

Review of: "Perception of Biodiversity versus Connection to Nature: Which Can Influence Wildlife Product Consumption in Vietnam?"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

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RATING: 3 STARS OUT OF 5. GREEN

Thank you so much for sending to me the manuscript of a paper (cited above) for a review. I am sending you my report/observations as under.

TEXT OF THE REVIEW

1. It is a commendable effort. The manuscript deals with an interesting subject, conveying important aspects regarding the use of Biodiversity products and its awareness about Biodiversity and its Conservation. The study is expected to throw lights, when published, on the awareness of biodiversity conservation or on the limitations of a section of people in general to understand the importance of biodiversity in our life. Policy making in future with regard to biodiversity conservation can take a cue from what has been presented in this study.
2. The introduction is supported with citation of some relevant literature.
3. The methodology includes interviews, questionnaire and web-based surveys via Google forms using Snow-ball Sampling strategy.
4. Statistical analyses are fit and apt for the studied parameters. Bayesian logistic regression has been nicely used.
5. It is interesting to note that the Second Author seems to be a very young person.

After going through the manuscript the following observations are made by this reader:

The Literature Review section could be more exhaustive. More studies on similar subject have been conducted and published worldwide, and a synoptic reflection of the findings, suggestions, hypotheses etc. of those studies could be highlighted to give the findings of the present authors a better weightage.

Theories and hypotheses presented in this manuscript are good, but needed to be clearer and better explanation of the Tables presented could help the readers with a proper interpretation of numbers.

The size of the respondents has been mentioned (about 508+), but it would have been interesting, and more meaningful, if the 'Age-group', Cultural background, levels of formal education, socio-economic background etc. of the respondents were also provided. Also, a distinction between the numbers of respondents on the basis of their 'Urban' or 'Rural' background could add dimensions to the results obtained from this study.

Natural resources are generally more directly and extensively used by people living in the vicinity of Nature and Reserved forests and Conservation Areas. So their perceptions of Biodiversity and opinions needed to be given better weightage in this study.

The nature of 'Publicly available survey' referred to in this study needed to be made clear.

The sources of information for 'Figures' and 'Tables' presented needed to be mentioned.

Information on the existing Wildlife Protection Legislations and Government policies in vogue in Vietnam is wanting in this study/manuscript.

Finally, it seems that the aspect of 'Zoonosis', that is the possibility of spilling over of diseases from wild animals due to consumption of bush-meat, has not been addressed in this work.

Such a beautiful attempt on an important subject could end with a discussion on future direction of such studies and better development of the methods employed.

I am sure, when finally published, this work would prove to be an important one for a global understanding about people's connection and the role they can play in the matter of Biodiversity and its Conservation.

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