

**EFFICACY OF FARM-TO-MARKET ROAD ON THE FARMER'S PRODUCTIVITY IN
SELECTED BARANGAYS OF RAMON MAGSAYSAY, ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR**

Special Problem

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ABSTRACT

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This study sought to (1) find out the socio demographic characteristics of the respondents (2) know the cost and means of transportation (3) determine the increase of agricultural production before and after the project, and (4) know the economic status of the beneficiaries in the locality before and after the project.

The results of the study reveal that 84% are farmers and only 16% are skilled laborers and engaged in small scale business. Many of them are in the elementary level and elementary graduates with an age ranging from 41-50 years old. Majority of them are male, married, and having a family size of 3-4 members only.

Almost one half of the respondents utilize motor vehicle as a means of transportation before and after the implementation of

the project. Few of them are able to reach their destination by just walking.

The results further indicate that after the implementation of the project, more than one half of the respondents use motor vehicle with decreased travel time and fare. Buses are within the vicinity and those respondents who reach their destination by just walking decrease to 12.36%.

Almost one half of the respondents planted coconut before and after the implementation of the project. Only 40% planted corn before but after the said project, it increases to 52%. Thirty three percent of the respondents planted bananas before but after the project implementation, it increases to 64%. Other commodities planted by the respondents before and after the project are hybrid and inbred rice, mango, vegetables, and they raise livestock. Majority of them cultivate less than one hectare of land.

The annual income of the farmers from their agricultural sources increases after the implementation of the project and nobody from the respondents have less than P10,000.00 annual income after the project implementation.

The respondents whose annual income of P21,000.00-P30,000.00 decreases after the project implementation due increased percentage of their income from P61,000-71,000 annually. The

results prove that the respondents are benefited after the implementation of the project.

The suggested recommendations of this study are given. Farmers are encouraged to cultivate a bigger area of land to increase production and augment family income: the LGU must continuously coordinate with the Department of Agriculture and other stakeholders for the maintenance and more development of farm to market road and the respondents with non-agricultural sources must invest bigger capital of their business and the skilled laborers must engage in farming for additional income to alleviate family standard.