An Evaluation of the impacts of rural Guide plans on rural development from the villagers' viewpoints  
(Case study: Mylas and Sardasht Districts, Lordegan County)  
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Received 9 February 2013  
Accepted 21 April 2013

1. INTRODUCTION
The rural conductor plans (Guide plans) are the first organized and comprehensive national effort to physically organize the country's rural areas; they have been carried out in the villages since 1983. Thorough review and evaluation of the plan is deemed necessary because of the broad measures taken in preparing and implementing the rural conductor plants, it is assigned as one of the important responsibilities of Housing Foundation of Islamic Revolution in recent years and it has had various impacts on developing rural society of Iran. Due to the volume of prepared and in some cases implemented plans and the extent of rural population in Lordegan Township and increasing needs and demands of the rural community, it is quite essential to evaluate and revise the plans. Explaining the basics of evaluation, this study is trying to explore the effects of rural conductor plans on rural environment of Mylas and Sardasht districts in Lordegan Township which include the villages of Baraftab, Sardasht, Mamor town, Khardan, Baraftab Shirani town, Bagh-Anar Mylas, Dehnow of Mylas and Tal maran. Therefore, this study seeks to answer the main research question, "What are the effects of implementation of rural conductor plans on the study area?"

2. METHODOLOGY
This research was methodologically descriptive –analytical one and conducted by in a survey method. Questionnaire was the main tool used for gathering the required data; it was designed to include the most important items related to conductor plans and their evaluation. The population of the research included the households living in Mylas and Sardasht Dehestans (rural districts) (N=3197) where rural conductor plans have been implemented (at least 7 years has passed since the implementation of the plans) (Census

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of Population and Housing, 2006). To calculate the number of samples using Cochran formula, 190 households were selected through stratified random sampling. Questionnaires were the data collection tool designed by the researchers; in order to assess their validity and reliability, 30 questionnaires were used in a pilot study in three villages outside the study area. Reliability of the study was confirmed by Cronbach's alpha. Reliability coefficient was 0.857. The validity of the study was confirmed by experts and they demonstrated acceptable reliability. All statistical calculations in this study were performed using SPSS software package version 18.0. For data analysis, we were used factor analysis and Indicators. Accordingly, in order to compare the mean of each conductor plan based on the number of items, moderate level was considered as the radix point for the evaluation of the plans. According to direction of each item, scores higher than moderate level show more suitable conditions. The study area of this study was the rural areas of Mylas and Sardasgt Dehestans in the central part of Lordegan Township in Chahar Mahal Bakhtiari province. These Dehestans included 112 rural areas, 8,836 households and 34,258 people in 2006 (Census of Population and Housing, 2006).

3. DISCUSSION

The aim of the present study was to assess the implementation of the conductor plans in rural areas from the viewpoint of the sample society. In this study, the economic, socio-physical and environmental variables were evaluated. Considering the economic impacts of the plan, the results showed that more than 22.1 percent of the population believed the plan had good and very good performance, 27.5 percent of them believed the plan had moderate level of performance, and 50.4 percent of people believed the plan had weak and very weak performance in the economic improvement. The factor of raising and attracting productive capital with an average 2.16 had the least effect on the economic index or realization of this factor. According to this index, the communicative roads between the city and the rural areas, with a mean of 3.46 were more successful than other factors. With regard to environmental dimension, 41.1% of respondents stated that after the implementation of the conduct plans, the environmental conditions of the rural areas have become good compared to the past, 25.8% of the respondents believed the situation was weak or very weak, and 33.1 % of the respondents believed the situation was moderate. The factor of the efficiency of surface water drainage system in collecting rain water and disposal of household wastes with an average of 2.58 was less successful than other items.

4. CONCLUSION

On the other hand, preservation of agricultural lands against the residential and non-agricultural construction with an average of 4.18 had the highest success compared to other items of the index. With regard to the socio-physical index, more than 54 % of the
people have agreed on the improvement of this index after the implementation of the plan, 33.7 percent believed the index had moderately improved, and only 11.7 % of them have emphasized on the negative impacts of conduct plans on the physical-social conditions of their villages. In this index, the quality of rural housing and its standard construction, with an average of 4/31 had the highest level of success among other items of this index. Quality of rural pavements with an average of 2.76 has the least affect or realizability level among other items. But in general, the knowledge of rural households was insignificant about the implementation process and nature of the plans. But their proper implementation is considered to be effective in providing better living conditions, improved service levels, increased interest in residing in rural areas, and even attracting population to rural areas.

**Key words:** rural conduct plan, evaluation, rural development, Lordegan Township.

**References (in Persian)**


References (in English)