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Journal Name:	American Journal of Experimental Agriculture
Manuscript Number:	2014_AJEA_14252
Title of the Manuscript:	Local Institutions' Capacity to Respond to Gender Issues in Climate Change in Nigeria's Niger-Delta
Type of the Article	

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.

To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

(<http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=sdi-general-editorial-policy#Peer-Review-Guideline>)



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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments	1. The title seems a little off. The author could have used: The Capacity of Local Institutions to Respond to Gender related Issues in Climate Change Scenery in Niger Delta Region of Nigeria. 1, 11, 12, 19, 22, 66, 89, 93, 99, 124, 231, 233 and 255. Check for proper spacing between words. 11. What is "gender awareness"? 12. ... of the findings... 18. Majority of who, the respondents or the institutions? Abstract Not complete. What research design was adopted? Are the 750 respondents the total population for the study? State the population, sample and sampling method adopted for the study. How was the instrument validated? What is the reliability index of the instrument? How was the study carried out? What was the duration of the study? How was data collected and analysed? What statistical tool(s) was used to analyse data? NB; An abstract is a comprehensive summary of the research work, and can stand or be published alone and transmit the meaning of the study.	Done Done The recognition that the life experiences, expectations, and needs of women and men are different, that many times they involve inequity and are subject to change. The institutions are the respondents. The persons interviewed were interviewed on behalf of the institutions. The reviewer seems to be requesting a section on conceptual definition of terms which I have never seen done in a journal article. It is assumed that the readership of this article will be people who have a basic knowledge of what gender is. Amended but do not agree that all the items the reviewer mentioned should be part of an abstract.



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	Keywords The keywords of a manuscript should not totally be the words that made up the topic. Rather keywords are frequent words used in the manuscript, and words that summarised major concepts in the study. In this case like vulnerability, adaptation, resource distribution and so on. In-text formatting Consult the authors guide of the journal for proper formatting. 42. Research has shown... Cite the authors of such researches. 43. Remove from "women's to boy's" and replace with 'sexual'. 48-49. Remove the parenthesis and explain the idea properly, in a lay man's way. 50-55. Are you saying 'natural disaster' is a respecter of gender and socioeconomic class? [Justify this.] 52 and 62. What is the full meaning of IUCN and IRIN? Write in full first before using acronym. 55-56. ... women - beyond ... The sentence is not clear or incomplete. 57. So the large proportion of work, is just fetching of water and fuel? [List more of their concrete contribution to livelihood or remove the two listed.] 58. How does drought and desertification affect fuel, and makes obtaining it dangerous? While the concept of the work is good, the author has not been able to successful convince me, the reader, how climate change affects the females more than the males. Water and fuel scarcity affects both male and	Done Done Noted Done Sexual does not convey the same meaning Done Please refer to these lines again and the subsequent ones. I think it is self-explanatory. Done The sentence is complete and grammatically correct. The sentence simply means women are responsible for fetching water and fuel wood in addition to all other things they have to do to maintain their families and communities. In drought, water becomes scares and women will need to travel farther away from home to fetch water. Same with desertification. No fuel wood.
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	female alike. I think the point of argument for this study should be how climate change affects the socio-cultural well-being of females. 60-62. The ideas in the literature are some worth disjointed. How does water-scarcity affect girl's education and how does this related to the concept of this study? 66. Climate change is "not" gender neutral? So climate change is gender specific? Is 'gendered' an English word? Explain the concept of 'gendered-nature, access and differences. 66-75. Is a paragraph of a single sentence yet made little sense due to its inexplicit components. Break the sentence into unit sentences with each explaining a singular idea and relating it to this study. 76. What do you mean by "adaptation to climate change is local"? [Explain to the readers.] What are local institutions? [Describe them] What is gender preparedness? [Explain] 96. Check the authors guide for proper titling of this section. 98. Niger Delta has nine states, choosing one state is not an adequate representation of the region. Plus, how was the chosen state selected? What is random or purposive? And why, if purposive?	The person who fetches the wood and water suffers more. Kindly read through the arguments again. The literature is based on a study by IRIN. The fact is girls will have to spend longer hours on the search for water and in performing other water related household chores instead of getting ready for school and doing take-home assignments. Yes, it affects women more than men in most cases because of gender related factors. Noted 10% of the population in any research is statistically significant. I believe 1 out of 9 is
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	101. It is not 'study cite' but "area of the study". 111. Remove 'in terms of' and replace with "as". 96-132. The description given for the area of study in this work does not suit this study. The author did well in describing the location of Akwa-Ibom. But the major description of this area, to make it relevant to this study, should be: the number, nature/type and distribution of the local institutions in the area; the distribution, population or ratio of male to females in the area; the perceived impacts of climate change in the area; and the socioeconomic/cultural roles or well-being of females in the area. 139. ... benefits gained by the institutions... 140. Describe the structure of the close and open ended questionnaires. 142. ... "descriptive characterization, presentation," are not statistical tools used for data analysis. [state the appropriate data analysis tools used]. Section 3.2 is not statistically clear for possible empirical replication. [revisit this section and explain, step-wisely] Table 1 is incomprehensive. Are the respondents the institutions?	statistically sufficient. Noted Noted The study is not about women but on how well equipped local institutions are to assist men and women to adapt to climate change.
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	Are the data on the indicator column an average response of the 750 institutions/respondents? Where are the details of institutions headed by females (female headed institutions)? [since you have that of male headed] How was the % contribution column obtained? Were these data an average % of the 750 respondents? No explanation for the Table 1? 173. Partnership with who? Table 3. The author should add this in the 'activity' cell: Who are more vulnerable to the follow on climate change scenario? The author made you of Spareman Ranking, frequency and percentage, yet he did not state it in the data analysis section. I do not agree with the items tested against gender in Table 3. These items cannot be distinctively classified into male or female (conditions). For the analysis, is the author saying climate change affects farm lands and houses owned by females more that those owned by males? Dear author, natural disasters like land slide, sea level rise, desertification and destruction of farmlands and houses by flood and other agents, as well as harsh weather conditions brought about by	The indicator reflects the highest frequency. Noted External development agencies Reframed. The focus was on the perception of respondents on which gender is more vulnerable to climate variability/change. Noted The focus was on the perception of respondents on which gender is more vulnerable to climate variability/change.
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	climate change such as extreme temperature, drought, storms and food scarcity ARE NOT GENDER SENSITIVE but affects all. However, the level of impact on the psychological, economic, social and biological well-being of both sex differs. This should be the focus of this study. 204-205. How was this fact established? [what average data of the females was greater than that of the males that points to this?] Tables 4, 5, 6 and 7. How were the index categories obtained? How are decisions taken with the various categories? 233. ... 18.61% ... What role(s) do(es) these local institutions play in adapting vulnerable groups to climate change? [this was not properly explained in this study] 250-252. ...technical and financial capacities of the institutions were not discussed or tested in this study. 260-267. Are gender social groups? The landing of the the manuscript is off. It seems not to have any tie to the title of the study. Reference Consult the author's guide of this journal for proper formatting.	The focus was on the perception of respondents on which gender is more vulnerable to climate variability/change. Please refer to the ranking. Please refer to the research methodology. Done Please refer to the literature on what local institutions are and what they do. The focus of the study was to determine whether they have the capacity to help communities and individuals adapt to climate change in addition to what they are already doing. And this became necessary because there is a need for adaptation at the community level. That statement does not say so. I disagree with this. The other 3 reviewers also disagree with this if not, they would have stated it clearly. Please send me the author's guide if the
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		formatting is not acceptable.
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	Avoid very long sentences. A sentence should not exceed 2-3 lines. But you have sentences as long as 7 lines. The punctuation of this manuscript is poor. Revise the work. Maintain uniform indentation throughout the manuscript There are too many strange concepts that were not explained in this study. Example: what is gender dissemination of climate change? What does it mean? Maintain a consistent table structure. Usually referring to tables in a manuscript are written as Table 1, 2, ... 7. not table 1 or table 5. 244. Mitigation and adaptation are two different things. I hope the author understands their differences	Noted Done Done I know the differences.
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	There are too many long, thus distorted sentences. The author should cultivate the habit of writing simple self explaining sentences. Not joining too many phrases to form a complex and some worth confusing sentence.	Noted