

Review of: "Understanding dis-functionalities in multi-agency policy collaborations in Kenya"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The article is very interesting and full of points of reflection on the topic of governance and multi-agency relations.

There are, however, some parts of the work that would require more depth or at least clarification.

(a) in the introduction, the Author writes "This paper presumes that most of these dysfunctions, if not all, primarily reside in the social processes deficits of implementation typical in public institutions". What this refers to? Which literature does he use?

b) in the second paragraph (Framing inter-agency relations: A Three-Dimensional Organisational Approach), the Author dwells on the two main dimensions of the analysis of trust (cognitive and affective) and then goes on to identify the factors that influence inter-agency collaboration. This part of the work is very interesting but should be better articulated. It lacks a clear description of how trust (cognitive and affective) impacts on or relates to the cooperation factors. The shift from trust to the three dimensions of collaboration is too hasty and unclear.

c) In the section on data analysis, it is not clear how the interviews were constructed. The Author writes that the interview summaries were ordered on certain themes but: 1) are these themes the ones used in the open-ended interviews? 2) What is the literature used to support these themes?

d) in the section titled Findings and Analysis, the Author writes that the data analysis was conducted "to map how trust or distrust between agencies may have informed dysfunctions or challenges being experienced in implementing the anti-corruption policy programs' in Kenya's public sector". What exactly does it mean?

(e) In The conclusions, the Author should better articulate the research findings.

Overall, moreover, the second part of the paper (the one on research findings focusing on the various problems of multi-agency networks) is not well connected to the first part (the theoretical one on trust), thus creating some confusion for the reader.