

Workshop in Scientific Writing and Publishing
For Indonesian researchers in disaster risk and related subjects

10th to 11th June 2021
14:00 – 18:00 WIB UTC+7












Virtual Event

Introduction to academic publishing

Why publish, selecting a journal, publication or article type, and writing philosophy

Professor Dilanthi Amaratunga
Global Disaster Resilience Centre,
University of Huddersfield, UK

June 2021

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My publishing record

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500+ peer reviewed papers

Google Scholar

Cited by	
	All
Citations	9132
h-index	41
i10-index	132

R^G ResearchGate

RG Score ⓘ
31.27

h-index ⓘ	h-index
31	29

311,559 Reads ⓘ
[Show breakdown](#)

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Best Paper Award. CIB World Building Congress, Tampere, Finland, June 2016.
2016 CIB World Congress was the biggest global research, development and innovation event of the year with 400+ papers accepted to be presented where 50 countries bringing in the world's leading professionals and delegates.

Best Paper Award. 6th International Conference on the Built Environment in Developing Countries – Fragmented futures: the built environment in a volatile world, School of Natural and Built Environments, University of South Australia, Adelaide - 2012

Best Paper award. CIB World Congress, Salford Quays, Salford, UK. May 2010.

Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) award, UK for the Best Overall Paper, 2013

RICS Best Paper award. RICS COBRA conference, Paris, France. 2010

Best Paper Award. Associated School of Construction, USA, 2009
Annual International Conference, Florida, USA

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My editorial record



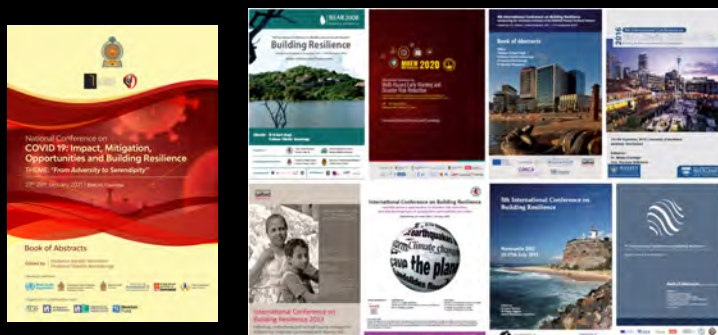
- Joint Editor of the International Journal of Disaster Resilience in the Built Environment
- SCOPUS indexed (currently 11th volume)
- ISI Web of Science™ Core Collection, Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI).
- A Q1 highest ranked journal
- Published by Emerald Publishing, UK

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My Editorial record

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Editor/joint editor/ co- editor of many fully peer reviewed conference proceedings, with varying number of scientific papers ranging from 40 to 675+



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My Editorial record

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Author/Co-author of a large number of briefing papers, reports and guidebooks aimed at different audiences



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My Editorial record

Leader of the UNDRR Peer review panel for input papers for Global Assessment Report (GAR 2015) in 2015



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Setting the scene for the session ...

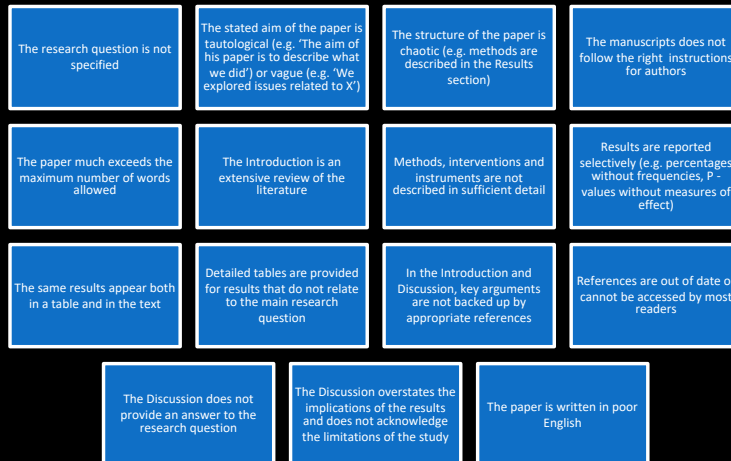
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- We are all likely to get excited at the prospect of seeing our name on the cover of a beautiful, glossy book; perhaps our own listing in Amazon and maybe even our own space on one of the shelves in a book store!
- But perhaps we should not be quite so ambitious at the start of our publishing careers, perhaps we should learn to walk before we embark on the marathon involved in producing a complete book?
- Perhaps we should begin by submitting an academic paper for publication in a journal serving our specific discipline?

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Common mistakes seen in manuscripts submitted

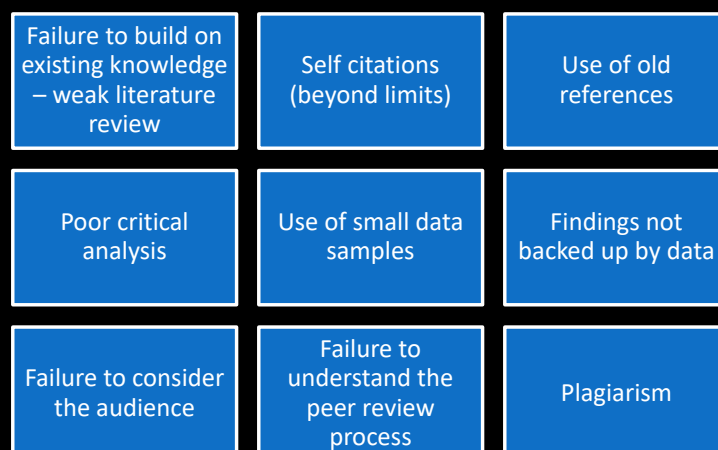
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Common mistakes

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Outline



publication types



Why should you write research papers? What are the benefits?



Philosophy of writing a research paper



Structuring a research paper



Useful tips


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Types of writing we generally do ...

- [Book review](#)
- [Case report](#)
- [Clinical study](#)
- [Commentaries](#)
- [Conference materials](#)
- [Data notes](#)
- [Datasets](#)
- [Letters & Short Reports](#)
- [Posters & Slides](#)
- [Registered reports](#)
- [Research article](#)
- [Review article](#)
- [Software tool articles](#)

- [Articles](#)
- [Books](#)
- [Journals](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Company information](#)
- [Conference papers](#)
- [European Union information and publications](#)
- [Examination papers](#)
- [Government publications](#)
- [Legislation](#)
- [Maps](#)
- [Market research reports](#)
- [Newspapers](#)
- [Parliamentary and government publications](#)
- [Patents](#)
- [Rare books](#)
- [Standards](#)
- [Statistics](#)
- [Theses](#)
- [Video, image and sound resources](#)



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Purpose of Scientific Writing (and Why to Practice it)

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Non evidence based
“products” doesn’t go
anywhere within the
scientific community



Writing is a very important part of science; it is used to document and communicate ideas, activities and findings to others.



Science without evidence ?
Unsupported by any
publications ?



Whereof one cannot speak,
thereof one must be silent.”
(Ludwig Wittgenstein)

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Why should you write journal papers

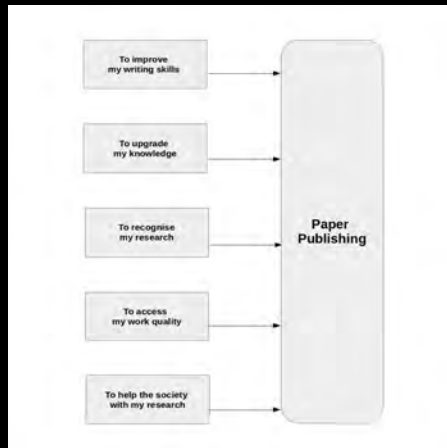
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- **Personal pleasure** of sharing and writing about your work. Share information/experience with others
- One of the first and most obvious advantages of publishing a paper is the **additional line it provides on your CV – a very important line!** . Prospective academic employers planning to hire a newly-graduated academic will cast a critical eye over the applicant’s list of current and pending publications
- Another reason for publishing in academia is the need to get your name out in the field, and **build your academic reputation**
- To achieve other long-term ambitions
- You are gaining credibility as a scientist
- Because your employer tells you that you need to do papers !

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Common benefits of publishing paper

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- Improves writing skills
- Helps in knowledge up-grade
- Keeps you updated
- Makes you happy
- Creates a set of knowledge for others
- Appreciate your work
- Publicity to your work
- Adds value
- Keeps you alive as a researcher
- Motivate others to research
- Gives chance to externally access your work

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Being published means...


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- Your paper is **permanent** – published material enters a permanent and accessible knowledge archive – the “body of knowledge”
- Your paper is **improved** – through the interventions of editors, reviewers, sub-editors and proof-readers
- Your paper is actively **promoted** - it becomes available to a far greater audience
- Your writing is **trustworthy** – material which has been published carries a QA stamp. Someone apart from the author thinks it’s good


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General philosophy


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A PAPER IS AN ATTEMPT TO
PERSUADE



THE KEY TO PERSUASION IS
ORGANISATION



DON'T USE A THOUSAND
WORDS WHERE FIVE
HUNDRED WILL DO

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What journal should you submit to?

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- Choosing a journal to publish in is an investment decision. A good choice can enhance the impact of your work and your reputation
- Quality indicators:
 - Rankings such as SCOPUS and ISI
 - Citations are a good, but not complete guide to quality
 - Rejection rate – can be misleading
- Other factors:
 - Relevant readership
 - High dissemination
 - Time from submission to publication
 - Likelihood of acceptance
- Be political (e.g. national vs international) and strategic (5 articles in a low ranked journal vs. 1 article in a high ranked journal)

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Co-authorship as a possibility

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With colleagues, across departments, someone from a different institution



Demonstrates the authority and rigour of the research



Especially useful for cross-disciplinary research



Exploit your individual strengths



Agree and clarify order of appearance of authors and the person taking on the role of corresponding author

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The upstream-downstream interface of Sri Lanka's tsunami early warning system

Richard Haigh, Maheshika Menike Sakalasuriya and Dilanthi Amararatunga
Global Disaster Resilience Centre, School of Art, Design and Architecture, University of Huddersfield, Huddersfield, UK

Senaka Basnayake
Department of Climate Change and Climate Risk Management, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, Bangkok, Thailand

Siri Hettige
Department of Sociology, University of Colombo, Colombo, Sri Lanka, and
Sarith Premalal and Ananda Jayasinghe Arachchi
Department of Meteorology, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Capacity Building for Research and Innovation in
Disaster Resilience 2019



International collaboration for enhancing research and innovation in the context of disaster resilience

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Gimhan Jayasiri^d, Chameera Randil^e, Dilanthi Amararatunga^c

^a Department of Civil Engineering, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka
^b School of Engineering, University of Central Lancashire, UK
^c Global Disaster Resilience Centre, University of Huddersfield, UK

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Writing style

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Use short and simple phrases



Writing must be clear and not open to interpretation



Use key words; don't worry about constant repetition of terminology if it is the correct word



Substituting other words can lead to confusion – there is no need to refer to a thesaurus when writing your paper!

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Structuring a research paper

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Full paper – structure

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- **Abstract** – concise with key words defined
- **Introduction** – should clearly outline the format (**Purpose** of the paper)
- **Background** – clearly state why the contribution is relevant
- **Literature Review** - critical examination of what has gone before
- **Methodology** – clear/concise and logical (Data collection methods, Data analysis methods -the 'whys and hows')
- **Results** – unambiguous/clear and obvious
- **Discussion/Evaluation** – must stress what has been achieved
- **Conclusion** – recapitulation of introduction/state claim on future developments of your own work (should restate the purpose, encapsulate the main findings and include the most interesting bits)
- **References** – should be relevant and **up to date**, consistent with the style used in the journal, included in the list (anything not cited can be listed as further reading)

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Introduction

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This sets the scene and puts the research in context.



For example, the reader needs to know why the study was done and how it, broadly, relates to other research.



It is useful to start with a sentence that describes exactly what the paper is about.



Here, the author describes the research question or the aim of the study.



It is important that, at the end of the paper, the author is able to reflect back on the degree to which the aim was or was not achieved.

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Literature Review - Definition.....

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*"The selection of **available documents** on the topic, which contain **information, ideas, data and evidence written from a particular standpoint** to fulfil certain aims or express certain views on the nature of the topic and how it is to be investigated, and the effective evaluation of these documents in relation to the research being proposed"*

(Hart, 2007)

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Some of the questions the review of the literature can answer.....

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-  What are the key sources?
-  What are the major issues and debates about the topic?
-  What are the political standpoints?
-  What are the origins and definitions of the topic?
-  What are the key theories, concepts and ideas?
-  What are the main questions and problems that have been addressed to date?
-  How is knowledge on the topic structured and organised?
-  How have approaches to these questions increased our understanding and knowledge?

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Lit. Review serves....

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Distinguishing what has been done from what needs to be done

Discovering important variables relevant to the topic

Synthesising and gaining a new perspective

Identifying relationships between ideas and practice

Establishing the context of the topic or the problem

Rationalising the significance of the problem

Enhancing and acquiring the subject vocabulary

Understanding the structure of the subject

Relate ideas and theory to applications

Identifying the main methodologies and techniques that have been used

Placing the research in a historical context to show familiarity with the state of the art developments

Research imagination

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Organising and expressing ideas – synthesis


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- *Synthesis* – act of making connections between the parts identified in the analysis
 - *but it is not a matter of reassembling the parts back to the original order, but looking for a new order*
 - *About re-casting the information into a new or different arrangement, showing patterns that have not been produced previously*


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Literature Synthesis


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Synthesis requires a comprehensive knowledge of the subject and a capacity to think in broad terms




Should be able to keep control of a large amount of data



Should not refrain from considering extreme suggestions and generalisations



One of the outcome could be potentially useful ways of looking at some aspects of the world





Synthesis needs to be coherent and explicit – needs to provide clear links with the origins of the elements and to show how the connections were made


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When writing the Literature Review

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 include only those work that is relevant to your research

 make sure that you have read and understood cited work

 organise your content according to ideas instead of individual publications

 do not simply quote or paraphrase the contents of published articles. **Lit. Synthesis is the term!**

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Structure of the Literature Review

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It is important that the concepts are presented in an order that makes sense in the context of your research project



You need to do some work on planning and structure to ensure that your literature review is a coherent piece of work



Making an outline or plan is a good way to experiment with these different structures. Talk to your supervisor before you make a final decision and start writing

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Tips on Structure

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A common error in literature reviews is to present material from one author, followed by information from another, then another.... The way in which you group authors and link ideas will help avoid this problem. Group authors who draw similar conclusions, you can use linking words such as: *also* , *additionally* , *again* , *similarly*.



When authors disagree, linking words that indicate contrast will show how you have analysed their work. Words such as: *however* , *conversely* , *on the other hand* , *nonetheless*,



At other times you may want to **qualify an author's work** (using such words as *specifically*, *usually* or *generally*) or use an example (*thus*, *namely*, *to illustrate*). In this way you ensure that you are synthesising the material, not just describing the work already carried out in your field.



Another major problem is that literature reviews are often written as if **they stand alone, without links to the rest of the text**. At the end of your review, include a **summary** of what the literature implies. You need to do this in a way that clearly links with your own hypotheses, theoretical framework and/or methodology.

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Skills you need to develop

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Information Seeking

- Identify potentially useful books, journals, etc
- Scan the literature, keep records & notes

Analytical Skills

- Relevance (identify the relationships between concepts)
- Conceptually organised synthesis
- Reflection (think about the outcomes)

Reporting skills

- Present the outcomes in a proper order
- Citing references

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Research methods

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- Describe the context and setting of the study
- Specify the study design
- Describe the 'population' (patients, doctors, hospitals, etc.)
- Describe the sampling strategy
- Describe the intervention (if applicable)
- Identify the main study variables
- Describe data collection instruments and procedures
- Outline analysis methods

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Right methodology is the backbone of any research
and its related outputs

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Just because you like a
particular research
method, it doesn't mean
it will fit in with the
research you are doing!

You need to fully justify
the method you are
using and the reasons
for its use

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Research results

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- Report on data collection
- Describe participants
- Present key findings with respect to the central research question
- Present secondary findings (secondary outcomes, subgroup analyses, etc.)

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Discussion

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- State the main findings of the study
- Discuss the main results with reference to previous research
- Discuss policy and practice implications of the results
- Analyse the strengths and limitations of the study
- Offer perspectives for future work

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Points to consider in presenting the discussion/key findings

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- Content
 - the message given
- Style
 - the way that message is presented (structure, language, and illustration)
- Form
 - the appearance of the message (grammar, punctuation, usage, spelling, and format).

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References

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All references cited,
including those in
Tables and Figure
captions. No more, no
less.

Use consistent style
throughout as
directed by the
conference organisers

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Helpful hints – Plagiarism and referencing

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Plagiarism (from Latin plagium meaning 'a kidnapping' is a act of taking someone else's work and passing it off a your own (false attribution) . It is considered fraud



Hard to detect with peer review but publishers have tools to help them



Use right referencing styles

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Some practical tips(1)


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STUDY THE CURRENT LITERATURE



CHOOSE CAREFULLY - GET ADVICE FROM COLLEAGUES WHO HAVE EXPERIENCE IN THE BUSINESS - TALK ABOUT THEIR OWN EXPERIENCES




LOOK FOR GOOD JOURNALS



HAVE OWN DEADLINES



BE CONSERVATIVE IN ANY CLAIMS MADE

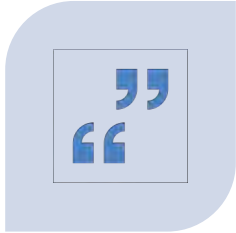


BE GENEROUS IN YOUR REFERENCES TO PREVIOUS LITERATURE


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Some practical tips(2)

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WHEN YOU HAVE ONE SUBSTANTIAL PAPER PUBLISHED, IT IS ALWAYS USEFUL TO PURSUE YOUR THEME WITH ADDITIONAL SUBMISSIONS




STUDY THE STYLE OF PAPERS PUBLISHED AND EMULATE AS FAR AS POSSIBLE WITH RESPECT TO THE GRAMMAR, STRUCTURE AND LAYOUT OF YOUR OWN PAPER


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Follow the Author Guidelines – scope, type of paper, word length, references style, etc





International Journal of Disaster Resilience in the Built Environment
ISSN: 1759-5908

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Quick index

1. Submit to the journal
2. Review process
3. Copyright
4. Third party copyright permissions
5. Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE)
6. Copyright forms

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Before you submit your article : Your own peer review



 Let someone else see it - Show a draft to one or more friends or colleagues and ask for their comments, advice and honest criticism.

 We are always too close to our own work to see its failings.

 Always proof-check thoroughly – no incorrect spellings, no incomplete references. Spell checkers are not fool-proof.

 Ensure paper is checked and edited so that it reads as one voice

 Exploit your individual strengths

 Demonstrates the authority and rigour of the research

 Agree and clarify order of appearance of authors and the person taking on the role of corresponding author

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Target!

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"Many papers are rejected simply because they don't fulfil the expected requirements. They don't even go into the review process."

- **Identify a few possible targets** but be realistic
- **Find where to send your paper** (editor, regional editor, subject area editor). Check a copy of the journal or the publisher's web site
- **Send an outline or abstract and ask if this looks suitable and interesting** (or how it could be made so)
- **Confirm how an editor would like a submission**, e.g. e-mail; hard copy

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Full paper – referee's comments (positive)

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"A very good paper. I quite enjoyed reading it and credit goes to the authors for making it such an enjoyable experience. You can increase the richness of this paper by incorporating a more detailed analysis on techniques you have listed in your paper2



I can further make few suggestions for the lead author to read and explore on :

Davenport, T. (1993). Process Innovation: Re-engineering Work through Information Technology. Boston: Harvard Business School Press.
Sanders, C. (2000). Determining and Adding Value through Process Management



"Comments of the general presentation of the paper – make sure you format your reference list according to the paper submission guidelines"



"Well done"

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Full paper – referee's comments (negative)

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"Stringing a series of sentences that are each probably quite correct does not create a paper of any value, and the overriding impression is that this is what the author has one here"

"There has been inadequate critical review of the long list of references to make this paper worth accepting"

"The paper needs a good proof read/edit as some of the sentence structure and choice of words makes the paper difficult to read and potentially obscures the author's intended meaning"

"The amazing scramble of references in the first four lines is beyond belief in a serious research paper"

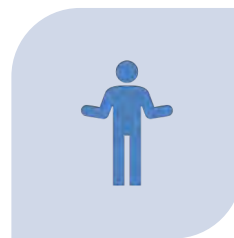
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Some practical tips(3)

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DONT BE DISCOURAGED UPON REFUSAL
FROM EDITORS



DEAL WITH REFEREES COMMENTS IN A
COMPLETELY DETACHED MANNER. THEY ARE
GENERALLY MEANT TO BE HELPFUL

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Revising

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A request for revision is good news! It really is.



You are now in the publishing cycle. Nearly every published paper is revised at least once.



Don't panic!



Even if the comments are sharp or discouraging, they aren't personal.

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How to revise your paper

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Acknowledge the editor and set a revision deadline



Clarify understanding if in doubt - "This is what I understand the comments to mean..."



Consult with colleagues or co-authors and tend to the points as requested



Meet the revision deadline



Attach a covering letter which identifies, point by point, how revision requests have been met (or if not, why not)

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If your paper is rejected...

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Ask why, and listen carefully!
Most editors will give detailed comments about a rejected paper. Take a deep breath, and listen to what is being said.



Try again!
Try to improve the paper, and re-submit elsewhere. Do your homework and target your paper as closely as possible.



Don't give up!
At least 50 per cent of papers submitted don't get published. Everybody has been rejected at least once (journals in particular)



Keep trying!

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Developing Narrative about Academic Publication

As the next phase - Academics Increasingly Work with Publishers to Promote Content



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Any questions?

Publishing in academia is a particularly important career step but, like all things that are worthwhile, it takes time; it also gets easier with practice. So don't wait any longer.

Start writing that paper now.