

Review of: "A Review of Transformation and Digital Literacy for the Sustainable Development in the Greater Mekong Subregion – Working Paper"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Thank you for choosing to submit an article that touches on two phenomena that spark intense debate with diverse perspectives across the world. Your proposition is concurrently timely and pertinent to the contemporary transformative endeavors within the Greater Mekong SubRegion.

Scope and Objectives:

The article systematically examines the scope and unambiguously defines the objective for the reader - the narrative unfolds within the confines of the Greater Mekong SubRegion, and emphasizes the need for digital literacy combined with transformation in the pursuit of sustainable development.:

'The objective of this project is to contribute to the transformation and digital literacy for the sustainable development in the Greater Mekong Subregion'

Title and Abstract:

The title of the articles reflects the content of the review and the abstract points out the main findings of the resources cited in the article.

- However, data from those sources need to be adequately articulated for the reader.

The abstract underscores economic, social, sustainability, and environmental challenges.

- Digital challenges should also be listed, before pointing out the need to equip individuals and communities with missing skills.

The abstract highlights the target audience of the article and its purpose,

- but the method for data collection and analysis should also appear in the abstract.

Introduction:

The introduction establishes the importance of the topic

- but should also provide a clear rationale for the review. The introduction is great and leads the reader to the objective which is

“to contribute to the transformation and digital literacy for the sustainable development in the Greater Mekong Subregion”

- However, the peculiar digital (skills) challenges with the population of the study need to be comprehensively defined for the readers.
- Also, to support the need for the digital skills component of the review, it might be more insightful to provide visualization or more data on the seven main approaches referenced in the article:

“The agenda proposed by each country constitutes seven main approaches which offer full use of information and communication technologies (ICT) to promote innovation and economic progress (Manakul et al., 2021). “

The paper employs relevant models and frameworks, however:

- These are yet to be adapted in the context of the Greater Mekong SubRegion
- The focus of the discourse seems to be more on digital intelligence/literacy and rather weak on sustainability.
- What SDGs align with this study?

Methodology:

Review articles must not have a traditional methods section, but the author should clarify the approach to searching and selecting relevant literature.

Literature Review:

The literature is rich and relevant for the study,

- but should not be limited to a few components of the study. Considering the array of complex challenges outlined at the inception and the ethnically varied demographic under investigation, the structure and exposition of the literature should comprehensively incorporate all facets pertinent to the topic:

“As this region grapples with the challenges of economic growth, environmental sustainability, and social equity, understanding the dynamics of transformation”

- The author should incorporate a logical flow across adopted models to the development of a modified model for the Greater Mekong SubRegion. The author needs to provide a balanced and unbiased summary of existing research across the major themes to produce a thoroughly articulated and overall coherence of the review.

Conclusion:

Here, the author further underscores the significance of transformation and digital literacy as vital elements in attaining sustainable development within the Greater Mekong SubRegion. Although the synopsis adeptly encapsulates the scope and objective underlying the imperative to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within the

specified region (through the combination of transformation and digital literacy),

- an ambiguity arises regarding the specific target SDGs. This weakness may be addressed proactively from the outset, similar to the review provided around digital intelligence/literacy.
- the author might also have to incorporate a clear definition of transformation within the context of this article introductory section, thereby enhancing conceptual clarity and elucidating its relevance from the beginning,

Citations and references, Target audience and Clarity:

The review incorporates the target audience from the beginning with relevant and recent studies. However,

- the author might include an in-text citation for IEEE to strengthen the information/reference.

Otherwise, the style of writing is clear and meets the requirements for a scholarly article. Moreover, as a review article, this paper can also become a useful resource for further studies. Therefore,

- supplementing the article with further data regarding the seven identified approaches and delineating the requisite digital competencies for their attainment may enhance the scholarly depth of this manuscript.
- determining the pertinent SDGs should additionally facilitate a comprehensive examination of the topic.

Overall, this article will undoubtedly augment the extant body of academic knowledge, offering a substantial contribution that is anticipated to solve a complex societal issue. The forthcoming completion of this work is eagerly anticipated, and I hope to read the final paper.