

## REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-53993

Date: 24/09/2025

**Title:** Geopolitics of Climate Change in the Himalayas: A Comparative Study of India's and Nepal's Policies in the Region

### Recommendation:

Accept as it is .....

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision .....

Do not accept (*Reasons below*) .....

Reviewer Name: Dr Feroz

### Detailed Review Report

The manuscript presents a timely and significant study on the intersection of geopolitics and climate change in the Himalayan region, focusing on a comparative analysis of India's and Nepal's climate policies. The paper is rich in empirical data, draws from authoritative sources (IPCC, ICIMOD, NAPCC, NDCs, etc.), and frames the Himalayas as both an ecological and geopolitical hotspot. The topic is highly relevant to current debates on transboundary environmental governance and South Asian climate diplomacy.

### Strengths

#### 1. Topical Relevance:

- The paper tackles an underexplored yet crucial theme: how climate change intersects with geopolitics in the Himalayas.
- The comparative angle between India and Nepal adds originality.

#### 2. Data and Sources:

- Comprehensive use of primary policy documents (NAPCC, SAPCCs, NAPA, NDCs, LAPAs).
- Extensive referencing to reputable organizations (IPCC, ICIMOD, WMO).

#### 3. Structure and Clarity:

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- Clear organization: Abstract, Introduction, Methodology, Thematic Sections, and Conclusion.
  - Strong articulation of concepts such as “threat multiplier” and “climate security nexus.”
- 4. Policy Relevance:**
- Identifies concrete mechanisms for cooperation (ICIMOD, bilateral hydropower projects).
  - Discusses implementation gaps and geopolitical sensitivities realistically.

### Areas for Improvement

- 1. Abstract:**
  - Slightly lengthy; could be reduced by ~10–15% to enhance focus and meet journal word limits.
- 2. Paragraphing in Introduction:**
  - Some paragraphs are very long; breaking them into shorter units would improve readability.
- 3. Comparative Analysis Table/Matrix:**
  - A simple table contrasting India's vs. Nepal's climate policies (mitigation, adaptation, finance, institutional capacity) would make the comparison more visual and impactful.
- 4. Conclusion:**
  - Could offer **specific recommendations** for trilateral or multilateral frameworks beyond ICIMOD (e.g., India–Nepal–China dialogues, SAARC mechanisms).
- 5. References Section:**
  - Ensure full citation consistency (APA/Chicago style depending on the journal).

Recommendation:

### Minor Revisions

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## **REVIEWER'S REPORT**

The paper is well-researched, original, and policy-relevant. With minor adjustments—particularly trimming the abstract, restructuring some paragraphs, and adding a comparative policy table—it will be ready for publication.