

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	International Journal of Environment and Climate Change
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJECC_126410
Title of the Manuscript:	Participatory Communication Approach in Environment Conservation: A Case Analysis of Voluntary Initiative by 'Dhauladhar Cleaners' in Himachal Pradesh
Type of the Article	

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PART 1: Review Comments

Compulsory REVISION comments	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback (Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<p>Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. Why do you like (or dislike) this manuscript? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</p>	<p>This manuscript highlights the critical role of participatory communication in environmental conservation, particularly in the context of mountainous regions like Himachal Pradesh. By examining the efforts of the Dhauladhar Cleaners, it demonstrates how grassroots initiatives can effectively engage communities in sustainable practices, thereby contributing to broader environmental goals. I appreciate the manuscript's mixed-methods approach, which combines qualitative insights with quantitative data to provide a comprehensive understanding of community dynamics and behavioral changes. Additionally, the emphasis on social media as a tool for mobilization and awareness is particularly relevant in today's digital landscape, making this research significant for scholars and practitioners aiming to enhance community engagement in environmental sustainability.</p>	
<p>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</p>	<p>The title is suitable as it clearly conveys the focus on participatory communication strategies in environmental conservation through the case study of the Dhauladhar Cleaners in Himachal Pradesh.</p>	
<p>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.</p>	<p>The abstract is comprehensive as it outlines the study's objectives, methods, findings, and implications for environmental conservation. However, to enhance clarity and completeness, I suggest including specific quantitative results from the study to provide a clearer picture of the impact of the Dhauladhar Cleaners' initiatives, as well as mentioning any limitations or future research directions. Additionally, a brief statement on the broader significance of the findings in relation to global environmental challenges could further contextualize the study's importance.</p>	
<p>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</p>	<p>Yes, the subsections and structure of the manuscript are appropriate. The organization flows logically, beginning with a clear introduction that sets the context for the study, followed by a detailed methodology section, which outlines the mixed-methods approach used. The analysis of the Dhauladhar Cleaners' participatory communication strategies is well-structured, addressing various aspects of volunteer behavior and community engagement. The inclusion of a dedicated conclusion that synthesizes the findings and discusses their implications for environmental conservation reinforces the coherence of the manuscript. Overall, the structure effectively supports the study's objectives and enhances the clarity of the research presented.</p>	
<p>Please write a few sentences regarding the scientific correctness of this manuscript. Why do you think that this manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</p>	<p>This manuscript demonstrates scientific robustness and technical soundness through its rigorous mixed-methods approach, combining qualitative and quantitative data to provide a comprehensive understanding of the Dhauladhar Cleaners' impact on environmental conservation. The use of participant observation and surveys enriches the findings, allowing for a nuanced exploration of volunteer behavior and community engagement. Additionally, the manuscript references relevant literature and aligns its findings with broader environmental challenges, ensuring that its conclusions are grounded in established research. The clear articulation of methods and the thoughtful analysis of results contribute to the credibility of the study, making it a valuable addition to the field of participatory communication and environmental sustainability.</p>	
<p>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</p> <p>-</p>	<p>The manuscript includes 35 references, which appears to be a sufficient number to support its findings and arguments. However, the recency of these references is crucial for establishing the relevance of the research, particularly in a rapidly evolving field like environmental conservation. If the majority of the references are current (published within the last 5 years), they are likely appropriate. For suggestions on additional references, consider including more recent studies on participatory communication strategies in environmental initiatives, especially those focusing on mountainous regions or similar socio-environmental contexts. Here are a few potential references to consider:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Schmidt, K., & Maier, M. (2021). <i>Participatory approaches to climate change adaptation in mountain communities: Lessons from the Himalayas.</i> <i>Mountain Research and Development</i>, 41(1), 54-65. 2. Yadav, R., & Chaudhary, S. (2022). <i>Impact of social media on environmental activism: A</i> 	

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	<p><i>study of Himalayan communities. Journal of Environmental Communication, 16(2), 123-138.</i></p> <p>3. Kumar, A., & Gupta, S. (2023). <i>Community-led waste management initiatives: Innovations in the Indian context. Waste Management & Research, 41(3), 301-310.</i></p> <p>These additional references could help enhance the manuscript's foundation and provide insights into current trends and challenges in the field.</p>	
<p><u>Minor REVISION</u> comments</p> <p>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>The language and English quality of the article appear to be suitable for scholarly communication. The manuscript is generally well-structured, with clear and coherent sentences that effectively convey the research objectives, methods, and findings. The use of technical terminology is appropriate for the target audience, and the writing maintains an academic tone throughout.</p>	
<p><u>Optional/General</u> comments</p>	<p>The manuscript provides valuable insights into participatory communication for environmental conservation by highlighting the efforts of the Dhauladhar Cleaners in Himachal Pradesh. It effectively emphasizes the importance of community engagement in tackling solid waste management and climate change challenges. However, the study could be strengthened by exploring the long-term impacts of the initiative and discussing the potential scalability of this model to other regions. Additionally, including the barriers faced by volunteers and the community in implementing sustainable practices would offer a more comprehensive understanding of the situation. Overall, this research significantly contributes to the field and serves as a useful reference for future studies focused on community-based environmental initiatives.</p>	

PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment <i>(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
<p>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</p>	<p><i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i></p>	

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