Spatial Analysis and Evaluation of Rural Development
(Case Study: Counties of Chaharmahal & Bakhtiyari)

Saeid Amanpour¹- Sadegh Mokhtari Chelcheh*²-Reza Hosseini Kahnoj³-Elham Veisi⁴

1-Associate Prof., in Geography & Urban Planning, Shahid Chamran University of Ahvaz, Ahvaz, Iran.
2- MSc. Student, in Geography & Urban Planning, Shahid Chamran University of Ahvaz, Ahvaz, Iran.
3- MSc. Student, in Geography & Rural Planning, Shahid Chamran University of Ahvaz, Ahvaz, Iran.
4- MSc. Student, in Geography & Rural Planning, Shahid Chamran University of Ahvaz, Ahvaz, Iran.

Received: 28 September 2014 Accepted: 17 February 2015

Extended Abstract

1. INTRODUCTION

The role of villages in the process of economic, social, and political development at the local, national, and regional scales and consequences of underdevelopment of the rural areas such as extensive poverty, increased disparity, rapid population growth, unemployment, migration, urban marginalization, etc. have turned the attention to rural development and from this perspective, many experts believe that the source of urban problems in the developing countries must be sought in underdevelopment of rural regions. Thus, in the planning process, in order to achieve sustainable development and keep up with that, it is necessary to consider the conditions of human societies and their needs in all aspects. What is certainly clear, however, is that, the regions are not endowed with resources and possibilities identically. In this direction, in spite of the extensive studies already carried out in Iran, they have not taken all the developmental aspects into consideration and it is the rural development indicators in general and sustainable development in particular that may provide a spatial analysis for rural development.

2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Since the 1970s, new strategies have been devised in response to the procedure of development planning. The basic need strategy was an influential one which was formulated by international labor organization and later in 1976 was adopted by many countries during the international conference for employment. However, this strategy sparked off multiple debates in the developing countries and many of them refused to adopt the strategy and instead gave weight to plans such as providing hygiene facilities, drinking water, rural roads, housing, electricity, etc. Because the international assistance is more easily and quickly accessible to develop such programs. Quite along with this strategy, numerous theories have been presented to transform the common strategies. For instance, Freedman and Douglas (1980), with a spatial approach, proposed the agro-Politian development. According to this theory, the village is brought to the city and city is brought to the village and the village-city has its own planning policy in a single framework. The policy of aggregation and the centralization of villages has been from this approach. The total development strategy is another one that was developed in the 1980s with an amalgam of outlooks which are subjectively and ideologically in contrast.

3. METHODOLOGY

The approach adopted toward the present study is developmental-practical and its method is descriptive-analytical which deals with the explanation and analysis of development levels of cities in the Charmehal & Bakhtiar province. In order to realize this goal, the spatial data of topographic maps 2000/1 for the province was prepared and the statistical data were collected through referring to the pertinent institutions and website of statistics organization. They were valued using 78 variables based on 8 main indicators of cities in the province. For this purpose, a questionnaire consisted of 8 indicators was used for pair comparison to obtain the experts’ points of view.

4- CONCLUSION

The obtained map from information overlay showed which villages of the province require much more attention and where they are located. On this basis, the villages around such cities as Kohrang, Lordegan, and Ardal are not in desirable conditions and they must be placed on the top
priority for development. Given that the villages in the cities like Saman, Ban, and Shahrekord have occupied the first to third ranks respectively, it must not be considered as an ideal situation since the development indicators fell short for these cities. Therefore, these villages must be taken into account as well. From another perspective, Farsan, Kiur, and Brojen have occupied the fourth, fifth, and sixth ranks respectively. With regard to these conditions, Kohrang, Lordegan, and Ardal must be placed on the top priority for development planning.

Given the above mentioned cases, the following matters are recommended to balance the development level of the villages around the cities:

- Giving the priority to deprived villages in the rural development plans, particularly Kohrang, Lordegan, and Ardal.
- Planning from down to top levels and giving attention to public participation of targeted group in the plans.
- Investing in and employing experts and professionals for recognizing the capabilities and potential talents of the villages.
- Reducing the migration from villages to the cities by strengthening the infrastructures and granting loans to motivate the villagers to remain in their regions.

**Key words:** Planning, spatial analysis, development level, rural development, AHP FUZZY model.

**References**


---

**How to cite this article:**


**ISSN**: 2322-2514  **eISSN**: 2383-2495