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Editorial Office
World Development

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed our manuscript titled "**Managerial Diplomacy: The Role of Strategic Leadership in Reconstructing Afghanistan's Economic and Political Engagement with the Global Community**" for consideration in **World Development**.

This study employs a longitudinal mixed-methods approach to analyze managerial diplomacy through a comprehensive examination of 25 Afghan governance stakeholders across two data collection waves. The research makes several significant contributions:

1. **Longitudinal Analysis:** First study to track the same 25 stakeholders across two data collection waves in Afghanistan's reconstruction context.
2. **Methodological Innovation:** Integrates computational text analysis with qualitative thematic coding across longitudinal data.
3. **Practical Implications:** Provides evidence-based recommendations for international engagement in post-conflict settings.
4. **Theoretical Contribution:** Advances understanding of strategic leadership in hybrid governance systems.

The manuscript includes:

- 8 publication-quality figures
- 7 comprehensive analysis tables
- Complete statistical validation
- 50 respondent engagements (25 stakeholders \times 2 waves)
- 14,192 words of qualitative data analysis

All authors have reviewed and approved the final manuscript. We confirm no conflicts of interest and that the work is original and unpublished.

Thank you very much for considering our submission. We look forward to your feedback.

Sincerely,

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