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## REVIEWER'S REPORT

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Date: 01-03-2025

**Title: CONSUMPTION OF SACHET WATER BY STUDENTS IN THE CITY OF AKANDA (GABON)**

**Recommendation:**

- Accept as it is.....**YES**.....
- Accept after minor revision.....
- Accept after major revision .....
- Do not accept (*Reasons below*) .....

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	√			
Techn. Quality		√		
Clarity		√		
Significance			√	

**Reviewer's Name:** Tahir Ahmad

**Reviewer's Decision about Paper:** Recommended for Publication.

**Comments** (*Use additional pages, if required*)

### Reviewer's Comment / Report

**Title and Abstract:** The title is clear and concise, reflecting the study's focus on sachet water consumption among students in Akanda. The abstract effectively summarizes the research objectives, methodology, and key findings. It highlights the prevalence of sachet water consumption, students' concerns regarding taste and hygiene, and the perceived health risks associated with it. The use of statistical data strengthens the study's credibility.

**Introduction:** The introduction provides a strong contextual background, emphasizing the global and regional challenges related to access to potable water. It effectively presents the increasing reliance on sachet water in urban settings and the specific challenges faced in Akanda. The inclusion of references to studies from other African countries supports the study's relevance and situates it within a broader research context. The objectives are clearly stated, outlining the investigation of students' preferences, perceptions of taste and hygiene, and concerns about health risks.

**Methodology:** The methodology is briefly mentioned in the abstract, indicating a survey conducted among secondary school students in Akanda. While details on the sample size and selection criteria are not explicitly provided in the provided text, the study appears to be well-structured. The selection of

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multiple schools ensures a diverse representation of student perspectives. The use of surveys aligns well with the research objectives, allowing for the collection of quantitative and qualitative data on sachet water consumption habits.

**Findings and Discussion:** The study presents well-organized findings, supported by statistical data. The high percentage of students consuming sachet water regularly, their dissatisfaction with its taste, and their concerns regarding production and sales hygiene are critical insights. The identification of poor hygiene practices among students, such as not washing hands before drinking and improper disposal of sachets, adds depth to the discussion. The study effectively links these findings to broader health concerns, indicating the potential risks associated with sachet water consumption.

**Conclusion:** The conclusion reinforces the key findings and aligns well with the study's objectives. It highlights the students' concerns about hygiene, production conditions, and health risks, suggesting the need for increased awareness and better regulatory measures. The study provides a valuable contribution to understanding the consumption patterns and perceptions of sachet water among young consumers in Akanda.

**General Assessment:** This study offers an insightful exploration of sachet water consumption among students in Akanda. The structured approach, use of relevant literature, and inclusion of statistical data strengthen its credibility. The study provides a clear and comprehensive analysis, making it a valuable contribution to public health discussions related to drinking water in urban settings.