



Environmental Science and Sustainable Development

Author Pre-Submission Checklist (Scopus-Oriented)

1. Editorial and Formatting Compliance

- The manuscript strictly follows the **official ESSD template** (layout, margins, fonts, headings, captions).
 - The manuscript complies with the **word/page limits** specified by the journal.
 - The paper is written in **clear, accurate academic English** (language editing recommended).
 - The title is clear, specific, and fully consistent with the paper's content.
 - The abstract is informative and coherent with the aims, methodology, and main findings.
 - Keywords (5–7) are relevant and not repetitive of the title.
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2. Originality and Scientific Relevance

- The manuscript is **original** and not under review elsewhere.
 - The topic falls clearly within the scope of **Engineering, Sustainability, and Sustainable Development**.
 - The **research gap** is clearly identified and justified.
 - The scientific contribution (theoretical, methodological, empirical, or applied) is explicitly stated.
 - The relevance of the paper to the **international scientific community** is clearly demonstrated.
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3. Theoretical Framework and Literature Review

- The literature review is **relevant, critical, and well-structured**.
 - The review includes **recent and international references**, preferably from indexed journals.
 - The theoretical framework is coherent with the research objectives.
 - Sources are **critically discussed**, not merely described.
 - Citations are consistently formatted using the **author–year referencing style**.
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4. Research Objectives and Questions

- Research objectives are clearly defined and explicitly stated.
 - Research questions and/or hypotheses (if applicable) are clearly formulated.
 - There is a clear logical link between objectives, methodology, and results.
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5. Methodology

- The methodology is **clearly described, transparent, and replicable**.
 - Research design, tools, data sources, and procedural steps are fully explained.
 - The methodological approach is appropriate to the stated objectives.
 - Methodological limitations are acknowledged.
 - For case studies, the context, selection criteria, and scale of analysis are clearly defined.
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6. Results

- Results are presented **clearly and systematically**, separate from the discussion.
 - Tables and figures are clear, numbered, cited in the text, and scientifically relevant.
 - Results go beyond description and include analytical insights.
 - No unnecessary repetition occurs between text, tables, and figures.
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7. Discussion

- Results are **critically interpreted** in relation to the existing literature.
 - The scientific contribution of the findings is explicitly highlighted.
 - Theoretical and/or practical implications are clearly discussed.
 - The discussion does not simply repeat the results but provides interpretation and synthesis.
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8. Conclusions and Future Research

- Conclusions clearly address the research objectives and questions.
 - The main scientific outcomes of the study are clearly summarized.
 - Study limitations are transparently acknowledged.
 - Directions for **future research** are clearly identified.
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9. Ethics, Transparency, and Scientific Integrity

- All sources are properly cited, and the manuscript is free from plagiarism.
 - Data, images, and materials are original or used with appropriate permissions.
 - Any potential conflicts of interest are clearly disclosed.
 - The writing style is objective, scientific, and non-promotional.
 - The authors explicitly declare that the manuscript has not been written using Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools and that all content reflects the authors' original intellectual work.
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10. Bibliography and References

- The reference list includes **authoritative and peer-reviewed scientific sources**.
 - An appropriate proportion of **international literature** is included.
 - References are **up to date** (last 5–10 years), except for seminal works.
 - All references cited in the text appear in the reference list and vice versa.
 - The bibliography strictly follows **ESSD formatting guidelines** (author–year style).
 - Journal titles, volumes, issues, page ranges, and DOIs are complete and accurate.
 - Self-citations are limited, relevant, and scientifically justified.
 - The reference list demonstrates a **critical and comprehensive understanding of the state of the art**.
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11. Alignment with Scopus Quality Standards

- The manuscript presents a **clear and identifiable scientific contribution**.
- There is strong logical coherence across all sections of the paper.
- The methodological and argumentative framework is robust.
- The topic and findings are relevant at an **international level**.
- The overall quality meets the standards of an **international peer-reviewed journal**.