

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS

1. Aims & Scope: p. 1
2. Submission: p. 2
3. Peer review: p. 2
4. Double anonymous review: p. 2
5. Submission declaration and verification: p. 2
6. Submission fee: p. 3
7. Style Formatting and Language: p. 3
8. Order of Presentation of Files: p. 3
9. Submission Checklist: p. 5
10. Use of inclusive language: p. 7
11. Footnotes: p. 7
12. Data references: p. 7
13. Contributors: p. 7
14. Changes to authorship: p. 8
15. Copyright: p. 8
16. Author rights: p. 8
17. Role of the funding source: p. 9
18. Citing JAD papers: p. 9
19. Ethics in publishing: p. 9
20. PSU Press Alt Text Guide: p. 10
21. Final Submission Checklist: p. 11

Aims & Scope

JAD publishes original research articles relating to all aspects of Africa's development economics—from immediate policy concerns to structural economic and development challenges. While the emphasis is on quantitative work that is novel and relevant; groundbreaking theoretical work is highly encouraged.

Articles that take up questions on Africa's development economics that are of interest to the general readers of JAD, from both micro and macro perspectives are welcomed. Those that provide in-depth studies of a specific country, region, cross-country, industry, firm, organization(s) or cases, and whose findings are likely to be of great interest to the general readers of JAD, with attainable and specific policy recommendations, will be considered.

JAD publishes two issues per year. Only one book review can be accepted per issue.

Submission

All articles, in American English, should be submitted electronically through the online submission system, *Editorial Manager* (EM): <https://www.editorialmanager.com/joad>. The system guides you stepwise through the process of entering your article details and uploading your files. It converts your article files (Word) to a single PDF file used in the peer-review process. Articles should have a minimum of 4,500 words and not exceed 8,000 words.

Peer review

This journal operates a double anonymous review process. All contributions will be initially assessed by the editor for suitability for the journal. Articles deemed suitable are then typically sent to a minimum of two independent expert reviewers to assess the scientific quality of the paper. The editor is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The editor's decision is final.

Double anonymous review

This journal uses double anonymous review, which means the identities of the authors are concealed from the reviewers, and vice versa. To facilitate this, please include the following separately:

1. **Title page** (with author details): This should include the title of manuscript, abstract, authors' names, affiliations, acknowledgements and any Declaration of Interest statement, and a complete address for the corresponding author including an e-mail address.
2. **Anonymous manuscript** (no author details): Should include the abstract and

main body of the paper (including the references, figures, tables and any acknowledgements). Should not include any identifying information, such as the authors' names, contact details, acknowledgements, or affiliations.

Submission declaration and verification

Submission of an article implies that the work described has not been published previously (except in the form of an abstract, a published lecture or academic thesis), that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, that its publication is approved by all authors and tacitly or explicitly by the responsible authorities where the work was carried out, and that, if accepted, it will not be published elsewhere in the same form, in English or in any other language, including electronically without the written consent of the copyright holder.

Submission fee

Each new submission must be accompanied by a submission fee of US\$50.00. The submissions will only be considered after payment of the submission fee. Submission fees are non-refundable and an article may be rejected by the editors without being sent for review, should an article be inconsistent with the JAD's Aims and Scope, or not adhere to the style requirements as outlined in the Guide for Authors. The submission fee is used solely to support journal related activities.

Style Formatting and Language

JAD uses the *Chicago Manual of Style*, author-date style. For details, see the following website: <https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/home.html>.

Order of Presentation of Files

Manuscripts must be organized in the following sequence - the system will automatically arrange these for you when building the PDF

1. **Title Page** that includes:
 - a. the paper's title
 - b. abstract
 - c. all authors names, affiliations, email addresses; and the telephone number (with country and area code) for the corresponding author who will serve

as the contact throughout the editorial process. Contact details must be kept up to date by the corresponding author. Where the family name may be ambiguous (e.g., a double name), please indicate this clearly.

- d. Acknowledgements—double-spaced.
- e. Declaration of Interest

2. **Manuscript File:** The title of your article should be followed by the

- a. **Abstract:** The abstract of your article is a critical part of your manuscript, it plays a central role in the review process. Please include the abstract text within the Manuscript file that you upload (the abstract should precede the manuscript text). Abstracts should be 150–200 words.

The abstract should be clearly written to convey the salient features of your article, they should include the following:

- i. A sentence or two at the beginning to provide a basic introduction to your work, phrased so as to be understandable to anyone interested in Africa's development
 - ii. One sentence that provides more detailed information of interest to practitioners and scholars working on development
 - iii. One or two sentences clearly stating the specific question and the general problem your study will address
 - iv. One to two sentences highlighting the methods/approach your study uses and if there is a distinctive aspect to the methods
 - v. One to two sentences summarizing the main result
 - vi. Two sentences explaining the scholarly and/or practical significance of the main results and findings, especially as compared to what is already known; and finally
 - vii. One to two sentences that situate the results and their importance in a more general context.
- b. **Keywords:** 3–5 (on the same page as the Abstract).
 - c. **JEL codes:** 1–3 (on the same page as the Abstract).
 - d. **Highlights:** Please provide 3–5 highlights that clearly and succinctly

convey the key findings of your paper. Each highlight should be no more than 125 characters (without spaces), on a separate page and double-spaced.

- e. **Text of the manuscript:** entirely double-spaced. This must be in an editable source file, i.e. a Word document, rather than a PDF
- f. **References:** entirely double-spaced and including all works cited in the manuscript (and only these works).
- g. **Footnotes:** entirely single-spaced and designated by superscript Arabic numerals in continuous sequence.
- h. **Tables and Figures:** should be uploaded as separate items on the submission interface.
- i. **Tables:** Approximate placements of the Tables within the Text should be clearly indicated (e.g., Table 1 here). Tables should be clearly labeled by number, with the title positioned above the Table, not below it.
- j. **Figures:** Approximate placements of the Figures within the Text should be clearly indicated (e.g., Figure 1 here). Figures should be clearly labeled by number, with the caption positioned below the Figure, not above it.
 - a. When providing images, charts, tables, and graphics, authors supply high-resolution (300 dpi) images with a width of at least 2.25 inches.
 - b. Authors provide **alt text** to describe image content (for figures, charts, and tables) to ensure accessibility for individuals using screen readers. Please see the **PSU Press Alt Text Guide on page 9** for further information on writing alt text.
- k. **Appendices** where applicable.

Submission Checklist

You can use this list to carry out a final check of your submission before you send it to the journal for review. Please check the relevant section in this Guide for Authors for more details.

Ensure that the following items are present:

1. Title Page - The title of the manuscript should be concise, specific and informative.

2. One author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details:
 - i. E-mail address
 - ii. Full postal address
 - iii. Affiliation
3. All necessary files have been uploaded. Manuscript must include:
 - i. Keywords
 - ii. JEL codes
 - iii. All figures (include relevant captions)
 1. Digital images should be submitted in either .tiff or .jpeg files at 300 dpi with at least 2.5 inches in width.
 - iv. All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
 - v. Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided
 - vi. Indicate clearly if color should be used for any figures in print
 - vii. Please provide **alt text** for all supplied images, charts, tables, and graphics. See **PSU Press Alt Text Guide on page 9** for information on writing alt text.
4. Graphical Abstracts / Highlights files (where applicable)
5. Supplemental files (where applicable)
6. Further considerations
 - i. Manuscript has been checked for spelling and grammar
 - ii. All references mentioned in the Reference List are cited in the text, and vice versa
 - iii. Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet)
 - iv. A competing interests statement is provided (where applicable)
 - v. Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed
 - vi. 3 Referee suggestions (should not be familiar to any of the authors) and contact details provided (entered directly in the submission interface)
7. Submission fee has been paid
8. *Chicago Manual of Style*, author-date style, has been used for style formatting and language

Use of inclusive language

Inclusive language acknowledges diversity, conveys respect to all people, is sensitive to differences, and promotes equal opportunities. Articles should make no assumptions about the beliefs or commitments of any reader, should contain nothing which might imply that one individual is superior to another on the grounds of race, sex, culture or any other characteristic, and should use inclusive language throughout. Authors should ensure that writing is free from bias, for instance by using “they”, “their” instead of “he/she” or “he” or “she,” or “his or her,” and by making use of job titles that are free of stereotyping (e.g. “chairperson” instead of “chairman” and “flight attendant” instead of “stewardess”).

Footnotes

Footnotes should be used sparingly. Number them consecutively throughout the article. Many word processors build footnotes into the text, and this feature may be used. Should this not be the case, indicate the position of footnotes in the text and present the footnotes themselves separately at the end of the article.

Data references

This journal encourages you to cite underlying or relevant datasets in your manuscript by citing them in your text and including a data reference in your Reference List. Data references should include the following elements: author name(s), dataset title, data repository, version (where available), year, and global persistent identifier. Add [dataset] immediately before the reference so we can properly identify it as a data reference. The [dataset] identifier will not appear in your published article.

Contributors

JAD assumes that all authors included on the manuscript materially participated in the research, and that all authors have approved the final article submitted.

Changes to authorship

Authors are expected to consider carefully the list and order of authors before submitting their manuscript and provide the definitive list of authors at the time of the original submission. Any addition, deletion or rearrangement of author names in the authorship list should be made only before the manuscript has been accepted and only if approved by the journal editor. To request such a change, the editor must receive the following from the corresponding author: (a) the reason for the change in author list and (b) written confirmation (e-mail, letter) from all authors that they agree with the addition, removal or rearrangement. In the case of addition or removal of authors, this includes confirmation from the author being added or removed.

Only in exceptional circumstances will the editor consider the addition, deletion or rearrangement of authors after the manuscript has been accepted. While the editor considers the request, publication of the manuscript will be suspended. If the manuscript has already been published in an online issue, any requests approved by the editor will result in a corrigendum.

Copyright

Corresponding author will be required to complete a copyright and publishing agreement form as part of the submission steps on the submission interface. Co-authors must be listed with correct email addresses on the submission interface. Once the manuscript files have been submitted, they will receive an email message containing the link to the copyright and publishing agreement form. Accepting the terms of the agreement does not guarantee the publication of the article submission. The agreement will become binding following the official acceptance for publication of the article via email notification from the editor.

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Author rights

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http://www.psupress.org/Journals/journals_permissions.asp.

Role of the funding source

You are requested to identify who provided financial support for the conduct of the research and/or preparation of the article and to briefly describe the role of the sponsor(s), if any, in study design; in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data; in the writing of the report; and in the decision to submit the article for publication. If the funding source(s) had no such involvement then this should be stated.

Ethics in publishing

The publication of an article in a peer-reviewed journal is an essential building block in the development of a coherent and respected network of knowledge. It is a direct reflection of the quality of work of the author and the institutions that support them. Peer-reviewed articles support and embody the scientific method. It is therefore important to agree upon standards of expected ethical behavior.

Ethics topics to consider when publishing:

- **Authorship of the paper:** Authorship should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the conception, design, execution, or interpretation of the reported study.
- **Originality and plagiarism:** The authors should ensure that they have written entirely original works, and if the authors have used the work and/or words of others, that this has been appropriately cited or quoted.
- **Data access and retention:** Authors may be asked to provide the raw data in connection with a paper for editorial review, and should be prepared to provide public access to such data.
- **Multiple, redundant or concurrent publication:** An author should not in general publish manuscripts describing essentially the same research in more than one journal or primary publication.

JAD does not view the following uses of a work as prior publication: *publication in the form of an abstract, and publication as an academic thesis:*

- **Acknowledgement of sources:** Proper acknowledgment of the work of others must always be given.
- **Disclosure and conflicts of interest:** All submissions must include disclosure of all relationships that could be viewed as presenting a potential conflict of interest.
- **Fundamental errors in published works:** When an author discovers a significant error or inaccuracy in his/her own published work, it is the author's obligation to promptly notify the journal editors and cooperate with the editors to retract or correct the paper.
- **Reporting standards:** Authors of reports of original research should present an accurate account of the work performed as well as an objective discussion of its significance.
- **Hazards and human or animal subjects:** Statements of compliance are required if the work involves chemicals, procedures or equipment that have any unusual hazards inherent in their use, or if it involves the use of animal or human subjects.
- **Use of patient images or case details:** Studies on patients or volunteers require ethics committee approval and informed consent, which should be documented in the paper.

PSU PRESS ALT TEXT GUIDE

Penn State University Press is committed to making its publications accessible to the widest audience possible. The inclusion of alternative text (or "alt text") will allow those using assistive technology to access the images and other graphic elements (such as tables, charts, graphs, and maps) in the digital formats of articles. Authors are encouraged to submit alt text (and where necessary, extended descriptions) for all images and other graphic elements in their manuscripts. *Note:* If sufficient information about the image is included in the caption or the text, alt text may be unnecessary.

General Guidelines for Composing Alt Text

Alt text should clearly and concisely describe the content and function of an image. Please limit the description to the most important elements of the image. In most cases a one- or two-sentence description, consisting of no more than 250 characters (not including spaces), should suffice. If more than 250 characters are needed to convey the content and function of an image, please provide an extended description in addition to the alt text.

Extended Description

For more complex images and graphic elements (such as graphs, charts, and maps), please provide an extended description with the necessary information. Any visible English text in an image must be transcribed in the extended description. Please note that images requiring an extended description must also have the shorter alt text.

Formatting and Submitting Alt Text

Alt text should be submitted along with captions. The alt text for a figure should be set on a new line after the caption and should be preceded by <alt text>. An extended description, when necessary, should be treated in a similar manner, preceded by <extended description>. When drafting and formatting alt text, you should:

- capitalize acronyms so assistive technology reads them as separate letters and not words (e.g., US versus us);
- avoid complex symbols, such as brackets, quotation marks, dashes, ellipses, and mathematical symbols, as assistive technology does not treat all of these symbols consistently;
- write in complete sentences but avoid overly complex sentence structures.

For examples as well as additional information and resources, see [here](#).

Final Submission Checklist Author-Date Style

- All authors and coauthors are listed in the submission interface.
- At least one author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details:
 - E-mail address
 - Affiliation
 - ORCID number has been provided (if you have one)
- Necessary funding statements have been provided, including funding organization name, the organization's DOI, and grant numbers if you have them.

- All necessary files have been uploaded. Submission must include:
 - Abstracts (150–200 words)
 - Keywords (3–5)
 - Separate image files (tiff, jpg, include relevant captions, **not inserted into Word file**)
 - All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
 - Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided.
- Journal policies detailed in **submission guidelines have been reviewed and journal style guide has been followed.**
- Manuscript has been checked for spelling and grammar.
- Manuscript follows the most recent *Chicago Manual of Style* (18th edition) for formatting and language.
- Manuscript Notes and Works Cited follow the author-date style.
https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide/citation-guide-2.html.
- You have used endnotes and not footnotes.
 - All references mentioned in the Works Cited list are cited in the text.
 - If you only have 1 note or 1 work cited, the sections are called Note or Work Cited (not Notes or Works Cited).
 - If your article includes notes, you have used shorten citations instead of ibid (See CMOS 18, 13.37).
 - Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet and for image use). Please provide permission documentation to journal editor for images or long text excerpts under copyright.
 - All figures have been provided as individual image files (**not inserted into Microsoft Word**) and are 300 dpi at a sizing of at least 2 inches in width.
 - **Alt text has been provided** to describe all supplied images, tables, and charts. See **PSU Press Alt Text Guide** in submission guidelines and reference more information [here](#).

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