

Determinants of Multidimensional Poverty in Rural Areas of Iran

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

Poverty is an introduction to many social abnormalities and major threat for each society. The success of poverty alleviation programs depends on identification of poverty and its indicators in policymaking and implementation conditions. The one-dimensional income-based approach in poverty analysis is one of the main failure causes of many national and international poverty reduction programs. In an alternative approach, instead of focusing only on the income measurement of wellbeing and poverty, the human capabilities such as illiteracy, malnutrition, child mortality, and so on is taken into consideration. Therefore, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), in 2010, presented a new multidimensional poverty index (MPI) based on the capability approach and Alkire and Foster (AF) method. This index consists of three dimensions including education, health and living standards, which is measured by 10 indicators. Due to the importance of accurate assessment of rural poverty for success of anti-poverty programs, the aim of this study is to evaluate the multidimensional poverty in the rural areas based on the capability approach and understanding its determinants. The results can help policy makers provide a more comprehensive and precise image of rural poverty conditions. The strategies will contribute to combat this phenomenon.

Methodology

This descriptive and analytical study was based on 20% of Iranian Population and Housing Census's raw data in 2006. The settled private household was the sampling unit. The stratified random sampling method was used in urban and rural areas of each county. The household was chosen as a unit of rural poverty analysis and MPI was measured in three dimensions involving education, health and standard of living by using AF method. The indicators were selected based on the UNDP's MPI, Millennium Development Goals (MDG), items in Iran census questionnaire and literature review. The main determinant of poverty was evaluated by a logic

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regression in three categories of regional situation, demographic and household attributes as well as economic characteristics.

Results and Discussion

The results show that the incidence and intensity of poverty and MPI in Iran rural areas is 21.4%, 31.5% and 0.07%, respectively. The most deprivation was in the assets indicator with 23.10% (households do not own at least one of telephone, computer, motorbike or car) and the main construction materials of the housing unit is sun-dried brick in more than 21% of rural households. Despite the fact that 20% of rural households have no member with the completed 5 years of schooling, but only 5.4% of them have school-aged child out of school in first to eight years of school. The status of rural households in terms of access to electricity, toilet and cooking fuel is relatively favorable. Furthermore, Sistan and Balouchestan and Mazandaran provinces have the highest and lowest MPI in Iran rural areas, respectively. Studying the influential factors on poverty of the households shows some factors that have a significant effect on the poverty of rural households. These factors are literacy, gender, education level, marital status, occupation and age of household head; source of drinking water supply and type of sewage disposal in the housing unit; number of children, number of literate members in household, and geographical location and nationality of rural households. The probability of being poor in the households is 81.1% and 87.7% with illiterate head in comparison to the heads with high school and college degrees. Poverty is more prevalent in the households with the heads working in the agriculture, forestry, and fishing jobs. Moreover, ownership of residential units has no effect on the household poverty. Poverty is more widespread in the female-headed households compared to male-headed with about 56%. Furthermore, the households with one or more disabled members are more likely to be living in poverty.

Conclusion

The incidence and intensity of multidimensional poverty is higher in the southeastern provinces with Sistan and Baluchestan as the poorest one. It is necessary to pay special attention to poverty alleviation policy in national development plans and regional programs for approaching to sustainable rural development in these regions. According to the results, education plays an important role in combating poverty. It is inevitable to promote the education level of household and facilitate access of school-aged children to education in poor and at risk of poverty households. Moreover, focus on improvement of drinking water resources and access to public water supply and sewage disposal networks is of particular importance in the poor provinces. With respect to the more severe poverty in the southeastern provinces, the relationship between multidimensional poverty and climate and geopolitical conditions of the regions can lead to identification of the other determinants of poverty.

Keywords: Alkire-Foster method, composite indicator, logistic regression, multidimensional poverty, rural households.

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Role of Education Plans on Rural Youth Empowerment, High School Rural Students, Central District, Sarband Township

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

Friedman and Weitz are among the theorists of the Rohout School who proposed some models such as rural-urban development within the framework of comprehensive rural development plans. Rural development seems beyond urban development. Sustainable human development as a step beyond sustainable development is accepted as the Universal Declaration of Development for the next century. It emphasizes that not only development should be sustainable and persistent, but it should consider the needs of the present human generation. Hence, empowerment of rural people, especially young people in rural communities has a significant impact on achievement of sustainable rural development. The empowerment refers to a process in which individuals are able to acquire autonomy, control and self-confidence. The empowered individual is one who possesses the components of empowerment including the sense of sufficiency, the right to select, the sense of being effective, the sense of meaningfulness, and finally the sense of trust in others. Education and awareness as a key element in the process of empowerment as well as achievement of sustainable development is a very significant issue. In fact, it could be concluded that empowerment and education are interrelated concepts. Education is a process through which, individuals acquire knowledge, learn skills and develop their own attitude and beliefs in life. Thus, formal and public education as a social institution encompasses an important part of human life. It will certainly have a remarkable and effective role in this process. Identifying talents and creating necessary conditions for them to flourish in different

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areas and a harmonious and balanced human growth in intellectual, emotional, social and physical aspects are among the heavy responsibilities that education should accomplish. However, the questions posed here are: “*Has education succeeded in having an effective role in empowering students?*”, “*Do policies and plans of this institution serve the accomplishment of such an issue especially for rural youth who require more attention by the education system?*” The main purpose of this research will be explanation of the role and position of education in the process of empowerment of the rural high school students.

Methodology

The research adopts a survey method using subjective indicators based on a questionnaire. With regard to the nature of the research and hypotheses, the information requires to confirm or reject the hypotheses. It has collected objective (Statistics Statistical Center of Iran and maps) as well as subjective data (questionnaires completed by students and teachers in rural secondary schools). In order to achieve the research objectives, a questionnaire was designed based on the studies and theoretical fundamentals in this area. The questionnaire was with closed and open questions.

Results and Discussion

The results indicate that based on the statistical tests such as one-sample and independent t-test, according to rural students, the domestic public education system in different educational periods has not been able to create adequate skills for employment or employment. In other words, an entrepreneurial spirit in students has been ineffective in this issue.

Conclusion

According to rural students, not only ruralization has not reinforced and influenced rural students’ sense of local attachment, but it has also strengthened urbanization behavior among the rural students.

Keywords: education, empowerment, rural high school students, rural youth, Sarband Township.

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Investigation about the Effects of Socio– Economical Components on Psychological Empowerment of Rural Women in Islamabad Gharb County

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

Sociologists have emphasized the role of women in development and they believe that without their partnership, development will not be possible. Therefore, it is important in the economy of rural and agricultural sections to consider the participation and employment of rural women and also attempts for improvement. Investigation of socio – economical components on rural women psychological empowerment is considered as one of the necessities of stable development in this section. The experience of many countries shows that entrepreneurship is one of the most effective solutions for reduction of unemployment. To escape from unemployment, the economy of developed and developing countries has been revived with the help of entrepreneurship power. This has caused women to accomplish their capability and abilities in various fields in a short period of time and makes major changes in the economic development of the country by entering the field of business.

In Islamabad Gharb County, the women participation rate is so low. That's why finding the most effective factors and facilities of women participation are important. Therefore, this research is mainly concentrated on investigation effects of socio – economical components on Rural Women Psychological Empowerment in Islamabad Gharb County.

Methodology

The study has used a survey methodology and research society for rural women in Islamabad Gharb County. Of the rural women 161 cases were selected based on Cochran's formula and a randomized sampling method. Data collection tool was a structured questionnaire which their validity were verified by a group professors and

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experts development. The reliability of the questionnaire was examined through a pre-test process in which 30 questionnaires were completed by rural women. Cronbach's alpha test calculated factors of facilitator development in rural women psychological empowerment section which the result was 0.90 ($\alpha=0.90$). These results showed that research tool is benefited from a high capability to gather data. SPSS₂₀ software was used for descriptive data.

Results and Discussion

The results showed that 56.5% of the studied women were highly psychological components. The effects of socio-economic component on psychological empowerment are significant at the level of 1 percent. The regression analysis implied that the independent variable of self- confidence, social relationship, state and individual marriage are the most important social and individual factors affecting psychological empowerment of the studied women. This totally identifies 81% of psychological empowerment changes. The results also indicate the independent variables of source ownership for the most important economical effective components which identify 53% of psychological empowerment changes. The total model of research used multiple – regression indicated that the most powerful social-economical independent variable which identify psychological empowerment of women.

Conclusion

Today, the countries and international organizations have concluded that the development of income and increase in the skills of women have a direct and positive impact on other aspects. Due to the economic development and creation of employment opportunities in one hand and conditions of the social, cultural and health on the other hand can be improved for women and their families. The results suggests that the development of rural women psychological empowerment depend on many factors; The present study is based on the results of the regression analysis, levels of source ownership, and self- confidence as mostly effective variables. Consequently, according to the research results, the structural and educational evolutions are increased to improve the women's psychological empowerment status and rural life. Based on the results of the study, we presented the following proposals:

- To facilitate and encourage rural women and girls' psychological empowerment, all organizations, planners and managers should be required to finance and facilitate the establishment and development workshops in order to facilitate the acquisition assign.
- Training to remove cultural barriers, particularly in the areas of economic management family, need to educate girls for the presence of more and more women in the process of rural development.
- It is recommended that non-governmental organizations and authorities are working with small actions and projects in the field of motivation. This is

to participate in economic activities and can play an important role in empowering women, especially in rural areas.

- In addition, only 14.9 percent of rural women have high confidence, policies to promote the spirit of self-confidence among women is very effective and necessary. According to the results, if women have the backing of savings, the economic situation will be better. Therefore, encouragement of women for more savings is to improve the current situation.
- Finally, it is recommended that appropriate strategies must be conducted to identify sustainable income-generating jobs and create incentives for economic activity in rural women.

Keywords: feelings of self-efficacy, intellectual independence, psychological empowerment, rural women, self-esteem.

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Analysis of Experience and Issues of Female Managers in Rural Areas, Isfahan Province

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Extended abstract

Introduction

Division of governance at various levels has led to proliferation of decision making in different countries. Thus, proportion of women in the areas of decision making divisions is expanded in micro and macro levels of governance. Participation and role- playing of women in local level of governance had begun and developed in most of the world including developed and developing countries in recent years. According to the experts, this kind of governance in terms of ease of access and availability, closing to daily life, less competition, high probability of success and low risk of failure is considered as a field of making decisions which is suitable for women. Because of these conditions, female role- playing and participation in local government has been more than national level in most countries.

According to researches carried out about rural community of Iran, traditional gender relations and stereotypes define women behaviors and actions. Thus, a kind of gender division of labor has been formed which determines strict norms and unchangeable gender roles. It means that in one hand, presence and role-playing of women has been established in private and limited sectors such as family. Therefore, rural community accepts it completely. On the other hand, participation of women in making important decisions of family is doubtful. Thus, there are various stereotypes which protect remaining women in a low level of role- playing and also condemned effective participation. In addition other findings about female participation in rural public affairs demonstrate that due to persistent gender stereotypes in rural culture, female participation in public arena is prohibited. Thus, men are prioritized to obtain important positions of rural management.

Methodology

The main purpose of this research is direct observation of this phenomenon in a natural field. Thus, this research seeks to benefit from qualitative research method in

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the context of grounded theory by direct assessment. Sampling includes 2 parts. The main sample of the study consists of 8 female Dehyars who 4 persons of them were the first female Dehyar in their own regions. In addition, complementary sample includes 11 members of the Islamic rural council in 4 rural regions.

Results and Discussion

In Iran, Dehyari is a kind of local governance which controls villages or rural regions. They are managed by both Dehrayr and Islamic rural council. They are considered as a field of participation of women in public decision making in rural regions. Since it has been established, except Qom, all of them are managed by a significant number of women in all provinces of Iran. Female participation as a head of rural management in the context of rural conservative culture is a noteworthy issue studied in case of experience and concerns of female Dehyars in Isfahan province.

According to census, numbers of female Dehyars has been increased during 4 past elections of Islamic rural council. Numbers of women in the first election (2005) was 150 out of 11000 in the country with the share of 1.4%. In the second election (2008), it increased to 400 out of 21000 in all provinces. In third election (2012), 888 female Dehyars have participated out of 24627 in total. In the last period (2014), 1554 women out of 29792 have attended in all rural regions in Iran.

Therefore, statistics demonstrate a rising trend of presence of women in rural management. This event is important in 3 dimensions. At first, Dehyaris as a kind of local government can be considered as a progressive way which can lead women to upper levels of governance such as national parliament. After that in rural context, presence of volunteer women for candidacy and their tendency to entre to public arenas shows increase in the confidence of rural women. At last, election of women as an executive director by the rural council is considered as representative of rural society. This is another aspect of importance. It means that rural community admits the filling of managerial positions by women.

Conclusion

Findings demonstrate that experience of being manager or Dehyar for women has been formed in context of male pattern in rural culture. Therefore, women have to work in a male pattern of work. In this situation, gradual institutionalization of female management in rural areas during long time and the unprecedented experience of them are not recognized by rural community. As a result, experience of being dehyar for women is known as a conflicting experience both by community and women. The status of women as powerful managers is in a period of transition which is located between acceptance and rejection.

Keywords: Dehyari, female managers, gender, grounded theory, local government.

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Review of Social and Economic Factors Affecting Land Degradation, Gorichay Watershed, Ardebil Province

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

Soil is one of the most important natural resources of each country. Soil erosion is considered as a threat to human welfare and even his life. In the areas where soil erosion is not controlled, the soil resources are gradually eroded and lose its fertility. Soil erosion is not only poor and abandoned in farms and much damage is irreparable. The deposition of material in streams, reservoirs, and harbors cause large losses to reduce their intake capacity.

Residents of the watershed for the production and land use decisions are heavily influenced by social and economic factors. In the developed world, the role of agricultural subsidies, quotas and guaranteed prices are of particular importance. In the past, there have been many examples of economic shocks that lead to tragic consequences such as soil erosion. The problems caused by increased productivity, many of the costs incurred are hidden or out in the community and outside the community (Bvardmn et al., 2003).

Methodology

Quri-Chay watershed is located in the East Village and at a distance of 20 km from the border of Iran and Azerbaijan. The areas are ranged from 00 35° 47' to 11 45° 47' East longitudes and 37 12° 39 42 21° 39' North latitude.

In this study, collection of information is required by various methods such as reviewing the documents, observation, interview, survey methods and rapid

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assessment of rural and questionnaires. In this study, these methods are combined together to determine the socio-economic conditions and livelihoods of the inhabitants of the Quri-Chay watershed. To verify the information contained in the documents of the health centers, departments of agriculture, natural resources and city of Parsabad and feasibility studies are used to identify watershed of Quri-Chay in Ardebil.

It takes a long time to verify the information and documents obtained on the sources of income, expenses, household status, and migration and due to high costs. The unavailability of all people not allow the overall survey, three quarters of the population (Surrey strong Ahmed Khan, Mohammad Jalil, Mashhad Ali) are used as samples using a sample survey and questionnaire. The data were gathered by 265 questionnaires. The results were extended to the entire area. Rapid Rural Appraisal techniques are used to identify the accurate evaluation, decision-making and participatory planning. For exact identification and participatory planning in rural teapot, rapid assessment was conducted in four stages: identification of the problems of the subject and scope, classification of data, prioritization of the problems, and the role of the economic and social land degradation in the Quri-chay. After gathering the information, a questionnaire research and analysis was included by descriptive statistics (frequency and percentage) and inferential statistics (Pearson correlation coefficient) in SPSS software and using tests Statistical.

Results and Discussion

The results are consistent with previous studies and suggest that social and economic conditions prevailing in the basin has a direct impact on land use. Therefore, soil erosion and land degradation as a physical process cannot be a comprehensive statement of reasons for degradation (Bvardmn et al., 2003).

The erosion, sedimentation and degradation in the area of economic and social problems are caused by the limited Quri-chay. They are dependent on farming and agriculture, and that's a lot of pressure on the natural resources of the area (Stokin and Morgan, 2001). Other natural factors of geology and topography are sensitive. Therefore, the impact on the field is destroyed and erosion cannot be seen merely as a physical process.

In the Quri-chay, the irregular and unethical exploitation of pastures, soil, water resources and rangeland areas in drylands, especially on slopes, can cause serious damage to vegetation and pasture areas. As a result, destructive floods and gully erosion is especially in the areas that destroys the range of flat land in the area of output (Nonya et al., 2008; Nepal, 2001).

Conclusion

The consequences of uncontrolled exploitation and destruction of natural resources ultimately cause instability in the region and increased migration and evacuation of the inhabitants of the villages (Nonya et al., 2008). It seems that the main problem areas are low family income and the lack of investment in the area.

Only economic support livestock and dryland areas are used to obtain the maximum profit and loss management and planning. The maximum pressure is on natural resources. The economic and social problems can be a difficult area of rangeland management practices, no plantation, no agricultural inputs, the livestock range capacity, no infrastructure, low levels of literacy and education, which ultimately directly or indirectly to the destruction of their land. To prevent further land degradation and migration and depopulation of rural areas, the main focus of proposed programs is planned to increase revenue and offer new ways of living. In addition to agricultural activities based on the principles of sustainable livelihoods, facilities infrastructure, education residents attempt for proper range management and agricultural practices in the field.

Keywords: Ghorichay, land degradation, socio economic, soil erosion.

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Perspectives of Farmers about the Impact of Rangeland Management Projects on the Diversification of Rural Farmers Livelihood Strategies in the Mahneshan Township

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

Sustainable utilization of natural resources have a determinant role in rural community welfar and livelihoods. They are in a critical condition due to their excessive use by policy makers to adapt the policies for sustainable management. This had different consequences in different dimensions of farmers livelihood such as livelihood strategies. The aim of this research is to assess rural beneficiary perspective about the impacts of rangeland management projects on rural farmers' knowledge and activities related to the livelihood strategies diversification in Mahneshan Township of the Zanjan Province.

Methodology

This study was conducted using a quantitative paradigm and a descriptive-correlational research methodology. The study was done in rural communities in the Mahneshan Township located in the Zanjan Province, North West of Iran. These communities depended on sheep and goats holding and rangelands. Rangeland management projects either had been implemented or were implementing in their lands. A sample of 204 rural households (in 10 villages) out of 1280 rural livestock holders (in 24 villages) was randomly selected through a multi-stage sampling technique. They were structurally interviewed using a questionnaire. The questionnaire was designed according to the research objectives, previous studies, the documents related to rangeland management projects and an initial exploratory

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case study through semi-structured interviews with natural resources management experts of the township and the province. This initial study identified some factors such as location and the activities of rangeland management projects, relevant rural livestock keepers, and the measures. The content and face validity of the instrument were established by a panel of experts consisted of agricultural extension, rural development and natural resources experts and academic members. A pilot test was also conducted with 30 rural households to assess the reliability of the questionnaire and testing its constructs using the Cronbach's Alpha measure (the coefficient for different constructs between 0.75 and 0.95 showing appropriate measures consistency). Moreover, the construct validity analyses were utilized using the convergence validity (with the emphasis on the Component Loadings above 0.5% of construct variance above 50 and the amount of Cronbach's Alpha), and through applying the Principal Components Analysis for categorical data (CATPCA). Finally, the quantitative data were analyzed using the SPSS software for Windows.

Results and Discussion

The analysis of demographic information showed that 98.5% of the respondents were male and 91.25% were married with the household size of 4.9 people. The age of respondents is ranged from 21 to 78 years old with a mean of 52.1. Almost 54% were illiterate. Moreover, 48.5% of the respondents had membership in at least one of the locally based community organizations and only 6.4% in two institutions. All of the respondents had small scale farming lands (cultivating 3.6 hectare irrigated and 3.2 hectare rain fed arable lands as well as 0.48 hectare permanent crops/orchards on average). Land farming and livestock keeping were recognized to be the main job of 84% and the second job of 16% of the respondents. Overall, only 17.2% had a second job. In addition to land farming and livestock holding as the source of their livelihoods, some households had other income generating activities, such as selling dry fruits and home-made products for tourists and bee keeping. Moreover, 75.5% of the households weaved carpet as a complementary non-agricultural activity of their livelihoods. The results indicated that this project had more conservation approaches and they had very low impacts on farmer livelihood strategies and diversification. While with the results, according to the actions, the policymakers try to increase the farmer knowledge and actions. This can be expected that being reduced pressure on rangelands is due to single livelihood strategies diversification and reduction of dependency on rangelands. A stepwise regression analysis revealed that 29.5% of the impacts on rural households livelihood strategies diversification actions can be determined by five variables of livelihood strategies diversification actions by households, number of beehives, revival and conservation action by external organizations, and the information obtained from extension films and radio. A step wise regression analysis indicated that four variables of the participation can be determined by six variables of revival and conservation action, information obtain from journals, number of training courses, and the information obtained from extension television. This can determine 23.8% of all the impacts on rural households livelihood strategies diversification knowledge.

Conclusion

Rangeland management policies and programs have paid less attention to the livelihood diversification of the livestock holders dependent on rangelands in their projects. It is necessary to take appropriate actions for management of the factors that can escalate unsustainable use of natural resources. One of these actions can be referred to the diversification of livelihood strategies to reduce dependency and overpressure on rangeland. There may be impossible to change the full dependency on rangelands to other activities due to the geographical location of the community, the constraints for linking to urban markets and the natural capitals available in the area. However, through diversification, it is possible to utilize alternative livelihood strategies as supplementary activities to reduce livestock number and overpressure on rangelands, increase employment, improve livelihoods and conserve natural resources. This approach is considered as a method for sustainable management of natural resources to use rangelands, arable lands and permanent lands. This perspective requires the support of external actors.

Keywords: diversification, livelihood, rangeland sustainable management, rural farmers.

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Analysis of the Factors Affecting Land Use Change in Urban Fringe Rural Areas of Mashhad

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Extended abstract

Introduction

Extensive immigration to the cities is further increase to the natural growth of population. This, not only makes the large cities grow, but also leads the spatial expansion of these cities towards the arable land and orchards. It ultimately affects the natural environment and transforms the countryside. Its outcome is the formation of informal settlements around cities and villages in transition. In fact, one of the negative consequences of rapid urbanization is the encroachment of the fertile agricultural land of the fringe. Land use changes in rural areas located at the rural-urban fringe have become a growing and serious issue that needs to be studied. The function of these areas is changing by converting productive-agriculture sector to residential and service sector. Rapid and constant land use change of rural areas at the urban fringe and their physical development give rise to a form of rural-urban interface. Therefore, investigation on the factors affecting land use change is essential to sustainable land use management and control.

Most of the researches concentrate on the amount of land use change of rural-urban and also the driving forces behind such phenomena. In this study, we tried to integrate all factors and driving forces of land use change from local and rural manager opinion. Therefore, rural areas in the outskirts of Mashhad, as one of the rapidly growing populations in the east and northeast of Iran, are selected as the case study. The growing city of Mashhad has experienced extensive land use change at its surrounding villages. Therefore, the main objective of this study is to analyze the driving forces of vast land use change at rural areas of Mashhad fringe through the rural managers' point of view. The research questions addressed in this study are: (1) What are the driving forces behind the rapid land use change of rural areas around Mashhad, (2) What of these is the strongest contributing factor towards land use change in Mashhad?

Methodology

This study uses a survey and explanatory research methodology. It is aimed to assess

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both internal and external factors affecting land use change in rural areas at the fringe of Mashhad. The methods of data collection are registration and questionnaires. Before the surveys, the driving forces of land use change have been determined by reviewing existing studies. Then, the questionnaires were designed and filled out by local authorities. The statistical population was made up of rural managers, including rural administrators and rural Islamic councils living in 18 rural areas in the outskirts of the metropolitan area of Mashhad. In order to achieve the intended purpose, the questionnaire has been filled out by all of the 74 rural managers of the areas, which are concerned with employers of the Foundation of Housing of Rural Settlements of Khorasan Razavi province.

These rural areas have encountered an extensive land use change in recent years and had documents of infringement. Through this study, 25 indices were determined, in 8 factors and 4 dimensions. These are legal, physical-spatial, economic, and social-demographic aspects. The measuring instrument was a questionnaire designed in the form of Likert scale. To analyze data and determine the amount of impact of identified factors, statistical analysis is used, with SPSS descriptive statistics (frequency and percentage) and inferential statistics including T-test to compare the averages and non-parametric Spearman correlation test to realize the inter-relationships between variables. In addition, several methods of weighting are applied, such as ranking methods (Rank sum, rank exponent method, and Reciprocal rank), Paired Comparison Analysis and Shannon entropy to understand the weight of each of the factors affecting land use change.

Results and Discussion

Among the variables, the mean positive changes of population, family qualification and land price changes are more than 4. The average values obtained in five indices (the inefficiency of the legal framework, proximity and availability, parcel size, reduction in growth of agricultural activity and real estate transactions) are slightly higher than the theoretical mean (3) which indicate the intensity of impact on land use change. Also, the average weighting methods show that the increase in population, at 15.2%, is the strongest factor affecting land use change. The weighting methods indicate the role of each factor to provide land use management and reduce the amount of land use change. The score of Shannon entropy for social-demographic factors is 0.4, economic factors 0.35, physical-spatial 0.2 and the inefficiency of legal framework is 0.05. This outcome confirms the T-test results, including social and then economic factors as the strongest contributing factors on land use change.

Conclusion

In general, it can be stated that the factors affecting land use change in rural areas vary significantly from area to area according to the actual and potential rural functions. In other words, there is not an identical pattern of land use change in the rural areas at the urban fringe. None of the studied rural areas are recreational sites, it can be seen that the main cause of land use change in non-recreational villages is

the phenomena of suburbanization and the need for housing for the poor. It seems clear that, with the current situation, the control mechanism and land use management have faced severe challenges. In addition, this study can provide an example for smaller cities to determine the driving forces and levels of impact of each factor on land use change in these cities. Therefore, recommendations on this issue include:

1. Increase in local awareness to the consequences of land use change.
2. Attracting rural manager's attention to the driving forces of land use change in the process of rural planning.
3. Reinforcing the legal framework for rural land use management, especially at the urban fringe.
4. Controlling the land price at the urban fringe.

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Determine Factors Related to Livestock Growers' Satisfaction with Applicant of Structure Equation Modeling (Case Study: Kohdasht District)

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Extended abstract

Introduction

Measuring livestock growers' satisfaction and awareness from their expectation can play a significant role in loyalty regarding this job which has lead food security and an element for reducing rural-urban migration. Satisfaction measurement may be considered the most reliable feedback system, considering that it provides in an effective, direct, meaningful and objective way to analyze the persons' preferences and expectations. In light of these facts, in 1989, the Swedish Customer Satisfaction Barometer was introduced as a tool for companies to assess efforts in achieving customer satisfaction. The successful experience of the SCSB has inspired the creation of the American Customer Satisfaction index. The model measures the cause-and-effect relationship that runs from the antecedents of satisfaction level (expectation, perceived quality, and perceived value) to its consequences (complaints and loyalty). Perceived quality has been perhaps the most explored topic in service marketing and levels of satisfaction are mainly determined by it. Individual expectation is second construct that affects perceived quality, perceived value, and satisfaction. However, the significance of these relations is questioned in the literature. We therefore use instead the construct "Attitude" which is motivated next. Perceived value is conceptualized as the consumer's evaluation of the utility of perceived benefits and perceived sacrifices. Perceived value to be both a rating of the price or prices paid for the quality received and a rating of the quality received for the price or prices paid. Satisfaction is fundamental to the practice of individual sovereignty as a forth variable. Satisfaction is widely recognized as a key influence

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in the formation of individual' future intentions and finally loyalty is result of satisfaction. Loyalty has been defined as a "deeply held commitment to re-buy or re-patronize a preferred product/service consistently in the future. The relationship between satisfaction and loyalty has gained much attention in marketing literature; there is now substantial evidence that higher satisfaction levels lead to higher intentions and loyalty is considered important because of its positive effect on long-term profitability. In light of these facts, the aim of this paper is to investigate and measure livestock growers' satisfaction with their job and to better understand the determinants of satisfaction of growers' satisfaction, which should ultimately lead to a better understanding of why growers' satisfaction continue or leave livestock growing.

Methodology

As such, this survey research was conducted to investigate the factors affecting livestock growers' satisfaction with adaption of western satisfaction model and application of path analysis technique in Lorestan province. Although the success of the ACSI in terms of predicting satisfaction and loyalty has been proven the theory has not stopped evolving, and other scientists have expressed the belief that for some behaviors and contexts, the inclusion of other variables might increase the predictive utility of the model. As such we added, image and commitment to the model.

The data was gathered using a questionnaire based on a face-to-face survey of livestock growers through the August, 2012. Simple random sampling was used to select 120 livestock growers as the research sample size. The respondents were assured about the anonymity and confidentiality. They were also given the right to refuse to participate, to refuse to answer any question they deemed to be too sensitive or that they felt uncomfortable about. Those declining to participate were replaced by another student. No payment was made to the respondents. Answering time for the questionnaire was about 25–30 min. The responses were returned back to the researchers directly after completion without any intermediaries. All questionnaires were checked to make sure responses were complete. The needed date was collected through personal interviews using a structured questionnaire. An in-depth literature review was used to develop the study questionnaire. A 6-point scale for all the variables was used to reduce the statistical problem of extreme skewness. Based on Ajzen's (1985) recommendations, scales containing multiple items (statements) were developed to measure each of the aforementioned psychosocial variables. The validity of the questionnaire, then, was approved by a panel of experts. Additionally, Cronbach alpha reliability coefficients in the final sample for all scales indicated the reliability of good-to-excellent, generally 0.6 to 0.8.

Results and Discussion

To obtain a better understanding of the relationship between various variables of the model, a Pearson correlation test was run. According to the correlation matrix, there is a significant positive relationship between all variables except between image and

perceived quality. The coefficients do not show any significant relationship between livestock growing image, and perceived quality of this job. The results also imply that moral norm positively related to attitude, self-identity and intention. Furthermore, the research findings showed that attitude regarding husbandry and commitment to it had the greatest direct affect on livestock growers' satisfaction. Furthermore, loyalty regarding husbandry was determined by satisfaction and commitment about husbandry. Based on the research findings some applicable recommendations have been presented toward livestock growers' satisfaction and loyalty regarding husbandry.

Keywords: adaptation, climate change, farmers' perceptions, greenhouse gases, Q-methodology, typology.

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Study and Evaluation of the Effects of Social Capital on Life Quality in Rural Areas (Case Study: West Eslamabad County)

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Extended abstract

Introduction

The concept of social capital is multidisciplinary concept that has been focused on in most branches of the humanities over the past two decades. It includes concepts like trust, solidarity and cooperation and focuses on communication among humans. Especially this concept has a very fine relationship with life quality. It can be a gate to the concept of social capital in rural planning. Therefore, the purpose of development in local, national and international levels has improved and caused life to become qualified. Moreover, the future of human life will be dependent upon better structures with effective quality. For this reason, the purpose of this study is to survey the effects of social capital on life quality in rural areas of Eslamabad-e Gharb County.

Methodology

The presented research is descriptive-analytical. The strategy of gathering information is required to take notes and survey by using questionnaires tools. The reliability for various indices was 0.64 to 0.85 by using Cronbach's alpha. The formal content validity was approved by the expertise opinions. The population of presented survey is the heads of rural households in Eslamabad-e Gharb County by using multi-stage cluster sampling with 392 persons in 49 villages. These were studied as sample size by random strategy. To analyze the obtained data of the questionnaire in descriptive statistics in SPSS software, the standard deviation and median deviation were used. In part of perceptive findings of the survey, the

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Shannon entropy model was used for weighting, Vikor model for ranking the social capital and life quality in EXCEL with regression and pearson correlation coefficient in SPSS.

Results and Discussion

Descriptive findings of the survey indicate that most of the respondents with 93.1 percent were men. From 4 considered age ranges, age group of 40-50 with 42.6 percent had the most frequency. Up to 55.9 percent of the respondents were the head of 5-2 family members. Regarding to components of social capital, the average of social trust components were 3.29, social cohesion and correlation 3.40, and social contribution 3.52. In connection with life quality components, the average of material welfare component was 3.93, individual and social security 3.57, access and communications 3.72, and training index 3.48. Based on the Vikor model perceptive findings of the survey (the more closer to zero, shows the development and the more closer to one shows the lack of development) villages are in 5 levels of very good, good, fair, bad and very bad. This shows the levels of social capital in 49 villages. From the family header's point of view, one village is in the bad and very bad level, 30 villages in fair, 12 villages in good and 5 villages are in very good level. In terms of life quality indices 2 of the villages are in very bad, 15 of them in bad, 4 of them in fair, 10 of them in good and at the end 18 of them are in very good level. In terms of effects of social capital on life quality, the Linear Regression model represented that the variables of social cooperation (0.778) had the most influence on life quality and cohesion and correlation's components (0.711). They were put in next degrees. The results of Pearson correlation coefficient indicated that, there is a significant relationship between social capital and life quality with correlation coefficient (0.748) 0.001.

Conclusion

After the analysis of this study, results of this survey represents this issue that out of 49 villages, based on 392 opinions of rural head families of Eslamabad-e Gharb in social capital indices, the index of social cooperation had the most median, and social trust the lowest median. Out of quadratic life quality, communication index and access have the most median, and material welfare has the less median. With the perceptions of Vikor model we can conclude that from social capital terms and life quality and considering their final median (social capital 0.40 and life quality 0.39) are in good level. The results of Linear Regression presents that from social capital components, cooperation components have the most effects on life qualities of villagers. Pearson correlation coefficient also shows that there is a relationship with social capital. At the end, we can say that social capital is a good predictor to explain the surveying levels of life quality in rural areas. Finally, for desirability of improving the life quality of villagers, we presented suggestions including diversification in economical activities in rural families, promotion of the knowledge and training by presenting training courses from rural authorities, creation of local and small industry according to the talents of each village,

upgrading levels of training and health services, and access to sub structural facilities.

Keywords: Eslamabad County, life quality, rural population, social capital.

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Use of Stakeholder Theory in Process of Rural Development Planning by Management Approach

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

Understanding the various stakeholders plays a role in the planning process. It also helps identify the role of each of them and their relationships with each other in various stages of planning (from problem detection to using and evaluation). It can also provide an appropriate context to achieve program objectives. One of the basic steps of planning is the understanding of various elements that go hand in hand to make up the totality of a phenomenon (system). Usually without knowing these factors, the role of each and their relations should not expect a plan to reach its goals. Unfortunately, after 7 decades from the formation of the planning system in Iran and 36 years after the Islamic Revolution in Iran, players of rural development planning just have not paid particular attention to rural development planning and its management process. The role and importance of each stakeholder is unknown, and the integrated, documented, regular and stable mechanism for the role of players and their responsibilities does not exist. According to review of existing literature and the experience of other countries, this research is going to specify the importance of the role of various players (stakeholders) in rural development planning. In the Sixth Five-Year Development Plan, this study intends to provide the application of this theory to the analysis of rural development issues, particularly organization of the management system and rural development planning. Using the theory of players, the research answers this question: how we can organize country system for rural development management and planning?

A review of the status of current situation of players/stakeholders of rural development shows that in macro and micro level as a first step of stakeholder analysis, several organizations play a role in this context. Without organizing and reorganizing of the institutions, there is no expectation to achieve rural development.

Methodology

This research has been prepared using the methods of documentary research and accumulated experience of the authors. According to this method, the authors initially reviewed the definitions of stakeholder carefully, and introduced and used the terms of Player/Stakeholder such as Descriptive/Empirical Stakeholder Theory,

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Instrumental Stakeholder Theory, Normative Stakeholder Theory, and Integrative Stakeholder Theory. Then, they specified the types of classification of different groups of stakeholders using rural development planning process. Finally, given the importance of Five-Year Plans for Rural Development, it's discussed that the theory is applied in organization of the country system for rural development management and planning.

Results and Discussion

Experiences of the using of stakeholder theory (formed from 1960 onwards) have indicated that players and stakeholders should be identified in the rural development planning process. To understand the impact of stakeholders on projects, their power and influence should be mapped and their role improved to provide greater benefits ready in this process. The survival of programs, projects and companies to program goals will depend on the amount of interest in the stakeholders. Accordingly, stakeholder Analysis is concerned with the way in which the various players of a program, project, or activity are identified, and the method determined their amount of power and influence. Thus, the research analyzed their relationships, organization and improvement of the activities. A wide range of several methods are used to analyze players that can be used according to the scale, budget, type/subject of project, and variety of stakeholders.

Hence, we can say that the stakeholder analysis in each program and project requires the following activities:

- To identify stakeholders;
- To determine characteristics of the stakeholders;
- To determine power of stakeholders in relation to the project;
- To determine funding requirements;
- To recognize the expectations of reward for assistance;
- To make strategic decision to organize using the influence of players/stakeholders.

Conclusion

The results indicated that Stakeholder Analysis as a theory and practical approach can be used to be planned at different levels (from macro to micro –local/project). Reviewing the experiences of rural development programs suggests how to achieve development and goals of Rural Development Vision. In other words, the best conditions for Iran rural development need to organize and formulate a mechanism and legal proceedings, and coordination between different agencies, and monitoring activities, and evaluation of performance of the related organizations. This is not possible without the use of Stakeholder Analysis that its general framework was explored in this work. Based on Stakeholder Analysis (as a first step), a list of all players and stakeholders must be made in rural development (in both macro and micro level). The role of each could be identified in rural development process. Finally, in this regard, it's recommended that the following actions are used to formulate in Sixth Plan:

- Selection of a group of professional and unbiased experts and authors;
- Developing the Vision for Rural Development;
- Analysis of rural development stakeholders.

Keywords: Players, Rural Development Management and Planning System, Sixth Five-Year Development Plan, Stakeholder Analysis.

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