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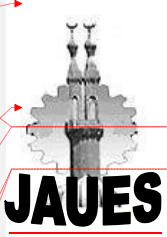
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GIS-BASED AHP-OWA APPROACH FOR LOCATING SUITA SITES FOR WATER HARVESTING DAM IN QASSIM REGI SAUDI ARABIA

Ranim AlJubaely¹, Ahmed H. Soliman², Khaled Hamed³, and Alaa El-Zawah

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مع سدود حصاد المياه هو عملية اتخاذ قرار معقدة. حيث إن إيجاد الموقع الأفضل يتطلب دمج تقنية المعايير نظم المعلومات الجغرافية. في هذا البحث تم استخدام نظم المعلومات الجغرافية بالاعتماد على تقنية AHP- جاد أفضل مواقع لبناء السدود في منطقة القصيم في السعودية. تم اعتماد انحدار الحوض، استخدامات نوع التربة، جيولوجية السطح، توزيع الأمطار، المسافة إلى الطرق، والمسافة للمناطق المخدومة كمعايير لاتخاذ برت النتائج أهمية هذه الطريقة في إيجاد أفضل مواقع لبناء سدود حصاد المياه، مع السماح لمتخذ القرار أن اعتبار سيناريوهات مختلفة بين المتفائلة والمتشائمة.

ABSTRACT

Selection of a water harvesting dam site involves a complex array of decision crit may have conflicting values. Finding the optimum location requires integrati capacities of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Multi-criteria Decision- (MCDM). In this paper, a GIS-based multi-criteria decision analysis approach is used this problem. The approach is based on the extension of Analytical Hierarchy Proce Fuzzy quantifiers-guided Ordered Weighted Averaging operators (GIS-based AHP This approach is applied to determine the optimal site of a water harvest dam in region, Saudi Arabia. Several factors affect the selection of the best location of tl water harvesting dam such as: slope, landuse, soil type, geology, rainfall, drainage distance from the road, and distance from the cities, are used. The results showed the combination of GIS-based AHP-OWA is proper approach for optimal water harves selection, where this approach provides a generic powerful decision-making tool th decision-makers to define a decision strategy on a continuum between pessimist averse) and optimistic (risk-taking) strategies.

KEYWORDS: Water harvesting site selection, Geographic Information Sy

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(GIS), Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP), Ordered Weighted Averaging (OWA).

1. INTRODUCTION

Increasing demand of water due to growing population, with the difficulty of exploiting some cases, cause intense pressure on available water resources. So it becomes necessary to harvest rainfall as the primary source of water, maximizing storage and minimizing of rainwater. Rainwater harvesting techniques have received growing attention, especially in arid and semi-arid regions like Saudi Arabia. Rainwater harvesting and conservative activity of direct collection of rain. The collected water could be stored for direct recharged into the groundwater. It is the best means to get water when other water sources are not available.

One of the most important and complex problems in different countries is the selection of a suitable water harvesting site. A large amount of information should be gathered, combined and analyzed to develop correct criteria which will affect the final decision. The problem is to combine the criterion maps according to the attribute values and decision maker's preferences using a set of decision rules. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Multicriteria Decision Making (MCDM) techniques are the most common tools employed to solve these problems. Each suffers from serious shortcomings. While GIS is a great tool for handling spatial data, suitability analysis, but it has limited capabilities of incorporating the decision maker's preferences into the problem solving process. On the other hand, MCDM is the proper technique for analyzing decision problems and evaluating alternatives based on decision maker's preferences. However, MCDM lacks the capability of handling spatial data (e.g., buffer overlay) that are crucial to spatial analysis. The need for combining the strengths of these techniques has prompted researchers to seek integration of GIS and MCDM.

A number of attempts had been implemented in the GIS environment over the last decade for identifying the most appropriate sites for Water Harvesting Structures (WHS). For example, site suitability for different water harvesting structures was determined by considering varying parameters like runoff potential, soil type, slope, drainage network and land use. The overlay and decision tree concepts in GIS [1]. Runoff coefficient, land use, soil texture, drainage and stream order, soil permeability were considered in site selection of water harvesting/recharging structures in [2] using Overlay in Analysis tools of GIS Map. Suitability of water harvest in Qassim region was done, through the overlay method of the soil, slope, rainfall, land use, distance to roads, distance to cities criteria using raster combination operation in GIS, adopting equal weight approach [3]. GIS and AHP was used for site selection analysis of water harvesting Structures in Pisangan, different layers were taken into account for multi criteria evaluation are Soil texture, slope, rainfall data, land use/cover, geomorphology, lithology, lineaments, drainage network [4]. In general, previous studies show the use of overlapping, or GIS-based AHP for choosing suitable sites for a rain water harvest. Both AHP and OWA procedures have been employed individually in GIS environments, each with its own limitations. AHP used the pairwise comparison to calculate the weight of criteria, but it is not suitable for a large number of criteria, while OWA uses the fuzzy linguistic quantifier to give several scenarios and rank method to evaluate the weight of criteria. Combining the strength of each method, the GIS-based AHP-OWA approach can provide a more powerful multicriteria decision-making tool for structural site selection. In this paper, an efficient decision-making framework for water harvesting site selection is developed by integrating the strengths of GIS-based AHP-OWA (the combination of Analytical Hierarchy Process using fuzzy quantifiers-guided ordered weighted averaging). This will allow decision-makers to define a decision strategy on a continuum from pessimistic (risk-averse) and optimistic (risk-taking) strategies. By changing the fuzzy quantifiers, the GIS-based AHP-OWA approach provides a generic powerful decision-making tool that allows decision-makers to generate a wide range of decision strategies.

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2. PROPOSED GIS-BASED MULTICRITERIA EVALUATION FRAMEWORK FOR SOLVING HARVEST DAM SITE SELECTION PROBLEMS:

GIS-BASED AHP-OWA APPROACH FOR LOCATING SUITABLE SITES FOR WATER HARVESTING DAM IN C REGION, SAUDI ARABIA

GIS-based Multi criteria Evaluation (GIS-MCE) can be defined as a process that integrates geographic data (map criteria) and value judgments (decision maker's preferences) to obtain overall assessment of the decision alternatives. Four procedural steps of the proposed framework will be followed. (1) Defining selection Criteria, (2) Preparing criterion map, (3) Data standardization, and (4) Multi evaluation using AHP-OWA method. Figure (1) shows the steps of GIS-based MCE.

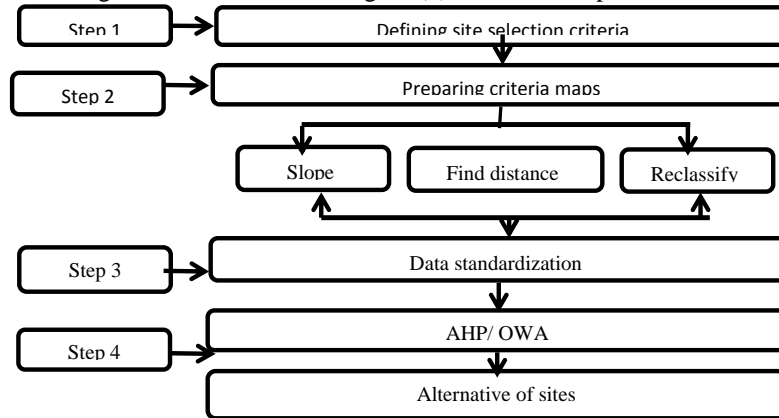


Fig.1. GIS-based MCE approach

To implement the proposed GIS-based MCE approach for dam site selection, a research modified an present tool [5] to be used for dam site selection, using Visual Studio 2010 Programming Language), as a toolbar within ArcGIS desktop to help the GIS analyst solve complex dam site selection problems. As shown in Figure (2) a dam Site Selection Toolbar is comprised of three main menus (data preparation, data standardization, and data analysis Tools)

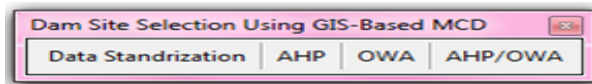


Fig.2. Dam Site selection using GIS-based MCE toolbar.

The steps of getting the suitability map of water harvesting dam using the tool are:

2.1 Data Preparation:

The first step after selecting the main criteria and sub-criteria of water harvesting dam is to generate their maps based on different GIS functions (slope, distance, etc.), and make sure that the result maps have same pixel size and number.

2.2 Standardized Criterion Maps:

After preparing the criteria maps, and before aggregating the input layers in an ArcGIS process, they must be on the same scale. The maps are created using raster format and each layer contains the attribute values assigned to the alternatives, and each alternative is related to the higher-level elements (i.e., attributes). For decision analysis, the values contained in the various criterion map layers are standardized to a common scale to reduce dimensions. The outcome of the function is always a value between 0 and 1.

2.3 MCE tool:

After preparing the standardized criteria maps, the next step is using one of the Multi-Criteria Evaluation (MCE) methods to identify the most suitable locations for rain water harvest (Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP), Order Weighted Averaging (OWA), and the extension of AHP using fuzzy operators).

3. Literature of the AHP and OWA methods:

3.1 Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP)

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The AHP is a powerful tool in applying MCDA that was introduced and developed by Saaty [6]. It is based on decision making paired comparisons. The comparison of each alternative is evaluated according to the criteria and their relative weights. In a decision-making process starts with dividing the problem into a hierarchy of issues. At each hierarchical level, the weights of the elements are calculated. The decision on the final alternative is made considering the weights of criteria and alternatives.

The pairwise comparison method employs an underlying scale with odd values from 1 to 9 to rate the relative preferences for two elements of the hierarchy. In some cases, intermediate values (i.e. 2, 4, 6, and 8) could be used between two adjacent intensities. The inconsistency measure of judgments by calculating the Consistency Index (CI) of the AHP. A consistency index (CI) must be < 0.10 . Although AHP is widely used, AHP is unable to address the uncertainty in the decision judgments [7].

3-2 Ordered Weighted Averaging (OWA):

To overcome the shortcomings of the AHP, OWA is used. The OWA is a family of criteria aggregation procedures developed by Yager [8] as a tool for decision-making in a fuzzy environment. Conventional OWA operators are of limited applicability in situations involving a large set of evaluation criteria, especially when the behavior of the decision-maker can range from 'all the criteria have to be satisfied' to 'at least one criterion satisfied' [9].

OWA involves two sets of weights: criterion, or importance weights and order weights. The critical element of the OWA procedure is the method for obtaining the order weights. There are several methods for obtaining the order weights. This study uses a fuzzy linguistic approach. The concept of fuzzy linguistic quantifiers allows converting natural language into formal mathematical formulations. They can be represented as fuzzy subsets over an interval with proportional fuzzy statements, such as "All of the criteria should be satisfied" ("All" for short) [10].

The Boolean overlay operations and the weighted linear combination (WLC) are often used decision rules in GIS. Boolean approaches are extreme functions that result in either a pessimistic (AND) or optimistic (OR) solution. The WLC approach is an averaging technique that softens the hard decisions of the Boolean approach, avoiding the extremes. In a continuous risk, the WLC falls exactly in the middle [11].

3-3 AHP-OWA Procedures:

The two approaches, (AHP and linguistic quantifier guided OWA), have been integrated and implemented in ArcGIS environment [12].

An extension of the AHP using OWA operators (AHP-OWA) is introduced, suggesting that the capabilities of AHP as a comprehensive tool for decision making can be improved by integrating the fuzzy linguistic OWA operators. The combination between AHP and OWA can be a more powerful multi-criteria decision-making tool for structuring and solving decision problems including spatial decision problems [13].

In this method (AHP-OWA), users are first asked to use the AHP method to 1) construct the hierarchical structure, and 2) obtain weights for objectives and attributes by conducting pairwise comparisons, then linguistic quantifier-guided OWA is used to support user's decision making. Three main steps are involved at this stage: 1) specifying a linguistic quantifier, 2) generating a set of ordered weights associated with Q , and 3) calculating the overall score for each alternative using linguistic quantifier-guided OWA [14].

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4. CASE STUDY

4.1 Background and project description:

Qassim occupies a middle position in the Arabian Peninsula, as it is located in the northern center of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia between longitudes of $41^{\circ} 30'$ and $45^{\circ} 30'$ and latitudes in $24^{\circ} 25'$ and $28^{\circ} 15'$ north. It is the link between Riyadh area and Haifa

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North, and the city of Medina in the West direction. Figure (3) shows the Location
Qassim case study.

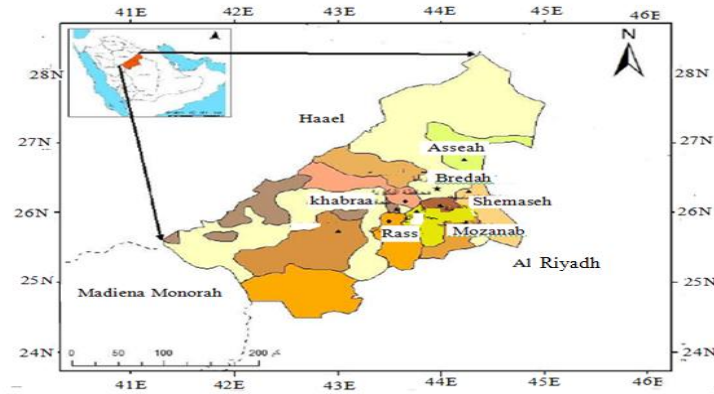


Fig.3. Location of AL-Qassim region

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4.2 Rain water Harvest Site Criteria:

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Selecting a suitable site for rain water harvesting requires the recognition and
evaluate the abilities of different areas to be one of the suitable sites. It may be noted that
no fixed standards for all countries. Each country has its own standards, because every
has its own conditions which are different from other countries. The criteria are used
important standards and requirements which have been applied in similar studies. So
criteria and relative sub-criteria could be extracted from experts' knowledge.

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It was assumed that the criteria of rainfall harvesting site selection considered in this
include three main groups; environmental (geographical), hydrological, and socio-
factors.

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4-2-1-Geographical criteria (Environmental factors):

The environmental criteria in water harvesting site selection, includes:

a) Slope criterion::

Slope is an important factor in determining the water harvest site in the basin. It
found that the amount of runoff or flow is proportional to the steepness of the
Experts advised not to implement harvest projects in the territory in which the
of more than 5%, where increase slope leads to difficulties during the implemen
Scrape operations and flattening of land, in addition to an irregular distributiv
runoff [3].

b) Geologic criterion:

Geological criteria take into account the characteristics of the geological sites in
the presence of the base rocks at the site and to determine the types and characteristi
rocks, which help to provide the necessary construction raw materials. Water harvesting
should be constructed on solid coherent rock, and as far away as possible from cracks an

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c) Land use criterion:

Building water harvesting projects take into account the nature of the land use zones.
prefer pastoral areas for water harvesting projects. Also, they prefer it to be
residential areas but not inside for several reasons, including the high cost of establis
projects, considerations of public safety, environmental considerations and to ens
water is not subject to pollution.

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d) Soil criterion:

Soil properties affect the determination of the harvest type and the me
construction. The soil must be thick in the water harvesting projects sites; w

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storage capacity and low permeability, silt or clay soil are the ideal soil for such [3].

4-2-2-Hydrological factors:

In the study for locating water harvest sites, some hydrological modeling and GIS are required to obtain the pivotal elements involved in the work. These factors include:

a- Drainage network:

Rainfall harvesting structures are constructed near the valleys and on the stream. must be located in a place where there is the most amount of water in the main stream. According to this, a distance near the waterways (up to 250 m) is considered as an appropriate distance [3].

b- Rainfall:

One of the most important elements of climate, influences the process of selecting appropriate sites for water harvesting, where the sites of most rainfall are ideal areas for water harvesting areas while sites with less rainfall is the next appropriate sites.

4-2-3- socio-economic criteria:

These include:

a) Distance to population and residential areas:

The water harvest must be close to population and residential areas, because the objective of this project is to serve the people and cities.

b) Distance to roads:

Must consider the ease of access to the water-harvesting site, so it preferably near roads should be close to the main roads to reduce the economic cost of transporting water. excavations or dams to the municipal areas to serve the surrounding community project. Table (1) depicts the main and sub criteria for a water harvest dam.

Table (1) description the main and sub criteria:

Main criteria	sub-criteria	description
hydrology	rainfall	dam must built on watershed of much rainfall or near it
	stream	dam must built on stream or near it
socio-economic	distance from roads	the distance between each site location and roads
	distance from cities	the distance between each site location and target area
Environmental(geological)	Topography(slope)	the slope of the land effect on runoff
	landuse	effect on cost of project and in runoff
	Geology (type)	strength of geologic formations effect in site
	soil	type of site soil effect on storage

1-Data Preparation:

All the suggested criteria of rain water harvest (slope, geology, rainfall, drainage, soil, distance from roads, distance from cities) are generated using functions in GIS, and converted to a raster having the same pixel cell size and number.

The distance option in GIS was used to determine the straight line from both the cities and roads. The slope map is defined from DEM obtained from Shuttle Radar Topography Mission data. In this study, the precipitation grid is obtained depending on the rain data of the study area.

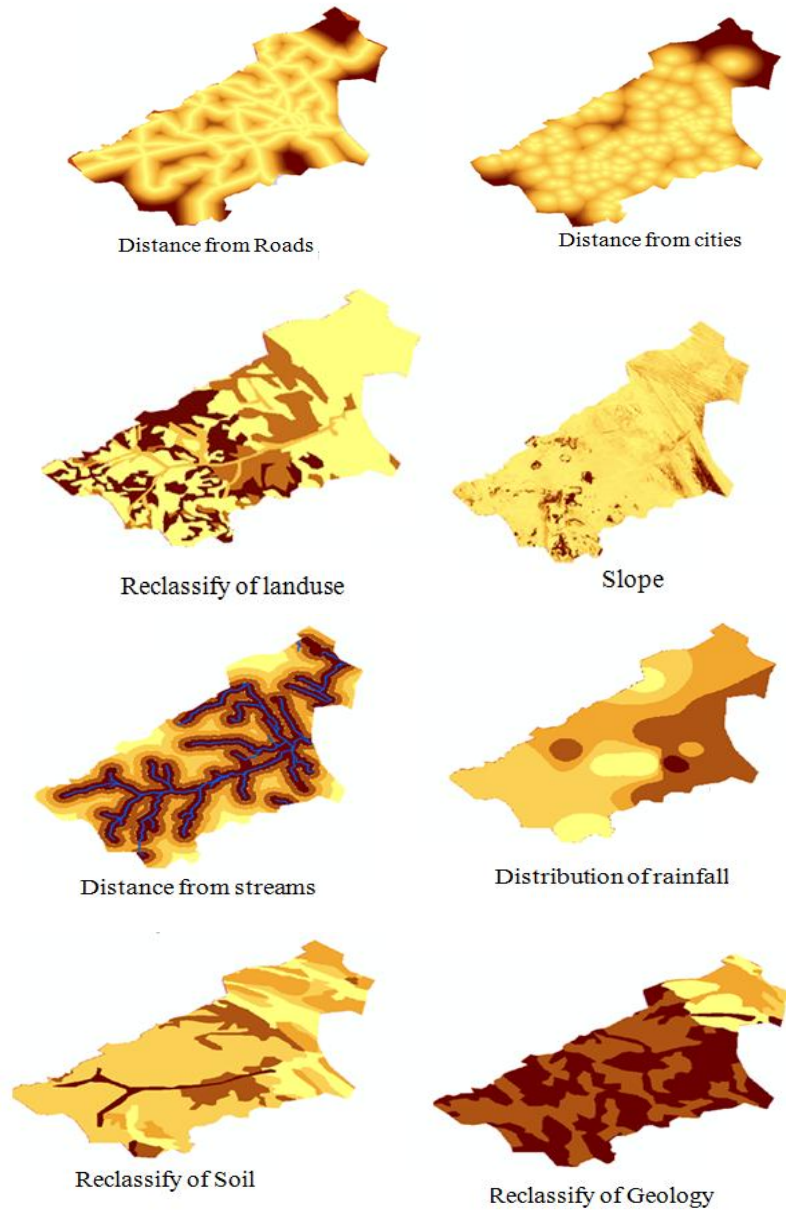
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the basin. To get the spatial distribution of the rainfall, the rain data would have to be inte using the Inverse Distance Weighted (IDW) method. IDW is commonly used to generat surface with precipitation data. When the method is applied, the output grid is assig similar size and number of columns and rows of the original DEM. Figure (4) shows criteria adopted in this article. Each of the layers (geology, soil, and land use) is rec according to their importance in the selection of dam site.

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Fig.4. Criteria for the selection of rain water harvest location

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2-Standardized Criterion Maps:

After defining the main and sub-criteria, by using Dam Site Selection toolbar in the GIS determine which criteria is maximum to goal or minimum, and select the standardized as in Figure (5). The first four criteria are to be maximized, that the suitable areas are be located on suitable landuse, soil, slope, and geology. The distance-from-stream crit be minimized, the suitable site is where rainfall is maximum, and the distance from distance from roads criteria are to be minimized.

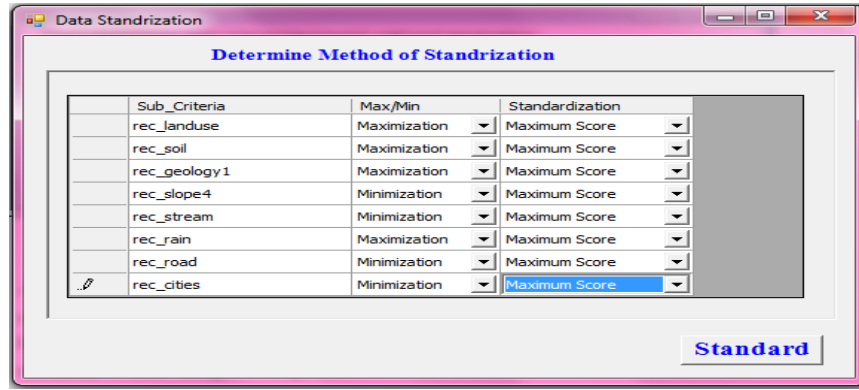


Fig.5. Data standardization

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3-AHP- OWA Procedure:

Choosing the AHP- OWA Procedure from toolbar, and then assigning each sub-criteria relative main criteria as in Figures 6 and 7.

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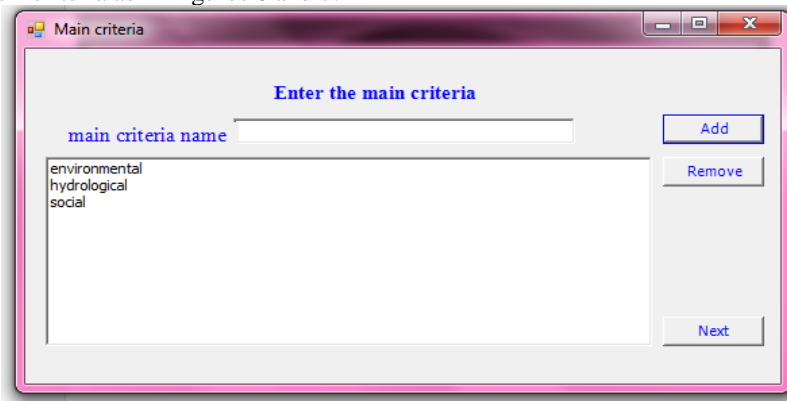


Fig.6. main criteria of water harvest structure.

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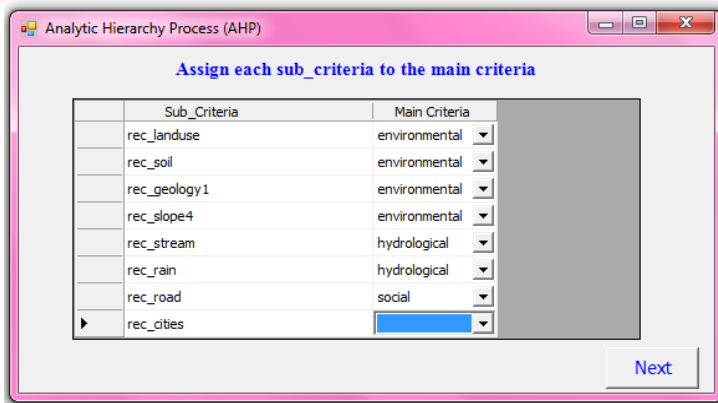


Fig .7.Main criteria and corresponding sub criteria

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After building the AHP model, the relative weights for all objective clusters and their attributes are calculated using pairwise comparisons [5]. The pairwise comparison required an expert in dams planning to provide his/her best judgments regarding the importance of objectives and attributes. In this paper, we get the importance of main criteria from expert questionnaire and according to the study area. Figures from (8) to (10) show the pairwise comparison matrix between each main criteria and sub-criteria.

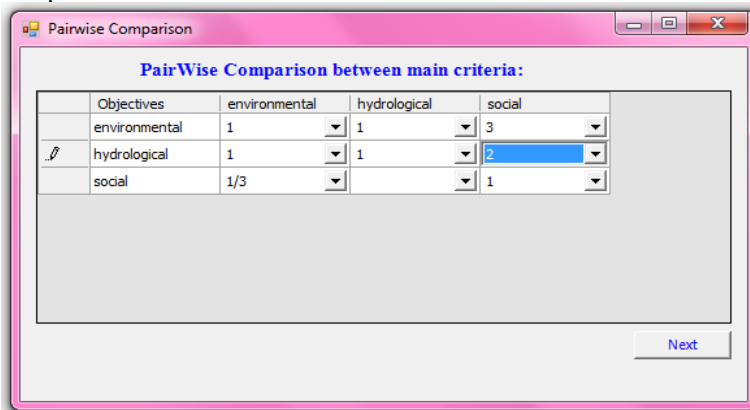
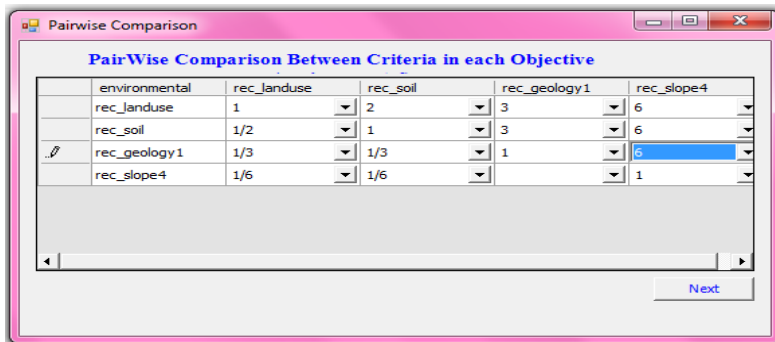


Fig.8. Pairwise comparison matrix between main criteria.

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Fig.9. Pairwise comparison matrix between sub- criteria according to environmental crit

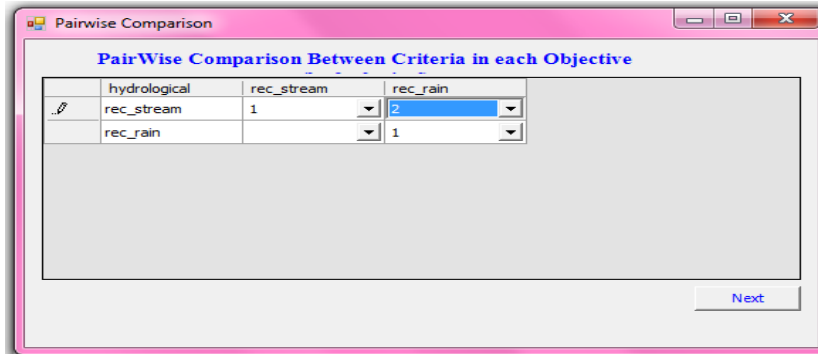


Fig.10 Pairwise comparison matrix between sub- criteria according to hydrological crit

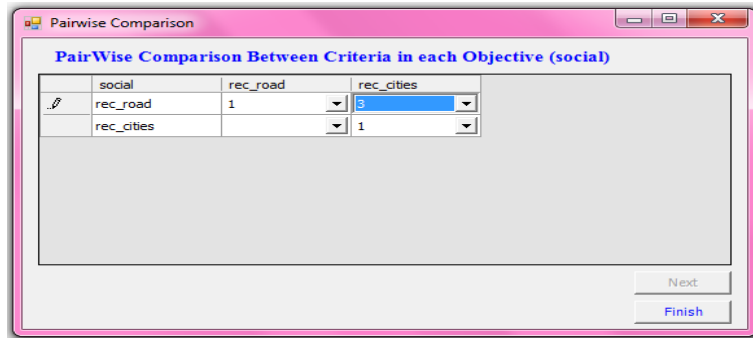


Fig.11. Pairwise comparison matrix between sub-criteria according to socio-economic criteri

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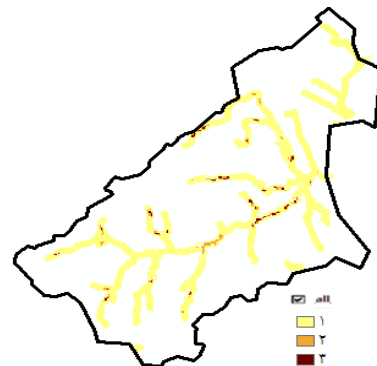
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4-Linguistic Quantifier-Guided OWA Combination:

Different outcomes can be generated by varying the linguistic quantifiers in the OWA procedures. There are 7 linguistic quantifiers associated with the goal and objectives. Thus, theoretically $7^{(1+3)}$ alternative evaluation scenarios can be generated in this case study.

In this paper, different quantifiers (Some, Half, Many, Most, few) are used. Figures (12) to (17) show alternative land suitability zones for building the harvest structure.



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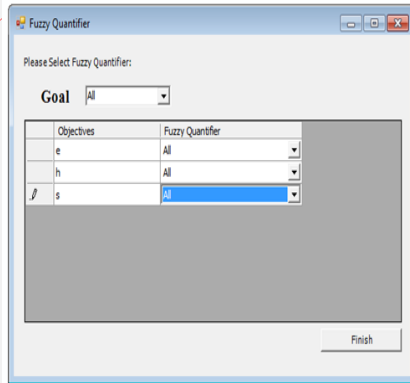


Fig.12. Site suitability for dam site using Linguistic Quantifier (all)

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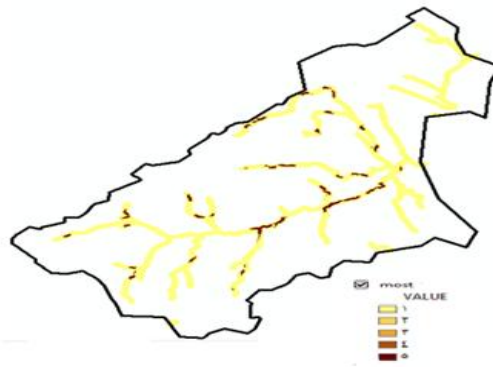


Fig.13. Site suitability for dam site using Linguistic Quantifier (most)

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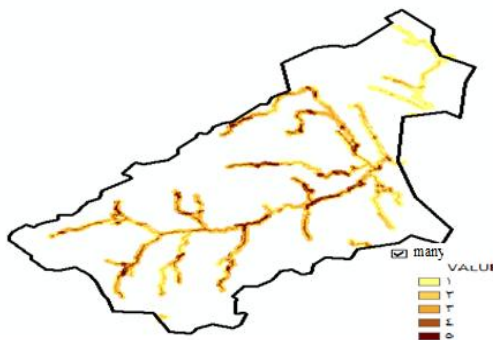


Fig.14. Site suitability for dam site using Linguistic Quantifier (many)

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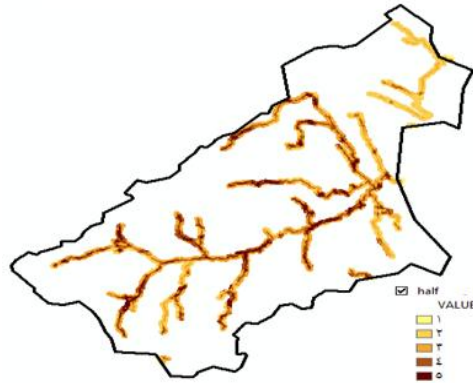


Fig.15. Site suitability for dam site using Linguistic Quantifier (half)

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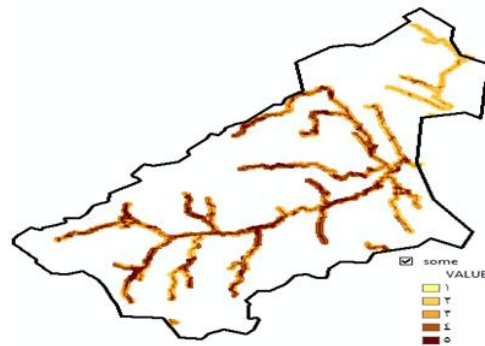


Fig.16. Site suitability for dam site using Linguistic Quantifier (some)

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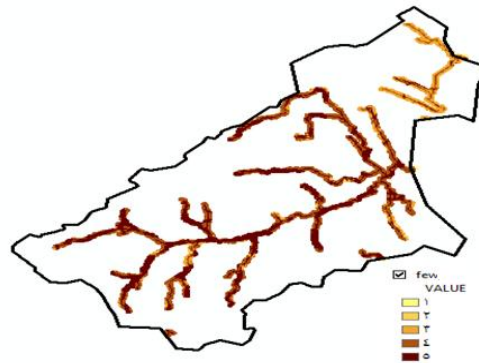


Fig.17. Site suitability for dam site using Linguistic Quantifier (few)

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In other words, these alternative scenarios have been developed under the assumption that the linguistic quantifier associated with the goal of the decision making problem changes. The linguistic terms 'Few' the results of AHP-OWA procedure show that most of the study area is suitable for water harvest.

GIS-BASED AHP-OWA APPROACH FOR LOCATING SUITABLE SITES FOR WATER HARVESTING DAM IN QASSIM REGION, SAUDI ARABIA

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The use of linguistic term ‘Half’ means that equal order weights are assigned to criteria. This leads to a neutral strategy. This strategy corresponds to the conventional fuzzy logic. When linguistic term ‘All’ is applied, an extremely pessimistic strategy is adopted. It represents the worst-case scenario. Under this scenario, the suitability pattern for dam site is compared with the worst possible outcomes.

Finally we suggested nine locations of dams for rain water harvest in Qassim region as shown in Figure (18).

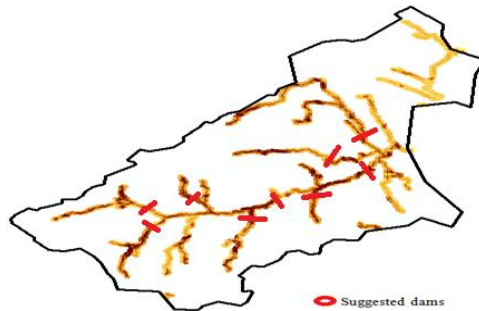


Fig.18. suggested water harvest dam site

Model validation was done to guarantee if the model offers reliable representation of the system it represented. Validation was done as follows:

- a) Comparing the resulting suitability sites of AHP, OWA approach with previous studies in the Qassim region as in Figure (19).
- b) Visual comparisons were performed between the resulting suitability index values and satellite images of the region. The comparison shows similarity with the present dams in the area (Figure 20).

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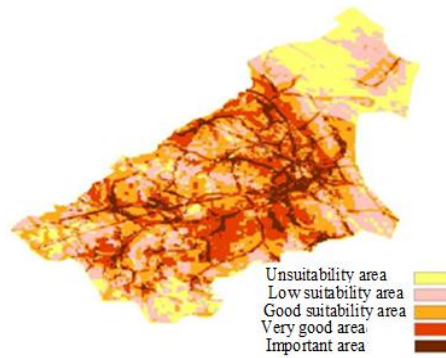


Fig.19 Site suitability for dam site using raster calculation

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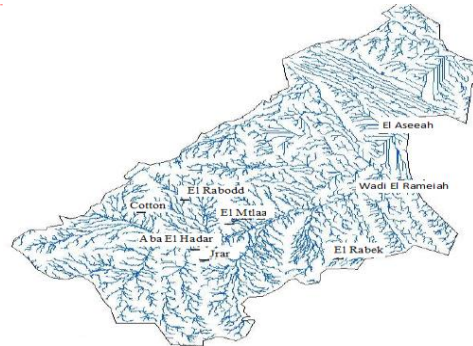


Fig.20 present dams in the study area

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5- SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:

One of the most important and complex problems in arid and semi-arid regions is a water harvest site. A large mass of information must be gathered, combined and analyzed to make correct criteria that may effect on making the final decision. This paper has presented the theoretical basis for a novel GIS-based MCE procedure. The paper has suggested an extension of Saaty's AHP using the fuzzy linguistic OWA operators instead of a simple weighted average in the process of aggregation of component satisfactions, which in turn brings natural language quantification to spatial decision analysis. GIS-based MCE Dam Site Selection Tool has been developed as a toolbar in ArcGIS 9.3

Site selection for rain water harvest is carried out by considering the slope, elevation, land use/land cover, geology, buffered stream order, distance from roads, distance from cities for decision machining.

The following conclusions are made:

1. Geographical information systems are very useful tools to determine the best location for water harvesting projects. The application of multi-criteria increases the accuracy of results and limits the appropriate areas of the sites selected carefully to ensure the success of the project
2. The study showed that geographic information systems open the door to the introduction of new criteria to locating water harvesting projects, making it easier to take the decision to implement water harvesting projects.
3. It has also been found that this module is a valuable and user-friendly tool. In comparison to the conventional GIS-based multicriteria evaluation methods, it gives flexibility and high efficiency for evaluating land suitability of dams. The capability to generate and visualise a range of resultant scenarios is particularly useful.
4. This extension allows decision-makers to define a decision strategy on a continuum from pessimistic (risk-averse) and optimistic (risk-taking) strategies. Also, the paper has demonstrated how, by applying different linguistic quantifiers, decision-makers could take into account a wide range of decision strategies and scenarios taking into account the level of risk that decision-makers wish to assume in their MCE.
5. The paper has suggested a possible extension of AHP using the fuzzy linguistic OWA operator instead of a simple weighted average in the process of aggregation of component satisfactions in turn brings natural language quantification to spatial decision analysis.
6. Several alternative scenarios of site suitability for rain water harvesting have been developed in this study. They show how the decision-maker's attitude involved in suitability decision-making process can influence the outcomes.

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7. As a result, this work could be taken further by conducting field validation in compare and technically evaluate all the candidate sites in terms of their enviro impact assessment, from which the top ranking sites will undergo further geotech hydro-geological detailed investigations.

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من أجل إيجاد موقع سدود حصاد المياه في القصيم، المملكة العربية السعودية، GIS AHP OWA اعتماد تقنية
م سدود حصاد المياه هو عملية اتخاذ قرار معقدة حيث إن إيجاد الموقع الأفضل يتطلب دمج تقنية المعايير المتعددة
AHP OWA مع نظم المعلومات الجغرافية في هذا البحث تم استخدام نظم المعلومات الجغرافية بالاعتماد على تقنية
م لبناء السدود في منطقة القصيم في السعودية. تم اعتماد انحدار الحوض، استخدامات الأراضي، نوع التربة،
سطح، توزيع الأمطار، المسافة إلى الطرق، والمسافة للمناطق المخدمة كمعايير لاتخاذ القرار. أظهرت النتائج
لطريقة في إيجاد أفضل مواقع لبناء سدود حصاد المياه، مع السماح لمتخذ القرار أن يأخذ في الاعتبار سيناريوهات
مختلفة بين المتفائلة والمتشائمة.