Reviewer's report

Title: Improving district level health planning and priority setting in Tanzania through implementing accountability for reasonableness framework: Perceptions of stakeholders

Version: 3 Date: 31 October 2010

Reviewer: Josef Streitel

Reviewer's report:

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined?

The topic “Improving district level health planning and priority setting in Tanzania through implementing accountability for reasonableness framework: Perceptions of stakeholders” is precise. The subtitle shows that the stakeholders are important for the authors. This is essential!

2. Are the methods appropriate and well described?

Methods are appropriate and well described.

3. Are the data sound?

Yes; some more of the data could have been presented in tables, but it’s also O.K. like it is.

4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition?

Yes

5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data?

Esp. starting from page 29 some clear and adequate statements!

6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated?

Yes and the one aspect is very true: The sampling strategy does not allow for generalisation of the results. But even if the strategy does not allow generalisation other districts or areas can learn from the results of this study. A transfer of gained knowledge and experience can definitely help to work on similar issues and problems!

7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished?

I think so.

8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found?
They give a clear and accurate description of the project and this is o. k.

9. Is the writing acceptable?
Yes!

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.