Instructions for Authors

Journal of Science Technology and Innovation (JSTI)

The *Journal of Science Technology and Innovation (JSTI)* is an open-access, online journal dedicated to connecting original ideas and pioneering innovations across disciplines, with a special emphasis on inclusive, science-based development and the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047.

These *Instructions for Authors* are exclusive to JSTI and must be followed carefully for all submissions.

1. Scope and Aims

JSTI publishes high-quality, original work at the interface of science, technology, innovation, and inclusive development. We welcome contributions that:

- Present new scientific or technological knowledge.

- Demonstrate innovative applications for societal benefit, especially in Indian and Global South contexts.

- Support circular bioeconomy, biomanufacturing, waste-to-value, climate action, and sustainability.

- Bridge policy, practice, and science, including case studies and field experiences.

- Promote equitable and inclusive development, including rural and marginalized communities.

Manuscripts must be original, not published previously, and not under consideration elsewhere.

---

2. Article Types

JSTI considers the following categories:

2.1 Original Research Articles

- Full-length reports of original research.

- Structured in IMRAD format: Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion (with a separate Conclusion section).

- Recommended length: up to 8,000 words (excluding references, tables, and figures).

- Should clearly highlight novelty, methodology, and implications for science–society–policy.

2.2 Review Articles

- Critical, integrative overviews of recent developments in a well-defined area relevant to JSTI.

- May be invited or unsolicited, but unsolicited reviews are usually considered after an initial proposal.

- Recommended length: up to 8,000 words.
- Must clearly identify gaps, future directions, and potential impact on practice or policy.

2.3 Short Communications / Brief Reports

- Concise reports of preliminary but significant findings, methods, or innovations.
- Recommended length: 2,000–3,000 words.
- Limited number of tables/figures (typically not more than 3 in total).

2.4 Opinions, Commentaries, and Policy Perspectives

- Thoughtful, evidence-informed viewpoints on current issues in science, technology, innovation, and development.
- Recommended length: 1,000–2,000 words.
- May address policy debates, implementation gaps, citizen science, or mission-mode programmes relevant to India and similar contexts.

2.5 Case Studies and Practice Notes

- Field-based experiences, implementation case studies, or models (e.g., community biorefineries, rural innovation hubs).
- Recommended length: 2,000–4,000 words.
- Should clearly describe context, intervention, outcomes, and lessons learned.

---

3. Submission Process

3.1 How to Submit

- Manuscripts should be submitted online through the designated submission portal (OJS/online system) or by email, as specified on the journal website.
- Only electronic submissions are accepted. Hard copy submissions will not be processed.

3.2 Cover Letter

A brief cover letter must accompany every submission and should:

- State the title and article type.
- Confirm that the manuscript is original and not under consideration elsewhere.
- Explain in 2–3 sentences the novelty, importance, and fit with JSTI's scope.
- Disclose any conflicts of interest and funding sources.
- Provide contact details of the corresponding author.

3.3 Acknowledgment of Receipt

- Authors will receive an email acknowledgment after successful submission.

- If you do not receive confirmation within 5 working days, you may contact the editorial office.

---

4. Manuscript Preparation

4.1 General Format

- File format: Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx).

- Language: English (Indian spelling acceptable; be consistent throughout).

- Font: Times New Roman, size 12 pt.

- Spacing: Double-spaced, including references, tables, and figure legends.

- Margins: At least 2.5 cm on all sides.

- Line numbers: Use continuous line numbering throughout the manuscript.

- Page numbers: Number all pages consecutively in the footer.

4.2 Manuscript Structure

The manuscript should be arranged in the following order:

1. Title Page
2. Abstract and Keywords
3. Main Text
   - Introduction
   - Materials and Methods / Methodology
   - Results
   - Discussion
   - Conclusion
4. Acknowledgements (if any)
5. Funding Information
6. Conflict of Interest Statement
7. Author Contributions (optional but encouraged)
8. References
9. Tables
10. Figure Legends
11. Figures (as separate files or at the end, as per website instructions)
12. Supplementary Material (if any)

---

5. Title Page

The title page should include:

- Full title of the article (concise, informative, generally not exceeding 15 words, avoiding abbreviations and jargon).
- Full names of all authors.
- Affiliations of all authors (department, institution/organization, city, country).
- Clear identification of the corresponding author (with full postal address, email, and telephone number).
- A short running title (up to 50 characters, including spaces).

---

6. Abstract and Keywords

6.1 Abstract

- Length: 150–250 words.
- Should briefly state the background, objectives, methods, key results, and conclusions.
- Do not include references, figures, tables, or undefined abbreviations.
- The abstract should reflect the societal or developmental relevance wherever appropriate.

6.2 Keywords

- Provide 4–6 keywords immediately below the abstract.
- Use specific, searchable terms (e.g., "biomanufacturing", "circular bioeconomy", "rural innovation", "climate resilience").

---

7. Main Text

7.1 Introduction

- Clearly state the context, problem, and rationale.
- Summarize relevant literature and identify the knowledge gap.
- State clear objectives and, where appropriate, hypotheses.

7.2 Materials and Methods / Methodology

- Provide sufficient detail to allow reproducibility.
- Describe study design, data sources, experimental methods, analytical techniques, and statistical methods.
- For field or policy case studies, describe context, sampling, intervention, and evaluation approach.
- Ethical approvals and consent procedures (where applicable) must be clearly mentioned.

7.3 Results

- Present major findings in a clear, logical sequence.

- Use tables and figures to summarize and illustrate key data.

- Avoid repeating in text all numbers already shown in tables/figures.

7.4 Discussion

- Interpret the results in the context of existing knowledge.

- Highlight novel contributions, limitations, and implications for science, policy, and practice.

- Avoid overstating conclusions or making unsupported claims.

7.5 Conclusion

- Provide a concise summary of the main findings.

- Indicate specific contributions to innovation, policy, or practice, especially in relation to inclusive development and Viksit Bharat @2047.

- Suggest directions for future work.

---

8. References

8.1 General Principles

- References should be accurate, complete, and up to date.

- Authors are responsible for verifying all references.

- JSTI accepts standard scholarly styles such as APA or Vancouver; authors should follow the style specified on the journal website and remain consistent.

- Use in-text citations appropriately and avoid excessive self-citation.

8.2 Examples (APA Style Illustration)

Journal article:

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Year). Title of article. *Journal Name*, Volume(Issue), pages. https://doi.org/xxxxx

Book:

Author, C. C. (Year). *Book title*. Publisher.

Chapter in edited book:

Author, D. D. (Year). Chapter title. In E. E. Editor (Ed.), *Book title* (pp. xx–xx). Publisher.

Web source:

Organization Name. (Year). Title of document. URL

Authors should consult the detailed style examples on the JSTI website.

---

9. Tables and Figures

9.1 Tables

- Number tables consecutively as Table 1, Table 2, … in the order of appearance.
- Each table must have a clear title and, if needed, footnotes explaining abbreviations or methods.
- Place tables at the end of the manuscript or submit as separate files, as per submission instructions.
- Avoid vertical lines; use minimal formatting to enhance readability.

9.2 Figures

- Number figures consecutively as Figure 1, Figure 2, ….
- Submit high-resolution images (generally ≥300 dpi for photographs and ≥600 dpi for line drawings).
- Accepted formats may include JPEG, PNG, or TIFF.
- Provide a separate Figure Legends section describing each figure clearly and concisely.
- Ensure that any individuals shown in photographs have given written consent, or that images are anonymized and ethically acceptable.

9.3 Limits

- As a guideline, limit the combined number of tables and figures to about 8 for a full-length article, unless justified.

---

10. Units, Abbreviations, and Nomenclature

- Use SI units throughout.
- Define all abbreviations at first use in the abstract and again in the main text if needed.
- Use internationally accepted nomenclature for chemicals, organisms, and genes.
- Maintain consistency in spelling (e.g., "programme" vs "program"; "behaviour" vs "behavior").

---

11. Ethical and Legal Considerations

11.1 Research Ethics

- Studies involving humans, animals, or sensitive data must include a statement confirming that:

- o Approval was obtained from the appropriate Ethics Committee/Institutional Review Board, and

  - o Relevant national and international guidelines were followed.

- For human participants, confirm informed consent and any special protections (e.g., for vulnerable groups).

11.2 Plagiarism and Originality

- JSTI follows a zero-tolerance policy for plagiarism, including self-plagiarism.

- All submissions may be screened using plagiarism detection software.

- Manuscripts found to have significant overlap may be rejected or retracted, and appropriate actions may be taken.

11.3 Data Integrity and Availability

- Authors should retain underlying data and be prepared to share data, code, or protocols upon reasonable request, subject to ethical and legal constraints.

- A Data Availability Statement is encouraged (e.g., data available on request, open repository, or not publicly available for ethical reasons).

11.4 Conflict of Interest

- All authors must declare any financial or non-financial conflicts of interest.

- If there are no conflicts, include:

  > "The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest related to this work."

11.5 Funding

- Clearly state all funding sources and grant numbers.

- If no specific funding was received, state:

  > "This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors."

---

12. Use of AI and Writing Assistance

- Authors must disclose any use of generative AI tools (for language editing, summarization, etc.) in manuscript preparation.

- AI tools must not be listed as authors.

- Authors bear full responsibility for the accuracy, originality, and integrity of the content, including any text or images prepared with AI support.

---

13. Authorship and Contributions

13.1 Authorship Criteria

Authorship should be based on substantial contributions to:

1. Conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data; and

2. Drafting the work or revising it critically; and

3. Final approval of the version to be published; and

4. Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work.

Individuals who do not meet authorship criteria but contributed in other ways (e.g., technical help, administrative support) should be acknowledged.

13.2 Author Contribution Statement

Authors are encouraged to include a brief statement specifying individual contributions, for example (using CRediT-like roles):

> A.A. conceptualized the study; B.B. performed experiments; C.C. conducted data analysis; A.A. and B.B. wrote the first draft; all authors reviewed and approved the final manuscript.

---

14. Peer Review and Editorial Process

14.1 Initial Screening

- All submissions are first evaluated by the editorial office for scope, basic quality, and compliance with these instructions.

- Manuscripts that do not fit JSTI's scope or quality expectations may be rejected without external review.

14.2 Peer Review

- JSTI generally follows a double-anonymized (double-blind) peer review process:

  o Reviewers do not know the identities of authors.

  o Authors do not know the identities of reviewers.

- Authors should prepare a version of the manuscript suitable for anonymized review if requested (e.g., removing self-identifying information from the main text).

14.3 Decisions

Possible editorial decisions include:

- Accept

- Minor Revision

- Major Revision

- Reject

Authors will receive review reports and editorial comments. Revised manuscripts should be accompanied by a point-by-point response explaining how comments were addressed.

15. Open Access, Copyright, and Licensing

- JSTI is an online, open-access journal. Articles are freely available to readers worldwide.

- Unless otherwise specified, authors will retain copyright and grant JSTI a license to publish.

- A suitable Creative Commons license (e.g., CC BY or CC BY-NC) will be indicated on the journal website.

- At this initial stage, JSTI may choose to:

  - Keep charges minimal; details will be clearly stated on the journal website.

16. Language, Style, and Clarity

- Manuscripts should be written in clear, understandable English, avoiding unnecessary jargon.

- Where appropriate, authors are encouraged to:

  - Illustrate the practical relevance of their work, especially for policy-makers, practitioners, and communities.

  - Include examples or case contexts from India and the Global South.

- Authors may consider professional language editing prior to submission, if needed.

17. Post-Acceptance and Proofs

- After acceptance, authors will receive page proofs for final checking.

- Proofs should be checked carefully and returned within the stipulated time (usually 3–5 days).

- Only minor corrections (typographical or factual errors) should be made at proof stage; substantial changes may require editorial approval.

18. Correspondence and Queries

For all questions related to:

- Scope and suitability of manuscripts,

- Technical issues with submission,

- Ethics and policy clarifications, or

- Special issues and invited collections,

authors may contact the Editorial Office of the Journal of Science Technology and Innovation (JSTI) using the contact details provided on the journal website.

By submitting a manuscript to JSTI, authors confirm that they have read, understood, and agree to abide by these Instructions for Authors.