

Review Article

**COMPARISON OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING'S IN IRAN
(WITH EMPHASIS ON SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL
DEVELOPMENT PLANNING'S AFTER THE ISLAMIC REVOLUTION)**

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ABSTRACT

By many experts rural development is known as a driver of developing countries especially at the early stages of development and an inevitable necessity. Therefore rural areas as a center of socio –economic life is considered by many scholars in the field of development. For this sake it is tried to prepare the essentials for development of rural areas to reach the national development by applying proper means and policy in development planning's of the country. Medium-term of seven years plans before the revolution and the five-year plan for economic, social, cultural development after the revolution have been of means considered in the last half century in the country. Comparing the role of villages in development planning's, this study tries to present a thorough estimate of how to prepare and implement development plans especially of rural.

Keywords: *Development, Rural Development, Medium-Term plans, Islamic Revolution*

INTRODUCTION

On the eve of the third millennium, despite the continuing rapid growth of urbanization and migration towards cities, the bulk of the world's population resides in rural areas and half the world's populations still live in rural areas. Because of growing economic problems, rural areas as centers of socio-economic life, has been focused more than ever by development experts. After more than half a century of experience in developing and rural development in the Third World, there are several issues in the process of developing rural areas that still have not answered, and have not found convenient solutions. Some problems such as increasing levels of inequality and injustice between urban and rural communities, increasing poverty rate in rural areas, welfare level and access to infrastructure services, investment and employment are all alarming signs in the field of rural development.

Thus attending the rural developing by medium-term of seven-year planning's before the revolution and the five-year plan for economic, social and cultural development after the revolution is considered as an essential to resolve the lack of development in rural areas.

PROBLEM DEFINITION

By many experts rural development is known as a driver of developing countries especially at the early stages of development and an unavoidable necessity (Todaru, 1991). "In The so-called Third World countries, despite the many efforts in the form of development planning to reduce underdevelopment, poverty and inequality, not only problems still remain but also in some cases poverty is intensified."(Saeidi, 1998) according to 1990 statistics, 49.7% of people in sub-Saharan Africa, 49% in South Asia, 11.3% of the population of Central Asia and 33.1% of the middle East and North Africa... Live in poverty. However, rural poverty includes 63% of total global poverty which means that most of the poor live in rural areas (Emadi, 2005).

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Despite the tremendous achievements of mankind in the new technologies, poverty is still the main challenge of human and still a billion people worldwide live on less than a dollar. The phenomenon of inequality between urban and rural households and mainly rural poverty is one of the things that make special attention to rural development in the world. In many countries, the living conditions of the poor majority, worsening irregular in such a way that some experts like (Mellor) believe that poverty is mainly a rural phenomenon (Emadi, 2005).

Efficient use of existing resources to meet human needs like increasing production, increasing revenues, employment, welfare... is one of the most important development goals of any country. To achieve this goal, typically applying various policy and executive tools is used in development programs.

As well as developing countries our country and its economy is based on agriculture after the oil. On the other hand, about 38% of the population and about 90% of the natural areas of the country are located in rural areas and the agricultural sector accounted for about 20 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

To do so requires meeting the needs of rural areas by designing and implementing written plans and pension with a development approach. Besides, existing of the potential and different capabilities in rural areas can create competitive advantages by applying proper policy and Action tools. Therefore, to achieve the above, implementing a comprehensive program based on developing programs is a suitable way to achieve rural development and consequently the national development.

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Development

The concept was primarily originated within the school of thought (structuralism). During the world war from one hand European countries were damaged and on the other hand a number of independent countries felt deep differences with the metropolitan countries, resulted in emerging the idea to find ways to get out of this situation and deadlock (underdevelopment). In this throe, development was born to find both a solution to fix and repair ruins of world war and to compensate the backwardness of the newly independent countries (Amani Klarijani, 2001).

But development has several meanings. The book an Introduction to Encyclopedia of Social Science states that in the view of moral or biological, development equals to expand, flourish, and grow. From a social perspective development means increasing harmonious and cohesive in all aspects of physical, mental and spiritual. So the difference between develop and growth is the extent meanings of development so that all aspects of life are flourished (Homayonpour, 2008). So development is not the same as economical growth. It is a multi-dimensional process including reorganization and Different orientations of the socio-economic system. In addition to improve productivity and earnings, development involves fundamental changes in institutional structures, social, administrative and general public opinion and reputation comments. In many cases development also encompasses habits and beliefs (Homayonpour, 2008).

According to what mentioned above development can be defined as:

“Development is an evolutionary process that involves economic growth, social and cultural growth and political independence that will eventually lead to social and public welfare” (Moshrefi, 1992).

Development Measurement

When the talk is about development of countries and regions, there should be a method for assessing the development. In other words it is necessary to understand whether the overall situation in a particular country is going to improve or not?

The method for calculating the rate of development of countries in the past has not been an appropriate index. Obvious example is the rich Petroleum Exporting Countries that despite having a higher GDP are not developed in many aspects. The basic theme of development has been eliminating poverty, social inequality and unemployment but the strategy adopted to achieve these overall objectives often emphasized on economic growth. Believing that increasing in GDP will expand the poorest levels and

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therefore poverty, inequality and unemployment in the country will disappear. But after a quarter century of experience and testing the development model, it was doomed to failure because increasing in growth rate couldn't obstruct the spread of poverty (Mokhber, 1984).

Thus by the early 1970s, most attention was focused on economic growth. While all the theories set forth in this context, even if contemplating the current social changes, were considered as economic models. Therefore, another models or strategies were to be considered which were called distribution models. Because development has a higher level than economic growth and it is primarily associated with the welfare of the people. Therefore involves institutional changes such as: national income distribution, knowledge and might power. Adiman (1997) believes that average per capita in the Third World has had a more rapid growth in the past two decades than any other time, but along with issues such as unemployment, hunger, malnutrition, and chronic poverty... Have the same growth rate.

At any stage, only those that the main factors of production (land, capital, knowledge and deals) are available for will benefit from economic growth. In order to achieve a more equitable distribution of benefits, it is essential that the redistribution of production factors at the community level to be conducted (Scap, 2006).

Rural Development

Albert Waterston knows rural development as a multi-scrotal including agricultural development and community facilities for everyone and spoke of the goals of rural development, he believes that the primary objective of rural development usually is increasing agricultural production while the primary purpose of rural civilizing is strengthening the social welfare of rural including poor farmers and some other like landless rural workers.

On Professor George H.Axinn's opinion rural development is something above promises of a good thing that increases fertility and agricultural productivity and builds prosperity in agriculture. rural development in his view includes: precious promises, increasing rural life and character and changing the farmer from poor rural to progressive and scientific farmers and at the same time a higher quality of life, better nutrition and more a regular supply of food for the residents of cities with a cheaper price. This is the improving of the living conditions in the village (Asayesh, 1996).

Rural development is defined variously. Some has defined it as national development and some other insist on the concept of development limited to the rural environment and area (Saeidi, 2002).

Some other researchers believe that rural development should be focused on the empowerment of rural groups who cannot afford the basic necessities of human life in their efforts. In the final analysis, rural development involves providing opportunities to maximize the use of human resources in rural areas. Human resource development, in turn, may be based only on adequate nutrition and employment opportunities (Razavi, 1998). but other definitions of rural development states that: "Rural development is a process based on planning's, tendencies and specific policies with regard to the particular circumstances of socio - economic environment, in order to optimize structure and performance of village and to improve the production and living conditions of rural environments"(Moshrefi, 1992).

Village

The Village is not a farm or a mining, recreation or retail settlement but a geographical area and planning unit which the livelihood of the majority of its inhabitants is achieved from trading between renewable natural factors and human behavior. And has the central role of agriculture, livestock, horticulture and related service industries and each small and large homogeneous settlements in the area has separate name or word, clear and specific place in the village (Hosseini Abari, 2002).

In other words, "the village is mostly a homogeneous unit of natural, social, economic and physical that is made of a populated center and residence and office (either centralized or distributed or continuous) with a definite territory either registered or customary and the majority permanent residents are employed directly or indirectly to one of the main activities of farming, horticulture, fishing and crafts, or

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combination of activities and are feeding it and there is a deep social and cultural links between members of the community and customarily is known as a countryside, hamlet or village (Zeia, Tavana, 1990).

LITERATURE REVIEW

Different perspectives of development have their own various models or strategies. These development strategies will also offer a variety of patterns in rural development. There is a kind of multi-pronged approach in all rural development issues mentioning many factors influencing this process.

Strategies or Patterns of Rural Development

In general, strategies or patterns of rural development are one of the most important aspects of the overall development of society. Which can be classified into three general groups:

- 1 – Technocratic
- 2 – reform
- 3 - radical

but the sociologist, Mustafa Azkia, has classified the strategies into two major groups as:

- 1 – improvement approach including Technocratic and reform strategies
- 2 - Transformation approach which is mainly confined to radical strategy.

Table 1 - Characteristics of Each of the Three Strategies are as Follows

Development Strategy	Aimed at	The main Operation	Ideology	Sample Country
Technocratic	Increase the production	Large Farms and Private Gardening Different Tenure Systems and Latifundia	Capitalism	Brazil Philippines
Reformist	redistribution Income (capital) Health and Increased Product	Family Farms and Labor	Nationalism	Mexico Egypt
Radical	Social Change Redistribution of Political Power. Health and Increase Crop	Collective Farms, State Farms and Communes	Socialism	Vietnam China Cuba

First view (improve and reforming) emphasizes on encouraging agricultural development within production systems. According to this perspective, greater emphasis should be on increasing the productivity and organization of peasant production.

Unlike the first approach, transformation approach tries to establish new aspects of agricultural and social organization and essentially trying to demolish the existing farming systems in terms of farm size, mode of production and social construction. This approach deals with implementing the new system of land ownership, building new settlements or farms that necessarily require a large capital expenditure (Azkia, 1995).

Commentators of transformation approach believe that developing countries require a major change in the transition from tradition to modernity for solving their problems. Transformation method was implemented in the socialist countries and their satellites, but in the opposite way the improve approach is characteristics of development policies of under colonial regimes of Britain in Africa and India and other parts (Pappuly Yazdi and Ibrahim, 2002). “Improved approach in most countries spread after gaining political independence. It

seems that improved and reform method has achieved many economic successes”(Azkia, 1995). But the human and social dimensions of colonized countries had little progress and in some cases were negative,

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because the gap between the rich and the poor has increased. Facilities and fund is out of the government control and such government has little executive power to take poverty (Pappuly Yazdi and Ibrahim, 2002).

Despite the partial success of the application of the scheduling strategies on rural development and successes achieved from increasing product and revenue of a number of farmers especially the petty proprietors, due to lack of attention to other aspects of rural development, social and economical inequality increased in different areas and a huge gap created between the capitalist farmers and landless peasants.

A good example of the improvement strategy is the rural development programs in India. In evaluating this policy, Barinektion Moor has shown that these policies did not lead to considerable increase in productivity of products. Further study of rural development programs in India showed that, despite the objections of various social groups, the programs in certain areas and in connection with certain classes, has made significant economic and social benefits.

Improve policies in the first decade strengthened the existing economic differences or resulted in apparent stratification model, based on differences in access to new technologies and facilities. For example, analysis of dob shows how an elite group of villagers, who are mainly farmers and wealthy landowners, monopolized most of the benefits of a rural development program while such programs had no benefit for poor peasants (Azkia, 1995).

However, rural development programs are part of any country's development plans used for the transformation of social - economic structures of rural communities (Azkia, 1995). But the emphasis is more focused on issues related rural community and efforts to reduce poverty and deprivation in these areas. Rural development as a concept and set of experiences has a long history in several ways to organize production, trade and welfare in rural activities and is not unique to a particular state or country. Thus rural development can be a sustained rise in output and income and improving living conditions in a region (Razavi, 1998).

J.Parta Zarti Berlin believes that “the crucial element in rural development is to improve the lives only by creating opportunities and better utilization of natural and human resources. Otherwise utilization of rural resources would not have any practical significance. If the process of rural development continues, not only equals to leave the capital and take advantage of technology in poverty, but also implies actively involved in setting up of required as well as institutions and also change them from potentiality to actuality” (Amani Klarijani, 2001).

Michel Todarou considers that: “Rural development encompasses (1) improving the standard of living, including employment, education, health and nutrition, housing and an array of social services (2) reducing inequalities in distribution of income and economic opportunities between rural and urban, and (3) to improve the capacity of Village Level leading to the recovery” (Amani Klarijani, 2001). According to the above World Bank defines rural development as: “rural development is a strategy designed to improve the economic and social life of certain groups of people that are poor villagers. This approach seeks to expand the development sources among the poorest people in rural areas who are looking to earn a living. In the view of the World Bank, rural poor includes small farmers, tenants and settlers. According to the World Bank, rural development tries to modernize the rural society and will change it from a traditional subject to a society which has associated with the national economy. Therefore, the objectives of rural development is not limited within a sector, but involves improved productivity, increased employment, supply of the minimum acceptable food, housing, education and health” (Razavi, 1998). “From the perspective of rural development, elimination of poverty basically depends on increased production and more than it equitable distribution of productive employment opportunities in the rural either in agricultural sector or non- agricultural sector. Villagers have been influenced with the opening up of the economy and have been sacrificed some of its harmful effects. For many years the village has seen enormous changes, in this situation and condition the rural development's means is considerable. The

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Rural development procedure involves rural living environment, the poor rural and weaker sections of the rural society” (Razavi, 1988).

Many of the most prominent theorists of development and Nobel Prize winners, see the most efficient and most appropriate starting point for dealing with the problems of underdevelopment in the rural and agricultural society, and the main reason they cite is that the most widely and most profound manifestations of underdevelopment of society is visible in rural and agricultural sector (Amani Klarijani, 2001).

Therefore, Rural development is a process based on planning’s, tendencies and specific policies with regard to the particular circumstances of socio - economic environment, in order to optimize structure and performance of village and to improve the production and living conditions of rural environments. Implementing of Macro development program is often overshadowed by the rural development. The extent of this impact is different in each country in terms of the capacity of the rural population and the ratio of rural production (Moshrefi, 1992). These strategies clearly show the need to paying attention to agriculture and rural development for achieving the goals of the National Development.

INTRODUCTION TO RURAL PLANNING

Long history of rural communities in the world, the actions of governments and nations, a series of efforts to achieve a more desirable situation and construction and development done by various civilizations in the past ages are considered manifestations of thought, action and implementing rural programs and activities. Some of important activities include the villagers and the government steps to save and control water resources, reclamation and land reform, build roads and bridges, and building affordable housing... The first action plan in this context done by the former Soviet which started planning and preparation of economic and social development program after 1917 revolution (Seydaei, 2009). After former Soviet and after World War II, other countries, especially Eastern Europe and China began large-scale planning activities and programs in large national and regional level for a certain periods.

Also from 1948 with the start of the reconstruction plan of Marshall, other European countries involved in planning and preparation of development and reconstruction plan of their country. In most Western countries, planning’s has been regional and integrated, in which urban and rural development is concerned (Motiei Langroodi, 2005).

But in Iran the history of planning goes into the year 1937. With the recommendation of Economic Council and approval of the Council of Ministers, Department of Trade was established in the year which was responsible for identifying economic programs and ways to implementing the programs. In 1946, the Board of preparing Map of reform and development projects was created to operate in collaboration with the Economic Council. The board prepares a report on the country's economic and social situation that becomes draft of the first development program of the country. The government requested a loan from the World Bank for the implementation of the program. The World Bank demanded a full report of the plan. To complete and finalize prepared programs, the government signed up a contract with the American company, "Morris Knudsen" to help in the preparation of plans. The final report completed in the year 1947 and called “development plan of Iran”. Finally on 4th may, 1948 the first seven-year program of development of the country with about 21 million dollars credit was submitted to the National Assembly. (Tofigh, 2006)

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND POSITION OF THE VILLAGES IN THE YEARS BEFORE THE REVOLUTION

Villages’ Status in the First Seven-Year of Development Plan (1948-1995)

The first seven- year development plan of the country adopted in 1948 while the combined population of the country was such over 70 percent of the population lived in rural areas. Great owner and master - Farmhouse dominated villages in the country. Global environment during this period was the rule of capitalism and promoting the modernization of society and the transition from tradition to modernity.

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Lack of experience in urban planning, not providing adequate technical tools, absence or lack of funds, lack of accurate data for the country (the country's first national census was conducted in 1956), the lack of critical infrastructure in the country were all Among the factors influencing the development of the first programs in the country. In this program, expect than a few cases dealing with agriculture for rural areas, there was no another gain. In fact the first development plan was discussed to put the agricultural pole in the nomadic areas of northwest Iran. In this regard, the planning department signed a contract with the “Havaveen Egronomix” consultants to do studies to identify the Mogan area. These studies aimed to identify and evaluate agriculture, ranching and social resources of the Mogan area , using the Aras River to agriculture, Accommodation of Shahsavan nomads and changing the nomad’s ranch economy into a mixed economy of agriculture and rural ranch (Motiei Langroodi, 2005).

But eventually the first development plan did not fully implement. The most important weaknesses of the program will be as follows:

- Lack of attention to rural development
- small agricultural credits with compare to the proportion of the population
- dominant view of growth instead of development
- Political and social instability
- An acute shortage of technical and administrative capacities
- Lack of firmness and stability of government ministers

Villages’ Status in the Second Seven-Year of Development Plan (1955-1962)

The program aimed to “increase production and improve exports, supplying the needs of people within the country and promotion of agriculture, industry and exploration of mines... Correcting and finishing tools, Public Health Reform and perform any operation for development projects, enhancing and improving people's livelihood, culture and public life” (Tofigh, 2006). Paying attention to the rural development and Bayer Lands was one of the clauses of the program. Civil firms’ law of the country was passed by the House Agriculture committees on 3th August 1955. Economic growth, the formation of industrial poles, the limited credit for rural development, inconsistency of enforcement agencies, the lack of participation of villagers, open-door policy and the implementation of the Western model of development, are the most notables of the second development program. Overall, the evaluations of this program shows the lack of practical application, not being comprehensive, just a list of projects were considered, the lack of communication of plans with together, financial aspects and cost of the project had been calculated incorrectly, the lack of a detailed audit plans and the lack of relevant specialists... were major weaknesses of the second program.

Villages’ Status in the Third Five-Year of Development Plan (1962-1967)

During this period the term of plan was reduced to 5 years. The credit programs were in 10 chapters with different sections, each section had its own subset. The program included extensive reports on agriculture, industry and mining, education and more... prepared by the specialized groups. These reports contained analyze of current situation, estimating needs, setting quantitative goals and strategies to achieve those objectives (Tofigh, 2006).The third program in terms of objectives, design and supervision of the program was completed, but resulted in intensifying rural instability in the country.

Villages’ Status in the Fourth Five-Year Development Plan (1968-1972)

This plan had 21 chapters; the share of agriculture was only 5/58 percent of credit of 568 billion riyals. In This program the topic entitled “Development and Rural Renewal”, was expected for the first time independent from agricultural sector. These plans implemented in situations where investments were driven mostly in the cities, especially in the industrial sector. Large rural landowners abandoned the policy of agrarian reform, became urban capitalists and manufacturers, the country's reliance on oil was intensified, growth in petroleum industry increased to16.8 percent, the share of industrial sector from

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budget overtook agriculture's share, imports increased particularly in agriculture and livestock commodities rose significantly as well...

practitioners assessment of such application illustrates:

not allocation of predicted credit, wrong selection of rural areas for implementing projects, lack of attention to the technical issues of projects, lack of familiarity of people with projects, inability of local contractors in the execution of projects, lack of coordination of government services at the village level, the lack of coordination in setting development projects and lack of knowledge.

Villages' Status in the Fifth Five-Year Development Plan (1973-1978)

11/2 percent of Economic growth was predicted in this program. In terms of the comprehensiveness it was considered a comprehensive program. But with the changes that occurred in the oil market the government revenue from oil exports increased that resulted in doubling the credits subsequently 25/9 percent of growth predicted.

Rural Development in the Fifth Plan was considered to be a separate chapter with the purpose of balanced distribution of investments in infrastructure, services and facilities in order to reduce the distance between the city and village, foundation of future cities, reducing the number of countless villages, expand comprehensive programs of education in villages, rural development and infrastructure facilities in rural areas, creating jobs for local workers (Rezvani, 2004).

Multipliers oil prices, too much rise in funding, lack of acute problems of planning in the country, being comprehensive and regulatory and undergraduate support in this program, expanding facilities and services in the villages... are the specifications of fifth program. But the problems caused the fifth plan to face failure include: dependence of Income and economic on a single product oil, exogenous development model, production lines instead of manufacturing technology, lack of people's participation in development, slogan dealing with social justice, too much focus on military purchases, disregarding create original contexts of production and employment, discontinuity in industry and agriculture, conflict strategies and theories of Western developed countries, too much imports, lack of balance in different parts of the country.. The motto of this period which was: industry is the motor of development, destroyed both agriculture and manufacturing bases and caused instability in the rural environment and resulted in an influx of irregular migration to the cities, especially big cities.

EVALUATION OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

The main component of development planning in the Islamic Republic of Iran, like many other developing countries, is made of three elements of general goals including qualitative and quantitative goals, strategies and policies including macroeconomic and practical policies and action projects including national plans and construction programs (Tofigh, 2006). As well as the development planning system can be divided into three layers: the twenty-year perspective of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the five-year development plans and annual budgets. Due to the political structure and oil revenues, the government's role in the design and implementation of development programs and policies has been dramatic and decisive (Mohammadi Alamouti, 2013).

Villages' status During the Years 1979 to 1989

After the Islamic Revolution in 1978 in Iran under the leadership of Imam Khomeini (RA), and the ideals of the Islamic system of life, a wave of hope established for diminishing the deprivation of the people, especially villagers. Leader encouraged and guided everyone, especially farmers to produce for the independence and liberation from the fetters of colonial governments.

A set of rules relating to land reclamation, land tenure, land reform, instruction of barren lands and pasture lands, lands held in the first years of the Islamic Revolution, approved by regulatory authorities and were conducted by the Board of Seven seat assignment and reclamation of land. Priority was given to

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the assignment to the rural landless and small land. The purpose of these activities was to save the villagers' rights, land reclamation, assignment of barren wastelands to villagers for production and employment. "Overall, during the years 1978 to 1987, about 230 billion Rials was allocated to rural development and health services (Seydaei, 2009).

Prior to 1989, for many reasons including war, sanctions against Iran by the big powers and unfavorable condition for development plan, the country couldn't approve any development plan in this period. After the end of the war and post-war reconstruction, the planning and Budget Organization undertake the country's first economic, social, cultural development plan and the bill approved by the Assembly on 31 January in 1990 thus the country's first post-revolution development plan began.

The First Economic, Social and Cultural Development Plan during 1990-1994

The first program began contemporary with the peak of the globalization and coincided the end of Cold War. The initial conditions after the revolution, particularly the war in Iraq didn't allow opening society on global developments while after the collapse of the Cold War, some of the developing countries gradually planned to open their economy and society on the world. First Development Plan objectives was policies such as economic reconstruction; repair damage caused by war, rebuilding the productive capacity and infrastructure, economic growth, employment, control inflation, self-sufficiency in agricultural production, people's basic needs and modifying consumption patterns. However, in this plan policies such as increase in cultural activities like use of information and communication technologies were adopted which were somehow associated with globalization (Mohammadi Alamouti, 2014).

The first program was the development of the whole country as a single article in two parts and an appendix containing 52 Note and 8,189 billion Rials of development budget. In the first part of the program overall objectives, policies, macro picture, quantitative objectives and general policies have mentioned and second in the table, the macro program is presented.

Increasing the per capita output, employment, and reducing economic dependence with an emphasis on agricultural production and inflation control was the main objectives and policies related to this part of program. It was particularly noticeable the agricultural sector. The main approach was independency while controlling boundaries, providing essential needs of the country after the war and attending agricultural production in the whole country which resulted in an average growth of 6.1% in agricultural sector. Meanwhile the first program coincided to the reconstruction of the country and turbulent economy after the war.

The ambitious goals of the program, incompatibility of goals and ignoring the policy instruments for achieving the objectives, a lack of policy implementation costs, not quantified conclusion of the program, the lack of integrated communication between plans and annual budgets... are the main challenges of the success of the first program.

The Second Economic, Social and Cultural Development Plan during 1996-2000

This plan was written in a different social space and had more flexibility in terms of interacting with the world, particularly in economic and technological dimensions. The program objectives and policies, such as respect, dignity, wisdom and foreign policy to achieve economic growth, reduce dependence on oil, the use of information and communication technologies to foreign trade, set up satellite channels and improve the quality and quantity of mass communication equipments has been closely associated with globalization. But again the program insisted on the independency and self-assertion on the basis of internal capacity. (Mohammadi Alamouti, 2014)

The program was adjusted in three chapters and 101 clauses with a total budget of 105,029 billion Rials. Among the objectives of the program in the rural sector, the integrated development of rural areas which have potential capacity of growth, improve environmental quality, improve physical structure and the quality of rural settlements, enhancing the role of villagers in rural governance, increase the job creation capacity of small industries and handicrafts in rural settings, establishing a fit between service delivery

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and rural population and reform the settlement patterns in rural areas can be mentioned. One of the main goals of this program was to rein in liquidity and curb inflation. So in terms of monetary and fiscal, chosen policies caused to stop infrastructure projects to achieve budget balance and curb inflation, and caused a drop in production and an increase in unemployment and the depreciation. Not following of approved numbers by annual budget and not having long term planning and clear vision of the future in line with its medium-term program are notable cases of the second program. Finally, the program performed poorly, especially in the preparation of integrated development plans.

The Third Economic, Social and Cultural Development Plan during 2000-2004

Looking at the most economical, this program took more systematic attention to global developments to achieve national development. Objectives and policies of this plan can be outlined in the following: Expansion of bilateral, regional and international cooperation, avoid of tension in the relations between hostile countries, tackling global monopole, supporting oppressed Muslim nations, attempt to create closer ties among Islamic countries and the efforts to reform the structure of Nations (Mohammadi Alamouti, 2014).

A prominent aspect of the Plan was the importance of general and provincial councils in planning, establishing treasury for regulation of income decentralized system – provincial expenditures, the formation of the Working Group for incorporating long-term and medium term plans (Tofigh, 2006).

General policies signified by leader were used in providing this program. International cooperation was a priority. Although the program relatively managed to improve economic indicators, but problems such as income inequality between urban and rural areas and increase the gap between rural and cities, increasing rural-urban migrants transmission, high rates of inflation and unemployment,... also occurred during this period which caused a inconsistency between the objectives and the results achieved and actually created some inefficiencies.

The Fourth Economic, Social and Cultural Development Plan during 2005-2010

After the implementation of the third Plan and approval of forth Development Plan Vision, emphasis on economic reforms considered more than social reforms that affected the goals and policies. In addition, in this program the subject of interaction with global economy and relies on knowledge economy became heading for founding the law. Social policies to control the effects of liberalization and economic adjustment, a more competitive economy through active participation in the global economy and the knowledge based economy, specially considered. To achieve the goal of engagement with the global economy, policies and actions such as foreign trade development through equipping entry, grant awards for export, the Export Guarantee Fund, banning all duties and taxes on exports of non-oil goods, establishment of border markets and expansion of e-commerce were adopted.

The main feature of program was containing the medium-term programs in a framework of Iran's 2025 Vision. The mission of the five-year medium-term programs in this landscape was thus as:

The fourth development plan: sustainable growth, knowledge-based economy

The fifth development plan: consolidate the foundations for growth and social welfare

Sixth and Seventh Five-Year Development plan: sustainable and knowledge-based development and social justice of.

In Article 18 of the Fourth Development Plan rural development issues is addressed and government is committed to the promotion of rural development by focusing on improving the efficiency of agricultural production, strengthen women's skills, job promotion, infrastructure development in the village of 20 households, accelerate the issuance of land ownership documents, help and support insurance, appropriate access to food basket, promotion of rural health, and rural development in partnership with private facilities.

Being located in the visions is one of its very importance's. Good expertises were introduced in these programs. Interaction with the world, decentralization and attending to the provinces, intelligence-

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oriented and knowledge-based products and technologies seriously arose. Also environmental protection, social justice, preservation of Islamic-Iranian culture, was considered in the Program.

The Fifth Economic, Social and Cultural Development Plan during 2011- 2015

Emphasizing on the pattern of Islamic - Iranian cultural progress, it is considered as a cultural turn in social planning to develop Iran. However, the program still emphasizes on economic reform and social protection of vulnerable groups. The major program objectives and policies of program include : cultural, legal, political and economic Interaction with world especially in the field of Islamic - Iran civilization, supporting Islamic and poor countries, efforts for further integration between Islamic countries, Strengthening national integration infrastructure for the prevention of cultural invasion, setting all economic activities based on Social Justice, achieving the second place in Science and technology in the region and bolster it during program, Attracting foreign investment, emphasis on export-oriented development strategy, prohibiting the taxation of non-oil exports, prepare the country for membership in the WTO, development of multilateral cooperation with southwest Asia countries in the field of trade, investment and technological capabilities to promote mutual defense and deterrent against foreign invasion.

Fifth program emphasizes on localization of development pattern and co-operation with Islamic - Iranian civilization areas. This program is the second program of the 20-year outlook horizon. Because of the importance of the fifth development plan, the government, parliament and the Expediency Council, each have prepared separate tasks on general policies. The main orientation of this program is compliance with the Article 44 of the constitution about the broader activities of the private sector and non-governmental monopolies. Emphasizing on Islamic-Iranian development model and operationalizing the economic strength are of other basic issues raised in this program. However there is much time remaining for a comprehensive assessment of this program.

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