

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR- 53810

Date: 15-09-2025

Title: Role of Fintech in Financial Inclusion

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision ...✓.....

Accept after major revision.....

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	✓			
Techn. Quality	✓			
Clarity		✓		
Significance		✓		

Reviewer Name: **Sudhanshu Sekhar Tripathy**

Date: 15-09-2025

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

(To be published with the manuscript in the journal)

The reviewer is requested to provide a brief comment (3-4 lines) highlighting the significance, strengths, or key insights of the manuscript. This comment will be Displayed in the journal publication alongside with the reviewer's name.

Reviewer's Comment for Publication

The manuscript explores how **fintech innovations** improve financial inclusion by enhancing access, affordability, and financial literacy. Using a **quantitative survey-based methodology (65 respondents)** with descriptive statistics, correlation, and regression analysis, the study provides empirical evidence on fintech's role in lowering service costs and improving accessibility. The paper is **timely, relevant, and contributes to policy and practice**, but requires **minor revisions** in methodological clarity, visualization, and reference formatting.

Detailed Reviewer's Report

1. Scope & Relevance:

- The study is highly relevant to financial inclusion, digital banking, and sustainable development.

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- Provides useful insights for policymakers, regulators, and fintech practitioners.

2. Structure & Technical Presentation:

- The manuscript is well-structured (Abstract, Introduction, Literature Review, Methodology, Data Analysis, Findings, Conclusion).
- Figures/tables are included, but captions should be more descriptive.
- A **conceptual framework/flowchart** illustrating fintech → financial literacy → cost reduction → accessibility would improve clarity.

3. Experimental / Methodological Details:

- The survey-based quantitative design is appropriate.
- More details required:
 - Sampling method and justification for **65 respondents**.
 - Reliability/validity tests (Cronbach's alpha, pilot testing).
 - Clarify statistical assumptions for regression and correlation.
- Explicit mention of **ethical considerations** (consent, anonymity) is needed.

4. References & Citations:

- References cover fintech, inclusion, and digital banking literature.
- Several **duplicate references** exist (e.g., Badruddin 2018, Marei 2023).
- Formatting inconsistencies (capitalization, italics, DOI inclusion).
- Add more recent sources (2022–2025) on **AI in fintech, blockchain-enabled inclusion, and digital literacy challenges**.

5. Language & Style:

- Academic tone is clear and professional.
- Some redundancy in Introduction and Literature Review can be condensed.
- Ensure consistent terminology (fintech, digital banking, financial inclusion).

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6. Key Strengths:

- Empirical evidence on fintech's role in inclusion.
- Strong focus on cost reduction and literacy.
- Balanced use of descriptive, correlation, and regression analysis.

7. Areas for Improvement:

- Add a **flowchart/framework** of fintech's impact pathway.
- Provide methodological clarifications (sample size rationale, reliability checks).
- Update and standardize references (remove duplicates).
- Condense repetitive text in Introduction.
- Clarify ethical approval/consent.

Final Feedback to Author

This is a strong empirical contribution to financial inclusion research. With **minor revisions** — including a framework diagram, methodological clarifications, updated references, and improved presentation — the paper will be suitable for publication.