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Analysis of ecology and sustainable tourism planning (case study: Semnan-Iran)

Authors:
Elmira Azinfar[1] and Ardavan Behzad[2]

Institution:
1. Department of Tourism, Aba Higher Education Institution, Iran.

2. Department of Geography, Islamic Azad University, Iran.

Corresponding author:
Ardavan Behzad

ABSTRACT:
Ecology and tourism have been regarded as the factors which play a major role in trajectory of international trade in such a way that it can assume it as an inevitable and mutual need at international arena. The main purpose of this research is to describe ecology and sustainable tourism planning in Semnan county, proposed as one of the substantial positions of tourism. The mentioned potentials for tourism in this county include ecological specifications, climate diversity, historical, cultural attractions, etc. For this, parameters such as slope, direction and height were examined separately and the digital maps were prepared for each one. With regard to these parameters, ecological tourism activities of region were selected and introduced. The ultimate maps of the zones well suited to these activities were prepared based on the considered goal. With regard to the findings in GIS model, tourism activities that can take an effective step to develop them in this county include desert climbing, star gazing, mountaineering, hill climbing, nature tour and wildlife. Then, tourism landscape of county was ranked using TOPSIS model. The results from TOPSIS analysis indicate that the highest potential in terms of tourism has been allocated to hill climbing (0.83), wildlife (0.78), and star gazing (0.73).