Reviewer’s report

Title: Linkages between health and agriculture sectors in Ethiopia: a formative research study exploring barriers, facilitators and opportunities for local level coordination to deliver nutritional programmes and services

Version: 0 Date: 20 Mar 2017

Reviewer: Irmgard Jordan

Reviewer’s report:

Dear Authors,

This is an interesting study objective. However, some important details are missing which I highly recommend to include and if this is not possible to discuss.

Methods: it is a little convoluted. A table and flow of activities might help to understand how you conducted the study. Please explain how many participants you had in the FGD, how they were selected and which gender distribution you had, how old were your participants. For more details on how to describe the methodology of a study - please follow the reporting guidelines for qualitative study published from the www.equator-network.org.

Results: provide a table showing the range of participants in per study area and corrobate your findings with outcome indicators like prevalence of nutritional status as you argue that the system needs strengthening. Please list the professional backgrounds of the teams you have interviewed etc work per area of investigation to reflect whether the background of the human resources you analyse is not biasing your findings. In addition age might play an important role how people perceived your questions consequently answered differently.

What do you mean with functional multi-sectoral committees? Were they effective or were they only meeting regularity? Which criteria did you apply?

Or means effective: being more healthy? If yes, can you prove it with healthy data?

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

No

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.

No

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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