

A Performance Review of Rural Workers and Islamic Councils in the Development of Rural Entrepreneurship (Case study: Bahabad, Yazd Province)

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

Today exploiting the participation and the abilities of local people, particularly rural population, toward rural development has been considered as one of the effective strategies toward sustainable and comprehensive development of rural areas. The most important tool to achieve this goal is establishing NGOs based on the needs as well as abilities of different groups living in the villages, in diverse and essential issues of indigenous and local environment, in order to perform rural developmental programs. These organizations, in economic and social fields – due to avoid a complex public sector bureaucracy and profit making of private sector - made it possible to in such areas as fighting poverty and hunger, environmental protection, forestry, increase awareness General welfare, health, community and family,

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according to Women and Children, redacting social damages and act Successful than the private and public sectors. Villages in the contemporary developments and threats facing widespread, and therefore ensure continuity of rural life and survival requires solutions and new methods to deal with problems that are innovative, invent, create products, processes and techniques depend on is large. For this purpose, managers must take on roles that are peripheral to suit changing conditions. Thus, rural development compared with the last link with the concept of entrepreneurship has wider. In recent years, the Islamic Councils and Rural Workers have been defined as the new managerial bodies in villages. As local people-centered managerial entities that are direct responsible bodies in villages, Rural Workers and Islamic Councils can make policies, manage and implement various educational programs, help the development of necessary infrastructures, attract financial resources, and play a major role in the development of rural entrepreneurship, paving the way for the development of rural entrepreneurship.

Essentially, the two factors of entrepreneurship are determined as opportunity and desire to become entrepreneurs. The main factors driving opportunities include: internal entrepreneurial abilities, attempting to investment, market entry and general macroeconomic environment is. Entrepreneurship development is influenced by different factors. These factors can generally be divided into two groups of: (a) Individual factors, and (b) the environmental ones. This study investigated the role and practice of Islamic Councils and Rural Workers in gaining the local people participation and the development of entrepreneurship in the region's rural areas.

Methodology

The type of this study is practical and its method is surveying. Collecting the data and information has done through documentary and field research methods and the data collection tools were questionnaires as well as interviews. Data have been analyzed using SPSS software and descriptive-analytical information's. The population of studied area includes villagers, entrepreneurs, officials, local experts and commentators in villages of Bahabad. Based on the Cochran formula, a sample size has been selected, consisting 143 rural people, 45 officials, and 30 entrepreneurs. The study area boundaries include parts of villages in Yazd Province,

Bhabad and Bafq city and pool research in the years 1387 and 1388 was conducted. Results of research indicate that Rural Workers and the Islamic Councils had been relatively successful in the development of rural entrepreneurship; and local people believe that entrepreneurs, officials, experts and local commentators, Islamic council and Rural Workers have properly provided the necessary fields for the development of entrepreneurship in rural areas such as entrepreneurial infrastructures, entrepreneurial attitude and behavior, attracting financial and economic resources, and cultural and social factors.

Finding

According to the above mentioned factors, the practices of Rural Workers and councils have been acceptable and led to the development of rural entrepreneurship. The policy of developing people participation in developmental programs can play an important role in the development of entrepreneurship. Due to the contexts and features that are suitably available in the rural environment, the possibility of forming NGOs and organizing them in different contexts is completely provided. Organizations and nongovernmental organizations as institutions that represent different classes of people in the rural section are very effective tools for the development of entrepreneurship policies and accordingly can respond unmet civil rights, needs, demands and expectations of various classes of society by providing the ground for innovation and entrepreneurship in different areas. They can also increase the transparency, reduce the bureaucracy corruption, facilitate downsizing, simplify regulations, and ultimately increase the efficiency and effectiveness of state management in rural development. Restore, improve or create such local people-centered organizations (in the villages and generally at country's level) actually means democracy, assignment of affairs to the people, decrease of government's costs and responsibilities towards the rural management and also recruitment of public contributions in rural areas' construction and developmental activities. This ultimately could lead to development of infrastructures, conditions and characteristics of rural entrepreneurship.

Keywords: Rural Entrepreneurship Development, NGOs, Popular participation, Rural worker, The Islamic Council.

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