

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	Journal of Geography, Environment and Earth Science International
Manuscript Number:	Ms_JGEESI_126449
Title of the Manuscript:	Topographic variation and suburbanization currents: A comparative analysis of the south western and the north eastern fringes of Dschang, Cameroon
Type of the Article	Empirical research

General guidelines for the Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. To know the complete guidelines for the Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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PART 1: Review Comments

Compulsory REVISION comments	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
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.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This manuscript is relevant to the scientific community, particularly in the fields of urban planning, geography, and environmental studies. By examining how topographic variations influence suburbanization, it contributes a case study on the urban development dynamics within Cameroon, filling a research gap on physical factors affecting suburban growth in a developing country context. 2. The study is valuable for urban planners and policymakers in similar terrains, offering insights into how topography can shape urban expansion patterns. However, the paper would be more impactful if it integrated comparisons with suburbanization patterns in other regions of Africa or worldwide. 3. Overall, while the findings are useful, the paper would benefit from a clearer theoretical framework and more actionable recommendations to enhance its contribution to urban studies. 	
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	Topographic Influence on Suburbanization Patterns: Comparative Analysis of Southern and Northern Fringes in Dschang, Cameroon. This title may provide a bit more clarity on the specific focus on "influence" and patterns.	
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.	The abstract could benefit from slightly more emphasis on the significance of these findings. Mentioning the broader implications of the study's recommendations (e.g., urban planning adaptations in similar terrains) would enhance its relevance and appeal to a wider audience.	
Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?	The methodology section should be improved with a clearer description of qualitative data analysis. Additionally, separating out a distinct "Recommendations" subsection within the Conclusion would help highlight the practical implications of the findings.	
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.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This manuscript appears scientifically robust and technically sound, supported by the use of satellite imagery and GPS-based georeferencing, which are appropriate for a geographical and topographic study. The data collection and analysis methods align well with the research goals, allowing for an accurate assessment of topographic impacts on suburbanization. 2. The study's conclusions logically follow from the data presented, particularly in demonstrating how Dschang's topography restricts suburban growth in specific areas. 3. While technically strong, the manuscript's scientific value would improve if it addressed the limitations of using mainly physical data to predict urbanization trends. Including socio-economic factors as a counterbalance to topographic influence could provide a more comprehensive view. 	

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<p>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</p>	<p>Adding a few more recent references on urbanization patterns in developing countries or topographic influence on suburbanization could strengthen the literature review.</p>	
<p><u>Minor REVISION</u> comments</p> <p>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The language quality is reasonably good, but there are some areas where phrasing could be more concise. A minor language edit would enhance readability and scholarly tone, especially in sections where wording is repetitive or unclear. 2. Streamlining some sentences, particularly in the Introduction and Discussion sections, would improve readability. Certain technical terms (like "leap-frog" for urban sprawl) could benefit from a brief explanation for readers unfamiliar with urban geography jargon. 	
<p><u>Optional/General</u> comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Mapping Socio-economic Factors: While the study is focused on topography, considering socio-economic drivers of suburbanization as a secondary factor could add depth. These factors often work in tandem with physical limitations and could help broaden the study's impact. <input type="checkbox"/> Actionable Recommendations: The recommendations in the conclusion could be expanded with practical examples or strategies to overcome topographic challenges in similar developing regions. For instance, suggesting specific construction adaptations for rugged terrains would make the findings more useful to policymakers and planners. 	

PART 2:

	<p>Reviewer's comment</p>	<p>Author's comment (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)</p>
<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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