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Analysis of barriers to rural small business development

(Case study : Villages of Hirmand county)

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Abstract

The experiences of rural development in different countries of the world during the last few decades show that the problems of lack of income of villagers (economic weakness) and the resulting social, cultural and political consequences cannot be solved only by transferring technical knowledge and technologies on the one hand and material capital to rural areas on the other hand, but a more important element that should be considered by policymakers and rural development experts is emphasizing the development of rural businesses and providing the necessary platforms for their growth and development. The present study aims to investigate the severity of the effects of various factors affecting the stagnation of rural businesses in Hirmand County. The statistical population of this research includes rural households in Hirmand County, based on Cochran's formula, 375 households were considered as the sample size to complete the questionnaire. Excel, ArcGIS, SPSS, Export Choice, WASPAS model, Friedman and Pearson tests were used for data analysis. The results of the WASPAS model in examining the severity of business stagnation factors in the studied villages show that the environmental restrictions are high or very high in 58.3% of the villages. Also, based on the results of Friedman's test, among the various restrictions in different dimensions, the restrictions caused by environmental factors with an average of 0.261 are considered to be the most influential factor in the stagnation of rural businesses. Based on this, considering the results and the continuation of drought and water shortage, it is suggested to invest, launch and support new businesses not dependent on water according to the border location of Hirmand county.

Key words: Barrier, Small Business, Development, village.