

Review of: "Improving agriculture and food security in Africa: Can the one health approach be the answer?"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This is a potentially helpful paper on an important topic, but overall it reads rather surface level. I would love the authors to elaborate in more detail on the interconnections and potential of a one health approach. Specifically, I would encourage them to flesh out Figure 2 and Table 2, and make these the centerpoints of the article. These form the backbone of the original thought contained in the piece, rather than simply a justification for the one health approach. I found figure 2 too simplistic. Given the multiple interactions and cross-cutting interactions you describe in the introduction, putting these into a graphical framework would be very useful, but you need more specific categories than 'human health' and 'environmental health'.

Table 2 is the 'meat' of the paper and needs to be part of the body, because it constitutes the main findings. I would also like much more detail here, with specific examples of programs or efforts that would constitute the actions which the authors recommend. Overall, what is the new perspective being brought in this manuscript? That is what should be emphasized.

The manuscript is repetitive; for example, there are several sections in which a one health approach is justified. The paper would flow better if these were combined.

Abstract: 'evidence' should be singular.

Should it be 'the' one health approach?

First paragraph: The zoonotic disease risk is not despite the key role livestock plays in livelihoods, but because of it.

In general, grammar and phrasing could be improved—please let an editor look this over.

Culminating 'in', not 'to'

There are a lot of statements in the introduction without cited sources (particularly in the 'challenges' section).

Figure 1 is unclear, partly because the caption is unclear and partly because adding all of the countries together in one bar obscures any patterns or variation between the countries.

It would be good to have more information about how Tanzania and Zambia implemented a holistic approach with community collaboration—maybe a box summarizing this? The table is helpful, but it would also be nice to delve into more

detail for one of these case studies.