

Factors Affecting Food Security among Upland Agriculture Households in Paletwa Township, Chin State of Myanmar

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Abstract

One-sixth of the world population are faced with the problem of food security. The second sustainable development goal by United Nations aims to eradicate hunger and achieve food security. Myanmar is challenged with the problem as it ranked 78 out of 109 countries in 2015. one of food insecure country ranking 78. Agriculture contributes 60% to Gross Domestic Product, and employs 65% of the population. Chin State with a population of 478,690 on 36,019 sq. km has the poverty rate 73%, and least developing state in Myanmar. Paletwa, the poorest township, has a population of only 96,889, and is located at the western part of Myanmar; just 18 kilometers from Bangladesh. The study aims to observe factors affecting food security among upland agriculture households, to investigate the most suitable method for upland agriculture in the areas, to achieve food security in some extent, and to report research finding as well as to encourage those who want to carry out humanitarian works in this region. The survey was conducted in three (3) village tracts and quarters in Paletwa. The information was collected by key informant interview and survey questionnaires. Questionnaires are divided into four parts: demographic information, food security indicators, relative causes of food security, and the farmers' suggestion on important issues. The data were analyzed by frequency, descriptive statics, and logistic regression in SPSS. Among demographic variables, most significant variables were number of working peoples, household size, and education of household head. Factors affecting food security were food production and fresh fruit access, food concern time, and full stomach eat. Education, livelihood and income generation activities, some remarkable loan, agriculture extension, terrace cultivation and transportation facility should be introduced and practiced. Food aids should be delivered to survive in times of emergency.