

Review of: "The Failure of Public Water Utility Privatization From Araral's Perspective: Implications for Ethiopia's Water Sector"

Elshan Ahmadov¹

¹ The Academy of Public Administration

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

In my view the statement of the research problem is clear, also important as well as satisfactory. The study dedicated to the failure of public water utility privatization. Given the world's water stress occurring in the world due to economic and environmental considerations, demographic rise and climate change, water security becomes very actual problem. In such global changes it is very important to achieve regional sustainable management as well as new public management. In this way, first of all, we will be able to protect the more vulnerable populations. The social policy of the country is one of the most important directions for the stable and sustainable development of the country. Human development, sanitation, water management, food security is at the centre of social policy. Considering demographic, social, political issues and climate change in over the world and also in Ethiopia, water sanitation, hygienic condition of water resources, energy and food security becomes very relevant. So the research work "failure of public water utility privatization" in the same direction explores those details through which high successes in social policy can be achieved. Social policy priorities in the field of water resources management are not easy to determine. Since we are talking about the collective use of a resource as well as the economic interests of the state. The author emphasizes this important point.

However, topic relates to privatization of water utilities it would be better to link the development prospects of entrepreneurship and the gaps in the state policy regulating the development of private sector and public relations should be taken into account. Private, public and NGO participation and involvement of stakeholders in public administration is required administrative or new public management reforms specially in emerging countries. The author points to the implementation of New Public Management, which constitute a range of reforms aimed at improving efficiency and cost recovery. Also, it would be better to mention how and under what conditions, according to what criteria and planning procedure this can be achieved. Author gives an examples of criteria in developed and developing countries, but Author do not mention annual reports or state statistics to the related topic. Also there is no any mention what needs to be changed in the regulatory law, what criteria could serve to improve the work of privatization under the decisions of the ministries or policy makers. The study is a review of important research. The overall presentation of the paper is good. The topic of this paper appropriate for water management journals. I think the paper has a good technical approach, and analysis.

The methodology of the work is clearly articulated, giving the reader an idea of how the author has developed a scientific approach. There is organization and logical sequence. Unfortunately, the author did not use statistical data to identify a

shortcoming in utility privatization. These statistic methods are suitable to be applied research, because direct study in the field and interview method reveals all the shortcomings right on the spot. First of all, the author gets the opportunity to understand what is lacking in official statistics. Drawing conclusions from the results obtained can give recommendations for policy makers and government. The research was not carried using designed questionnaires. But this does not mean that the result of the research is weak.

Main results of this study is implementation and application of public water utility privatization;

Analyse strengthening public water utility privatization programs towards sustainable water use and water sanitation development;

privatization of publicly owned enterprises, including public utility services to achieve sustainable water management and waste water pollution;

author aimed to show the failures of the privatization of water utility services taking into account a privatization of public utilities are government financial constraints (fiscal reason) and inadequate public utility performance (efficiency reason);

author stress out disadvantages of the existing public utility services;

the author believes that private investment in water service delivery should be leveraged;

One of the most important questions of this research are:

Is that privatization will relieve governments of the burden of investment finance?

Is the poor public water utility performance in underdeveloped nations can be ascribed with poor public service?

Here Author claims that in terms of efficiency or other performance indicators, there is no fundamental difference between public and private operators, according to a growing body of evidence. But he/she did not specify performance indicators and did not compare performance indicators of developed and developing countries. So reader clearly can understand the difference of approach between utility privatization and government control.

How policy reformers, to alleviate irreconcilable dilemmas in public utility privatization, need to consider a balance between economic efficiency and social equity?

Is periodic water quality monitoring has been regulated in national technical regulation on water hygiene criteria in Ethiopia and other developing countries?

Authors could give any recommendations for authorities which could be useful for policy makers on water management issues, especially on small and medium enterprises related water utility.

In the conclusion author's findings are:

Water investments received just 5% of total private investment in all infrastructure projects in emerging nations.

Local governments and politicians that make decisions about water service delivery must see water as an economic benefit and underline that successful economic recovery implies good water politics. But author did not mention about good water policy criteria for emerging states.

Community-based approaches to urban water supply, particularly in slum areas, is an effective model of service delivery, particularly for urban poor (this needs organized urban poor communities).

improving the governance of existing public water utilities should be a key focus of water supply reform, as 90% of all water delivered through networks in developing countries is provided by these utilities.

The author also highlights four policy consequences of the growing importance of domestic corporations.

References are good organized. If Author did not use any reference it would be better to remove it from reference list.

Finally, as a researcher, I recently read the article "The Failure of Public Water Utility Privatization" and I must say that it was a good experience. The author has done a good job in highlighting the pitfalls of privatizing public water utilities and the negative impact it can have on the community.

The article provides a thorough analysis of the failures of privatization, citing examples from Ethiopia and various countries where this model has been implemented. The author has also provided an argument against the notion that privatization leads to increased efficiency and cost savings.

I was particularly impressed by the way the article highlights the importance of public ownership of water utilities, emphasizing that access to clean water is a basic human right that should not be subject to market forces. The author has made a strong case for the need to keep water utilities in public hands, ensuring that they remain accountable to the community they serve.

Overall, I found this article to be well-researched, informative, and thought-provoking. It has given me a deeper understanding of the issues surrounding water privatization and has reinforced my belief that public ownership of water utilities is essential for the well-being of our communities. I highly recommend this article to anyone interested in learning more about this important topic.

"The Failure of Public Water Utility Privatization" as it presents a well-researched and informative analysis of the negative impacts of privatizing public water utilities. However, it is important to note that there are varying opinions on this topic, and it is always beneficial to engage in constructive discussions and debates to arrive at the best possible solution for the community.