

Conference Report

The 05th International Conference on Poverty and Sustainable Development (2018) ICPSD

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Committee of the ICPSD - 2018

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Acknowledgements

This report is based on the proceedings of the 5th International Conference on Poverty and Sustainable Development 2018 (ICPSD 2018) organized by the International Institute of Knowledge Management (TIKM), and hosted by the Centre for Sustainability, Department of Forestry and Environmental Science, University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The Co-Chairs of the Conference were Prof. Sarath Kotagama (excused), Department of Forestry University of Colombo, Dr. Peter Abrahamson, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, Dr Robert L. Hawkins, New York University. All the above key dignitaries delivered their keynote speeches after the traditional preliminaries followed by the speech of Dr. Priyan Perera, Director, Centre for Sustainability, University of Sri Jayewardenepura. Conference support was provided by the Convener, Mr. Isanka Gamage, The International Institute of Knowledge Management, Sri Lanka. The Editorial Board consisted of the Co-Chairs and a Scientific Committee from distinguished institutes around the world. We would like to especially thank the plethora of researchers presented from more than thirteen countries over the world for one of the most viable research conferences. This report was prepared by the conference rapporteur, Mr. Dhanushka Dihan Wickramasinghe, Sir John Kotelwala Defence University, Sri Lanka, which reflects the proceedings of the ICPSD 2018, and sincere thanks is expressed to Ms. Ganeesha Kirineliya for the support extended during the process.

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The 05th International Conference on Poverty and Sustainable Development was initiated by lighting the traditional oil lamp by the key personalities of the conference.

Welcome Address by the Conference Convener

Mr. Isanka P.Gamage, Co-Founder and the Managing Director – Institute of Knowledge Management.

Mr. Isanka P.Gamage, Co-Founder and the Managing Director Institute of Knowledge Management welcomed the erudite audience to Colombo greeting them ‘Ayubowan’ which means live longer. Mr. Gamage expressed his pleasure for the presence of all the researchers while stipulating the timely need of the conference conducted under the theme of Sustainable Development Goal One ‘Poverty Eradication and Breaking Barriers’ which intends to create a platform for the researchers to foster a sustainable future. Mr. Gamage notes that through the research innovations of this nature, the International Institute of Knowledge Management strives to revolutionize the Asian Research Culture while creating a research nexus full of research fraternity. Mr. Gamage expressed that there are researchers presented from thirteen countries around the globe, thus this partnership is vital to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Mr. Gamage giving the introductory remarks expressed his sincere thanks for all the session chairs, hosting partner, strategic partners and researchers for rendering a tremendous support to make this conference a reality. Mr. Gamage concluding his welcome address emphasized that the quest for knowledge should be meaningful and should be in the betterment of the human society thus such dispensation of knowledge must contribute to family, country and the world. Thus, the sole intention of this 05th International Conference on Poverty and Sustainable Development is to grab, share and develop the knowledge for a better human society.

Speech by the Conference Co- Chair

Dr. Peter Abrahamson, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Delivering the conference speech, the Co-Chair, Dr. Peter Abrahamson from the Copenhagen University, expressed his pleasure at the organizers for inviting him to be one of the co-chairs in this esteemed conference on poverty and sustainable development. Dr. Abrahamson stated that through his experience of conducting studies on poverty and social exclusion in American and East Asia, the most glaring aspects that he perceived in this conference is its regional flavor for the eradication of poverty. Dr. Abrahamson further stated that a regional conference of this nature, reflects the issues pertaining to poverty, social exclusion in a regional context. He further stated that the poverty though a global phenomenon, there are multiple difference in the regions concerned for instance the Scandinavian poverty is different from other places; Norway and Romania, Haiti and Cost Rica, India and Sri Lanka, all these contexts reflect big differences within the region. He stated that most extreme poverty is found in South East Asia. Comparing Sri Lanka to the big neighbor India, he highlighted that there is a massive difference in poverty. This is visible in Central America as well. Referring to his neighboring country Norway, though developed but having poor people. Thus, he stated that, that a regional approach to eradicate poverty is thus very relevant. The eradication of poverty requires surpassing regional and national boundaries and have to be addressed at a global level.

Thereby, he mentioned about the implementation of United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. For many years, the UN had policies, along with the other counterparts such as ILO, UNDP, WHO and other agencies while these agencies strive towards giving up policy recommendations at Global Level. He further noted that how world Bank though having a dubious record is committed to fulfil its role same with IMF as well. Having started the outset emphasizing a regional approach to the poverty, he highlighted that an important collaboration can be perceived in Europe trying to reduce the poverty, Economic Commissions are doing solid work to reduce social inequality. He highlighted the national level initiatives in reducing the poverty for many years showing how there is an intensive debate to combat poverty in Europe at a regional level, national with duly coordinated plans. Referring to Denmark, Sweden, he observed that it is at the local level that the people play a participatory approach in the social systems and social activation. Having said that there are elements of regional commonalities. Conditional Cash Transfer Scheme which

means that the poor would receive assistance in health and education under conditions. He exemplified how this scheme is spread through out the world starting from Latin America, USA and Europe as well. He observed that in Europe there are coordinated strategies and tangible goals to ensure that no one is left behind. The next scheme is the Micro-Finance Credit Scheme which is visible in most of the Asian and Middle East countries. The third scheme is providing super low fuel prices, which is noticeable to Middles East and Latin American region. Thus, having stipulated the importance of regional approach in the eradication of poverty, he stated that he believes that in the next two days, this International Conference with a regional outlook would reveal vital findings in the eradication of poverty and sustainable development. Concluding his speech, Dr. Abramson warmly welcomed everyone to the 05th international Conference on Poverty and Sustainable Development.

Speech by the Hosting Partner

Dr. Priyan Perera – Director, Centre for Sustainable Environment, University of Sri Jaywardenapura

It is a great privilege and an honor to address this research conference on behalf of the hosting partner, Centre for Sustainable Environment, University of Sri Jayewardenepura. This research conference has been organized for the 05th consecutive year and this year conference theme is a very timely one. At Global, regional and national level, a lot of initiatives have been taken into poverty eradication, but unfortunately there are some drawbacks, the goals are not achieved as expected. Lack of an integrative and multidisciplinary approach in tackling the poverty is visible. Thankful to the International Institute of Knowledge Management, this conference will caste a multidisciplinary approach to the eradication of poverty. As the hosting partner, I am representing Department of Forestry, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, the sphere of environmental sciences which is one of the core aspects in Sustainable Development. This audience though small but very enthusiastic, dynamic crowd. Thus, in the coming days, I expect an academically enlightened joyful occasion.

Key Note Forums: Dr. Robert L. Hawkins, New York University

Dr. Robert L. Hawkins expressed his sincere thanks for inviting him to this esteemed conference on Poverty and Sustainable Development in Colombo, Sri Lanka. He initiated his speech with a story. The object of the story is Arren. She is 46 years old. She was homeless pregnant teenager by 15 years old, now she has fifteen children who are emotionally entrapped, constantly getting arrested for various incidents. Poverty in USA has not been just financial issue in USA, which exemplifies that the poverty is not just having money but strict life chances, negative life styles and limited chances.

According to Dr. Robert L. Hawkins, the notion of complex poverty as some may call as even extreme poverty goes beyond the idea of the relative poverty that mostly understand. He stated that it would at least require twenty years to make everything right including education and health. Health is of vital importance, along with safe housing and education which makes it easier to get a job. However, he stated that the myth in USA is that if poor people work more that they would be rewarded by success. Contrary, as he asserted, the job is not the sole thing, along with the job, the opportunities for growth should be available. If the job offers a very meager salary, which is the situation in USA, it will not render any help for the poor.

As per his observations, most of the people in USA are living on pay cheques. They often work two jobs. In the event of not doing two jobs, the life would be difficult for them which has eventually contributed to the job growth in USA, of which the mass reality is that the low wages with no opportunities. Some are self-employed which is rare in USA, and some are doing temporary jobs. The ultimate reality of all sorts of these jobs is that they are poorly paid. Further, he exemplified that many people who are struggling to live in USA, has a long history of reluctant welfare while there is no universal system. 47% of receive some kind of welfare but not consistently. The disable people get some kind of subsistence, but proof is required annually in order to continue it. Dr. Robert L. Hawkins stated that 47% of people have full time jobs but not entitled to welfare, often they have a second job. There is growing economy, but only richer are getting richer and poor getting poorer. He further noted that the working poor work for 27 weeks but still they are below the poverty line attributing to 8 million of people. The homeless not poor

by the official records stay in temporary houses car or with friends, which amounts to around hundred thousand.

As per his observations, the difference of poverty in USA is the role played by race. Very little operates without consideration of race. The race ultimately decided who has power and the opportunity to be educated and richer. The fastest growing poor population in USA is white Americans. African Americans, immigrants and Asians also attribute to poverty. Single poor ethnic group in New York city is Chinese American which is growing while experiencing the urban poverty. Thus, poverty still exist in high number in USA.

In addition, he highlighted that the poverty of Philippine is still not seen as a societal problem. The structured failures, neglect for education, lack of jobs, low quality houses, few opportunities exploiting low income people, increase in the number of females led households, family breakups all these amount to poverty. Schools are under resources, crime have increased. When the children lack opportunities, poverty takes a psychological turn in addition to economy and other issues.

Poverty as a trauma

Dr. Hawkins exemplified that how living in poverty render multiple traumatic life experiences. Low income people than the other income people, become victims, perpetrators of crimes. Children experience school failure and some are likely to lose a job. Taking into account an ethnographic study conducted after the hurricane Kathrina, He stated that he has noticed certain people emotionally devastated, but not the poor people, according to him the interviewees have stated that this is not the first time that they have lost everything, the last time they have experienced such predicament it has been much more worse. The aftermath of losing everything is not the worse for them. That is the USA. Thus, what he was trying to assert is that the economic deprivation is not the only part of poverty. Therefore, it is not the best effort to compare the extreme poverty and relative poverty.

Research around poverty

As per Dr. Hawkins, the researchers have unearthed that the economic deprivation along is not the reason for poverty. The poverty has larger effects. It starts in the neighborhood and negatively affects the neuro cognitive development of an individual, which makes him unable to control his

emotions and difficult situations because of the trauma, he has experienced. Thus, the poverty constraints the development of an individual, it limits his growth, constraints his opportunities. The poor child feels burned, stressed when he has to sustain his family. By the time they reach the adolescence, they become victims and experience dysregulation and developmental problems. Even when they leave the poverty, the effect is still there. There is a 70% chance of being in racial to be poor. He further notes that, in USA, the poverty has a long-time effect, psychological, societal, impact is overwhelming stating that there are ongoing researches on social isolation. The social capital on the other hand allows to get greater benefits from the friends those who are well connected, for example in the means of reaching and employment, as Dr. Hawkins noted, this where the social isolation matters, the requirement is thus to connect people. The social isolation leads to a psychological impact, the opportunities are eliminated and there is a rage. As per the studies, he has done in Philippines, it is speculated that whether the poor understand poverty as an individual issue, where they blame other people for their problems. Poor people blame poor people for the problems and they have stereotypes about people. According to him there are certain things visible in Philippines, that are consistent in USA. Though the racial issue is absent in that context, in USA it is a special case. In Philippines issues such as the regional discrimination as in China, can be noticed.

Dr. Hawkins stated that how similar patterns were noticed in Philippines where some villages the economic growth is 1%, still poverty not seen as an issue. There are locations. Poor people are required by politicians in all contexts. He further stated that the reason is that if you are poor, you will fight with the other racial group which would invariably benefit the politicians.

As Dr. Hawkins remarked, similarities are one of the big indicators that matter to the governmental policies. In industrial countries, there is lack of human capital and educational opportunities which is visible in USA. According to the speaker the other aspect is the limited opportunities for women especially in Philippines. In USA, it is the lack of healthcare opportunities, so the comparisons are to be made along those contexts.

Miss Hannah Singer – United Nations Country Representative to Sri Lanka

Miss Singer initiated her speech thanking Dr. Robert for his brilliant speech. She stated that it is a great pleasure to represent the United Nations in the 05th International Research Conference on Poverty and Sustainable Development. She welcomed the erudite audience to the gorgeous Colombo and stated that it is lovely to talk about sustainable development. It was highlighted that the three years ago, 20/30 Sustainable Development Goals were adopted. SDGs won certain challenges in eradicating poverty and creating an inclusive peaceful society. As per Miss Singer's remarks the improvements in healthcare, education, women empowerment, and preservation of indigenous people are notable. Miss Singer further stated that the eradication of extreme poverty requires a multi-dimensional approach for owing to the fact that poverty is not a phenomenon that is decided by the income alone. Thus, a multi-dimensional approach is required to improve the life style of the poor. In addition, she observed that more than 10% of the people in the world live in extreme poverty while 1.3 billion of people live in multi-dimensional poverty that concerns living standards. Sickness, unemployment, disasters and conflicts aggravate poverty. As Miss Singer asserts the eradication of extreme poverty is not a matter of charity, but it is a matter of justice. Further, Miss Singer noted that in Sri Lanka, the access to the benefits of the development and the inequality should be addressed. Further, the economic sector should be stimulated while investing in quality infrastructure, quality health system, access to quality water. The opportunities for women should be readily available without gender inequality. She further highlighted the fact that it is very interesting in Sri Lanka that the women education gender gap is 36.7% and women in labor is 70.4% for men while stating that it is a very sharp contrast to the high level of education. In addition, Miss Singer noted that the female political participation is only 6% which is below the world average while insisting the fact that the government should have good faith towards development. Its indispensable ingredients are democracy, employment opportunities, access to social protection, justice, respect for human rights and environmental protection. Thus, she asserted that the sustainable development goals cannot be achieved by governments only, it needs full engagement of society, academia who have to play a critical role in eradicating poverty. She expressed her aspirations that this academic discussion will resolve issues pertaining to realize the SDGs while insisting the need to constitute integration, cooperation through governments and agencies to eradicate poverty and starvation once and for all.

Technical Session 01: Circular Economic and Poverty

Chaired by: Prof. Yeung W.J.J

Evaluated by: Dr. Peter Abrahamson(Sociology at University of Copenhagen,Denmark)
Dr. Robert L Hawkins(New York University Silver School of Social Work,United

Topic	Name
Poverty Targeting and Economic Growth in India	Prof. Arup Mitra, Mahuwa Paul (University of Delhi, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, India)
Women Empowerment through Micro-Credit: Case of Rural Punjab, Pakistan	Anwar N., M Luqman (University if Sargodha, Pakistan)
A production Network Approach to estimate value added for SME and Employment Creation (Gains): The Indonesian Case in Global Value Chain	Esquivias M.A, Muriyani, Handoyo R.D (Universitas Airlangga, Indonesia)
A verification of the efficacy of SHG Micro-Credit Scheme for sustainable development in India: A case study	Prof. V. Nirmala, S. Mariappan (Pondicherry University, India)
A role of Micro finance institutions in rural area in poverty alleviation: case study of Nuwakot District of Nepal	Baburaja Maharjan (Nepal Electricity Authority, Nepal)

Highlights of the Session: A Mitra described how poor benefit from the economic growth in the Indian context. Economic growth has wider variations in Indian context. According to the findings, inequality affect has been some improvements. Yet poverty inequality is rising in number, especially in rural areas. Rising inequality has greater impact on poverty despite the economic growth. N. Anwar from University of Sarghoda, Pakistan reported that women are highly affected by poverty comparative to men, factors of disempowerment in terms of access to education, jobs are notable. The findings reveal that the micro-credit enhance the productivity and the skills level of woman and it decreases the vulnerability towards poverty. M.A Esquivais describing on value

added for SME and Employment Creation (Gains) in Indonesia, reported that 60% of Indonesian workers are relatively low skilled. Thus, a larger value-added export come from unskilled workers and most of the value added in Indonesia remain within the region where the trade helps to reduce poverty faster. Thereby, the need is there to equip the workers with the required expertise and skills. Prof Nirmala from the University of Pondicherry presenting her findings on the efficacy of micro-credit scheme in India reported that the scheme has facilitated better living standards, better income, better social standards over the years for the poor. The need to increase the loan repayment period and providing training opportunities were the ultimate recommendations.

Discussion & Remarks

Remarks were raised with regard to the relationship between inequality and poverty, where it was highlighted that the inequality in rural areas are increasing but people are getting away from rural areas thus poverty is more widespread in urban areas. Remarks were made by the Chair with regard to the implementation of micro-credit scheme in Pakistan in particular about the probability of paying and as to how does it matter. It was stated that the NGO's play a participatory role in this scheme by endowing the people with relevant skills and the size of the loans depend on the repayment capacity. In replying to the recommendations with regard value added for SME and Employment Creation, it was highlighted that the governments should give more infrastructure facilities while introducing more income generating activities considering the education levels.

Round Table Discussion: Dr. Peter Abrahamson, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

The round table discussion was concentrated on the topic of qualitative different welfare regimes. According to Anderson, there are four distinctive different forms. One model is family-oriented model where the local community being responsible for the welfare, which could be noted in Southern Europe. In addition, there is focus on labor market, which is prevalent, where the transference of resources occurs from group to group. This includes social benefits, formal employment benefits such as pension, funeral funds, sickness fund, covered by collective redistribution model. In countries like Scandinavia, we find the universal model where the state takes the responsibility for the citizens irrespective of their financial systems. Thus, states have many different ways of providing welfare, each having their challenges. What are the consequences if a social system moves from family based, social based, market based to a universal system? We have a tendency of feminization the poverty with sensitivities such as gender, class and ethnicity. Inter-generational transfer in in sociological sense is important. What are the tendencies in your country concerned, reflections on what are these changes mean in sociological aspect?

Discussion & Highlights

Remark: In Indonesia there are different aspects. 70% are informal workers trying to move for formal structures. The governments is trying to make the formal and informal structures work together including the nation's health system and the education system. There is integration of small markets with global markets, thus the fragmentation of structures is visible.

Remark: It does not by pass the formality when it comes to taxation. 50% GDP goes to the state coffers. Universal system is mostly expensive, how do you get money in Indonesia to sustain these systems?

Answer: People are slowly getting used to the system, a smaller proportion of old people exist. 1% of tax is paid from the revenue, however very few people pay tax. Thus, taxation is certainly a big problem.

Remark: In India, it is a different scenario, where caste plays a critical role in facilitating jobs. In metropolitan cities, workers continuously work in the same job given the caste. Thus, the social discrimination, education system difference has an important bearing when it comes to caste. When it comes to the job market they have to go for the informal sector. Most of the academics are unable to modify the system, thus multiple dimensions of poverty has to be taken in to consideration.

Remark: In USA, the idea of tax is horrifying people. People think that they are overtaxed. I paid lot of taxes last year. This is built in the political system. The politicians get elected and then re-elected. Having a universal health system is still virtually impossible to any political party. Social security system is the best we have. But the tendency is there to curtail the food stamps and to use them to gain political mileage. Marginalized people are set against each other. There is no road map in USA to get them out of the poverty.

Remark: In Indonesia, the donors do not understand the socio-cultural aspects related to poverty. That is often the biggest problem This evident when implementing energy resources projects.

Remark: Taking about the rural China, I think we should think that the marginalized people groups have their own sources, they can find their own sources no matter their conditions. When a framework is drawn for them, they have their own strategies which are more viable.

Remark: speaking from a Sri Lankan perspective, we have 80% urban and rural economy, our rural economy is based on agriculture and people are leaving for urban areas seeking jobs. Technology should connect the rural and urban areas with businesses. Infrastructure facilities should be developed in urban areas and industries like textile should be introduced. Agricultural economy should be developed with other industries like eco-tourism.

Remark: I think the insight is that the state must provide the relevant infrastructure.

Remark: Speaking again from an Indonesian perspective, when we talk about infrastructure, I think more emphasis should be given to change management. When the technology is introduced to the agricultural sector, they refuse to assimilate and to garner better results. They only use technology to enjoy themselves. Thus, the government should initially work on change management.

Remark: I think the regulation should therefore lie with the state. We cannot expect the telephone coverage to be implemented, if it is not profitable. It is a political idea that no one is left behind. We need the government to go in and regulate.

Remark: I think telecommunication is same as energy. In Indonesia, there are very rural areas where we need to build power plants first to get there the energy. Then they can get better lighting for education, but economically it is not profitable for power sector given the small number of households.

Technical Session 02: Poverty and Social Impact

Chaired by: Dr. Joeshp G. Balaoign (Adamson University, Philippines)

Evaluated by: Dr Varuni Jayasooriya (University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka)
Dr. Peter Abrahamson(Sociology at University of Copenhagen,Denmark)

Topic	Name
Feminization of Poverty in the Context of Women's Disempowerment and Gender Disparity	Zaria Amber (Education Department, Pakistan)
Poverty and Gender Analysis and the Factors Influence	Dr. Muriyani (Airlangga University, Indonesia)
Indigenous Peoples and Reservation Poverty: The Trade-off between Socioeconomic Status of Kalinagoos and Cultural Preservation	McDougall A.C (University of East London, United Kingdom)

Highlights of the Session: The session was concentrated on the theme of poverty and social impact and three researchers presented their findings. Zaria Amber speaking on Feminization of Poverty in the Context of Women's Disempowerment and Gender Disparity, stated that women empowerment is indispensable. Women are mostly disempowered in control over income while men in terms of group membership. Dr. Muriyani stated that role of women is still limited in public affairs and there is difference in poverty condition between men. Thus, women with better education and credit limit would experience shorter transient poverty. McDougall A.C speaking on Indigenous Peoples and Reservation Poverty stated that there is correlation between culture loss and poverty eradication. The encroachment of global nuance has threatened the micro cultures like that of Kalingoos in Caribbean.

Discussion & Remarks

The Judging panel and Chair questioned each presenter during the discussion time. Participants in the audience also asked for further clarifications on vulnerability of women and the role of micro-finance, cultural poverty, and about the sample, hypothesis taken for the studies concerned.

Keynote Forum: Dr. Peter Abrahamson, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

A World Free from Want: Poverty and Social Exclusion in the 21st Century

Speaking on the above topic, Dr. Abrahamson noted that the increasing inequality leads to decreasing poverty thus highlighting the need to be clear on definitions. Inequality at national level encompasses both developing and developed countries. With SGD goals, first time in history, the steps are underway to work towards to get away from poverty. Definitions of poverty are important, since a good definition is required to manipulate to reach the poor. Poverty includes social exclusion which is disadvantage of employment, education and deprivation of social benefits. According to the welfare demand, the resources can flow through family, networks and state. Thus, poverty decide the opportunities to reach out the people. Number of people depend on poverty definitions. Poverty is reducing progressively and there is a decline in all regions. China accounts for the most decline of poverty.

However, according to Dr. Abrahamson the critical point is that in reality the global poverty and hunger have been worsening. It seems that the UN is manipulating the data. The eventual question is how to fight poverty. As Dr. Abrahamson asserted, the possible solutions are trying and provide employment, conditional cash transfer, or migration. The investment in basic social security, education and health care facilities are utmost important. He further stressed on the need to have a universal healthcare, free public education and employment opportunities. As per Dr. Abrahamson, these are important paradigms. Latin America and East Asia are trying to implement these factors. Migrate might add more to the situation. However, migration is important in terms of redistribution of resources, international community has to protect the migrant workers.

The ideal pre-conditions to fight poverty is guaranteed in fulltime jobs with a minimum wage as he asserted this can help to reach a situation where no body is poor. UN is working for an ideal universal approach based on universal citizenship. Given the time constraints, Dr. Abrahamson concluded his speech while thanking everyone.

Technical Session 03: Education and Poverty

Chaired by: Dr. Esquivias M.A (Universitas Airlangga, Indonesia)

Evaluated by: Dr. Robert L Hawkins (New York University Silver School of Social Work, USA)
 Dr Darshana Rajapaksha (University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka)

Topic	Name
Poverty, Migration and Young Children's Cognitive Development in China	Chen X, Yeung (National University of Singapore)
Determining New Measures: Evaluation of the Summer School of Life Programs (SSLP) for the Inclusive Years 2015-2017	Joseph G. Balaoing (Adamson University, Philippines)
Schooling and Desilking Children: A critical look into the schooling system and its implication on competitiveness	C Jerome Samraj (Pondicherry University, India)

The session was concentrated on the theme of education and poverty, Chen X presenting her findings exemplified how does poverty affect pre-school children, early childhood is crucial for the cognitive development. The conclusion of the study is that the poverty affects the children even before the formal schooling thus a stimulating environment is needed for the child for development. Joeshp G. Balaoign reported that university summer programs for the underprivileged could help them to improve their life conditions by allowing them to have better job prospects and eventually their quality of life. C. Jerome Samraj, in his research based on his teaching experiences, stated the inequality which is presented in the education system in India, which has been designed to maintain the supremacy of the ruling class in India. The discrimination has eventually led to an alarming suicide rate.

Discussion & Remarks

The questions pertaining to migration in china and the difference between the child poverty rates and income groups were raised. It was discussed at length the conditions pertaining to migrated child, the perks that they can have in a rural setting and urban setting. The clarifications were sought with regard to the means of financings the university summer school program and the nature of the courses. With regard to the final presentation, it was discussed that inequality in education is not only limited to India but also available in USA, further the comments were made with regard to the situation in Pakistan where caste, vernacular language and English matter in terms of fostering inequality. Concluding the session, the chair summed up the session which brought into debate many sensitive topics.

*Remark: Technical Session 04 on Poverty and Social Impact was not conducted

Technical Session 05: Governance, Technological Advances and Poverty

Chaired by: Prof. V. Nirmala (Pondicherry University, India)

Evaluated by: Dr Darshana Rajapaksha (University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka)
Dr. Robert L Hawkins(New York University Silver School of Social Work,United States)

Topic	Name
Urban poor and Climate Change Adaptation: The Issue of Equity in Two Emerging Urban Areas of Eastern Indonesia	H.S Fathoni (The Australian National University, Australia)
Information and Communication Technology and Poverty: A Study form a Social Construction of Technology Perspective	Tripti Das (Indian Institute of technology)

Governance in Poverty Alleviation Programs for “No Poverty”, A Case Study from Sri Lanka	W.H.M.MY Wijesinghe, H.S.L De Saram (Sri Lanka Law, College Sri Lanka)
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The session was concentrated on the theme of governance, technological advances and poverty and three research presentations were conducted. H.S Fathoni speaking in reference to the east Indonesia exemplified the fact that how certain social groups being affected by the Climate Change. The eventual findings reveal that when it comes to policy making, the policy makers need to create climate change adaptation a priority. Tripti Das stated that the ICT has different impacts but has been shaped by different social paradigms. ICT is expected to bring positive changes in terms of political, social cultural and economic terms across India. Thus, the recognition of the needs by the relevant departments is a foremost priority. W.H.M.MY Wijesinghe, H.S.L De Saram speaking on findings with special focus on Samurdhi program, stated that the role played by governance is crucial when it comes to eradication of poverty. It was stated that the politicization of the program has made it highly vulnerable over the years.

Discussion and Remarks

The questions pertaining to the kinds of vulnerability faced by the poor due to the climate change was raised by the audience, thus it was highlighted that it would be better provide furthermore examples as to how climate change would affect the poor. Observation was made that comparison of poverty programs with general IT programs requires serious understandings of the programs concerned. The clarifications was sought with regard to the Samurdhi programs over the increase of the number of beneficiaries and about the real allocation of the funds. Concluding the session, the chair summed up the session thanking everyone for presenting valuable findings.

Technical Session 06: Poverty Monitoring, Poverty Management and Analysis

Chaired by: Dr. C. Jerome Samraj (Pondicherry University, India)

Evaluated by: Dr. Robert L Hawkins(New York University Silver School of Social Work, United States)
 Dr. Peter Abrahamson(Sociology at University of Copenhagen, Denmark)

Topic	Name
Financial Development and Income Inequality in Indonesia: A Sub-National Level Analysis	Harry Aginta, D.A Soraya, W.B Santoso (Bank Indonesia)
Conditions of the Extreme Poverty – Survey and Solutions	Jabeen, Z (Institute of Management Sciences, Pakistan)
Negotiating Tendulkar Poverty Line – Sensitivity Analysis for Developed and Under Developed Indian States	M. Balaji (Indian Institute of Technology, India)
Challenges in Monitoring Poverty using Survey to Survey Imputations. Experiences from Malawi	A.L Mathiassen (Statistics Norway, Norway)
The Effects of Prolonged Economic Stressors in Minority Low-Income Neighborhoods on Family Functioning and Child Developmental Outcomes	Kamps, Peter (Department of Family and Support Services)

Highlights: The session was concentrated on the theme of poverty monitoring, poverty measurement, and analysis and five researchers presented their findings across various topics. Harry Aginta et al speaking on Financial Development and Income Inequality in Indonesia stated that the income inequality level declined soon after the 2015. The eventual findings stated that the

financial inclusive aids provided by the banks concerned and inclusive of the economic growth contributes to reduce the income inequality. Jabeen, Z speaking on Conditions of the Extreme Poverty stated that the poverty has not reduced in Pakistan despite the news, as per the study conducted in suburban slums the majority of people work in extreme poverty conditions without free health, education. M. Balaji exemplified the exclusion and inclusion error in Tendulkar poverty line, there is 90 million people between the line with serious ramifications on action plants to the poverty programs concerned. A.L Mathiassen stated that though according to the standard approach to measure poverty there has been an improvement since 2004 to 2009 but as per the new budget surveys shows there has been no improvements of such and this has been a very serious situation in Malawi. Peter Kamps speaking on the Effects of Prolonged Economic Stressors in Minority Low-Income Neighborhoods stated that many families living in poverty stricken areas are highly associated with crimes thus he stated that eventually there is a high level of correlation between poverty and crimes.

Discussion and Remarks

Questions pertaining to stimulate the motivation of opening bank accounts for working class people were asked. In addition, the clarifications were sought with regard to the funding of the projects in Indonesia. It was observed that in Tamil-Nadu, schools were introducing meal programs to eradicate extreme poverty and the parents were sending their children to the schools merely to get the meals. Questions were forwarded with regard to the measures that have been taken to gap that has been exemplified by the Tendulkar Poverty Line. Clarification was sought pertaining to the hypothesis of the study challenges in monitoring poverty using survey to survey. With regard to the final research study, the Chair highlighted that the correlation between crimes and poverty is dubious thus it is speculated that the entire scope of the study was not captured when reaching the conclusion. Concluding the session, the chair summed up the session thanking everyone for presenting valuable findings.

The Awards

The Awards of the 05th International Conference on Poverty and Sustainable Development were distributed as follows,

Session Best winners

CIRCULAR ECONOMIC AND POVERTY

Women Empowerment through Micro-Credit: Case of Rural Punjab, Pakistan

Anwar N., M. Luqman (University of Sargodha, Pakistan)

POVERTY AND SOCIAL IMPACTS

Feminization of Poverty in the Context of Women's Disempowerment and Gender Disparity

Zaria Amber (Education Department, Pakistan)

EDUCATION AND POVERTY

Poverty, Migration and Young Children's Cognitive Development in China

Chen X., Yeung W.J.J. (National University of Singapore, Singapore)

GOVERNANCE, TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES AND POVERTY

Governance in Poverty Alleviation Programs for "No Poverty", A Case Study of Sri Lanka

W.H.M.M.Y. Wijesinghe¹, H.S.L. De Saram²(¹Sri Lanka Law College, Sri Lanka, ²University of Colombo, Sri Lanka)

POVERTY MONITORING, POVERTY MEASUREMENT AND ANALYSIS

Challenges in Monitoring Poverty Using Survey to survey imputation. Experiences from Malawi

A.L. Mathiassen (Statistics Norway, Norway)

OVERALL BEST RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

Harry Aginta, D.A. Soraya, W.B. Santoso (Bank Indonesia, Indonesia)

STUDENT BEST RESEARCH PRESENTATION

Chen X., Yeung W.J.J. (National University of Singapore, Singapore)