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Organic material selection for soil amendment on mine reclamation with analytic hierarchy process

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Abstract

Soil quality is a frequent problem hindering mine reclamation success. Much research conducted on this problem proposed the application of organic material for soil amendment. However, most of the soil amendment research only focused on the usability of organic material, such as providing nutrients, improving soil properties, and adsorbing hazardous elements. Considering that reclamation is a complex activity, we propose a comprehensive assessment of both technical and managerial aspects on the selection of organic material due to the distinctive properties of each organic material. This study aimed to assess the criteria that influence the organic material selection and determine the most suitable alternative of organic material in mine reclamation. The assessment was Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) with the expert choice concept. The criteria used in this study were availability, cost, usability, ease of application, and side effects. Oil palm empty fruit bunch (EFB) compost, rice husk charcoal, cattle manure, and guano were selected. This study showed that availability was the principal factor, followed by usability, cost, ease of application, and side effects. The analysis also showed that the most suitable organic material was oil palm EFB compost with a global priority of 0.363, followed by rice husk charcoal (0.244), cattle manure (0.218), and guano (0.175).

KEYWORDS

Analytic Hierarchy Process, organic material, reclamation, soil amendment

1 INTRODUCTION

Coal is a primary natural resource that generates electricity in the world. It also plays a vital role as an energy source in several industries such as steel smelting, aluminum, and cement. In addition, coal mining has become the primary source of income for several countries to support development and improve people's welfare. However, coal mining activities applying open-pit methods negatively impact the environment, such as flora and fauna damage, decreased soil fertility, and water and air pollution (Mansur, 2012). To reduce these impacts, a reclamation following the principles of good mining practices is the best way. Reclamation aims to organize, restore, and improve the quality of the environment and ecosystem to restore its purposive function.

Several indicators of reclamation success are the existence of soil and water conservation and the availability of fertile soil as a medium for plant growth (Iskandar et al., 2012). Soil has a significant function in plant productivity, maintains environmental quality, and improves plants' and animals' health (Bünemann et al., 2018). Soil fertility is the most frequent problem found in mine reclamation. Reclamation requires fertile soil to supply adequate and balanced nutrients for plant growth. Soil fertility also emphasizes the absence of toxic elements that inhibit plant growth. Soil fertility needs special attention because it is the most crucial factor determining plant growth (Tanaka et al., 2013).

Soil fertility can be increased by improving nutrient content using organic material as a substitute for NPK, the chemical fertilizer broadly used in mine reclamation (Iskandar et al., 2012). Apart from being a

nutrients provider, organic materials also have advantages in improving soil properties and adsorb hazardous elements. Application of soil amendments in mine reclamation depends on organic matter efficiency and the release of sufficient nutrients for plants (Zornoza et al., 2016). Implementing proper techniques and technology of environmental management is expected to reduce the negative impact of mining activities. Currently, several mines have implemented organic amendments in post mine soils because they are cheaper and widely available (Rubén Forján et al., 2017). Implemented organic materials are mulch, compost, animal manure, ash, and biochar.

Many studies investigated the efficacy of organic material to increase fertility and remediate ex-mine soil

Many studies investigated the efficacy of organic material to increase fertility and remediate ex-mine soil (Anawar et al., 2015; Jones et al., 2016; R Forján et al., 2014; Rubén Forján et al., 2017). They help practitioners assess organic material according to its usability. However, material selection considering solely one criterion will not be entirely satisfactory (Zeleny, 2011); there will be a worry on other criteria influence. Unfortunately, discussion on organic material selection for soil amendment based on multi-criteria assessment is limited. A multi-criteria assessment can help practitioners select the most suitable material, as generally done in many manufacturing industries (Emovon & Ogheneyorowho, 2020).

Mine reclamation carried out on a wide area and in a long-term period requires many organic materials. Every organic material has distinctive characteristics affecting its effectiveness in soil quality improvement, cost, supply easiness, application difficulties, and side effects. Each of these criteria affects the success of soil amendment implementation. Therefore, both technical and managerial considerations are important in an organic material selection strategy (Wicke et al., 2015).

The criteria used in decision-making often have different units, quality characteristics, and relative weight (Erdogan et al., 2017). This decision-making process is likely to be quite difficult and requires a lot of time (Petruni et al., 2019). Therefore, decision-makers must have sufficient knowledge and experience in several scientific fields to assess comprehensively.

Decision-making involving many criteria and the possibility of contradicting each other could be done using the Multi Criteria Decision Making (MCDM) method. The most often MCDM method used in material selection is Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP), developed by Thomas Lorie Saaty. AHP helps researchers to analyze data, both quantitative and qualitative easily. Calculating consistency ratio (CR) from pairwise comparisons can help minimize the inconsistency level of decision-makers (Emovon & Ogheneyorowho, 2020). The most critical step in AHP is the selection of criteria (Petruni et al., 2019) because

predetermined criteria significantly affect the result of the decision. Refers to the issue, this study's primary goal is to determine the most suitable alternative of organic material for soil amendment in mine reclamation using the AHP method. This study also conducts a detailed assessment for criteria that influences the selection.

2 | MATERIALS AND METHOD

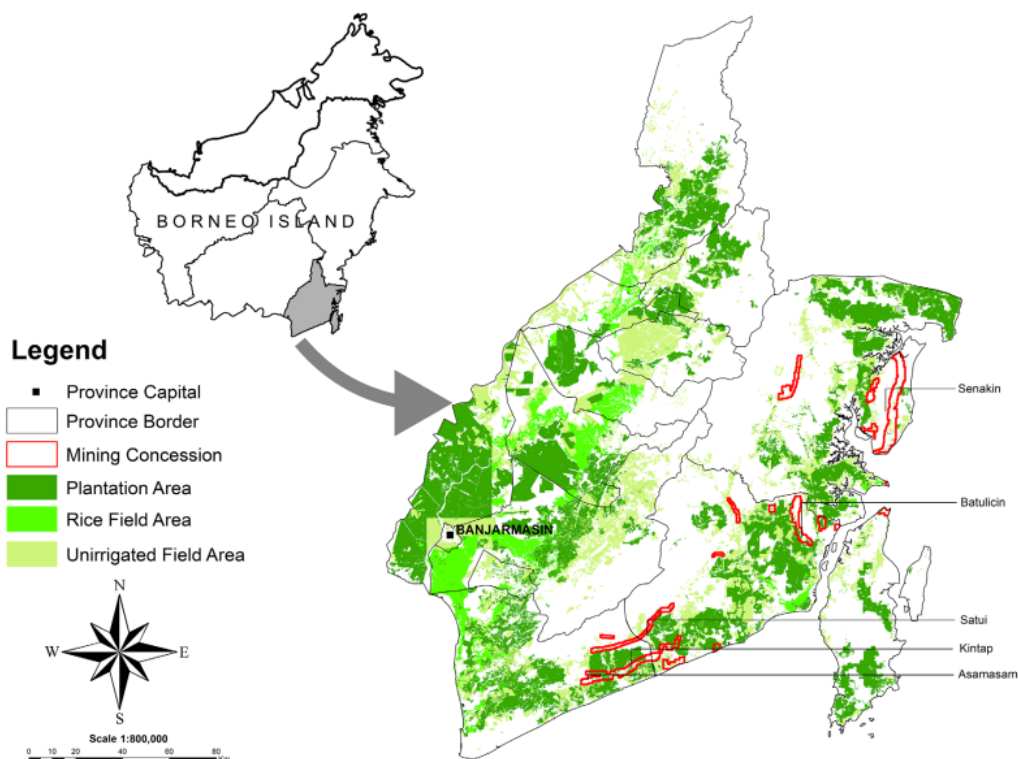
2.1 | Study area

This study was conducted at Arutmin Indonesia, one of the leading Indonesian coal producers in South Kalimantan Province. Arutmin Indonesia's operation is spread across three regencies, Tanah Laut, Tanah Bumbu, and Kotabaru, with a 150 km long distance. It is divided into five mine sites operation, Asamasam mine, Kintap mine, Satui mine, Batulicin mine, and Senakin mine. In 2019, the total of mine reclamation achievement was 8341 ha. This result was not a final realization as the activity will continue until the mine closure stage in 2030.

The study area is in a tropical climate with two seasons, the rainy and the dry season. This region has an air humidity level of 86%–93%, with a maximum humidity of 98% in July and August. This area is classified in the type A climate category, which refers to the climate classification developed by Schmidt and Ferguson. In terms of regional geology, this area belongs to Tanjung, Beraí, and Warukin Formation, which formed during Eocene, Oligocene, and Miocene Epoch. Physiography of this area is a sedimentary plain with undulating to a wave with a slope of 0%–25%. The soil type of this region is dominated by Hapudults and Paleudults, which is part of the Ultisols. Based on the physical and chemical properties analysis, the soil has low fertility status. The research location map is shown in Exhibit 1.

Apart from having large coal resources, South Kalimantan is also known for its agricultural resources, oil palm plantations, and animal husbandry. It has enormous potential as an organic materials provider. In 2018, oil palm plantations in South Kalimantan reached 425,000 ha with a production of 1.11 million tons. Rice production in South Kalimantan is 1.33 million tons, while livestock such as cows, buffaloes, goats, and sheep was 274,130 (Central Bureau of Statistic of South Kalimantan, 2020). Agricultural areas as sources of organic material spread throughout the province, as described in Exhibit 1 (Peta Rupa Bumi Indonesia, 2021). Furthermore, the existence of Meratus mountain karst clusters comes up with potential guano resources. Guano excavation has been carried out in several places, although in small quantities.

Several common conditions can be considered to say that this assessment is applicable to other coal companies in Indonesia. Arutmin conducted reclamation with the revegetation method by planting fast-growing with local species enrichment; this is the standard reclamation method in Indonesia (BPDASHL Barito, 2017). Arutmin also faces high acidity and low soil-fertility challenges, as found in other coal mining companies (Iskandar et al., 2012). Finally, sources of organic material are spread throughout Indonesia, especially in Sumatra and Kalimantan, the primary coal producers in Indonesia.



2 EXHIBIT 1 Research location [Color figure can be viewed at wileyonlinelibrary.com]

2.2 | Decision-making with the AHP method

The AHP is an MCDM method in which the decision-making model refers to expert judgment. Expert judgment is subjective, but the AHP structure can minimize biased decisions (Petruni et al., 2019). In extreme cases, AHP can even be applied with only one respondent (Doloi, 2008). The principles of AHP are systematic, logical, and do not require special knowledge in the field of decision making (Tavares et al., 2008). However, this assessment tries to present qualified experts to get logical and rational judgments.

In this study, seven reclamation experts were taken from across Arutmin's sites operation to capture the specific operating condition of the mine site. The criteria for selected experts were employees with a minimum 8 years of work experience in reclamation, a relevant educational background, and a working function at the supervisory or managerial level. This assessment also carried a site manager responsible for all site operations, including administration, finance, and supply chain. Exhibit 2 is expert's profiles description involved in the research.

Furthermore, decision-making using the AHP method is carried out by steps (Saaty, 2008) as follows:

1. Defining the problem and goal.
2. Developing a hierarchy of decision-making consisting of goals, criteria, and alternatives.

3. Assessing criteria and alternatives by pairwise comparison.
4. Determining global priority based on criteria weights and local priority to the alternative.

Considering that this study is a part of soil amendment research, the AHP method helps to select the most suitable organic material. AHP method was chosen in this study due to its advantages in describing complex problems into a more structured one (Ramarathy et al., 2020). Based on literature review, field observations, and expert's proposal, five and 11 sub-criteria were determined to select organic material as described in Exhibit 3. Selected organic material alternatives are oil palm empty fruit bunch (EFB) compost (A1), rice husk charcoal (RHC) (A2), cattle manure (A3), and guano (A4). The hierarchical arrangement of AHP components in this study is presented in Exhibit 4.

Next, experts gave their opinion by answering a questionnaire form. The questionnaire consists of several pairwise comparisons arranged based on Saaty's scale, as shown in Exhibit 5. Experts filled out the online questionnaire through the Google Forms application, making the filling process more practical and well documented. Furthermore, the preference value given by the expert is filled in the pairwise comparison matrix between criteria. This research was supported by Expert Choice 11th Edition as an analysis tool software to make data easy to process. Expert Choice processes the pairwise comparison matrix between main criteria to produce the weight of the main

10 EXHIBIT 2 Expert profiles

Expert	Role	Educational background	Working experiences (year)
A	Manager	Bachelor of Forestry	24
B	Manager	Bachelor of Agricultural	21
C	Superintendent	Bachelor of Mining Engineering Magister of Environmental Science	16
D	Superintendent	Bachelor of Agricultural	15
E	Superintendent	Bachelor of Environmental Engineering Magister of Environmental Engineering	11
F	Supervisor	Bachelor of Agricultural Magister of Environmental Science	10
G	Supervisor	Bachelor of Landscape Architecture	9

10 EXHIBIT 3 Criteria and sub-criteria of organic material selection

Criteria	Sub-criteria
Availability	Material abundance
	Material source distance
Cost	Procurement cost
	Operational cost
Usability	Nutrient provider
	Changes in soil properties
	Hazardous elements absorption
Ease of application	Time efficiency
	Equipment efficiency
Side effect	Animal disruption
	Pathogen organism

criteria. The weight of sub-criteria is produced by pairwise comparison matrix between sub-criteria.

Experts assessed the preference between criteria and selection between alternatives for each criterion based on their knowledge and experience. Local priority was processed by Expert Choice in the same way when processing criterion and sub-criteria weights. Expert Choice also calculates CR during the process of weight and local priority calculation. The maximum value of CR required in the AHP is 10%. Finally, the most suitable organic material was selected from the highest global priority determined from adding aggregation of criteria and sub-criteria weight and local priority of alternatives. Global priority is formulated as Equation (1) (Ishizaka & Labib, 2009):

$$p_i = \sum_j w_j \cdot l_{ij} \tag{1}$$

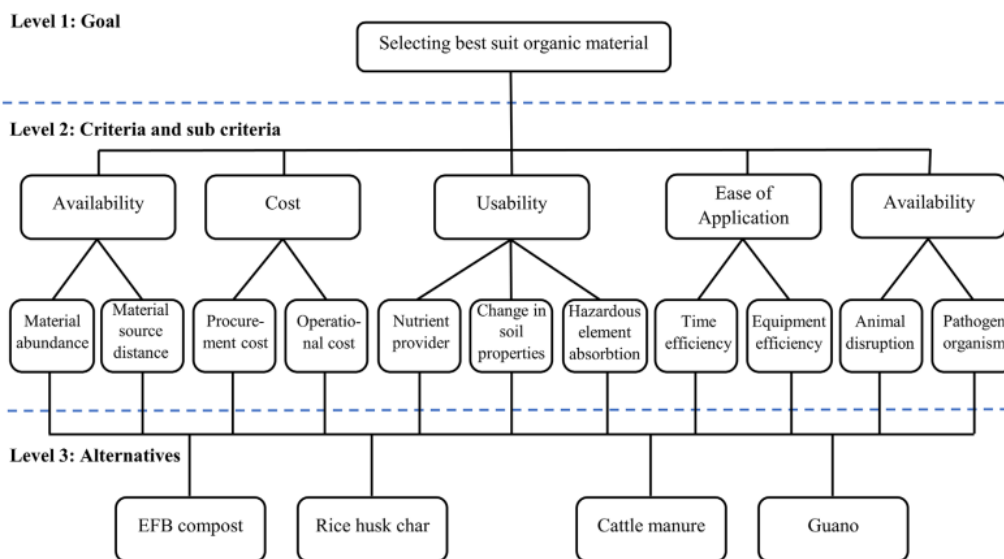


EXHIBIT 4 The hierarchical arrangement of AHP components [Color figure can be viewed at wileyonlinelibrary.com]

2
EXHIBIT 5 Saaty's scale on the pairwise comparison questionnaire

Degree of importance	Explanation
1	Both factors have the same importance.
3	One factor is slightly more important than the other.
5	One factor is essential or more important than any other factor.
7	One factor is clearly more important than any other.
9	One absolute factor is more important than any other factor.
2, 4, 6, 8	Intermediate value.

12
where p_i : global priority of alternative i ; w_j : weight of criterion j ; l_{ij} : local priority.

Additionally, we can define idealized priorities by dividing each global priority of the alternatives with the highest global priority (Saaty, 2008). It reflects the relative suitability level of other alternatives to the chosen one.

29 **3** | RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 | Calculation of criteria weight based on AHP

11
Expert Choice calculated the weight of criteria and sub-criteria with respect to the goal. The weight of the main criteria and sub-criteria on this research can be seen in Exhibit 6. Based on the Expert Choice calculation, the CR with respect to goal was 1.4%, and the highest CR with respect to criteria was 2%, so we can say that the determined weight is proper. The weight presented in this research

was a combined weight calculated from all experts' combination ratings.

Regarding the weighing score in Exhibit 7, we determine material availability as the highest consideration in organic material selection. This result is similar to the research conducted by (Wicke et al., 2015), which emphasized availability as one of the primary considerations in organic material residue for biobased economy usage. Arutmin's reclamation was conducted over a large area and a long-term period of up to 2030. Therefore, a massive supply of organic materials is required to support soil amendment.

Organic materials are known to have a lower nutrient content than chemical fertilizers. Consequently, the organic material amendment can only be continually applied if available in a sufficient quantity. Herein lies the challenge because finding organic materials to meet the availability of materials is quite tricky (Iskandar et al., 2012). Material abundance significantly affects supply certainty and will indicate environmental sustainability (Erdoğan et al., 2021). Material source distance is correlated with travel time, affecting supply continuity (Concu, 2007). However, the material abundance sub-criterion is more critical than material source distance concerning availability. The stagnancy supply risk due to material source distance is easier to manage by increasing the transportation equipment.

The second rank of weight for the criteria was usability. Usability had a slightly lower score than availability. Organic materials usage in reclamation is essential refers to its ability in soil remediation. The soil of ex-mine land has poor quality and is often contaminated with hazardous elements. Hence soil fertility is the most often problem in the reclamation (Iskandar et al., 2012), good soil quality is a high consideration. Organic materials are reliable in improving soil quality. Organic material amendment consists of three remediation processes, improving the soil's physical structure, increasing supply of organic material and soil nutrients, and reducing potentially hazardous elements (Santos et al., 2016; Schulz et al., 2013).

EXHIBIT 6 Global priority determination

Criteria	Sub-criteria	Alternatives			
		A1	A2	A3	A4
Availability	Material abundance	0.108	0.052	0.034	0.018
	Material source distance	0.047	0.017	0.018	0.009
Cost	Procurement cost	0.052	0.025	0.017	0.011
	Operational cost	0.032	0.031	0.032	0.031
Usability	Nutrient provider	0.041	0.022	0.043	0.059
	Changes in soil properties	0.029	0.014	0.011	0.001
	Hazardous elements absorption	0.008	0.012	0.004	0.004
Ease of application	Time efficiency	0.014	0.020	0.027	0.018
	Equipment efficiency	0.010	0.018	0.017	0.013
Side effect	Animal disruption	0.013	0.020	0.009	0.009
	Pathogen organism	0.009	0.013	0.005	0.005
Global priority		0.363	0.244	0.218	0.175

A1 = oil palm empty fruit bunch compost, A2 = rice husk charcoal, A3 = cattle manure, A4 = guano.



EXHIBIT 7 Weight of criteria and sub-criteria with respect to goal [Color figure can be viewed at wileyonlinelibrary.com](#)

Nutrient content becomes the most important sub-criteria regarding usability due to its role in supporting plant growth. Essential nutrients must be available in adequate and balanced quantities to support plant growth (Tanaka et al., 2013). The next consideration is the usability related to improving soil properties. Soil amendment using organic material becomes the primary key to improving soil upper layer quality (Iskandar et al., 2012). Prodecki and Jagodzi (2017) reported that increasing soil properties can increase the ability of the soil to absorb nutrients, balance the proportion of water and air in the soil, and support plant root growth. Good aeration in the soil will encourage biochemical. Good aeration will help the decomposition process of organic material into CO₂ and H₂O (Mohamed & Paleologos, 2018).

The third rank of weight in organic material selection was cost, as shown in Exhibit 7. It is the criterion most often used in material selection. It was used by 35 papers from 55 published papers during 1994–2019. It is a crucial factor in selecting organic material as the production principle aims to produce a product at minimum cost while maximizing performance (Emovon & Oghenyerowwho, 2020). However, the cost is not taken as the highest consideration due to reclamation cost-benefit analysis. Organic material cost is only a part of the

maintenance cost in mine reclamation that consists of 13.4% of the total cost (Cahyana et al., 2020). Furthermore, applying organic material will reduce the chemical fertilizer required by plants (Siedt et al., 2021). Cost in this research was consisting of procurement and operational costs.

Mine reclamation applies organic materials in large mass and volume, therefore, the ease of application needs consideration. Organic material is used at the beginning of planting and during plant maintenance. The amendment technique can be done by direct mixing, stirring in a planting pot, or sowing in the planting circle (Mulyono & Haris, 2017). This process requires some working time and supporting equipment. We determine ease of application criteria which consist of time efficiency and equipment efficiency to be the fourth rank.

The criteria for side effects consisting of the potential disturbance by wild animals and the presence of pathogenic organisms in organic material were appointed as the last rank. These criteria directly affect the implementation of soil amendment activity. In contrast, this study classifies environmental effects such as odor, greenhouse gases, and water pollution as indirect impacts for soil amendment to achieve reclamation success. This study ignores the environmental impact from

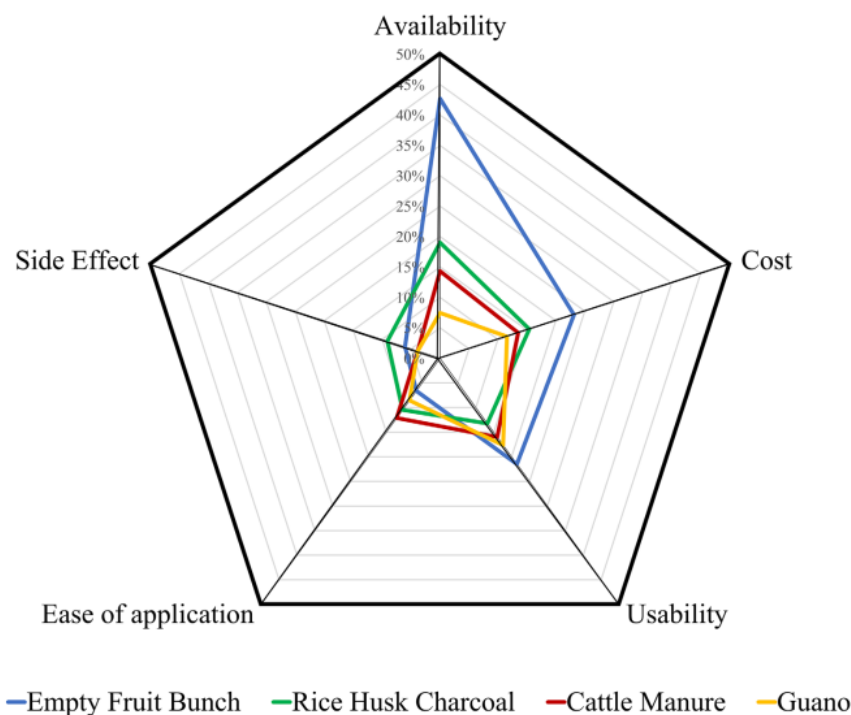


EXHIBIT 8 Relative suitability level of organic material [Color figure can be viewed at wileyonlinelibrary.com]

the selection criteria, so that the study focuses on discussing the criteria that have direct effects.

Some research revealed that some organic material for soil amendment is associated with the pathogenic organism effect. However, the economic justification of soil amendment is not solely based on unpredictable disease suppression but also considers other beneficial effects such as plant nutrient supply (Noble, 2011). Considering that mine reclamation is carried out within a limited access area and far from community settlements, the occurrence of wild animals disturbing the pile of organic material is a tolerable risk. The risk of exposure to pathogenic organisms from reclaimed areas to humans is low because the reclamations area has a long distance from the community.

3.2 | Determination of selected organic material

Expert Choice 11th Edition calculated a pairwise comparison matrix of alternatives to obtain the local priority of organic material for each criterion. It also calculated the local priority CR, and the results showed a maximum value of 2%. The synthesis between criteria weight, sub-criteria weight, and local priority of alternative to determine global priority, which refers to Equation 1, is shown in Exhibit 6. This calculation applies distributive mode because the alternatives option is an open system, and one alternative tends to depend on another (Ishizaka & Labib, 2009).

The organic amendment will have different effects on different soil sites (Siedt et al., 2021). This global priority reflects the suitability level of the organic material. Refers to Exhibit 6, EFB compost was the most suitable choice for soil amendment of mine reclamation site. The second priority was RHC, followed by cattle manure and guano. When EFB compost was said to be fully suitable for mine reclamation, there was a relative suitability level of RHC at 67.3%, cattle manure at 60.1%, and guano at 48.2%. This value is determined by dividing the global priority of each alternative by the global priority of EFB. When relative suitability describes in multi-criteria spider chart, it will explain the correlation and leverage of the criteria as shown in Exhibit 8.

3.2.1 | EFB compost

EFB compost becomes the main priority to be chosen as a soil amendment on mine reclamation. Sensitivity analysis of Expert Choice showed that availability and cost have a robust effect on the choice of EFB compost. Refers to Exhibit 6, the best suit material due to availability and cost is EFB compost, followed by RHC, cattle manure, and guano. EFB can fulfill the need for organic material in sufficient and sustainable quantities. Oil palm plantations spread across these three regencies (Tanah Laut, Tanah Bumbu, and Kotabaru) can produce 981,000 ton per year of fresh fruit bunch (FFB) (Central Bureau of Statistic of South Kalimantan, 2020). As palm oil processing factories can produce EFB from FFB processing as much as 22%, according to

research (Harsono et al., 2013), EFB waste production was 206,000 ton per year. Palm oil processing plants are distributed around the mine location so that the hauling distance is short. In addition, road access to the palm oil processing plant is hardened and coated with asphalt so that it is easy to reach by transport equipment.

The second reason EFB compost became the highest priority is the low procurement cost for EFB compost. Refers to the law of the market, the price of goods depends on supply and demand. Usually, EFB is used as a substitute fertilizer in palm plantations; other applications are limited and small. The low demand for EFB while the large production of waste makes its availability is abundant. EFB application is still limited to the estate near the palm oil mill as a convenient and cheap-disposal method (Bakar et al., 2011). The application of EFB as a substitute fertilizer in palm plantations gave benefited a \$3.3 per ton (Anyaocha et al., 2018). Some palm processing plants have not commercialized their EFB waste. They only charge for activity costs to load onto the trucks so that the procurement costs are more influenced by transportation costs from processing plants to reclamation areas. It is similar to research done by Bakar et al. (2011) which emphasizes the transportation cost of EFB is a significant cost factor in palm plantation (Harsono et al., 2013).

The ability to improve soil properties is the third reason for choosing EFB compost. Refers to Exhibit 6, the local priority score of EFB is 0.29, two-fold compared to RHC, three-fold compared to cattle manure and guano. Compost can lower the pH of alkaline soils and increase the pH of acidic soils. Compost has a buffering effect at neutral pH, as stated (Spargo & Doley, 2016); therefore, compost can withstand changes in soil acidity. EFB to palm plants has increased soil pH, aggregate stability, soil moisture and reduced soil bulk density. EFB also promotes soil detritivore mites abundance, soil fauna feeding activity, and soil microbial activity (Tao et al., 2018). Jones et al. (2016) said that soil amendment with compost could reduce the ion exchange capacity of some trace elements such as Cu, Pb, and Zn. This ability is a result of Cation Exchange Capacity (CEC) increase, as well as an increase in pH and organic matter content. Compost can also increase the electric conductivity because of watering and decomposition of organic matter, which dissolves salts in the soil (R Forján et al., 2014).

Despite the advantages mentioned above, EFB compost has weaknesses regarding ease of application due to the dosage size, which requires large mass and volume. This issue causes the implementation of EFB compost to take longer and supports more equipment. Application of EFB compost needs additional operational costs and may require advanced technology for higher efficiency and quality (Anyaocha et al., 2018). EFB is known to have nutrients content such as 2% K, 0.54% N, 0.19% Mg, and 0.16% P (Harsono et al., 2013); this amount is smaller than the nutrient content of cattle manure and guano. However, the slowly released nutrient content mechanism allows compost to maintain beneficial situations over long periods compared to cattle manure and guano (Siedt et al., 2021). Therefore, EFB compost is known to improve soil properties better rather than provide nutrients.

3.2.2 | Rice husk charcoal

Rice husk charcoal was the second priority in the selection of organic matter. The first reason for this decision was influenced by the ability of rice husk charcoal to absorb hazardous elements and pollutants. Rice husk charcoal has free covalent C bonds (Harsono et al., 2013) so that its pores open and increase its absorption capacity of other substances. Rice husk charcoal will cause multiple reactions, including absorption-desorption, precipitation-dilution, basic acids, and redox reactions following the statement (Anwar et al., 2015) regarding the properties of biochar. RHC improves soil properties by increasing microbial activity, retaining moisture, and holding N during composting. The RHC will increase C-organic in soil because its C-aromatic structure is more resistant to decomposition.

Next, RHC application will not cause side effects in soil amendment. The ability of RHC to absorb hazardous elements directly also plays a role in reducing the side effects of organic material as carriers for pathogenic organisms. Since it does not undergo a decay process (Nurhidayati & Mariati, 2014), RHC will not be targeted by disturber animals such as rats and wild boar. Compared to the advantages above, RHC has the lowest nutrient content compared to another alternative of organic material (Anyaocha et al., 2018; Nurhidayati & Mariati, 2014; Suwarno & Idris, 2007).

3.2.3 | Cattle manure and guano

Cattle manure was determined as the third priority of organic material in reclamation activities. It has a low to average score in its local priority. Cattle manure is easy to apply; hence it has advantages in time efficiency and supports equipment efficiency. It was easy to use by spreading it around the plants or mixing it in the planting medium. It also has higher nutrients, primarily N and P elements, compared to EFB compost and RHC (Anyaocha et al., 2018; Nurhidayati & Mariati, 2014; Suwarno & Idris, 2007). However, cattle manure had weakness in availability criteria, procurement cost, and negative impact of pathogen organism. Some research showed if *Phytium* species, *Rizhoctania solani*, and *Verticillium dahlia* were found from cattle manure compost (Noble, 2011). Cattle manure had a high price and limited availability because it had been widely used, and the competition to get this material was also quite tight.

Guano was assigned as the last priority as an organic material for soil amendment. It has the lowest score in every local priority except nutrient content. However, it has the highest nutrient content compared to other alternatives. It contains large amounts of N and P. Base on its chemical composition and climatic destruction level; guano is divided into nitrogenous guano and phosphatic guano. Nitrogenous guano or fresh guano has 7%–17% N, 8%–15% P₂O₅, and 40%–60% organic matter, while phosphatic guano has 0.2%–2% N, 10%–30% P₂O₅, and organic matter 5%–15%. These nutrient contents are much higher than cattle manure, with N content of 1.23%–2.77% and P₂O₅ of 0.55%–1.89% (Suwarno & Idris, 2007). The limited exploitation of guano is the

reason for the high market price (Schnug et al., 2018). Guano resources are limited, so their availability cannot be expected for long-term supply. There is also a threat in the implementation of guano, the presence of pathogenic organisms. The pathogenic microbe contained in guano is *Histoplasma capsulatum* causing histoplasmosis in humans (Ferreira, 2019).

3.3 | Potential of the material combination

As each organic material has unique advantages and drawbacks, a potential strategy is to combine their benefit and minimize the downsides. Since EFB compost has substantial benefits in criteria of availability, cost, and sub-criteria of soil properties, it needs to combine with other materials with significant benefit ²² the other criteria. Huang et al. (2016) reported the problem of a ²² single application of compost to remediate the contaminated soil. Some research showed the combination of ²¹ organic materials such as compost and biochar could enhance its effect (Jones et al., 2016; Rubén Forján et al., 2017; Theeba et al., 2012). Refers to the score of local priority and global priority, it seems that RHC is the best alternative to combine with EFB compost. However, combining EFB compost and RCH does not significantly improve the nutrient content, so combining EFB compost with another material needs to be considered.

4 | CONCLUSION

The AHP method helped ⁵ decision-makers in the selection of the most suitable organic material for mine reclamation. The selection of organic material was based on assessments of the criteria and alternatives. Availability and usability were ³⁹ the most important criteria in organic material selection with weight scores of 0.372 and 0.241, followed by cost and ease of application with 0.202 and 0.109. Side effect had the lowest weight score of 0.077 because of its low impact on the environment and community.

EFB compost was the most suitable organic material for soil amendment in Arutmin Indonesia's mine reclamation site. It had an advantage in availability, ability to improve soil properties, and low cost. The second priority was rice husk charcoal because of its advantages in absorbing hazardous elements and minimal side effects. Cattle manure had been selected as the third priority with the benefits in time efficiency and equipment support efficiency. Guano was the last priority because it low weight score in every local priority except nutrient content. Rice husk charcoal, cattle manure, and guano had a compatibility level between 48% and 67% compared to EFB compost. Further research is needed to examine the combined use of EFB compost and other organic material to optimize their advantages in soil amendment.

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DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

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