Reviewer’s report

Title: Trends in burden and risk factors associated with childhood stunting in Rwanda from 2000 to 2015: policy and program implications

Version: 0 Date: 19 Oct 2019

Reviewer: Lana Chikhungu

Reviewer's report:

This is well written paper that clearly explains the data and methods employed. It presents on an important global child health of child stunting. The authors however need to explain a bit more on the limitations of the socio-economic status measure, the wealth index. They also mention household income as one of the variables but as far as I am aware the DHS does not collect income data, this is a mistake I think.

It is also important to distinguish the computation of the wealth index by rural urban residence because the assets requirements and importance may differ between the two groups. If this was not differentiated this may be a limitation.

The message in the discussion/conclusion should observe the limitation in the wealth index as a measure of socio-economic status. The paper presents the characteristics of groups that are affected by child stunting in Rwanda but does not necessarily provide insights to why undernutrition has persisted in Rwanda.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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