

Multi-Sectoral Partnership Approach; a Faith-Based Model for the Development of Health Infrastructures in Islamic Societies

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Abstract

Background and Objective: Today, the strategy of public-private partnerships is acceptable for providing economic and social services and infrastructures and public sector policymakers make use of its various models. Considering the successes and failures of countries and the growing needs of the health sector, a question arises as to how such partnerships in health development strategies can be attractive and effective in the Islamic developing countries. Therefore, the aim of the present study was to examine the development of partnerships with a religion-based approach by reviewing the multi-sectoral partnership model.

Methods: In a current descriptive-analytical study, in addition to studying the Quranic verses and hadiths and also the valid internal documents in the field of hospital endowments; the related keywords were combined by logical operators and searched on reputable international scientific databases. Eventually, more than 40 original articles and reviews related to the topic were selected and their themes were selected, analyzed, and then interpreted. The authors have not reported any conflicts of interest.

Results: Besides the review of theoretical foundations of the subject and examining the development process of public-private partnerships, the study emphasizes the use of the third sector capacities and by reviewing the endowments and charitable affairs in the framework of multi-sectoral partnerships, it seeks to promote health in the community with all the existing resources. In the three phases of acceptance, application and performance evaluation of partnerships, the relevant elements, namely motivational factors, success factors and achievements of the partnership, and the corresponding dimensions and components were identified.

Conclusion: Public-private-people partnership as a model that is rooted in the new theories of public administration as well as Islamic and Iranian beliefs and values can be used as an approach to overcoming the failures in the development of public infrastructure of the society and the shortcomings of health care in the country, but the ways to achieve this goal depends on building trust and balancing the interests of the parties.



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Summary

Background and Objective

Today, governments around the world face problems such as rising health expenditures and declining government budgets and none of the public or private sectors will be able to solve the many problems facing the health sector alone.

Therefore, 3Ps, as a mechanism of cooperation between government and the private sector, are on the agenda in public policy (1). In other words, collaborative networks are a set of governmental, non-profit, and for-profit entities that operate to provide a product, service, or public value where the government is unable to and the private sector is unwilling to produce that service or value (2). In the meantime, what is important in the developing countries is to look for a model of participation that is not only attractive because of its low risk, but also has the necessary efficiency and effectiveness to lead to public justice. On the other hand, one of the non-profit activities in the Islamic culture is the good tradition of endowment and charity, which today has a smaller role for various reasons. However, due to its brilliant history in the development and management of hospitals, the importance of and the need for using this potential in the society is obvious to everyone. The present study seeks to develop a model of multi-sectoral participation using all the available resources and have a special look at the health status of the Islamic developing countries.

Methods

This study is a descriptive-analytical study that examines the attractiveness and effectiveness of partnerships with a special focus on health in the developing and Islamic countries. To do this, we studied the Quranic verses and hadiths, and searched for domestic articles in the field of hospital endowments. Also, the keywords such as Public-Private Partnerships, Sector capacities, Developing Countries, Health, Motivation, Performance and Health Donors were searched using logical operators on valid scientific databases. Despite the vast amount of research conducted on public-private partnerships (3Ps), there was not much evidence of multi-sectoral partnership agreements. However, the presentation of such cases in specialized documents is increasing. Finally, more than 40 more relevant articles related to the context and topic of the study were selected and analyzed.

Results

Under the current sensitive situation, general policies of the health system can be an obligation and an opportunity for planning and developing partnerships and for the government's use of financial resources and the executive capacity of the non-governmental sector of the society, both for-profit and non-profit (3). In the meantime, if the private sector is provided with a calculated program and the necessary incentives and support,

this partnership will be attractive to it. On the other hand, utilizing the cultural and ideological potential of the community is important in reducing risk and developing partnerships for public access to health services.

This article reviews the theoretical foundations of the subject and examines the developmental process of public-private partnerships, emphasizes the use of the capacities of the third sector, and seeks to develop health care in the community with all the existing potentials by reviewing endowments and charitable affairs in the framework of multi-sectoral partnerships.

In this study; objectives and motivations, key success factors, and the results and consequences of participation were extracted by studying the related literature and the ideal 4Ps model for public health policy was introduced.

Conclusion

Multi Sectoral partnership is referred to as the most common possible form of participation to meet the needs of the low-income groups and is a reflection of successful measures on a significant scale that requires specific comparative advantages of each sector. For example, Cora (3) focuses on the study of a strategy that relies on a close interaction between the public, private and third sectors, and suggests that the idea of multi-sectoral partnership can be a solution to the housing development for lower classes in Brazil. But the pattern of multi-sectoral participation with a religious approach, as considered in the present study, is unprecedented and the integrated model is derived from new theories of public administration as well as Islamic and Iranian beliefs and values.

Fortunately, Iran has a good ground for moving towards the development of public infrastructures with the participation of donors. If there is serious government support and supervision, and private institutions that have the necessary knowledge and experience in the sectors are the other party to the contract, 4Ps can be an approach to overcome the existing failures in the development of public infrastructures and the shortcomings of the country's health sector. The framework developed for the development of public-private-people partnership (4Ps) in the present study includes a set of steps including:

Step 1: Creating the ground for partnership between the public sector, entrepreneurs and donors, and health professionals in the country.

Step 2: Developing common perspectives for

accepting the partnership strategy by delving deeper into the goals and motivations of the parties and recognizing the different types of contracts in each project.

Step 3: Guaranteeing that the conditions for the development of processes for the development of partnership are provided by recognizing the key success factors of participatory projects in the field of health.

Step 4: Evaluating the performances by examining the results and implications of the multi-sectoral partnership and providing feedback for subsequent decisions and policies.

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Ethical considerations

According to the authors of the article, this research is obtained from a part of the fourth author's doctoral dissertation in the field of public management with the code 158 and the approval date of 22/10/2019.

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Authors' contribution

Initial idea, article writing: fourth author; Providing advice on and supervision of the project: first author; Scientific advisors: second and third authors.

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