



University of Zabol

Graduate school

Faculty of Literature and Human Science

Department of Geography

**The Thesis Submitted for the Degree of M.Sc in Geography and  
Urban Planning**

**Effects of targeting subsidies on rural sustainability in  
central district of Zabol township**

**Supervisor:**

Dr.S. Asghari Lafamjany

**Advisor:**

Dr.M. Tavakoly  
Dr. GH. Fazelniya

**By:**

f. Sargolzaee

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## **Abstract**

Sustainability is a collection of ecological, economic, social and spatial-physical dimensions in which the contrast and interaction among these aspects leads to Sustainability or instability. In this approach, clarifying the status of rural communities, structure, problems, the development process and especially the welfare level of inhabitants in rural areas has a significant importance. Therefore, recognition and understanding of the current situation and prevailing conditions in the local, regional and national systems along with getting information about sustainability of the rural communities has a unique significance in decision-making processes. Hence, it is necessary to know which factors affect the sustainability of the villages. The present study was designed to investigate the effects of targeting subsidies on the sustainability of the villages located in the central district of Zabol township. In this research has been used a combination of field method and descriptive–analytical method. The samples consist 52 villages in the central district. Due to the number of households living in these villages and Cochran formula, 254 of heads of households in villages were selected to complete the questionnaire. The number of the questionnaire of each village for completing was calculated according to the proportion of people who have directly received the subsidies in their accounts. In these questionnaires, 25 indicators has been emphasized. These indicators are related to the four dimensions of sustainable rural development. In this research, using the AHP approach in Expert Choice and ArcGIS software, it has been attempted to analyze the effects of targeting subsidies on the rural sustainability. The results of this study confirm that after implementing this project, the rate of sustainability in 41 villages has lowered (%79 of the studies villages). Moreover, the research findings show that the rate of popular Participation in the studied villages has decreased during this project.

**Key words:** Targeting subsidies, Sustainability, Village, Zabol township