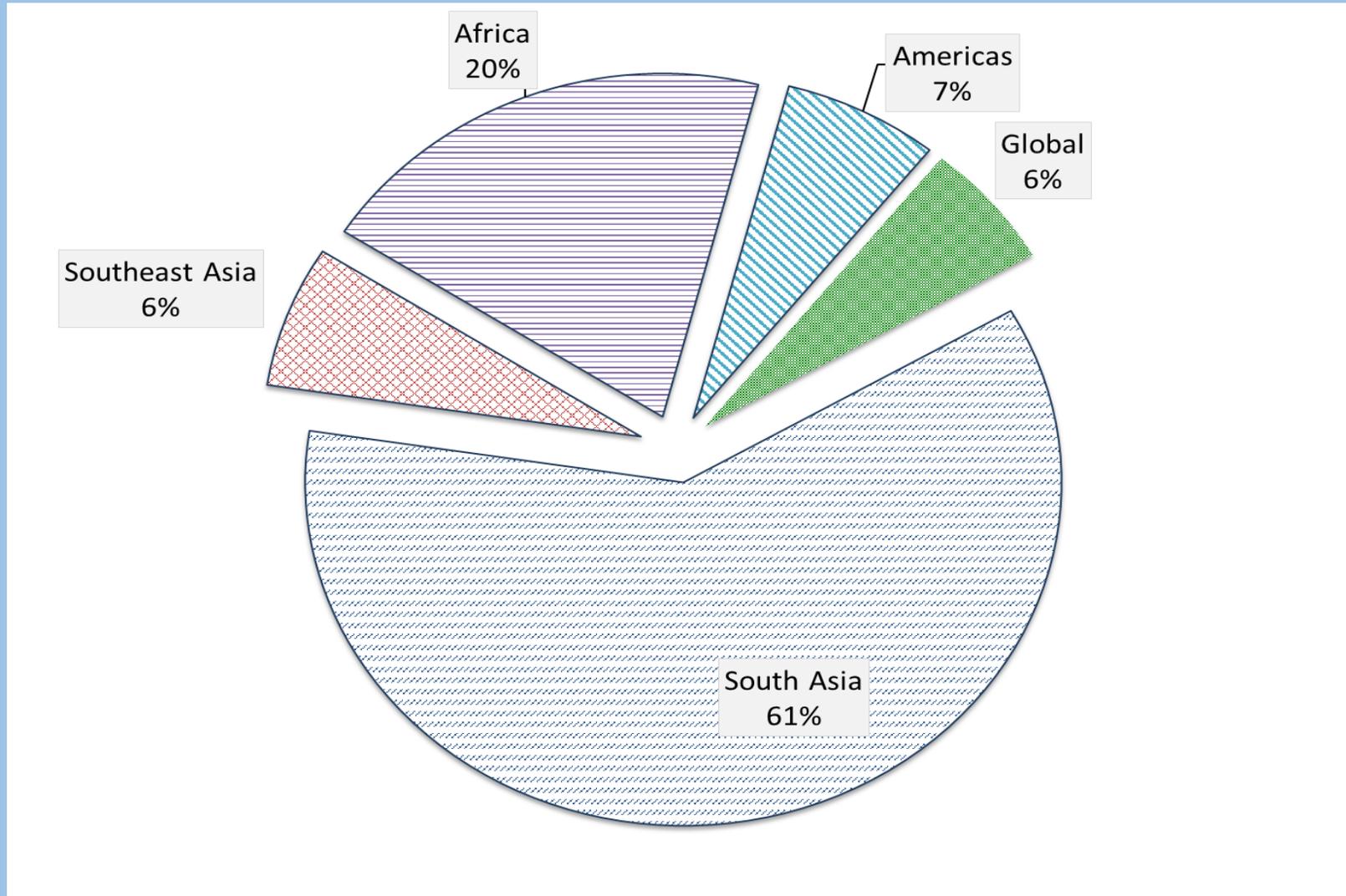
Publication Patterns

135 research articles

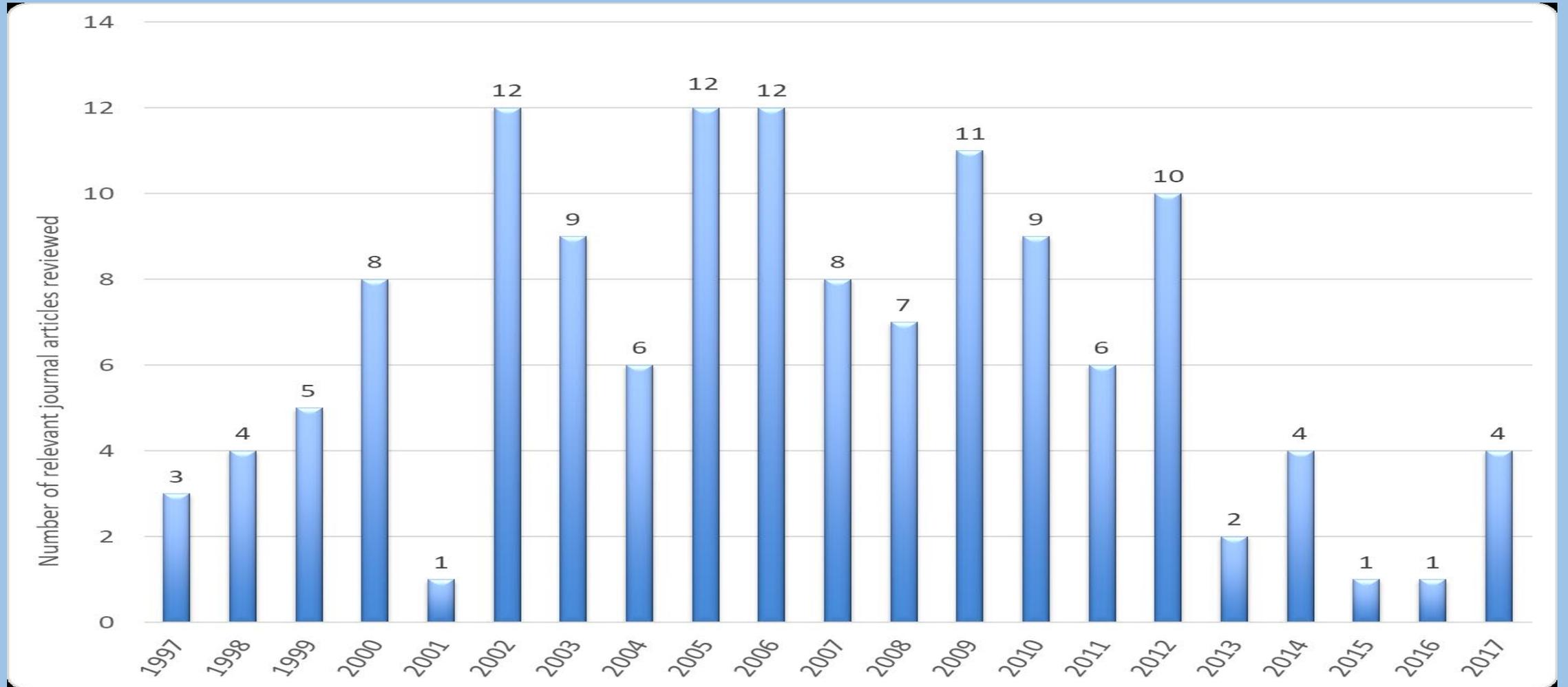
62 different journals,

Journals such as Conservation and Society (22), Economic and Political Weekly (20), Human Ecology (9), Environmental Conservation (7), Forest Policy and Economics (5), Africa Development (5) generated the most number of relevant articles on the FP-FD relationship.

Regional distribution of articles reviewed



Year-wise distribution of articles reviewed (1997-2017)



Contexts which draw attention to FP-FD relationship

	Context of study	Number of articles	Percent of sample [#]
1	Decentralization and participatory forestry projects (CFM, JFM, CBNRM)	67	49.6
2	Conservation/ protected areas	35	25.9
3	Market oriented forestry mechanisms (Payment for Ecosystem Services, REDD, REDD+, carbon credits as conservation)	1	0.7
4	Social Forestry	3	2.2
5	Impact of law and policy	17	12.6
6	Violence and oppression	9	6.7
7	Other	23	17.0

Why is this relationship important?

	Impetus of research	Number of articles	Percent of sample [#]
1	Sustainable resource management/conservation	38	28.1
2	Social justice	52	38.5
3	Development and livelihoods	18	13.3
3	Success of projects	57	42.2
4	Efficiency	5	3.7
5	Other	13	9.6

Asymmetry of power

- Hierarchical power of FD over FP (71%)
- Majority of studies were conducted in the context of several years or decades of decentralization or participatory policies and projects.
- Decentralization had symbolic or rhetorical significance
- Decentralization may occur without empowerment

Manifestations of power asymmetry

1. physical violence, criminalization, destruction of property and livelihoods, and threats of punitive action by FD against FP
2. Alienation of forest dependent people
3. vast differences between *de jure* and *de facto* resource use and access

Power asymmetry embedded in society

- There were significant coalitions between FD and local class, caste, ethnic and gendered elite
- Such coalitions strengthened the hierarchical power of FD and served to entrench existing social power structures

Attitudes and perceptions: Power does not translate to hegemony or legitimacy

- Communities' lacked trust in the knowledge, ability, commitment, will and legitimacy of the FD to carry out its duties
- Resentment, mistrust and hostility common
- All forest policies and projects, including participatory, community or joint forest management approaches, were seen as emanating from and run from 'above'.

Descriptions of attitude of FD towards FP

- Unprofessional,
- high-handed,
- harsh,
- coercive
- paternalistic,
- autocratic,
- dictatorial,
- authoritarian,
- negative,
- intimidating

Explaining attitudes

- historical prejudices,
- limitations of training,
- difference in conceptions of nature and culture,
- lack of appreciation of traditional practices.

Attitudes and perceptions are elements of a broader assemblage of power

Access to and control over productive resources

- FD often denies the legitimate rights of FP
- Forcible acquisition as well as use of coercive legislative measures

Stratification and heterogeneity

- Wealth and gender most studies. Caste, race, ethnicity missing
- FD is inclined to interact mainly with the elite, side with the powerful within political and local circles and feel a social and economic allegiance to them

Stratification and heterogeneity

- FD staff are mostly male and/ or communicate only with men in society
- specific FD interventions such as Self-Help Groups (SHG) and Forest User Groups (FUG) in India and Nepal respectively, have enabled voices of women to be heard, providing them an opportunity to participate in decision-making

Influence of external agents

- External agents may dictate terms to FD, weakening their authority and facilitate privatization

OR

- Weaken elected local governments thereby strengthening the power of FD

No clear pattern: but, external agents always enter social arenas with entrenched power relations. They affect it but not on their own terms

FP-FD relationships:

- did not form the central issue or question of enquiry
- outcomes of projects and policies were attributed to the nature of FP-FD relationships, frequently described as static and unchanging, and therefore a constant

FD and FP are located within societies which are heterogeneous, unequal and hierarchical and neither is immune to influences of wider social and power networks at national, regional or international levels and, economy and politics outside the forestry sector as well. Substantive transformation in the FP-FD relationship is located within these broader societal and economic relations.

Thank you!