

Developing a Coastal Resource-Based Entrepreneurship Framework: A Systematic Literature Review of Opportunities and Challenges in Indonesia's Coastal Regions

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Abstract

This study aims to develop a conceptual framework on coastal entrepreneurship performance through a Literature Systematic Review (LSR) approach. The main focus of this research is to analyze the relationships among natural resources, human capacity, and infrastructure in influencing coastal entrepreneurial performance, while considering the role of governance as a moderating variable. The LSR process was conducted by reviewing scholarly articles from DOAJ and Google Scholar, following the PRISMA selection stages to obtain relevant literature. This study produces a proposed framework that can serve as an empirical foundation for future research, while also providing a conceptual contribution to the development of coastal entrepreneurship theory.

Keyword: Coastal entrepreneurship, coastal resources, blue economy

1. INTRODUCTION

Based on the Marine and Coastal Resources Statistics 2024 published by Badan Pusat Statistik [17] Indonesia is recorded as having 12,968 coastal villages, representing approximately 15.39 percent of the total 71,308 villages/urban wards nationwide. These coastal villages are distributed across nearly all provinces, with the highest concentration in Central Sulawesi (1,022 villages) and the lowest in the Special Capital Region of Jakarta (16 villages). This geographical condition indicates that coastal areas play a strategic role in national economic development. The substantial number of coastal villages underscores that these regions constitute living spaces for millions of residents whose primary livelihoods depend on marine resources as their main economic base.

Although numerous studies have examined the economic and social potential of coastal areas, research that systematically investigates the interrelationship between coastal resources, entrepreneurial capabilities, and local economic sustainability remains limited. Most of the existing literature primarily emphasizes aspects of community empowerment or fisheries potential, without formulating a comprehensive conceptual framework explaining how coastal resource-based entrepreneurship can be developed as a sustainable economic strategy. Previous studies have indicated that coastal economic potential has not been matched by adequate entrepreneurial capacity [8], digital literacy [5], and access to capital and markets [9].

In light of this background and urgency, this study aims to identify, analyze, and synthesize prior research related to coastal resource-based entrepreneurship in Indonesia, with a focus on opportunities, challenges, and development

strategies that support local economic sustainability. Specifically, this research seeks to: (1) map research trends on entrepreneurship and coastal resource management in Indonesia over the past ten years (2015–2025); (2) identify the primary opportunities and challenges faced by coastal entrepreneurs and communities in developing locally based entrepreneurial activities; (3) synthesize research findings to construct a conceptual framework explaining the relationship between coastal resources, social capital, and entrepreneurial capabilities in achieving Sustainable Coastal Entrepreneurship; and (4) provide scholarly and policy recommendations for local governments, academics, and community empowerment institutions to support an inclusive blue economic transformation.

To achieve these objectives, the study formulates the following research questions:

- How have research trends and directions in coastal resource-based entrepreneurship in Indonesia evolved over the past decade (2015–2025)?
- What are the primary opportunities and challenges of entrepreneurship in coastal areas?
- What factors serve as key determinants of successful coastal resource-based entrepreneurship development in Indonesia?
- How can a conceptual framework of coastal entrepreneurship be constructed to support local economic development?

2. METHODOLOGY

This study employs a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) approach to identify, evaluate, and synthesize prior research relevant to coastal resource-based entrepreneurship in Indonesia. The SLR approach was selected because it enables a comprehensive understanding of research developments, facilitates the identification of research gaps, and supports the formulation of new conceptual directions based on empirical evidence from previous studies [13,15]. In its implementation, this study follows the PRISMA 2020 (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) guidelines, which emphasize transparency, replicability, and accountability at each stage of the review process [3]. The identification stage involved conducting a systematic literature search in academic databases, namely Google Scholar and DOAJ, using the keywords: “coastal entrepreneurship” and “entrepreneurship in coastal area.” The subsequent stage was screening, which involved removing irrelevant articles and selecting those aligned with the objectives of this study. The inclusion criteria were as follows: (a) articles published between 2015 and 2025; (b) studies focusing on Indonesia’s coastal regions, entrepreneurship, or the blue economy; and (c) articles accessible for full-text analysis. The exclusion criteria included: (a) articles lacking direct relevance to the context of coastal entrepreneurship; (b) technical reports, opinion pieces, or non-academic news articles; and (c) duplicate publications.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The search process yielded 14 articles, of which 2 were identified as duplicates and 2 did not meet the eligibility criteria, resulting in a final sample of 10 eligible articles for analysis. A review comprising 8 to 20 articles is considered adequate, provided that all studies meet the established inclusion and exclusion criteria [13]. Meanwhile, Page do not specify a minimum number of articles, instead emphasizing transparency and clear justification throughout the selection process [3]. The following section presents the PRISMA flow diagram of the study. In qualitative research, the Results section is typically organized into detailed subsections structured around themes or categories that are directly aligned with the research focus.

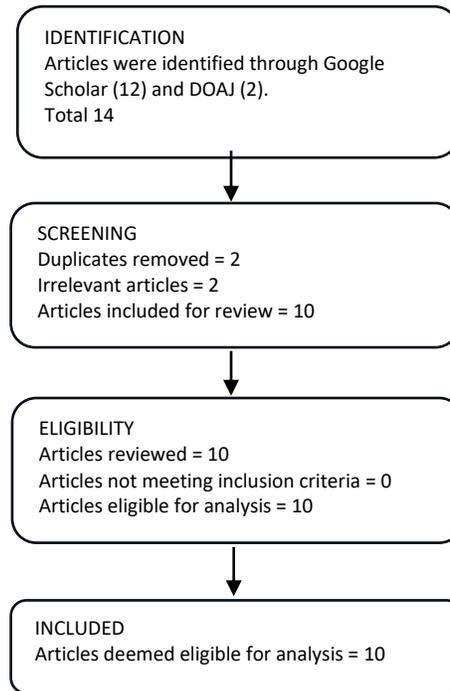


Figure 1 PRISMA flow diagram of the study

Analysis of the literature reveals several interrelated themes that reinforce one another, particularly concerning empowerment models, structural barriers, and the role of digitalization in the development of coastal entrepreneurship. In general, the researchers' line of thought centers on the concepts of empowerment and social entrepreneurship. Conceptual framework positioning social entrepreneurship as a critical strategy for poverty alleviation and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for vulnerable groups, such as beneficiaries of the Family Hope Program (*Program Keluarga Harapan, PKH*) [11]. This finding is further supported by, fisheries sector case study, demonstrated that social entrepreneurship can serve as a mechanism for coastal community resilience in response to external shocks, such as the Covid-19 pandemic [2]. Both studies affirm that social entrepreneurship models are highly relevant and can be effectively applied in vulnerable coastal communities.

This form of empowerment is evident in practices of business diversification and innovation can be illustrated by simple technology transfer in the processing of natural resources such as seaweed can enhance product added value and create new business opportunities [4]. Meanwhile, the different form of innovation through the transformation of business models from extractive approaches to cultural entrepreneurship based on ecotourism [16]. These studies emphasize the importance of leveraging local potential both natural and cultural resources as the core of coastal economic empowerment.

Cultural aspects also play a significant role in strengthening coastal entrepreneurship. Cultural values such as *gotong royong* (mutual cooperation) and trust serve as social capital that reinforces marketing communication networks for microenterprises [14], and culture not only as a social value but also as an economic asset that can be developed into local flagship product [16].

However, much of the literature also highlights structural barriers that remain major constraints. SME empowerment programs have yet to reach the stage of self-sufficiency due to insufficient facilities and infrastructure provided by local governments [10]. This aligns with the findings that digital gaps identified as a significant obstacle to public service delivery, affecting the coastal business ecosystem [1]. Both studies indicate that infrastructure development, both physical and digital, is a prerequisite for entrepreneurial development in coastal areas.

Governance issues remain a critical challenge beyond mere infrastructure limitations. Institutional fragmentation and policy misalignment in marine resource management undermine socio-economic development [7]. Similarly, governance gaps in Eastern Indonesia’s maritime sector, such as uneven infrastructure and inadequate oversight of illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities [12]. Together, these studies suggest that shortcomings in macro-level governance have direct and profound implications for the sustainability and resilience of micro-level coastal enterprises.

The theme of digitalization emerges as a double-edged factor, representing both challenges and opportunities. Limited digital access is a major barrier for coastal communities [1]. Conversely, the positive aspect, showing how digital literacy can enhance entrepreneurial intentions among coastal youth [6] also the use of social media by micro-entrepreneurs, when supported by culturally based social capital, can expand marketing networks [14]. Collectively, these findings indicate that digitalization holds significant potential as a driver of coastal entrepreneurship growth, provided that access barriers and technological gaps are addressed systematically. The following table summarizes the potential of human resources, natural resources, and cultural assets identified in the reviewed literature.

Author(s) and Year	Findings
Prayetno et al. (2024)	Utilization of natural resources (seaweed) into value-added products, such as chips, through simple technological innovations.
Zamzami et al. (2025)	Development of ecotourism-based cultural entrepreneurship for fishermen as an economic diversification strategy.
Febryanti (2023)	Utilization of fisheries resources as the basis for social entrepreneurship to enhance the economic resilience of coastal communities.
Subekti and Sjachro (2024)	Cultural values such as gotong royong (mutual cooperation) and togetherness serve as social capital to strengthen the marketing networks of microenterprises.
Robbani et al. (2025)	The potential of young human resources (Gen-Z) with high entrepreneurial intentions, provided they are supported with adequate digital literacy.

Table 1. Potential (Utilization of Human Resources, Natural Resources, and Cultural Assets)

The following table presents the barriers (structural and governance challenges) identified in the reviewed literature.

Author(s) and Year	Findings
Safriansyah et al. (2020)	Lack of physical infrastructure and supporting facilities for SMEs provided by local governments.
Aditya and Chumaedi (2024)	Digital gaps as a major barrier to access public services and the coastal economy.
Rukin (2025)	Institutional fragmentation and policy misalignment in marine resource management.
Snekubun and Supriyadi (2025)	Infrastructure disparities and weak oversight of illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing practices in maritime areas.
Robbani et al. (2025)	The impact of external shocks (such as the Covid-19 pandemic) on the sustainability of coastal community livelihoods.

Table 2. Barriers (Structural and Governance Challenges)

The following table presents the role of technology in entrepreneurship (digitalization) as identified in the reviewed literature.

Author(s) and Year	Findings
Aditya dan Chumaedi (2024)	The absence of digital infrastructure constitutes a major impediment to local economic development.
Robbani et al. (2025)	Digital literacy has a positive influence on entrepreneurial intentions among coastal Gen-Z individuals.
Subekti and Sjachro (2024)	The use of social media expands marketing networks, particularly when combined with culturally based social capital.

Table 3. Digitalization

The following table presents the findings from the reviewed literature on social empowerment (community capacity development).

Author(s) and Year	Findings
Setiawan et al. (2021)	Social entrepreneurship as an empowerment strategy for vulnerable groups (PKH beneficiaries: Family Hope Program).
Febryanti (2023)	Empowerment of coastal communities through a social entrepreneurship model during times of crisis
Zamzami et al. (2025)	Empowerment of fishermen through ecotourism-based cultural entrepreneurship.
Safriansyah et al. (2020)	Evaluation of the effectiveness of SME empowerment strategies by the government through training and collaboration.
Rukin (2025)	The importance of inclusive governance based on community participation in marine resource management.
Prayetno et al. (2024)	Community empowerment through technology transfer and training in seafood processing.
Snekubun and Supriyadi (2025)	A multi-stakeholder collaboration model (Hexa-Helix) as an approach to coastal community empowerment.

Table 4. Social Empowerment (Community Capacity Development)

3.1. Research Trends (2015–2025)

Over the ten-year period (2015–2025), research on coastal resource-based entrepreneurship in Indonesia has shown a significant evolution from primarily descriptive studies to more interventionist and strategic approaches. In the initial phase (approximately 2015–2019), research primarily focused on identifying the potential of coastal natural resources (NR) and mapping fundamental challenges faced by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), such as limited market access and inadequate supporting infrastructure. During the transitional period (2020–2022), there was a shift toward studies on community empowerment and program evaluation, as demonstrated by Safriansyah as well as research on socio-economic resilience during the pandemic through social entrepreneurship models [2,10]. The consolidation and innovation phase (2023–2025) is characterized by the emergence of research involving practical interventions, including technology transfer in natural resource processing [4], business model innovations based on culture and ecotourism [16], and studies on the role of digitalization in enhancing entrepreneurial capacities [1,6].

3.2. Opportunities and Challenges of Coastal Entrepreneurship

The primary opportunities for entrepreneurship in Indonesia's coastal regions lie in the ability to optimize abundant local resource potential. The utilization of natural resources (NR) to create value-added products represents a strategic opportunity, as demonstrated through the innovative processing of seaweed into chips, which paves the way for locally produced, highly competitive products [4]. In addition, cultural and social capital such as gotong royong (mutual cooperation), local traditions, and cultural assets constitutes a significant strength that can be leveraged through cultural entrepreneurship and collective marketing strategies [14,16]. Regarding human resources, young people in coastal areas, particularly Gen Z, exhibit high entrepreneurial potential when supported by enhanced digital literacy [6]. Other opportunities exist in economic diversification, where the development of ecotourism and processed products can reduce community dependence on extractive economic activities. Technological advancements and the use of social media also serve as important catalysts, as they expand market access, information networks, and product promotion, especially when supported by adequate infrastructure and digital literacy [14].

3.3. Determinants of Success in Coastal Entrepreneurship

The success of coastal resource-based entrepreneurship development is strongly influenced by a number of interacting factors. Based on a synthesis of recent literature (2015–2025), six key determinants have been identified as the foundation for strengthening sustainable coastal entrepreneurship. These factors include local resources and capabilities, infrastructure and market enablers, human capacity and education, governance and policy, multi-stakeholder collaboration networks, and resilience to external risks. The following table outlines the main components that constitute the conceptual framework of Sustainable Coastal Entrepreneurship in Indonesia.

The conceptual framework of Sustainable Coastal Entrepreneurship in Indonesia can be understood through six interrelated categories, each encompassing key aspects that collectively strengthen coastal entrepreneurial capacity. Local Resources and Capabilities are central to entrepreneurship, encompassing both the availability of high-quality, value-added natural resources (NR) and cultural and social capital. The diversity and quality of coastal NR allow for product diversification, such as the conversion of seaweed into processed food products [3,4]. Meanwhile, cultural values such as gotong royong (mutual cooperation), trust, and community networks facilitate collective marketing and local collaboration [14]. Infrastructure and Market Enablers provide the necessary foundation for competitiveness. Physical infrastructure, including transportation and production facilities, enhances the competitiveness of coastal products. Digital infrastructure, particularly internet connectivity and e-commerce platforms, is essential for expanding market access and enabling broader participation in the digital economy [10,1]. Human Capacity and Education emphasize the importance of technical, managerial, and entrepreneurial skills. Production capabilities, management competencies, and digital literacy determine the sustainability of entrepreneurial ventures [6]. Targeted training and technology transfer accelerate the adoption of innovations and improve operational efficiency [4]. Governance and

Policy play a pivotal role in shaping an enabling environment. Cross-sectoral policies that align regulations support market access and resource protection [7]. Additionally, access to microfinance schemes and incentives strengthens the early stages of coastal business development, promoting resilience and growth, and Resilience to External Risks involves mechanisms to reduce vulnerability to economic and environmental shocks. Income diversification, such as developing alternative sectors like ecotourism and value-added coastal products, decreases dependence on a single economic activity. Complementary social protection schemes and emergency response funds provide safety nets for coastal communities, enhancing their capacity to withstand external disturbances [2]. Collectively, these categories and their key aspects form the foundation for a robust conceptual framework that supports the development of sustainable, resilient, and locally grounded coastal entrepreneurship in Indonesia.

3.4. Coastal Entrepreneurship Performance Framework

Based on the reviewed literature, the success of coastal entrepreneurship depends on six main determinants: (a) local resources and capabilities, encompassing the potential of natural resources and socio-cultural capital; (b) infrastructure and market enablers, both physical and digital, serving as prerequisites for accessibility and market expansion; (c) human capacity and education, including entrepreneurial literacy, digital literacy, and technical training; (d) governance and policy, which play a role in creating a conducive business environment; (e) networks and collaboration, connecting government, academia, industry, communities, financial institutions, and media; and (f) resilience to external risks, as illustrated in the following framework.

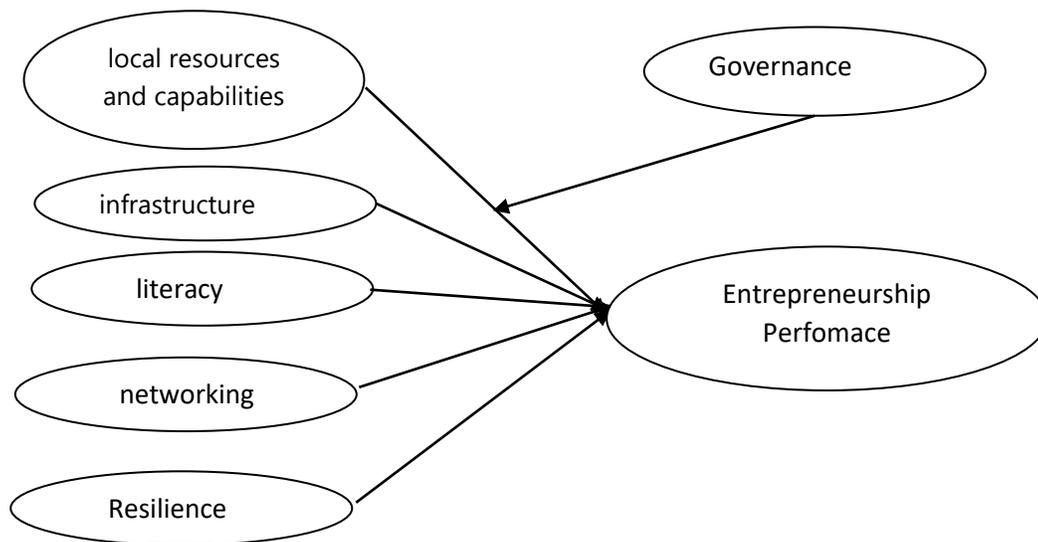


Figure 2 Coastal Entrepreneurship Performance Framework

4. RECOMMENDATION

This study proposes a conceptual framework for coastal entrepreneurship performance that focuses on the key determinants of successful coastal entrepreneurship development. The study has certain limitations, primarily that the resulting model remains conceptual and has not yet been empirically tested. To strengthen the validity of the proposed framework, future research is recommended to conduct empirical testing using populations of coastal SMEs, such as fishermen, seafood processors, and resource-based artisans, across various provinces, for example, East Java, South

Sulawesi, and West Nusa Tenggara. Future studies could adopt an explanatory quantitative approach employing Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) techniques, either covariance-based (CB-SEM) or Partial Least Squares (PLS-SEM), to comprehensively examine mediation and moderation effects within the model. Additionally, it is important to consider incorporating new external variables, such as green innovation, digital adaptation, or community-based tourism, which have the potential to enhance coastal entrepreneurship performance and improve business sustainability. Further research should also explore longitudinal or comparative studies across regions to dynamically assess how governance policies influence the resilience and competitiveness of coastal enterprises over time. Moreover, the development of contextualized measurement instruments (survey instruments) that reflect local culture, social values, and the unique economic practices of coastal communities is crucial to ensure that measurement results are both representative and contextually relevant.

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