Review of: "Development of templates to enable countries to apply behavioural science in using global survey data to inform their COVID-19 policies"

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The study offers valuable insights into the creation of two templates that aid in the analysis, dissemination, and implementation of survey data for policy-making in various country contexts. As a result, it is deemed worthy of publication. The research team displays a comprehensive understanding of the relevant literature in the field and cites a suitable selection of sources. Nonetheless, the study overlooks some important works that could contribute to its findings.

The article's main argument is based on the COM-B model, a commonly used theoretical framework in behavioral science, which is a solid foundation. The authors have correctly utilized this model to create two templates and guidelines. However, the article does not provide a comprehensive explanation of how the survey data was collected or how the 11 countries were selected for the pilot study. Additionally, there is no detailed description of the training that was provided to users or how users were chosen for the pilot study. The authors did not conduct primary data analysis but rather used previously analyzed data on COVID-19. This approach is appropriate for the article's aim, which is to develop templates that allow countries to apply behavioral science when using global survey data to inform their COVID-19 policies. In general, the methodology employed in the article is suitable for its aim, but it could benefit from a more detailed explanation of the methodology used to collect and analyze the data, as well as the criteria used to select the countries and users for the pilot study.

The article talks about how two templates were created to use behavioural theory to analyse global survey data on COVID-19. The templates were developed by a team of behavioural scientists, communications experts, and pandemic responders. The Survey Findings Template and Additional Survey Items Template allow users to organise, interpret, share, and present behavioural survey data in different global contexts to help with public health pandemic response. The article presents the development of the templates clearly and analyses them appropriately. The templates are explained with fictional data to show how they work. The article also discusses the practical benefits of using the templates, such as reducing the data-related burden on response teams and enabling them to formulate recommendations for action points more quickly.

The conclusions adequately tie together the other elements of the paper by emphasising the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration in moving forward with complex global issues. The article highlights the benefits of using the templates in facilitating users to identify links between survey findings and theory, making data more accessible for users to engage with and aiding in communicating findings to relevant team members and partners. Overall, the article provides

a valuable contribution to the field of behavioural science in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic response.

Implications for research, practice, and/or society: The paper identifies clear implications for research, practice, and society. It bridges the gap between theory and practice and provides insights that could influence public policy and contribute to the body of knowledge. The implications are consistent with the findings and conclusions of the paper.

Overall, the paper provides valuable information regarding the development of templates that could be used to enable the extraction, organization, and application of behavioral survey data in a way that is maximally useful and usable to a range of users. The paper could benefit from citing some additional significant works. However, it justifies publication, and its insights could be of great value to researchers, practitioners, and policymakers alike.