

ReviewForm3

JournalName:	AsianJournalofEnvironment&Ecology
ManuscriptNumber:	Ms_AJEE_122622
TitleoftheManuscript:	Roleand Valueof EcosystemServicestoCulturalPracticesinFestivalCelebrationinRuralCommunitiesofNorthernGhana
TypeoftheArticle	

PART1: ReviewComments

Compulsory REVISIONcomments	Reviewer'scomment	Author'sFeedback (Pleasecorrectthemanuscriptandhighlightthatpartinthemanuscript.Itismandatorythatauthorsshouldwritehis/herfeedbackhere)
Pleasewriteafewsentencesregardingtheimportanceofthismanuscriptforthescientificcommunity.Whydo youlike (ordislike)thismanuscript?Aminimumof3-4 sentencesmayberequiredforthispart.	The manuscript addresses an interesting and emerging topic—Ecosystem Services—and has the potential to provide empirical evidence of their importance in the context of a developing country. It could also contribute valuable knowledge on the nexus between ecosystem services and cultural practices within an African context. However, the authors fail to clearly identify the literature gap and the specific problem the article addresses, which undermines its potential contribution to knowledge. Additionally, the authors do not discuss the implications of their work for policy, practice, or scientific knowledge. These areas require improvement.	
Isthe title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	The title of the article could be reviewed to read: <i>“Value of Ecosystem Services to Cultural Practices in Festival Celebration in Rural Communities of Northern Ghana”</i>	
Isthe abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.	The abstract lacks adequate structure. The author(s) are recommended to revise the abstract to include the following elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem statement • Objectives of the study • Methodology, including sampling techniques and sample sizes for FGDs and KIIIs • Data collection methodology • Results aligned with the objectives • Significance of the study and its contribution to knowledge • Implications for policy, practice, and future research 	

ReviewForm3

<p>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</p>	<p>The author(s) are recommended to revise subsections of the manuscript as follows:</p> <p>Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The introduction is lengthy but lacks structure to provide:• Background and context of the study including clear definition of key study concepts such as ecosystem services (ES), classification of ES,<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The nexus between ES and Cultural Practices;• The geographical context – brief description of the study area• The introduction should highlight the problem statement to motivate the study including:• The gap in literature clearly identified;• Significance of the study - Articulate why it is important to understand the role and value of ecosystem services in cultural practices.• The introduction should then clearly lay-out the objectives of the study clearly bringing out the research questions;• The introduction should provide the significance of the study highlighting how the study will contribute to the existing body of knowledge in the fields of ecosystem services, cultural anthropology, and sustainable development.• The introduction should also describe the anticipated practical implications of the study's findings;• It should then provide a synopsis of the paper highlighting how sections of the article are organized <p>Management of Ecosystems in the Northern Ghana Delete this section as it lacks relevance to the title of the article</p> <p>Literature Review: The author(s) should introduce a section on literature review to review relevant literature on the research topic aligning the review to the objectives of the study</p> <p>Methodology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•	
--	---	--

ReviewForm3

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear description of the research instruments • A description of the data collection method used; • A description of the data analysis techniques used for qualitative data analysis • Explain the software used in qualitative data analysis <p>Results and Discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide evidence to support findings in the form of excerpts, rich descriptions and infographics for qualitative data; • Compare results for each section/objective with previous studies and provide supporting in-text citations; • Explain the results; • The author(s) in the introduction mention that the study focused on provisioning and cultural ecosystem services, yet the results describe findings related to supporting and regulating services. Why is this? • Subheading for the results should be revised to align with the MEA, 2005 ecosystem service classification; <p>Results and Discussions</p> <p>Restructure the section to highlight:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclusion aligned with each objective of the study; • The significance and implications of the findings to knowledge and practice 	
<p>Please write a few sentences regarding the scientific correctness of this manuscript. Why do you think that this manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some statements lack scientific correctness and could be improved by adequately referencing literature sources as highlighted in the reviewer's comments in the manuscript. • The scientific values of the manuscript could be improved by adequate description of the methodology and comparison of the study findings with literature; • The scientific robustness of the findings could be enhanced by providing evidence and rich descriptions from the FGD and KI like excerpts and infographics 	
<p>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</p>	<p>The author(s) have relied to some extent on old references in most of the manuscript as highlighted in the reviewer's comments in the manuscript. These should be updated to not older than 8 years. The following are in the text but not on the list of references.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serneels & Lambin, 2001 • MEA, 2005 • Bizoola, 2022 <p>The following are in the reference listing but missing in the text:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cadenasso M.L., Pickett S.T.A., Weathers, K. C. and Jones C.G. 2003; • Fagan W.F., R.S., Cantrell R.S. and Cosner, C. (1999). • Kettunen, M., & D'Amato, D. (2013). 	
<p>Minor REVISION comments</p> <p>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>The article will significantly improve with careful editing to address grammar issues in the identified paragraphs—please refer to the reviewer's comments for specific sections needing improvement. The author(s) are also recommended to revise the paragraph structure to enhance the flow, clarity, and readability, as highlighted in the reviewer's comments within the manuscript</p>	
<p>Optional/General comments</p>		

ReviewForm3

PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment <i>(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)</i>
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	

Reviewer Details:

Name:	Mark Nelson Yobesia
Department, University & Country	Technical University of Mombasa, Kenya