

# Review of: "Institutions and Socioeconomic Development: Do Legacies and Proximity Matter? Case Studies of Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The paper title “Institutions and Socioeconomic Development: Do Legacies and Proximity Matter? Case Studies of Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand” is very interesting and has a great significance in today’s era, especially in developing countries where due to the absence of rule of law and institutional quality, socioeconomic development has hindered. Authors have tried their best to draft this document but there are some short-comings in this article. Which authors need to incorporate.

1. Abstract need to be re-write, as authors have used past tense in various lines. Use the present tense. Abstract is too large, it should not be more than 200 words. Abstract should include, what is the objective? Which method you use for regression? What are key findings? One or two implications.
2. In introduction, authors have explained the types of institutions from Paragraph 2 to paragraph 4. Shorten the text upto 7-8 lines in one paragraph.
3. Authors have write the introduction in detail but did not include the situation of institutions and societal-wellbeing in countries of discussion. I would strongly recommend to add the current situation of institutional quality in these three countries.
4. Literature review section is missed in article, which is important to add.
5. Authors have not specified dependent and independent variables in methodology section.
6. Results of the study are totally differ from Title and objectives. Title and objectives indicate that authors are going to examine the relationship between institutions, legacy and socio-economic development (Dependent variable) but results do not provide this picture. How the socio economics development is measured? It is not discussed and how legacy and proximity serve as mediator or moderator? Did not study.
7. Overall article looks like that authors could not understand the statistical relationship and language needs to be improved as there are lot of grammatical and sentence mistakes.
8. Again the socio-economic wellbeing is disccued in conclusion and discussion, which is not seen in the regression results.

9. I would suggest authors to read below article to re-shape the analysis and text. Does institutional trust and governance matter for multidimensional well-being? Insights from Pakistan. *World Development Perspectives*, 25, 100369.
10. On the basis of above discussion, my Decision is to reject the article. And Ask authors to re-design the research and then submit it anywhere.