

Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	Journal of Scientific Research and Reports
Manuscript Number:	Ms_JSRR_87893
Title of the Manuscript:	CHARACTERIZATION AND QUANTIFICATION OF URBAN EXPANSION AND IMPACT ON URBAN PLANNING PRACTICE IN MOROGORO MUNICIPALITY, TANZANIA
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

General guideline for 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 guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	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)
Compulsory REVISION comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abstract: For the sentence “it is recommended that strong urban planning interventions should be carried out to minimize the growth speed of unplanned settlements by the Central governments” - Not exactly true, many “undeveloped” settlements can eventually become useful, but it takes time. If a local government implements strong urban planning interventions, the development of a city may be hindered. • Introduction (Paragraph 2): Should also describe how a government assesses whether a particular land use is useful / of practical benefits / satisfies some needs of stakeholders in the society. • Introduction: Should also discuss how statistical methods and algorithms are used to retrieve land use patterns and govern urban expansion / dynamics in recent years, especially for developing cities / countries. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0924271606001122 2. https://www.mdpi.com/2072-4292/13/16/3337/htm 3. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S2352938520301075?via%3Dihub 4. https://www.mdpi.com/2073-445X/10/1/44 • Introduction: The scientific research gap of existing studies in relevant area is not explicitly spelt. • Section 2.3.1: “The composed images were then clipped based on study area and processed together to create a single raster dataset so that they can be managed” – How can the combination of images be conducted? • More details of the images should be provided in the caption of Figure 2. • Section 2.3.2: What techniques are usually used in image classification? May need to extend a bit. • Some parts of Figure 3 are not clearly explained, for example, the grid resolution in spatial analysis, temporal detection etc. What are the induced change detection? • Section 2.3.3: Should cite more references that made use of Kappa Index for accuracy assessment with regards to land use retrieval. • Section 2.3.3: Are 200 points sufficient for validation? How is your 200 points distributed on the grid? • Section 3.1: Should include more parameters for assessment, for example User’s Accuracy, Producer’s Accuracy etc. • Table 2: The built-up area percentage in 2020 is only 18.1%, what can be done to enhance more effective use of land? • Section 3.3: Need to provide some numerical figures for Section 3.3, based on the colors listed in Figure 7. • Page 13: “Urban expansion of built-up land in Kihonda, Lukobe, Kichangani and Kingolwira increased...” Please label some of these areas in the map, so that readers know where these places / cities are actually situated at. Further, please label the “Mji Mkuu ward” mentioned in Page 14 on the map too. • Pages 14-15: Should describe some numerical figures and results, as readers can hardly notice the exact / actual discrepancy shown in Figure 9. • Page 18: “Figure 12 shows that urban expansion always has higher speed of expansion over urban planning practice growth over the 30 year study period” - Any reasons connected with society and surrounding environment? • Section 4: “This rise is likely due to population growth and migration from rural area...” - Such reason and factors should have been discussed in the main text, right after each results etc. The connection between urban expansion with cultural and historical factors and reasons should have been discussed in a deeper context. • Section 5: What are the explicit “strong urban planning interventions”? • Last paragraph of Section 5: The authors should relate this with data openness issues. 	
Minor REVISION comments	<p>Typos:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Line 12 of Abstract: ArcGIS 10.3 software? 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Line 4 of Page 2: "strong" instead of "Strong" Line 7 of Page 3: "characterize" instead of "characterized" Section 2.1: Having a "comma" after Morogoro Municipality (on Line 1) Section 2.3.5 Lines 6-8: Geo-referencing tool in QGIS was used to register coordinate system of all scanned image in Universal Transverse Mercator Zone 37M. All images... Caption of Figure 6: remove "of" Section 3.5 Line 1: Urban planning growth revealed that the land covered Section 3.5 Line 4: at the beginning of... <p>Minor Modifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 2.2: For the USGS-EE website mentioned in the context and in Table 1, the authors should cite the website and accessed date in this manuscript. Heading of Section 2.3: It should be "Section 2.3" rather than Section 2.3.0 Section 2.3.4: What will be the difference between t1 and t2? Section 2.3.5 Line 6: Is there something wrong with Figure No.? Section 2.3.5: Can add some explanations on the differentiation methods here. 	
Optional/General comments	The topic itself is interesting, but more details should be provided, especially for Introduction and Methodology of this manuscript. The Introduction should discuss the research gap of current study. Methodology sections should highlight how different image processing techniques are effectively adopted and implemented.	

PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	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)
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<p><i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i></p> <p>No. Just make sure the authors will acknowledge the websites that they obtained the datasets for conducting this study.</p>	

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