Analyzing the Impact of the Social Capital on the Performance of Rural Municipalities (Case Study: Sonqor and Kolyai County)

Zahra Sonboli¹, Mohammad Jalali²*, Zeinab Parvaneh³

¹- MSc. in Climatology in Environmental Planning, Kharazmi University, Tehran, Iran.
²- Assistant Prof. in Agricultural Extension & Education, University of Kurdistan, Sanandaj, Iran.
³- MSc. in Agricultural Extension & Education, University of Kurdistan, Sanandaj, Iran.

Abstract

Purpose- Rural municipality, as an organization for sustainable rural development, is supposed to be a public entity for rural administration supervised by villagers through the Islamic Council. Capital inputs are vital for achieving the best performance of rural municipalities in order to realize the development in rural areas. The main purpose of this article was to investigate the effect of social capital on the performance of rural people.

Design/methodology/approach- The study area of this research is located in the villages of Sonqor and Kolyai Counties in Kermanshah Province. The statistical population of this study is 180 villages with rural municipalities, and 123 samples were determined by Cochran's formula. 28 items for rural performance of rural municipalities and 30 items for social capital were utilized to design the questionnaire. Cronbach's alpha method was used for the reliability, and experts' opinions were used for to determine the validity. The correlation for the collected data was analyzed by Pearson Correlation Coefficient.

Finding- The findings confirm that there is a significant relationship between the level of social capital and the performance of the rural municipalities. Among the indicator of social capital, social participation has the highest correlation and social trust has the lowest correlation with the performance of rural municipalities. The variables entered in the regression equation were able to explain 32% of the variance of the dependent variable. In addition, among them, the dependent variable is affected by the social participation at the highest and the social trust at the lowest.

Keywords: Social participation, Social awareness, Social cohesion, Social trust, Performance of rural municipalities, Sonqor and Kolyai County.

Use your device to scan and read the article online

How to cite this article:

*Corresponding Author:
Jalali, Mohammad, Ph.D.
Address: Department of Agricultural Economy, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Kurdistan, Sanandaj, Iran
Tel: +98873 362 0552
E-Mail: m.jalali@uok.ac.ir
1. Introduction

Villages are vital for economic, social and political development of local, regional, national and international contexts. Moreover, their issues such as underdevelopment, poverty, growing inequality, rapid population growth, unemployment, migration, slum formation, etc., have increasingly attracted the attention to villages and rural communities, in some cases even more than urban communities (Azkia and Ghaffari, 2004). To this end, sustainable rural development is considered as a process of social, economic and environmental transformation designed to enhance long-term welfare for the whole society (Moseley, 2003). One of the means to sustainable rural development is the formation of organized groups, such as rural municipalities. Although the fundamental role of rural development in the national development is ubiquitous, it has been usually neglected due to the lack of a clear strategic plan, (Saeedi, 2005: 204). The formation of the new rural management or the establishment of the rural municipality is a formal institution for public affairs and local rural management. A proper local participatory management is expected to be one of stages towards sustainable rural development (Estelaji, 2012). Rural municipality, as an organization for sustainable rural development, is supposed to be a public entity for rural administration supervised by villagers through the Islamic Council. Capital inputs are vital for achieving the best performance of rural municipalities in order to realize the development in rural areas. The success of cooperatives, non-governmental and governmental organizations basically depend on their ability to create and maintain social capital. This can be accomplished by activating and maintaining collective actions among members to expand potential capacity in cooperatives and organizations. (Hong & Sporleder, 2010).

Social capital is one of the indicators of growth and development of societies whose absence will make the path to development difficult. In this regard, nowadays, social capital has become a common concept or a keyword for politicians and academics. Social capital is a multidimensional concept in the social science which is also influential in other areas, and comes along with human, economic and physical capital (Nateghpour and Firoozabadi, 2005). The impact of this type of capital on enhancement of the performance of governmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions is indisputable. Therefore, in this study we are to find how social capital affects the performance of rural municipalities? This question can be narrowed down to these questions:

-i) how the social capital influences the physical-civil performance of rural municipality?
-ii) how the social capital influences the health-environmental performance of rural municipality?
-iii) how the social capital influences the socio-cultural performance of rural municipality?
-iv) how the social capital influences the economic-employment performance of rural municipality?

2. Research Theoretical Literature

Theoretical Framework

Performance means the state or quality of the actions (Rahnavard, 2009). Performance is the outcome of the individuals’ activities in terms of doing the assigned tasks in a certain period of time. Also, it is the completion of the tasks assigned to workforce by the organization (Emamgholi, 2010: 62). Organizations should improve their performance constantly to survive in today's competitive world (Bazaz Jazayeri, 2008). Performance refers to how tasks and activities are executed, and the outcome obtained from them (Alam Tabriz and Abbasi., 2016). Armstrong (2006) considers performance as a strategy which is based on the analysis of the key factors of success, and the levels of performance achieved based on those factors (Bazaz Jazayeri, 2008). Organizational performance can be defined as a measurement for an effective action to achieve designated goals. It can be estimated by the efficiency and effectiveness of the organization in achieving the goals. Organizational performance is also a human resource performance and their interaction with resources and technology in the organization. On the other hand, human resource performance is a function of their motivation and capabilities.

Three types of capital play an essential role in enhancing the performance of organizations: economic capital, human capital and social capital. In the traditional perspective, the economic capital and human resources development play the most important role, but in the modern perspective,
managers need social capital more economic and human capital for organizational development (Qadamzan Jalali, 2011: 36). Social capital is a concept in sociology that is used in business, economics, humanities, and public health which refers to relationships within and between groups. There are different definitions for this concept. However, in general, social capital is considered as a kind of "cure for all problems" in the modern society. Social capital, like other types of capital, is a platform to access to opportunities and one of the important sources of organizational and social success. It is also the sum of potential and actual resources that is embedded in the network of interpersonal relationships. One of the benefits of social capital is the impact on mutual communication, trust, intimacy and cooperation between people. At the organizational level, increasing trust, communication and intimacy in the employees lead to a better participation. Social capital requires more social participation in the communicative networks. These networks promote the achievement of collective benefit through cooperation (Ghasemi and Kazemi, 1999: 18). As it mentioned before, there are several definitions of social capital. Social capital refers to the characteristics of a social organization such as trust, participation, norms, etc. that can improve society. This capital comes from interactions between people. The World Bank considers social capital as social norms and relations which exist in the social structures, which enables individuals to act collaboratively to achieve goals (World Bank, 2006). Putnam, 2000 also defines the social capital as a collection of concepts such as trust, norms, and networks that creates optimal communication and participation among members of a community and ultimately brings about mutual benefits for them. In his view, social capital is a means for political and social development in the various political arrangements. He highlighted the concept of trust (Putnam, 2000). Ovacacs defines it as interpersonal processes, which creates trust, social norms and the network of relationships and boosts mutual cooperation and coordination. Social capital to Fukuyama is a social norm that promotes cooperation between two or more people and works like interaction between two friends. He believes that trust, communicative networks and civil society are the ends of social capital, not the social capital itself (Fukuyama, 2007). The components of social trust, social cohesion, social participation and social awareness, which are interrelated, reinforce one another, and they are the most important components of social capital. These four components are the key concepts in sociology.

Social trust is a component that is created in the process of social relations between individuals and organizations. Trust makes the sense of social relationships and is directly related to the social relationships. The greater the level of social trust between individuals, groups, and social organizations in society, the higher intensity, diversity, stability and consistency of social relations. Simmel argues that trust is one of the most important necessities of transactions. According to him, society is disintegrated without trust, because many relationships between people are based on the certainty among them. He also believes that human interactions are pursued through trust more than rational reasons and self-interest considerations (Mansoorian and Ghodrati, 2009: 190). Fukuyama noted that trust is the basis of social discipline, and communities are built on mutual trust, without which they cannot be created. Giddens stated that trust is vital when we do not have full knowledge of social phenomena due to increasing temporal and spatial distancing. Luhmann argued that the trust is a social mechanism in which expectations, actions, and behaviors are regulated and conducted.

For a long time, the effects of participation in society have been the concern of researchers. According to Aristotle and other ancient social philosophers, participation is a source of creative and energy and a means for standing against tyrannies. They also consider it as the collective wisdom. According to Gauter, participation requires a transformation in mental and cognitive states. In order to reach that, values and ideas about participation must be deeply embedded and institutionalized. In Alain Bieru’s opinion, participation is a way to contribute in something and benefiting from it. This is not only participating in a group but also collaborating with it. Consequently, from a sociological point of view, participation is separated into a status and/or an action. From a systemic and functional point of view, participation is considered as a mechanism to survive and development of the social system. If the necessary structures for participation don’t get developed, the social and the political systems collapse (Vahida and Nyazi, 2004).
Social awareness contains thoughts, ideas, and senses about life. It is also everything related to public affairs either political or social. Awareness is a requisite precondition. A more active form of civil liability that causes the interest and worry. Contrary to awareness is the ignorance, apathy as well as an opportunistic attitude (Azkia and Firoozabadi, 2004). Social cohesion is the unavoidable, lucid, relative and spontaneous components that is created by sympathy, cooperative and voluntary coordination of individuals in diverse cultural, religious, social, economic and political relations (Azkia and Ghaffari, 2002: 20).

Cohesion is a situation in which members of society are related together by the common social and cultural commitments (Mitchell, 1989: 180). Social cohesion is a set of factors and elements that provides the possibility of internal communication and solidarity of people of a country in response to specific problems such as facing security issues. It provides the strength and stability of society, and it is considered as a component of social development (Azkia and Ghaffari, 2002: 20). Today, practitioners use the growing concept of national and social cohesion as the leverage and fundamental of the identity and credibility for society (Niazi, 2011: 48).

Mahdavi and Najafikani (2005), in a study entitled “rural municipality, a new step in Iranian rural management”, found that the rural municipalities play a significant role in the rural development especially in the physical dimension, and the rural mayors’ initiatives verify it. Nemati (2007), in a study evaluated the functional role of rural mayors in the small villages and concluded that the success of rural municipalities is related to the existence and absence of appropriate administrative and organizational structures. There was a significant relationship between the governmental supports and success of rural municipalities. Therefore, the provision of public and financial services and support can prolong the survival of the rural municipalities. Chubchian et al. (2007), in a study, analyzed the performance of rural municipalities using the rural good governance indicator in Gilan. The findings confirm that there is a significant difference between the rural municipalities in the study area regarding the indicator of good governance. Furthermore, indicators of good rural governance are relatively weak. Khakpour et al. (2009) studied the role of social capital in the sustainable development of a neighborhood in Sajadieh neighborhood in Mashhad. The results confirm that the neighborhood will be more sustained by improving the social capital. Thus, without institutional and human capabilities and exploiting both individual and group capacities, the sustainability in neighborhood development is undone. Nayiji (2009) studied the role of rural mayors’ education in the rural development of Chamestan District of Noor County. He concluded that the higher education level of the rural mayors is important to reach the rural development goals and establish rural participation. Torabi et al. (2010) investigated the effect of the social capital components on the performance of cooperatives. The results indicate that among variables applied for regression analysis to explain the performance of cooperatives, and some independent variables such as social participation, social trust, social cohesion, social awareness, level of education and age of respondents are significant. However, social participation and social trust have the greatest impact on the performance of cooperatives. Farahani and Rostamkhani (2013) analyzed the performance of rural municipalities in the rural development of Karsaf District of Khodabandeh County. The results showed that the performance of rural municipalities was high in the environmental and physical dimensions and it was satisfactory in the social dimension, but for the economic dimension, rural municipalities didn’t satisfy the residents. Falsoleiman et al. (2012) evaluated the performance of rural mayors in the process of rural management and development in Central District of Birjand County. Having applied rural mayors’ opinions, they concluded that after the formation of rural municipalities, significant improvements have been achieved in the social, economic and environmental-physical dimensions. Afrakhteh et al. (2014) investigated the effect of social capital on the rural development of Chahardangeh District. The results of this study revealed that there is a significant relationship between the level of social capital and rural development. By and large, the variables of participation and trust have the greatest impact on the development process, while social cohesion and social network are less effective. Rostami (2015) evaluated the performance of rural municipalities in the rural development of Ivan County in Ilam Province. The results confirmed that rural mayors have been successful in the
interaction with government organizations and councils, and their levels of education have a great impact on their performance. Azmi and Rezaei (2018) investigated the people's opinion for the performance of rural mayors in Lorestan Province. The results confirmed that the village management has multiple dimensions, and in general, the respondents were satisfied with the performance of rural mayors. Consequently, the seven factors are recognized as the determining factors for the performance of rural municipalities including service and health, monitoring the projects, economic improvement, encouragement of broad participation, cooperation with political entities, reduction of migration, satisfaction of people, and social issues. Imani and Fathi (2019) analyzed the performance of rural municipalities with emphasis on the approach of good governance in the villages of Central District of Ardabil. The performance of rural areas from the perspective of residents of villages is estimated below average and is not in a good condition. According to the studies conducted on the performance of rural municipalities in relation to social capital, we find it necessary to consider the impact of social capital (participation, trust, cohesion, awareness) on the rural municipality as one of the most influential organizations for rural development.

![Conceptualization Model of the present study](image1.png)

**Figure 1. Conceptualization Model of the present study**

3. Research Methodology

3.1 Geographical Scope of the Research

Sonqor is one of the counties of Kermanshah Province. This county has an area of about 2242 square kilometers and located in the northeast of Kermanshah between 47°.19’ and 47°.57’ E and 34°. 44’ and 35°.4’ N. Sonqor County is divided in two districts (central and Koliaei), and has two cities (Sonqor and Satar), eight rural districts (Abbarik, Farsinj, Sarab, Gavroud, Baveleh, Agahan, Setar, and Keyvana) and 230 villages. 180 villages out of 230 have independent rural municipalities and the remaining number of villages are managed by the neighboring villages.

![Area of study](image2.png)

**Figure 2. Area of study**

3.2. Methodology
According to the estimation by Cochran’s formula, among 180 villages with rural municipalities in Sonqor County as the statistical population of this study, 123 of them were studied randomly as a sample. This study is descriptive-analytical and both documentary and field methods were used to collect data. In order to operationalize the variables, four performance indicators of rural areas (physical-constructive, economic-occupational, social-cultural and sanitation-environmental) in 28 items (Table 1), and social capital variables (participation, cohesion, awareness and trust) in 30 items (Table 2) were examined. The study applied a questionnaire with a Likert scale. The validity of questionnaire was confirmed based on the opinion of experts and its reliability was confirmed based on Cronbach’s alpha. Finally, Pearson correlation coefficient is used for the effect of each dimension of social capital on the performance of rural municipalities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameters</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical – civil performance</td>
<td>Success level in providing the contexts for construction of streets, alleys, parks, green space and village improvement plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level in cleaning, maintenance, leveling of roads, water supply and the electricity power in the village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level in the construction of production and distribution, water, electricity and telecommunications, etc. in the village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level of the village in the implementation of development projects within the framework of the plan (Hadi plan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level in providing the required lands related to the goals and tasks of rural development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level in the care, maintenance of public property and facilities under rural municipality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level to announcing the laws and duties and implementation of them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health-environmental performance</td>
<td>Success level in preserving and maintaining natural resources located in the village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level in doing the necessary works to protect the village from the danger of floods, fires, building hazards, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level in health care in villagers and cooperation with the Ministry of Health for vaccination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level in health care of baths, bakeries, butchers and etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level in cooperation with the Ministry of Health to prevent the spread of human infectious and animal diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level in following up and creating grounds for monitoring rural health affairs, such as slaughter of livestock and meat supply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level in improving the environmental situation of the village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social cultural performance</td>
<td>Success level in encouraging villagers to develop handicrafts and marketing the rural products in cities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level in taking care of the price tags on goods and preventing the sale of rotten goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level in identifying employment opportunities and helping to provide jobs for job seekers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level in preventing begging in the village and create jobs for beggars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level in providing the good quality of flour and bread for villagers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level in receiving tolls approved by legal authorities and consuming it to improve the village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level in estimating, preparing and submitting the annual rural budget and its amendment to the council for approval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic-employment performance</td>
<td>Success level in studying and recognizing the problems, deficiencies and needs and social and cultural inadequacies in the village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success level in construction, maintenance and operation of public, cultural, sports, and welfare facilities of the village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>parameters</td>
<td>indicators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success level in identifying and</td>
<td>Success level in identifying and introducing homeless and poor families to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>introducing homeless and poor</td>
<td>the Welfare Organization and the Relief Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>families to the Welfare</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization and the Relief</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success level in encouraging</td>
<td>Success level in encouraging villagers to take action in governmental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>villagers to take action in</td>
<td>policies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>governmental policies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success level in pursuing and</td>
<td>Success level in pursuing and assisting in the establishment of charities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>assisting in the establishment</td>
<td>and debt funds and cultural institutions such as Gharz al-Hasna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of charities and debt funds and</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cultural institutions such as</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gharz al-Hasna</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success level in cooperating</td>
<td>Success level in cooperating with relief worker units during emergencies and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with relief worker units during</td>
<td>natural disasters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>emergencies and natural disasters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success level in the naming of</td>
<td>Success level in the naming of passages and places and presenting them to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>passages and places and presenting</td>
<td>the Islamic Council for the required process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>them to the Islamic Council</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for the required process</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 2. The indicators related to social capital**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>parameters</th>
<th>indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness level about how to do job duties</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness level of rural municipality’s activities and missions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness level of rural municipality’s problems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness level of the latest news and information of rural municipality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The levels of internet usage and access</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The levels of other media (radio, television, etc.) usage</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coherence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helped to other people in trouble situation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolve disagreements peacefully via conversation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The time and energy that peoples spend to better execute the organization's programs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having teamwork and feeling family work</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public interests is precedence to personal interests</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take responsibility for the assigned tasks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication between people</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of peoples for the implementation of ideas and plans</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in achieving the required skills and knowledge in the job</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in program design</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in the implementation of programs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in organizational decision making</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in group activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in innovative and creative behaviors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in communication with the doyens</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication with farmers in the village</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The close relations with other villagers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honesty in the organization members</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduce skepticism about the dangers of interacting with others</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperation between members of the organization</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutual support</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respect to each other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The level of trust between people</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take responsibility for each other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 3. Cronbach's alpha of rural performance questions**
4. Research Findings

In this study, 107 (87%) persons of the sample are male and 16 (13%) persons are female. 22 (17.9%) persons are single and 101 (82.1%) are married. In terms of age 36 (26%), 53 (43.1%), 35 (28.5%), 3 (2.4%) numbers of people are in the groups of 20- 
30, 31-40, 41-50, and 51-60, respectively. 5 persons (4.1%) have less than diploma degrees, 62
(50.4%) have diplomas, 19 persons (15.4%) have associate degrees, 29 persons (23.6%) have
undergraduate degrees and 8 (6.5 %) have postgraduate degrees (Table 5).

Table 5: Personal information of rural mayors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>title</th>
<th>variable</th>
<th>count</th>
<th>percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sex</td>
<td>male</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>0.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>female</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sum</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marital status</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>17.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>married</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>82.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sum</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>20 - 30</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31 - 40</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>43.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>41 - 50</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>28.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>51 - 60</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sum</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualification</td>
<td>Below diploma</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>diploma</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>50.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>associate</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>15.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B.Sc</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>23.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M.Sc</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sum</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The performance of rural municipalities for the sanitation-environmental indicator with an average score of 4.02 is their highest performance. After that the socio-cultural, physical-constructive and economic-occupational indicators are the second, third and fourth indicators with average scores of 3.75, 3.64, and 3.50, respectively.

Table 6. the different dimension of the performance of rural municipality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>title</th>
<th>row</th>
<th>item</th>
<th>average</th>
<th>Standard deviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The performance of rural governor</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>physical-civil performance</td>
<td>3.64</td>
<td>0.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>and health-environmental performance</td>
<td>4.02</td>
<td>0.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>economic-employment performance</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>1.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>socio-cultural performance</td>
<td>3.75</td>
<td>0.96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Social participation with an average of 3.75 has the highest rank indicator for social capital. Following this, social awareness, social trust and social cohesion are ranked, with average score of 3.48, 3.45, and 3.39, respectively.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>item</th>
<th>average</th>
<th>Standard deviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>3.75</td>
<td>0.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>awareness</td>
<td>3.48</td>
<td>0.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>trust</td>
<td>3.45</td>
<td>0.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>cohesion</td>
<td>3.39</td>
<td>0.61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The results of the test among social trust ($\alpha=0.042$), social participation ($\alpha=0.008$), social cohesion ($\alpha=0.011$) and social awareness variables ($\alpha=0.023$) with performance of rural municipalities in physical-constructive indicator were analyzed. The null hypothesis was rejected for social participation is 99% and for social trust, coherence and awareness is 95%. In other words, there is a significant relationship between social capital and the performance of the rural municipalities regarding the physical-constructive indicator (Table 8). Social participation with a correlation coefficient of 0.509 has the highest correlation and social trust with a correlation coefficient of 0.331 has the lowest correlation with physical-constructive performance of rural municipalities (Table 8).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Independent variable</th>
<th>Dependent variable</th>
<th>sig</th>
<th>correlation</th>
<th>The sig relation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>trust</td>
<td>physical-civil performance</td>
<td>0.042</td>
<td>0.331</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>physical-civil performance</td>
<td>0.008</td>
<td>0.509</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coherence</td>
<td>physical-civil performance</td>
<td>0.011</td>
<td>0.498</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>awareness</td>
<td>physical-civil performance</td>
<td>0.023</td>
<td>0.417</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The test results among social trust ($\alpha=0.033$), social participation ($\alpha=0.011$), social cohesion ($\alpha=0.009$) and social awareness variables ($\alpha=0.018$) for performance of rural municipalities in sanitation-environmental indicator were analyzed. The null hypothesis was rejected for social cohesion (99% confidence) and for trust, participation and awareness (95% confidence). In other words, there is a significant relationship between social capital and the performance of the rural municipalities regarding the sanitation-environmental indicator (Table 9). Social participation with a correlation coefficient of 0.509 has the highest correlation and social trust with a correlation coefficient of 0.331 has the lowest correlation to physical-constructive performance of the rural municipalities (Table 8).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Independent variable</th>
<th>Dependent variable</th>
<th>Sig</th>
<th>correlation</th>
<th>The sig relation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>trust</td>
<td>health-environmental performance</td>
<td>0.033</td>
<td>0.345</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>health-environmental performance</td>
<td>0.011</td>
<td>0.535</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coherence</td>
<td>health-environmental performance</td>
<td>0.009</td>
<td>0.512</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>awareness</td>
<td>health-environmental performance</td>
<td>0.018</td>
<td>0.424</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The test results among social trust ($\alpha=0.009$), social participation ($\alpha=0.000$), social cohesion ($\alpha=0.021$) and social awareness variables ($\alpha=0.010$) for performance of rural municipalities in economic-occupational sector were analyzed. The null hypothesis was rejected for trust and participation (99% confidence) and for awareness and cohesion (95% confidence). There is a significant relationship between social capital and the performance of the rural municipalities regarding the economic-occupational indicator (Table 10). Social participation with correlation coefficient of 0.509 has the highest correlation and social trust with a correlation coefficient of 0.331 has the lowest correlation to physical-constructive performance of the rural municipalities (Table 8).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Independent variable</th>
<th>Dependent variable</th>
<th>Sig</th>
<th>correlation</th>
<th>The sig relation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>trust</td>
<td>economic-occupational performance</td>
<td>0.009</td>
<td>0.352</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>economic-occupational performance</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.551</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coherence</td>
<td>economic-occupational performance</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.492</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>awareness</td>
<td>economic-occupational performance</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.432</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Independent variable</th>
<th>Dependent variable</th>
<th>Sig</th>
<th>correlation</th>
<th>The sig relation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>trust</td>
<td>economic-occupational performance</td>
<td>0.018</td>
<td>0.345</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>economic-occupational performance</td>
<td>0.009</td>
<td>0.535</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coherence</td>
<td>economic-occupational performance</td>
<td>0.009</td>
<td>0.512</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>awareness</td>
<td>economic-occupational performance</td>
<td>0.018</td>
<td>0.424</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
coefficient (0.504) has the highest correlation and social trust with correlation coefficient (0.320) has the lowest correlation to economic-occupational performance of the rural municipalities (Table 10).

Table 10. The Pearson’s correlation between social capital components and economic-employment performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Independent variable</th>
<th>Dependent variable</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
<th>correlation</th>
<th>The sig relation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>trust</td>
<td>economic-employment performance</td>
<td>0.009</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>economic-employment performance</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.504</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coherence</td>
<td>economic-employment performance</td>
<td>0.021</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>awareness</td>
<td>economic-employment performance</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.40</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The test results among social trust (sig=0.021), social participation (sig=0.000), social cohesion (sig=0.000) and social awareness variables (sig=0.035) for performance of the rural municipalities in socio-cultural were analyzed. The null hypothesis was rejected for trust and participation (99% confidence) and for awareness and coherence (95% confidence). There is a significant relationship between social capital and the performance of the rural municipalities regarding the socio-cultural indicator (Table 11). Social participation with correlation coefficient (0.519) has the highest correlation and social trust with correlation coefficient (0.332) has the lowest correlation to socio-cultural performance of the rural municipalities (Table 11).

Table 11. The Pearson’s correlation between social capital components and socio-cultural performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Independent variable</th>
<th>Dependent variable</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
<th>correlation</th>
<th>The sig relation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>trust</td>
<td>socio-cultural performance</td>
<td>0.021</td>
<td>0.33</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>socio-cultural performance</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.51</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coherence</td>
<td>socio-cultural performance</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.515</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>awareness</td>
<td>socio-cultural performance</td>
<td>0.035</td>
<td>0.412</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The test results among social trust (sig=0.024), social participation (sig=0.000), social cohesion (sig=0.013) and social awareness variables (sig=0.000) for performance of rural municipalities were analyzed. The null hypothesis was rejected for awareness and participation (99% confidence) and for trust and cohesion (95% confidence). There is a significant relationship between social capital and the performance of the rural municipalities (Table 12). Social participation with correlation coefficient (0.530) has the highest correlation, and social trust with correlation coefficient (0.340) has the lowest correlation to the performance of the rural municipalities (Table 12).

Table 12. The Pearson’s correlation between social capital components and total performance of rural municipality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Independent variable</th>
<th>Dependent variable</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
<th>correlation</th>
<th>The sig relation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>trust</td>
<td>Total performance</td>
<td>0.024</td>
<td>0.34</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>Total performance</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.53</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coherence</td>
<td>Total performance</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.512</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>awareness</td>
<td>Total performance</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>confirmed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regression analysis of the variables affecting the performance of the rural municipalities- In this section, we discuss the effect of variables of trust, participation, awareness and social cohesion on the performance of rural municipality using multivariate regression. This test determines the variability of the dependent variable through independent predictor variables and the contribution of each independent variable in the explanation of the dependent variables. The relationship between the variables of social trust, participation, awareness and cohesion as independent variables and the performance of the rural municipalities as a dependent variable is a linear relationship. These variables have interval scales. The multivariate regression is used to estimate the values of the dependent variable through independent variables. In this study, the method of simultaneous or multiple regression (Enter) was used. In this method, all independent variables are entered into the regression model, simultaneously. It is worth mentioning that 
contextual variables are not used as nominal and interval scales in the regression equation. Tables of 13 and 14 illustrate the results from regression analysis of the variables of social trust, participation, awareness and cohesion as independent variables and performance of the rural municipalities as dependent variable. As illustrated in Table 13, the multiple correlation coefficient (R) is 0.583. The coefficient of determination (R²) is 0.339 and the modified coefficient (Adjusted R²) is 0.317. Therefore, based on the modified coefficient of determination, variables included in the regression equation were able to explain 32% of the variance of the dependent variable. According to the value of F (15/160) and the criterion of significance (Sig.) which is (0.000), the obtained coefficient of determination is statistically significant. According to the values of the standardized Beta coefficient in Table 14, the effect of the variables including social trust, participation, awareness and cohesion on the performance of the rural municipalities are -0.005, 0.439, 0.194 and 042, respectively. Among the variables entered in the regression equation, it is evident that the dependent variable is affected by the social participation with a coefficient of 0.439 at the highest, and by social trust with a coefficient of -0.005 at the lowest (Figure 3).

5. Discussion and Conclusion
Today, one of the most important resources affecting the performance of various governmental and non-governmental organizations and agencies is social capital, and studies verify that without social capital, the other capitals will not be used aptly. In this study, we tried to examine the effect between different components of social capital (participation, trust, awareness, cohesion) on the performance of rural municipalities of Sonqor and Kolyai Counties. According to the Pearson correlation coefficient, there is a significant relationship between the four components of social capital (participation, trust, awareness and cohesion) and different performance of rural municipalities (physical-constructive, sanitation-environmental, socio-cultural and economic-occupational). As a whole, the social participation indicator has the highest correlation and the social trust indicator has the lowest correlation with the performance of the rural municipalities. The variables entered in the regression equation were able to explain 32% of the variance of the

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 13. Variance analysis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sum of Squares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.899</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 14. the coefficient of regression test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sig</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.691</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 3. the coefficients of regression test
dependent variable. In addition, among them, the dependent variable is affected by the social participation at the highest and the social trust at the lowest. Similar results have been obtained in other studies for social capital. For instance, Khakpour et al., 2009 have studied the role of social capital in the sustainable development of a neighborhood in Sajjadieh neighborhood in Mashhad. The results of this study confirmed that by improving the social capital, the neighborhood will be more sustained. Thus, without institutional and human capabilities and exploiting both individual and group capacities, the sustainability in neighborhood development is undone. Torabi et al. 2010 investigated the effect of the social capital components on the performance of cooperatives. The results of this study indicated that the variables of social participation and social trust have the greatest impact on the performance of cooperatives Afrakhteh et al. 2014 investigated the effect of social capital on the rural development of Chahardangeh District. The results of this study revealed that there is a significant relationship between the level of social capital and rural development. As a result, the variables of participation and trust have the greatest impact on the development process. The findings of these studies as like the research conducted, confirm the significant effect of social capital on performance improvement.

Rural municipalities are the most important non-governmental organizations that have been implemented in local management in the villages in recent years. Furthermore, they are supervised by the Islamic Councils, and together, they are working toward sustainable rural development. Therefore, it is necessary to investigate about resources including social capital, which are affecting the performance of rural municipalities. Improving social participation, building interpersonal trust, creating cohesion and unity, and awareness may greatly help the community to achieve the goals of sustainable development, especially at the local level. Given that in this study, the component of social trust has the lowest level of correlation with the performance of rural municipalities, so it is suggested: Improvement of the social trust through transparency, responsiveness, efficiency, rule of law, accountability and consensus oriented will help us take actions to improve the performance of rural municipalities of Sonqor and Kolayai Counties.

Acknowledgments: This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

References


بررسی تأثیر سرمایه اجتماعی در عملکرد دهیاری‌ها
(مطالعه موردی: شهرستان سنقر و کلیایی)

زهره سنبلی‌ها - محمد جلالی

چکیده می‌توان گفت که در مطالعه‌های پیشین در این زمینه به ویژه در ایران، سبک‌های اجتماعی مانند اعتماد، مشاییارکت، هنرجویی و دبیری به عنوان حجم نمونه در سطح شهرستان سنقر به عنوان جامعه شناسی و بررسی سرمایه اجتماعی در عملکرد دهیاری را فراهم کرده‌اند. این پژوهش به لحاظ روش مورد بررسی قرار گرفته، در نهایت جهت بررسی تأثیر هر یک از ابعاد سرمایه اجتماعی بر عملکرد دهیاری از ضریب های باز درآمده و از آنها به ترتیب اعتماد، نحوه کار و ارتباط افراد و...
4. یافته‌ها تحقیق

- عملکرد دهیاری‌ها در زمینه بهداشتی - محیط زیست، با میانگین 0.75 از 10.9
- بایاتین بعد عملکرد دهیاری‌ها است; اجتماعی - فرهنگی با میانگین 0.75 کالبدی - عمرانی با میانگین 0.75 و اقتصادی - استان‌گذاری با میانگین 0.75 در رتبه های دیگر قرار دارند.

مشابه‌ترین اجتماعی با میانگین 75/36 میزان سرمایه اجتماعی است; و گاهی اجتماعی با میانگین 0.75 از متغیر وابسته را می‌توان با R Square میانگین 3/29 و (Adjusted R Square) میانگین 3/29 ضریب همبستگی تیتی‌های مختل دورتر می‌گردد، اجتماعی - اقتصادی - استان‌گذاری - فرهنگی تأیید شده. وجود رابطه با وابسته بهداشتی با میانگین 0.75 در رتبه های دیگر قرار دارند. رابطه معنی‌داری بین سرمایه‌های اجتماعی و عملکرد دهیاری‌ها در هر مدلی کالبدی و عمرانی، بهداشتی-اقتصادی اقتصادی - استان‌گذاری - فرهنگی تأیید شده.

نتایج تحقیق در زمینه سرمایه‌های اجتماعی (مشارکت، اعتماد، آگاهی و انسجام) بر عملکرد دهیاری‌ها تأثیر می‌بندد. همچنین از این نتایج نشان می‌دهد ضریب همبستگی تیتی‌های مختل دو مدلی کالبدی و عمرانی نشان می‌دهد ضریب همبستگی تیتی‌های مختل دو مدلی کالبدی و عمرانی

5. بحث و نتیجه‌گیری

در این پژوهش، سعی گردید تأثیر بین مؤلفه‌های مختلف سرمایه اجتماعی (مشارکت، اعتماد، آگاهی، انجمن،... بهداشتی-اقتصادی اقتصادی - استان‌گذاری - فرهنگی) تأیید شد. به همکاری با وابسته بهداشتی با میانگین 0.75 در رتبه های دیگر قرار دارند. رابطه معنی‌داری بین سرمایه‌های اجتماعی و عملکرد دهیاری‌ها در هر مدلی کالبدی و عمرانی، بهداشتی-اقتصادی اقتصادی - استان‌گذاری - فرهنگی تأیید شده. وجود رابطه با وابسته بهداشتی با میانگین 0.75 در رتبه های دیگر قرار دارند. رابطه معنی‌داری بین سرمایه‌های اجتماعی و عملکرد دهیاری‌ها در هر مدلی کالبدی و عمرانی، بهداشتی-اقتصادی اقتصادی - استان‌گذاری - فرهنگی تأیید شده. وجود رابطه با وابسته بهداشتی با میانگین 0.75 در رتبه های دیگر قرار دارند. رابطه معنی‌داری بین سرمایه‌های اجتماعی و عملکرد دهیاری‌ها در هر مدلی کالبدی و عمرانی، بهداشتی-اقتصادی اقتصادی - استان‌گذاری - فرهنگی تأیید شده. وجود رابطه با وابسته بهداشتی با میانگین 0.75 در رتبه های دیگر قرار دارند. رابطه معنی‌داری بین سرمایه‌های اجتماعی و عملکرد دهیاری‌ها در هر مدلی کالبدی و عمرانی، بهداشتی-اقتصادی اقتصادی - استان‌گذاری - فرهنگی تأیید شده. وجود رابطه با وابسته بهداشتی با میانگین 0.75 در رتبه های دیگر قرار دارند. رابطه معنی‌داری بین سرمایه‌های اجتماعی و عملکرد دهیاری‌ها در هر مدلی کالبدی و عمرانی، بهداشتی-اقتصادی اقتصادی - استان‌گذاری - فرهنگی تأیید شده. existence of social capital.