

**Paper: “Designing Gender-Specific Toilet and Urinal Needs Calculation
Templates for Rural and Urban Schools: Lessons from the Republic of Benin”**

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Peer review:

Reviewer 1: Mondira Dutta
Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

Reviewer 2: Blinded

Reviewer F:
Recommendation: Resubmit for Review

The TITLE is clear and it is adequate to the content of the article.

Title could be shortened as well as including urinals as the author discusses toilets and urinals.

The ABSTRACT clearly presents objects, methods, and results.

Abstract is lengthy and could be shortened for clarity following the authors guidelines for abstract headings/sections.

There are a few grammatical errors and spelling mistakes in this article.

There are excessive grammatical errors. Recommendation to the author for professional editing service. Plus, check use of APA 7th edition for in text citations, tables, figures and reference list.

The study METHODS are explained clearly.

Recruitment and selection of the participants vague. Author fails to relay the type of research design followed (experimental, exploratory, etc.). Suggested discussion of how research follows specific Conceptual or Theoretical Framework?

The body of the paper is clear and does not contain errors.

Author is suggested to solicit professional editor to improve readability of the paper. Several run on sentences throughout body of the paper.

The CONCLUSION or summary is accurate and supported by the content.

Conclusions are acceptable; however, paper would be enhanced if objectives included with results for each then conclusions aligned with objectives.

The list of REFERENCES is comprehensive and appropriate.

Author encouraged to double check in text citations with references and vice versa and that APA 7th edition is followed for both along with Tables.

Please rate the TITLE of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

Please rate the ABSTRACT of this paper.

[Poor] 1-5 [Excellent]

2

Please rate the LANGUAGE of this paper.

[Poor] 1-5 [Excellent]

1

Please rate the METHODS of this paper.

[Poor] 1-5 [Excellent]

2

Please rate the BODY of this paper.

[Poor] 1-5 [Excellent]

2

Please rate the CONCLUSION of this paper.

[Poor] 1-5 [Excellent]

2

Please rate the REFERENCES of this paper.

[Poor] 1-5 [Excellent]

2

Overall Recommendation!!!

Return for major revision and resubmission

Comments and Suggestions to the Author(s):

Topic is of interest relative to livelihood of students' needs. However, the paper would benefit from overall professional editing for grammar, format and organization.

Explain type of research

as well as methods followed (recruitment of audience), data analysis and reporting of findings in Tables using APA 7th edition.

Reviewer G:

Recommendation: Revisions Required

The TITLE is clear and it is adequate to the content of the article.

Title is too lengthy.

Consider the following instead,

Gender Friendly designing of School Toilets in West Africa: Lessons from the Republic of Benin

The ABSTRACT clearly presents objects, methods, and results.

Two three lines may be added in the beginning to justify as to why this study is important and what is the rationale to take up this topic for research.

Key words needs to be more reflective especially the last two words, like "School toilet number calculation grid" and " Republic of Benin" needs replacement.

There are a few grammatical errors and spelling mistakes in this article.

Communication skills are not satisfactory. Needs substantial clarity

The study METHODS are explained clearly.

Methodology adopted lacks a rationale. Total number of primary and secondary schools selected, their rationale, are not clearly stated. The area of study must be included under introduction to describe the country of Benin. their socio economic characteristics and the schools in general. especially for the girl children and the

physically challenged. Gender and the physically challenged must be clearly distinguished and the two sections cannot be used interchangeably. The area of study clearly has been demarcated into four segments: a) Northern Sahelian area b) the Central Sudanian area c) the Coastal zone d) the lake areas. In order to make the sample representative, the various ethnic and cultural groups, and religions need to be described in the light of the above demarcation. The sample survey needs to be stratified and in proportionate to the concentration of population in each of these areas. This point has not been reflected upon. Every analysis/table should be analysed from the perspective of the areas of demarcation. A map showing the demarcated areas must be presented either in the introduction or under the Area of Study. Also why there was a need for two field surveys needs to be clarified.

The body of the paper is clear and does not contain errors.

The objectives of the paper needs to be highlighted in bullet points before the research questions. The Introduction gives a list of literature and books, articles rather than discuss the importance of the study. The study needs to establish a reason or a rationale for the gender specific grids or the calculation of toilets needed by females, males and people with disabilities (PWD) in primary and secondary schools. The category of females and PWD need to be studied separately as their demand are different based on the type of disability. Therefore the writing is confusing for the reader. What type of disability are we looking at? One needs to specify these clearly. The Research Questions also need to be in bullet points and compatible to the objectives of the study. The initial introduction could go under literature review. All the three tables need to be presented in the context of demarcated areas of Benin. There could be a cross tabulation between the areas of demarcation to show where the demands are met better and which ethnic groups remain most marginalised.

The CONCLUSION or summary is accurate and supported by the content.

The conclusion need not discuss the methodology all over. Instead it should give the main findings of the study and what is lagging behind where attention of the government is required.

The list of REFERENCES is comprehensive and appropriate.

All references are in proper order and can be accepted as it is. Only these references are too old. Some latest publications could be included if possible. Most of them are more than ten years old.

Please rate the TITLE of this paper.

[Poor] 1-5 [Excellent]

2

Please rate the ABSTRACT of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

2

Please rate the LANGUAGE of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

3

Please rate the METHODS of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

3

Please rate the BODY of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

2

Please rate the CONCLUSION of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

2

Please rate the REFERENCES of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

3

Overall Recommendation!!!

Accepted, minor revision needed

Comments and Suggestions to the Author(s):

The paper lacks a focus. Please include 4/5 clear objectives, revise the research questions. State a rationale. Include a map with the major divisions. Add a few paras on the Area of Study. Make a cross tabulation to compare the parameters
