

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.

Thank you for sharing the preprint of this paper on an important and underexplored topic: how to improve women's nutrition and adolescent nutrition in Rwanda toward the achievement of SDGs. The writing is clear. With some modifications, your paper will be in a stronger position for submission to a peer-reviewed journal.

Please state more clearly what your paper adds or what is new.

There are missed opportunities to explore how the "Call to Action" could be put in place in the current Rwanda-specific context.

The authors could clarify the urgency of these actions to meet the timeline for the SDGs.

General comments –

Your paper is presented as a "policy dialogue" and sometimes as a study. I am not sure either is correct. Perhaps, rather, you have a call to action, a commentary, or possibly a policy commentary. As I understand the paper, there is no dialogue with multiple perspectives coming to a consensus in this paper (unless that is what the "Call to Action" is – that would be a policy dialogue).

A major part of your paper is linking women's and adolescent nutrition in Rwanda to the SDGs. I suggest there is a lot more you could say here about how that would work. You may look to a journal that would allow a diagram that shows the relationships (or at least a table with all of the SDGs).

I am not clear: is there any new data that was collected for this paper? If so, and I missed this, please make this clearer.

Is there an audience or target journal in mind? The audience of practitioners/academics is mentioned in the abstract, but I interpret that the paper actually seeks to persuade policymakers or decision-makers to invest in women's and adolescent nutrition. It might help the next version if a particular journal was under consideration.

The term "wicked problem" is used 3x in the paper. One of the definitions of a wicked problem is that it can't be solved or that it is unclear when the problem is solved. Based on this, perhaps your paper would be stronger if it called investments in women's and adolescent nutrition a challenging problem (that can be measured and addressed).

More specific comments

p. 1 Abstract/Intro: Suggest starting with a definition of women's nutrition and adolescent nutrition and/or the magnitude and urgency of the problem in Rwanda. Multi-sectoral solutions, with specific examples, could come as one of the solutions at the end of the abstract and be unpacked in the "Call to Action."

Keywords – suggest adding women's nutrition and/or adolescent nutrition to the keyword list.

Introduction: Who is your audience? (This section is long). What are the main points you want to convey in the introduction?

p. 4-5 Excuse my misunderstanding, where does the information contained in your "Call to action- Ten Key actions" come from? The section says "we identify" these themes. If the "we" comes from an expert consultation, that would be interesting and relevant and could set your paper apart. It reads like the "Call to Action" language came from an existing reference. If so, be clearer about the source.

p. 4 Your recommendations in the "Policy options and "Call to action – Ten Key Actions" are rather high level. The language could apply to many countries. Your paper would be strengthened by using Rwandan policies and examples, including specific statutes, strategies, or policies.

The recommendations seem generic in terms of the timeline. For example, your recommendations could be linked to climate change, migration patterns, Covid-19, and other current issues.

p. 5 Conclusion. Your conclusion is succinct. I would contrast the conclusion with the abstract; your conclusion is much more general and does not fully match the title or the abstract.

p.6 References. Is there a paper connected to the reference from Social Science and Medicine? You could consider citing Rwandan policy documents.

In closing, I enjoyed reading your paper and seeing how the authors framed these important issues to share more widely. I hope these comments are constructive.