



Implementation of higher education extension programs: a case of socio-economic development in an urban community

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Abstract

The consistency for an impact evaluation to distinguish the expected or actual effects of improvement mediation on economic, social, and environmental factors is integral, especially in a community extension. The investigation expects to survey the College of Business and Accountancy programs implemented in the community's economic, social and environmental aspects. The 359 residents participated in a cluster sampling method in data gathering. Frequency and simple percentage, weighted mean, and Chi-Square Test of Independence treated the data. The study revealed a moderate impact on the Social viability and Environmental quality during a minor impact on Economic sustainability. It further revealed a significant relationship between the respondents' demographic profile and the impact perceived and evident in the community as to economic, social, and the environment. The study concluded that an impact assessment of the programs implemented is one integral part of manageability and sustainability in the locale. In order to promote economic sustainability, social viability, and environmental quality, highly assessed community programs should be implemented, sustained and must undergo an impact evaluation after the implementation. Furthermore, an individuals' demographic profile should be taken into consideration also by the community leaders to increase their regard in contributing to the community's socio-economic development.

Keywords: community programs, socio-economic development, descriptive- correlational, Mandaue city, Philippines

Introduction

Outreach is the activity of extending services to a community that might not have access to those services. Outreach programs allow meeting someone in the community, which needs the outreach service, and that someone will be the critical person in achieving success in the said outreach program's operation. Community outreach is a way of contributing, sharing, extending help to those in the community who cannot help themselves. Community service has been considered a service identified by (HIE) Higher Education Institution that will help improve the residents' living quality (Lim, 2011) ^[13]. Helping a community among the poor of the poorest is uplifting people who are less privileged. It will also impact those in the community and the school institution that extended the outreach service.

Communities provide support to an institution's extended programs, and the said institution has marketable skills. The institution and the community will develop a community-based organization and maintain linkages with the research and extension body. The approach of community-based extension is scaled up in Malawi, Africa. To accomplish feasibly favorable to pro-poor effects, an impact evaluation is necessary to uphold locale expansion programs and continue specialized and improvement training for the people (Wellard *et al.*, 2013) ^[34]. In the Philippines, there is consistently a requirement for an impact evaluation to distinguish the expected or actual effects of improvement mediation on economic, social, and environmental factors, especially in a community extension (Colvin *et al.*, 2019) ^[3]. The utilization of impact evaluation can be described on a scale with 'demonstrating effect' on one side and 'working on practices' (Rijn *et al.*, 2012) ^[27]. It is fundamental for the local area to assess a lot of the undertaking for persistent improvement.

Without conduct of impact evaluation, the following issues and concerns will arise, as such, there would be no foundational, supportable change, and it does not drive esteem creation locally. Moreover, if there is no impact evaluation, it would lead to unsuccessful representation of growth and development in the local area, does not esteem their commitment to society, and creates lesser validity with partners.

Community extension assumes a significant part in social change and is turned into an instrument in changing lives locally by giving practical undertakings. One of the supportable local area augmentations of the college is the business projects, and these inhabitants were taken on by the college, giving them a spot to remain and permitting them to join distinctive local area community activities to maintain and work on their satisfaction. The conduct of impact evaluation in the community's economic, social, and environmental aspects concerns the community extension, which is one of the tri-fold functions in the College of Business and Accountancy in the University of Cebu Lapu-Lapu and Mandaue. Several programs implemented through the research findings

conducted, but no studies were conducted on the impact of these community programs on economic sustainability, social viability, and environmental quality, hence a gap in the literature.

By the presented situation, the researchers in the academe teaching business and management discipline try to assess the impact of the College of Business and Accountancy programs implemented in the community's economic, social and environmental aspects. The researcher pursues this study to identify factors and alternative solutions to increase the impact of livelihood programs in the community. Moreover, reduce the inequality and poverty in the community by generating employment among the poorest households and moving the highly vulnerable households in sustainable livelihood, and achieve economic, social, and environmental stability.

Framework

This study was anchored on the Inclusive growth theory, which states that economic growth should be fairly distributed across society wherein all are created opportunities. Inclusive growth is part of sustainable economic growth wherein it focuses on increasing the incomes of the poor and allowing them to raise their standard of living. The private sector's rule is necessary for this modern time for the economy to achieve success, and it will be helpful if the elite interest is present. The private sector's interaction and the state's discretionary manner would help economic success (Pritchett & Werker, 2012).

According to Gupta *et al.* (2015), Sustainable development sometimes results in substantial trade-offs, most of which favor economic growth. Inclusive development focuses mainly on the environmental and social parts of the development. Through genuine interactive governance, it will provide an instrument that will create conditions that are adaptive to the learning and empowerment of people. Inclusive growth is the concept of unfolding development, seeing fairness as the road to growth set in a period towards understanding that growth, poverty, and inequality reduction can be a tool to each other—the shift to development results from progress in developmental experiences (Ranieri & Ramos, 2013) ^[23].

It is supported by Sustainable Development Theory, which has the concept of meeting human development goals while sustaining the natural system's ability to supply natural resources and services to the ecosystem wherein the society and economy depend. The advancement meets the current necessities without trading off people in the future's capacity to address their issues, and it addresses the global challenges, including poverty. Biodiversity is linked with poverty eradication by allowing the stakeholders and the environmental community who deals specifically with the dimension of economic and social development, which needs a common framework and language (Rao, 1999) ^[24].

According to Griggs *et al.* (2013) ^[9], sustainable development is redefined as safeguarding the earth's life support system while achieving the present generation's development and meeting needs. The current and future generations' well-being is in jeopardy. The appropriate goals and targets must be set. Identifying the environmental conditions that will enable successful development for humans and establish ranges tolerable for the biosphere must be set to maintain that state. Commitment to the advancement of human well-being with the additional constraint that the said development needs to be within the limit of the ecological biosphere is what sustainable development represents (Moran *et al.*, 2008) ^[18].

Community participation and sustainable development should go hand in hand. All sorts of valuable things can be dressed up at the local level, and that helpful thing will be rooted in and permanently nurtured by the host community. In that way, it will not simply deliver the long-term social and environmental dividends that are available to us now (Warburton, 2013) ^[33]. Sustainable development is the reconciliation process of three imperatives: ecological imperative, social imperative, and economic imperative. The ecological imperative is living within the carrying capacity of global biophysical and maintaining biodiversity; the social imperative is concerned with the sustenance of the values that people wanted to live with and ensures that democratic governance systems are developed to propagate effectively. Economic imperative ensures that access to basic needs is met worldwide (Dale & Onyx, 2010) ^[4]. The Triple bottom line theory emphasizes that firms are getting profit and taking good care of the people and the planet. In economics, this theory focuses more on environmental and social concerns as the companies are gaining profits. Companies that are driving towards sustainability require a striking change with their performance against the triple bottom line. Developing a sustainable global economy – an economy that allows that planet to support indefinitely is a challenge (Elkington, 1997) ^[6]. Most businesses and non-profit organizations adopt the TBL manageability structure to assess execution, and a similar methodology has picked up acceptance with the government. Focusing on the comprehensive investment results, regarding performance and profit-related dimensions, people, and the planet, a triple bottom line report is an essential tool that will support sustainability goals (Slaper, 2011) ^[29]. Organizations should maintain financial certainty and contribute to the sustainable management of human and natural resources. It also contributes to sustaining the management of human and natural resources and contributing to society and the economy's well-being as a whole (Mitchell *et al.*, 2007) ^[17]. The performance evaluation systems should be based on economic benefits and financial indicators and consider sustainability and other non-financial indicators like social contributions. The need for environmental protection also needs to be considered (Liang *et al.*, 2018) ^[15]. Sustainability gives equal importance to social and economic and environmental pillars, but social sustainability has recently been taken seriously in urban studies. Although authors have analyzed and reviewed the main features and characteristics of social sustainability tried to formulate a definition generally, but there is no all-compassing definition (Ghahramanpouri *et al.*, 2013) ^[8]. Every society has four dimensions, economic, environmental, social, and institutional. All of them are complex,

self-organizing, evolving in their own right, and dynamic, the one system coupled with tremendous complexity (Spangenberg, 2005) ^[30]. The assessment of sustainable livelihood is intended to understand the impact and role of securing and enhancing people living in the community. Conceptually, livelihoods mean activities, assets, and entitlements by which allowing people to make a living. Livelihood assessment is looking at the behavior of an individual, household, or community under a condition that has a specific frame. One way to understand the livelihood system is to analyze individuals' adaptive and coping strategies to respond to outside shocks and stresses such as civil strife, drought, and policy failure (Elasha *et al.*, 2005) ^[5].

Objectives

The investigation expects to survey the College of Business and Accountancy programs implemented in the community's economic, social and environmental aspects. It also recognizes the respondents' profiles regarding sexual orientation, legal status, education background, source of revenue, and monthly pay. It likewise tries to distinguish individuals' degree of recognition concerning the suitable sustainable program for the adapted community.

Methodology

Research Design

The investigation utilized the descriptive- correlational method using the researcher-made questionnaire to determine the impact of the College of Business and Accountancy programs.

Research Environment

The research was conducted at a village in Mandaue City, Cebu, located in the southern part of Mandaue. The village is considered as the limit of Lapu-Lapu and Mandaue and was set up in the year 1910. The fourth village is in between the seas of the Mactan channel and the Cabahug sea. Village Looc had a total population of 20 678 as of 2020.

Research Respondents

The exploration study devised a total of 359 residents - respondents of Barangay Looc, Mandaue City. Slovin's formula was used to decide the study's sample size on a cluster sampling method in data gathering.

Research Instrument

The investigation utilizes the descriptive survey method using the researcher-made questionnaire. The poll would give the examiners straightforward access and response from the respondents. The instrument was comprised of two sections. The initial segment is the respondent's gender, civil status, educational background, monthly income, and income source. The next part is the impact of the programs implemented in the community's Economic Sustainability, Social Viability, and Environmental Quality as seen by the respondents on a rating plan introduced as (1) Insignificant, (2) Minor Impact, (3) Moderate Impact (4) Major Impact.

Treatment of Data

Frequency and simple percentage, weighted mean, and Chi-Square Test of Independence will treat the accumulated data.

Table 1: of respondents in a village in Mandaue City

Sitio	Frequency	Proportion
Village 1	19	5.31
Village 1	18	4.93
Village 1	26	7.21
Village 1	5	1.52
Village 1	19	5.31
Village 1	37	10.43
Village 1	33	9.10
Village 1	52	14.56
Village 1	18	4.93
Village 1	20	5.69
Village 1	17	4.74
Village 1	24	6.64
Village 1	9	2.43
Village 1	9	2.43
Village 1	53	14.79
Total	359	100.00

Table 1 shows the number of residents - respondents in Barangay Looc, Mandaue City, using cluster sampling as the data-gathering technique.

Research Procedure

Data Gathering

To accomplish the exploration study, these means were followed. Letter of intent routed to the Barangay Captain of Looc for information gathering, requesting that consent to lead the study. A supplementary request letter was also sent to identify the barangay population as of the year 2020. The surveys were managed personally by the proponent. The information was being classified and dissected. A boundary was utilized to decipher the reactions: (1) Insignificant, (2) Minor Impact, (3) Moderate Impact (4) Major Impact.

Results and Discussion

This piece presents the aftereffects of the accumulated data. The underlying section presents the respondents' profiles. In contrast, the accompanying part presents the information towards the impact of the programs implemented in the community's Economic Sustainability, Social Viability, and Environmental Quality as seen by the respondents.

Table 2: Profile of the Respondents

Indicators	Frequency	Proportion
A. Gender		
Male	248	69.08
Female	111	30.92
B. Civil Status		
Single	159	44.29
Married	200	55.71
C. Educational Attainment		
Elementary Level	99	27.58
High School Level	124	34.54
College Level	76	21.17
College Graduate	60	16.71
D. Monthly Income		
less than Php 5, 000.00	45	12.53
Php 5, 001.00 to Php 10, 000.00	108	30.08
Php 10, 001.00 to Php 15, 000.00	148	41.23
Php 15, 000.01 and up	49	13.65
E. Source of Income		
Allowance	85	23.68
Salary	234	65.18
Business	40	11.14

The respondents' profiles are shown in Table 2 in Brgy. Looc, Mandaue City. In concerns on the following: gender, civil status, educational attainment, monthly income, and source of income. As to gender, a total of 248 or 69.08 percent of the respondents were male. It means that males dominated the familiar settlers in the area. As to civil status, 200 or equivalent to 55.71 percent were married. It means that ordinary settlers in the area were couples. Furthermore, the majority of the respondents attained high school level in education.

As for monthly income, 41.23 percent or most of them acquired Php 10, 001.00 to Php 15 000.00 and classified salary as their source of income. It implies that settlers in the area are classified as minimum wage earners basing on their monthly income. This further means that individuals in the location cannot do leisure things in their own lives and need to strive harder to live a comfortable life.

According to Paqueo (2016) ^[21], low-income families do not have many essential resources to rely on. For their resource, they depend on the work of their family individuals and their profitability in business and other pay-producing exercises. To get themselves out of destitution, they need to expand their work hours and efficiency, vital for higher wages. The issue, nonetheless, is that the Philippine work populace is not thoroughly utilized. It implies that a specific level of the "working-age" Filipinos either has a place with open joblessness or underemployment classes.

Table 3: Impact of the Community Programs Implemented as perceived by the Respondents

Indicators	Mean	Interpretation	Rank
A. Economic Sustainability			
It has increased job opportunities in the locale.	2.50	Minor Impact	1
Increased people's savings and investment.	2.49	Minor Impact	2
Humane compensation for the people.	2.49	Minor Impact	2
Establishment of numerous livelihood programs in the community.	2.49	Minor Impact	2
The community establishment of more businesses.	2.48	Minor Impact	3

Aggregate Mean	2.49	Minor Impact	
B. Social Viability			
Establishment of organizations for senior citizens.	3.20	Moderate Impact	1
Educational programs for the people were stable.	3.19	Moderate Impact	2
An increased level of unity leads to living improvement.	3.14	Moderate Impact	3
Livelihood training and development for the people in the locale.	2.50	Minor Impact	4
The community establishes youth organizations.	2.49	Minor Impact	5
Aggregate Mean	2.90	Moderate Impact	
C. Environmental Quality			
Enable coastal clean-up program.	3.23	Moderate Impact	1
The community is attractive to live, work and visit.	3.21	Moderate Impact	2
Effective implementation of the waste management program.	2.50	Minor Impact	3
Active implementation of a planting program.	2.50	Minor Impact	3
The community establishes an animal welfare program.	2.22	Minor Impact	4
Aggregate Mean	2.73	Moderate Impact	

Table 3 shows the impact of the community programs perceived by the respondents in the locale in economic sustainability, social viability, and environmental quality.

In terms of Economic Sustainability, the indicator that states an increased job opportunity in the community got the highest mean of 2.50 and was interpreted as *Minor Impact*. On the other hand, the indicator that the community establishes more businesses got the lowest mean of 2.48 and interpreted as *Minor Impact*. It implies that job opportunities and the establishment of new businesses in the community were less affected after implementing various extension programs. The people also perceived no changes or advancement concerning the impact of the programs in the community labor force and the business sectors.

According to Pfeffer (2010) ^[26], a job and the establishment of businesses do more than provide income for a person. A job and the profit made by businesses also provide people with a sense of fulfillment, productivity, and purpose. Thus, job and business opportunities are essential factors in the community. It offers apprenticeship, training, and engagement that empowers and enhances local community interest groups, councils, and business sectors, contributing mainly to economic development (Raynor *et al.*, 2018) ^[25]. Furthermore, this ultimately provides qualifications to help local people into long-term sustainable employment and profit-generating activities (McBride & Mustchin, 2013) ^[16].

Concerning Social Viability, the indicator that states that organizations are established for senior citizens in the locale got the highest mean of 3.20 and interpreted as *Moderate Impact*. Contrariwise, the pointer in which the community establishes youth organizations got the lowest mean of 2.49 and was interpreted as *Minor Impact*. Despite the programs implemented in the community, there was no significant impact visible among the youth. In addition, the impacts were not visible, highlighting the importance of youth organizations to the community. According to Hoffman (2011) ^[12], an adolescent association focuses on aiding, educating, or supporting young people somehow or another. Youth associations are significant and essential donors locally because they show authority, fundamental abilities and cultivate adoration for the local area for youth required by giving ventures that help other people (Liang *et al.*, 2013) ^[14]. In addition, not exclusively do local area associations' advantage when they team up with youth, this cooperation additionally helps youth themselves. Local area interest assists youth with becoming sympathetic residents who might proceed with comparative work when they become grown-ups. Furthermore, youth who reward their networks foster authority abilities, become familiar with the significance of aiding and gain work insight (Evans and Prilleltensky, 2007) ^[7].

As to Environmental Quality, the indicator which states that enabling coastal clean-up program got the highest mean of 3.23 and interpreted as *Moderate Impact*, it means that the community programs implemented have affected the level of practice in coastal clean-up in the locale. While the indicator which states that the community establishes an animal welfare program got the lowest mean of 2.22 and was interpreted as *Minor Impact*. It implies that the community programs had less influence on the community's establishment of animal welfare.

A sound environment supplies the necessities of life, similar to water, food, and air (Okello *et al.*, 2009) ^[19]. It also gives financial development assets and the resources to battle normal risks (Abreu, 2009). In this way, ecological quality is needed to propel urban development of events and human prosperity. Communities, individuals, and the regular and assembled conditions inside which they live are, and consistently have been, inseparably connected. (Van Kamp *et al.*, 2003) ^[31].

Furthermore, the fundamental environmental characteristics essential for supporting human territories ensure a clean and sound living climate. Clean water, clean air, and clean interior and external conditions are the necessities. Non-contaminated seepage and channeling frameworks and well-working waste administration and sewerage frameworks should be mandated for residential areas (Satterthwaite, 2003) ^[28].

Table 4: Summarized Data on the Impact of the Community Programs Implemented

Variables	Mean	Interpretation	Rank
A. Social Viability	3.05	Moderate Impact	1
B. Economic Sustainability	2.49	Minor Impact	3
C. Environmental Quality	2.73	Moderate Impact	2
Overall Aggregate Mean	2.76	Moderate Impact	

Table 4 shows the summarized data on the impact of the community programs implemented in Barangay Looc, Mandaue City. The data revealed that the evident impact from the programs implemented comes from the social viability of the people in the locale, with an aggregate mean of 3.05 and interpreted as *Moderate Impact*. It was followed by Environmental Quality which got an aggregate mean of 2.49 and was also interpreted as *Moderate Impact*. Additionally, the data revealed an aggregate mean of 2.49 and interpreted as *Minor Impact* on the economic sustainability among people and the entire community. The data implies that the impact of community programs was moderately evident among social and environmental aspects in the area and less in the economic aspects. It also means that the programs implemented are not directly perceived by the community, which emphasizes that there is a need to assess to increase the program's impact to contribute to the socio-economic development of the area.

There are pros and cons if a community does not conform to a productive impact in the economic, social, and environmental aspects. As per Vyas & Dillahunt (2017) ^[32], low financial status localities, and consequently the people inside those networks, regularly experience more than one danger factor for sickness. For example, low pay can prompt lodging instability, more unfortunate sustenance for food, and living in dirtied and loud regions, all of which expanded the danger for illness.

While according to Avato *et al.* (2010) ^[2], a well-organized and develop local area focused on government programs such as social security systems, administration networks, or ecological security. Local area improvement is attached to the monetary turn of events. People's dynamic and broad investment and authority by other persuasive people and school foundations were significant in local area improvement.

Table 5: Significant Relationship between the Respondents Profile and their perception on the Impact of the Community Programs Implemented ($\alpha = 0.05$)

Variables	Computed Chi-Square	df	Critical Value	Significance	Result
A. Economic Sustainability					
Gender	358.108 ^a	90	113.145	Significant	Ho Rejected
Civil Status	521.080 ^a	130	157.61	Significant	Ho Rejected
Educational Attainment	414.746 ^a	100	124.342	Significant	Ho Rejected
Monthly Income	508.554 ^a	110	135.48	Significant	Ho Rejected
Source of Income	532.939 ^a	100	124.342	Significant	Ho Rejected
B. Social Viability					
Gender	280.468 ^a	81	103.01	Significant	Ho Rejected
Civil Status	385.244 ^a	117	143.246	Significant	Ho Rejected
Educational Attainment	323.012 ^a	90	113.145	Significant	Ho Rejected
Monthly Income	417.764 ^a	99	123.225	Significant	Ho Rejected
Source of Income	399.120 ^a	90	113.145	Significant	Ho Rejected
C. Environmental Quality					
Gender	321.148 ^a	81	103.01	Significant	Ho Rejected
Civil Status	465.422 ^a	117	143.246	Significant	Ho Rejected
Educational Attainment	321.050 ^a	90	113.145	Significant	Ho Rejected
Monthly Income	400.505 ^a	99	123.225	Significant	Ho Rejected
Source of Income	373.900 ^a	90	113.145	Significant	Ho Rejected

Table 6 shows the relationship between the Respondent's Profile and their perception of the Community Programs' impact. The data revealed a significant relationship at (p -value<.05) between the respondents' profile regarding gender, civil status, educational attainment, monthly income, source of income, and the impact perceived and evident in the community on economic sustainability, social viability, and environmental quality. It implies that the perception of the people on how they perceived the impact of the programs implemented in the community has something to do with their status as local citizens. It is also an implication that if people increase development on their status and way of living as an individual, a higher percentage also to perceived impact in economic, social and environmental aspects which significantly contributes to community's growth and development.

It is further supported by Okoji & Ladeji (2014) ^s, stating that socio-economic strengthening is essential to meeting governments' and society's improvement objectives. These assist with setting up shared vision associations in the networks and further empower individuals and people to be financially dynamic.

Conclusion

The impact evaluation in the community's economic, social, and environmental aspects concerns the community extension, which is one of the tri-fold functions in the College of Business and Accountancy in the University of Cebu Lapu-Lapu and Mandaue. This investigation expects to survey the impact of the programs implemented on the community's economic, social and environmental aspects. The study revealed that after the programs were implemented, a moderate impact on the social viability and Environmental Quality was evident and perceived by the locale. Additionally, the data revealed a minor impact on the economic sustainability among people and the entire community. The study also further revealed a significant relationship between the respondents' profile as to gender, civil status, educational attainment, monthly income, source of income, and the impact perceived and evident in the community as to economic sustainability, social viability, and environmental quality. The study concluded that an impact assessment of the programs implemented is one integral part of manageability and sustainability in the locale. In order to promote economic sustainability, social viability, and environmental quality, highly assessed community programs should be implemented, sustained and must undergo an impact evaluation after the implementation. Additionally, the community leaders should also consider individuals' demographic profiles to increase their regard in contributing to the community's socio-economic development.

Recommendation

Given the consequence of the investigation, the researchers proposed a program intervention highlighting the enhancement needed to intensify the impacts of the programs already implemented in the area. Moreover, a Program Assessment Research should be conducted to further understand and realize the best-fit livelihood program in the community. Lastly, the University of Cebu, led by the College of Business and Accountancy, should endeavor to look and assess the programs implemented to promote sustainability and encouragement among individuals to continue their passion and eagerness for the programs being offered.

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