

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-55882

Title: THE INFLUENCE OF ADMINISTRATIVE DECENTRALISATION ON SERVICE DELIVERY IN THREE SELECTED COUNTIES OF WESTERN EQUATORIA STATE, SOUTH SUDAN

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision Yes

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*).....

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

Reviewer Name: Dr. Himanshu Gaur

Detailed Reviewer's Report

The manuscript investigates the influence of administrative decentralization on service delivery in three counties of Western Equatoria State, South Sudan, using a mixed-methods design combining survey data, correlations, regression analysis, and focus group discussions, and it offers a contextually rich and policy-relevant contribution to decentralization studies in fragile states; however, substantial improvements are required before publication, including tightening the conceptual framework to clearly distinguish administrative from fiscal and political decentralization throughout the paper, strengthening the research design section by clarifying population figures, resolving repeated and inconsistent sample-size explanations, correcting formula presentation, and ensuring alignment between stated objectives, variables (including the shifting role of e-government), and hypotheses, improving language quality and grammar across sections, reducing redundancy in the literature review and methodology, restructuring lengthy descriptive interpretations into more concise analytical discussions, presenting tables more clearly with proper numbering and formatting, reporting regression and correlation results consistently with correct statistics and interpretations, deepening the theoretical integration in the discussion section, and sharpening the originality claims in the "Contribution to New Knowledge" to avoid over-generalization, while also adding clearer limitations, strengthening ethical disclosures and acknowledgments, and ensuring adherence to journal style guidelines, as these revisions are necessary to enhance rigor, coherence, and scholarly impact.