

Instructions to Authors

Abstract: The abstract should be prepared as one paragraph (about 200 to 300 words). Abstract must state the overarching goal or main objective(s) as well as the purpose/rationale of study in 2 or 3 sentences. This should be followed by, succinctly stating the data used, approach adopted, and methods used. Scope and study area maybe mentioned. The key focus of the paper should be highlighted. What was achieved and/or what were the strengths and limitations should be pointed out. Any societal benefits and/or breakthroughs are worth mentioning. Abstract must be self contained and a reader does not have to read through the paper to understand it. So, please spell out any acronyms.

Keywords: A list of three to ten keywords must be given, and placed after the Abstract.

Key components of the paper: Overall, all papers should consider most of these (ideally all of these) sections: Abstract, Background and rationale, goal and/or objectives, study area, approach, methods, discussions, conclusions, references, figures, and tables. In rare cases appendices. Where necessary, and in very rare cases, acronyms and abbreviations. Papers should be based on sound theory, data, analysis, validation, conclusions, and good English.

Figures: All images and maps must have scale, north arrow, and coordinates. Figure captions must be self-contained and a reader need not have to read through the text to understand a figure

Discussions: It is essential to discuss your results in detail taking into consideration other published work on the subject. You should tell the readers, how your results compare with other studies and/or how yours is a pathfinding work. In discussions, it is essential to appropriately refer to other published work relative to the results obtained in your paper.

Conclusions: Conclusions should be concise and precise and should include: (a) significant achievement or outcome of the study, (b) any new findings, (c) knowledge advancement, (d) uniqueness, and (e) way forward. In case of review papers, the conclusions should summarize the “state-of-art” of knowledge, knowledge gaps, and suggest ideas for way forward. At times, authors tend combine discussions and conclusions in a single section. This is not acceptable. The purpose of the conclusions is to show the real contribution of the research conducted to enhance our knowledge. Discussions are to show how your study compares with other studies and in rare cases how your study sets the stage. Conclusions must be self contained and a reader does not have to read through the paper to understand it. So, please spell out any acronyms.

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