Presenting a Model to Explain the Relationship between the Sustainability of the Farming System and Life Quality in Rural Areas (Case study: Miandeh Dehestan of Fasa County)

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Extended Abstract

1. INTRODUCTION
Nowadays, the quality of life in rural areas depends on the quality of place. It depends on climate forces, forests, meadows and fields; generally speaking, it depends on natural resources. The Miandeh rural-ship of Fasa Township is one of those regions which has a desired climatic and geographic conditions and the agriculture as the main source of income and employment provides opportunities for rural areas to develop. Since the main default of sustainable development causes quality of life promotion and in addition, elimination of the poverty is the necessity of environmental sustainability, in this paper, the subject of agricultural sustainability and its relation to the quality of life in rural areas of Miandeh rural-ship in variety of dimensions has been assessed and it has been attempted to present conceptual model to explain the relationship of the sustainable quality of life. The concept of sustainable development is a broad approach which was considered socio-economic and environmental issues related to human activities. The origins of these issues come from Brant Lens commission report entitled "Our Common Future". The best known definition in terms of sustainable development was also presented in this report. The mentioned commission defines the sustainable development as: it is a development which meets the needs of the current time without endangering future generation's capability in satisfying their needs.

2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK
One of the important aspects of sustainable development is sustainable agriculture. Basically, there is no unique definition for sustainable development. Some experts have considered the sustainable agriculture from ecological angle and some others have noticed it as an expression beyond ensuring mere ecological aspects which include moral aspects, sustainable growth and sustainability of rural communities and institutions. While, what is agreed by most researchers is that sustainable development is obtained by the integration of the three development dimensions of economic, social and environmental processes. One of the other issues which has always been considering is the concept of quality of life. Cognition, measuring and promotion of the quality of life have been the main goals of the researchers, planners and governments in recent decades. Concept of the quality of life is a multi-dimensional concept which includes the factors such as: physical health, mental health, economic status, personal beliefs and interaction with the environment.

3. METHODOLOGY
This study is an applied research and its method is descriptive-analytic and descriptive-survey. The main research tool of the present study is questionnaire which its ultimate confirmation content validity has been substantiated based on the expert's opinions from various related organizations including experts of agricultural development, irrigation and farming in Jihad-e-Keshavarzi of Fasa County and some university professors. In the first step of the research, the primary variables were entered into factor analysis. The results indicate that one factor’s specific amount is greater than 1 in terms of any of both sections of sustainable agricultural development and quality of life. Afterward, the research model was designed based on the relationship between sustainable agricultural development and quality of life.

4. DISCUSSION
The obtained results from observed variables of the quality of life show that all variables have positive
Impact on the quality of life in rural areas and these variables are able to explain about 40 percent of the quality of life variances in rural areas. In this respect, the health variable and the income variable have the most impact on the villagers’ quality of life. Among the dimensions of sustainable agricultural development, any of the three dimensions have almost the same impact for explaining variance of the agricultural system sustainability. This amount is about 85 percent which is very high. The employed model in the research well illustrates the complexity of the relationships between variables of the agricultural sustainable development and the quality of life in rural areas. Indeed, the assessed model in this research has emphasis on the existence of the direct and significant relationship between quality of life and sustainability of the agriculture.

5. CONCLUSION
Considering the fact that health and income are among the basic human needs, noticing to these dimensions can play important role in the improvement of the quality of life in rural areas. But this should be added that all of the variables in determining the quality of life have their own role in rural areas and considering all of the variables is necessary in the planning. Since the environmental, social and economic dimensions play their own roles in sustainable agricultural development, noticing to all of these dimensions is necessary for achieving sustainability. Therefore, regarding the existence of the relationship between agricultural sustainable development and quality of life, paying attention to agricultural section as well as having strategic approach could play an important role in the promotion of the rural resident’s quality of life in the areas which have proper geographical and climatic conditions.

Keywords: Sustainable development, sustainable agriculture, quality of life, rural areas, rural-ship of Miandeh in Fasa County.

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