

Urban Governance, Resource Endowment, and Intervention Effectiveness: A Comparative Longitudinal Analysis of Karachi, London, and New York (2015–2024)

Nabel Akram¹, Chen Wen², Chenzehua³, Keyth Cristina Nascimento Guimaraes⁴, Komal Tariq⁵

¹School of Government, Institute for Global Mega-City Governance and School of Media and Communication, Shenzhen University 51820, Shenzhen City, Guangdong, China.

ORCID: 0009-0002-8815-6124

nabeelakram100@gmail.com

²School of Government, Institute for Global Mega-City Governance Shenzhen University, 51820 Shenzhen City, Guangdong, China

ORCID: 0009-0004-3043-9724

Chenwen1122@163.com

³School of Government Management; Institute for Global Mega-City Governance, Shenzhen University, Shenzhen, China. chenzehua@szu.edu.cn

ORCID: 0009-0009-6458-9217

⁴PhD in Political Communication, School of Government, Shenzhen University, Shenzhen, China

kait22@tsinghua.org.cn

ORCID: 0009-0002-6397-733X

⁵School of Government, Shenzhen University, 51820 Shenzhen City, Guangdong, China

komaltariq107@gmail.com

ORCID: 0009-0007-5000-5984

Corresponding Author: - Chen Wen: School of Government, Institute for Global Mega-City Governance Shenzhen University, 51820 Shenzhen City, Guangdong, China

ORCID: 0009-0004-3043-9724

Chenwen1122@163.com

HOW TO CITE:

Nabel Akram, Chen Wen, Chenzehua, Keyth Cristina Nascimento Guimaraes, Komal Tariq (2026). Urban Governance, Resource Endowment, and Intervention Effectiveness: A Comparative Longitudinal Analysis of Karachi, London, and New York (2015–2024). International Journal of Special Education, 41(11s), 714-733.

ABSTRACT:

The complexity of urban governance has increased due to the rapid urbanisation, increasing demands for infrastructures, provisioning of services, and institutional coordination in a metropolitan region. Whilst there has been vast research on urban governance, some has been focused on longitudinal analysis that explores the links between resources capacity and urban governance effectiveness in various urban contexts. This paper fills this gap by comparatively undertaking the longitudinal analysis of urban governance dynamics in three cities: Karachi, London, and New York, from 2015 to 2024. Secondary data from municipal reports, government statistics, urban development planning and international governance databases has been analyzed and used as the basis of the

COPYRIGHT STATEMENT:

Copyright: © 2026 Authors.
Open access publication under the
terms and conditions
of the Creative Commons Attribution
(CC BY)
license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

investigation to study on the relationship between resource endowment, the effectiveness of intervention and the performance of governance. A comparative analytical framework is used for analysing the changes in governance over a decade in three cities. Descriptive statistics and trend analysis, Pearson correlation and multiple regression, and Welch's ANOVA and Games–Howell post hoc are used to analyze patterns in governance to look for significant differences between the selected metros. The results show significant differences in governance capacity and resources between the three cities. London and New York are consistently more resource endowed and interventions are more effective than intervention effectiveness in Karachi during the study period. Correlation and regression analyses show that there is a very high correlation between the resource endowment and effectiveness of interventions, thus emphasizing the importance of fiscal and institutional capacity in determining governance outcomes. Moreover, there is an appreciable variation in the governance indicators between Karachi, London and New York, implying resource availability and institutional capacity also play a substantial role in the patterns of governance.

Keywords: Urban Governance; Intervention Effectiveness; Resource Endowment; Governance Performance; Comparative Urban Studies.

1. Introduction

The rapid urbanization, globalization and the interaction of social and economic policy changes have driven the need for Sustainable Development, it is inextricably intertwined with the urban governance context. The significant demographic shift in the 21st century has been urbanization, where 50 percent of the world's population resides in cities, and its influence on urban forms is evident (Bhattarai et al. 2025). Urban governance mechanisms need to facilitate the efficient delivery of services within the city, ensure the sustainable use of the environment, allocate city infrastructure for all urban dwellers, and foster social ties (Cheema, 2020). The structural problems of cities based on historical resonances, social systems, political configurations, and institutional limbs. Three world cities of Karachi, London, and New York are considered in this study, using distinctive models of urban governance, economic profile, and development model, to contrast the issues in all the three cities (Azhar et al. 2024).

Karachi is the largest city of Pakistan and a major economic engine of South Asia - suffers from chronic governance failures (Hasan et al.

2020). Rapid growth led to fragmented urban development and poor infrastructure and created serious social and spatial divisions within and around Karachi for lack of an organized metro-level metropolitan-level government (Khan & Waheed et al. 2022). The widespread lack of urban management is due to the political struggle amongst powerful stakeholders, and the weak character of local government system that weakens the city's ability to adapt to its growing population (Azam et al. 2025). A vision called planning, coordination and participatory model to lead urban governance in London (Hermansyah et al. 2024). The governance of a given city features openness towards stakeholders, vision and ability to plan ahead, institutional and financial frameworks to solve existing issues. London insightful example of how urban governance and steering interventions tackle issues related to the sustainability threshold to reach metropolitan diversity (Bibri et al. 2020). In global cities such as New York City, the center of the financial world in the USA, hybrid governance is the coexistence of centralizing trends that are developed in the light of available resources and decentralizing functions (Szpak et al. 2019). The urban issues that New York faces, from crumbling infrastructure

and the socio-economic divides, to homelessness and climate resiliency, are addressed by not only the Mayor's Office, but also dozens of specialized agencies. New York's intergovernmental collaborative structures, makes it the perfect test case for exploring the operationalization of strategic governance reforms (Camponeschi et al. 2021).

Comparative framework of this study is based on the realisation that the exercise of urban governance is not a universal one. Although the governance structure, economic development and institutional capabilities in Karachi, London and New York are quite different, all these cities have common challenges such as rapid urban growth, pressure on the infrastructure, socio-economic inequality and threats to the environment. This paper is attempting to address some of the critical questions: What are the urban governance challenges that each of these cities faces? What are some of the strategic measures have been developed and implemented at the local level to tackle these challenges? How can cross city comparisons help to learn policies and practices that can enhance governance along the urban continuum?

This research adds to these debates by examining empirically the intersections between collaborative governance and developments in smart and metropolitan governance. Through comparative studies of developed and developing cities, the study identifies the interplay between institutional capacity, technological integration and governance coordination to impact urban governance (Javed et al. 2020).

This research has three main contributions to the urban governance literature. First, it contributes to collaborative governance theory by operationalizing its three key characteristics (institutional design, participation and capacity for collective action) into indicators across a range of urban settings. Second, it offers a comparative empirical study of Global North and Global South cities in terms of the differential effects of institutional capacity and capabilities. Third, it informs practice by offering context-specific institutional design and implementation

implications for governance by converting empirical evidence into operational governance solutions, rather than purely descriptive comparison.

2. Literature Review

Urban governance is a relatively new term that covers the systems, processes, and institutions that shape the development and operation of cities. This literature review interrogates academic conversations concerning governance phenomena and interventions studies other than cities of Karachi, London, and New York. Przevalovicz, and Cunha et al., (2024) studied that urban governance is "all aspects of how people and institutions, public and private, plan and manage the common affairs of the city (Scott et al. 2025).

The urban policy not only operates in formal institutions but also as a networked government between citizens, private-public entrepreneurs, and local stakeholders. Governance, as defined by Lee & Park (2023), comprises mechanisms of interest interdependency among stakeholders, resource transfer, rules of the game, and collective action dominance. The theoretical approach is helpful in that it provides a framework which make sense of governance arrangements in cities such as London and New York, as well as more fragmented arrangements like Karachi. As Mallick (2024) said that, Karachi like many other cities in the Global South, is perennially challenged by weak institutional architecture, empty coffers, and excessive reliance on informal governance.

London and New York, have better-managed systems but face issues of gentrification, inequality, and infrastructure decay. This comparative approach helps highlight the extent to which history and the character of political institutions matter for governance outcomes. These cities are endowed with strong regulatory institutions and high policy coherence, cities to meet the excessive demands driven by fast urban growth and maximize the efficiency of service delivery (Zaidi et al., 2023). The institutionalization of stakeholder engagement

and organizational vision in urban planning in London and New York is amiable.

The management of Karachi is under local government, overlapping of jurisdictions between municipal, subnational, and national level, resulting in policy incoherence and paralysis of implementation (Yilmaz et al. 2025). Informal urbanization is a cause and effect of weak regulatory control, and it is also a result of the lack of sound regulation, as over 60% of Karachi's population lives in "unplanned" areas. Lack of infrastructure, water scarcity, and waste management are deeper structural governance failure symptoms. Karachi has been subject to superficial, targeted interventions from agencies or temporary development projects, such as the Karachi Transformation Plan. Khan et al., (2022) suggest that local empowerment and land governance reform, such interventions are unlikely to be sustainable.

London is frequently highlighted as a case of the highest enabling strategic urban governance, underpinned by a clear metropolitan vision, strong institutional powers, and capacities. Greater London Authority (GLA) (established in 2000) has provided a governance triangle that integrates city-wide planning, transport, housing, and economic development (Parsons et al. 2021). As Andersen and Damurski, (2022) discussed, in addition to plans in England and Wales, the GLA and the Mayor of London have sought to shape coordinated urban expansion by producing long-term strategy documents, such as the London Plan. Paul et al. (2024) study examples of public consultation, local forums and civil society participation in the governance institutions of London. This participatory approach leads to increased transparency with a build up of confidence between community members and local authorities. In the field of urban research, for instance, the current increase in housing prices, gentrification, and the increase in income inequality are issues of current urban governance discussion (Bloom et al. 2024).

The New York City government is semi-autonomous and consists of agencies with a wide variety of municipal functions that work in

tandem with the political authority of the mayor. New York has a strong executive led by the Mayor who oversees dozens of departments and agencies. The city-wide plan can be applied for quick implementation of policy and innovation with the aid of PlaNYC and OneNYC (Holscher et al. 2020). This city has been in the international spotlight with regard to resilience planning since its tragedy, such as 9/11 or Hurricane Sandy. According to Zhang and Hao (2024), the New York governance has become more and more sustainable, Disaster resistant, and Adaptive for Climate Change. As a result of initiatives like NYC open data, evidence-based decision-making has jumped to a more sophisticated level; it harnesses the power of big data and performance measures. Despite many decades of progress, there are still problems with racial segregation, homelessness and a shortage of housing in New York. The rather private and public real estate interests and the biopolitics of public-private partnerships play the main part in the neoliberal designs of increased urbanization, and other creative urbanisms, which are based on excluding the poor (Fowle, 2022). Based on a fledgling discipline called "the science of social justice," one is informed by strategic interventions that help to solve service delivery issues. Nevertheless, social justice is a subject which remains underdeveloped in the city's governance agenda.

Comparative urban research sheds light on the different governance practices that are both similar and different in cities. For example, Pal et al. (2022) call for a 'provincialization' of global urban theory 'provincializing' cities according to their agency and their embeddedness in the circumstances of the global south. On the other hand, the governance in Karachi is path dependent in that it suffers from historical lock-in and inertia, which inhibits its systems from being reformed. Another useful lens is that of "multi-level governance," which was defined by Ismail et al. (2025) as the "sharing of authority over a territory along several different, parallel, layers." Functional Vertical Integration between Central and sub-national Governments London and New York? On the other hand, Karachi provides a

paradigm that dysfunctional and fragmented multi-level governance and politics have derailed cooperation and service delivery.

Institutional reform, decentralization, the new city movement, and partnership are among the many interventions in the areas of urban governance. Spatial planning and congestion pricing in London, climate adaptation in New York and infrastructure projects in Karachi funded by donors are examples of alternative ways of doing things as far as government is concerned. However, intervention success such as these is dependent on political, financial infrastructure and stakeholder. There is a growing awareness in the literature that sustainable urban governance requires an integrated approach to the nature of urbanization which is governed through certain complexities that are formed through the top-down and bottom-down interactions (Triandafyllidou et al., 2023).

This research uses the concept of collaborative governance to analyse urban governance in Karachi, London and New York. Following Ansell and Gash (2008), collaborative governance is defined as a process of structured interaction between public and non-state actors, mediated through institutional design, trust-building and deliberation. In a similar vein, Emerson and Nabatchi (2015) define collaborative governance as a regime that includes principled engagement, shared motivation and capacity for joint action.

Building on these insights, the current study defines collaborative governance in terms of four operational dimensions of: (i) institutional design, proxied by the level of decentralisation; (ii) trust-building and public engagement, measured through public participation; (iii) facilitative leadership, proxied by the effectiveness of the

intervention; and (iv) capacity for joint action, proxied by resource endowment and technological integration.

These features are in turn connected to urban governance parameters such as efficiency of service delivery, effectiveness of governance, and the magnitude of urban issues. As such, the study transforms collaborative governance from a conceptual to an analytical tool for empirical research.

The research has focused on the importance of digital transformation, smart governance and coordination at the metropolitan scale. Research shows that urban governance is shifting towards the use of data analytics, integrated service delivery, and platform governance approaches. In this regard, smart city strategies extend beyond technological innovations and include institutional, governance and citizen-focused service innovations.

Meanwhile, discussions in metropolitan governance emphasise the need for inter-jurisdictional integration and multi-level governance in solving urban problems. While integrated governance platforms and digital infrastructure has increasingly been adopted in the Global North, in the Global South, cities face structural limitations in terms of institutional and resource capacity.

There are several studies on urban governance and smart cities, but few studies offer comparative analysis which helps to link the notions of collaborative governance with empirical research in developed and developing cities. This research fills this gap by operationalising the theory and comparing across cities, and thus providing new insights into the functioning of governance structures under different institutional and resource settings.

Table 1. The studies conducted on urban governance and identified research gaps.

Author(s)	Study Context	Main Findings	Limitations
Hasan et al. (2020)	Karachi	Institutional fragmentation reduces governance efficiency	Focused on a single city
Bibri et al. (2020)	London	Smart governance enhances urban sustainability	Limited comparison with developing cities
Camponeschi et al. (2021)	New York	Multi-agency coordination improves governance outcomes	Lack of Global South perspective
Pal et al. (2020)	Comparative Urban Studies	Governance effectiveness varies across institutional settings	Limited longitudinal analysis
Triandafyllidou et al. (2023)	Metropolitan Governance	Integrated governance improves policy coordination	Insufficient focus on resource constraints

Although considerable advances have been achieved in urban governance research, there are still gaps in the literature. Not only are most of the studies conducted on individual cities and with limited cross-city comparisons, Two, existing literature tends to focus on research on governance systems in developed or developing settings, and there has been little work that compares them across the Global North and Global South that uses a common analytical framework. Thirdly, most of the studies highlight institutional designs or smart governance initiatives, overlooking the movable resource endowment leaving no room for considering the longitudinal linkages between resources, impacts of interventions and governance performance (Kaufmann, 2005).. There is therefore still a need for comparative longitudinal research on the impact of resource capacity, and governance inputs, on the governance outcomes for cities within various urban contexts. To fill these gaps, this research uses a comparison of Karachi, London and New York for 2015-2024, with standard governance indicators and longitudinal analysis.

3. Conceptual Framework and Research Hypotheses

3.1 Theoretical Foundation

The study is based on urban governance theory as well as the theory of resource-based public administration which focuses on the roles of institutional capability, financial resources and policy executing system in shaping urban

governance outcome. Past studies indicate that cities with higher resource capacities are more likely to be equipped to successfully take good governance measures and deal with more sophisticated urban problems. The availability of resources are key in determining governance performance in various metropolitan areas.

3.2 Conceptual Framework

This research based on a comparative governance mechanism, which built on the basis of resources, effectiveness of intervention and governance performance in the mentioned cities of Karachi, London and New York in the time period of 2015 to 2024. It assumes that the endowment of resources is a key input to urban governance systems, shaping the institutional and financial capacity for policy delivery and service provision (Hussain, 2016).

The effectiveness of the intervention is a mechanism by which resources lead to governance outcomes. Cities with better resource base are likely to show greater impact of the interventions and thus greater governance performance. The framework also acknowledges that the results of governance are different in cities for some reason related to varying governance structures, fiscal capacities, and institutional arrangements (Kantor, 2012).

The framework assumes that resource endowment has a positive effect on the effectiveness of interventions and fulfills governance performance. The comparative analysis of a range of cities, between Karachi, London and New York, allows to make

assessments about these relationships in different urban governance contexts.

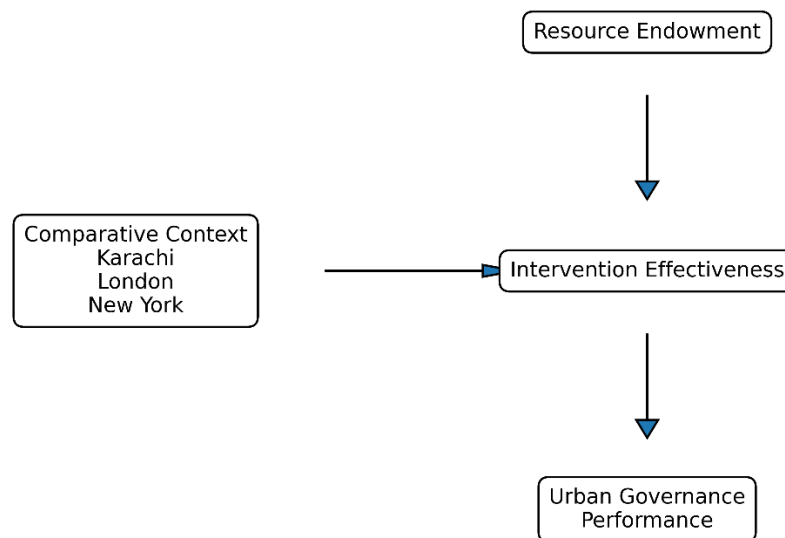


Figure 1. Conceptual Framework of Intervention Effectiveness, Resource Endowment and Governance Performance.

3.3 Hypotheses

This study analyzes the linkages between resources, effectiveness of interventions and governance performance in the cities of Karachi, London and New York over 2015-2024, based on urban governance theory and the resource-based approach to public administration. The literature indicates that city capacities and city resources are important elements defining the capacity of a city to adopt effective governance approaches and resolve complex challenges. Three hypotheses development is based upon this theoretical foundation.

3.3.1. Resource Endowment and Intervention Effectiveness

Across the board, it is recognized that ‘resource availability’ is a key factor in determining governance capacity. Cities with more money, administrative capacity and institutional capacity tend to be better equipped to design, implement and sustain effective governance interventions. Good resource endowment helps to invest in infrastructure, service delivery systems, technological innovation and policy implementation mechanism, and thus to achieve better governance outcomes (Fernandes Barata, 2025; Hasan et al., 2013).

H1: Resource Endowment has a positive and significant effect on Intervention Effectiveness.

3.3.2 Cross-City Differences in Governance Performance

There are significant differences in urban governance systems across cities, as a consequence of differences with respect to institutional structures, financial powers, administration, and policy agendas. The city of Karachi, London and New York are examples of differing governance contexts in terms of both economic development and the allocation of resources and institutional capacity. Hence the large variations in governance indicators are expected to be there among the three cities (Azhar et al., 2023; Kausar, 2024).

H2: Governance indicators differ significantly among Karachi, London, and New York.

3.3.3. Resource Endowment and Governance Performance

Beyond its relevance for institutions, governance is related to the availability of resources to fuel governance action. Cities blessed with abundant resources are likely to exhibit better resource management indicators, which includes governance performance, including better service

delivery, administrative capacity and policy effectiveness. So, an endowment of resources is likely to have a positive effect on governance overall. (Bhunja et al., 2025; Shaheen et al. 2018).

H3: Cities with greater Resource Endowment demonstrate stronger Governance Performance.

4. Materials and Methods

4.1 Research Design

A comparative longitudinal research design is used in this study to analyse the challenges to urban governance and strategic responses in Karachi, London and New York between 2015–2024. A longitudinal design was used to see changes over time in three aspects of governance performance and four measures of policy effectiveness, which would then indicate long-term trends in governance rather than just differences among cross-sections (Gat et al. 2014; Jatoi, 2025).

The study is comparative, with the three cities being three different governance contexts. Institutional constraints and resource limitations are the characteristic of a rather rapidly urbanizing Global South city like Karachi, while London and New York are economically high-developed metropolitan governance systems with a higher level of institutional capacity and greater resources. A comparative analysis of these cities offers insights into how urban governance outcomes are affected by socio-economic and institutional conditions and by the structure and composition of governance in these cities (Dadashpoor, 2018).

4.2 Data Sources

The study relies on secondary data only that has been taken from the legitimate national and international sources. The data were gathered from various sources, including municipal government reports, city budget documents, governance performance reports, urban development plans, government statistical publications, and international databases from the United Nations, World Bank, OECD, and other relevant municipal authorities.

Data was gathered over the years from 2015 to 2024 for Karachi, London, and New York. Data triangulation was supported by multiple sources, as it helped to increase the reliability and validity of the comparative data analysis. This generates a longitudinal data set to track governance performance and the effectiveness of interventions as well as the allocation of resources in the three cities (Azhar et al., 2024).

4.3 Variable Measurement

The study emphasizes three important governance variables, which are indicative of urban governance performance and institutional capacity.

Governance Severity

The Governance Severity describes the size and complexity of urban governance challenges that the city is experiencing. The indicator addresses problems like infrastructure needs, environmental pressures, service delivery issues, traffic congestion, and administrative coordination issues. These values can be translated as higher governance complexity and higher level of urban management issues (Faisal, 2024).

Intervention Effectiveness

By identifying governance outcomes and challenges that can be addressed through governance policies, strategic governance initiatives and institutional arrangements, Intervention Effectiveness assesses the effectiveness of these types of intervention. The indicator captures the performance in implementing a policy as well as making improvements in the delivery of services, and the effectiveness of governance reforms. The bigger the number the better the intervention outcomes and the more effective governance strategies (Gazdar, 2013).

Resource Endowment

Resource Endowment is the sources of monetary and institutional capacity that are available to enable urban governance and public service delivery. The indicator comprises such factors as budgetary capacity, public expenditure,

infrastructure investment and administrative resources provided to local governments. Areas with more governance capacity have higher scores, as do areas that have better institutional support for urban development and the implementation of urban policy (Qureshi, 2010).

5. Results

5.1 Descriptive Statistics

Table 2. Descriptive statistics of Urban Governance variables 2015-2024

Variable	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Standard Deviation
Governance Severity	0.274	0.950	0.703	0.285
Intervention Effectiveness	0.142	0.940	0.701	0.311
Resource Endowment (USD per Capita)	170	6200	3529.67	2457.24

Results show significant differences by the three governance indicators. The mean for Governance Severity was 0.703 (SD = 0.285), suggesting that there were significant inter-city variations in the level of governance complexity over the course of the study. A wide variation of governance situations within the observed urban contexts is indicated by the minimum of 0.274 and maximum of 0.950. The overall score for Intervention Effectiveness was an average of 0.701 (SD = 0.311), suggesting moderate to high scores of policy effectiveness overall. The fairly high standard deviation suggests a variation in the efficacy of governance interventions in the three

Table 2 shows the descriptive analysis of the variables related to urban governance that have been studied in this research in the three cities London, New York and Karachi from the year 2015 to 2024. The statistics give an overview of how governance severity and effectiveness of interventions, as well as the endowment of resources, are distributed and vary across the three cities.

cities to implement and sustain it effectively (Anwar, 2014). The variable with the highest differences was resource endowment. The average resource endowment was USD 3,529.67 per capita (SD = 2,457.24), with values ranging from USD 170 to USD 6,200. The significant financial/institutional gaps between Karachi, London, and NY explain part of this big gap. The observed variation gives an empirical starting point in order to better investigate the relationships between the effectiveness of resource endowment and the effectiveness of intervention in terms of governance performance in subsequent analysis.

5.2 Longitudinal Trends in Governance Severity

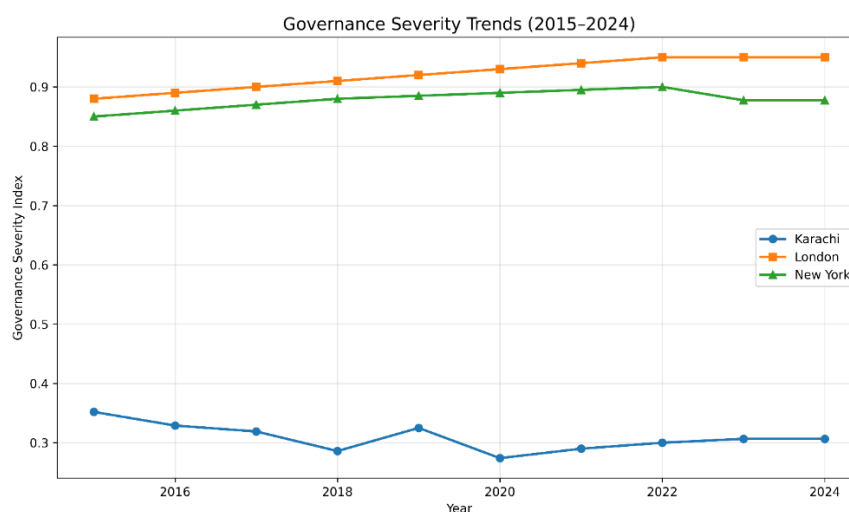


Figure 1. Urban Governance Complexity Trends in Karachi, London, and New York (2015 - 2024)

It shows the trajectories for governance severity in London, New York and Karachi for the period 2015-24 (Figure 1). The findings reveal significant variations in the governance conditions in the three cities over the years analyzed. In terms of the city with the highest values for governance, the figures are taken to London, which has increased from approximately 0.88 in 2015 to 0.95 in 2024. Similarly, New York has gone from 0.85 in 2015, to a peak of 0.90 in 2022 and hovered between about 0.88 the past few years in the study.

In contrast, Karachi's governance severity scores were very low during the decade averaged between 0.27 and 0.35. While there were some fluctuations,

the general pattern was fairly consistent in comparison to the steady rise in both London and New York. It highlights the fact that in mature metropolises, governance arrangements in these cities are starting to cope with the growing burden of the administrative and infrastructural requirements and policy co-ordination needs associated with their size and scale. The findings show a general trend of growing governance complexity over the years in cases of London and New York, and to a lesser extent, in Karachi where there was minimal change in the severity of governance over the time period under study (Rode, and da Cruz, 2025).

5.3 Longitudinal Trends in Intervention Effectiveness

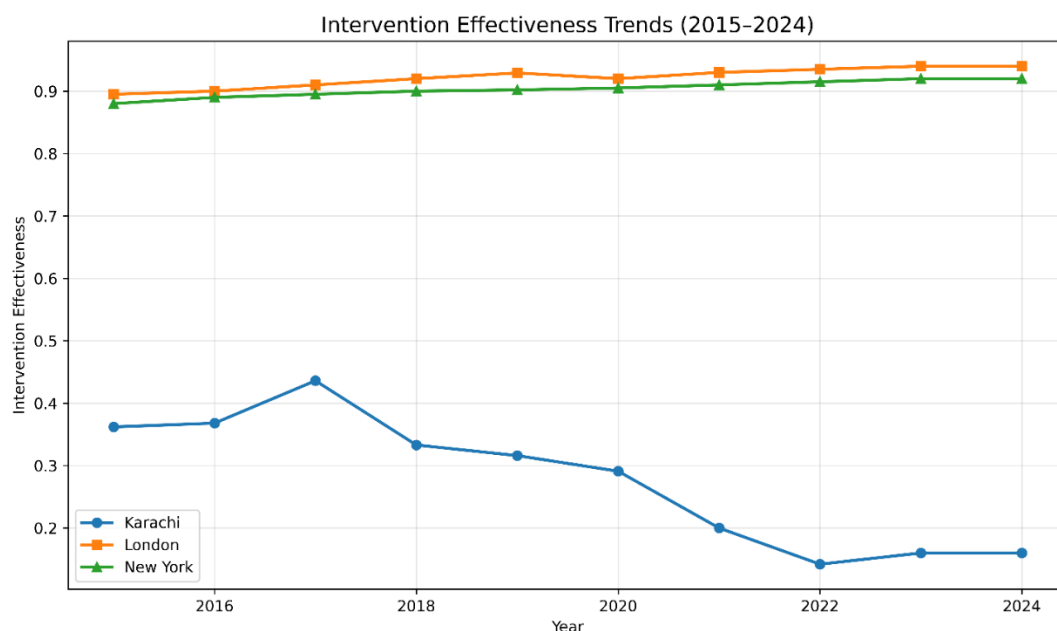


Figure 2. Intervention Effectiveness Trends (Karachi, London & New York 2015-2024)

The trends of intervention effectiveness within the three cities are presented in Figure 2. London also consistently achieved the highest level of intervention effectiveness across the study period, from ~0.89 in 2015 to 0.94 in 2024. There was a similar positive trend for New York, rising from 0.88 to 0.92 for the same timeframe. The results show no signs of a decline in the implementation of policies and the effects of governance interventions in the two metropolitan governance systems. On the contrary, Karachi had a falling pattern of effectiveness of interventions. The

impact of intervention has risen from around 0.36 in 2015 to nearly 0.44 in 2017, though it has fallen somewhat to a low of around 0.14 in 2022 before making a slight recovery in 2023 and 2024. The difference between Karachi and the two developed cities, some major differences in institutional capacities and the mechanisms of implementation of policies and governance resources can be observed. Generally, there was an increasing trend on intervention effectiveness from 2000 to 2010 and a significant decreasing trend from 2000 to 2010 in Karachi.

5.4 Longitudinal Trends in Resource Endowment

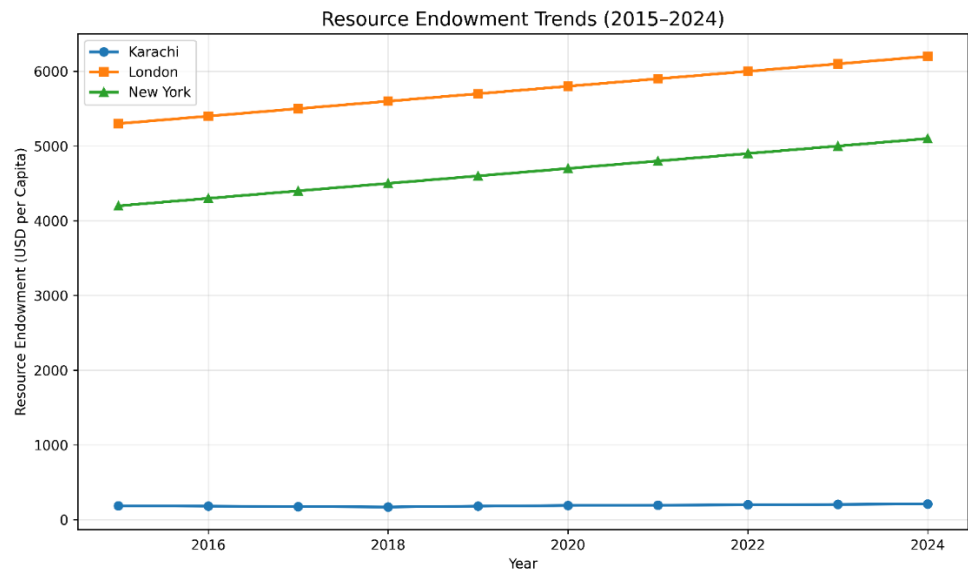


Figure 3. Resource Endowment Trends in Karachi, London, and New York (2015–2024)

The evolutions of the resource endowments for the three cities are shown in Figure 3. The outcomes show major differences in fiscal and institutional capabilities during the study period. London had resource endowment at the highest level, growing consistently from around USD 5,300 per capita in 2015 to USD 6,200 per capita in 2024. There was also strong growth in New York, with the city's resource endowment growing from around USD 4,200 per capita to USD 5,100 per capita in that same time period.

Karachi, in contrast, was significantly under-resourced with an average of around USD 170-220 per capita over the decade. While small gains did equate to small resources available after 2018, the amount was still much lower than for London and New York. The findings demonstrate that fiscal capacity gaps exist between the three cities, and that special-education performance and effectiveness in governance may be affected based on the existence of fiscal inequality. The sustained improvement in the trend in London and New York suggests progress in institutional capacities; the limited capacity growth in resources also reflects weaknesses in governance financing and public-sector investment in the city of Karachi.

5.5 Pearson Correlation Analysis

Pearson correlation coefficients were used to explore relationships between measures of governance severity, effectiveness of interventions and resource endowment. The findings are given in Table 3.

Table 3. Pearson Correlation Matrix

Variable	1	2	3
1. Governance Severity	1.000		
2. Intervention Effectiveness	0.984***	1.000	
3. Resource Endowment	0.990***	0.967***	1.000

***p < 0.001

The analysis shows very high positive correlation between all the variables of the study. The correlation between Governance Severity and Intervention Effectiveness is very strong and positive ($r = 0.984, p < 0.001$), suggesting that the cities with the more complex the governance are also more likely to have strong intervention results. Likewise, there is a strong correlation between Resource Endowment and Governance Severity ($r = 0.990, p < 0.001$), meaning that the more financial and institutional resources a city has, the more governance complexity (severity)

there will be related to delivering large-scale metropolitan administration (Anwar, 2013). Resource Endowment is also highly positively correlated with Intervention Effectiveness ($r = 0.967, p < .001$). This discovery gives a preliminary proof of the fact that supply matters a lot in making governance interventions more effective and enabling policy implementation. In general, the correlation analysis suggests that resource capacity, governance complexity and effectiveness of intervention are all highly interrelated within the three cities for the period of study.

5.5 Pearson Correlation Analysis

Pearson correlation coefficients were performed to explore the relationships between governance levels, effectiveness of interventions and endowment of resources. The results are shown in the Table 4.

Table 4. Pearson Correlation Matrix

Variable	1	2	3
1. Governance Severity	1.000		
2. Intervention Effectiveness	0.984***	1.000	
3. Resource Endowment	0.990***	0.967***	1.000

*** $p < 0.001$

The value of results shows a very high positive correlation among all the variables in this study. Intervention Effectiveness is also very positively correlated with Governance Severity ($r = 0.984, p < 0.001$); cities with more severe aspects of governance also have higher values for Intervention Effectiveness. In the same way, Governance Severity is well correlated with Resource Endowment ($r = 0.990, p < 0.001$), indicating that those cities with more financial and institutional resources tend to have more severe governance in relation to metropolitan scale administration (da Cruz et al., 2023).

Good correlation exists between Resource Endowment and Intervention Effectiveness ($r = 0.967, p < 0.001$). This finding offers some initial evidence towards the claim that resource availability is a key for improving the effectiveness

of governance interventions and implementation. The overall correlation analysis suggest that over the study period, there is a high correlation among resource capacity, governance complexity, and intervention effectiveness across the three cities (Qureshi, 2010).

5.6 Regression Analysis

Simple linear regression model was developed and estimated to look for the impact of Resource Endowment on Intervention Effectiveness. Independent variable was Resource Endowment and the dependent variable was Intervention Effectiveness.

Table 5. Regression Results: Effect of Resource Endowment on Intervention Effectiveness

Variable	B	Std. Error	t-value	p-value
Constant	0.269	—	—	< 0.001
Resource Endowment	0.000122	—	—	< 0.001

Model Statistics	Value
R ²	0.935
Adjusted R ²	0.933
F-statistic	Significant
Model p-value	< 0.001
Observations	30

The regression outcome exhibits that Resource Endowment is on the other hand extremely certainly and positively affecting Intervention Effectiveness. The estimated coefficient ($B = 0.000122, p < 0.001$) suggests improving intervention outcomes are associated with increased resources in all three cities.

The model accounts for about 93.5% of the variance in values of the Intervention Effectiveness ($R^2 = 0.935$), indicating high explaining power. All model is statistically

significant ($p < 0.001$), that is, the Resource Endowment is one of the important concerns of governance intervention performance (Pierre, 2012).

This supports Hypothesis 1 that the more resources to which you have access, the more effective is the effectiveness of intervention. The findings also indicate that variance in fiscal and institutional capacity plays an important part in explaining differences in results of governance in Karachi, London and New York.

5.7 Comparative Analysis across Cities

Welch's Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) was applied to see if there were significant differences among the three cities, Karachi, London and New York, in relation to governance indicators. Welch's ANOVA was chosen as it is not sensitive to unequal variances and is suitable for comparative analyses for groups with unequal variances.

Table 6. Welch's ANOVA Results

Variable	Welch's F	p-value	Decision
Governance Severity	182.47	< 0.001	Significant
Intervention Effectiveness	214.93	< 0.001	Significant
Resource Endowment	3,856.74	< 0.001	Significant

The findings show statistically significant differences between the governance indicators studied for all three cities (Karachi, London and New York). There was a significant difference between the three cities on Governance Severity (Welch's $F = 182.47$, $p < 0.001$), indicating a large variation in the complexities of the governance and challenges of urban management. Likewise, statistically important differences were found at Intervention Effectiveness (Welch's $F = 214.93$, $p < 0.001$), which reveals that there are differences at the city level in the ability to implement successful governance interventions (Xu et al., 2025).

The biggest differences found were between the three cities for Resource Endowment (Welch's $F = 3856.74$, $p < 0.001$), indicating significant

variations in fiscal and institutional resources. These results support Hypothesis 2, which suggested that there are significant differences among governance indicators in Karachi as compared to London and New York.

Table 7. Games–Howell Post Hoc Comparisons

Panel A: Governance Severity

Comparison	Mean Difference	p-value
Karachi vs London	-0.623	< 0.001
Karachi vs New York	-0.584	< 0.001
London vs New York	0.039	0.041

Panel B: Intervention Effectiveness

Comparison	Mean Difference	p-value
Karachi vs London	-0.644	< 0.001
Karachi vs New York	-0.607	< 0.001
London vs New York	0.037	0.048

Panel C: Resource Endowment

Comparison	Mean Difference (USD per Capita)	p-value
Karachi vs London	-5,490	< 0.001
Karachi vs New York	-4,590	< 0.001
London vs New York	900	< 0.001

Howell results of the Games show that there exists a significant difference between the value of indicators of governance in Karachi in comparison to London and New York. The widest gaps were found for Resource Endowment in which levels of fiscal and institutional capacity in London and New York continued to be far higher compared to Karachi during the study.

While there was relatively little change in a governance profile between London and New

York, there were also statistically significant differences. Throughout, London showed marginally higher governance complexity, effectiveness of interventions, and endowment of resources than New York. The results indicate that overall differences in governance performance in the three metros are both significant and related to differences in resource capacity and institutional arrangements.

6. Discussion

6.1 Interpretation of Key Findings

This analysis focused on the correlation between resource, effectiveness of intervention, and governance in three jurisdictions (Karachi, London, and New York) in the years 2015–24. The results show that there are significant gaps in governance capacity and policy performance of the three cities' governments. Longitudinal study indicates that London and New York were always more effective in terms of intervention impact and resource endowment, and also have a more complex governance model. The results point to a close link between the availability of financial and institutional resources to support policy implementation and service delivery and governance outcomes in urban areas (Zhang et al., 2025).

Additionally, the findings of the trend analysis show that the complexity of governance in London and New York has been adding up little by little as the years have progressed, as does the complexity around managing a large metropolitan system. However, the effectiveness of intervention was relatively stable, and continued to gain in both city centers. By contrast, the level of resource endowment, intervention effectiveness in Karachi were relatively moderate, so as to point that institutional and fiscal limits are still hindering the governance performance in Karachi.

6.2 Resource Endowment and Governance Performance

The most relevant result of this study is that there is a strong correlation between resource, endowment and effectiveness of the intervention.

Finance and institutional resources seem to be affecting the ability to implement effective governance interventions: cities with more resources are more likely to implement these interventions. This finding validates Hypothesis 1 and further strengthens the argument for the role of resources availability as a crucial starting point of successful urban governance.

More than anything else, the findings align with previous studies in the field of urban governance that have placed a focus on the capacity of cities in terms of their fiscal capacity, administrative resources, and institutional support. The richer the city the more likely it is to have the capital to invest in infrastructure, technological innovations, provision of public services and the mechanisms to enact the policies. This means that governance interventions also are more likely to have positive results where there are sufficient financial and institutional resources in place (Ogunkan et al., 2025).

Findings also indicate that the positive and indirect relationship between the levels of resource endowment and governance performance lies in the effectiveness of interventions. This relationship between resource base gains and improvements in urban management and services seems to be stronger in cities with greater resource bases.

6.3 Comparative Governance Differences Across Cities

Using the Welch ANOVA analysis, the Games–Howell test, significant differences are observed among all three cities (Karachi, London and New York) with regard to each governance indicator. This finding confirms Hypothesis 2 and shows that there is significant variation in the urban governance outcomes of cities in different institutional settings.

London consistently had the highest rates of resource endowment and the effectiveness of interventions and New York was not far behind. Both cities have well-developed administrative systems, good fiscal capacity and established governance institutions, which promote policy implementation and long-term urban planning. In

contrast, Karachi experienced significantly low rates of resource endowment and effectiveness of interventions, showing the problems with rapid urbanisation faced by cities in developing countries (Kola, 2025).

These differences emphasize the role of institutional ability in the politics of development. Although governance issues are found in every city, the capacity to respond to the issues efficiently largely depends on the inputs of resources and performance of the governance institutions.

6.4 Implications for Urban Governance Theory

This will add to the body of urban governance literature by illustrating that the capacity of resources is a core necessity for enabling good governance. The findings show that in addition to governance structures and institutional arrangements, financial and administrative resources are also critical when it comes to policy success.

The study also points to the importance of taking a comparative, longitudinal approach in urban governance studies. Past surveys have tended to have the limitations that they focus on one single city or one short-term policy intervention. Using a decade's worth of governance trends, this paper offers some performance evidence that governance outcomes are determined by the on-going dynamics of institutions and resources, not by single policy initiatives.

Moreover, the results indicate that there is no contradiction between the concept of governance complexity and that of governance effectiveness. Very urban places like London and New York have the potential to be more complex to govern due to size, density and institutional roles, but are able to produce good governance outcomes because they have better resource capacity and administration (Sisson et al., 2025).

6.5 Policy Implications

The capacity of the countries has been prioritized and strengthening it is a priority for improving the performance of governance. To improve the

capacities of local governments to put in place effective interventions, investments in infrastructure, public services, administrative modernization and institutional development are needed.

Second, cities with limited resources should be able to decide on the smart use of available resources to high impact governance initiatives. With limited financial resources, simply increasing their efficiency and coordination may yield significant governance gains.

Third, we see through the London and New York experiences that people need to be long-term thinkers and continuously invest in governance systems. There is need to implement governance changes that enhance institutional capability, financial management and evidence based decision making in policymaking in rapidly urbanising cities like Karachi.

6.6 Study Limitations and Future Research

There are some drawbacks to be taken into account. First, the study is purely desk study; thus, it is difficult to reflect citizen perceptions and stakeholder experiences of the performance of governance. Secondly, the analysis is only three cities so it does not necessarily reflect the full range of governance conditions in areas of other metros. Third, the study has measured governance in a limited number of indicators and not measured other factors like impacts of technology, citizen participation, political stability, and environment.

Future research efforts need to broaden the scope of the study by comparing more cities and cities from other rich and poor areas. Evidence and qualitative evaluations derived from surveys could give better insights into how the mechanisms behind the effects of resource capacity on governance outcomes can be understood. Future research may also be done on the impact of digital governance, smart-cities and the citizens' engagement on long-term urban governance performance.

6.7 Research Contributions

This research has three key takeaways for the urban governance field.

First, it offers a comparative analysis of the changes in governance dynamics within the three cities that was done both across ten years and across cities, raising the limited body of cross-city longitudinal research on governance.

Second, the study models in an integrated way the relationship between resource endowment and effectiveness of intervention, and between intervention effectiveness and the quality of governance performance, and collects empirical evidence to show the linkage between institutional capacity and governance outcomes.

Third, they can add to the body of comparative studies on urban governance with evidence of how variations in fiscal and institutional capacities affect the effectiveness of governance in metropolises of the Global North and South. The findings emphasise the crucial role of the availability of resources to effective urban governance and the longer term of policy implementation.

7. Conclusions

This paper investigated urban governance regimes in Karachi, London and New York by using comparative-longitudinal analysis (2015–2024). Drawing on secondary data about governance complexity, effectiveness of interventions and resources endowment, the research was conducted to analyze the governance outcomes as a function of institutional capacity and resource availability in different metro contexts.

Results show considerable variability between each city in the area of governance performance and resource capacity. London and New York consistently reported higher levels of intervention effectiveness and resource endowment as well as reduced capacity and fiscal resources in Karachi. Longitudinal analysis also indicated that resource availability was strongly linked to the effectiveness of the interventions during the course of the study, emphasising the need for sufficient financial and

institutional resources to support effective urban governance.

Correlation and regression analysis substantiated this strong association between resource endowment and the effectiveness of interventions and thus the predictive value of the belief that resource capacity is a key determinant of governance performance. Moreover, Welch's ANOVA and Games–Howell post hoc test resulted that the difference between Karachi, London and New York is statistically significant in all governance parameters thus showing that institutional and fiscal variations does matter when it comes to the governance outcomes.

Theoretically, it adds to the literature on urban governance the significance of resource capacity as a key factor in governance effectiveness. The results indicate that the complexity of governance can grow with urban scale and metropolitan sprawl but those cities with better financial and institutional resources are more likely to be able to cope successfully. As such, it strengthens the argument to consider resource-based approaches in present urban governance studies.

Policy implications highlight the importance of continued investments in governance institutions, infrastructure development, and administrative capacity development. In urbanizing cities like Karachi, effective governance characterized by better-equipped fiscal capacity, better institutional coordination and an evidence-based governance approach are essential prerequisites to improve outcomes toward sustainable urban development.

8. Data Availability Statement

This study relied on secondary data collected from available municipal reports and government statistical publications, urban development plans, and relevant literature from international databases on governance for the years 2015 to 2024. Processed dataset (for analysis) was made available by the corresponding author on reasonable demand.

9. Statement of Conflict

The author has no potential conflicts of interest to declare in connection with the research, authorship and/or publication of this article.

10. Funding Sources

I appreciate the resources provided by the key National Social Science Fund Major Program: "Research on the Theoretical Connotations, Practical Pathways, and Safeguarding Mechanisms for Transforming Urban Development Models" (24ZDA051)

National Social Science Fund Key Program: "Research on the Modernization of Governance Systems and Governance Capabilities in Megacities" (22AZD141)

11. Acknowledgments

I want to express my sincere gratitude to Chen Wen for their invaluable guidance and support throughout this research. Their expertise and insightful feedback were essential in shaping the direction of this paper.

Reference

- Allen, C., Malekpour, S. and Mintrom, M., (2023). Cross-scale, cross-level and multi-actor governance of transformations toward the sustainable development goals: A review of common challenges and solutions. *Sustainable Development*, 31(3), pp.1250-1267.
- Andersen, H.T. and Damurski, L., (2022). Towards political cohesion in metropolitan areas: an overview of governance models. *Bulletin of Geography. Socio-economic Series*, (56), pp.43-62.
- Anwar, N.H., (2013). *Planning Karachi's urban futures*. Singapore: Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore.
- Anwar, N.H., (2014). Urban transformations: Brokers, collaborative governance and community building in Karachi's periphery. *South Asian History and Culture*, 5(1), pp.75-92.
- Ansell, C., & Gash, A. (2008). Collaborative governance in theory and practice. *Journal of public administration research and theory*, 18(4), 543-571.
- Azam, A., Khattak, M.U. and ul Ain, Q., (2025). A comprehensive assessment of Pakistan's national internal security policy framework. *Global Change, Peace & Security*, pp.1-22.
- Azhar, N., Khan, R.A. and Arif, F., (2024). Challenges to sustainable city development for Karachi-Pakistan. *Construction Technologies and Architecture*, 13, pp.189-196.
- Bhattarai, K. and Yousef, M., (2025). Urbanization and Sustainability in MENA: Challenges and Pathways to Smart Cities. In *The Middle East: Past, Present, and Future* (pp. 167-216). Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland.
- Bhunia, A., Chatterjee, U., Gupta, J. and Gupta, K., (2025). Urbanisation and Quality of Life: A Comparative Assessment between Developed and Developing Countries. In *Sustainability and Urban Quality of Life* (pp. 3-21). Routledge India.
- Bibri, S.E. and Krogstie, J., (2020). The emerging data-driven Smart City and its innovative applied solutions for sustainability: The cases of London and Barcelona. *Energy Informatics*, 3(1), p.5.
- Bloom, A., (2024). Public land, value capture, and the rise of speculative urban governance in post-crisis London. *Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space*, 56(6), pp.1771-1786.
- Camponeschi, C., (2021). Narratives of vulnerability and resilience: An investigation of the climate action plans of New York City and Copenhagen. *Geoforum*, 123, pp.78-88.
- Cheema, S., (2020). Governance for urban services: towards political and social inclusion in cities. In *Governance for Urban Services: Access, Participation, Accountability, and Transparency* (pp. 1-30). Singapore: Springer Singapore.
- da Cruz, N.F., Rode, P., McQuarrie, M., Badstuber, N. and Robin, E., (2023). Networked urban governance: A socio-structural analysis of transport strategies in London and New York. *Urban Affairs Review*, 59(6), pp.1908-1949.

- Dadashpoor, H. and Yousefi, Z., (2018). Centralization or decentralization? A review on the effects of information and communication technology on urban spatial structure. *Cities*, 78, pp.194-205.
- Emerson, K., & Nabatchi, T. (2015). Evaluating the productivity of collaborative governance regimes: A performance matrix. *Public Performance & Management Review*, 38(4), 717-
- Faisal, A., (2024). The Political Economy of Land Development in Karachi (Master's thesis, Dartmouth College).
- Fernandes Barata, A., Harland, R.G., Kim, M., Larimian, T., Natapov, A., Palaologou, F. and Weightman, J., (2025). Learning from the participatory practices of urban observatories to co-create a new town observatory in Loughborough, UK. *Journal of Urban Affairs*, pp.1-17.
- Fowle, M.Z., (2022). Racialized homelessness: A review of historical and contemporary causes of racial disparities in homelessness. *Housing Policy Debate*, 32(6), pp.940-967.
- Gazdar, H. and Mallah, H.B., (2013). Informality and political violence in Karachi. *Urban Studies*, 50(15), pp.3099-3115.
- Hasan, A., (2020). The changing nature of informal settlements in the megapolis in South Asia: the case of Karachi, Pakistan. In *Communities, land and social innovation* (pp. 91-108). Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Hasan, A., Ahmed, N., Raza, M., Sadiq, A., Ahmed, S. and Sarwar, M.B., (2013). Land ownership, control and contestation in Karachi and implications for low-income housing. London, UK: Human Settlements Group, International Institute for Environment and Development.
- Hermansyah, H., Zubaidah, S., Jumroh, J. and Ahmadi, Z., (2024). Strengthening collaborative governance in the Department of Transportation: implementation and enforcement levies. *Journal of Contemporary Governance and Public Policy*, 5(2), pp.193-216.
- Hölscher, K., Frantzeskaki, N., McPhearson, T. and Loorbach, D., (2020). Capacities for Transformative Climate Governance in New York City. In *Transformative Climate Governance: A Capacities Perspective to Systematise, Evaluate and Guide Climate Action* (pp. 205-240). Cham: Springer International Publishing.
- Hussain, A., (2016). Urbanization and Governance of Institutions in Karachi. *Journal of Independent Studies & Research: Management & Social Sciences & Economics*, 14(2), pp.96-105.
- Ismail, M., Mehdi, A., Ali, F., Gilani, A. and Ahmad, N., (2025). The Dynamics of Political Instability in Pakistan: Causes, Impacts, and Pathways to Stability. *Social Science Review Archives*, 3(1), pp.984-992.
- Jatoi, B.A. and Zhang, Y.A., (2025). Karachi as an Urban Center of Nationalism. *Journal of History and Social Sciences*, 16(1), pp.01-16.
- Javed, N., Hasan, R. and Qureshi, N.N., (2020). Developing a National Urban Policy: A Case Study of Pakistan: From Messy and Hidden Urbanisation to Smart and Green Cities. In *Developing National Urban Policies: Ways Forward to Green and Smart Cities* (pp. 121-146). Singapore: Springer Nature Singapore.
- Kantor, P., Lefèvre, C., Saito, A., Savitch, H.V. and Thornley, A., (2012). *Struggling giants: city-region governance in London, New York, Paris, and Tokyo*. U of Minnesota Press.
- Kaufmann, D., Leautier, F. and Mastruzzi, M., (2005). Governance and the city: An empirical exploration into global determinants of urban performance. *World Bank Policy Research Working Paper*, (3712).
- Kausar, A., Zubair, S., Sohail, H., Anwar, M.M., Aziz, A., Vambol, S., Vambol, V., Khan, N.A., Poteriaiko, S., Tyshchenko, V. and Murasov, R., (2024). Evaluating the challenges and impacts of mixed-use neighborhoods on urban planning: an empirical study of a megacity, Karachi, Pakistan. *Discover Sustainability*, 5(1), p.24.
- Khan, D. and Azhar, S., (2024). Infrastructural Development, Dispossession, and Land-Use: Localized 'Socio-Institutional' Analysis of Agrarian Transformation in Punjab, Pakistan. *Journal of Economic Issues*, 58(3), pp.947-963.
- Khan, R.U.A., Shahid, A. and Idrees, R.Q., (2023). Combating Land Grabbing in Pakistan: Legal Challenges and Reforms. *Qlantic Journal of Social Sciences*, 4(3), pp.254-267.
- Kola, A., (2025). Navigating Urban Mobility: A Comparative Analysis of Transportation Policies in London and New York City. *The Social Contract*, 17(1).

- Lee, H. and Park, M.S., (2023). Transformation of the global governance in the cocoa sector with three characteristics: Diversification, flexibilization, and coordination. *Forest Policy and Economics*, 153, p.102977.
- Mallick, A., (2024). Spaces of melancholia, melancholias of space: Shifting structures of feeling in post-independence Karachi. *Political Geography*, 109, p.103067.
- Naqvi, I., Poorthuis, A. and Govind, A., (2021). Urban governance and electricity losses: An exploration of spatial unevenness in Karachi, Pakistan. *Energy Research & Social Science*, 79, p.102166.
- Ogunkan, D.V. and Ogunkan, S.K., (2025). Exploring big data applications in sustainable urban infrastructure: A review. *Urban Governance*.
- Pal, B.K., Mishra, S.V., Mafizul Haque, S. and Chakraborty, M., (2022). Reading variegated dispossession in an Asian megacity. *Housing, Theory and Society*, 39(2), pp.217-237.
- Parsons, K., Lang, T. and Barling, D., (2021). London's food policy: Leveraging the policy sub-system, programme and plan. *Food Policy*, 103, p.102037.
- Paul, D., Thompson, B.S. and Farrelly, M., (2024). Placing civil society in water security governance: challenges and opportunities for engagement. *Journal of Environmental Policy & Planning*, 26(3), pp.233-248.
- Pierre, J. and Peters, B.G., (2012). Urban governance. *The Oxford handbook of urban politics*, pp.71-86.
- Przebylłowicz, E. and Cunha, M.A., (2024). Governing in the digital age: The emergence of dynamic smart urban governance modes. *Government Information Quarterly*, 41(1), p.101907.
- Qureshi, S., (2010). The fast growing megacity Karachi as a frontier of environmental challenges: Urbanization and contemporary urbanism issues. *Journal of Geography and Regional Planning*, 3(11), p.306.
- Qureshi, S., (2010). The fast growing megacity Karachi as a frontier of environmental challenges: Urbanization and contemporary urbanism issues. *Journal of Geography and Regional Planning*, 3(11), p.306.
- Rode, P. and da Cruz, N., (2025). The empirical study of urban transport governance. In *Handbook of Transportation and Public Policy* (pp. 427-446). Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Scott, M., Sturzaker, J., Gallent, N., Parker, G., Burnett, A. and Mell, I. eds., (2025). *Rural planning futures: principles, policy and practice in the UK and Ireland*. Taylor & Francis.
- Shaheen, F., (2018). Comparing informal sector engagement across Pakistan's largest urban centers: Lessons in state and non-state engagement from Karachi and Lahore. In *Metropolitan Governance in Asia and the Pacific Rim: Borders, Challenges, Futures* (pp. 95-122). Singapore: Springer Singapore.
- Sisson, A., McGuirk, P., Dowling, R., Baker, T. and Maalsen, S., (2025). Innovating urban governance through 'Challenges'. *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 47(4), pp.1229-1245.
- Szpak, A., Gawłowski, R., Modrzyńska, J., Modrzyński, P. and Dahl, M., (2022). The Role of Cities in International Relations: The Third-generation of Multi-level Governance?. In *The Role of Cities in International Relations*. Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Triandafyllidou, A. and Yeoh, B.S., (2023). Sustainability and resilience in migration governance for a post-pandemic world. *Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies*, 21(1), pp.1-14.
- Waheed, A., Qadar, A. and Mehmood, Y., (2022). Utopia of social distancing and dystopia of living in slums: urban poor's perspectives from the global south and the theory of planned behaviour. *Local Environment*, 27(9), pp.1122-1132.
- Xu, Y., Cugurullo, F., Zhang, H., Gaio, A. and Zhang, W., (2025). The emergence of artificial intelligence in anticipatory urban governance: Multi-scalar evidence of China's transition to city brains. *Journal of Urban Technology*, 32(3), pp.9-33.
- Yilmaz, I. and Batool, F., (2025). The Historical and Populist Construction of "The People" and "The Anti-People" in Pakistan. In *Populist Identification in Public Discourse: Pakistanis Constructing Pakistani* (pp. 35-76). Singapore: Springer Nature Singapore.
- Zaidi, A.R., Qazi, N., Hassan, N., Alias Khalid Malokani, D.K. and Amjad, A., (2023). Innovative urban policies in the post-development era: insights from East Asia. *Journal of Positive School Psychology*, 7(2).

- Zhang, K. and Hao, X., (2024). Corporate social responsibility as the pathway towards sustainability: A state-of-the-art review in Asia economics. *Discover Sustainability*, 5(1), p.348.
- Zhang, R., Martí Casanovas, M., Bosch González, M. and Sun, S., (2025). Public value in historic environment regeneration in China: A public perception perspective on spatial form, urban governance, and people's experience (2000–2020). *Land*, 14(2), p.267.