Wadi Hanifah Restoration — Riyadh's Dumping-Ground Valley Rebuilt as a Bioremediated River Park (Saudi Arabia)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Saudi Arabia

Quality score: 47/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Riyadh's ~120 km Wadi Hanifah, once a dumping and quarrying ground, was cleaned and re-profiled (c. US$1bn, 2001–2010) with a 134-biocell bioremediation plant and native planting. Aga Khan Award 2010; outcomes rest largely on designer-reported figures.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	1/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	2/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	2/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-22

Arriyadh Development Authority (ADA) — accessed 2026-11-22

Landscape Architecture Foundation — Wadi Hanifah case study — accessed 2026-11-22

Aga Khan Development Network — Wadi Hanifa Wetlands (Award 2008–2010) — accessed 2026-11-22

The National — Riyadh cleans up the natural way — accessed 2026-11-22

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