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Article

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Pakistan Journal of Commerce and Social Sciences (PJCSS)

Provided in Cooperation with:

Johar Education Society, Pakistan (JESPK)

Suggested Citation: Kumar, Santosh; Rohra, Chandan Lal; Lal, Kanya (2015) : Socio-economic stability of people through social development projects with special focus on rural areas of Sindh: a vision for prosperity, Pakistan Journal of Commerce and Social Sciences (PJCSS), ISSN 2309-8619, Johar Education Society, Pakistan (JESPK), Lahore, Vol. 9, Iss. 1, pp. 261-268

This Version is available at:

<https://hdl.handle.net/10419/188195>

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Socio-Economic Stability of People through Social Development Projects with Special Focus on Rural Areas of Sindh: A Vision for Prosperity

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Abstract

It is unavoidable fact that our country is blessed with immeasurable natural resources but only there is dire need of proper utilization of those resources. It is a matter of great grievance that our matchless natural resources are being squandered owing to lack of expert strategies. If proper planning and special focus is paid towards the social development of rural areas it would not be big boast to claim that the fate of poverty stricken people living in the rural areas can be changed within finger tips. There have been best precedents in our country in the socio-economic stability of people whenever social and economic projects have been launched to address the poverty of people living in backwards areas of Pakistan. This present research intends to amylase the positive impact of social and economic projects on the social well-being of people through economic generation opportunities. SPSS software has been applied to verify the obtained data collected from rural areas. Chi-square test obtained through SPSS is greater with P-value 0.000 which indicates that our obtained data is valid and socio-economic stability of people is greatly boosted through social development projects if implemented through well-planned manner. The present research will help the engineers and technician regarding the effect utilization of social development projects.

Key Words: rural areas, social well-being, social development projects, poverty.

1. Introduction

Social development projects mean those projects which are meant to address those problems of people which have endangered the socio-economic stability people. Basically, people of rural areas have been bestowed with inborn potentiality to generate the economy not only for themselves but also for the nation but the problem is that these potential people are not equipped with technical as well as non- technical tactics through non availability of opportunities which trigger vicious circle of poverty for them. There

are many development projects which aim to stabilize the well-being of people such as lining of canals, national commission for human development and Sindh rural support organization and the list goes on and on. These programs provide the opportunities for the local people to be employed and generate the economy which in return bring the prosperity in rural areas hardly hit by famine as well as poverty. The reason that the already launched programs have not brought considerable social prosperity is the corruption factors which have destroyed the whole scenario of social well-being of the rural people. It has been practically observed that developed countries spare substantial amount of expenditure on development expenditures so that economy through employment opportunities and developed infrastructure may be enhanced. But, in our country there is need to have strict check and balance on the projects so that maximum output may be obtained.

1.1 Fruitful Effects of Development Projects

It goes without saying that the developed projects in rural areas can bring substantial change in our country when these projects are focused on the rural areas because our major chunk of population live in the rural areas .Hence to leave these people ignored is to ignore once economy and social prosperity on the whole country .The positive impact of the development programs in rural areas are as under in figure 1

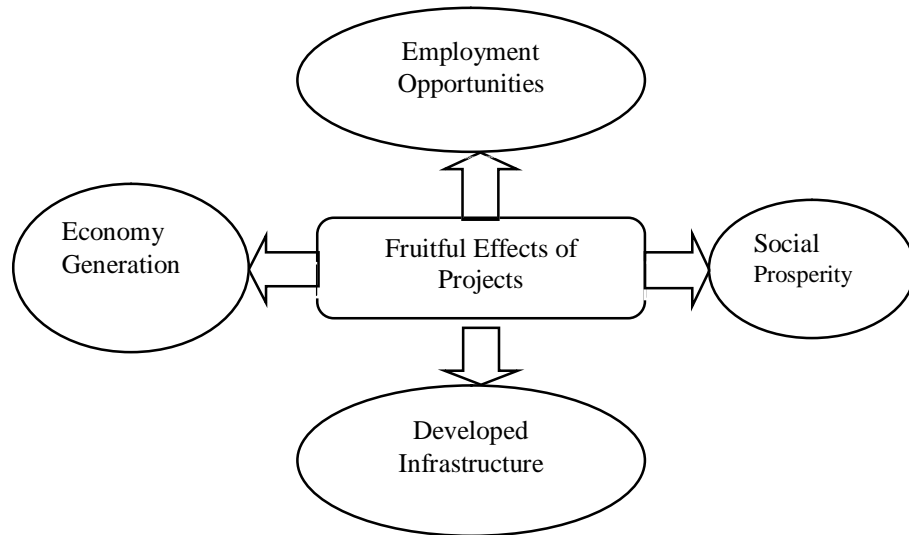


Figure 1: Positive Impact of the Development Programs in Rural Areas

From above diagram, it can be perceived that there are multi-faceted advantages of developed projects. These projects also save the people from the stagnancy and dormancy from impotentiality of their inherent talents. In our country unemployment has become the root causes of all the social as well as economic diseases which has put whole the administrative system in utter disorder .Hence, to tackle these issues there seems to be only one drastic solution to launch development projects

1.2 Problem Acknowledgment

The present research topic has become the need of the hour especially in those countries which are hardly hit by economic stagnancy and poverty. Hence, this topic is waking up call for all the sociologists as well as economists to divert their research towards this cause so as to obtain the maximum output from minimum resources. This research topic is not only will facility the intelligent academia but this will also serve as the road map for the policy makers to devise innovative policies.

1.3 Importance the Present Research.

The research which has been carried out is of paramount significance because up to now less attention has been paid by the scholars to this dimension of research. Hence to save the masses from social and economic degeneration, this topic has been elaborately touched to observe the fruitful effects of these projects in the social and economic development of people in rural areas of Pakistan.

1.4 Research Goals

- To determine the effects of projects on the lives of people.
- To detect the economic output from the projects
- To examine the prosperity of the people from the projects
- To observe the loopholes in the projects

1.5 Research Techniques

1.5.1 Research Formulation

The present research has focused on the both the aspects of research i.e. qualitative as well as quantitative. Qualitative material has been collected form secondary sources of information whereas qualitative data has been from rural areas of Sindh.

1.5.2 Selection of Respondents

For qualitative analysis, the people from rural areas have been selected. Out of all the people, random sampling has been taken to observer the positive impact of projects on the lives of people.

1.5.3 Number of respondents

270 respondents has been calculated by the universal statistical formula applied everywhere where accurate sample size is need .Hence following statistical formula is adopted to determine the number of the respondents for the questionnaire purpose which as under:

$$n = \frac{h^2 \times s(1-s)}{k^2}$$

Where:

n=Number of respondents

h=Surety level at 95% (stander value is 1.96).

s=Approximated prevalence rate of development projects.

k =Chances of error at 5 %(standard value is 0.05).

The number of respondents calculated through this formula is 270.

1.5.4 Type of sampling

In the present research random sampling has been applied out of approximately, all the people have been given equal chances to be equally selected for the interview without any priorities.

1.5.5 Tactics for Research Verification

To maintain the accuracy (SPSS 17 version and Microsoft Excel) software's have been used to determine Chi-square test, likelihood ratio and p-value to verify the data statistically in scientific manner.

1.5.6 The Research Model and Variables

The research model always shows the relationship of one variable on the other variables hence in the following figures it is clearly indicated as to how development projects effect on the social and economic lives of people in rural areas.

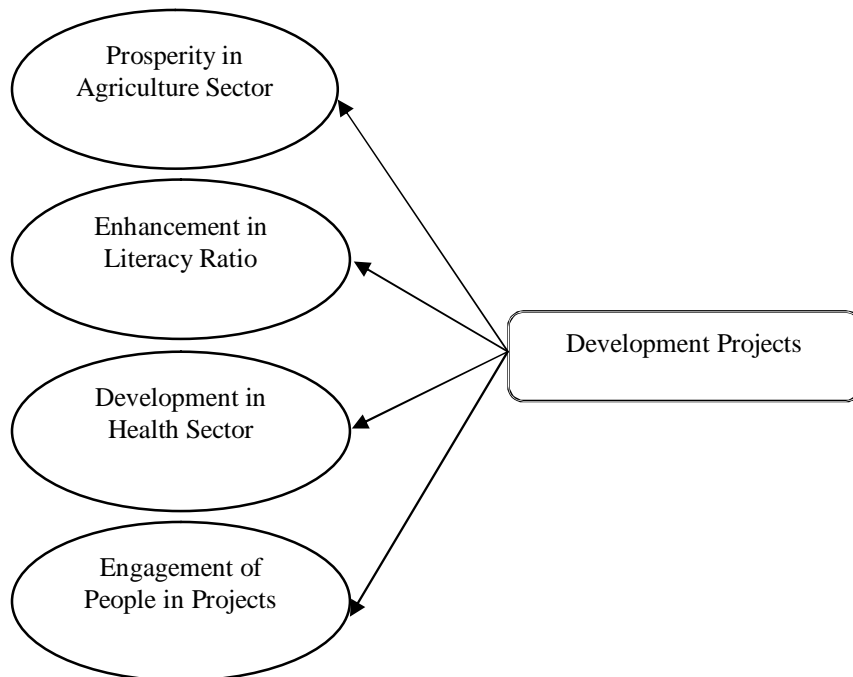


Figure 2: Relationship of One Variable on the Other Variables

1.5.7 Hypothetical Variables

Hypothetical variables are development projects and social prosperity. In the following figure, it can be better understood that there prevails direct relationship between development projects and social prosperity indicated below:

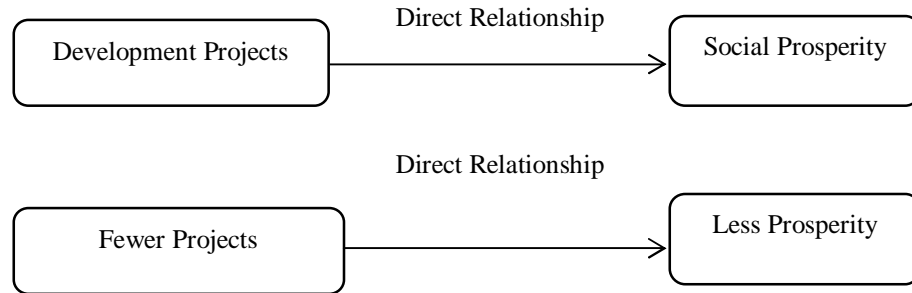


Figure 3: Development Projects and Social Prosperity

In the above diagrams, it is interpreted that the more are the development projects, the more will be the social prosperity. The lesser are the development projects, lesser will be the social prosperity, hence direct relationship occurs between the two variable.

2. Literature Review

Mulama et al. (2014) state that monitoring system is very driving factor towards the betterment of the socio-economic development projects because there always lays chances for the inefficient working of the human resources.

Cole and Roberts (2011) has very much laid the emphasis on the hydro projects considering them as the crucial for the socio-economic development of backward areas. The authors have further emphasized that energy crises can only be coped with the new hydro projects.

Suther (2009) informed that development projects trigger economic activities which become the very cause of the economic stability thereby bring social as well as economic prosperity in the lives of the rural people.

Lemert (2003) stated that development projects which are focused on infrastructures can expedite the economic activities of people smoothly which in return bring maximum production from the minimum resources.

Lombro (1999) reported that agriculture sector is the backbone of any country and if development projects are launched in this sector it can revolutionalize the lives of the people by bring in the social and economic stability.

Hebrew (2008) states that there is only panacea for all the rural social diseases which have trapped the people in the vicious circle of social problems and that is to launch the development projects.

2.1 Testing of Hypothesis

- **H₀** There is no relationship b/w development projects and social prosperity.
- **H₁** Development Projects are likely related with socio-economic prosperity.

Table 1: Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Development projects * Social prosperity	270	100.0%	0	.0%	270	100.0%

Table 2: Development Projects * Social Prosperity Cross tabulation

		Is your income increased by these projects?			Total
		Mostly	Often	Rarely	
Are you facilitated by development projects?	Yes	145	22	9	176
	No	15	13	33	61
	Do not know	14	6	13	33
Total		174	38	55	270

Table 3: Chi-Square Tests

	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	221.32	4	.000
Likelihood Ratio	309.45	4	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	206.55	1	.000
N of Valid Cases	270		

a 0 cells (.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 7.56.

Table 4: Symmetric Measures

		Value	Asymp. Std. Error(a)	Approx . T(b)	Approx. Sig.
Nominal by Nominal	Contingency Coefficient	.333			.000
Interval by Interval	Pearson's R	.449	.015	22.243	.000
Ordinal by Ordinal	Spearman Correlation	.355	.014	22.144	.000
N of Valid Cases		270			

a Not assuming the null hypothesis.

b Using the asymptotic standard error assuming the null hypothesis.

c Based on normal approximation.

2.1.2 Illustration of Chi-Square Test for Verification of Hypothesis.

As calculated value of chi-square test obtained is 221.32 and tabulated value of chi-square is 9.49, it means calculated value is greater than tabulated hence our working hypothesis i.e. H_1 is correct. From the above values, we conclude that development projects trigger social prosperity among people of rural areas. Greater the development projects, the greater will be the social prosperity among people where as lesser is development projects, the lesser will be the social prosperity. Linear by linear relationship is 206.55 which show that there is strong relationship between development projects and social prosperity of people. And there is direct relationship in development projects and social prosperity. Here the degree of freedom is 04 with p-value 0.000 which shows that there is strong relationship between the variables and there is significance attachment among the different variables. The value of significance which we took in the research is 0.05 which indicates that the margin of error is 5% not more than that but we have received the ($p < 0.05$) it means there is no chance of error and our working hypothesis hence is 100% correct.

3. Conclusion

- i. From the above interpretation of statistical analysis, it is concluded that those people who are facilitated by development projects, they are economically benefitted. Whereas those people who are not facilitated by development projects, they are less economically upgraded
- ii. Chi-square value shows that there is relationship between development projects and social prosperity
- iii. p-value has shown that people who are more facilitated by the projects, their economy is boosted up.

4. Recommendation.

- i. Government should pay more attention towards the rural areas by launching more and more social and economic development projects.
- ii. Government should allot major chunk of budget for the infrastructure projects so as to minimize the unemployment
- iii. NGOs and private organizations should utilize the funds for the development sectors for generating the economy.

- iv. Local people should also try to pursue their political leaders for development project

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