

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Advanced Research and Reports
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJARR_129057
Title of the Manuscript:	ASSESSMENT OF FACTORS INFLUENCING THE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES OF COASTAL LANDSCAPES AND ITS SOCIETAL IMPACTS IN SELECTED AREA OF ILAJE, ONDO STATE.
Type of the Article	

PART 1: Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	The manuscript "Assessment of Factors Influencing the Ecosystem Services of Coastal Landscapes and Its Societal Impacts in Selected Area of Ilaje, Ondo State" is highly significant for the scientific community. It addresses critical issues surrounding coastal ecosystem services' degradation due to direct and indirect human activities. By examining the interplay of societal, environmental, and policy-driven factors, the study provides empirical evidence and contributes to the growing body of knowledge on sustainable management of coastal resources. The findings and recommendations can inform policy reforms, community engagement strategies, and integrated coastal management practices, ensuring long-term environmental and societal well-being.	
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	The title of the manuscript, "Assessment of Factors Influencing the Ecosystem Services of Coastal Landscapes and Its Societal Impacts in Selected Area of Ilaje, Ondo State," is informative and conveys the study's main focus. However, it can be made more concise and engaging while retaining its meaning. Here's a possible revision: "Evaluating Drivers of Coastal Ecosystem Services and Their Societal Impacts: A Case Study of Ilaje, Ondo State" This alternative title simplifies the phrasing, emphasizes the evaluation aspect, and provides a clear connection to the case study while maintaining relevance to the scientific community.	

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<p>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.</p>	<p>The abstract of the article provides a solid foundation by including the background, study aim, methods, key findings, and implications. However, it could benefit from some refinements to improve clarity and comprehensiveness. Here are the suggestions:</p> <p>Additions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Explicit mention of the study's significance: Briefly highlight the broader implications of the findings for coastal management and policy formulation.2. Link to sustainability: Emphasize how the study aligns with sustainable development goals or addresses critical environmental challenges.3. Key recommendations: Summarize one or two actionable recommendations derived from the study. <p>Deletions or Refinements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Simplify the methodology description: While the methods are well-detailed, they could be summarized further to avoid overshadowing the results.2. Reduce redundancy: Phrases like "gathered quantifiable data" and "quantitative research method" overlap; streamlining them would enhance readability.	
<p>Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.</p>	<p>The manuscript appears to be scientifically sound, with the following considerations:</p> <p>Strengths:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Methodology: The study employs a robust quantitative approach using a community-based survey, purposive sampling, and statistical analyses such as Chi-square, Spearman's rho correlation, and ordinal regression. These methods are appropriate for evaluating factors influencing ecosystem services and their societal impacts.2. Data Presentation: The manuscript includes detailed tables and statistical results, enhancing transparency and reliability.3. Findings: The results are well-articulated, showing how various factors influence ecosystem services, supported by empirical evidence.4. Relevance: The focus on coastal ecosystem services aligns with global concerns about environmental degradation and sustainable development. <p>Potential Concerns and Suggestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Clarity of Hypotheses and Objectives:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Ensure that the hypotheses and research objectives are explicitly stated and align with the results and discussion sections.o The null hypothesis could be better framed for easier interpretation alongside the statistical outcomes.2. Contextualization of Results:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o While results are detailed, their broader implications for scientific understanding and policymaking could be better emphasized.3. Scientific Rigor:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Verify that statistical assumptions (e.g., for Chi-square and regression analyses) are met and clearly discussed in the methodology.o Consider discussing potential biases from the purposive sampling approach and how	

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	<p>they were mitigated.</p> <p>4. Terminology and Consistency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ensure consistent use of terms like “ecosystem services,” “drivers,” and “factors.” This will help avoid ambiguity. ○ The distinction between direct and indirect influences on ecosystem services could be elaborated further. <p>5. Theoretical Framework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ While the manuscript draws on ecosystem service concepts, consider explicitly linking findings to frameworks like the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment or other relevant theoretical models. <p>6. Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Some recommendations (e.g., deploying naval patrols) could benefit from a more scientific justification or alternative sustainable solutions. <p>Final Remarks:</p> <p>Overall, the manuscript seems scientifically correct but would benefit from improved clarity, contextualization, and consistency. If these suggestions are addressed, it could strengthen its contribution to the scientific community.</p>	
<p>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions for additional references, please mention them in the review form.</p>	<p>The references provided in the manuscript are extensive and relevant to the study's focus on ecosystem services and societal impacts in coastal landscapes. However, ensuring that the references are sufficient and up-to-date is crucial for the study's credibility. Here's a review of the references:</p> <p>Observations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sufficiency: The references cover key concepts like ecosystem services, societal impacts, and coastal landscape management. However, the inclusion of more recent studies (2020-2024) would strengthen the manuscript, particularly for topics like climate change, coastal resource management, and sustainable development. 2. Recency: Some cited studies, like the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, are foundational but dated. While these are important, complementing them with newer research would improve the manuscript's relevance to current academic and policy debates. 3. Diversity: The references appear to draw from diverse sources, including environmental assessments, policy documents, and empirical studies. Expanding to include international case studies or meta-analyses could provide a broader perspective. <p>Suggested Additional References:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recent Studies on Coastal Ecosystems and Climate Change: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Barbier, E. B. (2020). "Protecting the future of the planet's ecosystems." <i>Nature Sustainability</i>. ○ Martínez, M. L., et al. (2021). "The role of coastal ecosystems in reducing vulnerability to climate change." <i>Ecological Economics</i>. 2. Integrated Coastal Management Frameworks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spalding, M., et al. (2020). "Coastal ecosystems and their role in climate change mitigation." <i>Annual Review of Environment and Resources</i>. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Bouma, J. A., & van Beukering, P. J. (2023). "Ecosystem Services and Coastal Resilience." <i>Global Environmental Change</i>. <p>3. Ecosystem Services and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Reyers, B., et al. (2022). "Ecosystem services in support of the SDGs." <i>Nature Sustainability</i>.○ Willemen, L., et al. (2023). "Mapping and valuing ecosystem services for sustainability transitions." <i>Ecosystem Services</i>. <p>4. Policy and Governance in Coastal Management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Sarker, S., et al. (2021). "Governance challenges in coastal resource management." <i>Marine Policy</i>.○ Ahmed, N., et al. (2023). "Community-based approaches to sustainable coastal management." <i>Ambio</i>. <p>Recommendations for the Manuscript:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure all references are cited in the text and formatted consistently according to the target journal's guidelines.• Add more references that directly relate to the methods and statistical analyses used.• Include recent publications on sustainability, resilience, and human-environment interactions to strengthen the discussion and recommendations.	
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<p>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>The language of the manuscript is generally suitable for scholarly communication, but some areas could be improved to enhance clarity, coherence, and academic tone. Below are specific observations and suggestions:</p> <p>Areas for Improvement:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Clarity and Conciseness:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Some sentences are overly lengthy and could be broken down for better readability. For instance, phrases like "gathered quantifiable data through a cross-sectional community-based survey" could be streamlined to "collected data through a community-based survey."Redundant phrases, such as "quantitative research method i.e., cross-sectional community-based survey," should be revised for brevity.Grammar and Syntax:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ensure subject-verb agreement, particularly in complex sentences. For example, "It had been noted that the global population is to reach almost 10 billion by 2050" could be revised to "The global population is projected to reach nearly 10 billion by 2050."Avoid unnecessary use of passive voice unless it aids clarity. For example, "Data was analyzed using..." could be changed to "We analyzed data using..."Scholarly Tone:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Replace informal phrases with precise academic language. For example:<ul style="list-style-type: none">"The procedure for data collection was the administration of a structured questionnaire" could be revised to "Data collection involved administering a structured questionnaire."Minimize subjective expressions like "It is worthy to note" and replace with direct statements.Vocabulary Precision:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Replace generic terms with specific scholarly vocabulary. For instance, instead of "important," use "significant" or "critical" when discussing findings.Transitions and Cohesion:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Improve transitions between paragraphs and sections for smoother reading. Linking sentences can help clarify how findings relate to the broader discussion.	
<p>Optional/General comments</p>	<p>General Comments:</p> <p>The manuscript makes a valuable contribution to the understanding of how human activities influence coastal ecosystem services and their societal impacts, particularly in the context of Ilaje, Ondo State. The use of robust statistical methods and a comprehensive survey lends credibility to the findings. However, there are areas where improvements could enhance the overall quality and impact of the paper.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Broader Contextualization:<ul style="list-style-type: none">While the study is specific to Ilaje, connecting findings to global challenges like climate change and sustainable development could increase its relevance to a wider audience.Recommendations:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Recommendations are practical but could be expanded to address long-term strategies, such as community involvement in coastal management and education on sustainable practices.Figures and Tables:	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Ensure all figures and tables are clearly labeled and referenced in the text. Consider enhancing visuals to make complex data more accessible. <p>4. Potential for Future Research:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Suggest areas for further research, such as comparative studies with other coastal regions or the application of advanced spatial analysis tools like GIS. <p>5. Ethical Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Briefly mention ethical considerations, especially regarding survey methods, respondent confidentiality, and data handling. <p>6. Editing and Proofreading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Address minor language and formatting issues to align with scholarly standards.	
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PART 2:

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

Reviewer Details:

Name:	Mohamed Khalfan Mohamed
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