

Review of: "The Effect of Regulation on the Degree of Implementation of the Social Tariff in the Water and Sanitation Sector"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Title and Abstract: The title is clear and concise, accurately reflecting the study's focus. The abstract provides a good overview of the study's objectives, methodology, and key findings.

Introduction: The introduction effectively contextualizes the research within the broader literature on water and sanitation sector regulation. It clearly states the research question and its significance.

Methodology: The methodology section is well-detailed, explaining the data sources, sample selection, and analytical techniques used. However, further justification for the chosen analytical methods could strengthen the study. The methodology section could be improved by clearly explaining the rationale behind the chosen statistical methods, such as why regression analysis was preferred. Justify the sample size and selection criteria, and discuss how the sample represents the population. Address any underlying assumptions and limitations of the methods used. Include the importance of robustness checks and sensitivity analyses, such as conducting alternative regression models, testing the impact of excluding outliers, performing bootstrapping, and using different measures of social tariff implementation, in validating the results. Providing these details would enhance the credibility and transparency of the research process.

Results: The results are presented clearly with appropriate use of tables and figures. The authors effectively interpret their findings, linking them back to the research question.

Discussion: The discussion section adequately situates the findings within the existing literature, highlighting the study's contributions and limitations. It provides insightful policy implications based on the results.

Conclusion: The conclusion succinctly summarizes the key findings and their implications. It also suggests areas for future research, which adds value to the study.

Overall Assessment: This study makes a significant contribution to understanding the impact of regulation on social tariff implementation in the water and sanitation sector. The paper is well-structured, and the arguments are coherent and well-supported by the data. Minor improvements in the justification of methodological choices could enhance the paper.