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Official website of the conference

www.povertyconferences.com

Book of Abstracts of 4th International Conference on Poverty and Sustainable Development (ICPSD 2017)

Edited by Ms. Udayangani Premarathne, The International Institute of Knowledge Management, Sri Lanka


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MESSAGE FROM THE HONORABLE MINISTER OF SUPPORTING MINISTRY
ICPSD 2017

The 4th International Conference on Poverty and Sustainable Development (ICPSD 2017) discusses a currently addressable theme “Strategies for meeting SDGs: Ending Poverty in all its Forms Everywhere”. Discussing on the Sustainable Development Goals, ICPSD 2017 provides golden opportunities for all stakeholders across the globe and will be comprising the involvement of intellectuals, extending of interrelationships, policy makers and fruitful insights. This global gathering will focus to implement measures to develop the life style of communities with a common vision of ending poverty.

It gives me a great pleasure to deliver a message for this precious international event and it is nice to see that The International Institute of Knowledge Management (TIIKM) has taken the initiative to have a knowledge gathering and share valuable knowledge on the subject matter. We, the Ministry of Social Empowerment, Welfare and Kandyan Heritage has implemented many projects towards meeting the SDGs and ending poverty in Sri Lanka and I would like to appreciate this effort of the International Institute of Knowledge Management.

It is our duty to encourage international events to get the utmost contribution from the academicians, researchers, professionals and university students for the development of the community.

As the related representative governing body of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka for this particular field, The Ministry of Social Empowerment, Welfare and Kandyan Heritage will give their fullest support towards the success of the conference.

While conveying my best wishes for a fruitful conference I encourage you to make the maximum use of the gathering to derive the benefits of ICPSD 2017.

S. B. Dissanayake,
Honorable Minister,
Ministry of Social Empowerment, Welfare and Kandyan Heritage,
Sri Lanka.
MESSAGE FROM THE HOSTING PARTNER ICPSD 2017

Message

Panjab University, Chandigarh is one of the oldest and the leading University of India. We focus on national and international academic collaborations for research and teaching. I am very happy to know that the Dept. of Economics is the hosting partner of the 4th International Conference on Poverty and Sustainable Development 2017 to be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka on December 5-6, 2017. The theme of the Conference is of contemporary relevance. The Sustainable Development Goals of the UNDP are to further the gaps left unfulfilled in poverty alleviation, development and growth by the Millennium Development Goals. The Sustainable Development Goals aim to end poverty and hunger by 2030. It is an ambitious goal but not unachievable. Food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture development is something which cannot be ignored. The other sustainable development goals like clean drinking water, sanitation, education, affordable and clean energy, reduced inequalities, water conservation, etc. are important for dignified living of all human beings on planet earth.

I understand that scientists, social scientists, policy makers and other academics from various parts of the world are getting together in Colombo for this multi-disciplinary conference. The participation of representatives of UNDP will be enlightening for the delegates of this two day event. I am sure that fruitful discussions will take place during that time. I am sure the papers will be published in a book form and the deliberations of the Conference will be widely disseminated. I applaud this initiative of the International Institute of Knowledge Management and wish the Conference a huge success.

(Arun K. Grover)

Prof. A.K. Grover,
The Vice Chancellor,
Panjab University,
Chandigarh,
India.
Way back in 1972, at the UN environment Conference held in Stockholm, Madam Indira Gandhi addressing the plenary on behalf of the Third world countries said:-

"On the one hand the rich look askance at our continuing poverty - on the other they warn us against their own methods. We do not wish to impoverish the environment any further and yet we cannot for a moment forget the grim poverty of large numbers of people. Are not poverty and need the greatest polluters?

The environment cannot be improved in conditions of poverty. Nor can poverty be eradicated without the use of science and technology."

Despite 40 years since, the ideas in the words still echo across the world. In 1987, we were presented with an alternative to "their own methods", through the introduction of the philosophy of “Sustainable Development”. The Brundlandt Report "Our Common Future". In it was recognized that:

"The failures that we need to correct arise both from poverty and from the short-sighted way in which we have often pursued prosperity."

Accordingly the report continues:

"We also found grounds for hope: that people can cooperate to build a future that is more prosperous, more just, and more secure: that a new era of economic growth can be attained, one based on policies that sustain and expand the Earth's resource base; and that the progress that some have known over the last century can be experienced by all in the years ahead. But for this to happen, we must understand better the symptoms of stress that confront us, we must identify the causes, and we must design new approaches to managing environmental resources and to sustaining human development”.

Since the endorsement of the above ideals through Agenda 21 in 1992, we were reminded by the Millenium Ecosystems Assessment in 2003, the failure of continuing the existing models of development. We failed in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, with no real achievements of satisfaction. With the continued uncertainty of the global
economy and social fabric, the future needs practical actions to achieve sustainable development and "eradication" of poverty.

This opportunity remains open beyond philosophical rhetoric. The documentation of real world success is a need of the day for effective duplication. It is therefore not surprising that the first GOAL in the SDGs is “Eradication of Poverty”. More than 40 years the “poverty string” has remained, we are adding all kinds of beads to make the “Development” neckless beautiful, but these will continue to fail as long as the knot is the present “economic model”.

I hope your contributions can liven the trend for a better tomorrow through the contributions to make Sustainable Development Goals a reality.

**Prof. Sarath Kotagama,**  
Conference Chair,  
Professor of Environmental Science,  
Department of Zoology,  
University of Colombo,  
Sri Lanka.
# KEYNOTE SPEECH

Poverty Eradication – A Global Challenge

*Prof. Upinder Sawhney*

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KEYNOTE SPEECH
POVERTY ERADICATION – A GLOBAL CHALLENGE

Prof. Upinder Sawhney

Department of Economics, Panjab University, India

The eight Millennium development goals (MDGs) shared by the countries around the world and by major international development institutions had an overall objective of meeting the needs and aspirations of the poorest in the world. In order to take forward the development agenda set forth by the MDGs, the world leaders gathered at the UN Headquarters in New York in September 2015 and adopted the new development agenda “Transforming our world: the 2030 agenda for sustainable development”. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which comprise 17 goals, amalgamate all three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental) around the broad themes of people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership. The SDGs build upon, and extend, the MDGs to continue to prioritize the fight against poverty and hunger. The SDGs recognize that eradicating poverty, overcoming inequality, creating inclusive economic growth and achieving environment sustainability are intricately linked, and that the relationships between each of these components are reciprocal, dynamic and mutual. Although eradication of poverty in all its forms, promotion of healthy lives, achieving equitable education, food security and nutrition remain the main priorities, the SDGs also encompass a broad range of economic, social and environmental objectives keeping in mind the objective of sustainable development.

MDGs have not been very successful in reducing poverty which is manifested in multiple forms such as lack of access to adequate and affordable food, malnutrition, limited access to education, social discrimination as well as the lack of participation in decision-making. There are extreme inequalities in access to basic amenities of life across continents but there are glaring intra-regional differences also, e.g., the poverty ratios in South Asian economies vary between India (more than 20 percent) to Sri Lanka (only 1.9 percent). Though, the 2030 SDG agenda aims to free the human race from the domination of poverty, however eliminating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, is the toughest global challenge and an indispensable prerequisite for sustainable development.

Most of the South Asian economies have witnessed rapid economic growth since the last few decades and are in the transition stage of achieving high levels of economic development. A large number of these economies face multiple issues such as human development not keeping up with the pace of income growth, high budgetary deficits, mounting population pressure and governance deficit. These factors act as deterrent to achieve the goal of complete eradication of poverty and achieve sustainable development as mandated in the SDGs framework by the year 2030. Since, poverty is a complex multidimensional problem which has origins in both the national and international domains, no single solution can be considered as effective in erasing poverty and attaining development in sustainable manner. Therefore, country-specific programmes and collaborative international efforts are crucial for tackling poverty. Effective governance and delivery of basic services to all citizens of an administrative unit is a sine qua non for any effort towards reduction of poverty. This basic requirement poses a challenge to elimination of global poverty in many parts of the world.
IMPROVING THE PRODUCTIVITY AND GRAIN BIO-FORTIFICATION OF SPRING MAIZE (Zea mays L.) THROUGH ZINC NUTRITION UNDER DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN CHANGING CLIMATE

S. Hussain¹, M. Maqsood², M. Hussain¹, M. Ijaz¹, T.A. Yasir¹, A. Wasaya¹, A. Sher¹, M.Y. Arfat¹ and M.A. Aata¹

¹Department of Agronomy, College of Agriculture, Bahauddin Zakariya University, Bahadur Campus, Pakistan
²Department of Agronomy, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Agriculture, Pakistan

ABSTRACT

Malnourishment is an increasing apprehension in the under developed countries, bring about in miscellaneous health and social problems, such as mental problems, disruption in the immune system and inclusively poor health. Lack of water availability and malnutrition are serious threats to world food security and survival of the living organisms. To address and overcome these issues a pot experiment was designed to improve the productivity and grain bio-fortification of spring maize (Zea mays L.) through zinc nutrition under limited moisture supply. A completely randomized design (CRD) in factorial arrangement was designed with four replicates. The treatments consist of two drought levels having well watered (70% water holding capacity), and drought stress with (35% water holding capacity), while factor B contains two genotypes DK-6525 (Monsanto), and High corn-8288 (ICI) and two levels of zinc treatments Z₁ = 0 mg kg⁻¹ of soil Z₂ = 10.0 mg kg⁻¹ of soil. The results revealed that zinc treated pots with 10 mg kg⁻¹ soil had significant (P<0.05) results with 18.56 g root fresh weight plant⁻¹, 674.90 cm² leaf length, 0.83 (-MPa) leaf water potential, and 33.90 mg kg⁻¹ grain zinc contents over control. Among the two genotypes DK-6525 perform better as compared to High corn 8288 under maximum zinc application in respect of morphological and physiological parameters. It was concluded from this study that application of Zn @ 10.0 mg kg⁻¹ of soil under well-watered conditions improve growth, productivity and grain zinc contents as compared to moisture stress condition under semiarid climates.

Keywords: Maize, Genotype, Growth, Zinc Levels, Drought, Yield etc.
EFFECT OF SULFUR FERTILIZER ON GROWTH, YIELD, PUNGENCY AND SHELF LIFE OF CLUSTER ONION (*Allium cepa* VAR *Aggregatum*)

K.G.D.S. Bandara, M.D.I. Gunathilaka and W.W.A.A. Kumara

*Regional Agriculture Research and Development Centre, Department of Agriculture, Aralaganwila, Sri Lanka*

**ABSTRACT**

Sulphur nutrient in the soil has positive relationship to the pyruvic acid content which is the measure of onion pungency and bulb firmness which enhance the shelf life of onion. Therefore, an experiment was conducted to investigate the effect of sulfur fertilizer on growth, yield, pungency and shelf life of cluster onion. Experiment was carried out in 2015/2016 Maha season at regional agriculture research and development centre, Aralaganwila, Sri Lanka with onion cultivar Vethalan. Ammonium sulfate (AS) and elemental sulphur (ES) were used as sulfur sources and applied at a rate of 15kg/ha, 30kg/ha and 45kg/ha at 3 and 6 weeks after planting. Plant growth, yield, bulb quality and storage loss up to 15 weeks were measured. Maximum plant height (31.1cm) and leaves number (16) were observed in 15kg/ha of AS and 30kg/ha of AS treatments respectively while minimum plant height (24.0cm) and leaves number (12) were observed in 45kg/ha of AS and 15kg/ha of AS treatments respectively at 8 weeks after planting. The highest yield (21 mt/ha) and the lowest yield (18 mt/ha) were recorded in 30kg/ha of ES and 45kg/ha of AS treatments respectively. Maximum brix value (15.0) was observed in 30kg/ha of AS treatment and minimum (14.4) was in 30kg/ha of ES treatment. These all tested parameters including shelf life up to 15 weeks were not significantly different (at α=0.05) between treatments. Therefore, the application of sulfur is not effective practice to improve performance and quality of the onion in this type of soil and an additional cost and time wasting practice while reducing the profit margin of the onion growing farmers.

Keywords: Cluster Onion, Pungency, Vethalan, Sulphur, Storage Loss
SUSTAINABLE AND SOCIO-TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEMS IN BIOFUELS PRODUCTION IN CENTRAL INDIA

S. Rahul and S. Mallick

Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, Assam, India

ABSTRACT

Biofuels are not only promised with ecological sustainability, energy security and accessibility, and better economic returns for small farmers but also promoted as a “scientific” way of doing agriculture and managing the land. However, such promotions and promises need to be understood that a non-commercial crop—Jatropha Curcas—constructed into a commodity through the National Mission on Biodiesel in India; and traversed and expanded in networks between state policies, corporate influence, farmers’ interests, regional aspirations, and the technological accessibility. Following sociology of science and technology perspectives, an attempt has been made to identify and understand the presence of socio-technological conditions responsible for different or even contradictory trajectories of Jatropha cultivation and biofuel production in India. What are the local agricultural practices and knowledge; and, whether techno-scientific interventions, in the name of scientific way of doing agriculture, are contributing to sustainability in ecological and economic dimensions. An extended field study was conducted at two blocks in Chhattisgarh – one is located in an Adivasi region and another in an industrial region. Data were collected through a combination of literature review, discussions, key informant interviews, and personal observation. An attempt is made to understand the impediments and risks involved in the cultivation of biofuels and its implications emanating from the cultivation.

Keywords: Biofuels, Socio-technological Systems, Sustainability, Chhattisgarh, India
ABSTRACT

The variations in levels of poverty across the geographical regions can shed light on the various factors that may be at work while determining poverty. This information ultimately helps find viable strategies for poverty alleviation, especially in those areas that record high levels of poverty. For this purpose, and based on the Sen’s capability approach, this study examines the patterns of multidimensional poverty in agro-climatic zones of province Punjab, Pakistan across various dimensions. It employs a multidimensional poverty measure based on the Alkire-Foster measure using Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement Survey 2010-11. Apart from identification and aggregation, another important challenge in multidimensional poverty measurement is how to weight different dimensions. The weights implicitly indicate the dimensional importance and/or policy priority. In the analysis, until now, the dimensions were presented as if they were equally weighted. Equal weighting is an arbitrary and normative weighting system that is appropriate in some, but not all, situations. In many other cases, some dimensions are believed to be more important than others, hence are to receive a relatively higher weight. So in this study, we have estimated three models employing different weights to different dimensions each time. By changing weights, we found no significant changes in overall trend of multidimensional poverty in various regions. Hence, in model four, all the dimensions have been weighted equally out of ten and equal weights have been assigned to each indicator, within the dimension, but fairly different from the indicators in other dimensions. This study supports results of previous studies in case of Baranai Punjab as least deprived zone even in multidimensional context. But it contrasts the results of various studies in case of other regions as here; in this study the Low Intensity Punjab is most deprived zone. Dimension wise break down of MPI shows that the dimensions of cooking, schooling year, health, housing and sanitation are major contributors to overall multidimensional poverty in almost all zones. But major components are fairly different in each region. These findings might be helpful for policy makers while allocating resources as more resources should be allocated to more deprived zones and to dimensions with greater impact on poverty.

Keywords: Multidimensional Poverty, Agro-Climatic Zones, Punjab, Pakistan, Alkire and Foster Measure, Geography of Poverty
THE LINKAGE OF NATURAL DISASTER RISK AND POVERTY

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ABSTRACT

Natural Disasters are broadly predictable to affect inexplicably the poorest in a community, as they have relatively higher sensitivity to disaster events compared with communities of higher development status. Constant events increase the vulnerability and risk of the poor to disasters, increasing poverty levels such that many households often are unable to break out of the poverty cycle. Medium to longer term impacts of natural disasters at the national level also challenge development progress towards reducing poverty, possibly creating situations which place a boundary between urban and rural communities keeping them in an immense risk. The linkage between natural disasters and poverty is a global phenomenon which has long term impacts on lives and livelihood of people worldwide. This study aims on the linkage between flood disaster risk and poverty which leads people to settle in disaster prone areas. Moreover, the study gives special attention to poverty eradication techniques to reduce disaster risks. The study was conducted in Pattiwla North GN Division under Biyagama Divisional Secretariat in Gampaha District. The primary data was collected through case studies and the secondary data was collected through various sources. The study proves the direct link and co-relationship between disaster risk and poverty.

Keywords: Vulnerability, Poverty, Disaster Prone Areas, Poverty Eradication Techniques, Disaster Risk
ABSTRACT

Sri Lanka experienced a robust annual growth of more than 6% in terms of per capita GDP since early 2000. Sri Lanka was one of the fastest growing economies in Asia in the recent history. During 2009 to 2011, country recorded a 7-8% per capita GDP growth rate. Has this growth been capable of increasing the purchasing power or the real income of a wider section of the population and of increasing economic wellbeing in general is of significant relevance as country strives to transition to an upper middle income country. Study shows the divergence between per capita GDP imputed by national accounts and the monthly income computed by household income surveys in the recent past. The percentage share of per capita GDP received by a median household has come down and high income inequality persists in the country which is well above the generally accepted Gini coefficient of 0.4. Although poverty has declined, both Global Hunger Index (GHI) and the Global Food Security Index (GFSI) rank Sri Lanka poorly in terms of food security. This is further exemplified by not declining the budget share on food by an average Sri Lankan during the period from 2006/07 to 2012/13. The relevance of factors cited in literature to explain the divergent trends in other countries such as inequality and wealth accumulation in the upper income class, unaccounted corporate profits, and unaccounted transfers within the economy is discussed.

Keywords: Per Capita GDP, Household Income, Divergence, Inequality
CORRUPTION AND GRAMEEN BANK: IMPLICATIONS OF POVERTY ALLEVIATION THROUGH MICROFINANCE

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ABSTRACT

Corruption is like an epidemic and many countries around the world is fighting against corruption for many years. According to the Transparency International (2016), many countries have attempted to control corruption at the national level with limited success. In this paper, we investigate the mechanism of corruption prevention of Grameen bank, a Nobel-Prize-winning microfinance institute in Bangladesh, which was able to minimise its level of corruption among its employees. The Grameen Bank founded 30 years ago by Professor Muhammad Yunus who jointly won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2006 for pioneering the provision of small loans to millions of poor women of the world. Based on a survey of randomly selected 250 employees of Grameen Bank, we examine the employees’ rational perception of the level of corruption and the internal organisational factors of Grameen Bank influencing corruption. Our estimates of the linear probability model, probit and logit models provide overarching evidence that actions against corruption or punitive measures significantly raise transparency in the Bank’s activities whereas measures to prevent corruption and ethical training fail to have a significant impact on the corruption or internal transparency of the bank. We also find that higher experience tends significantly raise probability of corruption. These results remain invariant irrespective of the binary transformation of the independent variables across the models. From a more general perspective, these results would imply the predominant direct effect of strict measures against corruption in enhancing transparency in the micro finance institutes in Bangladesh and in similar other developing economies.

JEL Classification Codes: G21, G30

Keywords: Bangladesh, Corruption, Grameen Bank, Microfinance Institutions, Transparency
THE ROLE OF SENIOR CITIZEN’S COMMITTEES (WADIHITY SAMITHI) IN ERADICATING NEW FORM OF POVERTY

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ABSTRACT

The last two national censuses in Sri Lanka demonstrate a transformation in the population structure of the country. The current proportion of elderly population in Sri Lanka is higher than the proportion in other South Asian countries. The concept of senior citizens’ committee is implemented by the government under the Protection of the Rights of Elders Act, No 9 of 2000 with the active participation of the community sector. This study examined the contribution of Senior Citizen committees in addressing socioeconomic needs of the elderly within their own local community. The assumption was that they were mostly unable to meet many of their financial needs within the family system due to a range of reasons and as a result, dependency, abuses and emotional suffering etc. have been characteristic facts in their daily living. The study was conducted in Kahatagasdigiliya Divisional Secretariat (DS) Division and looked at how the conducive socio-cultural and recreational environment within Senior Citizen Societies contributes to active economical participation. Purposive sampling was used to get insights in this regard by applying both quantitative and qualitative research methods. The committees promote and provide opportunity for lifelong learning and active ageing so people can be active and resilient, stay connected and increase their economic wellbeing, especially in independency. Community resources are not enough to support the societies and also it has not been the community priority for their limited resources.

Keywords: Senior Citizen’s Committees, Elder Rights, Poverty Eradication, Active Aging
EXAMINATION THE HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS CHOICE DECISIONS OF URBAN POOR CONSUMERS

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ABSTRACT

Delivery of healthcare services to bottom of the pyramid (BOP) consumers is a necessary precondition to poverty alleviation. Co-creation approaches prove particularly suitable to improve the health-seeking behaviour of BOP consumers. However, scant research is done to understand BOP patients’ perceptions of healthcare providers. This article investigates the determinants of patients’ choice between private and public hospitals among BOP consumers. A mixed-method approach has been adopted. The quantitative analysis based on a data of 436 patients from five hospitals in Ahmedabad, India indicates that BOP patients visit a public hospital significantly more than top-of-the-pyramid (TOP) patients. Further, no significant difference emerged between BOP and TOP patients for inpatient or outpatient treatments. Qualitative findings based on twenty-one BOP consumers from selected slum areas highlight that BOP patients choose a hospital based on references by third parties and previous personal experience, while costs and distance play a mixed role. Implications for practitioners, social entrepreneurs and policymakers are discussed.

Keywords: Healthcare, Choice of Healthcare Providers, Bottom of the Pyramid (BOP), Emerging Markets
A STUDY ON LIVELIHOODS SUPPORT PROGRAMS FOR FEMALE HEADED HOUSEHOLDS FOR EMPOWERMENT

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ABSTRACT

The Northern Province of Sri Lanka has been subjected to devastation for three decades due to civil war and Vavuniya North was the border area. Properties and livelihood were destroyed. Many children became orphans and female-headed families also were created. This situation called for immediate efforts to rebuild and rehabilitate war victims upon which GOs and NGOs engaged in this responding various needs including in livelihood development in FHHs.

The study used both qualitative and quantitative method using fifty respondents on the basis of random sampling technique a divisional secretariat. Further, three key informers were chosen from the government and NGOs to elicit in depth information on situations of the Vavuniya North Divisional Secretariat. This study conducted using theory of empowerment approach and Livelihood Frame work. The main objective of this study is to examine livelihood programs implemented by several livelihood programs implemented by the GOs and NGOs to develop the livelihood of the WHHs and to ensure social security for affected FHH families.

The findings reflect that duplication of services with ineffective assessment and planning. It is a well observed fact that the GOs have shown interest to rapid implementation however monitoring, evaluation to follow up were lacked. Though FHHs carry out their livelihoods with certain skills to full fill for their day to day needs. The study recommends women empowerment is essential for their capacity building with regard to pricing, marketing and promotion of their products for their sustainable development.

Keywords: Livelihoods Support Programs Female Headed Households and Empowerment
WOMEN EMPOWERMENT THROUGH SELF-HELP GROUPS-A CASE STUDY

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ABSTRACT

Social work is to empower women through development activities which build empowerment. This paper is about the small group intervention with women of a cooperative society. It is a temple based organization and facilitated to empower themselves. It is a self-help group of 75 women members. A cooperate society consists of 15 groups with 5 members for each group making the total members of 75. This group located at Danvilana, Weyangoda, Gampaha district in Sri Lanka, which was established in March 2001 with a small group intervention of social work facilitation. Women’s co-op is a cooperative society as a self-reliant membership organization which was built, owned and operated exclusively by the economically challenged women in the village. It is being facilitated to use their own and community resources, ideas and support of its own members to raise their socio-economic and cultural status. Main objective of these self-help groups is to facilitate saving scheme and motivate women to cooperate and help each other for building mutual aid system to enhance harmony in their own life. The aim of this practice based study is to ascertain how women with social work intervention could empower themselves, in accordance with their rights and strengths. It further highlights the gaps in the current service delivery in the selected locality. The practice based study finds highlight that the factors, such as family relationships, group inter relationships, perception of roles and status of family members, attitudes towards dependency and thinking patterns were changed to enhance their social functioning. The study also de-mystified the general belief that the potential of the women in contributing to the developmental activities and leadership at community level is limited. In fact the family harmony is enhanced through transforming their values into their interrelationships with family members and community.

Keywords: Social Work Intervention, Self-help Group, Women Empowerment
THE ROLE OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CAPITAL IN DEVELOPMENT INDUCED DISPLACEMENT: CASE STUDY- BARGI DAM, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Over the years, development induced displacement has resulted in impoverishment of local population, reducing their opportunities to livelihoods and preventing them from engaging in sustainable livelihood activities. This paper aims to highlight that the idea of development is often skewed. Though targeting to benefit the poor, large development projects often affect the poor the most adversely, also severing their access to livelihoods. This paper studies the case of displaced population of Bargi Dam project, India. The socio-economic profile of Bargi area suggests that the most severely affected population include Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes living below poverty line. The Caste system, something very typical to Indian society and even more pronounced in rural areas creates unique cultural complexities in case of Bargi dam and affects access to sustainable livelihood opportunities. Sustainable rural livelihood framework is used an analytical lens for this case, chosen after studying other case studies from around the world. The findings highlight underlying socio-cultural impacts and issues which are often ignored in the process of rehabilitation and resettlement of poor populations. This is of particular relevance to a multi-cultural and caste segregated society like India. ¹Townsend (1994) also suggests that rural communities are often dependent on sound socio-cultural foundation in order to access better livelihoods. This research ends with suggesting the importance of having a people-centered approach while planning sustainable livelihood opportunities for displaced communities due to development projects.


Keywords: Socio-cultural, Sustainable Livelihoods, Displaced Population
HANDDLOOM AS A SOCIO-TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEM: QUESTIONS OF SUSTAINABILITY IN NORTHEAST INDIA

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ABSTRACT

This paper is an attempt to capture to what extent and in what ways handloom textile industry contributes to the enhancement of socioeconomic sustainability in northeast India. Controversies surrounding handloom versus powerloom in textile industry in independent India have largely taken place around changes in science and technology (S&T) policy, state-promoted indigenous knowledge systems, pursuit of self-reliance and the dominant role of the state sector under the Nehruvian State to the ongoing phase of State withdrawal, attenuated emphases on self-reliance and indigenous research, and heightened influence of powerloom-mediated products promulgated by multinational corporations on public policy including in S&T. This analysis has considerable cogency in handloom sector in northeast India. There has been continuity rather than change in the broad area of livelihoods and habitat of rural and petty producers such as agricultural labour, artisans, off-farm workers, self-employed in manufacturing, construction and related sectors, and including the peasantry as well. Since independence, there has been an almost complete neglect of, indeed perhaps blindness to, these sectors and to the generation and application of S&T appropriate to the development needs of this section of the populace. This gigantic and dogged systemic abyss in the S&T ecosystem in India has, along with other structural biases and institutional failings, contributed to the now chronic deprivation of these sections, steep decline in the economic, cultural, political and social weight of their occupations and activities, their disconnect from the development mainstream, and a loss of hope in the future.

Keywords: Handloom, Indigenous Products, Socio-technological System, Sustainability, Northeast India
GDP AND POVERTY

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ABSTRACT

The gross domestic product (GDP) is the monetary value of all the finished goods and services produced within a country's borders in a specific time period.

Poverty is the scarcity or the lack of a certain (variant) amount of material possessions or money. Poverty is multifaceted concept which many include social economic and public elements. Absolute poverty or extreme poverty or destitution refers to the complete lack of the means necessary to meet basic personal needs such as food, clothing and shelter.

We estimate a panel model, when the relationship between poverty and GDP per capita depends on countries initial income. Estimates of the model show that the relationship between poverty and GDP per capita is significantly decreasing in countries initial income. Result from instrumental variables regression show that in low income countries transitional growth is boosted greater income inequality.

In high income countries poverty has significant negative effect on transitional growth. For the median countries in the world with a year 2015 PPP GDP per capita of around 10,000 USD. 1 percentage point increase in the Gini decreases GDP per capita growth over a 5 year period by over 1 percentage point the long run effect on the level of GDP per capita is around 5 percent.
INTRAHOUSEHOLD DYNAMIC AND LIVELIHOOD IN THE CONTEXT OF POVERTY: CASE OF EASTERN HINTERLAND OF KINSHASA

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ABSTRACT

Since the nineties, the Democratic Republic of Congo has been hit hard by an unprecedented and unimaginable socioeconomic crisis to such extent that some consider it resistant to any therapy. This has been concretely reflected by the significant share of the congolese living in extreme poverty and who are mostly relying on the informal economy activities to make their living and livelihood. Starting from the household structure (family and nonfamily household) and functions (consumer, producer, risk manager and investor), this paper describes how shortage of resources within the household strain relationship among members and make the household rather a site of tension and conflict than a place of peace, harmony and concord. In order to understand that, we analyze the role of power and control over (household) resources on changes of traditional roles and social relations. What we see is that power and control over household resources are most of time held by those who act whether as (de facto or/and de jure) breadwinners or as major household resource provider. In this setting, decisions concerning management, sharing and allocation of scarce household resources are, most of time, based on quite a number of criteria and considerations of which legitimacy is always not that clear, therefore highly contested and heavily disputed. Through this “open moment”, all sorts of practices, arrangements, alliances, coalitions, etc. emerge, evolve and take root which might be very determining for the success or failure of a national policy aiming to eradicate poverty on all its form.

Keywords: Intrahousehold Dynamic, Poverty, Livelihood
POVERTY ALLEVIATION PROGRAM: LESSON LEARNED FROM SRMP IN TURKEY AND PKH IN INDONESIA

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ABSTRACT

Indonesia and Turkey have had a long fight with poverty since its independence, various policies and poverty alleviation programs have been put in place with the goal to eradicate poverty. Both Indonesia and Turkey has implemented national program in order to poverty reduction. Turkey has implemented a system called Social Risk Mitigation Project (SRMP) that succeeded in reducing poverty rate from 30.3% in 2002 into 1.6% in 2014. Similar project has been implemented in Indonesia since economic crisis occured in 1998 and 2001. Indonesia has been implemented Program Keluarga Harapan (PKH) or Indonesian Conditional Cash Transfer Programme.

Program Keluarga Harapan (PKH) is the only household-targeted social assistance initiative to have designed randomized impact evaluation into the initial allocation of the program. PKH's success in delivering real benefits to the very poor and in changing behaviors deserves further support and encouragement. Similar with SRMP, PKH also succeeded in reducing poverty rate in Indonesia from 18.2% in 2002 into 11.3% in 2014.

The goal of this qualitative research is to investigate success story of these two poverty alleviation program in two countries; Turkey and Indonesia. Learning from SRMP and PKH, this paper argues that government programs to address poverty should use four approaches: first, the program should be family-based; and second based on community initiatives; third, the program should be followed by strengthening government institutions; and finally the poverty reduction program should be accompanied by assistance or advisory staff.

This success story and experience in these two countries can be used as lesson learned by other countries in the world in order to reduce poverty rate.

Keywords: Poverty Alleviation, Turkey, Indonesia
TYPOLOGY OF SPATIAL AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE IN POOR VILLAGE (CASE STUDY: SIDOHARJO VILLAGE, PONOROGO, INDONESIA)

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ABSTRACT

The poor are those who cannot fulfil themselves with their basic human needs, such as clothing, food, housing, education, health, and social interaction. There are two causes of rural poverty. First, natural poverty because of the lack of natural resources. Second, artificial poverty because of the social structure. In this research, we can estimate that the causes of poverty in Desa Sidoharjo is artificial poverty. The purposes of this research is to identify the typology of social structure and spatial in a village which has poverty problem, using two methods: Social Network Analysis and Cluster Spatial Analysis. The result of this research are: the rate participation of people in Desa Sidoharjo is low; the density of poor is low and medium and the density of non-poor is high; non poor has larger network than the poor. So that, the larger network gives the larger change for non-poor to rid themselves from poverty. Desa Sidoharjo has clustered settlement which has formed around a certain point. The average distance of the poor is 18 m and the non-poor is 32 m. It means that the distance of the poor is closer than non-poor, so that the non-poor can be easily to explore their economic in a good ways.

Keywords: Rural Poverty, Social Structure, Spatial Cluster
EXAMINING THE EVIDENCE ON THE LINKS BETWEEN MICROFINANCE INITIATIVES AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASE OUTCOMES IN LOW-AND MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES: A SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW

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ABSTRACT

Microfinance Initiatives (MFIs), which offer financial services such as loans, savings and micro-insurance schemes to the poor, has emerged as a development tool and a strategy for poverty alleviation. Recent evidence from health-integrated microfinance operations show that MFIs also have impacts on health and healthcare. Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), which include cardiovascular diseases, cancers, diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases and mental illness, attribute to the highest proportion of global mortalities and disability. More importantly, with strong links between health inequalities and NCDs, the greatest disease magnitude, prevalence and economic burdens of NCDs are amongst the poverty-stricken in developing countries. Thus, NCDs are now recognized as both a consequence and cause of poverty, with grave implications on sustainable development. The objective of this review was to present evidence underlining the impacts of microfinance on NCDs health indicators and outcomes. Overall, fifteen records covering seventeen countries across four global regions, were obtained from twenty four databases. A narrative synthesis approach revealed the results of the review and key themes between microfinance and NCDs were identified: MFIs may increase NCDs-specific health knowledge; MFIs could reduce NCDs risk exposure; MFIs could increase health-seeking behaviour and healthcare utilization; and MFIs could improve health savings and financing mechanisms, and evade catastrophic health spending of the poor. Additionally, MFIs may also have impacts on female empowerment. Overall, this study is significant for the development of future research about health-integrated community practices and to address multi-sectoral approaches to mitigate the NCDs burden, for poverty alleviation and sustainable development.

Keywords: Non-communicable Diseases, Microfinance, Poverty, Sustainable Development
THE EFFECTS OF PROLONGED ECONOMIC STRESSORS IN MINORITY LOW-INCOME NEIGHBORHOODS ON FAMILY FUNCTIONING AND CHILD DEVELOPMENTAL OUTCOMES

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ABSTRACT

Poverty and prolonged periods of unemployment have been shown to affect the ability of families to function as evidenced by effective parental interaction and child developmental outcomes. Minority families, particularly African-Americans and Latinos, are more likely to live in urban neighborhoods characterized by concentrated poverty, than Caucasians. This paper explores the inter-relationship between federal welfare policy, institutional barriers such as employment discrimination, as well as banking practices, on family stability in minority low income neighborhoods. The unintended consequences of neighborhood segregation on family functioning and child developmental outcomes, neighborhood violence, and barriers to upward mobility to more stable neighborhoods are examined. Three models which explore the dynamics of economic stressors within the family unit, the impact on cognitive and psychological development of the child and the role of effective parental/child interactive strategies in light of profound economic hardship are presented. Finally, this paper covers research on the underlying dynamics of concentrated urban poverty on marital/family stability and recommends policies to promote family resiliency.

Keywords: Minority, Family, Interaction, Poverty, Employment, Segregation
WOMEN'S NGOS AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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ABSTRACT

Non-governmental organizations are working in different fields but act with the consciousness of social responsibility at the same time in order to be essentially organizations that produce public benefit services. An important part of the activities carried out by non-governmental organizations concerns social responsibility in this context.

Moving from this assumption, my paper will focus on the activities that woman NGOs in Turkey undertake in the field of social responsibility. The paper will be based upon a sociological survey that I realized on 67 women NGOs in 7 different cities of Turkey through face-to-face interviews and a questionnaire. In this research, I quested the performance of women NGOs in six areas, which are directly or indirectly, related to the elimination of poverty. These categories include such issues as education, health, fighting against poverty, cultural and social activities, actions related to disabled people and environmental problems.

I will look for answers to questions such as what level of effectiveness of women's NGOs with different inclinations and activities in different fields and what kind of studies they have conducted in these areas, what problems they encounter when they are involved in these fields. I will also try to find answers to the questions such as how they can collaborate with local authorities in order to become more effective in the field of social responsibility and what kind of support they should receive in this context.
THE DESCRIPTION OF SIX POVERTY ERADICATION NOTIONS WHICH ARE FEASIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION: A COMPARATIVE APPLICATION ON A FRENCH VILLAGE VERSUS AN EGYPTIAN VILLAGE

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ABSTRACT

Developing countries such as Egypt and France adopt a socio-capitalism system. However, Egypt suffers from a relatively high poverty rates that accounts to 27.8 percentage of the whole population while France had succeeded to better handle its poverty rates - France has a 14.1 percentage poverty rate. In this research paper, the author proposes, from her point of view, six poverty eradication notions and argues that designing an implementation strategy and a work plan for each notion, would lead to support positively the existing socio-capitalism systems in Egypt and France. These notions are identified as follows: equal availability of resources, small is beautiful, cross subsidization, social inclusion, social investment and economic sustainability. To defend her argument, the author attempts to use desk research and the analysis of an Egyptian village and a French village as case studies, to collect the needed data. The research paper then uses an empirical research in the form of distributed questionnaires over a sample of the governmental officials working in both villages. Based on analyzing the research results, the paper describes the current obstacles and challenges that might possibly support or impede the implementation of the above mentioned six eradication notions and underlying strategies. Conducting a list of lessons learnt from the comparative research study of the two villages, the research paper then concludes by designing a guide model of action steps that would help to remedy deficiencies in the implementation of the socio-capitalism systems in both villages, as well as upgrade such systems.

Keywords: Egypt, France, Village, Socio–capitalism Notions, Poverty-eradication Strategies, Guide Model for Implementation
POVERTY ERADICATION ACROSS THE YEARS: A STUDY OF THE STRATEGIES IMPLEMENTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP), Government of Andhra Pradesh, was set up as a support structure to reach out to the poor and eradicate poverty, through social mobilization and improvement of the livelihoods of the rural poor in Andhra Pradesh. Over the last two decades, SERP has relentlessly worked towards poverty elimination, by organizing 69,31,113 rural women into 6,52,440 Self Help Groups, 26753 Village Organizations, 656 Mandal Samkhyas (Block level Community Organisation), and 13 Zilla Samakhyas (District level Community Organisations). This organization has over the time, implemented, the various schemes of the Government across different cross-cutting components, which has brought in poverty elimination in the real terms, and in the process have created social, and financial capital of enormous amounts and of sustainable nature. While it’s Poorest of the Poor (POP) strategy attempts to eradicate poverty from the poorest of the population comprising of minority and disadvantaged communities, its collaboration with the World Bank, over three different phases, have brought in significant results in terms of rural poverty eradication in Andhra Pradesh. The current strategy attempts to increase the livelihood of each SHG member by Rs.10000, through the Enterprise Strategy, supported by the World Bank. This Paper studies the various strategies of this organization, and in the process showcases the best practices through various success stories, that have been followed by this organization, bringing about eradication of poverty.

Keywords: Poverty, Eradication, Self Help Groups, Strategies, Success Stories
INCOME POVERTY AND MULTIPLE DEPRIVATIONS IN PAKISTAN

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\textbf{ABSTRACT}

The variations in levels of poverty across the geographical regions can shed light on the various factors that may be at work while determining poverty. This information ultimately helps find viable strategies for poverty alleviation, especially in those areas that record high levels of poverty. For this purpose, and based on the Sen’s capability approach, this study examines the patterns of multidimensional poverty in agro-climatic zones of province Punjab, Pakistan across various dimensions. It employs a multidimensional poverty measure based on the Alkire-Foster measure using Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement Survey 2010-11. Apart from identification and aggregation, another important challenge in multidimensional poverty measurement is how to weight different dimensions. The weights implicitly indicate the dimensional importance and/or policy priority. In the analysis, until now, the dimensions were presented as if they were equally weighted. Equal weighting is an arbitrary and normative weighting system that is appropriate in some, but not all, situations. In many other cases, some dimensions are believed to be more important than others, hence are to receive a relatively higher weight. So in this study, we have estimated three models employing different weights to different dimensions each time. By changing weights, we found no significant changes in overall trend of multidimensional poverty in various regions. Hence, in model four, all the dimensions have been weighted equally out of ten and equal weights have been assigned to each indicator, within the dimension, but fairly different from the indicators in other dimensions. This study supports results of previous studies in case of Baranai Punjab as least deprived zone even in multidimensional context. But it contrasts the results of various studies in case of other regions as here; in this study the Low Intensity Punjab is most deprived zone. Dimension wise break down of MPI shows that the dimensions of cooking, schooling year, health, housing and sanitation are major contributors to overall multidimensional poverty in almost all zones. But major components are fairly different in each region. These findings might be helpful for policy makers while allocating resources as more resources should be allocated to more deprived zones and to dimensions with greater impact on poverty.

Keywords: Poverty Measurement, Multidimensional Poverty, Capability Approach, Pakistan
ABSTRACT

Entering Indian trawlers in to Sri Lankan waters is one of major issues in Sri Lankan fishery sector. It deprives the livelihoods of Sri Lanka fishermen, considerable loss to the national fish production, and export income of fishing and rich ecosystem in Sri Lankan waters. The issue is one of major barriers to achieve the targets of SDG 14 specially targets 14.2, 14.4, 14.5, 14.7 and 14.b. Therefore, this study aims to analyse socio-economic impact of Indians’ poaching. The study was done using secondary information published by SLNAVY, published articles and research related to the issues. Nearly 2,500 Indian trawlers of Ngapattinam, Thanjavu, Pudukottai, and Ramnathapuram enter into Sri Lankan waters on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Average annual losses incurred from Indian poaching was calculated around US$ 41 million or Rs. 6 billion per year. This issue has negatively affected to the livelihoods of 48000 of fishers in Jaffna, Manna, Mulathive and Killinochchi (22% of fishers compared to total fishers in the country) and damaging to the rich seabed in the Gulf of Mannar and Palk bay associated waters. To minimise the negative impact of the bottom trawling many regulations have been imposed by Indian government to control the trawling fishery. Similarly, the trawling in Sri Lankan waters became criminal offence under the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act, 2017. This paper will discuss the socio-economic impacts of the bottom trawling and effectiveness of the management strategies taken by the both countries.

Keywords: Sri Lanka Fishery Issue, Trawling Fishery, Impact of Trawling, Indian Trawling Sustainable Development Goal 14
ENDING POVERTY AT ITS ROOTS - THE POVERTY OF THOUGHT AND INTENT – EXAMPLES FROM INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Poverty is usually understood as inability or inadequacy to have money, food, clothes, shelter, education, health, access to services etc. United Nations have developed 17 Sustainable Development Goals so that every person on the planet has access to all this by 2030. All this is wonderful, but what concerns me is how these goals can be achieved if large number of people are affected by the Poverty of Thoughts and Poverty of Intent. I have seen many people, including the so called Rich ones, say big things about bringing a positive change in the world, but at the intention level, they have their own selfish interests in mind. And if they have only selfish interests in mind, then how will they get bold new thoughts and ideas for sustainable development and removal of poverty. Today, the biggest poverty affecting mankind is the poverty of thoughts. Everything starts with thoughts. If we have new ideas and thoughts, only then we will be able to say it in words, and then translate those words into action. To me, richness of thought and intent translates into Fearlessness to Share Knowledge, Wealth, Feelings and Resources, to have real passion for doing things for larger good, to rise above narrow selfish motives of personal wealth, power and resources. To believe that we have all the solutions to our challenges within ourselves and our immediate surroundings. It means that we are truly self-reliant and don't need to look up-to any Government, bank, rich people or some experts to overcome our challenges. Whereas, what the poor today think is just the opposite - that they need rich countries or global banks and rich people to solve their problem. Similarly, the so called rich propagate that their own conventional methods are the only solutions to the problems of the poor. Even more interesting is their hypocrisy that in the process of solving the problems of the world, they should further perpetuate the self-doubt and dependenice of the poor, create more bankable intellectual property in the process of solving the world's problems, thereby making them further richer. Funny combination of self-doubt and hypocrisy, the biggest poverty afflicting the world. Let's end this first... please.
ABSTRACT

The concept of decent work is becoming important phrase of global development agenda. Both Millennium development goals of 2000 and sustainable development goals of 2015 have specific focus on creating and promoting decent work. Decent work, employment creation, social protection, rights at work and social dialogue represent significant component of the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. There hasn’t been much research conducted in to Sri Lanka understand the status of decent work dynamics. The purpose of this research is to understand the difference in profile of decent workers and other workers and what factors driving more decent work generation. Based on the nationally represented survey conducted among Sri Lankan workers the study found that, there is significant difference in the socio economic profile of those who engaged in decent work and other type of work, also we found that variable like marital status, having computer or laptop at home and gender are not significantly influencing whether a person having a decent job or not, but being the highest-level attained in secondary and tertiary education, frequent Internet user, having basic English, Computer operating, data entry skills, urban rural status, age of the respondents, household income are some of the mediating variables that significantly influence one’s ability to obtain decent work. Based on this result it is clear in the context of Sri Lanka, which the most influencing variables in driving decent work agenda, which the government should focus on. In addition it was identified decent work dimensions such as productive employment and stability and social security are considered somewhat better in Sri Lanka. Freedom to express opinion, better prospects and personal development and social protection for families are considered weaker dimensions and need to be improved through policy intervention.

Keywords: BoP, Skills Development, Decent work, Productive Employment, Poverty
IS HIGHER EDUCATION AN EFFECTIVE STRATEGY FOR ALLEVIATING POVERTY? : A CASE STUDY ON KANUNGU IN UGANDA

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to investigate whether higher education can work as a vehicle of empowerment to eradicate poverty. It is based on fieldwork research at the Great Lakes Regional College (GLRC) in the Kanungu district of Uganda. Through semi-structured interviews with current college students, college alumni, and community members, this study uncovers how the college is perceived, how it has changed the futures of its students, and how it has affected the local economy and society. The results depict a complex socio-economic image produced by poverty reduction policies. It is surprising, interrelated with various factors, and thus difficult to simply categorize as positive or negative. In the eyes of the institution’s founder, achieving poverty relief with regard to alumni career development remains a significant challenge. In fact, the school’s intended goal of creating a better future for college students is undermined by environmental constraints. With regard to the impact that the GLRC has had on the surrounding community since its establishment, this study’s findings indicate that simply providing higher education is insufficient to achieve community development. However, the GLRC’s role goes beyond that of a simple educational institution. Because it attracts an external population, the college serves as a multifunctional institution that triggers community changes at various levels. Taken together, this study offers potential directions for higher education institutions that target community development, and recommends a broad functional approach for such institutions.

Keywords: Higher Education, Poverty Reduction, Community Development, College Impact
POVERTY AND STATE POLICY: THE SHORTFALL IN EFFORTS - STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UTTAR PRADESH AND BIHAR

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ABSTRACT

Poverty in developing countries has remained a major challenge for the government. The definition of poverty has evolved from simply the abject and destitute towards a more holistic perspective. Poverty now means empowering and giving opportunity to a dignified life, with access to employment, education, healthcare, shelter, social security, clean water and sanitation. This reflects a shift from a welfare approach to poverty to rights based approach with a broader scope of developmental goals. Eradication of poverty broadly has two parts: improving efficiency of the existing schemes with an accurate definition of poverty and better targeting with last mile connectivity and creating jobs with sustainable wages. Another perspective is the rural and urban poverty. Majority of rural workforce is employed in agriculture. Due to disguised unemployment, the productivity of agriculture is low. Therefore, efforts to enhance productivity in agriculture, in concomitance with job creation in low skilled industrial sector will ensure better income per capita. This in turn will help in poverty alleviation. The issues of urban poor in India are slightly different from rural poor. The urban poor require employment, must seek accommodation and with it bear the burden of rent, access to basic amenities. This paper aims to critically analyze issues of governance in poverty, take stock of the poverty alleviation efforts, celebrate the best practices in the country, identify failures and determine if poverty alleviation has been commensurate with the post liberalization growth which India has seen and will be the basis for future growth.

Keywords: State, Policy, Governance, Outcomes, Poverty, Rights
A STARK CONTRAST OF IMMIGRATION, POVERTY, AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING INTO THE UNITED STATES AND OUT OF SRI LANKA

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ABSTRACT

Human trafficking is a global crisis. It is estimated that over 20 million people are trafficked throughout the world. Approximately 600000 to 800000 persons are estimated to cross national and international borders annually for trafficking purposes. In the case of the USA and Sri Lanka, reportedly, 14500 to 17500 people are estimated to be annually transported into the USA for reasons related to trafficking. Approximately 20% of Sri Lankans who seek work abroad find themselves in similar trafficking situations in the Middle East. The commonality between immigration into the United States and Sri Lankans who leave home in pursuit of employment is desperation and poverty. In this presentation, the authors will examine the plight of immigrants who enter into the USA while simultaneously examining the phenomenon of Sri Lankans leaving the country in the context of poverty and human trafficking. Human trafficking is a term that was officially adopted in 2000 by the US government through the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA). The most comprehensive definition of trafficking, however, is the one adopted by the United Nations, which is most frequently known as the Palermo Protocol. Human trafficking tends to primarily fall into sex and labor trafficking. Sex trafficking involves the inducement of others into commercial sex activities while labor trafficking, through the use of force, fraud and coercion, involves making a person provide labor services for free; for far less than what was agreed upon; or under terms that were not agreed upon.

Keywords: Poverty, Immigration, Human Trafficking, United States, Sri Lanka
POVERTY AND PSYCHOLOGICAL DEGRADATION: EXPERIENCES OF ASYLUM SEEKERS IN HONG KONG

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ABSTRACT

According to the Immigration Department of Hong Kong, there were 10,477 outstanding non-refoulement protection claims in Hong Kong as of September 2016. Most of these protection claimants (i.e. asylum seekers) came from Southeast Asia and Africa. Since HK is not a signing member of the Geneva Convention, she does not grant political asylum, but rather, only accepts asylum seekers to wait for resettlement in the third country. Unfortunately, the time taken to process protection claims and resettlement procedure is usually long and it is quite common to witness that asylum seekers have to wait for more than ten years for resettlement (or otherwise refoulement).

Drawing on thirty in-depth interviews with asylum seekers between April 2016 and February 2017, this presentation discusses the daily life experiences of asylum seekers in Hong Kong. In particular, the presenter focuses on the poverty experiences and psychological degradation of this particular group of population. Under a series of policy arrangements, asylum seekers are not entitled to work, study or volunteer but are completely dependent on government assistance on food, housing and daily expenses which is barely enough to cover basic survival needs in Hong Kong. The presenter argues that the very limited material support and the collectively regimented way of life leads to the effects of mortifying their selfhood as the ones discussed by American sociologist Erving Goffman (1961). Lastly, the presentation recommends that Immigration Department of Hong Kong should better speed up the processing of protection claims and resettlement procedure.

Keywords: Asylum Seekers, Poverty, Hong Kong
VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS
AN EXAMINATION OF MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY PROFILE IN LIMPOPO, SOUTH AFRICA: A CASE OF MUTALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

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ABSTRACT

The study sought to establish the extent of multidimensional poverty in Mutale Local Municipality in Limpopo province in South Africa. The objective was to assess the usability of Community-Based system (CBMS) generated data by local municipality for planning, beneficiary targeting, assessment of policy implications and strategies. Consultative, capacity building and quantitative design approach was adopted in the study. Poverty Indicators were developed in consultation with the municipality and local structures. Administered household questionnaire was used to census 1500 households. Indicators for poverty measurements were generated in partnership with Local municipality and aligned to Statistics South Africa. Data was captured using excel software and imported to Stata for analysis. CSPro software was used to generate poverty maps. Community validation approach was used to authenticate the study findings. We conclude that CBMS is able to generate multidimensional poverty profile and Maps that is usable in the formulation of effective planning, beneficiary targeting as well as a regular sustainable development monitoring facility. The information can also be used to assess poverty policy implications at local levels. We recommend that the Local municipality use CBMS data as a basis for integrated development planning, multidimensional poverty targeting and to compliment National statistics surveys.

Keywords: Poverty, Profiling, Community-based, Limpopo, South Africa
CLARK GREEN CITY: ALI TUTUNG LUNTIAN

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ABSTRACT

The Clark Green City is a project of the Bases Conversion Development Authority that is said to be the next Philippine Metropolis, next to Bonifacio Global City This 9,450-hectare city, to be constructed in the military reservation located in Capas and Bamban, Tarlac, Philippines, was promised to answer economic and urban challenges experienced in the metro. However, the project failed to consider and develop plans for the affected farmers, communities and residents. This research aims to describe and examine the perceived effects and impacts of Clark Green City on the farmers of Capas and Bamban, Tarlac. Data was collected through interviews, group discussions and conversations with farmers and necessary organizations. It will be guided by historical materialism, dialectical materialism and grounded theory as its theoretical framework would be using the advocacy worldview as its research paradigm. Thus, this research is in support of the campaign to stop development aggression in the form of the Clark Green City project, which would displace thousands of farmers, indigenous peoples, and communities.

Keywords: Clark Green City, Economic and Urban Challenges, Advocacy Worldview
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN WOMEN’S MIGRATION AND POVERTY

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ABSTRACT

1977 is the year which it introduced open economy to Sri Lanka and as result women who became the breadwinner of a family. The women, who live in rural areas and fell in poverty, select migration as the oldest action against poverty. The sample survey was conducted in Sri Lanka from January to March 2016, covering 20 respondents who have temporarily migrated with using judgment sampling. The study focused the women’s’ migration that due to the poverty in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka has paid attention to overcome the problem of poverty since her independence, but still there are considerable amount of the population living below the national poverty line. The main objective of the research is to explore the relationship between the poverty and the women’s migration of the selected study area. Also relevant data for the study were gathered from the secondary as well as primary sources. The main primary data collection methods were questionnaire survey, household interviews and key informant interviews. The present situation of the village is a result of number of factors which directly or indirectly affect the women’s economy in Sri Lanka. The study found that the main reason for their poverty situation is low income regarding the lack of educational attainment of the women have negatively affected their present living standard. And also most of the women reported that present poverty alleviation program (Samurdhi) isn’t enough to overcome the poverty situation. Other reasons for women’s migration were image the relationship of present poverty situation in the area, lost some valuable opportunities for their education due to poor condition of their families, thinking much about their children and fulfill their requirements than others requirements of the households’ etc. It seems that there is no good guidance for the poor people of the area. As many of the people in the village have the negative ideas about their poverty situation, there should be stronger guidance for the people. Without such a strengthening of the people it is difficult to upgrade peoples’ living standard. If there is awareness programs and if give some kinds of training and self-employment programs, it will be helpful to overcome their poverty conditions and not to get decision to migrate.

Keywords: Migration, Women, Poverty, Sri Lanka
ROLES AND INCENTIVES IN SHAPING THE SMALLHOLDER VEGETABLE INDUSTRY IN BARANGAY SONCO, LANTAPAN, BUKIDNON, PHILIPPINES

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ABSTRACT

Vegetable farming in the Philippines is conducted by around 5.7 million households, 80\% of whom earn a meagre monthly income of USD65 from this livelihood. Reliance on this income alone barely covers the households’ basic needs since this is far below the estimated 2014 (first trimester) monthly poverty threshold of a family of five of around USD192. The study sought to investigate the roles played by and incentives driving actors in both the production and marketing sectors in the smallholder segment of the Philippine vegetable industry. Three case studies were examined in Barangay Songco where the smaller units of analysis are the farm-households and traders and the larger unit of analysis is the smallholder vegetable industry. Three different industries were used to uncover a range of issues within the vegetable system namely, broccoli, tomato, and potato. The qualitative and quantitative analyses (including regression analyses, descriptive statistics, and gross margin analyses) were based on data sourced from existing literature and primary data collection including in-depth interviews with 247 farmers, 108 traders and stallholders in Barangay Songco, Davao City, and Cagayan de Oro City, 56 informants from different identified groups of people or sector, and five series of group discussions. Key aspects to emerge from the analysis include: 1) assistance and collaboration with institutions such as the formal financing sector could improve the design of programs for the vegetable smallholders; and, 2) the evolving stock of social capital within and outside Barangay Songco could improve farmers’ production conditions and market access.

Keywords: Barangay Songco, Broccoli, Potato, Tomato
RECONNOITERING MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY IN PAKISTAN: A POLICY PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

Most poverty related research has only explored monetary poverty. This empirical analysis reveals the International Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) estimations for Pakistan. The data is collected from Pakistan Social and Living Standard Management Survey (PSLM) for six time periods, i.e. 2004-05, 2006-07, 2008-09, 2010-11, 2012-13 and 2014-15. The socio-economic dimensions based data is related to health, education and facilities of houses. The study used Alkire and Foster (AF) methodology designed by (Alkire and Foster, 2010, 2014) due to its instinctive and policy appropriate properties. Finding of this analysis shows that multidimensional poverty remained significantly higher in rural areas than urban areas during all time periods. Multidimensional poverty index in Pakistan has been used to identify socio-economic factors which increase development process with reduction of poverty, and advance Pillar I of Vision 2015. MPI contributes as a tool for effective governance-particularly for policy making, monitoring and readapting programming, and for designing and targeting integrating policies that promote the process of growth. The Sustainable Development Goals can be achieved such effective policies. The key objective of Pakistan's Vision 2025 is to make economic growth and sustainable development in order to eliminate poverty. This study provides that alleviation of poverty through adopting an integrating approach to improve the socio-economic dimensions instantaneously in Pakistan because improving multiple domains (larger investment in food, health, water, energy and education) is very significant to meet the international standards of wellbeing as recognized by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG’s).

Keywords: Multidimensional Poverty, Health, Education, Deprivation, Developing Countries, Multidimensional Index
TRANSPIRENCY OF NATIONAL BUDGET AND POVERTY REDUCTION: A CASE STUDY

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ABSTRACT

National budget is the key document for every country indicating the country’s financial health by depicting past performance and highlighting future aspirations and emphases in line with national goals and development agenda. Even two-three decades back transparent and inclusive budgeting process was considered not the right thing to do. Accordingly, national budgets were drafted and managed by the finance ministry in a cautious, non-inclusive way by leaving out civil society and other non-government actors. Now fiscal transparency is widely advocated by major international institutions such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development and practiced by most of the countries across the globe. Improved fiscal transparency has also enhanced inclusiveness. This is especially significant for developing and under-developed countries whose most important target is economic growth coupled with poverty reduction. The Open Budget Survey takes into account factors such as the amount, level of detail, and timeliness of budget information governments make publicly available to assess a country’s budget transparency. This paper aims to reinstate the positive correlation between enhanced transparency of national budget and poverty reduction taking Bangladesh – a Lower Middle Income Country – as an empirical case.

Keywords: Fiscal Transparency, National Budget, Poverty Reduction
ABSTRACT

Coffee is one of the most valuable and widely trade commodities worldwide. This crop grows in more than 60 tropical countries on over 11 million ha. Also, more than 100 million people are involved in its production and manufacturing. From this number, over 25 million people are small farmers that are estimated to produce 70% of the world coffee supply.

In Peru, this commodity is the main livelihood of about 223,000 families from small producers in 425,000 hectares in 17 regions. Also, being the most important export crop, coffee provides a great contribution to the national GDP. In some producing cities such as Villa Rica in the region of Pasco, coffee production accounts more than 98% of the local population that represents roughly 3,000 families. Moreover, in Satipo, Junin, coffee production accounts roughly 90% of its GDP.

Moreover, there is a huge power asymmetry in the coffee value chain due to price fluctuations and to coffee giant companies that dominate the market. Also, the very few stability of the coffee market has a direct impact on farmers to access to health, education, food, and other basic needs. In this context, there is a need of financial and technical support for a fair development of this sector.

From the other side, energy in the form of electricity is crucial for economic development. In Latin America, despite the average electrification rate of almost 95% within the region, about 24 million people mainly in rural and remote areas still lack of access to electricity. In Junin, one of the most representative coffee producing regions in Peru, access to electricity is limited to half of the population only.

To tackle these problems, Café Compadre in Peru aims to revalue the small agriculture through solar energy. Its business model allows farmers to roast coffee in the field and to become coffee producers with a 70% increase in their regular income. Also, CO₂ emissions are considerably reduced. This provides to the sector an example of sustainable coffee value chain.

This present study aims to identify the main strengths and weaknesses of Café Compadre value chain. Also, strategies to assist stakeholders through collaborative efforts to improve this coffee value chain are included. Based on the methodology proposed by E. Monastyrnaya et al. (2017), interviews to the stakeholders were conducted to identify the needs for sustainability. Later, potential solutions were proposed and the responsibilities were assigned to each actor for the process of the sustainable value creation.
Results showed that the main strengths of this value chain are the environmental perspective (solar energy and GHG emissions reduction) and the social perspective (coffee farmers empowerment and higher income). This brings many advantages and provides opportunities to the stakeholders.

Also, there were not negative perceptions about the clean energy technology nor the partnership between stakeholders. However, different other values destroyed that included a deficient supply chain management due to many factors such as climatic and geographic conditions, production capacity limits, R&D for technology improvements, among others were identified.

For a better coffee production performance, a joint development practice based on a collaboration strategy aims to collaboratively develop new technologies, processes and products.

Furthermore, Café Compadre core values considerably boost this social enterprise and provide a significant opportunity for the company in the coffee market. Recommendations include a long term relationship between stakeholders that is critical for the success of this social business. Also, improvements for a higher quality of the final product should be included in the whole value chain. For this purpose, a logistic integration between stakeholders is required. Also, currently sales strategies should promote the main core values of the company.

Keywords: Access to Electricity, Renewable Energy, Rural Development, Coffee
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ERADICATING POVERTY: SOCIO CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

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ABSTRACT

The Indigenous peoples’ social cultural identity is connected with land and forest. For centuries their livelihood has been depended upon settled agriculture. They used plough to grow rice and maize in their field. The practice of horticulture and production of vegetables were seen. Despite being illiterate and without skill they were able to cope up with famine, hunger, sickness and all kinds of misfortune. This was only possible because they had learnt to coexist with nature development mechanism. Their co-operative endeavour, group solidarity and their believe system with ecology which is based on live and let others’ live, vogue among the tribal communities makes it distinct from the rest of the society.

But over a period of time this believe system was replaced by individual land tenure due to imposition of zamindari system by the colonials and later by the modern agricultural system in the post Independent period has made them poor and fall in poverty line and die in hunger. This human made poverty in the modern era by depriving them from their rights to land, forest and cultural has pushed them to fall in extreme poverty and hunger. The paper will look forward to the solutions for coming out of poverty of Indigenous peoples living in Central India. The paper will also study the traditional way of living and managing their livelihood. The sustainable development of Indigenous people is only possible when their social, cultural and the Indigenous belief systems is given autonomy.