



SESSION B2

Factors Affecting the Perception of Farmer-Beneficiaries on the Implementation of CARP Support Services: The Case of Macarimbang Agrarian Reform Cooperative in Maguindanao, Southern Philippines

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Abstract

Several impact assessment studies were done to evaluate the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) where they reported positive socio-economic outcome. However, some experts claim that the program, despite its gains, has a backward effect. This study evaluates the implementation of CARP support services based on the perception of the farmer-beneficiaries in Macarimbang Agrarian Reform Cooperative of Maguindanao, Southern Philippines. A total of 73 farmers who are beneficiaries of the CARP projects were selected through random sampling and interviewed. Tobit model was used to analyze the relationship between the socio-economic characteristics of the farmer-beneficiaries and their perception on the implementation of the programs' usefulness, which was measured using a 5-point Likert scale, under each project component of CARP: Social Infrastructure Local Capacity Building (SILCAB), Sustainable Area-based Rural Enterprise Development (SARED), and Access Facilitation and Access Enhancement (AFAE). Results revealed that the socio-economic factors significantly affect the perception of the respondents towards CARP support services. Farmers with larger household size, farm size, and farm income tend to be more satisfied of the said programs while the opposite is true for respondents who are members of an organization. By substituting the mean of each variable to the Tobit model, it generated a result of 4.271, 4.400, and 0.604 for SILCAB, AFAES, and SARED, respectively. The farmer-beneficiaries believe that SILCAB and AFAES programs are useful to them, while SARED is not. Hence, SILCAB and SARED, whose main objectives are to capacitate and empower the farmer-beneficiaries and to introduce various alternative livelihood activities, respectively, should be given priority by CARP.