

Review of: "Exploring the Link between Climate Change and Farming in Rural and Peri-Urban Communities in Sierra Leone"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

My Overall Review of the Paper

The manuscript presents a comprehensive and well-structured investigation into the relationship between climate change and farming in rural and peri-urban communities in Sierra Leone. The research design, data collection, and analysis are sound, and the findings are relevant and insightful.

My General Suggestions Are:

1. The author should double-check the paper for its English language and the flow of ideas to ensure coherence. The literature is also a little bit shallow.
2. Please remove phrases that say "The finding is presented in Figure/Table" throughout your paper. It is enough to put this as a caption only.

Specific Suggestions:

1. **Literature Review:** While the literature review provides a good overview of global climate change impacts on agriculture, it could benefit from more specific references to studies conducted in Sierra Leone or at least West Africa. This would strengthen the connection between the global context and the local research.
2. **Data Analysis:** Statistical tests (e.g., correlation analysis, regression analysis) would have been effective in quantifying the relationship between specific climatic parameters (e.g., rainfall, temperature) and crop yields or animal productivity. This would provide a more rigorous assessment of the impact of climate change. If possible, it would be better to consider them.
3. **Coping Strategies:** While the study provides valuable insights into the coping strategies adopted by farmers, it might be beneficial to explore the effectiveness of these strategies in mitigating the negative impacts of climate change. Quantifying the success or failure of these strategies could enhance the practical implications of the research. Providing pieces of literature that can present such results would also be important; otherwise, it may lack support.
4. **Policy Implications:** The study could be strengthened by discussing the policy implications of the findings. What recommendations can be made to policymakers and development agencies to address the challenges farmers face in Sierra Leone?

5. **Climate Change Attribution:** While the study focuses on the impacts of climate change, it might be worth exploring the extent to which observed changes can be attributed to climate change rather than other factors (e.g., land use change, economic factors). This would provide a more nuanced understanding of the drivers of agricultural change.