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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-51923 Date: 28-05-2025

Title: A FRAMEWORK FOR EVALUATING CONDITIONS OF STREET VENDORS TOWARDS INCLUSIVE URBAN PLANNING STRATEGY: A CASE OF BHUBANESWAR CITY

Recommendation:	Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Accept as it isYES	Originality			V	
Accept after minor revision Accept after major revision	Techn. Quality				
Do not accept (Reasons below)	Clarity		$\sqrt{}$		
	Significance		V		

Reviewer's Name: Mr Bilal Mir

Reviewer's Decision about Paper: Recommended for Publication.

Comments (Use additional pages, if required)

Reviewer's Comment / Report

Abstract Evaluation:

The abstract clearly introduces the significance of street vendors in the urban informal economy, especially in Bhubaneswar. It identifies key challenges faced by vendors such as inadequate infrastructure, regulatory ambiguity, and spatial conflicts. The study's aim—to develop a framework evaluating socioeconomic and locational suitability conditions to support inclusive urban planning—is well articulated. The mention of specific solutions like designated vending zones and stakeholder engagement provides a focused overview of practical outcomes expected from the study. The abstract effectively sets the context and scope for the research.

Introduction Evaluation:

The introduction offers a comprehensive background on the role of street vending within urban economies, emphasizing its socio-economic importance and contribution to public space vibrancy. Definitions and descriptions of street vendors and vending zones are cited appropriately, providing clarity and contextual grounding. The discussion on challenges such as regulatory constraints, lack of infrastructure, and changing urban dynamics reflects a deep understanding of the complexities faced by this population segment. The integration of references to policy documents and prior studies strengthens

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the foundation. Furthermore, the introduction outlines the study's objectives and mixed-method approach, signaling a robust research design aimed at addressing practical urban planning needs.

Technical and Thematic Strengths:

- The study's focus on developing an evaluative framework aligns well with the need for datadriven, inclusive urban planning that considers marginalized informal sectors.
- The acknowledgment of both socioeconomic and spatial factors ensures a holistic perspective, enhancing the relevance of the proposed framework.
- Inclusion of multiple research methods (field surveys, spatial analysis, stakeholder consultations) reflects methodological rigor.
- Attention to regulatory and policy dimensions demonstrates awareness of governance challenges in urban informality.
- The intent to provide actionable insights that support policy reform and urban livability underscores the study's practical significance.

Relevance and Contribution:

This study tackles a critical gap in urban planning by addressing the often-overlooked conditions of street vendors and integrating their needs into formal urban systems. The Bhubaneswar case provides valuable localized insight that can inform similar urban contexts in India and globally. By proposing a structured evaluation framework, the research promises to contribute to more equitable, sustainable, and economically inclusive urban environments.

Overall Evaluation:

The manuscript is well-written, logically structured, and addresses a pertinent issue in contemporary urban studies. The objectives are clearly defined, and the research design is comprehensive. The study's focus on inclusivity and balanced urban order positions it as a meaningful contribution to both academic discourse and practical urban policy-making.