

G.2. PAUL, J.C AND G. WOLDEMICAEL, “A Study of the Saving and Micro-Credit Programme (SMCP) In Eritrea.” *Journal of Rural development*, Vol.27, No (1), 2008; pp. 19-35.

Savings and Micro-credit programmes (SMCP) have great contribution on poverty reduction, promoting economic activity and overall economic development in a country or region. The paper tries to explore the impact on living standards of people and socio-economic determinants of SMCP in Eritrea in East Africa. The present study is based on Primacy data and employs several statistical techniques such as two dimensional frequency analysis, Chi-Square analysis and regression model to reach at the objectives. It has been found that it has great impact on living standards of people in that region. The major burden of success of the programme is that the loan is not uniformly distributed to differential educational level and marital status. The findings also indicate that clients are not investing in all the fields uniformly, agriculture and trading sector getting the priority. There is also problem in targeting the groups, it is clearly failed to target the refugee, deportees and demobilized persons from loaning programme which is one of the major objective of SMCP. But there is evidence that both sexes (Male-Female) have equal access to loaning programme. The paper concludes that realizing the impacts of SMCP on living standards of people in that region it has great potential to become an organization and play crucial role in economic development given that it has able to reach the real ‘Target Group’.

G.2. ISLAM, T, “Microcredit and Poverty Alleviation: The Grameen Bank in Focus.” *Journal of Social and Economic Development*, Vol.10, No (1), Jan.-June, 2008; pp. 33-49.

Grameen Bank emerge as one of the important model of microfinance and refreshed public interest after Prof. M. Yunus got the Nobel Prize by doing monumental work on that field in Bangladesh. The present paper critically examines the feasibility of GB as model of microcredit and trace out the major limitations as an option of alleviation of poverty. The present study is based on primary data, collected from three hundred household from three different regions of Bangladesh. It has been argued in the present paper that microfinance has reached at the critical stage in its development, with MFIs focusing on financial sustainability through

their credit-driven models, failing to make any impact in poverty alleviation. The paper concludes with highlighting that it has insurmountable limitations as a model of sustainable poverty alleviation. Developing client responsive, flexible and quality financial and non- financial services is imperative now. Only, provision of higher quality and better services can have profound impact on poverty alleviation.

G.2. RAO, K.D., “Self-Help Group (SHG) Phenomena in India.”, *Artha Vijnana*, Vol. L, No (3), September, 2008; pp. 255-267.

Promotion of Self Help Groups (SHGs) is emerging as one of the key institutional arrangement to tackle poverty in India. This paper takes a brief note on the feasibility of SHGs to meet the broader objective of eleven five year plan i.e. Inclusive Growth in India. It has been noted in the present study that SHGs play an important role in providing access to saving services. The Above Poverty Line (APL) SHGs have done well in terms of credit extension. In Eleven Five Year Plan a more ambitious Below Poverty Line (BPL) SHGs has been launched aimed at poverty alleviation through safety net schemes and women empowerment. It explained the emergence of BPL SHGs as the phenomenal in India because of its wide spread coverage, numerical strength and more over because of its mode of operation i.e. these are entirely function by women leadership. It is also noted in the study that poor women responded overwhelmingly as the SHGs mobilize small savings and ensure their safety custody. In spite of, their remarkable contribution to women empowerment and poverty alleviation, certain limitations of the SHGs are noted here, this are- they have not done well in extending credits as it has done remarkable job in case of access to savings and women SHGs cannot be the mainstream for meeting the entire rural credits need.

G.2. SAYANTAN BERA, “Programme Design and Impact Assessments: ‘Success’ of Microfinance in Perspective 1470”, *Economic & Political Weekly*, Vol. 43, No. 32, August 09, 2008; pp. 77-85.

The author has discussed about the emergence, success and the drawbacks of microfinance programmes. The subsidized credit

programme has completed changed the state-led development credit initiatives of the past. The author pointed that the programme in practice use a host of other dynamic and static incentives features that engage in meticulous designing of financial products and use different models of service delivery, going beyond just group lending with joint liability. The programme not only generates positive impact to its participants, it also results in benefits as well as threats for the non participants. The microfinance accessibility not only improves household level development and incomes, it positively affects growth rather than only redistributing income within the local economy. The author concludes that despite the phenomenal success, pointed out the tensions that the joint liability aspect might give rise to while lending in a group. Here the author discussed much about the ongoing innovations of microfinance programme, its designing flexibility, use of variety of incentive mechanisms, growth and the role on how the microfinance programme helps and affects the paradigm of livelihood finance was explained in detail. The study concluded that microfinance cannot be expected to work everywhere and for everyone.