PREPARATION

New submissions should be submitted as a single file, which will be used in the refereeing process. The single manuscript file should be a word document. If you prefer to do so, you may still provide some or all source files in addition to the single file.

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Please write your text in good English (American or British usage is accepted, but not a mixture of these). Papers written in poor English will immediately be returned to the authors.

2. Article format

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The article should not exceed 30 pages. The page limit includes the abstract, figures and tables, the main manuscript and the references. If necessary, Appendices can be uploaded as Supplementary Materials.

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The article should be A4 or letter size, in single column pages, with 11pt font and 1.5 line spacing. Please do not use double column format or line numbering.

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Please ensure that figures and tables embedded in the single manuscript file are placed next to the relevant text in the article, not at the bottom or top of the file.

Figures should be of a high enough quality for refereeing. Preferably in editable form.

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The structure should be easy to follow. Sections should be clearly defined and numbered, with headings on separate lines.

Please include the following sections, taking into account the requirements for each:

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Article title. Please avoid formulae wherever possible. Abbreviations and acronyms are not permitted.

All author names and affiliations, including email addresses and postal addresses.

Clearly indicate which author is the **corresponding author.**

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Please include up to 2-5 keywords of your choice.

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If your article contains other supplementary materials, these should be included in your initial submission for peer review purposes.

Please upload supplementary materials as separate files. Note

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- Uses single column formatting, font Calibri,11pt font, 1.5 line spacing, and has no line numbers
- Has figures and tables embedded next to relevant text
- Includes references in APA format, with an alphabetical reference list*
- Includes a Title Page, containing all of the essential title page information*
- Includes twoKeywords and no more than 5 additional keywords*
- Does not contain formulae, abbreviations or acronyms in the Title
- Does not contain formulae or unqualified abbreviations or acronyms in the Abstract
- Does not contain unqualified abbreviations or acronyms in the main text
- Is in a single Word document (source files and/or supplementary materials* can be uploaded separately if needed)
- Signed the conflict of interests' document

*Please see the relevant sections in **MORE INFORMATION** for details.

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After peer review, if an editorial decision of "Revise" is made, authors are asked to update their manuscript, according to the advice given by the Editors and referees. Authors are advised to revise and resubmit their manuscript no later than 1 month after the decision. If the revision is not submitted within this time, the review process of the paper will be terminated, and the revised paper will need to be submitted as a new submission.

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All revised submissions will be screened (again) by the ICBE Managing Editor, before being passed back to the relevant Editor.

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A concise and factual abstract of between 50 and 250 words is required for all New and Revised Submissions. The abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, references should be avoided, but if essential, the full reference must be included.

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Funding: This work was supported by the National Institutes of Health [grant numbers xxxx, yyyy]; the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, WA [grant number zzzz]; and the United States Institutes of Peace [grant number aaaa].

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General points
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Ensure that each illustration has a caption. A caption should comprise a brief title (**not** on the figure itself) and a description of the illustration. Keep text in the illustrations themselves to a minimum but explain all symbols and abbreviations used.

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As the publishing language is English, authors are required to keep references to sources in other languages to a necessary minimum, and to provide an English translation of the title in parentheses. Use APA style

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As a minimum, the full URL should be given and the date when the reference was last accessed. Any further information, if known (DOI, author names, dates, reference to a source publication, etc.), should also be given. Web references can be listed separately (e.g., after the reference list) under a different heading if desired or can be included in the reference list.

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AFTER ACCEPTANCE

Proofs

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