



REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-56332

Title: The Interplay of Urban Natural Capital and Livelihoods: A Study of Community Perceptions and Eco-Restoration Efforts along the Cooum River, Chennai**Recommendation:**

Accept after Major Revision

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality			✓	
Clarity			✓	
Significance		✓		

Reviewer Name: Dr. Zainuddin

Detailed Reviewer's Report

- Methodology (Critical):** The paper provides no description of its research methodology. The reader is told that 373 respondents were surveyed, but there is no information on the sampling frame, sampling technique (random, purposive, snowball?), the survey instrument, the period of data collection, or how the resettlement sites were selected. This information is indispensable for assessing the validity and generalizability of the findings. A dedicated 'Research Methodology' section must be added before the data analysis.
- Conceptual Clarity on 'Urban Natural Capital':** The paper's central concept — that land/space constitutes natural capital in an urban context — is its most interesting claim, but it is under-theorized. The authors should explicitly engage with the debate about whether urban land is more appropriately classified under physical or natural capital within the SLA pentagram. Citing Scoones (1998) or more recent critiques of the SLA in urban contexts (e.g., Rakodi & Lloyd-Jones, 2002) would strengthen this section considerably.
- Statistical Depth:** All analysis is univariate (frequencies and percentages). Given a sample of n=373, the authors should present cross-tabulations to test whether perceptions of space vs. water problems vary by gender, household tenure status, or distance from original riverbank settlement. The absence of any inferential statistics or bivariate analysis weakens the empirical contribution significantly.
- Incomplete References:** References 2 and 3 in the bibliography are incomplete and do not conform to any standard citation format. Reference 2 (NIDM, 2025) lacks a publisher location and full title. Reference 3 has no author, volume, or page range. All references must be formatted consistently using APA 7th edition.
- Abstract Citation Error:** The citation '(Kozhikode, 2020)' appears embedded mid-sentence within the abstract. Citations are not standard practice in abstracts for this journal. This reference and its placement should be corrected; the citation belongs in the body of the Introduction.