

Decision Support System for Foundation Beneficiaries Using the Simple Additive Weighting (SAW) Method

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ABSTRACT

The distribution of compensation funds for underprivileged students must be based on clear and objective selection mechanisms to ensure that assistance is allocated to the most deserving recipients. A Decision Support System (DSS) provides a systematic and efficient method to support this selection process. This research utilizes the Simple Additive Weighting (SAW) method to develop a DSS that ranks students based on predefined criteria such as parents' income, family status, number of dependents, and academic achievement. The ranking results indicate that Farhan Rifai scored the highest (0.8), followed by Sidratul Muntaha (0.7666), demonstrating the method's effectiveness in supporting fair compensation distribution.



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INTRODUCTION

In a society that upholds the values of compassion and social justice, providing financial assistance to underprivileged groups, especially students, has become an important moral and social obligation. One such form of assistance is compensation a fund distributed by charitable organizations or foundations to ease the economic burden of students who come from low-income families, are orphans, or face other forms of social vulnerability. The MDTA Nurul Ikhwan Foundation, like many similar institutions, conducts annual compensation programs aimed at helping students from disadvantaged backgrounds. However, in its current form, the selection process is still handled manually through ledgers and basic data recording, leading to inefficiencies, subjectivity, and potential inaccuracies. The manual nature of this process presents several challenges. First, the foundation must ensure that only students who meet a specific set of criteria are selected to receive compensation. Second, the process must remain transparent and fair, especially when allocating limited funds to only 10% of students in each class annually. Third, the absence of a computerized system results in time-consuming administrative tasks and increases the likelihood of human error in decision-making. To address these challenges, this study proposes the implementation of a Decision Support System (DSS) using the Simple Additive Weighting (SAW) method. DSS is a category of information system designed to assist decision-makers by processing data and applying structured methods to generate recommendations or decisions. The SAW method, in particular, is a widely recognized

Multi-Attribute Decision Making (MADM) technique that ranks alternatives based on the weighted sum of their performance ratings across a set of criteria. This method is suitable for problems involving multiple conflicting attributes—such as economic status, family condition, and academic performance—where trade-offs are necessary to determine the best candidates. In this context, the SAW method is used to evaluate and rank students based on four key criteria: (1) parents' income, (2) family status (e.g., orphaned), (3) number of dependents in the family, and (4) academic achievement. These criteria are assigned specific weights that reflect their importance in the decision-making process. Through normalization and aggregation of performance scores, the system calculates a final score (preference value) for each student, allowing the foundation to objectively select the most eligible recipients. This research aims to contribute not only to the operational effectiveness of the MDTA Nurul Ikhwan Foundation but also to the broader discourse on leveraging information systems for equitable resource allocation. By demonstrating the practical application of the SAW method in a real-world setting, this study offers a replicable model for other institutions seeking to improve fairness, transparency, and efficiency in their social assistance programs.

METHODS

Decision Support System

Basically DSS is almost the same as SIM because it uses a database as a data source[11]. DSS originates from MIS because it emphasizes the function of supporting decision makers at all stages, although the actual decision remains the exclusive authority of the decision maker. A class of computerized information systems at a higher level is the Decision Support System (DSS).[12]. DSS is almost the same as traditional MIS in that they both depend on a database as a data source. Although the actual decision is still the exclusive authority of the decision maker.

Simple Additive Weighting

The Simple Additive Weighting (SAW) method is often also known as the weighted addition method[13]. The basic concept of the Simple Additive Weighting (SAW) method is to find the weighted sum of the performance ratings on each alternative on all attributes[14].

$$r_{ij} = \begin{cases} \frac{X_{ij}}{\max X_{ij}^i} & \text{If } j \text{ is an attribute of benefit (Benefit)} \\ \frac{\min X_{ij}^i}{X_{ij}} & \text{If } j \text{ is the cost attribute (Cost)} \end{cases}$$

Where r_{ij} is the normalized performance rating of alternative A_i on attribute C_j ; $i=1,2,\dots,m$ and $j=1,2,\dots,n$. The preference value for each alternative (V_i) is given:

- r_{ij} = Normalized work rating.
- \max_i = maximum value of each row and column. \min_i
- = the maximum value of each row and column. X_{ij}
- = rows and columns of the matrix.

(r_{ij}) is the normalized performance rating of the alternative (A_i) on the attributes (C_j) $i=1,2,\dots,m$ and $j=1,2,\dots,n$.

$$V_i = \sum_{j=1}^n$$

$W_j r_{ij}$

$$\frac{V_i}{\sum_{j=1}^n W_j r_{ij}} \quad (2)$$

A larger V_i value indicates that alternative A_i is preferred.

Where :

V_i = final value of the alternative.

W_i = predetermined weight.

r_{ij} = matrix normalization

a larger value indicates that the alternative is preferred.

There are several steps in completing the Simple Additive Weighting (SAW) method. Which is applied as follows:

1. Determine the criteria used as a reference in decision support, namely C_i .
2. Determine the suitability rating of each alternative on each criterion.
3. Make a decision matrix based on the criteria (C_i).
4. Then normalize the matrix based on the equation that is adjusted to the type of attribute (profit attribute or cost attribute) in order to obtain a normalized matrix R .
5. The final result is obtained from the ranking process, namely the addition of the normalized matrix multiplication R with the weight vector so that the largest value is chosen as the best alternative (A_i) as the solution.

Annual Period Foundation Compensation

Compensation is a form of our concern for fellow creatures of God which should be carried out sincerely and voluntarily[15]. Compensation is a fund allocated and issued by an agency/foundation to underprivileged people such as orphans. Foundation compensation for the annual period is a fund in the form of assistance allocated and issued by a foundation to underprivileged students and the provision of compensation is carried out on an annual/periodic period every year.[16]. Compensation provided by the foundation to students with various criteria/alternatives that will be a reference in providing compensation. The criteria/alternatives for receiving foundation compensation include:

1. Students who are less well off in the family economy (amount of parents' income).
2. Students with family status, namely: orphans, orphans and orphans.
3. Students with how many children their parents depend on.
4. Students who excel / win from grade 2 to grade 6.

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

Application of the SAW Method

In determining students who are entitled to receive compensation at the MDTA Nurul Ikhwan Foundation, the school/foundation selects students-student and those who are entitled to become students who receive foundation compensation for the annual period with predetermined criteria. One of the solutions to the FMADM problem, criteria and weights are needed in carrying out the calculations so that the best alternative will be obtained as follows :

Determining each of the criteria can be seen in the table below:

Table 1. Code and Criteria Terms

Code	Criteria	Attribute
C1	Parents' Income	Benefits
C2	Family Status	Benefits

C3	Parental Dependence	Cost
C4	Student Achievement	Benefits

Furthermore, decision makers give preference weights to each criterion as W as shown in table 2:

Table 2. Determination of W . Value

Criteria	Range (%)	Weight
C1	40	0.40
C2	25	0.25
C3	20	0.20
C4	15	0.15

Criteria for the amount of parental income.

Table 3. Parental Income Criteria

Parent's income (C1)	Variable	Score
C1 ≤ IDR 500,000	Very high	1
C1 > IDR 500 thousand < C1 ≤ IDR 1 million	Tall	0.75
C1 > IDR 1 million < C1 ≤ IDR 1.5 million	Currently	0.50
C1 > IDR 1.5 million < C1 ≤ IDR 2.5 million	Low	0.25
C1 > IDR 2.5 million	Very low	0

Status criteria in the family

Table 4. Criteria for Family Status

Family Status (C2)	Variable	Score
Orphans	Very high	1
Orphans	Tall	0.75
Orphans	Currently	0.50

Table 5. Student Data Submitted

Alternati ve	Parents' Income	Family Status	Criteri a	
			Parental Dependenc e	Student achievem ent
1	IDR 500,000	orphan	3 children	2
2	IDR 800,000	orphan	2 children	4
3	IDR 1,000,000	Orphan	4 kids	1
4	IDR 1,400,000	orphan	3 children	3
5	IDR 2,500,000	orphan	4 kids	2

The sample above is data from students who become alternatives, namely, A1 (Farhan Rifai), A2 (Syashi Ajeng Sachira), and A3 (Sidratul Muntaha), A4 (Aqila Zahra Daulay), and A5 (Alif Putra Kelana).

The ranking calculation value for each alternative with a value of V_i can be seen in the following table:

Table 6. Ranking Calculation Results

Alternative	V_i	Rank
A1	0.8	1
A2	0,6625	3
A3	0.7666	2
A4	0.5	4
A5	0,4666	5

From the calculation above, the first order is Farhan Rifai with a value of 0.8; second place is Sidratul Muntaha with a value of 0.7666; Syashi Ajeng Sachira with grades 0.6625; fourth place is Aqila Zahra Daulay with a value of 0.5 and the last order is Alif Putra Kelana with a value of 0.4666.

CONCLUSION

This research demonstrates that a Decision Support System utilizing the SAW method can effectively support the selection of foundation compensation recipients. By using criteria such as parents' income, family status, number of dependents, and academic achievements, the system assigns weighted scores to each student. The normalized performance ratings and preference values help identify the most deserving candidates in an objective manner. The final rankings show Farhan Rifai in first place with a score of 0.8, followed by Sidratul Muntaha (0.7666), and Syashi Ajeng Sachira (0.6625). The implementation of this DSS contributes to a more accurate, efficient, and just distribution of aid.

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