

Assessment of Services Offered by Voluntary and International Organizations to improve socioeconomic status of the population in Kassala State, Sudan.

تقييم الخدمات المقدمة بواسطة المنظمات الطوعية والعالمية لتحسين الوضع الاقتصادي والاجتماعي لسكان ولاية كسلا، السودان

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Abstract

The main aim of this study was to assess the services offered by voluntary and international organization to improve socioeconomic status of the population in Kassala state, It depended mainly on a household field survey data conducted for the season, 2016/2017, Descriptive statistics analysis was employed using (SPSS). Frequency distribution and percentage were obtained to determine the services and aid offered. The results revealed that The services and aid offered by the international organizations, have a positive impact of socioeconomic status of the population in the area. The study recommended, that the international and voluntary organizations should have to Provide funds to assist the population to start and operate income-generating projects.

Keywords: International. Organization, Volunteer, Development, Program.

JEL classification: L3.

ملخص:

الهدف الرئيس من هذه الدراسة هو تقييم الخدمات المقدمة بواسطة المنظمات الطوعية والعالمية لتحسين الوضع الاقتصادي والاجتماعي لسكان ولاية كسلا، اعتمدت الدراسة علي البيانات الأولية التي جمعت عن طريق الاستبيان في موسم 2016 – 2017م والمصادر الثانوية من الجهات ذات الصلة. استخدمت الدراسة طرق الإحصاء الوصفي في تحليل البيانات عن طريق برنامج الحزم الإحصائية للعلوم الاجتماعية (SPSS) لإيجاد التكرارات والنسب المئوية لمعرفة. الخدمات والمعونات المقدمة. أوضحت نتائج التحليل أن الخدمات والمعونات المقدمة بواسطة المنظمات الطوعية والعالمية لها تأثير ايجابي علي الوضع الاقتصادي والاجتماعي لسكان المنطقة. أوصت الدراسة بأنه علي المنظمات الطوعية والعالمية تقديم الدعم لمساعدة سكان الولاية للانخراط في مشاريع مولدة للدخل.

الكلمات المفتاحية: العالمية، المنظمات، الطوعية، التنمية، البرنامج.

تصنيف (JEL): L3.

1. Introduction

Kassala State is located in eastern region of the Sudan and borders Eritrea to the east, the states of Red Sea and River Nile to the north, Khartoum to the west, and Gedaref to the south. It is a densely populated area. The estimated population were 1.789.806 people (Census, 2008). The state suffered from the ravages of war, many natural catastrophes and influx of internally displaced people (IDPs) and refugees from neighboring countries. The number of displaced people from other areas within and outside Sudan has increased the population of Kassala state. Around, 56 percent of them live in rural areas, 350000 are refugees or internally displaced Sudanese. Though a considerable number of people had managed to integrate in the local communities in Kassala.160000 of them settled in refugees camps outside Kassala town. Kassala state economy depends largely on agriculture and the majority of people live in rural areas surrounding Kassala, Aroma, Khashm Algirba and New Halfa towns . They have only limited access to health facilities and other social services and their distributions. In addition other vital socio-economic services provided to families are limited. This bad situation of the population occurred due to many factors such as economic, social, political and environmental factors.(UNDP, 1990). To cope with this situation the government of the Sudan calls the international community to provide assistance to the population in Kassala state As a result many international donors including United Nations agencies such as IFAD, UNDP, IDA,UNECIF,FAO, UNESCO and other humanitarian and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) such as ACORD ,Plan Sudan and Practical action yare for this call, Hussain, A. (2007).

1.2 Problem statement:

many international agencies and Non-Governmental Organizations intervened in Kassala state to help people by providing social and economic services, relief distribution and other humanitarian activities to achieve rural development and to improve the socio-economic situations of rural people.

1.3 Objectives of the Study:

- 1-To determine the services offered by voluntary and international organizations in the study area..
- 3-To determine existence of refugees and migrants in the study area.
- 4- To determine the training programs conducted to the projects staff and community leaders which assisted to attain rural development goal.
- 5- To evaluate if, the projects changes of the development in the area
- 6- To determine the benefits of the projects to the recipients' in the study area.

1.4. Hypotheses to be tested:

3. There are no refugees and migrants in the study area.

4. Effective training programs conducted to the projects staff and community leaders which assisted to attain rural development in the study area.

5. There are no benefits of the projects to the recipients 'in the study area.

2.1. Diffinition of some Concept:

2.1. Development:

Development is a process leading to improve the standard of living, increasing the capacity to meet human needs and improving the quality of human life (FAO.2015). Development involves introduction of new ideas to social system in order to produce higher per capita incomes and levels of living through modern production methods and improved social organization that characterize the advanced stable nations of the western world, building up the people so that they can build a future for themselves. It is an experience of freedom in deciding what people choose to do. Development an effort therefore starts with the people's potential and proceeds to their enhancement and growth. A process of development should contain three main elements, Economic Social and human (Oakley and Garforth, 2005).

2.2 Rural development: Concept

Rural development is defined by Oakley and Garforth (2005), "As a process integrated with economic and social objectives which must seek to transform rural society and provide a better and more secure livelihood for rural people. The core of rural development programs is to alleviate or eradicate the poverty of the rural poor, mainly by improving their farm productivity and increase the means for improving their living standards.

2.3 Community development

Community development is the process of people working together on a local level to achieve economic, social, cultural and environmental conditions in community. This process includes conception of ideas as well as the planning and implementation of projects to improve the living of people in those communities, it is a social process by which people become more competent to control local aspects of economic and social change (Adams, 2012).

2.4 Internally Displaced Person (IDPs) and refugees:

"Internally displaced persons are groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of draught or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violations of human rights or natural or man-

made disasters. And have not crossed an internationally recognized state border".unlike refugees, they remain within their country's borders.

Refugees according to the UN High commissioner of refugees UNHCR; "Live in the refugee camps in Sudan, as well as in nearby urban and rural areas. Many are young men trying to avoid military service, but increasing number are women and children. Most of the Eritrean are concentrated in the states of Kassla, Gadarif, Gezira, Senner and Red Sea, (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/internally>).

2.5 None-governmental organizations (NGOs)

NGOs are legally constituted organizations created by private persons or organizations without any participation of government. NGOs refer to a formal organization which is not part of government that emerges when a group of people organize themselves into a social Unit, established with explicit objective of achieving public "charitable" purpose (Sommer, 2007). NGOs have adopted to emphasize humanitarian issues, developmental aid and sustainable development (Non governmental, 2005). These organizations act as intermediaries between donors and recipient governments .They normally provide financial support material aid, technical assistance and experts to third world countries. Generally, non-governmental organizations that are private have either a community or environmental focus. They address varieties of issues such as religion, emergency aid, or humanitarian affairs. They mobilize public support and voluntary contributions for aid, they often have strong links with community groups in developing countries, and they are often working in areas where government aid is not possible.

Non governmenta organization /2011, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>

2.6 international NGOs in the Sudan

NGOs came to the Sudan in a regular manner after the Addis Ababa Agreement in 1972, which was supposed to put an end to the civil war in the Southern Sudan to help the war victims and to rehabilitate the destroyed war zones. Where as the foreign and voluntary agencies came to Sudan in 1984 as response to the call of Sudan Government to international community to provide aid of drought, desertification and famine that swept most regions of Sudan. Since 1984 onward large quantities of aid were flown into the country through these agencies.

2.7 United nations organizations in the Sudan

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), World Bank (WB),World Food Program (WFP),

World Health Organization (WHO), Plan international organization, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and Practical action organization

3. Research Methodology

3.1 The Study Area:-

Kassala state is situated in Eastern region of the Sudan. It is about (600) kilometers east of Khartoum. It lies very close to the Eritrean borders, it was divided into (10) localities. The total population according to (2008) census is estimated at 1,527,214 with more than 65% residing in the rural areas. Kassala area falls within the tropical arid zone. Annual rainfall ranges from 200 to 400 mm and decreases to the north. Soils are ranging from silt, clay to loam. The land around Kassala has traditionally been used for fruits and vegetables production (Alfiel, 1993).

Although no large population displacements occurred in eastern Sudan in 2004, the region still hosts some 63,000 IDPs in Kassala state, (UN, 2004). The majority of Eritrean with small numbers of Ethiopians live in camps in Kassala province; the influx of refugees has depleted the resources of their towns and villages

Agricultural production across the rest of Kassala state is mainly made up of small subsistence farm-holdings and the quantities produced are generally not enough. Unfortunately, people have to sell part of the crops which they have grown to buy other essential goods such as sugar, cooking oil, or to pay for health-care and education, this result in shortage of food to satisfy the family needs throughout the year, (Sudan tribune, (2015).

3.2 Data Collection and Analysis:

To achieve the objectives of the study, this paper depended on both primary and secondary data and information. Primary data was collected by mean of a pre-tested semi-structured questionnaire from 280 household (210 males and 70 females, depending on the total number of each of them), applying multi-stage sampling selection techniques. The primary data was supplemented by secondary data and information collected from the previous studies, different ministries reports and documents, offices and papers and other relevant sources,. The techniques of descriptive analysis, frequency and percentage distribution and correlation were used in this paper as analytical tools, using the Statistical package for Social Science (SPSS).

.4. Results and Discussion:

4.1. Analysis of the study sample:

4.1.1 age:

Table (1) indicates that 40.3% of the recipients fell within (37-48) years age group, 34.7% within (25-36) years age group, 21.4% within (49-60) years age group and only, 3.6% was more than 60 years.

Table (1): Frequency distribution and percentages of the recipients' by age:

Age in years	Frequency	Percent %
"25-36"	97	34.7
"37-48"	113	40.3
"49-60"	60	21.4
More than60	10	3.6
Total	280	100.

Source: Result of field survey data analysis by SPSS program.

4.1.2 . Qualification:

Table (2) indicates that 37.1% of the target received secondary and 23.6% undergraduate levels of education, 16.8% received basic level and 15.0% khalwa , illiterate 5.7% and 1.8% were graduates. This result indicated that the recipients are more or less educated which means there were qualifying peoples to push the development projects.

Table (2): Frequencydistribution and percentages of the household according to Qualification

Qualification	Frequency	Percent %
Illiterate	16	5.7
Khalwa	42	15.0
Basic	47	16.8
Secondary	104	37.1
Undergraduate	66	23.6
Graduate	5	1.8
Total	280	100.0

Source: Result of field survey data analysis by SPSS program.

4.1.3 Marital status:

Table (3) indicates that the majority of the recipients (73.1%) were married, 23.7% were single, 2.1% widowed and 1.1% were divorced. This result indicates that the recipients were settlement.

Table (3): Frequency distribution and percentages of the recipients according to marital status

Variables	Frequency	Percent %
Widowed	6	2.1
Divorced	3	1.1
Married	205	73.2
Single	66	23.6
Total	280	100.0

Source: Result of field survey data analysis by SPSS program.

4.1.4 Recipients sons Qualification

Table,(4) showed that 72.9% of the recipients sons were in basic and intermediate level of education, 23.9% of them were Undergraduate and 3.2% were at Graduate level of education this reflect the organization services at the education sector which enhanced some of the poor pupils to learn, diffuse the education culture, Educate the women's and orphans children's, Built nomadic schools, Assist the education activities.

Table (4): Frequency distribution and percentages of the Recipients according to sons Qualification

Qualification	Frequency	Percent %
basic and intermediate	183	72.9
Undergraduate	60	23.9
Graduate	8	3.2
Total	251	100

Source: Result of field survey data analysis by SPSS program.

4.1.5. Recipients job:

Table (5) indicates that only 36.07% of the respondents were farmers, (29.64%) were officers, (15.71%) paid workers, (10.36%) free workers, (8.22%) were house- keeper. This result indication that the recipients had positive attitude to increase their income and improve the life.

Table (5): Frequency distribution and percentages of the recipients according to job:

variables	Frequency	Percent %
Workers (paid)	44	15.71
Farmer	101	36.07
Free worker	29	10.36
House keeper	23	8.22
Officer	83	29.64
Total	278	100.0

4.1.6 . Recipients house hold annual income:

From table (6) it is obvious that annual income in the study area range between (10000- 210000) SDG, the majority of the study sample, (88.5%) have annual income range between (10000- 90000) SDG that means they have low income which does not covers their family needs,

Table (6): Frequency distribution and percentages of the recipients according to household's income/year/SDG:

Variables	Frequency	Percent %
10000-30000	97	34.6
30001-60000	100	35.7
60001-90000	51	18.2
90001-120000	27	9.6
12001-15000	2	0.7
150001-180000	2	0.7
180001-210000	1	0.4
Total	280	100.0

Source: Result of field survey data analysis by SPSS program.

4.2 Organizations activities in Kassala State:

From the analytical result of field survey data it was found that, the organizations introduce services and aid in different socioeconomic sectors in the study area, these sectors are, educational sector, water sector, pasture sector, handicrafts sector , health sector , agricultural sector, electricity sector, society development programs, Conservation of environment.

4.2.1. Availability of the services:

Table (7) indicate that, from the recipients point of view, 76.2% of them ensured that services of the organizations in the study area were available, while only 23.7% indicate that services and aid were not available.

Table No (7): Frequency distribution and percentages of the recipients according to the availability of the organizations services in the study area:

availability	Frequency	Percent %
Available	208	76.2%
Not available	65	23.8%
Total	273	100.0%

Source: Result of field survey data analysis by SPSS program.

4.2.2. Organizations services by sectors:

4.2.2.1. Educational sector:

Build and improved schools and distributed education tools, alleviate illiteracy, constructed some of the intermediate and primary schools, Assuagement the teachers, Decreased the illiteracy level through the alleviate

illiteracy programs, Qualifying the educating staff, improve some schools and provide the important tools, Assist some of the poor pupils to learn, Diffuse the education culture, Educate the women's and orphans children's, Built nomadic schools, Assist the education activities. .

4.2.2.2. Water sector:

Build water net work such as "eastern Algash water project",Kormota water net work and in rural Kassala (Abotalha), build and strengthen some of the water stations, enhanced the Khashm Algirba water net work and Matateb in algash. And entered the water to some local community such as; "Hi Althora in Halfa and Hi Alnasser in Algirba town", dig wells in some villages and improved water storage in Arab villages in New Halfa.

4.2.2.3 Agricultural sector:

Assisted the agriculture development projects and agriculture extension center, provided seeds and fertilizers, assist the pasture and forage sector, the water harvesting programs, established the farmers' farms, improved and rehabilitation the Gash scheme, services to animal sector and constructed pasture ways.

4.2.2.4 Health sector:

Improved and qualify healthy centers such as:"Alhadalia" and Toaet and etc", saved the basic medicines, executed some programs to crusading AIDs, Malaria and Bulharsia, built some of rural hospitals such as; "Makeli hospital", executed and assist the barricading onsets programs, Participate in the environment health and barricading campaigns, Provide medical physics, Applied the healthy knowledge programs such as: IDIS, TB, Introduced the vertigo medicines system, Save the tools, aid, medicines and other materials to the health centers, Mothers and kids health program, Decreasing the environment pollution, Crusading the bad habits for human and the society.

4.2.2.5 Electricity sector:

Constructed and improved the electricity nets, executed the Algash electricity project, Insert electricity to the houses.

4.2.2.6 Low income household sector:

The organizations provided some facilities such as" goats, hens, livestock, sewing, refrigerators and etc.. Assist small handicrafts, provided food and shelters and improved the poor house, women development projects through training programs in several important activities, social and cultural programs, constructed and improved some of the internal roads, constructed youths training centers, and camps to the refugees and IDPs, assisted the orphans, rearing goats to family consumption and sell products. construct the water sources, Assist the women to use the technical methods in the home

works. Assist the families to start small projects, Employment the local labors in the development projects.

4.2.2.7 Environmental conservation sector:

the respondents indicated that there was conservation of the local environment related to the development activities, and that is clear in the: Constructing some of toilets to poor peoples, Providing gas cylinders to the households to reduce the environment pollution, Un-cutting the basic trees, Connecting the electricity to rural homes, Introduced the water nets to some villages, Saved the soil from the drift through cultivating the trees and forests, Conservation the water resources and natural pasture. The projects applied essential principles to conservation of the environment.

4.3 Construction of some projects in Kassala State:

4.3.1. FAO Projects:

FAO activities target all the agricultural sector and the internally displaced households and returnees and help them to resettle and restart farming activities. In cropland livestock production- fisheries, water harvesting and support to agro- processing initiatives, as well as rural artisans which covers the entire state.

4.3.2 IFAD's Projects:

Drought and civil unrest have pushed tens of thousands of internally displaced people and refugees to the Gash Delta area in search of vital resources, particularly water and food. The international fund for agricultural development "IFAD" financed the Gash Sustainable Livelihoods Regeneration Project by US\$24.9 million loans. The project brought hope of greater economic and social stability to communities struggling with rapid growth and shrinking resources.

4.3.3 Plan Sudan brings aid to flood victims:

More than 300,000 people have been left homeless and at risk of disease and starvation as a result of the town drowning of Kassala. Plan is a member of the government's state. emergency committee and has been assessing the situation and delivering emergency supplies to those most in need. Plan has also rehabilitated the sanitation system and provided emergency equipment to Kassala main hospital, which serving all the affected areas

4.3.4. Acord International Organization project:

According to Mustafa Elhassan, 2014, the Project Manager, "ACORD and donors applied the micro- finance project in Kassala in 1991. ACORD credit policies allow women to access 60% of credit resources, in the same way women-headed households, widows and abandoned women are given special consideration .

4.3.5 Practical action project:

Vulnerability program, Making markets for poor people, Infrastructure, Smoke program, Practical action building small businesses in Kassala state.

4.4 The type of Organization aid:

Table (8) indicates that 36.8% of the sample in the study area received aid in cash from the organizations, 55.3% in material only, 7.9% of the respondents received aid in both cash and materials. Aids type depend on the organizations objectives and plan and project that has to construct for the beneficiaries. The respondents mentioned that, the organizations financed the citizen's activities, such as. help the peoples to bought muttons and goats recapturing monthly, Through vertigo fund. Bought gas tubes with low price.

Table (8): Frequency distribution and percentages of the recipients according to the type of aid:

Aid type	Frequency	Percent %
Cash	14	36.8%
Material	21	55.3%
Cash & material	3	7.9%
Total	38	100.0

Source: Result of field survey data analysis by SPSS program.

4.5 The beneficiaries from the development projects:

Table (9) indicates that 49.14 % of the Citizens in the study sample benefits from the development projects, 25.86% of the refugees in the study sample were benefit from the projects, 25% of the migrants in the study sample benefited were benefit from the constructed development projects.

Table No (9): Frequency distribution and percentages of the recipients according to benefits from the development projects:

Variables	Frequency	Percent %
Citizens	114	49.14
Refugees	60	25.86
Migrants	58	25.00
Total	232	100.0

Source: Result of field survey data analysis by SPSS program.

5. Conclusion:

The international organizations introduced services and aid in different social and economic sectors in Kassala state ,construct programs, these services, aids and programs, result in positive impact of socioeconomic status of the population in the area, it change their life style to the better extend, through, Decreasing of the illiteracy rate, Qualifying the educating staff, some of the poor pupils go to school, the education culture was diffused among the

population in the area, people become more healthy, and others services in the vital sectors in population life.

6. Recommendations:

The international and voluntary organizations should have to: Provide funds to assist the recipients to start and operate income-generating projects instead of depending on gifts hand -outs Encourage the local communities to identify their development needs and give them priorities through participation Continue to support the recipients through offering revolving funds to enable them to borrow to invest small income-generating activities.

Kassala State Government should have to: Support and promote the development projects in all socioeconomic sectors, encourage the participation of the local people (youth, women and local leaders) in the selection and planning of the development activities to improve their standards of living, provide intensive training program build the skills of the administrators and the local leaders, improve and up-grade the socioeconomic services to reduce poverty and to strengthen the linkages with the poor people to encourage them to participate in the development program.

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