

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-55463

Title: Integrating Traditional Knowledge and Modern Governance Approaches in Disaster Risk Management: Insights from Nepal's Mountain and Terai Regions

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: Dr S. K. Nath

Date: 27.12.25

Detailed Reviewer's Report

Strengths of the Study

- The research addresses a highly relevant and underexplored area of integrating indigenous knowledge with modern disaster risk management systems, particularly in the context of Nepal's diverse geographical zones.
- The comparative analysis between mountainous and Terai regions offers valuable insights into regional variations in traditional knowledge application and institutional integration.
- The mixed-methods approach combining qualitative interviews, focus groups, and quantitative data enhances the robustness and richness of findings.
- The study provides practical policy recommendations that can support decentralized governance and community-based disaster preparedness, which are crucial for enhancing resilience.
- The inclusion of specific case examples, such as the Tharu community, strengthens the contextual understanding and practical relevance of the findings.

Weaknesses of the Study

- The sample size of 100 participants may limit the generalizability of the findings, particularly given the vast geographical and cultural diversity within Nepal.
- The methodological details regarding sample selection, interview protocols, and data analysis procedures are insufficiently described, raising concerns about reproducibility and potential bias.
- No explicit mention of ethical clearance, informed consent, or approval authority is provided, which raises ethical considerations, especially when involving indigenous communities.
- The statistical analysis appears limited; the presentation of correlations and relationship strength does not clarify the statistical significance or confidence levels.
- Several figures and tables (e.g., Figures 1 and 2, Tables 1 and 2) lack detailed captions, clear labeling, and consistent formatting, hampering interpretation.
- The language, while generally clear, contains minor grammatical and typographical errors that affect readability and professionalism.
- References to specific years and study details sometimes lack clarity, requiring precise citation for better credibility.

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Reviewer Comments

- **Title and Abstract:** The title effectively captures the core focus; however, the abstract should explicitly state the main findings and include specific quantitative outcomes for clarity. A brief mention of the sample size and methods would improve completeness.
- **Introduction and Objectives:** The introduction contextualizes the importance of integrating traditional knowledge but could benefit from more clearly articulated research questions or hypotheses. The objectives should be explicitly defined at the end of the section.
- **Methodology and Statistical Analysis:** The mixed-methods design is appropriate, but more detailed descriptions of sampling procedures, interview protocols, data coding, and analysis methods are needed. Clarify how the thematic analysis was conducted and detail the statistical tests applied to quantitative data, including significance levels.
- **Results and Discussion:** The results are insightful but sometimes repetitive. Ensure all figures and tables are fully labeled and referenced in the text. The discussion should more explicitly connect findings to broader literature and policy implications.
- **Conclusion and Implications:** The conclusions align with the results but should highlight limitations and scope for future research. Expand on how policy can effectively be implemented, considering existing systemic barriers.
- **Ethical Clearance:** The manuscript does not mention ethical approval or consent procedures. It is crucial to include details of relevant ethics review boards, approval numbers, and informed consent processes if applicable.
- **Language and Formatting:** Minor grammatical and typographical errors are present. The manuscript would benefit from thorough proofreading. Ensure consistent formatting for headings, tables, and references.
- **References:** The reference list is extensive but inconsistent in formatting. Verify all citations match the journal's style and include complete bibliographic details.