

Review of: "Assessment of Quality of drinking waterbased on the water quality index method in Hawassa Zuria Woreda, Sidama Regional State, Ethiopia"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This manuscript is a well-written manuscript providing interesting data from an area with limited data availability. It describes and assesses the quality of drinking water in terms of physico-chemical and microbiological parameters and heavy metals from diverse sources (reservoir, tap and storage container). The manuscript merits publication, since the Introduction is informative, the methodology is sound and explanatory, and the results are well presented. Some comments to improve this work: 1. Section: Instrument Operating Conditions and Calibration. Have you evaluated the level of errors associated with your analysis? What is the level of error in the lab methods followed and the instruments' accuracy? 2. Data Analysis. Please explain the data matrix you have created after sampling and physico-chemical analysis (number of observations X number of parameters). 3. Results. All probability p-values should be defined according to the statistical hypothesis followed, e.g., $p \leq 0.05$. Please check the whole manuscript and correct it. 4. Please correct "and users" to "end users". 5. Correlation Matrix of the Physico-Chemical Parameters. How many observations participated in these correlations? What is the value of n. 6. The inequality signs for p-values are missing throughout the text. 7. The concentration of Heavy Metals in drinking water. Better limit the number of decimal digits to 3. Please apply this to the whole document. 8. Heavy Metal Pollution Index. It will be good to provide a spatial analysis of these results. Which samples /areas were found below the drinking standards. 9. Bacteriological quality of drinking water. Correct "total coliforms (TC)...". 10. samples and 75% (4/8) of domestic. This cannot be correct. Please re-check. 11. Discussion should be reduced in size, currently it is very extended. You don't need to discuss in such detail all the chemicals being analyzed.