

Reviewer-1

The article addresses a critical and timely issue regarding the socio-economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the seafaring community, with a focus on African seafarers. Given the significant role of seafarers in global trade and the unique challenges faced by minorities in this field, the study contributes valuable insights that are important for policymakers, maritime organizations, and the broader scientific community. The findings highlight systemic inequalities and call for targeted interventions, making it a relevant addition to maritime studies and socio-economic research.

The title accurately reflects the article's core, highlighting both the specific focus on Africa's seafaring community and the broader effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, a more succinct title could improve clarity.

The abstract provides a good overview of the study's objectives, methodology, and key findings. It outlines the challenges faced by African seafarers and the need for policy interventions. However, it could benefit from a clearer statement of the study's implications and recommendations, which would provide readers with a better understanding of the significance of the findings.

The English quality of the manuscript is suitable for scholarly communication. However, there are a few instances of complex sentence structures and grammatical errors that could be revised for clarity and readability.

Introduction: The introduction effectively contextualizes the issue but could be strengthened by a clearer outline of the study's objectives.

Materials and Methods: This section is well-structured, detailing the mixed-methods approach.

- **Results:** The results are presented clearly, but graphical representations could be better integrated with the text to facilitate understanding.

- Discussion: The discussion adeptly connects findings to broader themes but could elaborate more on the implications for future research and policy.

Conclusion: The conclusion summarizes key points but could reiterate the urgency of the proposed recommendations

The references appear to be relevant and recent, supporting the study's claims the authors should ensure that they have obtained informed consent from all participants involved in the study and that confidentiality is maintained.

Suggestions for Improvement

1. Title Adjustment: Consider revising the title for conciseness.
2. Abstract Enhancement: Include clearer implications and recommendations in the abstract.

Overall, this was a very interesting article. The manuscript has the potential to make a significant contribution to the literature on maritime studies and socio-economic impacts, with minor revisions to enhance clarity and depth.