

Review of: "Revitalizing Key Conditions and Integrated Watershed Management Approach to Sustain Water Availability and Agriculture in Semi-Arid Regions"

Joana D.arc Freire de Medeiros¹

¹ Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This manuscript is a literature review, in which the authors try to identify the key conditions that need to be considered in the rehabilitation and management watersheds for sustainable water availability for agricultural development and livelihood changes in semi-arid regions.

This is an interesting topic, that has potentiality to be published. I congratulate the authors for tackling the complex subject of sustainable watershed management in semi-arid regions. However, I suggest revising the manuscript to discuss and clarify some points.

An important point that needs to be better explored in the article is related to discussion. The key points for sustainable watershed management were pointed out by the author, however, most of most of the key points are known. The difficulty in these poor areas is implementing the actions, which was not discussed in the manuscript.

I suggest insert more discussions about the real difficulties to implement sustainable management in the watersheds of the region studied. It would have been good to cite examples where this could have been implemented and had positive results. Please, do not cite only Israel.

One example of lack in discussion, in the item 4.2.3 the author commented about the supplemental irrigation and how it could reduce the risks in rainfed agriculture, but they did not comment anything about two important questions: (1) in dry spells, there are water to irrigate? (2) do the farmers who work in rainfed agriculture have the knowledge (skills) to work in irrigated agriculture?

Another important point to be reviewed in the article is that some of the bibliographical references cited are not in the references. For example, Suhas et al. (2011) was cited 29 times in the text and was not found in the list of references. This happened in many other cases.