Reviewer's report

Title: Indicators of sustainable capacity building for health research: analysis of four African case studies

Version: 2 Date: 7 March 2011

Reviewer: Johan Hansen

Reviewer's report:

In this second review of the paper, my doubts remain regarding a key element of the paper, namely whether the second of three criteria used to select case studies should be applied. The response letter and relevant section of the paper did not clarify this. The same applies to the related matter of how the seven non-selected studies scored on these dimensions. At the same time, in the closing section of the article, the authors now do tackle the issue adequately, by calling out for better testing of the model and for inclusion of non-successful projects. Based on the additions in that section the authors have satisfactorily addressed the previous review's comments.

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.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests