

Assessing Hydrogen Economy Development in Egypt: Evaluation of Sustainable Hydrogen Production Technologies Using FAHP Analysis

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Energy sector analysis, Egypt's energy strategy, hydrogen potential

Hydrogen economy definition

The hydrogen economy is a hypothetical future economy in which hydrogen is used as a clean energy carrier that can provide a more sustainable and efficient means of meeting energy needs than the fossil fuel-based economy on which we currently rely. However, there are obstacles to the widespread adoption of a hydrogen economy, including high production costs, limited infrastructure and production capability (Yue et al., 2021)



Background

Sustainable Development Scenario, and Net-zero emission plans





Background





Sustainable Development Strategy

Egypt Vision 2030 Energy Pillar



Hydrogen contributes to achieving Egypt's energy goals

Hydrogen potential in Egypt (Blue & Green)

Egypt's Energy Strategy; Transition Towards Clean Fuels
 Progressive increase in volumes of natural gas production
 Boost the share of renewable energy generation

Renewable energy generation share exceeding the planned targets



Natural Gas and renewables availability



Consistent and robust wind speeds, which average between eight and 10 m/s at an altitude 100 meters



Direct solar radiation ranging from 2000 to 3200 kWh/m2/y,

Under development Hydrogen projects

| No. | Date | Agreement | Application | Foreign entity | Egyptian entity | Capacity |
|-----|-----------|--|--|---|---|-------------------------|
| 1 | Mar. 2021 | Feasibility study of producing low-carbon fuel in Egypt | Hydrogen production and export for marine applications | Belgium's Dredging, Environmental, and Marine Engineering Group (DEME) | Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy (MoERE), Ministry of petroleum and mineral resources (MoPMR), and The Egyptian Navy | Undefined |
| 2 | Aug. 2021 | MOU agreement/ pilot project | Green hydrogen | Siemens | MoERE, MoPMR, and the Egyptian navy | 100 - 200 MW |
| 3 | Jul. 2021 | Technical and commercial feasibility study | Green Hydrogen and blue hydrogen with CCS | Eni | Egyptian natural gas holding company (EGAS) | Undefined |
| 4 | Nov. 2021 | Project development | Ammonia with CCSU | Fertiglobe Partners with Scatec | The Sovereign Fund of Egypt (SFE) | 90,000 tons/year |
| 5 | Mar. 2022 | MOU towards the construction of a large- scale production facility | Green hydrogen to be used as a fuel for ships | Maersk (Maritime transportation) | The General Authority for Suez Canal (GASC), NREA, MoERE | Undefined |
| 6 | Mar. 2022 | MOU agreement | Green ammonia | Scatec | SFE, GASC, NREA, and EETC | one million tons/yer |
| 7 | Mar. 2022 | Project development | Green ammonia | Petrofac | Mediterranean Energy Partners | 125,000 tons/year |
| 8 | Mar. 2022 | MOU and feasibility study | Green hydrogen and ammonia | Total | Abu Qir Fertilizers | Undefined |
| 9 | Apr. 2022 | MOU and feasibility study | Green hydrogen and ammonia | AMEA Power of the United Arab Emirates | GASC, SFE, NREA, and EETC | 390,00 tons/year |
| 10 | Apr. 2022 | MOU and feasibility study | Green ammonia | France's EDF Renewables | GASC, SFE, NREA, and EETC | 350 tons/year |
| 11 | Apr. 2022 | Project development | Green ammonia | Masdar | Hassan Allam (HA) Utilities | 480,000 tons/year |
| 12 | Nov. 2022 | MOU and feasibility study | Green hydrogen | Fortescue Future Industries (FFI) | NREA and EETC | 9.2 GW |
| 13 | Nov. 2022 | framework agreement | Green hydrogen | ReNew Power, India | Government of Egypt and Elsewedy Group | 20,000 tons/year |

Hydrogen Production Technologies



Proposed Research



Literature, Gap, Questions, methods



This study aims to develop an <u>MCDM-based model that incorporates uncertainties in evaluating the sustainability of HPTs</u>, a case study of Egypt. The model proposed here utilizes **FAHP methodology** to establish a sustainability criteria hierarchy, assigning weights to each criterion. Furthermore, <u>the FAHP method will be employed here to rank HPT alternatives</u>, thus enabling the identification of the most sustainable options. The overall aims of this study could be summarized as follows:

- I. Illustrate and analyze the essential components of the energy sector in Egypt, particularly energy sources, including renewable energy. The primary objective is to assess Egypt's potential for hydrogen production.
- II. Identify the HPTs that are most suitable for commercial development in Egypt.
- III. Define the main sustainability criteria and sub-criteria for the evaluation of HPT; then construct a hierarchy structure for the evaluation process.
- IV. Utilize the FAHP to prioritize HPT, to assist Egyptian decision-makers to develop a national hydrogen economy strategy, that could contribute to the effectiveness of implementations of Egypt's sustainable development strategy.
- V. Identify the opportunities and challenges of Egypt's hydrogen economy development



- Limited scientific research, especially economic and environmental assessment of the hydrogen economy at the national level, with a focus on developing countries (so far, null about Egypt)
- There are knowledge gaps in the MCDM method for HPT prioritization; for example, several research focused on the evaluation of HPT in general, while limited studies focused on evaluating HPT for a particular country or region
- There are still no widely agreed criteria for the evaluation of balanced sustainability (environmental, economic, and social aspects). calculations of relative evaluation criteria weights are usually based on stakeholder preference under uncertainties, especially for studies at the national planning level.

Research questions

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Based on the available energy sources in Egypt, including renewable energy. what is their potential for hydrogen production?

> Which hydrogen production technologies (HPTs) are considered the most viable and commercially feasible for commercial development in Egypt?

> What are the main criteria and sub-criteria that should be used to evaluate the sustainability of HPTs in Egypt?

How can the FAHP-based model assist Egyptian decision-makers in developing a hydrogen economy strategy that aligns with the country's sustainable development goals?

How can the identification of sustainable hydrogen production options in Egypt contribute to global efforts in transitioning to a low-carbon economy?

Methodology



Fuzzy Analytic Hierarchy Process (FAHP)



AHP and FAHP

Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP)

- MCDM method
- Originally developed by Prof. Thomas L.
 Saaty at the end of 70's
- Applied to many practical decision-making problems

Complex Decision Problem

Multiple Criteria (Qualitative & Quantitative) Multiple Decision Makers Uncertainty

- Incomplete Information
- Imprecise Data
- Vagueness surrounding the decision making



AHP Problem Structuring





Ι.

AHP and **FAHP**

Pair-wise Comparison Method

Pair-wise comparisons in the AHP assume that DM can :



- compare any two E_{l}, E_{j} , elements at the same l, J
- provide a numerical П. value for the ratio of their importance



The **9-point scale** of Saaty 5 3 E1 9 7 3 7 9 **F**2 E2 This 9-point Scale means has strong Importance Equal Importance 1 = relative to E1 Moderate Importance 3 = Strong Importance Very Strong Importance 7 = 9 = Extreme Importance 2.4.6.8 : Intermediate values $R = \begin{bmatrix} A & B & C & \dots & X \\ 1 & a_{12} & a_{13} & \dots & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & 1 & a_{23} & \dots & \dots & a_{2n} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & 1 & \dots & \dots & a_{3n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & a_{n3} & \dots & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ W_1 n elements require W_2 w =n (n - 1) / 2 judgments W_n

were $a_{ji} = \frac{1}{a_{ji}}$, *i*=1,2,....,*n* and *j*=1,2,....,*n*



Proposed By Dr. Ludmil Mikhailov in 2002

Linguistic Variables

| Extremely | Very Strongly | Moderately | Nearly Equal | Moderately | Very Strongly | Extremely | E2 |
|-----------|---------------|------------|--------------|------------|---------------|-----------|----|
| Important | Important | Important | Important | Important | Important | Important | |
| | · | | | · | | | |

- The most appropriate model that captures the characteristics of the Linguistic variables is *Fuzzy Numbers* rather than *Definite (Crisp) Numbers* as used by Saaty
- Therefore, the *Modified Scale* Replacing the *9-point scale* of Saaty could be given as follows:

E1

| Linguistic variable | Fuzzy number | | Trian | igula | r Mem | bersh | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---|--|
| Nearly Equally Preferred | ĩ | (| 1/2 | , | 1 | , | 2 |) | |
| Equally to Moderately Preferred | Ĩ | (| 1 | , | 2 | , | 3 |) | 1 |
| Moderately Preferred | ĩ | (| 2 | , | 3 | , | 4 |) | |
| Moderately to Strongly Preferred | ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ | (| 3 | , | 4 | , | 5 |) | 0 lij mij uij wi / wj |
| Strongly Preferred | Ĩ | (| 4 | , | 5 | , | 6 |) | АВС Х |
| Strongly to Very Strongly Preferred | l õ | (| 5 | , | 6 | , | 7 |) | $ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$ |
| Very Strongly Preferred | 7 ~ | (| 6 | , | 7 | , | 8 |) | $\widetilde{R} = \mathbf{C} \qquad \widetilde{a}_{31} \widetilde{a}_{32} 1 \dots \dots \widetilde{a}_{3n}$ |
| Very Strongly to Extremely Preferred | | (| 7 | , | 8 | , | 9 |) | $\mathbf{X} \begin{bmatrix} \widetilde{a}_{n1} & \widetilde{a}_{n2} & \widetilde{a}_{n3} & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ where : |
| Extremely Preferred | 9 | (| 8 | , | 9 | , | 9 1/2 |) | $\tilde{a}_{ij} = (l_{ij}, m_{ij}, u_{ij})$ and $\tilde{a}_{ji} = \frac{1}{\tilde{a}_{ii}} = (1/u_{ij}, 1/m_{ij}, 1/h_{ij})$ |





The AHP uses the 9-point scale to implement the pair-wise comparisons.

- ✓ This numerical scale leads to having the human judgments represented as exact numbers.
- However, in practical cases the human preference model is uncertain, and decision-makers may be unable to assign exact numerical values to the comparison judgments.

It is very useful to use linguistic variables which are more familiar to the decision maker instead of the numerical scale of AHP

A good approach to applying the linguistic variables is using the fuzzy set theory within the AHP framework leading to what we call FAHP or Fuzzy Analytic Hierarchy process

Application of FAHP



Evaluation of Hydrogen Production Technology in Egypt











Step 4; Selection of DM expert



Step 5; Individual Judgment for FAHP Model

| 1) Pairwise comparison between main criteria concerning goal | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------|------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|--------|--------------------|----------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|----------|--------------------|--------|-----------------------|-------------|------------------------|---------|---------------|
| | | Preference Degree | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Main Criteria | Extreme | very strong to extreme | Very Strong | strong to very strong | Strong | Moderate to strong | Moderate | equal to moderate | Equal | equal to moderate | Moderate | Moderate to strong | Strong | strong to very strong | Very Strong | very strong to extreme | Extreme | Main Criteria |
| Economic | | | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Social |
| Economic | | | | | | | Х | | | | | | | | | | | Environmental |
| Economic | | | | | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | Technological |
| Social | | | | | | | | | | | X | | | | | | | Environmental |
| Social | | | | | | | | | X | | | | | | | | | Technological |
| Environmental | | | | | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | Technological |

Each expert will compare the main criteria and sub-criteria against each other

- □ Then compare the HPT considering the sub-criteria
- Finally, aggregation of individual analysis and calculation of the final score



Step 6: Aggregation of Individual Results







Conclusion



Evaluation of Hydrogen Production Technology in Egypt



FAHP Model

This study presents a framework for the evaluation and prioritization of HPTs using the FAHP method, considering sustainability dimensions (economic, env., social, and tech.).

- □ A comprehensive literature review identified the most applicable evaluation criteria which were then evaluated by a group of experts.
- A group of decision-makers decided the Main-criteria and sub-criteria weights applied in our case study.
- □ In our evaluation of the proposed ranking methodologies, PV Electrolysis scored the best HPT in Egypt, followed by Grid Electrolysis and Steam Methane reforming. While Wind Electrolysis and Biomass gasification (BG) get the lowest score



Benefits of Hydrogen development for Egypt

Economic

Contribution to GDP growth
 Investment attractions
 Contribution to E-Hub strategy

Environment

□ Contribution to Net-Zero

- □ Open the potential of RE
- Decarbonise heavy-intensive industries
- By reducing reliance on fossil fuels

<u>Social</u>

Employment opportunities
 National competencies
 Knowledge transfer

Technological

Know-How Transfer
 R&D opportunities
 Energy storage and grid stabilization

شكراً ありがとうございました Thank You