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## **INVESTIGATION THE EFFECT OF DIFFERENT EDUCATION LEVELS ON AGRICULTURAL VALUE ADDED**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this study is investigating the effect of three different levels of human capital education (primary, secondary, higher education) on agricultural value added sect based on advanced neoclassic model in developed nations of G8 members through use of econometric method and panel data and evaluation of coefficient of regressive model for all of G8 members during 1995-2010 by Eviews 7. The hypothesis is that there is a meaningful difference between the effects of different education levels on agricultural value added sect in G8 members. Obtained results showed that the effect of education on added value of agriculture sect is positive and meaningful at primary and secondary levels and negative and meaningful at higher education level.

**Keywords:** *Agricultural Value Added Sect, Education, Human Capital, G8 Members*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Knowledge-based economy term for the first time was introduced by economic organization of developed nations that represent the significant role of knowledge and technology in economy. In knowledge-based economy, knowledge is more important than past time from qualitative and quantitative viewpoints. Investment on knowledge means spending for those activities that leads to improvement of available knowledge level or acquiring and propagation of new knowledge. Generally, in knowledge-based economy, knowledge is the driving force of growth and wealth and leads to more production with respect to other traditional factors such as work and capital. Education, training or investments on human capital are some of prerequisites of knowledge-based economy.

In small scale, human capital means varying quality of labour force by improving their education levels and experiences and in large scale is the available knowledge and its impact on economy. In fact, in this study for investigating the effect of education on agricultural value added sect, human capital has been categorized into three different educated groups, i.e., primary, secondary and higher levels. Study and investigation of this subject could endow investors a proper knowledge about human capital composition and prepares necessary background policy suggestions for economic decision-makers and policymakers in all over the world especially in Iran.

After the WWII, because of continuous population growth, increase of GDP per capita and food security some nations thought about consumer's surplus. Soon afterwards, competitiveness and the application of knowledge and technology for optimized utilization of production factors and also growth of agricultural value added sect became the important issues of most countries (Torabi & Mohammadzadeh Asl, 2006).

Regarding to the fact that agriculture is one of the most important sect of the country that encompasses considerable present of production, employment and nonoil exports, thereupon, the purpose of this study is investigating the effect of human capital on agricultural value added sect in developed and industrialized nations of G8 group during 1995-2010.

### **LITERATURE & THEORETICAL**

Technology advancement and accessibility to convergence of technology through qualitative promotion of human force by improving the education and increase of training facilities for labour force in

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agricultural sect leads to increase of agricultural productions' efficiency and finally increase of growth rate of added value.

Agricultural sect is important from three viewpoints; firstly, it is an appropriate source for the development of industry and industry development in rural areas led to a dynamic progressive interaction between agriculture and industry; secondly, strategic significance of food production is an issue that nobody can ignore it, so susceptible and risky aspect that may overshadow the international political relations between various nations (Shakeri, 2004); thirdly, growth of non-agricultural sect of rural areas is depended upon, to great extent, the growth of agricultural sect; in fact, the increase of farmers' income leads to more demand and increase of employment of labour force and growth rate of payments in non-agricultural sect of rural areas; thus the immigrant labour force skew value-added of sectors (Mellor, 2004). In addition, agricultural value added sect have a considerable impact on added value of industry and services sects (Valadkhani, 1988). In addition to more increasing of competitiveness power, this sect could prepare an appropriate bed for effective help in the field of food security, welfare of rural society and decrease of migration from villages to urban areas. In addition to mentioned cases, saving supply, feasibility of exchange currency income and supply of labour force in agricultural sect are influential factors of economic growth (Tehranghian, 2003).

Government policies especially those related to technology, industry and education implies more attention and in this context the role of economic units and infrastructures, investment motivation and education is vital. In this direction, government have to be taken into account policies of preparing the bed for cooperation among state, universities and agricultural sect in such a manner that this cooperation led to enforcement, improving and prevalence of modern technology on all various economic and agricultural sects and facilitating development of communicational infrastructures. Moreover, these policies leads to better accessibility to skills and abilities through official training, encouraging individuals and agricultural units for continuous training and learning and finally making a compromise between supply and demand of labor force in agricultural sect based on required skills. It is expected that with regard to future economic prospects of the world, these states should attract the attention of investors toward the components of knowledge-based economy and acquiring competitive advantages in agricultural sect with appropriate decisions and performing proper economic policies and thereby bringing forth development of knowledge and technology, competitiveness power increase in international economy arena, continuous and sustain increase of economic growth of added value in agricultural sect and eventually social, political and economic development.

Hall and Scobie (2008) studied the decisive role of local and international knowledge on growth of agricultural value added sect in New Zealand; according to their conclusion, growth of agricultural value added sect in this country is strongly influenced by knowledge level.

Emadzadeh and Baktash (2005) believe that technology and technical knowledge play a significant role in manufacturing of industrial products, in addition, labor force with high level of technical knowledge and proper training are able to form a dynamic production cycle and technological transformation and lead to increase of productive capacity and competitiveness potential in national and international markets.

In this paper the effect of education level on added value of industry sect has been investigated by means of time series data of 1966-2001 periods and Cab-Douglas pattern. Obtained results showed that 1 present increase of physical capital and professional and nonprofessional labour work leads to 0.34, 0.29 and 0.11 present increase of added value of industry sect, respectively. Therefore, education has a positive effect on added value of industry sect and GDP shows a greater reaction with respect to professional labour force in comparison with other production factors. Additionally, training the labour force will increase production of industry sect and with increase of human capital the domestic production will also increase. This study suggest that economic growth, from one hand, stem from investment on human capital of industry sect, and from other hand, growth of industrial production.

Tahamipoor and Shahmoradi (2007) believe that, nowadays, all nations pursuit development in the field of productivity, that is, they could achieve more production with less consumption of resources. In order

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to increase productivity in Iran's economy, agricultural sector have to be taken into account as a main and significant sector of economic activities, because increase of productivity in this sector, regarding its high priority, could lead to economic development. From other hand, according to the article 5 of Fourth Development Plan, agricultural value added sector during fourth plan of development should be grow 6.5 percent annually that 2.2 percent of this growth should be obtained through improving productivity of all production factors. Thereupon, in this study productivity growth rate of all productive factors has been measured during years of fourth and previous development plans and then the share of productivity growth with respect to growth of added value has been computed. For this purpose, model of Solo residue index, added value variables, occupancy rate and the value of available agricultural capital have been used. Obtained results showed that annual average of productivity growth rate of all productive factors in agricultural sector during 1967-2003 is -3.08 percent.

Bashirimonazzam and Shahabadi (2011) argue that with regard to progressive growth of population and increase of demand for food and also due to limitation of production factors; based on endogenous growth models the best way for increase the efficiency per hectare is attention to R & D activities, attracting overflow of R & D of commercial partners and increase the cost of training and propagation. Thus, present study investigate the effect of accumulated internal and external research and development expenditures, accumulated cost of training and propagation and finally the influence of traditional factors on growth of added value in agricultural sector during 1968 – 2007 period. Study results represent a little effect of internal accumulation of research and development, in addition, no relation between external accumulation of research and development on growth of added value in agricultural sector observed, the relation between accumulation variable coefficient of agricultural training and propagation on added value of this sector is meaningless, while traditional variable coefficients of production (accumulation of labor force and physical capital) are meaningful.

### **RESEARCH METHOD**

In this paper, combinational data have been used for pattern assessment during 1995-2001 period and a regressive correlation between the impacts of human capital on agricultural value added sector in G8 member countries has been obtained and results will be evaluated.

G8 group consist of 8 industrial countries that form 65 % of world economy. Leaders of these countries hold a common conference annually. United State of America, Japan, Germany, United Kingdom, France, Italy, Canada and Russia are members of this group. In this study, World development Indicator (WDI) have been used for computing agricultural value added sector (AVA), labor force (L), physical capital (K) and productivity of all factors (TFP). Among different human capital indicators average years of education have more advantages relative to other indicators. In this paper, for human capital variable, average years of education has been used at three different levels, that is, primary (EDU1), secondary (EDU2) and higher education (EDU3) that are derived from Robert Barro and Jong-Wha Lee<sup>1</sup> data.

### **RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS**

#### **- Unit root test**

At first, it is necessary to investigate statistical properties of used variables in the model from viewpoints of conservativeness and possibility of existing the unit root.

Phillips-Perron (PP) unit root, Augmented Dickey-Fuller (ADF) and Pesaran and Shin (Im) tests are conducted for all variables of mentioned model. Results show that in model only labor force variable at 1st difference level has been conservative, other remaining variables are at the level of 5% conservativeness; in other words, null hypothesis based on non-conservativeness of remaining variables at

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<sup>1</sup> Barro and Lee has computed average years of education during 1950-2010 for 138 countries all of world that their results could be find in Harvard University website: <http://www.cid.harvard.edu/ciddata/ciddata.html>

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the level of 5% is rejected. Therefore, the variables of agricultural value added sect, physical capital, total productivity, primary secondary and higher levels of education are accumulated zero rank or I(0) and only labour force variable at 1st difference level is accumulated zero rank or I(0). Results are shown in table (1).

**Table (1): Results of unit root test of OPEC members' countries**

| Variables          | (PP) test statistic | P-value | (ADF) test statistic | P-value | (Im) test statistic | P-value | Accumulation order |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------|----------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|--------------------|
| AVA                | 60.859              | 0.000   | 57.264               | 0.000   | -5.10               | 0.000   | <b>I(0)</b>        |
| K                  | 41.573              | 0.000   | 45.894               | 0.000   | -4.22               | 0.000   | <b>I(0)</b>        |
| d <sub>i</sub> (L) | 55.107              | 0.000   | 51.967               | 0.000   | -4.74               | 0.000   | <b>I(0)</b>        |
| TFP                | 37.631              | 0.001   | 36.683               | 0.002   | -3.28               | 0.000   | <b>I(0)</b>        |
| EDU1               | 67.223              | 0.000   | 49.749               | 0.000   | -3.64               | 0.000   | <b>I(0)</b>        |
| EDU2               | 63.712              | 0.000   | 59.799               | 0.000   | -5.83               | 0.000   | <b>I(0)</b>        |
| EDU3               | 77.0818             | 0.0000  | 66.4642              | 0.0000  | -6.53               | 0.000   | <b>I(0)</b>        |

Source: Calculations of research

Now, model and its variable are introduced. Then, model estimation by virtue of Chaw tests (Likelihood ratio) has been done to determine whether the model is pooled or panel and if it is a panel, Hasman test should be used to be specified whether panel model is a model with constant or random affects. Afterwards, the model is estimated and its falseness and its autocorrelation at the end final model will be presented.

**- model introduction and used variables**

Based on present study and available data, following variables are used for model description.

$$AVA_{it} = f(L_{it}, K_{it}, TFP_{it}, EDU1_{it}, EDU2_{it}, EDU3_{it}) \quad (1)$$

Variables:

AVA<sub>it</sub>: Agricultural value added sect (in terms of current dollar) for 8 countries of G8 group during (1995-2010)

L<sub>it</sub>: Labor force of 8 countries of G8 group during (1995-2010)

K<sub>it</sub>: Physical capital of 8 countries of G8 group during (1995-2010)

TFP<sub>it</sub>: Total factors productivity of 8 countries of G8 group during (1995-2010)

EDU1<sub>it</sub>: Average years of primary education of 8 countries of G8 group during (1995-2010)

EDU2<sub>it</sub>: Average years of secondary education of 8 countries of G8 group during (1995-2010)

EDU3<sub>it</sub>: Average years of higher education of 8 countries of G8 group during (1995-2010)

i = 1, 2, 3, ..., 8

t = 1995-2010

In this study for evaluation variable of physical capital, physical capital adjustment equation has been used as follows:

$$K_t = (1 - \delta)K_{t-1} + I_t \quad (2)$$

Here,

K<sub>t</sub> is physical capital, I Gross investment and δ is depreciation rate that considered 4 % for all countries based on Rumer study (2001, Rumer) because there is no statistic about depreciation rate of various nations. It is notable that in economic studies that have been conducted about Iran's economy, depreciation rate has been considered 4 %. As could be observed, in above equation initial value of physical capital is needed. For obtaining initial value of physical capital PIM method has been applied. According to this method initial value of physical capital (K<sub>t-1</sub>) could be computed by the following equation:

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$$K_{t-1} = \frac{I_t}{r + \delta} \tag{3}$$

Here; r is average rate of annual investment growth.

Moreover, in this paper productivity of labor force has been computed by Dyvyzhya Index according to the following equation in each year and for all countries.

$$TFP = \frac{GDP}{k^{\alpha} * L^{(1-\alpha)}} \tag{4}$$

Here;

GDP is gross domestic product, K available capital, L labor force;  $\alpha$  capital share in production and  $1 - \alpha$  is share of labor force in production. Rumor argue that share of capital in production for countries is 1/3 that could be used as an approximation for productive elasticity of capital. It is notable that under complete competition circumstances and constant efficiency with respect to scale and lack of external consequences, productive elasticity of capital is equal to share of capital in production and obtained results of TFP based on both methods, that is, Solo remaining and Dyvyzhya Index are equal.

**- Chaw test (Lagrange coefficient)**

With regard to the results of Chaw test as could be observed from table (2),  $H_0$  hypothesis based on pooled model (non-panel model) is not rejected; therefore model is a pooled not a panel model. Thus, the model of combinational method is pooled model. Results of Chaw test are shown in table (2).

**Table (2): results of Chaw test**

| Effect Test     | Statistic | Degree of freedom | Prob   |
|-----------------|-----------|-------------------|--------|
| Cross-Section F | 1.083721  | (7,76)            | 0.3822 |

Source: Calculations of research

**– Model evaluation and results analysis**

As mentioned before, considered pattern has been evaluated by combinational method and its model is as follows:

$$AVA_{it} = \beta_1 + \beta_2 d_1 \log(L_{it}) + \beta_3 \log(K_{it}) + \beta_4 \log(TFP)_{it} + \beta_5 \log(EDU1_{it}) + \beta_6 \log(EDU2_{it}) + \beta_7 \log(EDU3_{it}) + u_{it} \tag{5}$$

Obtained results of model estimation have been shown in table (3).

**Table 3: Results of model estimation**

| Descriptive variable                 | Combinational data test |             |         |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|---------|
|                                      | Coefficient             | T statistic | P-value |
| Labor force                          | 4.73E+10                | 3.445285    | 0.0009  |
| Physical capital                     | 4.53E+10                | 33.22439    | 0.0000  |
| <b>Total Factor Productivity</b>     | 7.09E+10                | 5.955738    | 0.0000  |
| Average of primary education years   | 1.01E+12                | 11.21292    | 0.0000  |
| Average of secondary education years | 1.32E+11                | 10.28761    | 0.0000  |
| Average of higher education years    | -6.50E+10               | 8.874952    | 0.0000  |
| <b>c</b>                             | -4.23E+11               | -4.861746   | 0.0000  |
| F- statistic                         | 299.0020                |             |         |
| Prob(F-statistic)                    | 0.000000                |             |         |
| R <sup>2</sup>                       | 0.988041                |             |         |
| <b>Adjust R<sup>2</sup></b>          | 0.984737                |             |         |
| Durbin-Watson statistic (D-W)        | 1.597688                |             |         |

Source: Calculations of research

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Coefficient of labor force variable (L) has a positive and meaningful effect equal to  $4.73E+10$ . In other words, one percent increase in labor force leads to  $4.73E+10$  percent increase of added value in agricultural sect.

Coefficient of physical capital variable (K) has a positive and meaningful effect equal to  $4.53E+10$  that suggests positive and meaningful influence of physical capital on agricultural value added sect in G8 countries. In other words, one percent increase in physical capital leads to  $4.53E+10$  percent increase of added value in agricultural sect.

Coefficient of total factor productivity variable (TFP) has a positive and meaningful effect equal to  $7.09E+10$  that shows the significance of this variable on agricultural value added sect in G8 countries. In other words, one percent increase in total factor productivity leads to  $7.09E+10$  percent increase of added value in agricultural sect.

Coefficient of primary education year's variable (EDU1) has a positive and meaningful effect equal to  $1.01E+10$ . In other words, one percent increases in years of primary education leads to  $1.01E+10$  percent increase of added value in agricultural sect.

Coefficient of secondary education year's variable (EDU2) has a positive and meaningful effect equal to  $1.32E+10$ . In other words, one percent increases in years of secondary education leads to  $1.32E+10$  percent increase of added value in agricultural sect.

Coefficient of higher education variable (EDU 3) has a negative and meaningful effect from statistical viewpoint and equal to  $-605E+10$ . This means that one percent increase in years of higher education leads to  $-605E+10$  percent decrease of added value in agricultural sect.

According to the table, F test represent meaningfulness of whole regression.

Value of DW statistic is 1.59 which is high and verifies that there is no autocorrelation. Determination coefficient of model (adjusted and non-adjusted) is high that suggests high descriptive power of this model.

### **CONCLUSION**

Generally, before 1960s economists consider education sporadically. Primary studies that considered the role of education on quality of labor force are ascribed to William Petti. But more significant study is attributed to Adam Smith, from one hand he believed in skillful labor force as a source for development and economic welfare and from other hand argued that with increase of competition between universities, efficiency of educational centers will increase. After Smith Alfred Marshall survived "economy and education" as a significant issue and studied their relationship. He considers education as a national capital and believed that conditions that compel parents to participate in education of their children should be reconsidered. At the mid of 1950s, Walsh conducted the first empirical study based on cost – profit analysis. One could say that to the end of 1950s, social scientist and economists sporadically addressed education and its significance. Afterwards (at the beginning of 1960s), in this field dealing with different issues changed, therefore, they considered the difference between development of nations because of educational differences, so that in 1970s "Shultz" and "Denison" and "Baker" sought the roots and essence of economic growth fluctuations in "education" subject. Then several authors such as "Mincer" and "Miller" recognized the influence of education on comprehension power of individuals.

With this overview one could say that university is effective in economic and servicing from two viewpoints: firstly, preparing influential labor force through improvement of individuals' productivity and efficiency. Secondly, through extending the knowledge boundaries and technology advancement. Because the universities are responsible for preparing labor force and improvement of efficiency and productivity in higher levels of professions; therefore, they play an important role in servicing development, because higher education as a part of overall educational process leads to improvement of productivity level of labor force through training the needed skills and specialty in individuals and enhancement of their comprehension power. In current study with a comprehensive insight into theoretical background of the effect of human capital education on agricultural value added sect, the correlation between

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abovementioned variables in G8 members group during 1995-2010 has been investigated. Obtained conclusions could be used by researchers. Study conclusions are as follows:

- 1- There is a linear relation between human capital and agricultural value added sect in industrial G8 countries; as root unit and Chow tests suggested, the model of G8 countries is combinational and all of these cases are a reason for selecting a linear model.
- 2- The effect of labor force on agricultural value added sect in G8 countries is meaningful and positive from statistical point of view.
- 3- The effect of physical capital on agricultural value added sect in G8 countries is meaningful and positive from statistical point of view.
- 4- There is a positive and meaningful relation between total factor productivity and agricultural value added sect in G8 members
- 5- There is a positive and meaningful relation between average years of primary education and agricultural value added sect in G8 members
- 6- There is a positive and meaningful relation between average years of secondary education and agricultural value added sect in G8 members
- 7- There is a negative and meaningful relation between average years of higher education and agricultural value added sect in G8 members. That is, the more the years of education the less the agricultural value added sect.

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