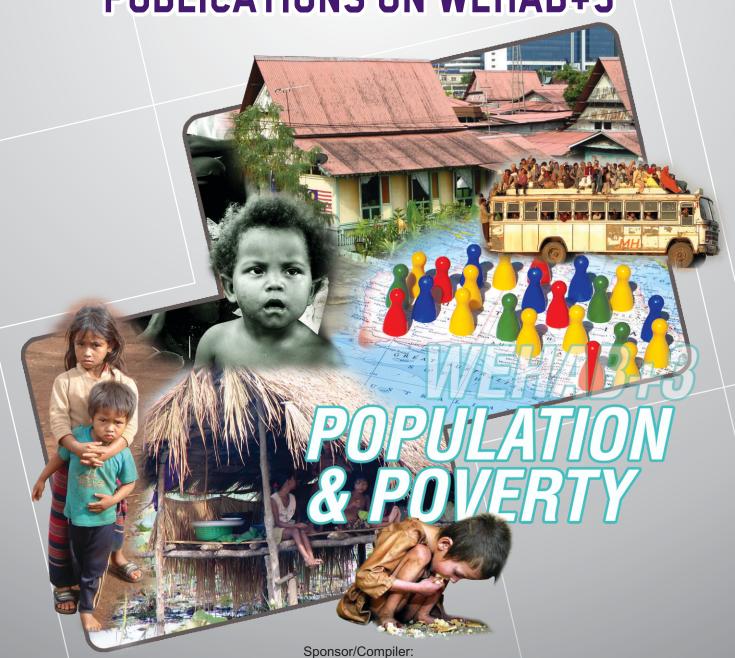


A SELECTED COMPENDIUM OF SEASN MEMBERS' RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS ON WEHAB+3









A SELECTED COMPENDIUM OF SEASN MEMBERS' RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS ON WEHAB+3: POPULATION & POVERTY

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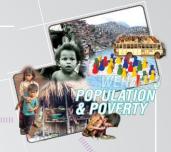
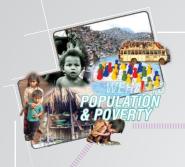
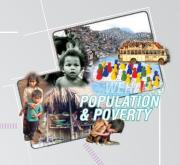


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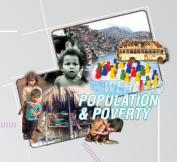
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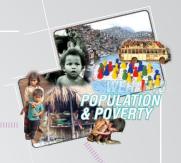
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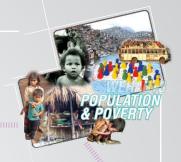
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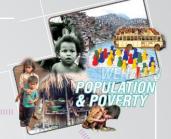


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Foreword

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh and greeting of peace

he establishment of South East Asia Sustainability Network (SEASN) has provided a platform to support higher education institutions and other related sustainability organisations in South East Asian countries for exchanging ideas, findings, information, and good practices in teaching, research, community engagement and institutional arrangement that relate to their work. In order to expedite this process the SEASN Secretariat at Universiti Sains Malaysia has taken the initiative to publish a compendium entitled 'A Selected Compendium of SEASN Members' Research Publications on WEHAB+3', in order to share information and best practices in sustainability studies.



The focus of this book is on the sectors, Water, Energy, Health, Agriculture, Biodiversity (WEHAB); and cross-sectors, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management, Consumption and Production, and Population and Poverty; collectively represented as WEHAB+3. The Water (W), Energy (E), Health (H), Agriculture (A) and Biodiversity (B), Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management (CC&DRM) and Production & Consumption (PC) have been successfully published and in this compendium is focus on Population & Poverty (PP).

Incidentally, WEHAB was launched at the World Summit on Sustainable Development by Kofi Annan in 2002 as a priority set of sectors for sustainability implementation. When we add the three cross sectoral issues, the approach becomes very comprehensive and a broad treatment WEHAB+3 would cover almost all major sustainability challenges.

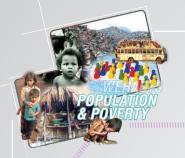
In this sense, the current compendium will help promote better understanding of sustainable management of Population & Poverty and create knowledge societies that ensure improved quality of life for the present and future generations.

I would like to extend my deepest appreciation and gratitude to all the contributors, authors and editors for their hard work in materializing this compendium. The dedication and tireless efforts of the CGSS staff for the success of the compendium is fully recognized and acknowledged.

Hope the 'WEHAB+3' compendium series will be a medium to exchange research findings in sustainability and to promote sustainability at the global level for the benefit of the wider community of higher educational institutions.

Professor Dato' Dr. Omar Osman

Chairman South East Asia Sustainability Network (SEASN)



Preface

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh and greeting of peace

he South East Asia Sustainability Network (SEASN) is an alliance of higher education institutions and other related sustainability institution in South East Asian countries committed to promote, engage and integrate sustainability in their mission areas in a systematic way. In this regard, 'A Selected Compendium of SEASN Members' Research Publications on WEHAB+3' is in line with the vision and objectives of SEASN.

This book is seen mainly as a means to build a platform for the sharing of research findings in the form of abstracts of published papers.

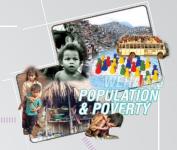
Our survey has revealed that there is enough scope for eight volumes of valuable information that has already been published in the eight areas of WEHAB+3. We have selected the abstract, including reference details, in the hope that it will make life easier for prospective researchers to focus on critical sustainability issues that matter most to their respective countries or the global community at large.

In compiling the abstracts we are mindful of the Intellectual Property Rights of original authors, and in acknowledgement, CGSS declares that we do not make any claim on IP issues whatsoever.

We do hope that this effort will provide a tangible and inspiring example of publication to address sustainability challenges quickly and cost effectively. It is also hoped that this book will contribute towards development and progress that is best suited for the environment, individuals and the economy without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs and ultimately ensuring a sustainable future for all.

Professor Dr. Kamarulazizi Ibrahim

Secretary
South East Asia Sustainability Network (SEASN)



Introduction

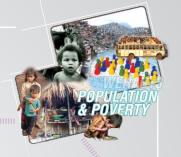
his publication on Population & Poverty consists of compilation of abstract of SEASN's (South East Asia Sustainability Network) sustainability research output and the resulting publications related to the population and poverty. SEASN is a professional network which includes South East Asia higher education institutions, other related sustainability organisations, agencies, NGOs and industries in South East Asia countries with an interest in sustainability.

South-East Asia has done remarkably well in both economic growth and poverty reduction during the past three decades. These achievements have not, however, been uniform across countries in the region. Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Viet Nam have posted rapid economic growth and are well on their way to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The same cannot however be said for Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, and the Philippines where socio-economic growth rates of output were comparatively low and population growth rates high.

This book aims to share information and best practices in sustainability studies focused in the 8 known areas of sustainability (WEHAB+3), to exchange ideas, concepts and research findings in sustainability and to promote sustainability at the global level for the benefit of the wider higher educational community. The previous book have been published which focus on sustainability research on Water (W), Energy (E), Health (H), Agriculture (A) and Biodiversity (B), Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management (CC&DRM) and Production & Consumption (PC). Meanwhile, this book will focus on sustainability research on Population & Poverty (PP). This is the last book published on WEHAB+3.

This book comprises of compendium which combines knowledge on Population & Poverty from many primary sources of member of SEASN into a single publication. Some of the primary sources were given by the organization and some of them were extracted from Sciencedirect, Scopus and Thomson Reuters ISI. It is hoped that this book will provide a quick and relatively understand to overview regarding sustainability research output on Population & Poverty. Thus, it will hopefully provide a foundation for further studies, and catalyse for new research in South East Asia region.







AIMST University



International Journal of Collaborative Research on Internal Medicine & Public Health, Volume 3, Issue 9, September 2011, Pages 671-679

A population based survey on knowledge and awareness of breast cancer in the suburban females of Sungai Petani, Kedah, Malaysia

Baig, M.R., Subramaniam, V., Chandrasegar, A.A., Khan, T.M.

Background:

Globally breast cancer is one of the most common cancers and a major public health challenge to women health. Malaysia is also one of the Asian nations that is facing the dilemma breast cancer with an Age Standardised Rate (ASR) of female breast cancer among Malaysian women was 47.4 per 100,000 populations.

Objectives:

To evaluate the knowledge and awareness of Breast Cancer among the women of different age groups and various races in the sub-urban town of Sungai Petani, Malaysia Material and Methods: A questionnaire based cross-sectional study was conducted from 9th February to 29th March The survey of 2010. Household survey was conducted in the rural areas of Sungai Petani using a pre-validated questionnaire. The time retest reliability scale was applied and the internal consistency of the study tool was estimated on the basis of Cronbach's Alpha (α = 0.68). For the purpose of data analysis, the Statistical package for Social Sciences (SPSS13.0®) was used. Chi-square test was applied analyse the categorical data. One way ANOVA applied to make Inferences about Population Means between groups.



Results:

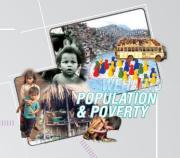
A total of n=320 women from different age groups and varying ethnicities from Sungai Petani were interviewed. Comparatively a higher participation was seen from the young 18-25 years. It is seen that Chinese female respondents comparatively have a better general knowledge towards breast cancer with mean score of 2.11 \pm 1.04. However, Malay were found to have a better knowledge towards the risk factors (4.34 \pm 3.07) and Indians were the best in terms of knowledge towards symptoms and screening of breast cancer (7.17 \pm 2.32). Overall, Indians were found to have the highest knowledge score among all. Majority agreed that a woman can enjoy a good quality life after receiving treatment for breast cancer and treatment for breast cancer is more helpful to young patients.

Conclusion:

Indians women were found to have a comparatively better knowledge toward the breast cancer. However, education level was found to be the main factor affecting the knowledge level of the respondents.

Keywords

Knowledge, Awareness, Breast Cancer, Indians



International Journal of Production Economics, Volume 140, Issue 1, November 2012, Pages 330-340

Sustainable supply chain management (SSCM) in Malaysia: A survey

Suhaiza Zailani, K. Jeyaraman, G. Vengadasan, R. Premkumar

As a developing country, Malaysia has moved from an agriculture-based economy to an industrialized economy in which manufacturing is considered to be the highest contributor towards environmental concerns. These concerns push firms into seriously considering the environmental impact while doing their business. The implementation of sustainable supply chain management (SSCM) is a key enabler that could push organizations to focus on alleviating environmental issues, and providing economic and social benefits. This study investigates the extent of implementation of sustainable supply chain management practices (environmental purchasing and sustainable packaging). The study also examines the outcomes of these practices on sustainable supply chain performance. A survey via mail was carried out among 400 manufacturing firms in Malaysia. Factor analysis of the survey data resulted in four categories of outcomes (environmental, economic, social and operational). The study found that environmental purchasing has a positive effect on three categories of outcomes (economic, social and operational), whereas sustainable packaging has a positive effect on environmental, economic and social outcomes. The results have empirically proven that SSCM practices have a positive effect on sustainable supply chain performance, particularly from the economic and social perspective. Thus, firms need to collaborate in advocating sustainable supply chain management (SSCM) practices as a route for firm's commercial success rather than as a moral obligation.

Keywords

Practices, Outcomes, Sustainable Supply Chain, Developing Country, Malaysia



Chulalongkorn University, Thailand

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Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 36, 2012, Pages 361-371

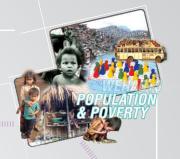
The Sustainability of Local Community under the Globalization: The Case of Kao Yi Sarn, Samutsongkram, Thailand

Kundoldibya Panitchpakdi

The purpose of this article is to explain the factors that enable Kao Yee Sarn, a small local community in Samutsongkram province, maintain its identity as a 'Thai community' despite the strong influences of global change. The study uses the concept of EBS for the investigation of the interactions among places, user groups, socio-behavioral-cultural phenomena and time. Literature reviews, direct observations and interview were conducted. It was found that the balance of the dynamic interaction among environment, social economic culture and residences' behaviors is the key factor that enables Kao Yee Sarn to maintain its identity.

Keywords

Community; Cultural Values; Localization; Globalization



IATSS Research, Volume 35, Issue 1, July 2011, Pages 30-33

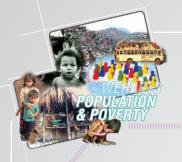
Traffic risk behavior and perceptions of Thai motorcyclists: A case study

Prathurng Hongsranagon, Theerachai Khompratya, Surbpong Hongpukdee, Piyalamporn Havanond, Nathawan Deelertyuenyong

This study aimed to investigate Thai motorcyclists' traffic risk behavior and their perceptions of it, information of value in the design and implementation of public health policies and campaigns for the reduction of road injuries. Data was collected by a self-administered questionnaire completed by 399 motorcyclists in Muang Krabi district, Krabi province, Thailand. The questionnaire focused on the respondents' perceptions of general traffic risks and the specific risks at 3 identified hazardous sites. The results of the survey indicated that the correct fastening of helmet straps had a relationship with responsible traffic risk perceptions.

Keywords

Traffic Risk Behavior; Traffic Risk Perceptions; Motorcyclists; Krabi; Thailand



Journal of International Money and Finance, Volume 36, September 2013, Pages 151-171

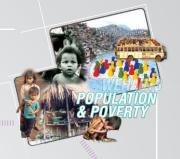
Early warning systems for currency crises: A multivariate extreme value approach

Phornchanok Cumperayot, Roy Kouwenberg

We apply extreme value theory to assess the tail dependence between three currency crisis measures and 18 economic indicators commonly used for predicting crises. In our pooled sample of 46 countries in the period 1974–2008, we find that nearly all pairs of variables are asymptotically independent: in the limit, extreme values of economic indicators are not followed by severe currency crashes. Our findings may explain the poor performance of existing early warning systems for currency crises. However, we do find that economic variables with stronger extremal association with the exchange rate have better crisis prediction performance, both in-sample and out-of-sample.

Keywords

Currency Crises; Crisis Prediction; Extreme Value Theory; Emerging Markets



Journal of Asian Economics, Volume 22, Issue 2, April 2011, Pages 142-151

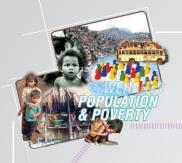
Repeat migration and remittances: Evidence from Thai migrant workers

Sang-Hyop Lee, Nopparat Sukrakarn, Jin-Young Choi

Although there is a growing body of literature on repeat migration in the Americas and Europe, no empirical evidence exists in Asia. This paper examines the remittances and savings behavior of repeat migrants, using a special survey on Thai migrants in six major destination countries, conducted by the Asian Research Center for Migration (ARCM) at Chulalongkorn University. The results show that repeated migrants are a highly specific group. Males are more likely to repeat migration, compared with their female counterparts. Repeat migration is strongly correlated with age, which shows an inverted U-shape. Repeat migrants are less likely to send remittances, but more likely to save, compared with first-time migrants. This finding is consistent with the notion that first-time migrant workers remit most of their earned income to Thailand, while those who repeat migration prefer to keep their money rather than remitting it.

Keywords

Repeat Migration; Remittance Decay; Thai Migrants





Journal of Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology, Volume 24, Issue 6, December 2011, Pages 342-346

Obstetric and Perinatal Outcomes of Teenage Pregnancies in Thailand

Suparp Thaithae, Ratsiri Thato

Study Objective: To determine whether, when controlling for confounding factors, there was still an association of adolescence with adverse outcomes.

Design: Retrospective case control study.

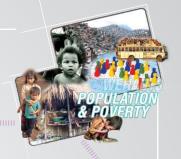
Setting: Seven Bangkok Metropolitan Administration General Hospitals.

Participants: Charts of all women aged 19 and younger (n = 1,354) having singleton live births in 2004, 2005, and 2006 were retrieved. For the adult group, 1,389 charts of mothers between the ages of 20 and 34 delivering singleton babies were selected using proportionate systematic random sampling. Maternal age was divided into 3 groups: 11–15, 16–19, and 20–34.

Main Outcome Measures: Obstetric and perinatal outcomes.

Results: After statistically controlling for known confounding factors, teenage pregnancy was associated with increased risks of anemia (11–15: AOR = 1.81, P < 0.001; 16–19: AOR = 1.48, P < 0.01), very preterm deliveries (11–15: AOR = 2.18, P < 0.05), very low birth weight babies (11–15: AOR = 6.98, P < 0.05; 16–19: AOR = 9.86, P < 0.01), newborn admission to Intensive Care Unit (11–15: AOR = 1.93, P < 0.01; 16–19: AOR = 2.10, P < 0.01), and postpartum complications (11–15: AOR = 3.33, P < 0.01). The rates of cesarean delivery (11–15: AOR 0.58, P < 0.01; 16–19: AOR = 0.57, P < 0.01), operative delivery (11–15: AOR = 0.49, P < 0.01), and oxytocin augmentation (16–19: AOR = 0.66, P < 0.01) were less frequent in younger mothers.

Conclusion: Independent of known confounding factors, teenage pregnancy was associated with increased risks of adverse maternal and neonatal outcomes requiring clinical and outreach interventions from health care providers.



International Review of Economics & Finance, Volume 22, Issue 1, April 2012, Pages 208-221

Capital structure and corporate governance quality: Evidence from the Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS)

Pornsit Jiraporn, Jang-Chul Kim, Young Sang Kim, Pattanaporn Kitsabunnarat

Grounded in agency theory, this study explores how capital structure is influenced by aggregate corporate governance quality. We measure governance quality using broad-based comprehensive governance metrics provided by the Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS). The empirical evidence reveals a robust inverse association between leverage and governance quality. Firms with poor governance are significantly more leveraged. It appears that leverage substitutes for corporate governance in alleviating agency conflicts. Further, we utilize empirical methods that control for endogeneity and show that poor governance quality likely brings about, and does not merely reflect, higher leverage. Our results are important as they show that the overall quality of corporate governance has a material impact on critical corporate decisions such as capital structure choices.

Keywords

Capital Structure; Corporate Governance; Agency Costs; Leverage



Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 36, 2012, Pages 723-731

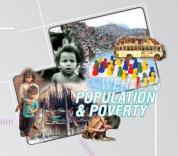
Community Responses to Cultural Identity of the Three Religious Communities: A Case Study in Chachoengsao Province, Thailand

Siriwan Silapacharanan, Wonchai Mongkolpradit

The research work focused on the community response in relation to their architecture, space and land of the 3 ethnic enclaves of 3 different religions: Buddhism, Confucianism and Catholicism located along the Bang Pakong River, namely, Ban Sothorn, Talad Banmai and St.Paul Church. The objectives of the study are 1) to study the value of their cultural heritage and 2) to study the sustainability of their community. The study reveals that the conservation of an ethnic community depends on people's relationship with their religion, housing security, economic potential and people's involvement.

Keywords

Ethnic Enclave; Cultural Identity; Spirit Of Place; Community Respons



Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 85, 20 September 2013, Pages 27-32

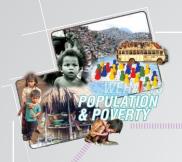
The Identity of Water-based Communities in Thailand

Siriwan Silapacharanan

The identity of water-based community refers to the special characters of a community along a major river or canal. Known as water-based community, its uniqueness lies in its residents' way of life which is closely related to water. This study covered communities located from the upstream to the mouth of the rivers. These communities feature their geographical, historical and ecological backgrounds as well as the culture of each ethnic group. Additionally, changes in water-based communities have resulted from such infrastructure development: dams, sluices, roads and railroads. As a result, the communities have been transformed into land-based settlements.

Keywords

Identity; Water-Based Community; Ethnic Group; Transformation



Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 40, 2012, Pages 478-484

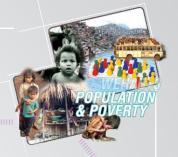
Preliminary Study on the Community-Based-Eco-Industrial Estate Development of Northern Region Industrial Estate, Thailand

V. Panyathanakun, S. Tantayanon, C. Tingsabadh, K. Charmondusit

Imitating the natural eco-system, the eco-industrial estates emerged as one of effective ways to manage industrial systems. Aiming to create a sustainable industrial ecosystem required balancing of demand and supply of materials, energy, and wastes. Eco-industrial estate development strategies initiated by the Industrial Estate Authority of Thailand (IEAT) were announced to industrial estates and public, which consisted of 5 aspects and 22 areas and claimed as business model initiatives. At the present, industrial estates throughout the country are being transformed to eco-industrial estate and network. Preliminary study on the Community-Based-Eco-Industrial Estate (CBEIE) development of Northern Region Industrial Estate (NRIE), Thailand was focused. Findings from the survey, suggestions and improvement needs were recommended by respondents in order to build stakeholders' trust and to balance their mutual benefits for further CBEIE development of NRIE.

Keywords

Eco-Industrial Estate ;Community; Industrial Ecology; Northern Region Industrial Estate; Stakeholders' Collaboration



Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 36, 2012, Pages 243-252

Participatory Planning in Urban Conservation and Regeneration: A Case Study of Amphawa Community

Wannasilpa Peerapun

The objective of this article is to examine participatory planning approach to urban conservation and regeneration in Amphawa Community, Thailand which comprises a series of interrelated projects. Action research procedure is adopted and various techniques for public participation are applied intensively throughout the planning process. "Amphawa Model," the community conservation and regeneration model, is developed to help direct all strategies and policies. Urban conservation and regeneration in Amphawa Community is very successful, making it an excellent case study for urban conservation and regeneration planning at the local level.

Keywords

Participatory Planning; Urban Conservation And Regeneration; Action Research; Amphawa Community



Diponegoro University, Indonesia

3.1

International Journal of Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability 7 (6), pp. 337-349. 2012

Helping the poor through the community-based housing development approach: How far does it work? lessons learnt from two case studies in Semarang city, Indonesia

Manaf, A.

In recent decades, the community based approach or public participation has been widely accepted in development activities particularly in developing country including in Indonesia. In Indonesia, there is a Program called Community Based Housing Development, which deals with the issues related to the housing for the poor. This approach is strongly "campaigned" both by government and or non government institutions until today. This paper examines the implementation of the program and outlines issues, challenges and constraints faced in the implementation process. The qualitative research method ('participatory action research') has been employed, where the researcher was also partly involved in the implementation process as an observer. This research compared two cases in Semarana: the first is the CBHD Project in the Pudak Payung village representing the project conducted by the "poor people" and the second one is the CBHD Project in Bangetayu village conducted by the "low income people". The researcher found that such program is less compatible or not economically feasible enough for "the poor", so that the program is not sustainable. However, the program has potential to help "the low income people", who are actually able to pay but politically discriminated. Researcher conclude that issue of the unsustainability of the housing program in Indonesia does not lie in the so called "market failure" only, but also in the unfair accessibility for the majority of low income people to the key resources in housing development or "state failure".

Keywords

Public Participation, Community Based Housing Development, Participatory Action Research, Poor And Low-Income People



Urban Geography 33 (6), pp. 850-865. 2012

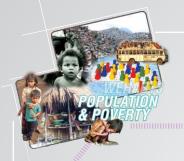
Lost in translation? Comparing planning responses to urban growth in the global north and south

Minnery, J., Storey, D., Setyono, J.

Governing rapidly growing urban regions is one of the key challenges facing planners, policymakers, and politicians today, especially in terms of governance at the local level. Research and practice have mainly been shaped by the differentiated experiences of "more" and "less" developed countries. This study evaluates a comparative urban governance research project that sought to go beyond these confines to explore the synergies and differences between a "developed" and a "less developed" city region (using Brisbane and Southeast Queensland in Australia and metropolitan Semarang in Indonesia). In critically reflecting on the governance lessons learned from both, as well as the project's methods, we identify what can be gained from comparison, which involves learning from both localities' struggle to manage spatially dispersed and fragmented urban-rural interfaces.

Keywords

Urban Governance, Comparative Urbanism, Southeast Queensland, Kedungsepur, Indonesia



Environment and Urbanization ASIA 4 (1), pp. 57-71. 2013

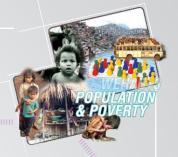
The identification of early gentrification in Tembalang area, Semarang, Indonesia

Nyoman Tri Prayoga, I., Esariti, L., Dewi, D.I.K.

The authors study the effect of development in Tembalang post relocation of the Diponegoro University in 1995, and establish that social, economic and physical changes occurring demonstrate establishment of gentrification in the city. The study also assesses the effect of gentrification. The study uses quantitative and qualitative methods, applied on 130 dwellers as sample unit, and utilizes Discriminant Analysis to classify the gentrification characteristic, both using questionnaire and observation. The authors conclude that development in Tembalang demonstrates gentrification that is identified based on social change, changes in population, tendency of segregation, and area's revitalization. Socially, gentrification has made Tembalang become more crowded; differences in dweller's behaviour of home rented-newcomers and homeowner-newcomer and declining level of morality in Tembalang's youth are also studied. Economically, effects of gentrification is demonstrated in over 65% population as economic condition have improved due to increase of business opportunities, rapid growth in trade and service activities in the main street corridors. The authors also show that gentrification leads to increased congestion and increased criminal activities. Physically, gentrification has decreased available green space although improvement in aesthetics in terms of architecture, cleanliness, and building permanency are observed. Disparity in infrastructure services distribution is also observed on account of gentrification.

Keywords

Gentrification, Neighbourhood's Revitalization, Settlement, Suburban

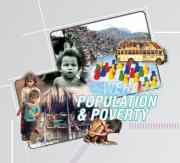


European Journal of Scientific Research 69 (2), pp. 188-196. 2012, © 2012 EuroJournals Publishing, Inc.

Mixed geographically weighted regression model (case study: The percentage of poor households in Mojokerto 2008

Purhadi, Yasin, H.

Regression analysis is a statistical analysis that aims to model the relationship between response variables with predictor variables. Geographically Weighted Regression (GWR) is statistical methods used for analyzed the spatial data in local form of regression. Where certain predictor variables influencing the response are global while others are local used the Mixed Geographically Weighted Regression (MGWR) model to solve the problem. The results showed that Weighted Least Square (WLS) can be used to estimate the parameter model and Cross Validation (CV) for the selection of the optimum bandwidth. Goodness of fits tests for a global regression model and MGWR approximated by F distribution as well as on the test of global parameters and local parameters simultaneously and for testing the partial model parameters using the t distribution. The applications of MGWR model in the percentage of poor households in Mojokerto showed that MGWR model differs significantly from the global regression model. Based on Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) values between the global regression model, GWR and MGWR model, it is known that the MGWR model with a weighting Gaussian kernel function is the best model used to analyze the percentage of poor households in Mojokerto (2008) because it has the smallest AIC value.



Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 85, 20 September 2013, Pages 626-637

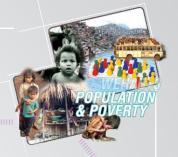
The Sustainability Concept of Alun-alun as a Model of Urban Design in the Future

R. Siti Rukayah, Totok Roesmanto, Sukawi

Dutch researcher has discovered the ruins of the open space as the center the cosmic city in Majapahit kingdom (century 13). The development of cities in Java were still using the concept as reference until Soekarno's era (the first president). He used the concept to create a new square as for substitute the loss of the old square in the Semarang city. Symptoms may inadvertently reference as the concept of sustainability in the downtown city expansion and development of the new city center in the future. It is possible to make cooperation with Japan and Thailand that have a similar root of historic.

Keywords

Java, Open Space, Semarang, City Center



Acta medica Indonesiana 45 (1), pp. 3-10. 2013

Profile and factors associated with mortality in mediastinal mass during hospitalization at Cipto Mangunkusumo Hospital, Jakarta.

Singh, G., Amin, Z., Wuryantoro, Wulani, V., Shatri, H.

To obtain characteristics, variations of the type of mass, diagnostic modalities, and mortality factors during hospitalization in patients with mediastinal mass at our institute during a 10-year period. a case-control study was conducted, by browsing through the medical records of 113 mediastinal mass patients who were treated at Cipto Mangunkusumo Hospital, Jakarta, during a 10-year period (January 2000-December 2009). Factors associated with mortality, i.e; sepsis, septic shock, pneumonia, lung tuberculosis, superior vena cava syndrome, massive pleural effusion, pericard effusion, and respiratory failure were analyzed by logistic regresion multivariate analysis. two hundred and one mediastinal mass patients were diagnosed and treated at our institute, 113 medical records were available to be included in this study. There were 69 males and 44 females with the age range of 18-60 years. One-hundred and seven patients were symptomatic at presentation. Mediastinal tumor was the most common mediastinal mass found among the subjects. The most frequent mass location was in the anteriosuperior compartement. Chest X-ray imaging were able to detect 61 cases of mediastinal mass, while 42 patients underwent thoracotomy (open biopsy) to acquire histopathology diagnosis. The proportion of mortality during hospitalization reached 39.8%. Logistic regression multivariate analysis found sepsis (p=0.000), superior vena cava syndrome (p = 0.000), and massive pleural effusion (p=0.047), were significant factors associated with mortality during hospitalization. the clinical and radiologic features of mediastinal mass patients in our institute showed that mediastinal mass may resemble the symptoms of other diseases. Types and diagnostic modalities performed in our study differs from other studies previously reported in other countries with a high proportion of mortality during hospitalization.



International Journal of Civic, Political, and Community Studies 10 (3), pp. 91-109, 2013

Towards equity-based regional development: Addressing spatial inequality in the blitar region

Sugiri, A., Nuraini, N.

Spatial inequality can be defined as disparities among spatial units of a region that can easily be perceived by people, e.g. some spatial units can provide proper and affordable public facilities and infrastructure while some others cannot. This phenomenon has long been there in the Blitar Region, Indonesia, where the north part of it is seen by people as more developed than the south part. Spatial inequality matters because, firstly, it could be caused by equity failures and secondly, this may worsen the imbalance spatial interactions, which can further cause problems like unoptimum economic growth, inequality of welfare, and even unsustainability. It is unfortunate that the inverted U-shape rule of spatial inequality as hypothesised by many seems inapplicable here. This paper is based on research answering the problem of what factors have been there and how they work to result in the spatial inequality of the Blitar Region. A set of propositions was developed from literature discussions and was then confirmed in the case of the Blitar Region, comprising Blitar City and Blitar Regency administratively. The quantitative approach is utilised in this research, due to the need to understand the general characteristics of spatial inequality in the Blitar Region. The main findings confirm that it is inequity, especially in the distribution of development benefits, that matters and that the inverted U-shape rule needs equity to be ensured to work. Essential measures needed to alleviate the inequity are recommended.

Keywords

Equity-Based Development, Inverted U-Shape Rule, Regional Development, Spatial Inequality



International Journal of Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability 7 (5), pp. 301-323. 2011

Sustainable metropolitan development: Towards an operational model for Semarang Metropolitan Region

Sugiri, A., Buchori, I., Soetomo, S.

Evidence shows that spatial dynamics in Semarang Metropolitan Region tend not to encourage sustainable development. Spatial interactions, especially in journeys to work, have been using inefficient transport energy. A sprawling growth process that is still continuing also shares in the ineffective cost of development, especially in public infrastructure. Residential areas have also been expanding to land that is supposedly conserved. Furthermore, rural urban linkages have not been able to properly alleviate poverty and minimise economic inequality, as seen in the fluctuating nature in poverty incidence and increasing individual as well as spatial inequality. All this prompts an important question to be answered, which is: "How can spatial dynamics in a metropolitan region be facilitated to ensure sustainable development?" This paper seeks an operational model of sustainable metropolitan development applicable to Semarang Metropolitan Region, which is the first important step towards answering the research question. Sustaining metropolitan development requires that the structure and function be able to minimise the use of energy and natural resources, encourage the socially optimal situation, strengthen regional comparative advantages, and encourage involvement of the majority of people in productive activities. A good system of interactions between spatial units in a metropolitan region can thus help ensuring sustainable development. It would increase the efficiency of interactions between cities, which means minimising the use of energy, strengthening good spatial linkages and thus encouraging people to participate in productive activities. Further discussions lead to a set of strategies that is needed for facilitating the spatial dynamics of Semarana Metropolitan Region towards sustaining the development. However, an in-depth study using the case of a suburb that has an exceptional role in the spatial dynamics of Semarana Metropolitan Region is needed to answer the research question completely. This is especially needed in this era of participatory approaches to development. The suburb of Bandungan, which has been quickly becoming a regional centre for certain functions, especially tourism and a market for agricultural products, is perfectly matched with the purpose and thus recommended as the case study.

Keywords

Metropolitan Region, Rural Urban Linkages, Semarang, Spatial Dynamics, Sustainable Development



Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 36, 2012, Pages 476-484

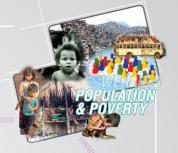
Public Space for Marginal People

Wakhidah Kurniawati

Public space is for public use (adapted from Moudon, 1987). A good public space must accommodative for everyone included the marginal, the forgotten, the silent (Badshah, 1996), and an undesirable people. They are informal street vendors; street people, different ability people, women, children, elderly, and others marginalized community. So far, these problems, as well as other social issues are clearly unresolved in the master plan of the city. Cities for the Citizen '(Douglas & Friedmann, 1998) serves a slogan. Informal sector and the marginalized become the forgotten elements in urban space (Out of Place, [Yatmo, 2008]). Therefore, a formulation to solve the problems is needed. So, how to create accommodative public space for marginal people and marginal uses? Based on qualitative descriptive method, we will formulate the ideal public space for marginal people. Then the result shows that we need the certainty space for everyone. When there is a written proof upon the space for legality urban plan for the marginalized community, the issues are automatically resolved. When the physical aspects of space can accommodate the space needs of the Forgotten (Badshah, 1996), accommodative public space will be created. Thus, as society will be educated to learn and share, to respect the rights of other users in the city, and consequently the physical quality of the visual city will be better because there are no annexation of space and overlapping activities.

Keywords

Public Space, Marginal People, Marginal Uses



Kampus ITS Surabaya, Indonesia

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International Journal of Applied Environmental Sciences, 2012

Environment socialization value analysis at elderly houses in Surabaya and Jakarta to improve socialization needs among the aged

Wardhana, M., Soemarno, I., Prijotomo, J.

Improving of the aged becomes an urgent matter. The environment where the aged live must be designed to meet many kind of needs. Fulfilling the socialization need for the aged at elderly house is an important and urgent issue. The usual problems are insufficiency or incompleteness facilities at elderly house. The causes of this problem of the socialization pattern and potential of the place where the socialization occurs is not fairly understood yet. This research conducted in two elderly houses in Surabaya and Jakarta. The method of this study started by identifying the pattern of socialization that conducted by continuous observation in four weeks in each elderly house. The longer the observation, the socialization pattern will clearly indicate. The pattern further processed by using ESV formula to know the level of socialization that occurs in elderly house environment. Any attempts to improve socialization of the aged are very important. One of the solutions is by providing corridor as a place for socialization. The result of the research shows that at elderly houses those socialization places are necessary and should be provide with various facilities to support the activities.



Taylor University

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Australian Geographer, Volume 44, Issue 2, June 2013, Pages 197-213, © 2013 Copyright Geographical Society of New South Wales Inc.

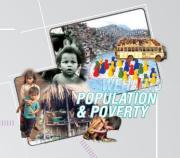
Malaysia's Three Major Ethnic Group Preferences in Creating a Malaysian Garden Identity

Kaboudarahangi, M., Tahir, O.M., Kamal, M.

Malaysia has a complex multiracial population, predominantly defined by three major ethnic groups: Malay, Chinese and Indian races, with diverse cultural backgrounds. Despite this, the country has a vision to be the most beautiful garden nation, and its National Landscape Policy (NLP) puts emphasis on creating a unique landscape and garden identity. Because of ethnic and cultural differences, there are differences between preferences for developing a garden identity for Malaysia. Hence, this study focused on the visual quality of gardens. Representative images of four well-established gardens of the world including Persian-Islamic, English, Japanese and Chinese gardens were presented to the study's respondents through preference photo surveys. Respondents from the three major ethnic groups in Malaysia were asked to rate their preferred garden types, elements and scenes that they would like to see in Malaysian gardens. The results pinpointed expectations of the visual quality of gardens. These highlighted some similarities and differences between the three major ethnic groups in their preferences for the scenes and elements that they sought in gardens. Diverse factors must be considered when creating Malaysian gardens that will be accepted by Malaysians of different ethnic groups. Garden development reveals preferences attached to visual qualities and emphasises cultural differences between garden users.

Keywords

Cultural Differences; Garden Development; Preference; Visual Quality



Journal of Sustainable Tourism, Volume 21, Issue 7, September 2013, Pages 1036-1048, © 2013 Copyright Taylor and Francis Group, LLC.

ZMET: A psychological approach to understanding unsustainable tourism mobility

Khoo-Lattimore, C., Prideaux, B.

This paper examines the work done by tourism researchers to understand why tourists make travel decisions that lead to high levels of greenhouse gas emissions and find it difficult to change their transport mode and destination choice towards more sustainable outcomes. It notes the growing recognition of an understanding of the psychological factors underlying tourist behaviour and the growing use of photography and photo elicitation in tourism research. It makes a case for using the Zaltman metaphor elicitation technique (ZMET) to develop a deeper understanding of the reluctance of consumers to choose environmentally friendly transport modes. ZMET is a technique for eliciting inter-related notions that influence thought and behaviour. Derived from Freudian psychology, ZMET is a projective technique based on the notion of unconscious and repressed thoughts - thoughts that patients were unwilling or unable to reveal to their psychologists. It uses respondents' pictures as entry points to understanding the respondents' actions. The ten steps used by ZMET are described. An evaluation of the technique's use in non-tourism research is given, along with a discussion about why ZMET has rarely been used in many academic studies.

Keywords

Photography; Qualitative Method; Tourist Behaviour; Zmet



Life Science Journal, Volume 10, Issue SPL.ISSUE10, 2013, Pages 311-322

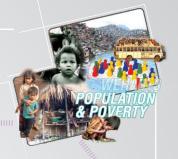
Attitude of communities toward rural tourism development

Lo, M.-C., Ramayah, T., Songan, P., Nair, V.

The rapid development of the tourism industry has detrimental impacts to the environment especially in the depletion of natural resources and the degradation of the eco-system. Hence, the potential hostile responses expected from the local communities would negatively affect any rural tourism development, if equilibrium between benefits and negative effects of the development are not properly achieved. Thus, the purpose of this study is to assess the perceptions of rural tourism communities and their aspiration towards tourism development from five main environmental perspectives, namely destination environment, communities' satisfaction, environmental management practices, influence of environmental resources, and communities' attitudes at rural destinations in Malaysia. One hundred and eighty-two respondents comprising of residents of rural tourism in Malaysia took part voluntarily in this study. Interestingly, the findings revealed that local communities' satisfactions and influence of resources at the rural destinations were of the most concerned to the local communities with regards to their future aspirations towards tourism development.

Keywords

Communities; Environment; Resources; Rural Tourism; Satisfaction



Tourismos, Volume 8, Issue 1, 2013, Pages 1-18

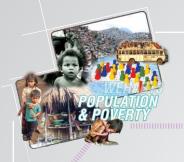
The young tourist guide to paradise: Understanding behavioural patterns of young beach-oriented tourists

Mura, P., Khoo-Lattimore, C.

This paper seeks to advance knowledge of young beach-oriented tourists by employing a qualitative research method. The research was conducted in los, on the south of Athens, Greece. The location represented an extremely popular destination for young people from all over the world. After three months of observation and interviews with twenty five young tourists, the findings interestingly show that the young tourists' patterns of behaviour on holiday were often discussed by them in contrast to the patterns of behaviour in the home environment. This finding has important implications because it further expands our understanding of the relationship between the tourism experience and the leisure experience in the home environment © University of the Aegean.

Keywords

Qualitative Research; Tourist Activities; Tourist Behaviour; Young Tourists



Asian Social Science, Volume 9, Issue 13, 2013, Pages 126-131

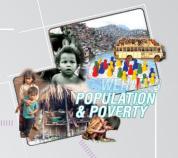
A qualitative study of factors contributing to international students' satisfaction of institutional quality

Seng, E.L.K.

This study explores the factors contributing to institutional quality at five private higher learning institutions in Malaysia. There have been numerical quantitative researches on the perceptions of university quality learning environment but it is argued that a qualitative approach would add to existing knowledge by providing deeper insights from a different perspective. A random sample of 15 international students studying in institutions of higher education in Malaysia were investigated. The study was based on the data collected through openended interviews. Interviews were transcribed verbatim and coded accordingly. A number of constructs emerged from this study and were categorized into a few main themes. The results of the study indicate that constructivist approach, lecturers' teaching styles, campus experiences, state-of-the-art facilities and career preparation influence students' perceptions of quality campus experiences. This study provides useful insight that offer opportunities for stakeholders to plan and initiate appropriate strategies for the betterment of the educational institution.

Keywords

Factors; Institutional Quality; International Students; Satisfaction



Asian Social Science, Volume 9, Issue 11, 2013, Pages 270-279

Advancing sustainability in private higher education through quality assurance: A study of two Malaysian private universities

Tang, S.F., Hussin, S.

This study investigated the motivational constructs expressed by the stakeholders of two private universities in Malaysia and examined how these constructs help in advancing sustainability of the universities through quality assurance. Results were based on the findings from interviews and analysis of the academic programme administrator survey results. The findings revealed that the motivations for the two private universities to implement quality assurance policy can either be extrinsic or intrinsic and they differ according to their institutional mission and goals. However, three motivations seemed to be in congruence for the two universities. They were compliance to the Malaysian Qualifications Agency's requirements, competitiveness in higher education industry and internal continuous improvement which indicated important elements for the private institutions to remain self-sustained in the increasingly challenging industry.

Keywords

Higher Education; Malaysia; Private Universities; Quality Assurance; Sustainability



PLoS ONE, Volume 8, Issue 10, 23 October 2013, Article number e77698 © 2013 Veerasamy et al.

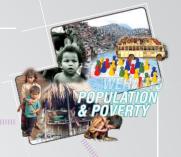
Individual Skills Based Volunteerism and Life Satisfaction among Healthcare Volunteers in Malaysia: Role of Employer Encouragement, Self-Esteem and Job Performance, A Cross-Sectional Study

Veerasamy, C., Sambasivan, M.b., Kumar, N.

The purpose of this paper is to analyze two important outcomes of individual skills-based volunteerism (ISB-V) among healthcare volunteers in Malaysia. The outcomes are: job performance and life satisfaction. This study has empirically tested the impact of individual dimensions of ISB-V along with their interrelationships in explaining the life satisfaction and job performance. Besides, the effects of employer encouragement to the volunteers, demographic characteristics of volunteers, and self-esteem of volunteers on job performance and life satisfaction have been studied. The data were collected through a questionnaire distributed to 1000 volunteers of St. John Ambulance in Malaysia. Three hundred and sixty six volunteers responded by giving their feedback. The model was tested using Structural Equation Modeling (SEM). The main results of this study are: (1) Volunteer duration and nature of contact affects life satisfaction, (2) volunteer frequency has impact on volunteer duration, (3) selfesteem of volunteers has significant relationships with volunteer frequency, job performance and life satisfaction, (4) job performance of volunteers affect their life satisfaction and (5) current employment level has significant relationships with duration of volunteering, self esteem, employer encouragement and job performance of volunteers. The model in this study has been able to explain 39% of the variance in life satisfaction and 45% of the variance in job performance. The current study adds significantly to the body of knowledge on healthcare volunteerism.

Keywords

Adult; Altruism; Article; Cross-Sectional Study; Demography; Employer; Employment Status; Feedback System; Female; Health Care Personnel Management; Hospital Personnel; Human; Job Performance; Life Satisfaction; Malaysia; Male; Normal Human; Professional Competence; Questionnaire; Self Esteem; Structural Equation Modeling; Variance; Work Schedule





Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia



Jurnal Sains Kesihatan Malaysia, 11 (2). pp. 63-69. ISSN 1675-8161 (2013)

Factors associated with non-utilization of freely acquired insecticide-treated nets (ITNs) in a rural agrarian community of North-Western Nigeria

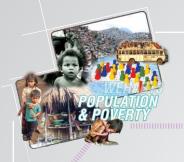
Abdulrazaq Abdullahi Gobir, and Mohammad Nasir Sambo, and Suleman Idris Hadejia,

Malaria Programme of scaling up ITN use, the Nigerian Government distributed free ITNs to many households in the country. However, several factors were associated with non-utilisation of the ITNs. This cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted to assess such factors in Gimba village, a rural community of Kaduna State, Nigeria. It was conducted during Community Diagnosis practical fi eld posting of trained fi nal year medical students of Ahmadu Bello University,

Nigeria, in July 2012. An interviewer-administered questionnaire was used to collect data from all households in the community. Multivariate logistic regression analysis was done using STATA (Version 11. Stata Corporation, 2009). Most of the households own at least, one freely acquired ITN (82%). However, in 40.8% of such households, no member slept under an ITN the night before the survey. Farmers were more unlikely to use an ITN compared to non-farmers (RR = 1.89; 95% C.I = 0.78 –2.91). Instead of ITN, some farmers use "otapiapia" a cheap, unpatented, locally made pesticide for controlling mosquitoes. Also, respondents with low scores on malaria risk perception were more unlikely to use an ITN compared to those with high scores (RR = 1.08; 95% C.I = 0.94 – 1.23). The result indicated that several factors were associated with non-utilization of freely acquired ITNs. It is recommended that ITN distribution should be accompanied by Health Education on Malaria.

Keywords

Factors; Non-Utilization; Freely Acquired; Itns; Gimba Nigeria



AKADEMIKA, 81 (2). pp. 71-78. ISSN 0126-5008 (2011)

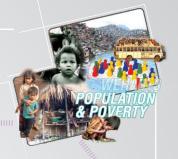
Ecological transition: from the end-of-pipe to ecosystem approach for waste management in Malaysian City

Ahmad Fariz Mohamed, and Abdul Samad Hadi, and Shaharudin Idrus, and Abdul Hadi Harman Shah

Cities in Malaysia are experiencing rapid changes of their natural ecosystem. The development process of cities has transformed natural ecosystem into many types of land use in accordance with human development needs. As population grows and urban expands, waste and economic activities have also continued significantly over the decades. Since Malaysia's independence in 1957, waste has been managed through the end-of-pipe approach which focuses on disposals of wastes to landfill. This practice gives negative impact to the environment and human health. Moreover, this approach increases costs to wastes generator and more landfills are required. The ecosystem functions are affected, and land value will decline there in the future. Being aware of these problems, cities in Malaysia have embarked on many programs in managing wastes in a sustainable manner. One of the activities is through recovery of waste as resources and these include recycling, reuse and reduce or 3R approaches. Since 1980s waste minimisation and the use of cleaner technology have been introduced. Therefore, the need for efficient urban ecosystem in managing resources consumption and waste generation is very important. A framework is needed within which to improve knowledge and decision making about materials used, waste reduction and pollution prevention. This framework will include systems that promote waste minimisation, waste recovery, waste exchange and conservation. Ultimately using natural ecosystem approach for cities to manage its wastes will ensure that it will be able to maintain its ecosystem functions and services for sustainable development

Keywords

Waste; Recovery; Ecosystem; Transition; Sustainable Development



Geografia: Malaysian Journal of Society and Space, 9 (4). pp. 99-105. ISSN 2180-2491 (2013)

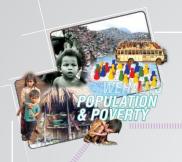
Wetland ecotourism in Sri Lanka: issues and challenges

Fernando, Sudusingha Liyanage Jothirathna and Noresah Mohd Shariff

Ecotourism industry is growing and changing at a fast pace to be an increasingly important source of income and employment in many countries. According to the World Tourism Organization, ecotourism is recorded as the highest growing market in the tourism industry with an annual growth rate of 5 per cent worldwide and representing six per cent of the world's GDP and 11.4 per cent of all consumers spending. Sri Lanka has tremendous ecotourism resources with areat potential for further development in Southern Asia. At present tourism industry with ecotourism sector is a major foreign exchange generating industry in Sri Lanka. Since 2005, the sector of ecotourism has been developed under the policy decisions and legal coverage of tourism act No. 38 of 2005 which came into effect in October 2007. Despite the positive trends Sri Lanka's ecotourism has negative environmental feedbacks in the forms of land degradation, land clearance, erosion, disturbances and loss of biodiversity, air and water pollution This paper examines these issues with the help of extensive and comprehensive literature reviews on ecotourism. Ecotourism trends delineated in this article are based on the ancillary statistical data from 1990 to date and issues and challenges are discussed within the three categories of culture, economy and environment.

Keywords

Biodiversity; Ecotourism; Environmental Issues And Challenges; Heritage Sites; Tourism Industry; Wetland



Sains Malaysiana, 41 (11). pp. 1355-1366. ISSN 0126-6039 (2012)

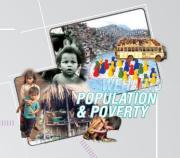
Climate change and variability over Malaysia: gaps in science and research information.

Fredolin T. Tangang, and Liew, Juneng and Ester Salimun, and Kwan, Meng Sei and Loh, Jui Le and Halimatun Muhamad

This paper provides an overview of the current available scientific knowledge pertaining to climate change and climate variability over Malaysia. Malaysia is situated in the western part of the Maritime Continent of the Southeast Asian region. Hence, regional climate change and climate variability over this region are of central importance to the understanding of climate change in Malaysia. The latest regional climate downscaling study indicates that, depending on the emission scenario, the mean surface temperature over Malaysia would increase by 3-5°C by the end of the 21st century. The mean precipitation is projected to decrease (increase) during Northern Hemisphere winter (summer). However, future variabilities associated with regional phenomena such as the monsoon, El Nino-Southern Oscillation (ENSO), Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) and Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) are largely unknown. Current knowledge on the intensity and frequency of future extreme events (drought and flood) is limited. This is also the case for regional sea level rise and long-term changes in regional seas, especially in the southern region of the South China Sea. We conclude that knowledge gap in the science of climate change over Malaysia and the surrounding region remains wide.

Keywords

Climate Change; Climate Variability; Maritime Continent; Projection; Southeast Asia



Geografia: Malaysian Journal of Society and Space, 9 (2). pp. 78-90. ISSN 2180-2491 (2013).

The environmental constituents of eco-tourism in Jordan

Gharaybeh, Khlaif M

Because of the growing universal importance of ecologically sustainable ecotourism, and in line with the recommendation of the Stockholm Conference this research identifies and analyses the environmental components of tourism in Jordan. The objective is to discern the most significant environmental elements that constitute Jordan's eco-tourism and how each of these elements shapes tourist attractions while managing ecological balance. To achieve this objective the researcher adopted an empirical and analytical approach by conducting field visits to identify the basics of the environment involved which was recorded in eighteen illustrations. Main findings of the study demonstrate that ecotourism crucially influences the future of Jordanian tourism as reflected by initiatives taken by the Jordanian Tourism Development Agency to promote Jordanian ecotourism all over the world especially through the Arab Gulf Union. In this vein the study puts forward several recommendations to enhance the ecological sustainability of Jordanian ecotourism including widening the reserve area between Alghor and the semi- Ghor mountains, and alleviating population pressures on the sites' natural resources.

Keywords

Eco-Tourism, Environmental Constituents, Environmental Pressures, Environmental Sustainability, Natural Resources, Tourist Attractions



GEMA: Online Journal of Language Studies, 13 (3). pp. 63-78. ISSN 1675-8021 (2013)

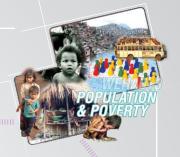
Readers reading practices of EFL Yemeni students: recommendations for the 21st century.

Hazita Azman, and Abdullah Mohammad Bhooth, and Kemboja Ismail,

This paper investigates the reading practices of forty-five second year EFL Yemeni undergraduate students using the Four Resources Model of multiliteracy practices. The Four Resources Model of multiliteracy practices organizes reading practices into four key practices: code breaking, text participating, text uses and text analysing levels. Quantitative and qualitative methods, designed based on the Four Resources Model constructs, were used to collect data from a sample of students studying English as a Foreign Language at a university in Yemen. Quantitative data was collected through a questionnaire, while qualitative data was gathered using semi-structured interviews guided by the research objectives. The findings reveal that Yemeni students were medium users of the code breaker and text user practices whereas the meaning making and text analysis practices were reported to be used in low usage. On the whole, these early findings suggest that the reading practices and reading abilities of the Yemeni students are still limited even at the tertiary level and have not developed fully with regard to reading in English. This paper reports in detail, the use of the Four Resources Model as a tool to determine reading efficacy while examining the aforementioned findings. Discussion is put forward on the implications for teaching of reading and its approaches in a Yemeni context, especially in view of the students" reading needs at the tertiary level in Yemen.

Keywords

EFL Reading Practices; Four Resources Model; Multiliteracy Framework; Tertiary Academic Literacies; Arab Efl Learners



AJTLHE: ASEAN Journal of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, 5 (2). pp. 34-49. ISSN 1985-5826 (2013)

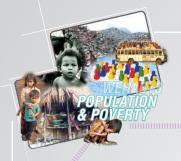
Factors influencing college students' academic achievement in Cambodia: a case study.

Heng, Kreng

The purpose of this study is to address achievement gaps among Cambodian students attending an English higher education institution in Cambodia by exploring factors that contribute to their academic achievement. Using a hierarchical multiple regression on second-year students (N=215) and teachers (N=23), this study examined the relative influence of student engagement behaviors, students' background characteristics, and teacher quality on students' academic achievement. Both general and interaction effects by students' geographical origins were examined. The results suggested a variety of factors that positively predicted student achievement: the importance of students investing more efforts in homework or given tasks and whole-class participation, students' pre-college academic experience, teachers' teaching experience and course workload and difficulty. Interaction effect existed between students' pre-college academic experience and geographical origins. With these findings, some important implications for closing student achievement gaps are discussed.

Keywords

Academic Achievement; Cambodia; College Students; Interaction Effects



International Journal of Public Health Research, 3 (1). pp. 198-203. ISSN 2232-0245 (2013)

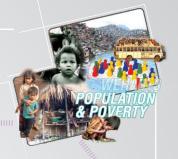
Inadequate iodine intake among school children in Terengganu- findings from the National Iodine Deficiency Disorder Survey 2008.

Lim, Kuang Kuay and Chan, Ying Ying and Ahmad Ali Zainuddin, and Teh, Chien Huey and Rusidah Selamat, and Kee, Chee Cheong and Hasimah Ismail, and Lim, Kuang Hock

lodine deficiency is still prevalent worldwide and it is the main cause of goiter, thyroid dysfunction and mental retardation. The aim of the study was to determine the iodine status and goiter prevalence among the school children in Terengganu.

Keywords

lodine Deficiency; School Children; Median Urinary Iodine Concentrations; Thyroid Goiter Prevalence; Terengganu



Geografia: Malaysian Journal of Society and Space, 9 (3). pp. 38-46. ISSN 2180-2491 (2013)

Targeting poverty to improve maternal health in Sokoto State, Nigeria.

Muazu Alhaji Shamaki, and Katiman Rostam, and Yusuf M. Adamu

The health of women during pregnancy, childbirth and postpartum period is a critical measure of maternal health while maternal mortality is an important indicator of the well-being of women as well as the performance of any state's health system. Disparities in the provision of health facilities and the relationships between poverty and maternal health are two primary community issues in the Sokoto State of Nigeria. Using relevant data from secondary sources, this study reviews maternal deaths and assesses the availability and quality of health facilities in Sokoto State. It reveals that the percentage of births attended to by a skilled professional ranged from a high of 81.8% in the SE to a low of 9.8% in Sokoto, NW. Similarly, 90.1% of women in Sokoto, NW are more likely to give birth at home compared to 22.5% in the SW. This implies that with 81.2% poverty rate and 900/100,000 maternal mortality rate in the state there is a critical relationship between poverty and the delivery of maternal health services. Thus, to improve maternal health services delivery, the study advocates for more women empowerment programmes in the state. In addition, government needs to provide more funds for the provision of more efficient maternal health facilities in order to reduce the mortality rates of women and children.

Keywords

Health Facilities, Human Development, Maternal Health, Maternal Mortality, Poverty, Sokoto State



Sains Malaysiana, 41 (11). pp. 1335-1344. ISSN 0126-6039 (2012)

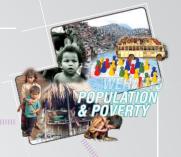
Assessing and comparing PM_{10} pollutant behaviour using functional data approach.

Norshahida Shaadan, and Sayang Mohd. Deni, and Abd Aziz Jemain

This study highlights the advantage of functional data approach in assessing and comparing the PM_{10} pollutant behaviour as an alternative statistical approach during and between the two extreme haze years (1997 and 2005) that have been reported in Selangor, state of Malaysia. The aim of the study was to improvise the current conventional methods used in air quality assessment so that any unforeseen implicit information can be revealed and the previous research findings can be justified. An analysis based on the daily diurnal curves in place of discrete point values was performed. The analysis results provided evidences of the influence of the change in the climate (due to the El-Nino event), the different levels of different emission sources and meteorological conditions on the severity of the PM_{10} problem. By means of the cummulative exceedence index and the functional depth method, most of the monitoring stations for the year 2005 experienced the worst day of critical exceedences on the 10^{th} of August, while for the year 1997 it occurred between 13^{th} and 26^{th} September inclusively at different dates among the stations.

Keywords

Air Quality; Behaviour; Exceedences; Functional Data; Pm10 Pollutant



Universiti Malaya



PLoS One, 6 (7). e22044. ISSN 1932-6203 (2011)

Factors associated with high prevalence of intestinal protozoan infections among patients in Sana'a City, Yemen

Alyousefi, N.A.; Mahdy, M.A.; Mahmud, R.; Lim, Y.A.

BACKGROUND: Intestinal protozoan diseases in Yemen are a significant health problem with prevalence ranging from 18% to 27%. The present study is a cross-sectional study aimed at determining the factors associated with the high prevalence of intestinal protozoan infections among patients seeking health care in Sana'a City, the capital of Yemen.

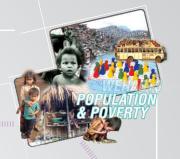
METHODOLOGY/PRINCIPAL FINDINGS: Stool samples were collected from 503 patients aged between 1 and 80 years old; 219 were males and 284 females. Biodata were collected via pretested standard questionnaire. Faecal samples were processed and examined for (oo)cysts or ova using a wet mount preparation after formal-ether concentration technique. Cryptosporidium oocysts were detected using the Ziehl-Neelsen staining technique. The overall prevalence of intestinal protozoan infections was 30.9%. Infection rates of *Giardia duodenalis, Entamoeba histolytica/dispar* and *Cryptosporidium* were 17.7%, 17.1% and 1%, respectively. Other parasites detected included Ascaris *lumbricoides* (2.4%), *Schistosoma mansoni* (0.3%), *Hymenolepis nana* (1.4%) and *Enterobius vermicularis* (0.4%). Multivariate analysis using forward stepwise logistic regression based on intestinal protozoan infections showed that contact with animals (OR = 1.748, 95% CI = 1.168-2.617) and taking bath less than twice a week (OR = 1.820, 95% CI = 1.192-2.779) were significant risk factors of protozoan infections.

CONCLUSIONS/SIGNIFICANCE: This present study indicated that intestinal protozoan infections are still a public health problem in Yemen, with *Giardia* and *Entamoeba* infections being most common. Statistical analysis indicated that low personal hygiene and contact with animals were important predictors for intestinal protozoan infections. As highlighted in this study, in order to effectively reduce these infections, a multi-sectoral effort is needed. Preventive measures should include good hygienic practices, good animal husbandry practices, heightened provision of educational health programs, health services in all governorates including rural areas. Furthermore, it is also essential to find radical solutions to the recent water crises in Yemen.



Keywords

Adolescent Adult Aged Aged, 80 And Over Child Child, Preschool Delivery Of Health Care/Statistics & Numerical Data Female Geography Humans Infant Infant, Newborn Intestinal Diseases, Parasitic/*Epidemiology/Parasitology Male Middle Aged Prevalence Protozoan Infections/*Epidemiology/Parasitology Risk Factors Species Specificity Yemen/Epidemiology Young Adult



British Journal of Nutrition, 106 (7). pp. 1100-1106. (2012)

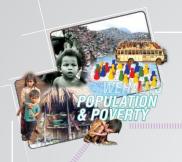
Nutritional and socio-economic determinants of cognitive function and educational achievement of Aboriginal schoolchildren in rural Malaysia

Al-Mekhlafi, H.M.; Mahdy, M.A.; Sallam, A.A.; Ariffin, W.A.; Al-Mekhlafi, A.M.; Amran, A.A.; Surin, J.

A community-based cross-sectional study was carried out among Aboriginal schoolchildren aged 7-12 years living in remote areas in Pos Betau, Pahang, Malaysia to investigate the potential determinants influencing the cognitive function and educational achievement of these children. Cognitive function was measured by intelligence quotient (IQ), while examination scores of selected school subjects were used in assessing educational achievement. Blood samples were collected to assess serum Fe status. All children were screened for soiltransmitted helminthes. Demographic and socio-economic data were collected using pre-tested questionnaires. Almost two-thirds (67.6 %) of the subjects had poor IQ and most of them (72.6%) had insufficient educational achievement. Output of the stepwise multiple regression model showed that poor IQ was significantly associated with low household income which contributed the most to the regression variance (r^2 0.059; P = 0.020). Low maternal education was also identified as a significant predictor of low IQ scores (r^2 0.042; P = 0.043). With educational achievement, Fe-deficiency anaemia (IDA) was the only variable to show significant association (r^2 0.025; P = 0.015). In conclusion, the cognitive function and educational achievement of Aboriginal schoolchildren are poor and influenced by household income, maternal education and IDA. Thus, effective and integrated measures to improve the nutritional and socioeconomic status of rural children would have a pronounced positive effect on their education.

Keywords

Nutritional And Socio-Economic



Malaysian Journal of Science Volume 28, Issue 3 (2011)

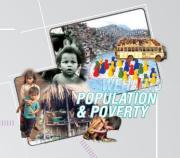
Environmental management strategy for Shah Alam solid waste transfer station, Malaysia

Firuza, B.M., Nather Khan

Waste Transfer stations are the integral part of municipal solid waste management. They essentially function as transit waste collection centres enroute to the landfill facility. The Shah Alam solid waste transfer station (SATS) is the first such transfer station to be established at the industrial zone in the city of Shah Alam. The SATS will be designed to receive approximately 1500 tonnes of municipal solid waste daily. The station will have the capacity to expand its waste reception to approximately 2500 tonnes/day. The key environmental components of concerns during implementation of SATS were air quality, odour, noise, vibration, river water quality, aquatic ecology, socio-economy and traffic and transportation issues around the project area. The baseline data has been collected for the above environmental component and discussed in detail in the existing environmental section of EIA report. Subsequently, the potential environmental impacts arising from the construction and operational phases of the SATS are evaluated based on prevailing regulatory requirements and environmental best management practices. Finally, an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the SATS was necessary to effectively manage all the potential impacts identified in this report and monitor the activities at the project site during construction and operational phases of the project. This is to ensure that the environmental objectives are met and all activities relating to the implementation of the project are carried out in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Keywords

Environmental Management Strategy, Shah Alam Solid Waste Transfer Station, Malaysia



Malaysian Online Journal of Educational Management (2013)

Higher Learning Institutions Green Technology Adoption Barriers

Gan Chin Lay, Rashidah Ahmad, Boey Huey Ming,

The purpose of this paper is to present a comprehensive look on the key factors that may hinder higher learning institutions in adopting green technology. An extensive literature review was conducted and found a research gap in the area of green technology adoption by higher learning institutions in Malaysia. Based on the analysis, the authors set out to propose a theoretical model focusing on the critical barriers affecting adoption. Increasing awareness and anxiety on environmental issues have raised the importance of adopting green technology measures. Although numerous studies have been conducted on green technology adoption in various sectors, little research has been conducted on why higher learning institutions in Malaysia have yet to fully embrace it. Therefore, the authors felt that it is imperative to conduct an in-depth study on the adoption barriers. Key barriers identified include high adoption cost, lack of environment knowledge and green awareness, lack of trust, adoption skepticism, institution adoption rate and switching barrier issues. Though the study is conceptual in nature, its findings can be used as the foundation for future research to identify the most significant factors that promotes green technology adoption in order to assess the readiness of higher learning institutions in Malaysia to implement green initiatives and practices.

Keywords

Green Technology, Adoption Barriers, Higher Learning Institutions, Sustainability, Environment, Green Initiatives



Journal of Surveying, Construction and Property (2011)

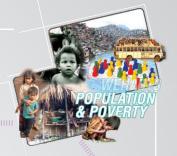
Cultural Landscape: Sustaining the Heritage Value, Protecting Local Identity and Original Culture

Hanurhaza Bt Md Jani

This paper presents the review on the important of cultural landscape in revealing and sustaining the great diversity of the interactions between humans and their environment, to protect living traditional cultures and preserve the traces of those which have disappeared. Malaysia has only two places registered in World Heritage List under the category of cultural landscape which are Malacca and Penang. These places are the only state in Malaysia that has been recognized by UNESCO. This show how cultural landscape is been perceived by other countries especially in Europe and North America region, however in Asia or to be more precisely in Malaysia the appreciation upon cultural landscape is very much lesser. Cultural landscape explains human root, identity, image, character and values .It is hoped that the output of the paper will contribute to further enrich landscape architecture's profession on ideas, innovations and added values beside highlighting the significant of sustaining heritage value, protecting local identity and original culture.

Keywords

Cultural Landscape, Heritage Value, Local Identity And Culture



Journal of Design and Built Environment Volume 3, Issue 1 (2014)

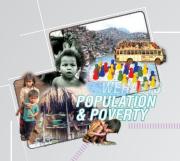
Adaptive Reuse of Industrial Buildings for Affordable Housing in Hong Kong

Kee Tris

In response to the urban issues on affordable housing, this paper elaborates on research findings on potential solutions for alleviating the current housing crisis in Hong Kong by investigating opportunities and constraints of transforming industrial warehouses into residential units from urban planning and architectural perspectives. Hong Kong is one of the most populated cities in the world, and it is currently facing an urgent call to provide adequate housing for its citizens. Although the Housing Authority is expending great effort to expedite public housing construction, tremendous time and resources will be needed, and finding an immediate solution to alleviate the current housing crisis remains doubtful. Rapid urbanization in some industrial districts, such as Kwun Tong and Tsuen Wan, has left many old industrial buildings vacant. This paper proposes revitalizing some abandoned industrial spaces and converting them into habitable units for local people. It proposes a theoretical framework for a sustainable methodology for urban revitalization and adaptive reuse. While focusing on developing an integrated strategy for converting specific old industrial districts into public housing, the ultimate goal of this research is to become a model for other old industrial districts and provide a new affordable housing solution.

Keywords

Affordable Housing, Adaptive Reuse, Urban Revitalization, Urban Design, Built Environment



International Journal of Property Sciences Volume 3, Issue 1 (2014)

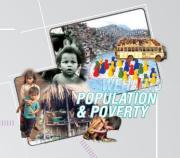
What It Takes To Be Green Neighborhood?

Nurul Akmal Salleh, Rosilawati Zainol, Faizah Ahmad, Nikmatul Adha Nordin, Norzailawati Mohd. Noor

In recent world, the quality of life has been degraded because of environment pollution cause by the rising number of private car on the road. This problem is one of the contributors for climate change resulting from the increasing amount of carbon dioxide. Therefore, this paper presents a review of literature on determinants of a green neighbourhood. About 20 articles related to green neighbourhood were review. Walkability is found to be a prominent element in green neighbourhood planning concept. It is also found that walkability can promise a better lifestyle with good air quality and more sustainable living.

Keywords

Green Neighbourhood, Sustainable Living, Walkability



Plos Neglected Tropical Diseases, 6 (3). ISSN 1935-2727 (2012)

Association between anaemia, iron deficiency anaemia, neglected parasitic infections and socioeconomic factors in rural children of West Malaysia

Ngui, R.; Lim, Y.A.L.; Kin, L.C.; Chuen, C.S.; Jaffar, S.

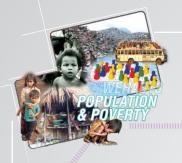
Background: Given that micronutrient deficiency, neglected intestinal parasitic infections (IPIs) and poor socioeconomic status are closely linked, we conducted a cross-sectional study to assess the relationship between IPIs and nutritional status of children living in remote and rural areas in West Malaysia.

Methods/Findings: A total of 550 children participated, comprising 520 (94.5%) school children aged 7 to 12 years old, 30 (5.5%) young children aged 1 to 6 years old, 254 (46.2%) boys and 296 (53.8%) girls. Of the 550 children, 26.2% were anaemic, 54.9% iron deficient and 16.9% had iron deficiency anaemia (IDA). The overall prevalence of helminths was 76.5% comprising *Trichuris trichiura* (71.5%), Ascaris lumbricoides (41.6%) and hookworm infection (13.5%). It was observed that iron deficiency was significantly higher in girls (p = 0.032) compared to boys. Univariate analysis demonstrated that low level of mother's education (OR = 2.52; 95% CI = 1.38–4.60; p = 0.002), non working parents (OR = 2.18; 95% CI = 2.06–2.31; p = 0.013), low household income (OR = 2.02; 95% CI = 1.14–3.59; p = 0.015), *T. trichiura* (OR = 2.15; 95% CI = 1.21–3.81; p = 0.008) and A. lumbricoides infections (OR = 1.63; 95% CI = 1.04–2.55; p = 0.032) were significantly associated with the high prevalence of IDA. Multivariate analysis confirmed that low level of mother's education (OR = 1.48; 95 CI% = 1.33–2.58; p<0.001) was a significant predictor for IDA in these children.

Conclusion: It is crucial that a comprehensive primary health care programme for these communities that includes periodic de-worming, nutrition supplement, improved household economy, education, sanitation status and personal hygiene are taken into consideration to improve the nutritional status of these children.

Keywords

Anemia/*Epidemiology Animals Child Child, Preschool Cross-Sectional Studies Female Helminths/Classification/Isolation & Purification Humans Infant Iron/Deficiency Malaysia/Epidemiology Male Neglected Diseases/*Epidemiology Parasitic Diseases/*Epidemiology Prevalence Rural Population Socioeconomic Factors



International Journal of Property Sciences Volume 3, Issue 1 (2013)

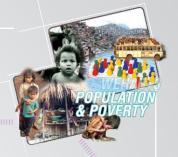
Hierarchical Organizations and Shared Responsibilities in the Low-Income Community of Dapeng in Shenzhen, China

Yiwei Liu & Beisi Jia

Social housing for urban low-income communities is a major problem in Chinese urban housing. In China, standardization without rooms for participation in the current housing construction for low-income communities poses potential hazards to the social and living environments. The controversy over "user participation" in urban and architecture design originated at least 50 years ago when sharing rights and responsibilities were reconsidered. However, solutions that accommodate the need of inhabitants for more rights in making decisions on their own living space in social housing are still lacking. The concept of levels in the built environment was created by Habraken (1972), who aimed to provide a new design methodology that can identify the various responsible parties and their interaction with people, though such a concept can be observed in Chinese vernacular villages, which are often described as inherently flexible. Taking Dapeng as an example, a vernacular village in the suburban area of Shenzhen where the practice of participation of low-income people remains, this paper investigates various hierarchical organizations in the cultural context, village tissue and space hierarchy, building diversity and responsibility distribution of participants. Combined with the current living situation of low-income residents and the social housing dilemma, this paper suggests alternative approaches to achieve balance between professional responsibilities and user rights, and a new perspective on sustainable social housing in China.

Keywords

Sharing responsibility, hierarchical organization, low-income housing, cooperation





Universiti Malaysia Perlis

Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 67, 10 December 2012, Pages 16-25, 3rd International Conference on E-Learning, ICEL 2011

Empowering the online education for rural community through correlated content development

Abdul Hapes Mohammed

In improvising rural area, Malaysia has already achieved noteworthy standard, particularly in plummeting the frequency of poverty in both rural and urban. Throughout the process, the rural areas have been developed with many infrastructures such as school facilities, social facilities, utility, health and etc. to bear the economic development of the country as well as escalating the superiority of life of the rural community. According to (Badawi, 2006) during his speech in Dewan Rakyat when introducing the motion to table the 9th Malaysia Plan, 37 percent of Malaysia still live in the rural area and 7 states in Malaysia are holding a large portion of rural land. There are initiatives that will be taken in order to enhance the competency and productivity as well as to increase opportunities to generate wealth, increase the R&D sector, expand the usage of modern technique and technology as well as develop marketing capabilities and infrastructures. Malaysian government will also need to take part in promoting a higher level of participation from the private sectors including the GLC's companies, SMEs, graduates, and skilled workers.

Keywords

Online Education; Rural Ict; Content Development



Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences, Vol. 36: 698–706, 2012, ASEAN Conference on Environment-Behaviour Studies (AcE-Bs), Savoy Homann Bidakara Hotel, 15-17 June 2011, Bandung, Indonesia

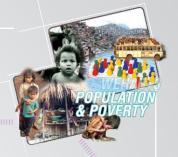
Issues and policies on the aftermath of squatters resettlement: A case study on Kg. Desa Hormat Tambahan, Selangor

Irini Ibrahim, Norazlina Abdul Aziz, Faridah Hussain, Noraini Aminudin, Michael Andrew Young @ Suleiman Abdullah Ibn Yahya

Squatters have existed in Malaysia since Malaya (as it was then called). There were turning points for the massive migration of Malays to Kuala Lumpur. The objectives of the paper are the issues and policies regarding the aftermath of resettlement of squatters in Kg. Desa Hormat Tambahan, Selangor. The methodology of the research involves a pilot study and a qualitative study where exploratory and case study analysis methods were used. A questionnaire was prepared and interviews were conducted in the resettlement area. The primary reasons people became squatters were based on economic and social reasons, followed by legal reasons.

Keywords

Issues, Policies, Squatters, Re-Settlement



Procedia Engineering, Volume 53, 2013, Pages 58–63, Malaysian Technical Universities Conference on Engineering & C

Awareness of the Industrialized Building System (IBS) implementation in Northern Malaysia - A case study in Perlis

Umar Kassim and Luqman Walid

The Industrialized Building Systems (IBS) can be defined in which all building components such as the wall, slab, beam, column and staircase are massproduced either in the factory or on the factory site under strict quality control and minimal wet site activities (Warswaski, 1999). This research aims at looking into the current awareness of the IBS usage and its exposure method to the relevant population in Perlis, Malaysia. A total of 100 questionnaires were handed out to several parties, namely the Officer's Contractors' Association of Malaysia (20), Public Works Department (PWD) Perlis (20), Repository Development Officer at River Chuchuh, Perlis (10), Lecturers, Engineering students (25) and the public (25). From the methods, 80% respondents have demonstrated an extent of general knowledge about this system. Meanwhile, 40% know about this system. in great detail. Gradually, more respondents agree on the implementation of this system taking place in Perlis. Developers are under the impression that the implementation of the IBS is accompanied by high costs. As the conclusion, profound awareness of the benefits of using the IBS system is pivotal, as this technique is able to function effectively in the competition-based construction industry today.

Keywords

Industrialised Building System; Awareness; Malaysia; Perlis; Engineering



Universiti Malaysia Sabah

9.1

Cuadernos de Economía, Volume 35, Issue 97, January–April 2012, Pages 26-32

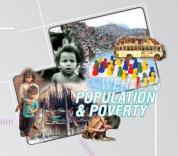
Is economic growth sufficient for poverty alleviation? Empirical evidence from Malaysia

Dullah Mulok, Mori Kogid, Rozilee Asid, Jaratin Lily

Malaysia's success story has been highlighted by the remarkable social transformation and poverty reduction accompanying rapid economic growth. Some three decades ago, more than half of the population was poor, the number of illiterates was high, and the average person could only hope to live until the age of 48. The proportion of poor people is currently down to 5.6 percent, 90 percent of adults are literate, and life expectancy is up to 68 years. Although Malaysia's population has increased from approximately 10 million in the 1960s to about 28 million in 2010, the number of poor people has dropped significantly during this period. This paper attempts to determine the empirical relationship and importance of growth for poverty reduction in Malaysia. The results show that growth explains much, but not all, about the evolution of poverty. Economic growth is necessary but not sufficient for poverty reduction, especially if the objective is rapid and sustained poverty reduction. This study proposes that if a policy's objective is focused on poverty alleviation, poverty reduction as well as economic growth should be simultaneously taken into account as the final target.

Keywords

Real GDP; Poverty Rate; Cointegration; Casuality, Malaysia



Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 105, 3 December 2013, Pages 632-643

Urban Residents' Awareness and Readiness for Sustainable Transportation Case Study: Shah Alam, Malaysia

Na'asah Nasrudin, Abd Rahim Md Nor, Harifah Mohd Noor, Yusfida Ayu Abdullah

This paper studied the willingness of an urban population to use sustainable vehicles and their readiness to reduce car usage. Data were collected through a survey to 384 vehicle users representing the 36 sections of Shah Alam, Selangor. Results suggested that the majority were not ready to consider cycling and walking as alternatives. In relation to environmental awareness, the majority showed their awareness of the dangers of motor vehicles towards the environment. However, they refused to use more sustainable mode of travelling. Among other reasons provided as "refusal" in terms of sustainable vehicles application were hot weather, surrounding safety factor, inefficient public transport services, and unsatisfactory pedestrian condition.

Keywords

Sustainable Vehicles; Readiness To Reduce Car Use; Environmental Awareness



Universiti Malaysia Sarawak

10.1

Jurnal Ekonomi Malaysia, Volume 46, Issue 1, 2012, Pages 13-25

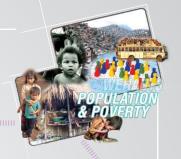
Revisiting the impact of occupational segregation on the gender earnings gap in Malaysia

Goy, S.C., Johnes, G.

More women participate in the labour force nowadays than in the past. However, they do not join the workforce as equal members. Segregation in occupational distribution and pay differentials between men and women remain pervasive. This article uses data from the Malaysian Population and Family Survey 2004 to shed light on the inequality in earnings based on the framework developed by Brown et al. (1980). The empirical results suggest that segregation per se works to the advantage of women. A surprising finding is that the intra-occupational component, which is unjustified by reference to observed characteristics, is responsible for the overall earnings gap. It is likely that the within-occupational earnings discrimination reflects hierarchical segregation. Also, a portion of the earnings gap is attributed to a sample selection effect. Our results suggest that a timely policy intervention would aim to find ways of improving the returns to characteristics earned by women in a given occupation.

Keywords

Earnings; Gender; Malaysia; Segregation



Journal of Business Economics and Management 2013, Volume 14 (Supplement 1), 2013, S377–S394

The behavior of external debt in Asian countries: evidence based on panel unit root tests

Lau, E., Baharumshah, A.Z., Soon, S. V.

This article investigates the mean-reverting behavior of the external debt ratio based on a clustered of 19 Asian countries from 1981 to 2010. For this purpose, we use a government's intertemporal budget constraint (GIBC) model popularized by Hamilton and Flavin (1986). Our conclusions were drawn from panel data based tests, including the newly developed test that accounts for both cross-sectional dependency and structural breaks. Two major findings are noteworthy; first majority debt ratios in the Asian countries are affected by structural breaks. Second, we find unit root tests that do not accommodate breaks are less likely to detect mean reversion in the debt ratios. In all, our results indicate debt sustainability is a general characteristic of all the Asian countries.

Keywords

Asian; Breaks; External debt; Government Intertemporal Budget Constraint (GIBC); Mean reversion



Life Science Journal, Volume 10, Issue SPL.ISSUE10, 2013, Pages 311-322

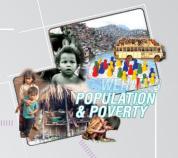
Attitude of communities toward rural tourism development

Lo, M. C., Ramayah, T., Songan, P., Nair, V.

The rapid development of the tourism industry has detrimental impacts to the environment especially in the depletion of natural resources and the degradation of the eco-system. Hence, the potential hostile responses expected from the local communities would negatively affect any rural tourism development, if equilibrium between benefits and negative effects of the development are not properly achieved. Thus, the purpose of this study is to assess the perceptions of rural tourism communities and their aspiration towards tourism development from five main environmental perspectives, namely destination environment, communities' satisfaction, environmental management practices, influence of environmental resources, and communities' attitudes at rural destinations in Malaysia. One hundred and eighty-two respondents comprising of residents of rural tourism in Malaysia took part voluntarily in this study. Interestingly, the findings revealed that local communities' satisfactions and influence of resources at the rural destinations were of the most concerned to the local communities with regards to their future aspirations towards tourism development.

Keywords

Communities; Environment; Resources; Rural Tourism; Satisfaction



Business Strategy Series, Volume 13, Issue 1, 2012, Pages 41-46

Repositioning strategy in the ecotourism industry: A case of Bario

Lo M.C., Mohamad A.A., Songan P., Yeo A.

Purpose: The aim of this paper is to examine service quality dimensions and their impact on a rural tourism destination. Design/methodology/approach The study was conducted in Bario, a highland settlement in the state of Sarawak, Malaysia. It attempts to add to the scant research and to bridge the gap between service quality and tourists' satisfaction in rural destinations. The service quality dimensions for this study are places of interest, sceneries, outdoor activities, atmosphere, and motives interest. Findings The results of this study show that places of interest, outdoor activities and atmosphere are the important dimensions to enhance tourist satisfaction. Originality/value Past studies show that good service quality often leads to a better performance and a higher satisfaction level; however, most studies examine this from the context of urban tourist destinations. This study extends the span by looking at a rural tourist destination.

Keywords

Customer Services Quality; Malaysia; Marketing Strategy; Product Positioning; Repositioning Strategy; Satisfaction; Service Quality; Tourism; Tourists' Perception



Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 97, 6 November 2013, Pages 675–683, The 9th International Conference on Cognitive Science

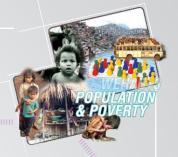
Visitors' Emotions, Touristic or Spiritual Experiences in Historic Churches: The Development of Church Experience Scale (CES)

Mohd Kamal Othman, Helen Petrie, Christopher Power

In this paper we describe the development of the Church Experience Scale (CES) that allows us to measure visitor experience in historic churches, both with and without multimedia guides and other technologies. This study was carried out with 272 respondents at three historic churches in York, UK. Respondents for this study were visitors to these churches who were asked to complete a questionnaire immediately after their visit. A full psychometric scale development procedure was used which resulted in the Church Experience Scale (CES) which has five components: Enjoyment, Intellectual Stimulation and Curiosity; Emotional and Spiritual Experience; Immersion; Information Overload; and Knowledge and Learning. The usefulness of the scale in investigating visitors' experiences in historic churches is explored. An initial comparison between inactive and an active historic church were compared using CES.

Keywords

Mobile Guides; Visitors Experiences; Historic Church; Multimedia Guides



International Journal of Economics and Management, Volume 6, Issue 2, 2012, Pages 446-458

Does hysteresis in unemployment occur in OECD countries? Evidence from parametric and non-parametric panel unit roots tests

Liew, V.K.S., Chia, R.C. J., Puah, C.H.

This study tests the hysteresis hypothesis of unemployment in fourteen OECD countries by examining the stationarity of unemployment rates using several panel unit root tests. Empirical results show that the hysteresis hypothesis cannot be rejected for majority of the OECD when the tests are conducted on the basis of individual countries. However, rejection is obtained when cross-country interdependence in unemployment rates is incorporated in the estimation. Therefore, it is crucial to consider the cross-country labor markets interdependence when testing the hysteresis hypothesis as the labor market institutions and the stabilization policy of the labor markets in these OECD countries can play an important role in maintaining the unemployment to sustainable levels.

Keywords

Hysteresis Hypothesis; Non-Parametric Test; OECD; Panel Unit Root Test; Parametric Test; Unemployment



10.10 PLoS ONE, Volume 7, Issue 9, Article number e46365, 28 September 2012

Ethnic differences in the prevalence of metabolic syndrome: Results from a multi-ethnic population-based survey in Malaysia

Rampal S., Mahadeva S., Guallar E., Bulgiba A., Mohamed R., Rahmat R., Arif M.T., Rampal L.

Introduction: The prevalence of metabolic syndrome is increasing disproportionately among the different ethnicities in Asia compared to the rest of the world. This study aims to determine the differences in the prevalence of metabolic syndrome across ethnicities in Malaysia, a multi-ethnic country.

Methods: In 2004, we conducted a national cross-sectional population-based study using a stratified two-stage cluster sampling design (N = 17,211). Metabolic syndrome was defined according to the International Diabetes Federation/National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute/American Heart Association (IDF/NHLBI/AHA-2009) criteria. Multivariate models were used to study the independent association between ethnicity and the prevalence of the metabolic syndrome.

Results: The overall mean age was 36.9 years, and 50.0% participants were female. The ethnic distribution was 57.0% Malay, 28.5% Chinese, 8.9% Indian and 5.0% Indigenous Sarawakians. The overall prevalence of the metabolic syndrome was 27.5%, with a prevalence of central obesity, raised triglycerides, low high density lipoprotein cholesterol, raised blood pressure and raised fasting glucose of 36.9%, 29.3%, 37.2%, 38.0% and 29.1%, respectively. Among those <40 years, the adjusted prevalence ratios for metabolic syndrome for ethnic Chinese, Indians, and Indigenous Sarawakians compared to ethnic Malay were 0.81 (95% CI 0.67 to 0.96), 1.42 (95% CI 1.19 to 1.69) and 1.37 (95% CI 1.08 to 1.73), respectively. Among those aged ≥40 years, the corresponding prevalence ratios were 0.86 (95% CI 0.79 to 0.92), 1.25 (95% CI 1.15 to 1.36), and 0.94 (95% CI 0.80, 1.11). The P-value for the interaction of ethnicity by age was 0.001.

Conclusions: The overall prevalence of metabolic syndrome in Malaysia was high, with marked differences across ethnicities. Ethnic Chinese had the lowest prevalence of metabolic syndrome, while ethnic Indians had the highest. Indigenous Sarawakians showed a marked increase in metabolic syndrome at young ages.



Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris

11.1

Behavioral, Cognitive and Psychological Sciences, Series: International Proceedings of Economics Development and Research, Volume 23, 2011, Pages 200-204

Participation of women in the economy in Bidayuh communities: A case study of Bau district

Sultana A. M., Goen Gemasty Anak

The main focus of this study is to assess the economic role of women in the Bidayuh community. The result shows that Bidayuh women are playing important role in improving socio-economic condition in family. They are concerned about financial management. In order to contribute to family income Bidayuh women involve as entrepreneur for the initial source of income. They involve themselves in fanning and gardening, which assist them to improve their socioeconomic status of their family. It is also observed that the Bidayuh women have taken progressive efforts where they manipulate the individual capabilities and natural resources to produce valuable product. This effort is combined with local communities through dynamic cooperation to create economic activity in the district of Bau. In order to contribute to family income Bidayuh women like to involve in business. The effort is starting with the establishment of Bidayuh craft centers to promote the handicrafts as well as to generate income of Bidayuh community. However, women involvement in agriculture and fanning or small-scale business are considered as positive efforts to enhance the family income. Women economic participation could expand their ability to make decisions in the family and would play a key role in the empowerment of rural women in Bidayuh community. This study was conducted in the area of Bau, Sarawak. 5 villages Seropak, Serasot, Suba Buan, Skio, Jugan and Sudoh, which is located below the zone of Serembu, Jagoi, Bratak and Singai as the study area. Respondents in the study consisted of 50 women selected from the study areas. In addition, the in depth interview was conducted for depth information.

Keywords

Community; Women; Economy; Bidayuh; Socio-Cultural Norms; Gender Ideology



Singapore Economic Review, Volume 57, Issue 4, 2012 Article Number: 1250015

Factors affecting foreign direct investment in Malaysia's manufacturing sector: An analysis across states

Karim Noor Al-Huda Abdul, Fleming Euan

This paper examines the effects of market demand, labor productivity, socio-economic development and provision of industrial estates on foreign direct investment (FDI) across 13 states and 1 federal territory in Malaysia. The analysis uses FDI data of the manufacturing sector and data on independent variables for the years 1990, 1995, 2000 and 2005. Results indicate positive relationships between these factors and FDI inflows in the manufacturing sector. FDI inflows are found to be most sensitive to labor productivity and GDP. The significance of socio-economic development for FDI is viewed in a long-term perspective.

Keywords

Foreign Direct Investment; Manufacturing Sector; Econometric Analysis; Regional Development



Journal of Applied Sciences Research, Volume 7, Issue 1, January 2011, Pages 18-22

Factors effect on women autonomy and decision-making power within the household in rural communities

Sultana, A.M.

Problem Statements: This study was designed to examine women's autonomy and decision-making power among rural women within their household in Bangladesh. By custom a patriarchal social system exists in Bangladesh. Like other patriarchal societies, in Bangladesh, men have greater power in family decision simply by virtue of being men. Hence, women decision-making power is limited to the patriarchal ideology especially in rural societies.

Approach: The study examines women positions in the family with regard to their role in the intra-family decision-making, their degree of control over some selected items. The study argued that women decision-making power is positively associated with their educational level, employment, income and other socioeconomic variables. The objectives of this research are (a) to examine women autonomy and decision-making power at the household level; (b) to identify the factors that effect on women autonomy and decision-making power at household.

Results: The results showed that respondent's educational attainment (r = 0.47; p<0.01), occupation (r = 0.61; p<0.01) and income (r = 0.60; p<0.01) were positively related to women decision-making power at household level. A multiple linear regression analysis was carried out and the results revealed that education, occupation, income and gender-based awareness had a significant influence on women's decision-making power. The analysis of variance (ANOVA) showed the overall significant of the linear regression model with F-test (p<0.001) for considerable adjustment of the model with the regression coefficient (R square) of 51.6.

Conclusion: The results suggest that education, occupation, income and gender based awareness have significant effect in explaining the variance in household decision-making power. Overall, women education, income, occupation, gender-based awareness has a significant effect on household decision-making.

Keywords

Decision-Making Power; Education; Employment; Gender-Based Awareness; Income; Patriarchal Societies



Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia

12.1

World Applied Sciences Journal 26 (1), pp. 138-143. 2013

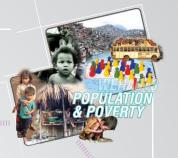
The Inclination of Student and Public Towards The Establishment of Islamic Waqf Bank

Aziz, M.R.A., Yusof, M.A., Johari, F.

The institution of waaf has played its role in poverty alleviation and socioeconomic development through history, especially in the Islamic history. Until today, this institution still plays an important role especially in Muslim countries. Still, there are many potential mechanisms in order to make it more effective to alleviate poverty and for financing the education of the poor. On the other hand, Islamic waaf bank is a special designed financial institution in Islam. This bank will benefit the student and also their parents, due to its unique structure that could finance students' education in term of fees and cost of living. Islamic waaf bank use the concept of cash waaf in funding the education. Cash waaf is a trust fund established with money to support services for mankind's benefits in the name of Allah. The gifted capital was "transferred" to borrowers for certain period, which was then spent for all sorts of pious and social purposes inclusive for the investment objectives. The objective of this article is to examine the need of students and inclination among Muslim public to contribute for the establishment of Islamicwaaf bank. The general findings of this article shows that there is a high demandamong students and strong willingness among public to contribute for the establishment of Islamic waaf bank.

Keywords

Waqf Cash, Waqf Islamic, Waqf Bank

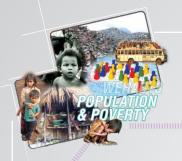


World Applied Sciences Journal 14 (SPL ISS 4), pp. 67-73. 2011, © IDOSI Publications, 2011.

Cognitive distortion, depression and self-esteem among adolescents rape victims

Abdullah, S., Salleh, A., Mahmud, Z., Ahmad, J., Ghani, S.A.

The study investigated the relationship among cognitive distortion, depression and self- Cognitive Distortion Scale (CDS), Beck Depression Inventory (BDI) and Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale (RSES). Pearson's correlation indicated a positive correlation between cognitive distortion and depression and negative correlations of cognitive distortion and depression with self-esteem. The results suggested that all self-criticism, self-blame and hopelessness predict helplessness. The result also suggested that helplessness and self-criticism predict depression. Depression and helplessness were found to predict self-esteem. The paper concludes rape victim are likely to experience a certain degree of cognitive distortion, implying that rape victims need support to recover. Further studies should include coping strategies and intervention.





JOURNAL OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT Volume: 13 Issue: 5 Pages: 968-993 Published: NOV 2012

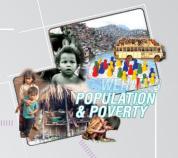
Revisiting the role of external debt in economic growth of developing countries

Daud, Siti Nurazira Mohd; Podivinsky, Jan M.

This paper proposes a study on the contribution of external debt to the expansion of economic growth for 31 developing countries. Over a period of 36 years, by using dynamic panel data econometrics estimation GMM-system, the results reveal that the accumulation of external debt is associated with a slowdown in the economies of the developing counties. In addition, this paper finds evidence that debt service ratio does not crowd out the investment rate in developing countries. In other words, even though external debt is negatively associated with economic growth, countries are found to be safe from being in the debt overhang hypothesis. Furthermore, there is evidence to support the existence of spatial dependence in the growth model, suggesting the existence of a positive spillover effect of growth among the neighbouring countries.

Keywords

External Debt, Investment, Economic Growth, Spatial Econometrics, Developing Countries



International Journal of Economics and Management 6 (2), pp. 346-359. 2012

Social security wealth and early retirement in public pension scheme

Haris, A., Said, R.

The main objective of this study is to investigate the decision of workers to opt for early retirement. The study focuses on the public sector pension scheme. The simulation technique is used to calculate the social security benefit at two different ages; compulsory retirement age and early retirement age. Data gained from the simulation process represent two main social security variables, namely the social security wealth and social security accrual. Then, both variables will be estimated together with other explanatory variables such as marital status, sex, education level, experience and age using logistic method to examine its relationship with early retirement decision. The results show that the substitution effect of public sector pension scheme is more dominant than income effect. The findings of this study concludes; public sector pension scheme fails to encourage public workers to settle for early retirement and thus it is not capable of becoming a policy instrument to downsize the public sector work force

Keywords

J26, Retirement, Retirement Policies, H55 - Social Security And Public Pensions



Jurnal Ekonomi Malaysia 46 (2), pp. 29-35. 2012

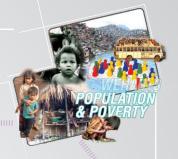
Impact of increasing retirement age on longevity factor: An empirical study for government pensioners in Malaysia

Ibrahim, R.I.

Most contemporary research indicates that life expectancy in most countries is increasing. Since average life expectancy tends to increase over time for males and females, mortality risks tends to be smaller over time. Therefore, it is expected that pensioners will tend to live longer and cause an increase in pension liabilities to the government in the future. The government is looking for solutions to decrease the effects of increased longevity on pension costs. The most common changes recommended are to equalize the retirement age for males and females; and to increase the age of retirement. Since pensions are paid for the rest of pensioner's life; and to the spouse and child of the pensioner (if any) in the form of a derivative pension in the event of the death of the pensioner, the longevity factor can be considered as an important element when constructing an effective Government Pension Scheme. This paper estimates the longevity factor for case of government pensioners who survives and also dies at the particular age of retiement; and examines the impact of increasing retirement age on longevity factor. Based upon the findings, the overall longevity factors for a government pensioner who survives and dies are observed to decreases as retirement age increases.

Keywords

Derivative Pension, Life Expectancy, Longevity Factor, Pension Liabilities



Middle East Journal of Scientific Research 18 (3), pp. 330-339. 2013

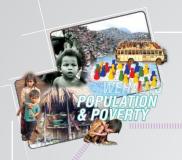
The roles of islamic social welfare assistant (zakat) for the economic development of new convert

Johari, F., Aziz, M.R.A., Ibrahim, M.F., Ali, A.F.M.

This study demonstrates literately the importance of social welfare assistant (Zakat) towards the economic development among new convert. As one of the several instruments by Islam, Zakat is important to combat and enhance welfare in the society. It also helps to generate a flow of funds and recruit the necessary manpower. Meanwhile, new convert Muslims has just made the biggest decision of their lives and changed their religion as well as their way of live to one that they are unfamiliar with in many ways. Thus, Zakat plays significant role in enhancing economic development in order 'to win' and 'to soften' the heart of the new convert to follow Islam as a way of life. Previous Islamic scholar agreed that the term new convert also includes non-Muslims, but only for the purpose of turning their hearts to Islam. The objective of this article is to explore the problems of new converts and the contribution of Zakat towards reducing their problems. Qualitative method based on document analysis and interview with recent officer are used in this article. This article is trying to answer the type of problem that new convert are facing and trying to look at Zakat distribution as the solution for their problems.

Keywords

New Converts, Zakat Allocation, GDP



Advances in Natural and Applied Sciences 6 (7), pp. 1143-1149. 2012

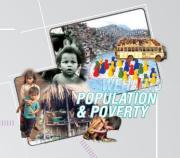
The relationship of urbanization on perception of ethnic relations

Mohd Nizah, M.A., Atoma, P.

Malaysia is currently actively involved in modernization process in its effort to achieve the status of developed country in the year of 2020. Malaysia emerged as a country that is contained in them more than 200 ethnic groups and various sub-ethnic colour, religion and culture. Therefore, unity of its people becomes the main core aspect beside the strong economic areas. This paper aims to determine the relationship of urbanization with perception of students towards ethnic relations issues. About 451 sets of questionnaire were distributed in University of Malaya (UM) and Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP). Simple random method was employed with data has been analysed descriptively with percentage and mean. Analysis regression technique also has been used to determine the relationship between urbanization and perception of students towards issues pertaining ethnic relations. The study has shown that, there are relationships between urbanization and students perception towards issues in ethnic relations. Findings also showed students from the developing areas are better in ethnic relations in terms of perception as compared to developed areas. It is thus, confirmed that urbanization has an influence on the level of ethnic integration. It is learnt that progress towards modernization should be balanced with the development of community itself and are ready to join hands together to develop Malaysia.

Keywords

Unity, Issues On Ethnic Relations, Tolerance Magnitude, Location, Development, Ethnic Demography



Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 102, 22 November 2013, Pages 236-241

Gender Perspective on the Arab Spring

Mohd Safar Hasim, Siti Rugayah Hj. Tibek, Zamri Arifin, Ali Salman, Aida I.M. Koni

This paper looks at the role of media of Arab Spring by presenting a gender perspective of the upheaval. This is an assessment of the potential role of "New media" as a reliable source of information and its implications on "conventional media outlets" such as television and newspapers. The study suggests that a prospective trend of joint venture between "horizontal means of communication" in conjunction with "conventional media" is to be seen in the future. The results indicate that an outburst in the use of "social media" occurred during the uprisings that swept the "Arab world" in early 2011. Two years later; this phenomenal reliance on social media tools and networks continue to gain momentum ranking "digital media" the most desired source of information. Yet, the results suggest that "digital media" does not overcome the status of "conventional media" rather operates in parallel with each other. The study highlights a gender perspective of the "Arab Springs"; its causes and implications on the people in three of the Arab countries; Egypt, Yemen and Libya, drawing on the opinion of 314 female students from the Middle East, Asia Africa who were surveyed during the summer

Keywords

Arab Spring, New Medi, Middle East, Social Media



Asian Social Science 8 (9), pp. 83-91. 2012

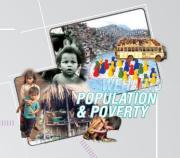
Physical child abuse: What are the external factors?

Noremy, M.A., Zulkarnain, A.H., Kelvin, F., Adanan, M.J., Sarah, W.M.H.

Children are an integral asset for future development of a nation. In lieu with this notion, countries pay much attention to their development and well being. In recent times, child abuse has been rampant. This issue is constantly making headlines in national newspapers in Malaysia. The alarming effect of this phenomenon is its inevitable implication on the family institution and the nation's aspiration to create a better tomorrow. This current study is an attempt to discover the contributory factors of physical child abuse in Malaysia. The objective of this study was to identify the background and demography of abuser and to identify the external factors that cause a parent to abuse their child. This case study was conducted in Selangor amongst eight Malay respondents using an in-depth interview session. This study found that external factors as the major contributory factor to physical child abuse. The factors are financial constraints, family crisis, character and disobedience of the children or so called 'deviant children', surroundings of the home, conflict with neighbours or lack of social support, parent's mental illness and and influence of alcohol. Hence these factors are articulated and interpreted by the researcher. Implications of this research, profession who work with children such as social worker, psycologist and counselor should look into the external factors that contribute to the physical child abuse in designing intervention, cure and effective strategies to overcome this problem. In future, protecting children needs collective effort from policy maker, authority body, non-government organization and member of society.

Keywords

Physical Abuse, Children, Parent, External Factor, Malay Family



12.10 Bangladesh Journal of Medical Science 11 (4), pp. 258-266. 2012

Ethics of human cloning: A comparative study of Western secular and Islamic bioethics perspectives

Sharmin, I., Rusli, B.N., Hanapi, B.M.N., Rani, B.

The comparative approach regarding the ethics of surrogacy from the Western secular and Islamic bioethical view reveals both commensurable and incommensurable relationship. It is not either straight forward 'commensurable' or straight forward 'incommensurable.' Islamic bioethics is straight-forward in prohibiting reproductive cloning on its own features and also guess social chaos and anarchy. Western secular bioethics has both arguments and counter arguments both for and against this scientific innovation. Both are eager to highlight the welfare of the society as a whole but the approaches are not always the same.

Keywords

Ethics, Human Cloning



Universiti Sains Malaysia

13.1

Malaysian Journal of Public Health Medicine 2006, Vol. 6 (2): 68-71

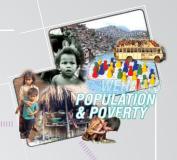
Knowledge on family planning among malay women who delivered at Hospital University Sains Malaysia (HUSM), Kelantan and their husbands

Alina TI, Norbanee TH, Hashim MH, Zaki NM

A cross-sectional study was conducted to determine the knowledge on family planning among Malay women who delivered at Hospital Universiti Sains Malaysia (HUSM), Kelantan and their husbands. Three hundred and fifty five women and self-administered questionnaire was given to their husbands. There were 15 questions on knowledge which were validated prior to the study. More than half of the women (53.5%) and the husbands (57.7%) had poor knowledge score (less than 75%) on family planning. A majority (86.8%) of the women and 87.9% of the husbands knew the optimal age of a woman to be pregnant, but very few (3.4%) of the women 5.1% of the husbands could answer connectly all the questions on the effects of poor spacing. The level of knowledge on family planning among Malay women who delivered at HUSM and their husbands were poor. Therefore, new and improved health education materials and programmes are needed, to target both the women and their husbands.

Keywords

Malay Women And Husbands, Family Planning, Poor Birth Spacing, Kelantan



Kajian Malaysia, Vol. 30, No.1, 2012, 1–20

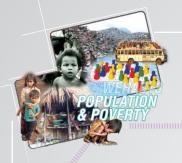
State and Entrepreneuship: The Failure to Create a Bumiputera Commercial and Industrial Community (BCIC) In Penang, Malaysia

Azeem Fazwan Ahmad, Farouk

This study examines the failure of the Malaysian state to create a Bumiputera Commercial and Industrial Class (BCIC) in the northern state of Penang. While analysts have emphasised the utility of strong states in inventing the bourgeoisie, especially in light of the impressive economic performances of the East Asian newly industrialised economies (NIEs), recent attempts to bring about a BCIC in Penang were unsuccessful, illustrating the extent to which the processes of class formation lie outside the control of even a relatively powerful state. It is suggested that although the state continues to maintain control over a large part of the economy, it is being challenged by dominant societal interests that were able to assert their economic and political interests, thereby limiting the state's autonomy.

Keywords

Bumiputera Implementing Agencies, Bumiputera Commercial And Industrial Class, New Economic Policy



Kajian Malaysia, Vol. 29, Supp. 1, 2011, 141–176

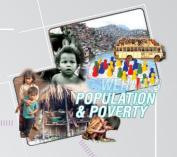
Towards Inter-Ethnic Business Development and National Unity in Malaysia

Chin Yee Whah

This paper investigates Chinese-Bumiputera partnerships in small and medium enterprises (SMEs), particularly in the manufacturing sector, in the economic liberalisation of post-New Economic Policy (NEP) Malaysia. The research also considers how and why Chinese-Bumiputera partnerships in the construction sector have succeeded. It focuses especially on the development of Chinese-Bumiputera SME joint ventures from a sociological perspective, considering five major questions: (1) Is there a mutual nurturing when Chinese and Bumiputera work together in business partnership? (2) What is the nature of this mutual nurturing process? (3) To what extent does this process help them to advance in their business development? (4) To what extent does this process help to bridge the divide between these two ethnic groups? (5) To what extent is this type of partnership sustainable, especially in the era of the New Economic Model that emphasises equitable access and inclusiveness?

Keywords

Bumiputera, Chinese, Inter-Ethnic, Business Partnership, New Economic Policies, Small And Medium Enterprises, National Unity



Malaysian Journal of Chinese Studies, 2012, 1: 1-17

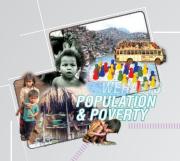
Chambers of Commerce and Chinese Business Enterprise in Malaysia

Chin Yee Whah and Lee Yok Fee

The paper deals with the role of the Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industries of Malaysia (ACCCIM) that represents 17 constituent members located separately in the 13 states of the nation. It will examine how ACCCIM attempts constantly to enhance and create a favourable environment for enterprise development for the Chinese business community. The paper will analyse the intensity of ACCCIM in fostering better domestic business opportunities through joint ventures that involve other ethnic groups in the multiracial and multicultural context of Malaysia and to exert its influence on state economic policies. Its role in assisting the Chinese business community to expand their markets by various means and in weathering the 1997/98 Asian financial crisis and the current global financial crisis will be discussed.

Keywords

Chinese Chambers Of Commerce, Malaysian Chinese Business, And Business Development



Int. Journal of Economics and Management 3(1): 50 – 61 (2009) ISSN 1823 - 836X

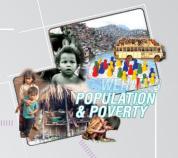
The Linkages among Inflation, Unemployment and Crime Rates in Malaysia

Chor Foon Tang

This paper attempts to examine the linkages among inflation, unemployment and crime rates in Malaysia. The sample period covered annual data from 1970 to 2006. The Bartlett corrected trace test proposed by Johansen (2002) was employed as being appropriate for small sample study. The corrected trace test affirmed the existence of long run equilibrium relationship between crime rate and its determinants. The estimated cointegrating vector revealed that inflation and unemployment are positively related to crime rate. However, inflation is not significant in the short run. Finally, the empirical evidence suggests that the causality direction is running from inflation and unemployment to crime, but there is no evidence of reverse causality.

Keywords

Bartlett Corrected Trace Test, Crime, Inflation And Unemployment.

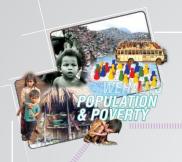


International Journal of Rural Studies (IJRS), Vol. 18(2), Oct 2011, ISSN 1023–2001

Poverty Reduction: A Continuous Social Responsibility in Malaysia

Henry Ngun Ceu Thang, Dr. Amir Husin Baharuddin

Poverty is both a social and an economic problem. Eradicating poverty from society is everyone's dream but the reality is it is still around even in economically developed countries. Governments have responsibilities to eradicate the poverty or, at least reduce poverty rates. In fact, poverty reduction is everyone's social responsibility. This paper defines poverty and discusses poverty incidences and poverty reduction issues in South East Asia and particularly Malaysia. This is significant because Malaysia is shifting towards an industrialized economy and starting to enjoy economic growth but there are still many people who are under the poverty line. This paper highlights that poverty reduction is not entirely the responsibility of the government of the day, but more importantly it is the social responsibility of all citizens. The government and private sectors with the support of every individual must go hand in hand to fight against poverty so that all citizens enjoy the benefit of economic growth in Malaysia.





AWAM International Conference on Civil Engineering & Geohazard Information Zonation

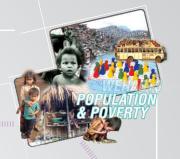
Spatial Associations between Poverty and Vulnerability

Jahan B. Moral, R. Rainis, Abu Ahmed Mokammel Haque

Within this context, the paper examines the spatial interrelationship between urban poverty and vulnerability. The types and factors affecting on vulnerability and its assimilation with poverty has been highlighted in the study. The study uses quantitative survey-based method to explore key issues concerned with poverty and vulnerability in the study city of Rajshahi. The spatial and non-spatial information have been assembled from published documents, Rajshahi Development Authority (RDA) and field investigation through a structured questionnaire. The vulnerability and poverty are generating in a vicious cycle, which sometimes overlap and cannot identify always. Environmental vulnerability such as flood the most frequently hits the people of both investigated mouzas, market risk includes price fluctuations, wage unpredictability and unemployment have a great impact on living condition of the urban poor. In addition to social, health and political vulnerability are visible in the study areas.

Keywords

Poverty, Vulnerability, Association, Rajshahi City



Singapore Economic Review Conference, 7 August 2013

Vulnerability to Poverty among Paddy Farmers in Perlis, Malaysia: What Institutions Can Do?

Jamalludin Sulaiman, Azlinda Azman, Senadjki Abdelhak

Although Malaysia has succeeded in reducing poverty incidences from more than 50 percent in 1950s to less than five percent today, poverty still remains an unsettled issue in Malaysia. There are some disparities in poverty incidences between the Malaysian states. Poverty is more prevalent in states where they are prone to several covariate and idiosyncratic risks. Poverty is higher in Perlis, Kelantan, Terengganu and Kedah (Peninsular Malaysia) as well as in Sabah and Sarawak. This paper argues that one of the reasons that could be behind this phenomenon (level of poverty relatively higher in these states) is because the poverty reduction policies and schemes adopted are ex-post in nature. These programs were only tailored to address the poor and the hardcore poor population. The vulnerable that may not be poor today but under some circumstances may become poor in the future are not eligible for existing poverty programs. There is a real need for poverty policies and programs that are ex-ante in nature. These types of policies and programs have the ability to capture the vulnerable group and also those who are exposed to several risks and uncertainties. To design ex-ante policies, vulnerability to poverty is a first requirement that need to be assessed and examined. While previous studies argued that vulnerability to poverty is dependent on many factors, such as the availability of tangible resources and assets; exposure to severe risks and shocks; relevant institutions can also impact vulnerability to poverty directly or indirectly through some selected mediating factors. Although institutions are fundamental elements of any policy targeting the alleviation vulnerability to poverty, it is however said that there are only limited studies that investigated the role of institutions in vulnerability reduction and how these institution are able to minimize the negative effect of risk and uncertainties on households' livelihoods. Using a three-round panel data collected via a structured socio-economic questionnaire to assess risks and to analyze households' vulnerabilities to poverty of paddy smallholders in Perlis Malaysia, this study took one step forward and tries to investigate the role of institutions on paddy farmers' vulnerability to poverty as well as examines the relationship between institutions supports and households strategies and how this relationship operate

Keywords

Vulnerability To Poverty, Institutions, Farmers, Panel Data, Perlis



The Malaysian Research Grand 4th International Conference 19-21 June 2006 Salford, England

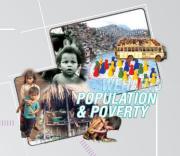
Alleviating Bumiputera Poverty in Sarawak: Reflections and Proposal

Madeline Berma, Faridah Shahadan, Salfarina Abdul Gapor

Malaysia has succeeded in reducing its overall incidence of poverty since the implementation of the New Economic Policy in 1971. Although there is a decline in the incidence of poverty in Malaysia, pockets of poverty continue to exist with high incidences of poverty among specific ethnic groups and localities. Official data reveals that the Bumiputera in general and the Bumiputera Minorities of Sarawak have high incidences of poverty. The key questions are: why is Bumiputera poverty deep and persistent? Why is it after more than thirty years of Government involvement in alleviating poverty, the Bumiputera of Sarawak are among tJ,e poorest in Malaysia? Why are some poverty-eradication programmes successful, while others are not? This paper will answer these questions by presenting the "voices" of the poor on the major causes of their poverty! and the role Of State in alleviating it. This paper also includes proposals on key strategies to bring about sustained reduction in poverty among the Bumiputera in Sarawak. The papers aim to provide clear statements of Bumiputera views, experiences and aspirations in relation to poverty and development in Sarawak.

Keywords

Bumiputera, Sarawak, Hard-Core Poor, Voices Of The Poor



Kajian Malaysia, Vol. 29, No. 1, 2011, 47-74

The Socioeconomic History of The Orang Kanaq of Johor

Mahani, Musa

The Orang Kanaq are the Orang Asli group that can only be found in Kota Tinggi, Johor. Originally from Sumatra, the group had a long history as vassals for Johor rulers before losing their influence due to economic and political changes that have occurred in the Riau-Lingga archipelago since the 18th century. This paper examines the early history of the Orang Kanaq, the factors that led to their decline prior to the arrival of European powers, and their migration to Kota Tinggi. Since the end of the 19th century, patron-client ties in modernising Johor have become less important; this has pushed the Orang Kanaq to the margins of society. Forced resettlements during the Emergency (1948–60) and efforts to "modernise" them economically and socially have proven to be challenging tasks for both the government and the Kanaq themselves.

Keywords

The Orang Asli, Orang Kanaq, Socioeconomic History



Asian Social Science; Vol. 9, No. 2; 2013 ISSN 1911-2017 E-ISSN 1911-2025 Published by Canadian Center of Science and Education

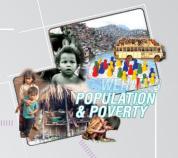
An Investigation of Social Safety Net Programs as Means of Poverty Alleviation in Bangladesh

Mohammad Abdul Hannan Pradhan, Saidatulakmal Mohd and Jamalludin Sulaiman

Bangladesh is a developing and poorer country in the world. The 2010 Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) indicates around 31.6 percent of its population lives under the national poverty line. This has led to the implementation of many social safety net (SSN) programs to address the issue of poverty. In the fiscal year 2009/10, the Bangladesh government allocated 15.22 percent of total budget for SSN program that accounts to 2.52 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The main objective of this paper is to assess the impact of the SSNs programs on level of poverty reduction in Bangladesh. The study employs time series analysis on the 1996 – 2010 spending on SSN and poverty rate data. Statistical analysis indicates negative relationship between SSN expenditure and poverty rates. This implies that SSNs programs have reached the struggling poor as well as have helped the deprived part of the country's people to pick them up of poverty situation.

Keywords

Government Spending, Poverty, Social Safety Net



13.12 Journal of Applied Pharmaceutical Science Vol. 2(4): 24-30, 2012

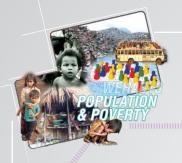
Assessment of Knowledge towards Tuberculosis among general population in North East Libya

Mukhtar A. Solliman, Mohamed Azmi Hassali, Mahmoud Al-Haddad, Mukhtar M. Hadida, Fahad Saleem, Muhammad Atif and Hisham Aljadhey

The study aimed to evaluate the level of Tuberculosis (TB) related knowledge among general public in North East Libya. A cross sectional study was undertaken in 2009. A prevalidated questionnaire consisting of 23 items was sent to 1500 residents among five cities in North East Libya. In addition to the demographic details, the survey instrument was designed to collect information relating to transmission, diagnosis, risk factors, treatment and prevention of TB. Descriptive analysis was used to elaborate demographic information. Inferential statistics (Chi-square test and one-way ANOVA) were used whenever appropriate. P value of less than 0.05 was considered as significant. All data was analyzed using SPSS version 16.0. The overall knowledge towards TB among general population was measured as low. Mean knowledge score was 11.4±3.9 which was significantly higher among Libyans (11.7 \pm 3.8) than non-Libyans (9.7 \pm 4.7, t=26.13) (P<0.001). In addition, respondents with tertiary education had significantly higher knowledge scores (11.8± 3.5) compared to those of intermediate (11.6± 4.4) and illiterate (7.7±5.5), [F=19.34, P=0.001]. This study reveals that knowledge towards TB within the population is poor. It is therefore suggested that specialized educational programs should be developed for community members to promote awareness towards TB.

Keywords

As Tuberculosis, Assessment, Knowledge, North East Libya



International Journal of Trade, Economics and Finance, Vol. 3(2), April 2012

Sustaining the Livelihood of Single Mothers through Wealth Creation and Savings Opportunities: A Long Road Ahead

M. N. Zarina and A. A. Kamil

Single motherhood is spreading in Malaysia and re-entering single motherhood life poses challenges to single mothers. Financial abilities play crucial roles in single mothers' survival in particular, when financial supports from ex-spouses and government agencies are not as helpful as they would like it to be. In many cases, single mothers are left without sustainable financial sources to re-start their new single lives. On average single mothers in our study have 2 to 3 children under their care. Studies have shown that the existence of children make it less likely for low income single mothers to save. Consequently, accumulating assets and savings fall in the last place in their priority lists. Other immediate needs take up most of their resources. As asset accumulation and savings are one of the ways to obtain a better livelihood other than education, this issue deserves to be addressed by policymakers, academics as well as society as a whole. Efforts and programs to alleviate poverty among single mothers should also inculcate self dependency as its ultimate goal. Our preliminary findings suggest that low income single mothers in our sample have accumulate minimal assets and savings - but with many mouths to feed.

Keywords

Terms—Asset Accumulation, Poverty, Saving, Single Mother.



Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences, Vol. 91: 331–340, 10 October 2013 PSU-USM International Conference on Humanities and Social Sciences

Does Entreprenership Bring An Equal Society and Alleviate Poverty? Evidence from Thailand

Muhammad suhaimee Yanya, Roslan Abdul-Hakim, Nor Azam Abdul-Razak

The Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) Report 2007 records that Thailand has a remarkably high entreneurial activity, even if compared to Japan or the United State. Many studies, including Schumpeter (1934) (1) emphasided the role of entrepreneurship has been considered to associate with higher income of the population. On the other hand, entrepreuship has been considered to associate with higher income inequality became higher. This raise the question that does entrepeneurship have any impact on reduction of poverty and inequality in Thailand? Therefore, the aim of this paper is to study the impact of entrepreneurship on income of the poor, income inequality and poverty of Thailand. Towards this ends, the analysis on the impact of entrepreneurship in income inequality and poverty are carried out by performing regression analysis. Thisstudy uses data that are disaggregated into 76 provinces of Thailand, obtained from official government documents. The regression models follows Beck et al (2005) (2), by running regression based on cross sectional data. Results suggest that entrepreneurship, measured as the number of new business establishment, has a significant negative effect on growth of Gini-coefficient and the headcount index but there is no significant effect on income of the poor. In addition, to confirm these relationships, we expand the data by using 76 provinces in Thailand from 1995 to 2008, and are estimated by three different methods – pooled OLS, random effects and fixed effects. Based on the first two methods, we found that entrepreneuship does not have a significant impact on income of the poor, income inequality and number of poverty. However, the results of the Hausman test necessitates a re-estimation of the model by thefixed effects method. Using the fixed effects methods, our results indicate that entrepreneurship is insignificant. We take this results as evidence that entrepreneurship plays little or no role in income distribution and poverty of Thailand.

Keywords

Entrepreneurship; Income Distribution; Poverty; Thailand



Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vol. 7(2): 328-342, 2012, ISSN: 1823-884x © e-Bangi, FSSK, UKM

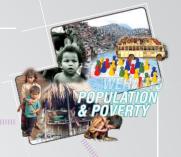
Poverty and Deprivation: Using Geographic Information System in Evaluating the Accessibility of Households to Food Retailers In Penang State, Malaysia

Narimah Samat, Yasin Abdalla Eltayeb Elhadary, Fatimah Mahdi Hijles, Suriati Ghazali & Morshidi Sirat

Poverty eradication programs that have been devised since 1970s in Malaysia manage to reduce the percentage of poor population from 52.4% in 1970 to 12.4% in 1992 and further reduced to 3.8% in 2009. Although the number of poor population in rural or urban areas was reduced significantly, relative and urban poverty seems to be worsening, since the cost of living within urban areas is much higher than that in rural area. The government targets to reduce poverty, but many poverty alleviation programs focus on employment creation and improvement of infrastructural facilities. Furthermore, poverty eradication programs that focused on providing basic needs such as food, clothing, housing, healthcare and education failed to recognize other form of deprivation such as the accessibility of poor household to healthy and affordable food items as also an important issue. For example, hypermarkets which sold wider ranges of food items at cheaper prices tend to be located at the urban areas which are difficult to be accessed by the poor. This study mapped the location of food retailers in Penang States and identified deprived areas in term of access to healthy and affordable food retailers using Geographic Information System (GIS). Although food retailers tend to cluster with urban centers, most of the people lived within a reasonable distance from food retailers. The approach used in this study could potentially be used in finding suitable location for, 'Kedai Rakyat 1 Malaysia', which provides various products at cheaper prices in close proximity to the intended households particularly the low income.

Keywords

Geographic Information Systems, Deprived Areas, Penang State, Food Retailers, Poverty.



13.16 British Journal of Arts and Social Sciences ISSN: 2046-9578, Vol.3 No.1, 2011 ©BritishJournal Publishing, Inc. 2011

Survival Through Entrepreneurship: Determinants of Successful Micro-enterprises in Balik Pulau, Penang Island, Malaysia

Nor Hafizah Selamat, Ratna Roshida Abdul Razak, Salfarina Abdul Gapor, Zainal Abidin Sanusi

Like in any developing countries, micro enterprises have developed as a means to respond to growing poverty particularly in generating income to supplement household income. This study will examine several key success determinants for micro-enterprises in Penang. The success factors will be examined based on the determinants that have been identified as framework of the study. Several studies on SMEs in Penang have been done but mostly focusing on the challenges and struggles faced by small and medium enterprises, concentrating more on the manufacturing sector. More studies are still needed on micro enterprises in Penana particularly looking at the success factors, motivations, challenges and struggles. This in-depth study of the performance of micro-enterprise in Balik Pulau area, where most of the Malay ethnic group is concentrated, will provide an insight into the challenges and struggles in their business performance. Findings have shown that there is a significant different between those microentrepreneurs in formal business (registered company) than those informal micro-enterprises. Informal micro-entrepreneurs are mostly survivalist, have limited access to capital, low level of knowledge in business marketing whereas formal micro-entrepreneurs are more inspired and aggressive in expanding their business operations. This study also reveals the important role of government agencies such as the State Agricultural Department and local Farmer"s Organization in assisting women micro-entrepreneurs in Balik Pulau, particularly during their business initial development.

Keywords

Micro-Enterprise, Indicators Of Success, Balik Pulau, Women Entrepreneurs



World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology, International Journal of Social, Human Science and Engineering Vol. 4(12), 2010

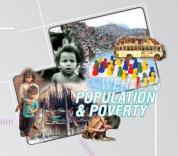
A Case Study of Collective Action in Fishermen's Wives Group (KUNITA), Malaysia

Nor Hafizah, S., Salfarina, A.G., Intan Hashimah, H., Juliana, A.W.

Collective action can be an effective means for local development as well as important strategy to enhance livelihoods especially among rural people. This article explores the level of collective action among members of Fishermen's Wives Group (KUNITA) in Malaysia. KUNITA was established by the Malaysian Fishery Development Authority (LKIM) with an objective to increase the socioeconomic status of fishermen's families. The members who are mostly the wives and daughters of fishermen are strongly encouraged by LKIM to venture into entrepreneurship activities. The objective of this research was to see the level of collective action among members in KUNITA groups in the state of Selangor. The finding shows that high level of collective action among KUNITA members is strongly based on volunteerism. However, the level of cooperation among members in the group is relatively low. The findings present significant challenges for the group in maintaining the sustainability of KUNITA organization.

Keywords

Collective Action, Entrepreneurship, Fishermen's Wives Group, LKIM



International Journal of Business and Social Science Vol. 1 No. 2; November 2010

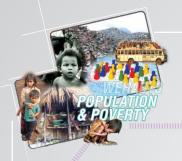
Determinants of Repayment Performance in Microcredit Programs: A Review of Literature

Norhaziah Nawai

The aim of microcredit is to help the poor and lower income group to get funds for their business activities and to improve their lives. Usually, the loans given are very small, in short term period, no collateral needed and required weekly repayment. However, repayment problems become the main obstacle for the microcredit institutions to continue providing microcredit services. This is because most of the microcredit institutions are Non- Governmental Organizations (NGOs), where they received funds from the government and donors and there are not profits oriented organizations. Therefore, this paper tries to review the determinants of repayment performances in microcredit programs which can be divided into four factors namely borrower characteristics, firm characteristics, loan characteristics and lender characteristics.

Keywords

Repayment Performance, Microcredit Programs, NGOs



International Journal of Business and Society, Vol. 12 No. 1, 2011, 1 – 14

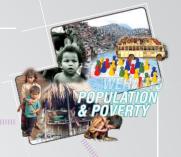
An Economic Impact Assessment Of a Microcredit Program in Malaysia: The Case Of Amanah Ikhtiar Malaysia (AIM)

Norma Md Saad, Jarita Duasa

This study uses econometric models to evaluate the economic performance of clients participating in the microcredit program of Amanah Ikhtiar Malaysia (AIM). Several proxies are used for the economic performance variable (dependent variables), such as level of earnings/income, ratio of spending to income and value of assets. The regressors (independent variables) used are education level, age, amount of loan, source of income, and ownership of assets. The study found that the economic performance of AIM participants is significantly determined by the amount of money borrowed from AIM. Other factors found to influence the respondents' economic performance are education level, age, gender, assets owned before joining AIM, and area of residence. Because level of education is found to contribute significantly to the economic performance of AIM participants, it is suggested that AIM should work to educate its borrowers. In particular, it should provide business training.

Keywords

Microcredit, Microfinance, Poverty, Amanah Ikhtiar Malaysia (AIM)



Jurnal Biosains, Vol. 18(1): 81-91, 2007

The Seasonal Abundance of Synanthropic Fly Populations in Two Selected Food Outlets in Pulau Pinang, Malaysia.

Nurita Abu Tahir, Abu Hassan Ahmad, Nur Aida Hashim, Norasmah Basari and Che Salmah Md Rawi

The seasonal abundance study of adult synanthropic flies in two selected food outlets was conducted from July 2003 to July 2004. The two urban locations were a cafeteria in the Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) main campus and an adjacent restaurant. Four synanthropic flies were identified from both study sites and they were Musca domestica (house fly), Musca sorbens, Chrysomya megacephala and Lucilia cuprina. The off-campus restaurant had a significantly higher (p < 0.05) fly abundance than the university cafeteria and the dominant fly species at both sites was the M. domestica. The highest fly abundance recorded at both sites was in April 2004. Total fly abundance was lowest in the university cafeteria and in the off-campus restaurant in March 2004 and October 2003 respectively.

Keywords

Seasonal Abundance, Synanthropic Fly, Food Outlets



Asia-Pacific Journal of Social Sciences, Vol. 111 (1): 32-48, Jan –June 2011, ISSN 0975-5942

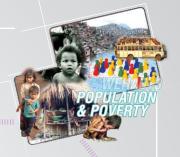
Indian Urban Poverty in Malaysia, A New Phenomenon? The Pre and Post Malaysian Independence Perspective

Parthiban S. Gopal, Salfarina Abdul Gapor and Sivamurugan Pandian

Urban poverty among Malaysian Indians, took its inception in the past, ever since the influx of Indians to urban centres from the rubber plantation. During this time, the Indian workers were forced to leave their jobs on estates to seek alternative employment in the urban areas. However, at this juncture till to date the increase in Malay participation in urban economy, particularly the public sector and the extent they become victims of urban poverty. Therefore the objective of this study is to scrutinise the principal causes of urban poverty among Malaysian Indians during pre and post-independence eras till to date. The methodology is based solely on document research; that is, peer reviewed researchers and scholars on poverty the findings of this study would further expound and ascertain to what extent the capitalist economy of the colonial government before independence as well as books and articles authored by prominent researches and scholars ascertain to what extent the capitalist economy of the colonial government before indepence as well as the of the private sector and the ethnic political economy of the state after independence are viables causes of urban poverty among urban Indians.

Keywords

Malaysian Indians, Urban Poverty, Rubber Plantation/Estate, Urban Centres, Malays And Chinese



13.22 European Journal of Social Sciences – Vol. 12(2), 2009

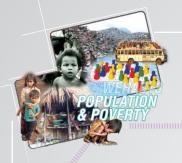
Explaining Ethnic Relations in Malaysia Through the "Concentric Circle Model": Case Studies of the States of Perak and Kelantan, Malaysia

Salfarina Abdul Gapor, Mohd. Zaini Abu Bakar, Azeem Fazwan Ahmad Farouk

Ethnic relations in Malaysia are complex, dynamic and fluid according to demographic factors which usually relate to spatial location and economic dependence/independence of an ethnic group. The paper examines two extreme case studies, the state of Kelantan characterized by a dominantly Malay populated state compared to the urban areas of Perak with a dominantly non-Malays population. Perceptions on ethnic issues are translated as tools to gauge the respondents' state of ethnic relations through a survey. A qualitative in depth-interviews is also conducted to supplement data. The findings are then translated into an ethnic relations model known as the "Concentric Circle". The model shows that the minority ethnic group tends to partially assimilate more with the majority group for economic and political survival and dependence. On the other hand, when similar ethnic group becomes majority, they tend to reaffirm their socio-cultural roots and create limited networking with the other ethnic groups. They are also more vocal in their opinions of public policies compare to the same ethnic groups who are minorities in a different spatial setting. This model shows that ethnic relations in Malaysia cannot be explained merely by one ethnic relations theory but a mix of both the functionalist and instrumentalist theories.

Keywords

Ethnic Relation Theories, Ethnicity, Ethnic Relations



Asian Social Science Vol. 8, No. 3, March 2012

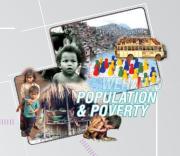
Social Protection and Poverty Reduction in Four Selected Southeast Asian Countries: An Analysis of the Healthcare Sector towards Pro-Poor Growth

Senadjki Abdelhak, Jamalludin Sulaiman

This study explores key ideas needed in the current debate on the development of healthcare schemes and programs against poverty in four selected Southeast Asian countries; Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines. It also traces the reasons why some of these countries have failed to achieve relative pro-poor growth through healthcare schemes. Using the poverty line of the four selected countries and Panel Data Analysis, the present study found that in Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam, poor people do not benefit from the healthcare services provided by the government. In Vietnam the situation is even worse as the results showed that an increase in government expenditure on health led to increased poverty incidences. One of the possibilities for this to occur is that when government increases expenditure in healthcare sector, this causes a trade-off in other logistic sectors.

Keywords

Poverty, Poverty Reduction, Social Protection, Healthcare Schemes, Panel Data, Southeast Asia



Asian Social Science; Vol. 8, No. 12; 2012 ISSN 1911-2017 E-ISSN 1911-2025 Published by Canadian Center of Science and Education

The Impact of Psychological Factors and Religious Adherence on Household's Dealing with Poverty-Driven Vulnerability Situation: A Critical Discourse on Kelantan and Terengganu

Senadjki Abdelhak, Jamalludin Sulaiman & Saidatulakmal Mohd

It is documented that in the households' experience of vulnerability to poverty, religious and psychological factors have been inextricably but indirectly linked. These factors, according to researchers' findings, have played a decisive role in enhancing households' coping capacity in an attempt to ease their vulnerabilities. The same factors however could also have adverse effects on household in their vulnerability to poverty as they may weaken people's riskmanagement and coping strategies. This study will attempt to extend the discussion of this issue by an investigation of psychological and religious impact on households' risk management and coping strategies. In order to understand the dynamics of interrelations between these factors, a study was done in the states of Kelantan and Terengganu in Malaysia. Using a structured socioeconomic questionnaire, 302 randomly selected farmers from both the states were tested. The results showed that distress, depression and feeling discouraged dramatically reducing farmers' monthly income. Also the results indicated that the more the religious farmers are the highest their monthly income is. Instead of being motivated when experiencing stressors, farmers behaved negatively. This was confirmed as the results appointed the existence of a significant and negative relationship between farmers' psychological situation and their coping strategies. At the same time religious farmers implemented only fewer strategies. But these strategies found to be effective and efficient as their monthly income is higher compared to those who seldom practice religious commitments.

Keywords

Poverty, Farmers, Psychology, Religion, Coping Strategies, Risk-Management Strategies, Kelantan And Terengganu



Journal of Applied Sciences, Vol. 12(2): 125-135, 2012 ISSN 1812-5654, 2012 Asian Network for Scientific Information

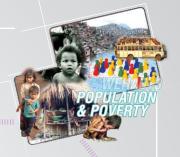
Poverty among Rural Communities in Kelantan and Terangganu: The Role of Institutions, Farmer's Risk Management and Coping Strategies

Senadjki Abdelhak, Jamaluddin Sulaiman and Saidatulakmal Mohd

The wellbeing and livelihoods of people are two important aspects of poverty which in turn area dependent on the household's coping capabilities and their abilities to manage risks. The roles of institutions such as Non-Government Organizations (NGos) and particularly the government are important in ensuring the welfare of the people. Empirically, little is known on the link between households' coping strategies, government policies and institutions. This study investigates and analyses the role og people's risk management and coping strategies in building their capacities. Using a structured socio-economic questionnaire, 302 randomly selected farmers in both states were tested. Household income decreased by RM52, Rm81 and Rm102 due to illness, floods and economic recession respectively. In order to cope with these stressors, households implemented coping strategies rather than preparatory ones which can strengthen their capacities to manage against any unexpected threat. In some cases these strategies threated households' welfare. Less risky income by as high as RM123, RM139 and RM166, respectively. Although the results showed that institutions did not lead households to fall into poverty trap, their supports also made no difference. These institutions are active and provide the needed services to the communities only after a disaster have occurred. This observation is based on the positive relationship between households' coping strategies and institutional supports (r=0.310, p=0.067) based on this study.

Keywords

Risks And Shocks, Poverty Eradication, Rural Households, Households' Abilities



Asian Pacific Journal of Tropical Disease \$312-\$315, 2012

Serological Diagnosis for Active Tuberculosis in Malaysian Population: Comparison of Four Protein Candidate

Siti Suraiya, Mustaffa Musa, Rapeah Suppian, Jalaluddin Ashraful Haq

To assess the ability of 4 types of Mtb proteins-ESAT6, SCWP, MAN and Ag85 to serve as indicator for active tuberculosis among Malaysian population. Methods: Sera from 90 individuals, 60 from confirmed pulmonary tuberculosis patients and 30 healthy PPD negative individuals were tested for presence of anti-IgG and anti IgA by ELISA assay. Result: Mean concentration of IgG and IgA were higher in patients compared to healthy Positivity of the ELISA test were calculated, taking the cut off value at mean +2 SD of healthy sera. The sensitivity of the ELISA IgA assay for ESAT 6, SCWP, MAN and Ag85 were 81.1%, 83.3%, 11.7% and 53.3% respectively. The sensitivity of the ELISA IgG asay for ESAT 6, SCWP, MAN and Ag85 were 71.0%, 71.0%, 71.0% and 21.0% respectively. Conclusion: Detection IgA against SCWP promised a good indicator for active tuberculosis infection among Malaysian.

Keywords

SCWP, Ag85, LAM, ESAT6, Serology, Tuberculosis



Geografia Online, TM Malaysia Journal of Society and Space 8 issue 2, 20 – 29 20 Themed Issue: Malaysian Environment and Society © 2012, ISSN 2180-2491

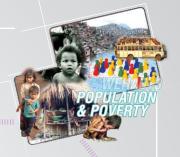
Population and spatial distribution of urbanisation in Peninsular Malaysia 1957 – 2000

Tarmiji Masron, Usman Yaakob, Norizawati Mohd Ayob, Aimi Shamimi Mokhtar

For the past 90 years Malaysia has experienced rapid urban population growth. Beginning with towns which grew from colonial tin mining and trading and spices industries, urban growth had proceeded in tandem with population growth and economic modernisation. This article discusses the process of population growth and urbanisation in Peninsular Malaysia from 1911 to 2000 whereby urban population data from population and housing census were utilised to analyse the spatial distribution of towns in the region. Geographic Information System (GIS) was used to analyse the spatial distribution and growth centres of the cities involved. The period spanning 1957 and 2000 was chosen to look at this phenomenon. In 1957 the number of cities recorded was only 33; this had increased by 400 per cent to 140 in 2000. The analysis also found concentration tendencies of Peninsular Malaysia's urbanisation as testified by the rise of urban growth centres in Peninsular Malaysia for the same period examined.

Keywords

Geographic Information System, Growth Centres, Historical Geography, Population Growth, Urban Concentration, Urbanisation



13.28 Artif Intell Rev DOI 10.1007/s10462-012-9314-6 (published online: 09 February 2012)

Structured population genetic algorithms: a literature survey

Ting Yee Lim

The Genetic Algorithm (GA) has been one of the most studied topics in evolutionary algorithm literature. Mimicking natural processes of inheritance, mutation, natural selection and genetic operators, GAs have been successful in solving various optimization problems. However, standard GA is often criticized as being too biased in candidate solutions due to genetic drift in search. As a result, GAs sometimes converge on premature solutions. In this paper, we survey the major advances in GA, particularly in relation to the class of structured population GAs, where better exploration and exploitation of the search space is accomplished by controlling interactions among individuals in the population pool. They can be classified as spatial segregation, spatial distance and heterogeneous population. Additionally, secondary factors such as aging, social behaviour, and so forth further guide and shape the reproduction process. Restricting randomness in reproduction has been seen to have positive effects on GAs. It is our hope that by reviewing the many existing algorithms, we shall see even better algorithms being developed.

Keywords

Genetic Algorithm, Structured Population, Spatial Segregation



Malaysian Journal of Medical Sciences, Vol. 9, No. 1, January 2002 (41-48)

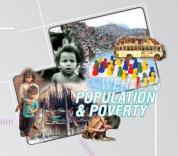
Postpartum Depression: A Survey Of The Incidence and Associated Risk Factors Among Malay Women In Beris Kubor Besar, Bachok, Kelantan.

Wan Mohd Rushidi Wan Mahmud, Shakinah Shariff, Mohd. Jamil Yaacob

The aim of this study was to determine the incidence and associated risk factors of postpartum depression among Malay women in Beris Kubor Besar, Bachok, Kelantan. The study was conducted between February to August 1998. A two-stage population survey approach was employed. Firstly, all the women who delivered between the months of February and May 1998 in the catchment area were identified. In stage 1, the 30 items GHQ was used as the screening instrument at 6 to 8 weeks postpartum. All those potential cases (scoring above 6 on the questionnaire) were later interviewed using the CIS in stage 2 of the study. Diagnosis of postpartum depression was only made if those women fulfilled required criteria. Of the 174 women who were recruited, 17 of them fulfilled the criteria for postpartum depression yielding an incidence rate of 9.8 %. The condition was found to be significantly linked to low income or socioeconomic status, having marital problems (mainly financial in nature) and not breast feeding.

Keywords

Post Partum, Depression, Survey



13.30 Journal of Risk and Financial Management, University of Ontario Institute of **Technology**

Do REITs Outperform stock and fixed-income assets? New Evidence From Mean-Variance and Stochastic Dominance Approaches

Thomas C. Chiang, Hooi Hooi Lean, Wing-Keung Wong

This paper re-examines the performance of REITs, stocks, and fixed-income assets based on the preferences of risk-averse and risk-seeking investors using mean-variance and stochastic dominance approaches. Our findings indicate no first-order stochastic dominance and no arbitrage opportunity among these assets. However, our stochastic dominance results reveal that in order to maximize their expected utility, the risk-averse prefer fixed-income assets over real estate, which, in turn, is preferable to stocks. On the other hand, to maximize their expected utility, all risk-seeking investors would prefer to invest in stocks than in real estate, but real estate, in turn, is preferable to fixed-income assets.

Keywords

Stochastic Dominance, Risk, REITs, Stock, Fixed-Income Assets, Risk-Aversion, Risk-Seeking.



Journal of Construction in Developing Countries, Vol. 14(2): 37–54, 2009, Penerbit Universiti Sains

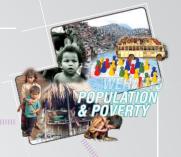
Experiences and Challenges of Community Participation in Urban Renewal Projects: The Case of Johannesburg, South Africa

Wellington Didibhuku Thwala

Urban renewal and inner city regeneration have become critical efforts for the South African government, which has invested in several structures to stem the tide of decline in its nine major cities. Commitment to the alleviation of poverty is a focal point of the renewal and regeneration agenda and will remain so in the future. This effort is motivated by the fact that around 24% of the South African population currently lives on less than USD 1.00 per day, below the poverty line defined by the World Bank. The Central Government has made numerous public commitments to development, a part of which concerns extensive infrastructure investment and service delivery. Communities are expected to participate fully in the planning and implementation of these urban renewal projects. To this aim, participation is a process through which stakeholders influence and share control over development initiatives and the decisions and resources which affect them. Community participation should be aimed at empowering people by ensuring the development of skills and the creation of employment opportunities. This paper first explores the concept of community participation, and will then look at relevant past experiences in relation to community participation in urban renewal projects. Furthermore, the paper outlines the challenges and problems of community participation in urban renewal projects in Johannesburg, and finally, close with recommendations for the future.

Keywords

Community Participation, Urban Renewal, Poverty, Unemployment



13.32 Journal of Geography and Regional Planning Vol. 3(9), pp. 208-218, September 2010 Available online at http://www.academicjournals.org/JGRP ISSN 2070-1845 ©2010 Academic Journals

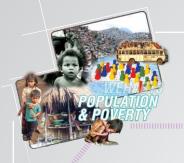
Challenges facing land tenure system in relation to pastoral livelihood security in Gedarif State, Eastern Sudan

Yasin Abdalla Eltayeb Elhadary

Land in rural communities is not just a means of livelihood but also a source of wealth, tribal identity, social peace, and also source of conflicts. This paper addresses the issue of pastoral land tenure in relation to their livelihood security in Sudan. The overall objective is to trace the changes in land tenure system and its implications on pastoral communities in Gedarif state, eastern Sudan. In Gedarif like elsewhere in Sudan accessing pastoral land was governed by the system of communal rights. Although, this system has some shortcomings such as lack of transparency and democracy besides being gender bias as woman can access land only through their fathers and husbands, it has proven its efficiency in securing livelihood and reducing conflicts in the country. Several land acts have been introduced since the colonial era and during the national successive governments aiming to provide the state full authority to control land resources and undermining the traditional communal right of pastoral people. Among these was the unregistered act of 1970, this act has given the government the full power to grab and reallocate the land to the public and private sectors most were not from Gedarif state, without taking into account the communal right of utilization and access to land, which is the major source for pastoral livelihood. As a result unplanned mechanized farming has expanded rapidly at the expense of traditional right causing rigorous implications and threat on pastoral economy. These implications include: livelihood insecurity, drop out from traditional sectors, collapse of pastoral adaptation, poverty, rural urban migration, weakening the role of tribal leaders and acute conflict over limited resources.

Keywords

Land Tenure, Livelihood, Poverty, Pastoral Economy, Gedarif, Sudan



Journal of Geography and Geology, Vol. 3(1), September 2011

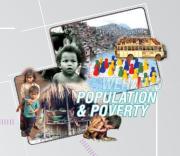
Political Economy and Urban Poverty in the Developing Countries: Lessons Learned from the Sudanese Experience

Yasin Abdalla Eltayeb Elhadary, Narimah Samat

Urbanization is rapidly growing all over the world with a high rate of growth in the developing countries. Several factors are presumed to be responsible for the unfolding of urban growth and urbanization processes, which include but not limited, massive rural-urban migration, imbalances in the provision of social services, change in land use policy, market liberalization, conflict, wars, natural disasters, and the consequences resulting from deficient economic policies and attendant practices. In a country like Sudan, rapid urban growth has a propensity of culminating in reduction of job opportunities, which is coupled with high cost of living that subjects urban dwellers particularly the vulnerable group to be plunged into deep poverty. This paper deals with the issue of urban poverty in the developing countries taking Sudan as an example. The overall objective is to uncover the current situation of urban poverty with particular emphasis on its pattern, causes, indicators and the policies adopted for tackling and alleviating urban poverty. By so doing, it is expected that this piece could help in bridging some gaps regarding the understanding and knowledge with regard to urban poverty. The political economy approach is used in order to link political and economic policies at both national and international levels. This approach shows that the urban poor in developing countries tends to be further impoverished mainly as a result of defective economic policies rather than other causative factors. It is believed that the Structural Adjustment Program (SAP) prescribed by the World Bank could be held responsible for pushing a considerable number of urban dwellers into poverty. Since their accession to independence, most of the developing countries are induced by alleged benefits that could accrue from subscribing to western economic policy prescriptions that are in most cases irrelevant to the need of local communities. The establishment of big projects under the pretext of "new development" has always been a political decision that is shaped by the interests of national and international policymakers rather than local priorities and needs.

Keywords

Urbanization, Poverty, Political Economy, Economic Policy And Sudan



Journal of Geography and Geology, Vol. 4, No. 1, March 2012

Political Economy and Urban Poverty in the Developing Countries: Lessons Learned from Sudan and Malaysia

Yasin Abdalla Eltayeb Elhadary, Narimah Samat

The number of people living in towns has increased very rapidly particularly in the developing countries due to massive rural urban migration as well as natural population growth. Significant increase of urban population in a short span of time has created various problems including inequality in provision of social services, decline in farming activities, and increase number of urban poor. In countries like Sudan and Malaysia, rapid urbanization and high cost of living has pushed urban dwellers particularly the vulnerable group into deep poverty. Despite this fact, less attention is paid to the urban poor and most of international and national aid agencies are focusing on rural poverty. This paper, therefore, aims to contribute to the discussion of the issue of urban poverty in the developing countries, taking Sudan and Malaysia as examples. The objective is to highlight the current situation of urban poverty with particular emphasis on its pattern, causes, and the policies adopted by both countries to eradicate poverty. The use of the political economy approach has come out with the suggestion that urban poor in developing countries has been impoverished by ineffective economic policies developed abroad as well as at national level. Despite the effort made to eradicate poverty, there is an urgent need to address issues like food insecurity, socio-economic inequality and regional disparities.

Keywords

Malaysia, Sudan, Urbanization, Urban Poverty, Structural Adjustment Program



2012 International Conference on Economics, Business and Marketing Management IPEDR Vol.29 (2012) © (2012) IACSIT Press, Singapore

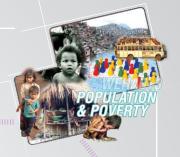
A Preliminary Study of Asset Accumulation among Single Mothers in Malaysia

Zarina, M.N and Anton, A.A

Single motherhood is spreading in Malaysia and re-entering single motherhood life poses challenges to single mothers. Financial abilities play crucial roles in single mothers' survival in particular, when financial supports from ex-spouses and government agencies are not as helpful as they would like it to be. In many cases, single mothers are left without sustainable financial sources to re-start their new single life. In average single mothers in our study have 2-3 children under their care. Studies have shown that the existence of children make it less likely for low income single mothers to save. Consequently, accumulating asset becomes the last thing that they will do since their expenses exceed their meager income. As asset accumulation is one way to have a better livelihood other than education, this issue deserves to be addressed by policymakers, academics as well as society as a whole. Our preliminary findings suggest that low income single mothers in our sample have accumulate minimal assets but with many mouths to feed.

Keywords

Single Mother, Saving, Asset Accumulation, Poverty



Asian Culture and History; Vol. 5(2), 2013, ISSN 1916-9655 E-ISSN 1916-9663, Published by Canadian Center of Science and Education

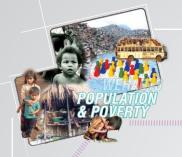
Poverty Reduction Policies in Malaysia: Trends, Strategies and Challenges

Zulkarnain A. Hatta & Isahaque Ali

Malaysia is a multi-ethnic religious country with a population of 28.5 million, it is characterised by mainly three ethnic groups-Malay and indigenous people, Chinese, and Indians. Ever since independence in 1957, Malaysia has successfully transformed itself from a poor country into a middle-income nation. The Malaysian economy has seen a periodic growth despite challenging external factors. It can also definitely claim its success of combat against poverty. Despite its poverty reduction success, there still remains a vulnerable group of people in the country experiencing poverty for some geographical and societal reasons. This concept paper has several objectives: A brief description of the country's nature of poverty, poverty reduction policies and programs, and an analysis facing the challenges and recommendations for a sustainable poverty reduction in Malaysia.

Keywords

Malaysia, Poverty, Policy, Challenges





Universiti Teknikal Malaysia

14.1

2013 5th International Conference on Information and Communication Technology for the Muslim World, ICT4M 2013, 2013, Article number 6518908

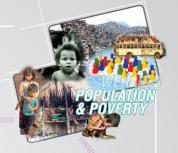
IT outsourcing as an innovative strategy for economic advancement: Lessons from Malaysia

Arshad, Y., Ahlan, A.R.

IT outsourcing is seen as an innovative strategy for organizations to leverage on its several major benefits. The motivations for ITO can be in forms of technological, economic and business benefits. Moreover, ITO generates income for the nation economy. This is possible in onshore and offshore outsourcing activities. This study explores the literature and our previous studies on ITO in banking and public healthcare sector in Malaysia. We aim to answer the motivations for, risks and challenges in and how ITO contributes towards nations' economies. The study finds that ITO benefits can be mainly categorized into strategic, economic or business and technological benefits. Risks and challenges faced by the organizations under studies are many which can be grouped into financial, information, technical, human resource, project management, risk management and relationship management. Developing countries can tap on her cost effective and innovative proposals to attract potential clients to outsource their IT services and functions to them.

Keywords

Innovation; IT Outsourcing; Malaysia; Offshoring; Strategy



Universiti Teknologi MARA

15.1

Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 46, 2012, Pages 4817-4821

Best Practices of Teaching in Higher Education in United States: A Case Study

Chan Yuen Fook

This study is an attempt to assess the level as well as factors associated with teaching practices among students and instructors in a higher learning institute in the United States. The sample population comprised 181 undergraduate and postgraduate students and 22 instructors from the School of Education. Questionnaires using a 6 point Likert-scale were administered to all 203 respondents whilst interviews were conducted with 5 undergraduates, postgraduates and instructors. In addition, document analysis was also conducted on the syllabus used for the 12 courses. Descriptive analysis indicated that most of the teaching practices (dimensions or overall) recorded above moderate level in higher education. Inferential statistical analysis indicated that many of the subvariables seemed to have moderate influences on the dimensions of teaching practices. Results of independent-samples t-tests, indicated that gender did not have any influence on the perception of teaching practices. Generally, students' preference for feedback and active learning coincided with the concept of transformative learning. This should augur well especially in laying the foundations for more specific actions to further improve teaching practices in higher education in the United States as well as other universities which aspire to become research universities.

Keywords

Teaching; Best Practices; Higher Education; United States



Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 36, 2012, Pages 573-582

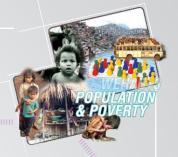
Assessing the Behavioural Factors' of Safety Culture for the Malaysian Construction Companies

Faridah Ismail, Norizan Ahmad, Nurul Afida Isnaini Janipha, Razidah Ismail

Modifying behavior and to encourage safe behavior is the key element of a good safety program. Defining safety culture, based on behavioural factors frees us to include a host of behaviours as part of the puzzle that creates the cognitive construct of organisational culture. Hence, the objective of this paper is to identify the behavioural factors' of safety culture for the Malaysian construction companies. The sample for the study was selected from the total population of Grade 7 registered contractors but was limited to those building contractors in the area of Klang Valley. The questionnaire survey approach, identified leadership, organisational commitment, management commitment, safety training and resource allocation as the practices that embed safety culture into the organisational culture. A fairly emphasis on the behavioural factors' of safety culture with an equal number of elements received mean score exceeding and below the median score was found currently practice among the Malaysian construction companies.

Keywords

Contractors; Safety Programmes; Social Learning; Management Commitment



Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 105, 3 December 2013, Pages 885-893

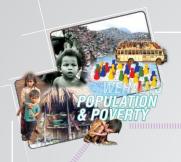
Workplace Flexibility, Empowerment and Quality of Life

Geetha Subramaniam, Peck-Leong Tan, Balasundram Maniam, Ershad Ali

Empowering women to participate in economic life is one way to improve the quality of life for women, families and communities. However, many Malaysian women exit from the formal labour market resulting in women's participation stagnating at around 40 percent since the 1990s. Using a mixed method approach, this study examines whether workplace flexibility may impact women's empowerment and quality of life. A sample of 400 female employees from the services sector answered a self-administered questionnaire complemented with 30 interviews. Multivariate analysis and structured interviews showed that workplace designed with flexibility has a positive impact on women's empowerment and quality of life.

Keywords

Workplace Flexibility; Flexible Working Arrangements; Empowerment; Women In The Labour Market



Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 36, 2012, Pages 602-610

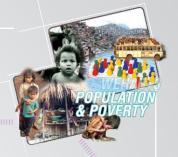
Small is Big: The Charms of Indigenous Knowledge for Sustainable Livelihood

Mazlan Bin Che Soh, Siti Korota'aini Omar

This paper addresses the situation and issues regarding indigenous knowledge among the Malay community at the Eastern Coast of the Peninsular Malaysia. The tacit knowledge of this community and knowledge sharing potentials the indigenous population is explored. The paper examines the opportunities of the members of the community to ascend into the economic mainstream and improve their quality of lives through participation in the industry based on their indigenous knowledge. Some suggestions are incorporated in the paper to yield a conceptual framework of tools for the agencies as support system to build a sustainable livelihood and heritage preservation of the rural community.

Keywords

Indigenous Knowledge; Sustainable Livelihood; Knowledge Transfer



Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 49, 2012, Pages 127-146

Our 'Golden' Citizens with 'Golden' Facilities?

Mohamed Yusoff Abbas, Masran Saruwono

Malaysia is currently facing the problem of "population ageing". This paper attempted to gauge the status of facilities and provisions of the outdoor environment for older people in the Klang Valley. The strategy for the research design was surveys, while the data collection involved focused group interviews upon 25 older persons, 133 questionnaire respondents either accommodated in their own homes or institutions and personal observations. Despite provisions of existing facilities, there remained rooms for improvement in ensuring the outdoor environment to be more barrier-free and inclusive towards the creation of a healthier ageing environment, 'golden' enough for our 'golden' citizens.

Keywords

Inclusive Outdoor Environment; Older People; Accessibility; Healthy Ageing



Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 50, 2012, Pages 827-838

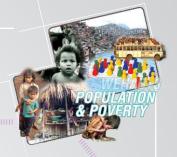
Housing Conditions and Quality of Life of the Urban Poor in Malaysia

Nor Rashidah Zainal, Gurmit Kaur, Nor 'Aisah Ahmad, Jamaliah Mhd. Khalili

This study examines the relationship between housing conditions and the quality of life of the urban poor in Malaysia. Housing conditions includes the physical conditions of dwellings, type of dwellings, house tenure, surrounding environment and availability of amenities. Quality of life is measured by 50 items on self-reported health, safety, and social support. The findings showed a small, but significant positive relationships between housing conditions, health, safety, and social support which provide empirical evidence of the relationship between housing conditions and quality of life. This enlightens the issue of considering housing condition as a social economic indicator of urban poverty.

Keywords

Urban Poverty; Quality Of Life; Housing Condition; Socio-Economic Indicator



Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 101, 8 November 2013, Pages 437-444

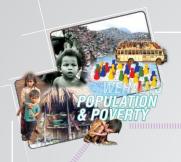
Local Economic Growth and Community Sustainability

Puziah Ahmad, Fatimah Yusof, Faizul Abdullah

Community development involved capacity building, community development process and social capital. The study was based on a cross-sectional study conducted in a hinterland town of Mukah, Sarawak. The aim of the study was to investigate the impacts of major state development program on Mukah local community. Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE) Development initiatives are state owned projects. Questionnaire surveys were distributed in the affected communities. The total of 430 responses returned. The findings show that the knowledge and skill enhancement require further improvement. The process of empowering the community requires concerted efforts on the part of the community and development partners.

Keywords

Economic Growth; Community Development; Sustainability; Capacity Building and Empowerment



Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 105, 3 December 2013, Pages 706-714

The Progress of Malaysian Translational Social Science and Humanities Research: From Research to Practice

Sabarinah Sh Ahmad, Mohammad Nidzam Rahmat, Rugayah Hashim, Noorsalissa Saedan

The Malaysian research progress is reflected through publications, funding, intellectual property and knowledge transfer. However, literatures on translating the outcome of social science and humanities research into practice are lacking. This paper studies the issues of translating knowledge derived from the social science and humanities research into beneficial products for the society. Data is gathered from primary and secondary sources. The findings show slower output and mediocre amount of publications, reasonable funding for research, no quantified knowledge translation between universities and industry, and the research culture at formative years. Conclusively, more determination is needed to translate research into practice for social science and humanities research in Malaysia.

Keywords

Translational Research; Social Science And Humanities; Research To Practice; Progress



Universiti Tenaga Nasional

16.1

Ahmed Dheyaa Basha et al./ Elixir Edu. Tech. 59 (2013) 15487-15490

The role of discussion forums in developing e-learning community amongstudents and instructors: test in university of Baghdad – Iraq

Ahmed Dheyaa Basha, Satar Habib Mnaathr, Ahmaid R.Mohain and Marini Binti Othman

This study will focus on discuss the role of discussion forums in developing and keep on communities of e-learning as well as fostering and strengthened students' learning skills and knowledge along with the instructors. It conducted on an online course at the University of Baghdad. The course was delivered via Moodle to using discussion forums as a major communication tool. A survey assessing students' attitudes as a core factor toward discussion forums was occurring. The outcomes presented a positive attitude toward discussion forums and their role in developing and enhancing students' study skills and knowledge. This study proposes strategies for implementing successful discussion forums.

Keywords

Forums, Community, E-Learning, Moodle.



University Sumatera Utara, Indonesia

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Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences, Volume 105, 3 December 2013, Pages 674-683

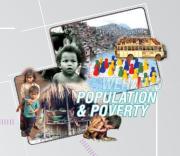
Residential Satisfaction of Middle Income Population: Medan city

Dwira Nirfalini Aulia, Abdul Majid Ismail

Investigation on residential satisfaction can be conducted to answer the question on how to plan a housing area which can be accepted by the middle income society. The main objective of this research is to identify the criterion of residential satisfaction and determine the expected housing criterion required in the overall planning of a housing area. The research conducted using cross-sectional survey method, field investigation and picture. It is discovered that housing location, housing design and public facilities are physical satisfaction criteria and security, social interaction and housing tenure are non physical criteria.

Keywords

Residential Satisfaction, Middle Income, Housing Criterion, Policy Implication



Asian Journal of Social Psychology 16 (3), pp. 207-212. 2013

The impact of multiculturalism on immigrant helping

Mashuri, A., Burhan, O.K., van Leeuwen, E.

We examined how immigrants' acculturation style (multiculturalism versus assimilation) affects the host society's willingness to help immigrants. The results from this experiment supported our expectations in showing that multiculturalism triggered less immigrant helping than assimilation, but only among high national identifiers. In addition, immigrants pursuing multiculturalism were perceived as less warm than those pursuing assimilation, and perceived warmth mediated the interaction effect of identification and acculturation style on helping. Whereas help could improve immigrants' integration into the host society and reduce the degree to which the latter views immigrants as threatening, these results ironically demonstrate that immigrants who are viewed as most threatening receive the least amount of help.

Keywords

Assimilation, Immigrant Helping, Multiculturalism, National Identification, Warmth



Water Watch Penang

18.1

US National Library of Medicine National Institutes of Health, 1995 Dec; 19(4): 287-307.

Choice and constraints in floodplain occupation: the influence of structural factors on residential location in peninsular Malaysia.

Chan NW

In Peninsular Malaysia 'structural' factors are found to influence strongly people's persistent occupation of floodplains. Thus, despite a high level of flood hazard awareness, a high level of pessimism and a high level of expectation of future floods, poorer individuals seldom attempt to leave for more advantageous locations but are instead trapped in their present locations by structural factors such as poverty, low residential and occupational mobility, low educational attainment, traditional land inheritance, government aid, and government disaster preparedness, relief and rehabilitation programmes. These forces exert a strong influence upon individuals and largely control their choice of residential location in response to flood hazards, thereby reinforcing the persistent occupation of floodplains. Structural factors such as landlessness, rural-urban migration, floodplain encroachment and squatting are also highly influential in leading people to move. Even for those who move, structural factors have largely confined their choice of residential location to urban floodplains.

