Peer review declaration

All papers published in this volume of IOP Conference Series: Earth and Environmental Science have been peer reviewed through processes administered by the Editors. Reviews were conducted by expert referees to the professional and scientific standards expected of a proceedings journal published by IOP Publishing.

- **Type of peer review:** Double-blind

  The identities of the authors were concealed to the reviewers as they only received the manuscript to be reviewed without the authors' identities. The names of reviewers were also kept anonymous to the authors as they only received the reviewers’ comments and recommendation.

- **Conference submission management system:** Open Conference Systems (OCS) https://ocs.usu.ac.id/AEFS

- **Number of submissions received:** 350 papers

- **Number of submissions sent for review:** 350 papers

- **Number of submissions accepted:** 282 papers

- **Acceptance Rate (Number of Submissions Accepted / Number of Submissions Received X 100):** 282 / 350 x 100 = 80.57%

- **Average number of reviews per paper:** 4 reviews per paper

- **Total number of reviewers involved:** 35 reviewers

- **Any additional info on review process:**

  The review process for the 4th International Conference on Agriculture, Environment, and Food Security 2020 was consisted of 4 stage:

1. **Stage 1: General Review**

   In the first stage, every paper that submitted by the author to the AEFS Open Conference System (OCS) were reviewed by internal reviewers and assessed based on the content suitability with the theme and scope of the 2020 AEFS Conference, writing format suitability with the IOP Conference Series: Earth and Environmental Science template, clarity of language, and similarity index by turn it in (<20%). In addition, the contents of the paper must be the result of a research. Unsuitable paper
and paper that requiring major revision based on the review results were immediately rejected. There were 350 papers submitted in this stage. This stage was carried out on September 1st to 20th, 2020. There were 294 papers that successfully passed this stage.

2. Stage 2: Deep Review

In the second stage, all papers (294 papers) that passed in the first stage were reviewed by the Scientific Committee and assessed based on content suitability with the theme and scope of the 2020 AEFS Conference, clarity of language use and delivery methods, and the paper contents (introduction, method, discussion of results research, and conclusions) related to originality, innovation, technical soundness, applicability, clarity of presentation, and relevance more deeply.

In addition, the editorial team also assessed the suitability of the writing format, refer to the IOP Conference Series: Earth and Environmental Science format such as reference writing, spacing, font size, font type, and others. This stage was carried out on September 21st to October 4th, 2020. There were 287 papers that successfully passed this stage.

Papers that didn’t meet the standard of research results based on the reviewer's assessment were rejected at this stage, while papers that require revision were returned to the author for revision based on the notes on the review results through the OCS AEFS system. The results of the revised paper were directly submitted by the author to the OCS AEFS system no later than October 18th, 2020.

Papers that successfully passed this stage received a temporary Letter of Acceptance (LOA) with several acceptance requirements that must be met. To complete the requirements, author must revise the paper in accordance with the revised notes of the review results from reviewers within a predetermined time, pay the administration payments, and present the paper at the 4th International Conference on Agriculture, Environment, and Food Security (AEFS) in 2020. Author who has paid the administration payment received the invitation to present his paper at the 4th International Conference on Agriculture, Environment and Food Security (AEFS) in 2020.

3. Stage 3: Revision Review

Paper that has completed the administration payment and was presented at the 4th International Conference on Agriculture, Environment, and Food Security (AEFS) 2020, still needed revision based on the results of the second stage review. The results of these revision were assessed by 15 internal reviewers based on the suitability of the revision with revised notes and recommendations from reviewers and editors at the second stage. In addition, the editorial team also re-checked the paper similarity index by turn it in (≤18%). Then, the paper would be returned to the author to be corrected until it met all revision notes and recommendations from reviewers and editors. There were 287 papers to review in this stage. This stage was carried out on October 19th to November 15th, 2020. There were 286 papers that successfully passed this stage.

4. Stage 4: Final Review

The quick skimming process was carried out in the final review to ensure the feasibility of the paper for publication and filter out minor errors in terms of paper content that still existed before the paper was sent to the publisher. At this stage, the
editorial team once again checked the final similarity index by turn it in (≤ 18%) to ensure that the paper met the publication standards. This stage was carried out on December 7th - 28th, 2020.

The editorial team also reviewed the paper and did the final editing process before sent the papers to the publisher. The final editing process was carried out on January 4th - 24th, 2021. There were 286 papers that met the publication standards and were sent to the publisher. Furthermore, the publisher reviewed those papers from February 3rd till May 18th, 2021 and the total number of papers that have been accepted was 282 papers.

- **Contact person for queries:**

  Name : R. B. Moh. Ibrahim Fatoni, S.Pi., M.P.

  Affiliation: Universitas Sumatera Utara

  Email : aefs@usu.ac.id or rbmibrahimfatoni@usu.ac.id