

## Review of: "Political Economy and Ecology of International Regional Development: Indonesia Urban and Rural Development Loans from the Asian Development Bank (ADB)"

Chenkai Niu

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This article in general has theoretical and practical significance and shows author's unique thinking and valuable opinions in many aspects, my personal opinion on this article is as follows:

- 1 The abstract needs further revision. It is suggested that the abstract be more condensed and clear, and that attempts be made to break up long sentences and add transitional statements or words; also, "We discovered that these theories are false and faulty" is a phrase that I personally believe could be perceived as a strong claim. Perhaps more neutral or softer language might be more appropriate. In conclusion, it is recommended that the abstract be reorganized to make the narrative more logical and clear.
- 2 The Introduction and Methodology section gives a full description of the background of the study and the relevant data methods, which is very good. However, I would still suggest that some of the long sentences could be turned into neat and powerful phrases to make it easier for the reader to understand; furthermore, the sudden shift from historical background to theory in the opening section seems to need a smooth transition; also, it is suggested that the purpose be more explicit and the specific points that are intended to be proved or disproved could be further clarified. Finally, in the Research Methods section, you mention the use of "fractional polynomial regression" but do not explain why this particular statistical method is appropriate for your data and research question.
- 3 The Results and Discussion section does a better job of addressing the questions posed at the beginning of the article and also generates illuminating ideas. However, this section as a whole seems to need further revision, as the narrative seems to be a bit "fragmented", and some of the references, quantitative and qualitative mixtures need to be further corrected, and it is recommended that the logic, narrative and language of this section be further organized as it should be an important presentation of the results of the paper.
- 4 Literature review: authors may update some of the latest relevant literature as appropriate.