Selecting an appropriate approach to regularizing informal settlements by using Multi-Criteria Decision Methods (MCMD)

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Abstract

Informal settlements are areas shaped and expanded in almost all major and middle cities of the Iran cities including the city of Ardabil. In the face of areas as such, as of today various ways have been put into test. A number of these ways include demolition, relocation, site and services, upgrading, and enablement of poor communities. However, none of these approaches have managed to bring about sustainable regularization of informal settlements. Therefore, the present study is aimed at selecting an appropriate approach to regularizing these neighborhoods. The study is a descriptive and analytical one that uses the survey method to collect data. Four approaches, among many others, including site and services, enablement, upgrading, and community-based upgrading were assessed by 45 experts, drawing on 11 criteria. DEMATEl and Super Decision software programs are used to analyze the data and select appropriate approaches. DEMATEL method is used to determin the relationship between the criteria and the Analytic Network Process (ANP) to give weight to the criteria and acheive the ultimate option. The approaches community-based upgrading with a coefficient of 0.104358, enablement 0.084083, upgrading 0.036029, and finally site and services 0.008924 are identified, in order of priority, as regularizing approach to r Iran Abad informal settlement. In addition, among 11 criteria, three criteria including improving the quality of housing and roads with a coefficient 0.286799, operationalizability 0.112727, and the owner partnership with the municipality 0.105613 are of the utmost importance and influence in selecting the most appropriate approach to regularizing the neighborhood. Among the various approaches to regularizing informal settlements, the community-based planning approach serves the best option for regularizing the Iran Abad neighborhood.

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