

# Review of: "A Policy Dialogue for Nutrition of Women and Adolescent Girls: Sustainable Development Goals Matters Arising"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This paper analyzes the very important issue of malnutrition among adolescent girls in Rwanda, under the driving hypothesis that an adequate and healthy nutrition is critical for the sustainable development of the country. This is a policy paper more than an original research paper and, as such, it reads well and attains its goals. Towards the end, it closes with a Call for Action providing a policy agenda with ten key actions to improve nutrition of adolescent girls and women in Rwanda. This section is extremely important and provides the reader a very concrete policy agenda.

Among many other points of importance, it drew my attention that a large proportion (26%) of Rwandan women in reproductive age (15-49) are overweight or obese (i.e., they have a body mass index [BMI] larger than 25.0), while a much smaller proportion (6%) are underweight (BMI < 18.5). This points to two factors: (a) there probably is a strong inequity in access to food, and (b) like in many other countries in the developing world (or the Global South, as it is often called now), obesity seems to be a growing health issue linked to abundant high-calory food but a lack of a well-balanced diet rich in fresh products. Perhaps the authors would care commenting about this.

Some points, however, should be addressed to improve this paper:

1. None of the references presented at the end of the paper are cited in the body of the text, so the reader is left wondering which reference supports many of the assertions presented in the study. This is critically important for the ideas and data presented to be adequately sustained.
2. There are a few sections rich in data of great importance. For example, the second paragraph in the section "How nutrition affects Women" is full of important numerical data that (a) needs references to support the numbers, and (b) could have perhaps been presented in the form of a table or a graph, to help the reader visualize the data better. There are many other parts of the study where better data visualization and references would greatly improve the quality of the paper.
3. The references lack consistency in their format, and some are almost impossible to find in their current format (e.g., *Journal of Social Science & Medicine*, Manuscript Number: SSM-D-23-01110). Qeios should probably be able to provide the authors with a consistent reference system.

