What-If Scenario Analysis and Decision Support Algorithm for Offshore Wind Farm Installation
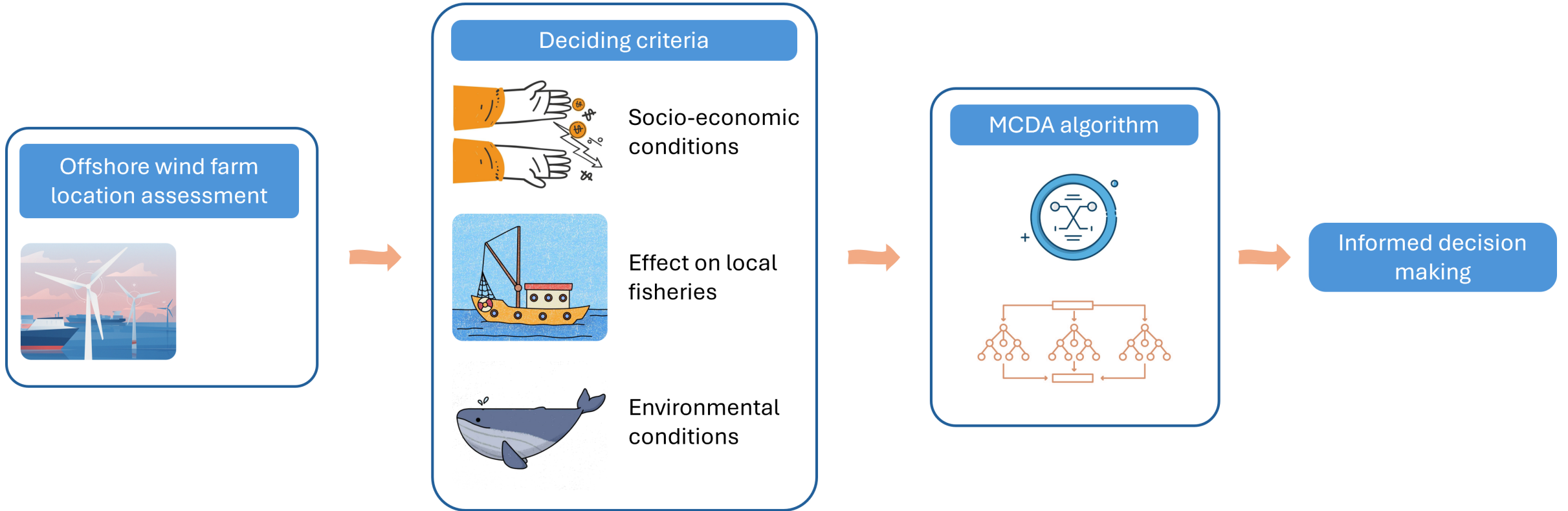
Solution Proposal

Aneta Kartali

Task overview

Offshore wind farm location assessment

Deciding criteria

Socio-economic conditions

Effect on local fisheries

Environmental conditions

MCDA algorithm

Informed decision making

1

- **Problem definition**: Site selection

- **Objective**: Identifying the best location for offshore wind farm installation from a given set of potential (feasible) sites

Offshore wind farm location assessment

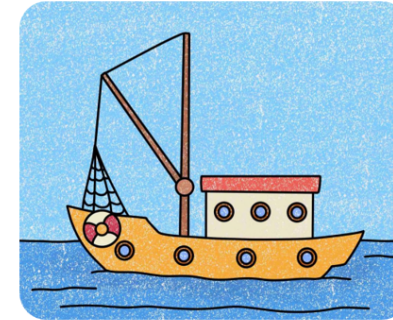- **Measures of success**:
  - Socio-economic conditions
    - Fishing dependency
    - Tourism revenue
    - Changes in average income
    - Unemployment rate
  - Effects on local fisheries
    - Fish stock health
    - Marine habitat restoration
  - Environmental conditions
    - Marine biodiversity
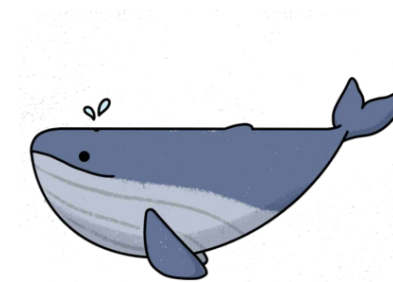   - Carbon sequestration rate

Deciding criteria

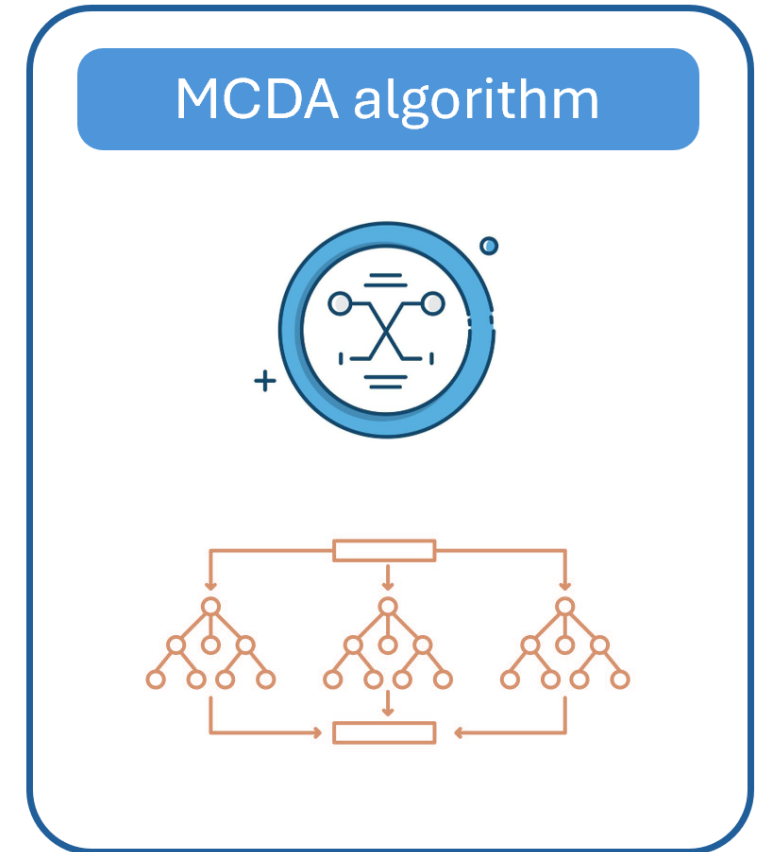Socio-economic conditions

Effect on local fisheries

Environmental conditions

- **Criteria weighting**: Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP)

- **Multi Criteria Decision Analysis**: Building a model based on available simulated data

MCDA algorithm

- **Decision making**: Inferring the optimal location for offshore wind farm

- **Sensitivity analysis**: Testing model stability under different scenarios
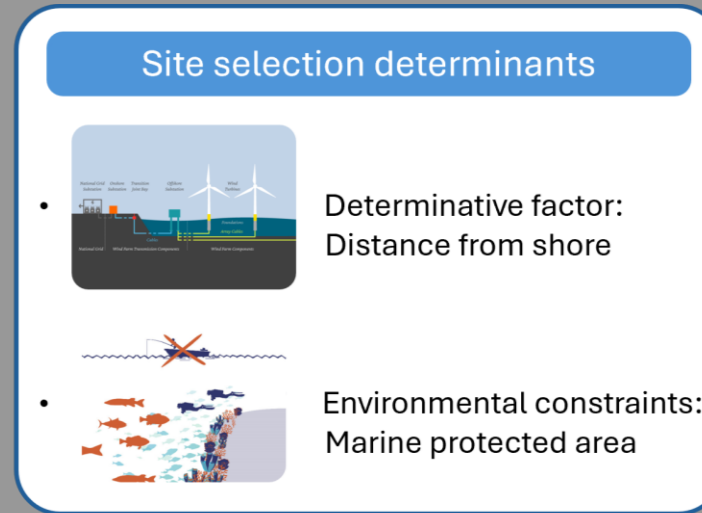
Informed decision making

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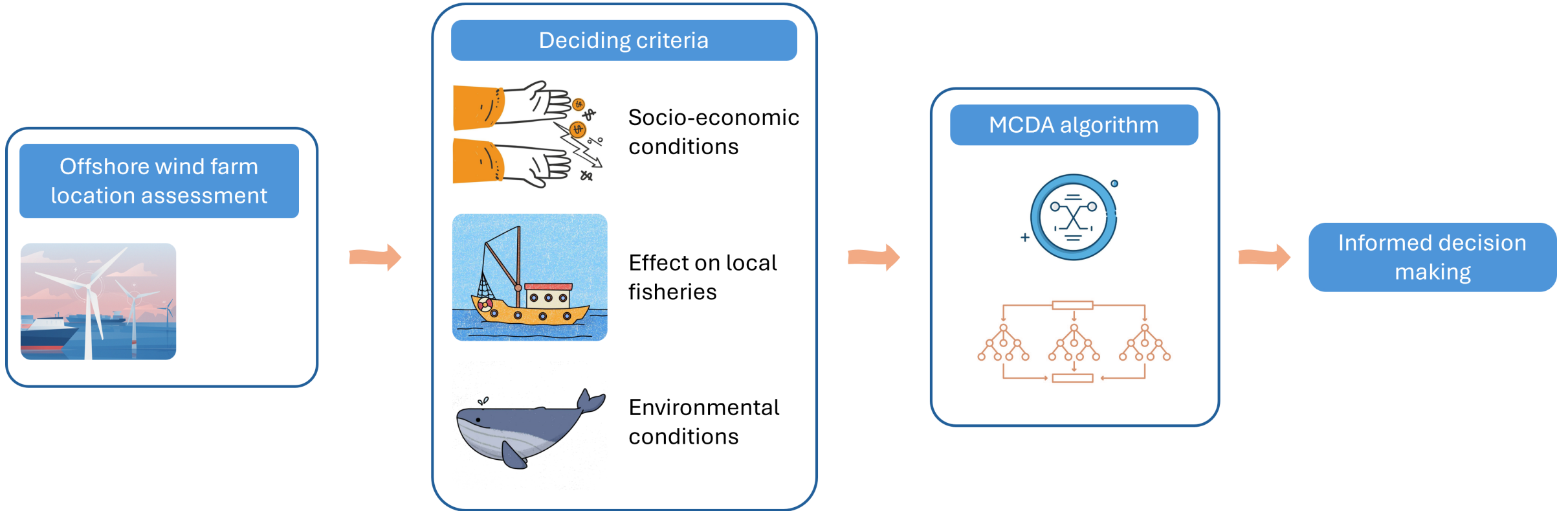
Site search algorithm

Identifying decision alternatives and criteria for offshore wind farm location assessment

Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) and Fuzzy AHP for criteria weighting

MCDA algorithm for scoring and ranking the alternatives

Optimal offshore wind farm site selection

Site selection determinants

- Determinative factor: Distance from shore

- Environmental constraints: Marine protected area

Sensitivity analysis and risk assessment

Identifying criteria that are particularly sensitive to weight changes and thus critical in affecting the decision making
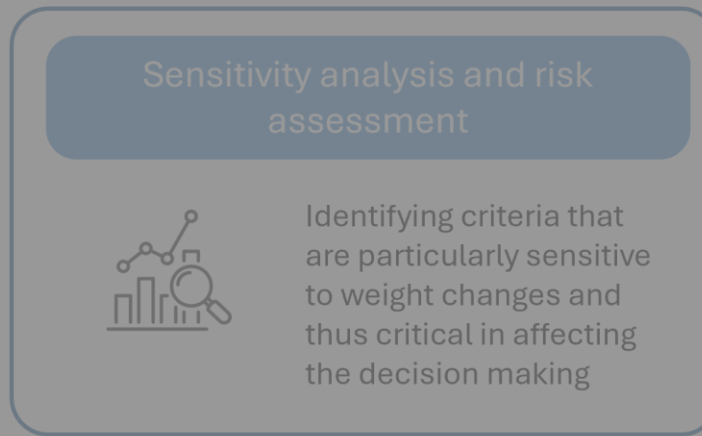
- **Available data**: Synthetic socio-ecological dataset

- A total of 100 evaluated locations

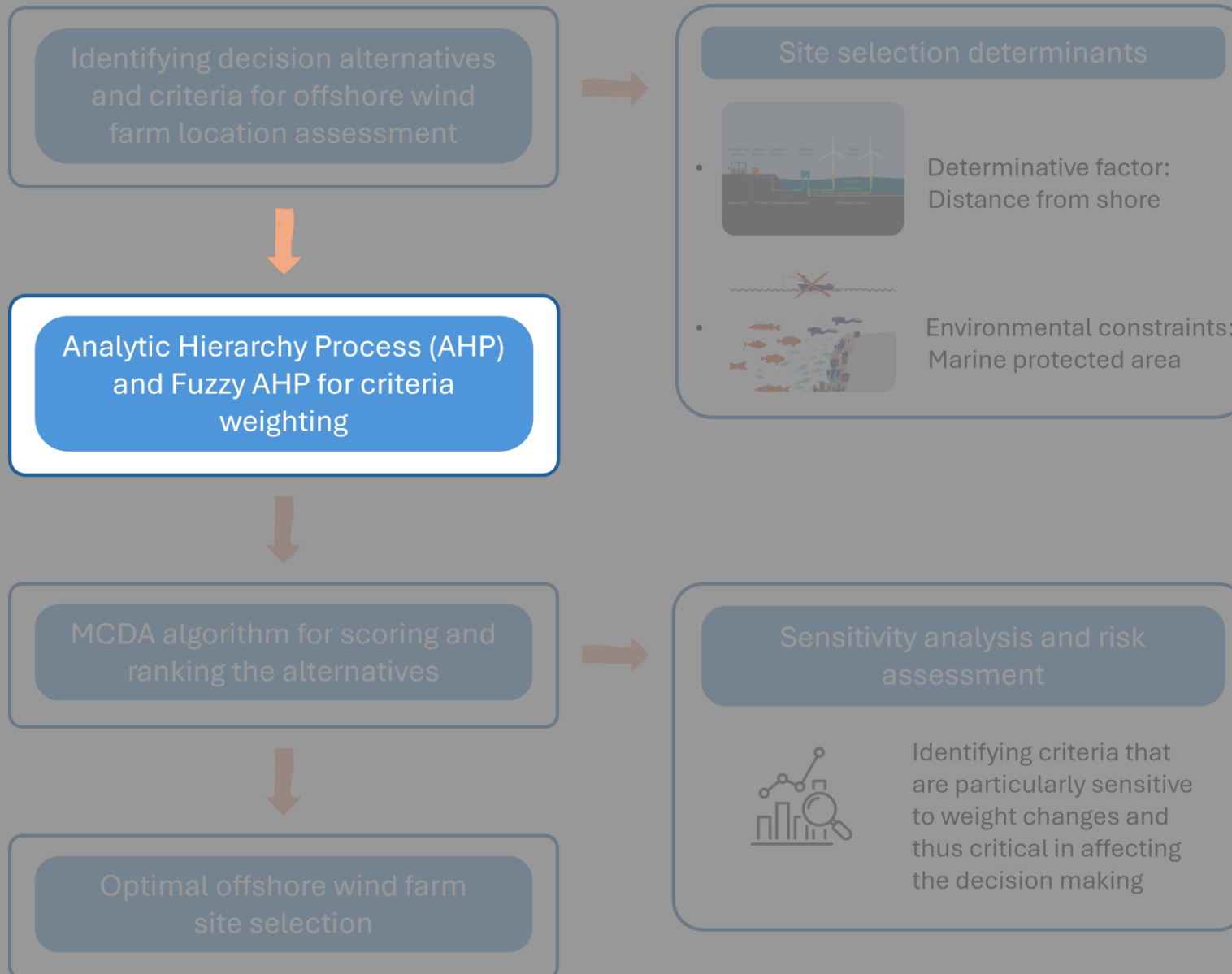- Eliminated alternatives entirely located in restricted areas where turbines are not allowed
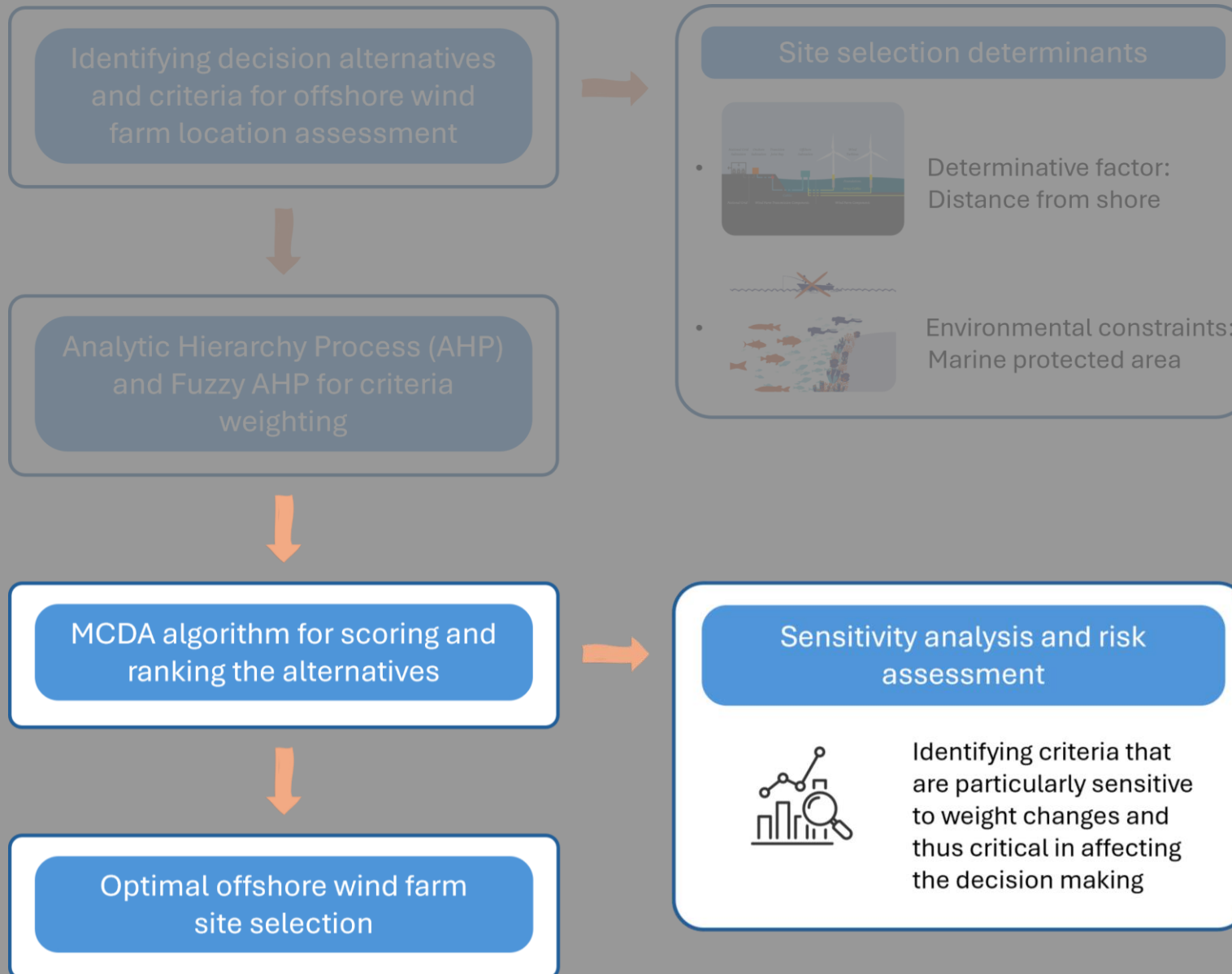
Implementation

USED IN THE STUDY

No.	Criterion	Group of criteria	Description	Preference direction
C1	Average income		Average income of the community [USD]	Max
C2	Fishing dependency	Socio-economic	Proportion of the community dependent on fisheries [%]	Min
C3	Unemployment rate		Unemployment rate of the community [%]	Min
C4	Tourism revenue		Annual tourism revenue [USD]	Max
C5	Fish stock health	Spatial/Economic	Health of local fish stocks [%]	Max
C6	Marine habitat restoration		The potential for habitat restoration in the area [%]	Max
C7	Marine biodiversity	Environmental	A biodiversity index for the marine environment (0-100)	Max
C8	Carbon sequestration potential		Estimated potential for carbon sequestration in the area [T]	Max
C9	Current offshore wind farms	Technical/Spatial	Number of existing offshore wind farms in the area [#]	Min
C10	Distance from shore		Distance of wind farm from shore [km]	Min
C11	Wind farm capacity		Potential capacity of wind farms in the area [MW]	Max

POTENTIAL ADDITION

No.	Criterion	Group of criteria	Description	Preference direction
C12	Maritime traffic	Socio-economic	Distance from maritime routes [m]	Max
C15	Distance from protected areas	Environmental	Distance from marine protected areas [m]	Max
C16	Distance to grid	Infrastructure	Distance to existing onshore grid infrastructure [m]	Min
C17	Cable routing feasibility		The feasibility of underwater cable routing [%]	Max
C18	Weather conditions		Average annual air temperature [°C]	Min
C19	Wind potential	Technical	Wind potential in the area [h/year]	Max
C20	Water depth		Water depth in the area [m]	Max
C21	Wave conditions		Wave height in the area [m]	Min

ANALYTIC HIERARCHY PROCESS

AHP structure

Information collection

Criteria pairwise comparison

Calculating criteria weights

Weight aggregation and ranking

Fuzzy AHP structure

Information collection

Criteria pairwise comparison

Judgement fuzzification

Calculating fuzzy weights

Weight defuzzification and ranking
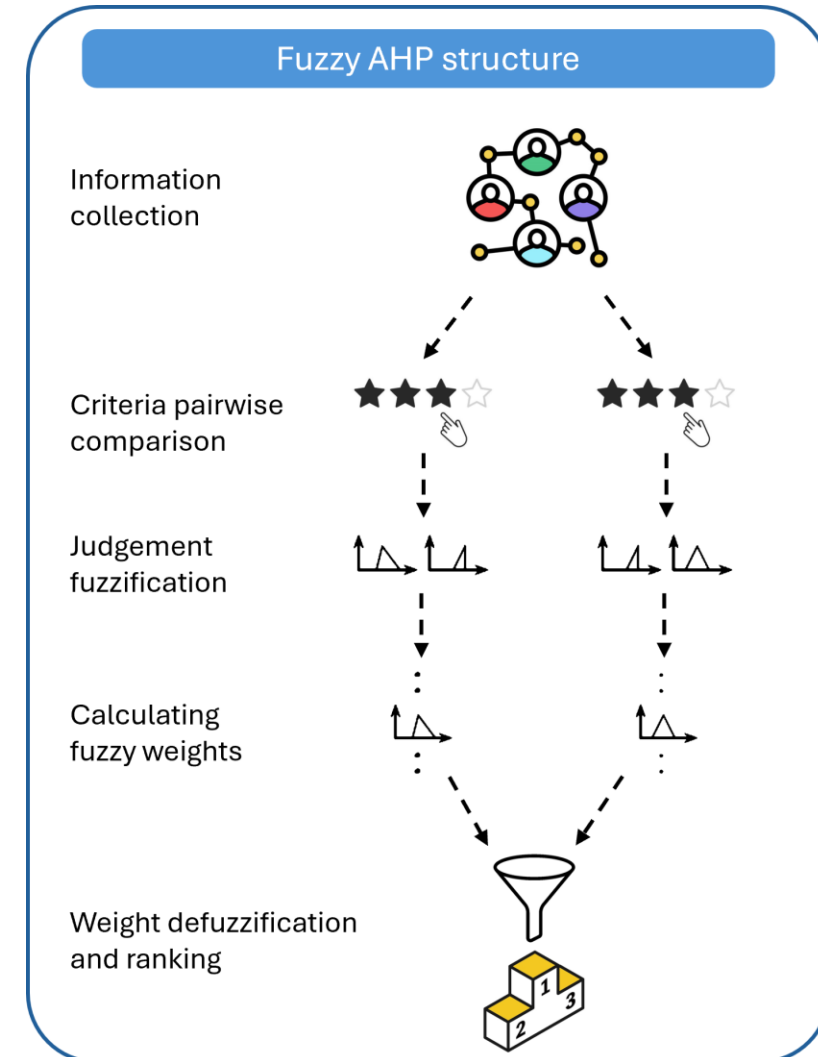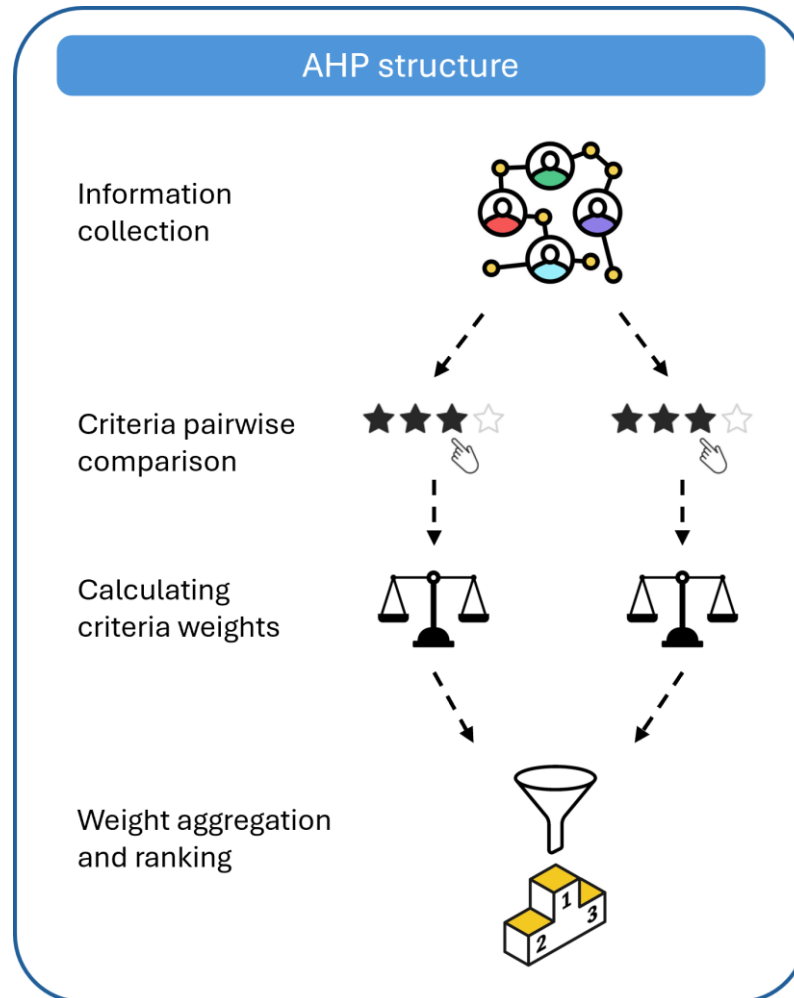
MCDA WITH TOPSIS ALGORITHM

TOPSIS algorithm

- Use the original dataset to create a performance matrix
- Normalize and weight the performance matrix using **weights from AHP**
- Determine the ideal positive and ideal negative solution
- Calculate the separation measures and the distances of each alternative from the ideal solutions
- Rank the alternatives based on the distance from the ideal solution

Fuzzy TOPSIS algorithm

- Simulate stakeholders' fuzzy ranking of alternatives with respect to criteria
- Normalize and weight the decision matrix using **fuzzy weights from fuzzy AHP**
- Determine the fuzzy ideal positive and fuzzy ideal solution
- Calculate the separation measures and the distances of each alternative from the fuzzy ideal solutions
- Rank the alternatives based on the distance from the ideal solution

Offshore Wind Farm Location Assessment

FUNCTIONALITIES

- Offshore wind farm location assessment that ensures balanced decision making

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- **Simulation of uncertain input from expert representatives of different stakeholder groups**

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- **Sensitivity analysis provides insights into how sensitive different locations are to criteria changes**