



## **Analysis of Agricultural Development in Bushehr Province with Emphasis on Offering Consultative Support Services**

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Agriculture is one of the most important economic sectors in Iran and, besides meeting the food needs of the people and the needs of the industries for raw materials, plays an important role in the political independence of the country. Recognition and investigation of the potentials of this sector, followed by determination of its level of development, are the first step in the process of planning agricultural extension service and agricultural development. This research was conducted with the purpose of analyzing levels of development in the agriculture sector in Buser Province. The nine studied indices were weighted first using the Shannon entropy model, and the TOPSIS technique was then employed as the Multiple-Attribute-Decision-Making (MADM) method. Results showed that, among the cities in the Province, Dashtestan and Bushehr enjoyed high levels of agricultural development with coefficients of 0.689 and 0.349, respectively, while Daylam with the coefficient of 0.174 exhibited the lowest level of agricultural development. This shows that agricultural planners and extension service agents in Daylam must pay closer attention to performing their duties. Finally, strategies were suggested for utilizing the potentials in the various cities of the Province to develop the agriculture sector and to offer consultative support services.

**Keywords:** Development, Agriculture, Consultative Support Services, TOPSIS technique, Bushehr Province