Reviewer's report

**Title:** Evaluation as evolution: a Darwinian proposal for health policy and systems research

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 19 October 2014

**Reviewer:** Temitope Ojo

**Reviewer's report:**

Discretionary revisions.
This manuscript proposes an interesting angle to policy evaluation and health systems research. This is quite commendable.
However I think the following comments may assist the authors in improving the manuscript.
The abstract appears somewhat long for a commentary.
It will be nice to see a part of the main manuscript that talks about factors that may militate against 'selective breeding' or implementation of a Darwinian health policy apart from politics.
For low income countries corruption may be relevant, poor technical capabilities and poor attitude towards policy and program evaluation may also be important.
The country examples are on point.

**Level of interest:** An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.