

Peer Review Report

Review Report on CLIMATIC HAZARDS: HIGH IMPORTANCE BUT LOW SEVERITY TO COASTAL RURAL FISHING COMMUNITIES

Original Research, Earth Sci. Syst. Soc.

Reviewer: Amanda Daria Stoltz

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EVALUATION

Q 1 Please summarize the main findings of the study.

This study examines the importance and severity of climate change in the context of multiple socio-economic stressors in rural coastal fishing communities in Ghana. The study found that while climatic stressors like flooding rank higher in importance than other stressors, that socio-economic stressors were more severely felt. The study then concludes that socio-economic stressors should be the focus of adaptation priorities.

Q 2 Please highlight the limitations and strengths.

Strengths: This study is very well-written and achieves the goals that it clearly outlines in the introduction.

Limitations: The descriptions of the difference between the importance index and severity index are somewhat difficult to understand.

Q 3 Please comment on the methods, results and data interpretation. If there are any objective errors, or if the conclusions are not supported, you should detail your concerns.

Methods: The methods chosen by the authors are thorough and appropriate.

Results: The results were interesting and actionable though a little unclear until the further descriptions of the differences between importance and severity given in the discussion.

Discussion: In the discussion, the authors attempt to discuss whether their methodology is appropriate (lines 353–375). Specifically, I had trouble understanding the following section,

"Consideration of the methodology of this and similar studies (Tschakert, 2007; Bunce et al., 2010; Nyantakyi-Frimpong and Bezner-Kerr, 2015) reveals that interviewee's responses to importance ranking were subconsciously determined by their sense of the direct impacts of stressors on their livelihood and incomes, while responses to severity ranking were subconsciously determined by a consideration of their lives in general."

On other words, I cannot determine the difference between "the sense of the direct impacts of stressors on their livelihood and incomes" and "consideration of their lives in general". Please elaborate further.

Q 4 Check List

Is the English language of sufficient quality?

Yes.

Is the quality of the figures and tables satisfactory?

Yes.

Does the reference list cover the relevant literature adequately and in an unbiased manner?

Yes.

Are the statistical methods valid and correctly applied? (e.g. sample size, choice of test)

Not Applicable.

If relevant, are the methods sufficiently documented to allow replication studies?

Yes.

Are the data underlying the study available in either the article, supplement, or deposited in a repository? (Sequence/expression data, protein/molecule characterizations, annotations, and taxonomy data are required to be deposited in public repositories prior to publication)

Not Applicable.

Does the study adhere to ethical standards including ethics committee approval and consent procedure?

Yes.

If relevant, have standard biosecurity and institutional safety procedures been adhered to?

Not Applicable.

Q 5 Please provide your detailed review report to the editor and authors (including any comments on the Q4 Check List):

I recommend this study for publication and hope that the authors can more clearly explain the difference between the importance index and the severity index earlier in the manuscript.

QUALITY ASSESSMENT

Q 6 Originality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Q 7 Rigor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Q 8 Significance to the field	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Q 9 Interest to a general audience	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Q 10 Quality of the writing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Q 11 Overall quality of the study	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>