

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-54081

Date: September 26, 2025

Title: Climate Change and Acute Respiratory Infections in Children Aged 0 to 5 Years in the Poro Region of Côte d'Ivoire,

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

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

Reviewer Name: Dr Lakhdar Guerine

Date:

Detailed Reviewer's Report

This study examines the effect of climate change on the prevalence of acute respiratory infections (ARI) among children aged 0–5 in the Poro region of Côte d'Ivoire. Climate data (temperature, precipitation) from NASA and health data (RASS 2007–2020) were analyzed. The MIDAS-PDL/Almon econometric model was applied to capture the lagged effects of climate variables on ARI prevalence. Results show significant associations between climate variability and ARIs, while official development assistance and education expenditures mitigate impacts. Policy recommendations highlight the need for strengthened health and education systems to enhance climate resilience.

Strengths

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- 1) Original and relevant topic, underexplored in West Africa, particularly regarding childhood ARIs.
- 2) Use of an advanced econometric method (MIDAS-PDL) suited to mixed-frequency data.
- 3) Clear results with practical implications for health and education policies.

Weaknesses

- a) Health data limited to 14 years, which may affect robustness of estimations.
- b) Reliance on secondary datasets (NASA, RASS), which may involve biases or incompleteness.
- c) Discussion could be strengthened by integrating more international comparative studies on ARIs and climate.

Publication decision:

With minor revisions, mainly to reinforce the discussion and clarify methodological limitations.