

January 5th , 2016

Dear Editorial Board of Asian Journal of Agriculture and Food Science,

Thank you for your consideration of our manuscript entitled “**Associations of rainfall with childhood under-nutrition in Rwanda: an ecological study using the data from Rwanda Meteorology Agency and the 2010 demographic and health survey** ”. This manuscript describes the extent to which rainfall patterns are associated with childhood nutritional status.

Seasonality of weather can affect many of the complex pathways of nutrition. Rainfall may affect child nutrition through the availability and quality of water, promoting the growth of infection vectors, or by affecting the crops production and contributing to low food intake. Prevention of climate-related vulnerability requires a comprehensive understanding of these interactions.

In our analysis, rainfall patterns found to be associated with childhood nutritional status (under-nutrition): compared to children in low rainfall, children residing in the area with high rainfall were more likely to be stunted, while children in the area with moderate and high quantity of rain were less likely to be wasted. Estimating the effect of rainfall on malnutrition may help to better predict regions of vulnerability to under-nutrition. we suggest further study to know more about the mechanism of this association.

We believe this manuscript’s findings are a valuable contribution to the literature and will be pertinent to the readership of the Rwanda journal. This paper can serve as an important step in finding ways to mitigate the risk of child illness and death, especially in the era of climate change. Ultimately, our findings will prove useful in program design and decision-making in resource-poor settings.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Kindest regards,



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