

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgments	IV
Table of Contents	V
List of Tables	VIII
List of Figures	X
Abstract	XII
Abstract (In Arabic)	XIV
List of Acronyms & Abbreviations	XV
Chapter I: Introduction	1
(1.1) Relevance of the Study	1
(1.2) Study Objectives and Goals	2
(1.3) Problem Identification	2
(1.4) Research Questions	3
(1.5) Research Methodology	4
Chapter II: Literature Review	6
(2.1) Land Resources and Management	6
(2.2) Sustainability	10
(2.3) Environmental Planning and Land Analysis Methods / Suitability Analysis Methods	12
(2.4) Related Studies	15
(2.5) Local Context	20
Chapter III: Study Site: Halhul Town	22
(3.1) Halhul within the Palestinian Territory	22
(3.2) Population Projections	24
(3.3) Urban Areas, Town Center, Religious, and Archeological Sites	25
(3.4) Land Ownership	26
(3.5) The Economic Sector and Activity in Halhul	27
(3.6) Roads Network	29
(3.7) Agricultural Areas	30
(3.8) Climate	33
(3.9) Soil and Fertility	35
(3.10) Water Sensitive Areas	35
(3.11) Physical Datasets (Slope)	37
(3.12) Geopolitical Status	37
(3.13) The Local Context	39

Chapter IV: Research Methodology	41
(4.1) The Research Structure and Framework	41
(4.1.1) Phase One: Problem Identification	42
(4.1.2) Phase Two: Data Collection	42
A) Spatial and Non-Spatial Data	42
B) The Criteria Set Evaluation Form / Questionnaire	43
(4.1.3) Phase Three: The Analysis Phase	44
(4.1.3.1) Stage 1: Population Projections	45
(4.1.3.2) Stage 2: Land Suitability Analysis	45
1) Maps and Layers	46
2) Criteria Set and Data Layers	47
3) The Analysis Levels	48
4) Scenario Analysis/Geopolitical Scenarios Assumptions	49
(I) Scenario I: Status-Quo Scenario	49
(II) Scenario II: Peace Scenario	50
5) Multi-Criteria Evaluation Method	51
(4.1.3.3) Stage 3: Measuring Sustainability	52
(4.1.4) Phase Four: Evaluation of the Models and Monitoring the System	58
Chapter V: Analysis And Discussion	61
(5.1) Population Growth Analysis	61
(5.2) Urban Area and Urban Growth	62
(5.3) The Criteria Set Weights	63
(5.4) Scenarios Analysis	63
(5.4.1) Ranking Scores for Each Scenario	64
(5.4.1.1) Land Cover	64
(5.4.1.2) Soil Layer	65
(5.4.1.3) Annual Precipitation	66
(5.4.1.4) Water Sensitivity	67
(5.4.1.5) Land Value	69
(5.4.1.6) Land Ownership	73
(5.4.1.7) Slope	75
(5.5) Land Suitability Analysis	77
(5.5.1) Agricultural Land Suitability Analysis	78
(5.5.2) Environmental Suitability Analysis	79
(5.5.3) Land Suitability Analysis for Socio-Economic Factors	80
(5.5.4) Land Suitability Model Analysis	82

(5.6) Final Land Suitability Models_____	84
(5.7) Sustainable Land Model_____	88
(5.8) Measuring Sustainability of the Models_____	90
(5.9) Final Sustainable Land-Use Plan_____	94
Chapter VI: Conclusion _____	96
References _____	I
Appendices _____	VI