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Dear Professor,

We hereby submit the manuscript entitled “*Mapping the Operation of Airbnb in Sri Lankan Cities*” to be considered for publication in the Geografia-Malaysian Journal of Society and Space (GMJSS).

This is an original submission that has not been published before and is not currently under review at any other publication outlet.

The primary findings of the paper and their significance can be summarized as follows,

- The number of Airbnb Listings is higher than the number of formal tourist accommodation establishments in every district of Sri Lanka
- The distribution of the Airbnb accommodation offered in Sri Lanka follows the general patterns of population and hotel accommodation distribution and tend to be concentrated in and around city centres and major tourist resort regions.
- Most listings in Sri Lanka are private room rentals which indicate the use of the platform is slightly closer to the original model of sharing economy.
- This study would provide a foundation for further research in the local domain and assist policymakers and other stakeholders in understanding the growing importance of the Airbnb platform.

This study was supported by the Research Grant, awarded by the University of Sri Jayewardenepura (ASP/RE/MGT/01/2018/48) and the Center for Real Estate Studies (CRES).

We would like to submit this manuscript as an original research paper, as described in the authors' instructions, which we have read and believe in having understood.

Thank you for your consideration in advance.

On behalf of the co-authors,
Lasika Madhawa Munasinghe.