



The
Researchers
Hub

*Primary Health Care Practice in
Developing Countries*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....2

 Critically analyse Project Piaxtla from a participatory planning approach to health and development.....2

 How needs were assessed and changes over time in needs assessment.....3

 Who participated or may not have participated in the program.....4

 How issues of inequity were addressed or not addressed.....5

 Extent to which processes and actions were congruent with principles and processes of participatory planning.....6

CONCLUSION.....7

REFERENCES.....8

INTRODUCTION

With the rural development it has been commended that it result in eradicating the poverty along with bridging gap among the rural and urban area through enabling participatory planning. In the present environment with the participatory planning it is required to focus on health and development approach so that it may easily results in imparting primary care and services to the citizen (Edwards *et al.* 2011). The report focuses on analysing the project that is Project Piaxtla a villager-run health program which is entirely run by the villagers from a participatory planning approach to the health and development. Along with this, it will also feature the extent through which processes were congruent with processes of participatory planning. It is regarded as the paradigm of the urban and the rural planning where main focus is on involving the entire community in the overall strategic process and the management of rural planning and in turn it brings favorable results in the best possible manner.

Critically analyse Project Piaxtla from a participatory planning approach to health and development

With the help of reviewing the project Piaxtla it has been stated that it was started in the mid 60s to serve outsized, rugged as well as sparingly populated region in the Sinaloa. The project has mainly engaged in drafting own village healthcare book for serving the needs of people. The program was based in Ajoaya that basically covers development of the individual within the region. With the increasing economic crisis in Mexico it results in widening the gap that feature among rich and poor people that has led to the wave of falling wages, joblessness as crime and violence in the region (Lee *et al.* 2012). As, the result of violence in Ajoaya and the surrounding Sierra Madre it has been stated that the Program Pixatla, has been ceased to exist from the region. However, the requirements of healthcare among the individual residing in this part of Sierra Madre have no longer met by such program. Therefore, it has been analysed that project Piaxtla from the participatory planning approach is concentrating towards health and development aspect.

As per the view of Menzel and Buchecker (2013), it has been stated that in the year 1965 when program was started the region was dominated by diseases of poverty. One in the three children often died while reaching the age of five due to infectious diseases combine with unremitting under-nutrition. On the other hand, situation was also worsen in the region as seven

in the ten women died at the time of after giving child birth. Therefore, the program was decided to meet the health and development within the region so that it may satisfy their requirement. On the contrary to this, Minkler (2012) has also analysed that health and development approach must be changed with the participatory planning approach so that it may easily engage in allowing the government as well as public healthcare organisation to impart effective practices within the state. Thus, it has been assessed that with the participative planning approach in the region it will ensure development and growth that directly assist in meeting the health care requirement of the individuals.

How needs were assessed and changes over time in needs assessment

Through imparting the project Piaxtla it has been assessed that residential needs were assessed with the help of engaging in the communication process, encouraging individual in imparting their own thoughts and ideas etc. With the help of above different ways needs of the individual have been assessed effectively that support in meeting their health and development requirement (*From Village Health Care to the Struggle for Land and Social Justice: An Example from Mexico*, 1997). The local villagers directly communicate with the individual as well as farmers in the region regarding their health preferences and services so that it may easily lead to enhance their health activities. Through direct communication health promoters impart quality services that lead to overcome the situation of injury as well as illness that often kept on recurring in the region. Even after imparting the care practices and services it was found that children were dying and the mortality rate in the region was very high (Stockdale *et al.* 2015). Therefore, the project assess another need to residents that include organising and defending the individual right in the region.

In addition to this, it has been stated that with the change in need of the individual program has focused its operation from conventional measure of health to the managed actions so that it may result in imparting learning based approach for enabling the health education among the individual. Initially the project Piaxtla engaged in meeting the health requirement of individuals but with the changing time and aspect of the health it has focused on improving the lives of people. Thus, it has support them in perceiving the health problem and issue from the different perspectives. On the other hand, through implementing external framework it will assist in the analysing the changes requirement over the certain time period within the region. It can be argued that changes over the time period is also linked with political, economic, and social as

well as culture aspect that directly impact the health of individual. Therefore, it is stated that all the above factors engage in determining the healthcare need of the farmers that need to be focused by the project to ensure healthy community rather than been focused on imparting curative care.

Who participated or may not have participated in the program

The selected program which is Project Piaxtla was a healthcare program in Western Mexico and the people living in local communities have carried out active participation in the program. It can be expressed that local people living in Ajoya which is the largest village in Piaxtla has played a critical role in carrying out smooth flow of all operations and activities linked with the program. In addition to this, it has been also identified that David Werner was also associated with the program and he has played the role of advisor and facilitator in the entire program which was Project Piaxtla. Here, both poor families and rich local families living in Ajoya have participated in the program (To, 2003). However, it can be critically argued that the rich families in the village were having large proposition of the fertile land and they have also carried out high degree of dominance in the community council of the village which is Ajoya. It has been found that in the program which is Project Piaxtla, the poor local families were willing to take active participation but their views and opinions were not taken into consideration by the rich people who used to dominate the community council.

It can be asserted that to achieve the desired goals and objectives of any project, active and equal participation from the community members is considered as critical. The project has been carried out with an objective to enhance the overall health and well-being of people living in the village and health is considered as one of the most critical dimensions of the life. In addition to this, government and civilians are required to collaborate with each other with the purpose to accomplish the developed goals and objectives of the project. However, it can be critically argued that considering the case of Project Piaxtla, the Mexican government has not carried out active participation in the project and this has resulted in creating issues and obstacles in making the project successful. It has been asserted that effective plans and strategies from government to improve the health and well-being of local farmers in the village were completely missing. The health team of Project Piaxtla decided to collaborate with the local and poor farmers with an objective to enhance their health and well-being in the best and every possible manner.

Earlier, women were not encouraged and allowed to take participation in the selected program which is Project Piaxtla. On the contrary of this, it can be critically argued that women within the village i.e. Ajoya and its surrounding areas initiated and have taken active participation in the project (Edington, 2017). The objective behind participation of women in the program was to unite against the social issue which is drunkenness of men in the village. The increasing consumption of alcohol within the village has resulted in the encouraging different types of interpersonal and domestic violence. However, the women and children living in the village have become the main and primary victim of the same.

How issues of inequity were addressed or not addressed

The governmental institute of Mexico had engages in different land reforms that overall support in enhancing the economy and social development of the region. NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) is considering as one of the major source of inequity that directly impact the activities of the other member states. With the agreement among the Mexican and US government the Mexican has got innumerable number of poor farmers that possess progressive land but they are force to relocate them in the slum area that has resulted in increasing the situation of unemployment in the region (Minkler,2012). Therefore, this has resulted in addressing the issue of inequity among the poor peasants and rich farmers which support the poor farmer to leave village in the search of other employment and food. Thus, issue of inequity has severely impact health of the poor Mexicans and put their wages down that affect the feeding of their families that ultimately outcome in under-nutrition.

With the help of reviewing the scenario, it has been assessed that adverse situation often arises from the inequitable or unfair distribution of land, wealth, and power within the region. Most of the poor rural families in the region mainly own little or no land. In the case they owned their land it would depict the inferior quality (Edington, 2017). On the contrary to this, the rich local families basically held large field that are highly fertile and owned the land that are connected with the river valley and large herds of cattle. The rich people dominant the region as well as fully control the Ajoya's community council. They repeatedly blocked all attempts by poor farmers to organize or demand their constitutional land rights, resorting to violence when they felt it was necessary in order to maintain their dominant position.

In order to the address the issue of inequity it has been measured that region must focuses on developing the network of health related programs that results in addressing the health related

issues within the region. The health related program as well as health care strategies would help the country in leading their community towards engaging in such practices that outcome in sustainable living situation that are free from the activities and practices of NAFTA. Therefore, the Project Piaxtla outreach determinations that result in realising the peasants regarding significance or importance of ejido so that they can remember their rights of their parklands and preserve their worthy health and well-being (Lee *et al.* 2012). Through addressing the inequity in the community will also support the residents in marking their improper health condition and status.

Extent to which processes and actions were congruent with principles and processes of participatory planning

Participatory planning is regarded as the paradigm of the urban and the rural planning where main focus is on involving the entire community in the overall strategic process and the management of rural planning and in turn it brings favorable results in the best possible manner (Werner, 2014). It is considered as one of the most integral part of the development of the community and main stress is on enhancing the views about the key participants of the planning process and avoiding different form of conflicts in between the parties that are mainly opposing. In the entire process of planning the marginalized group takes part and in turn main focus is on building the effective structure so as to allow natural and proper input from all the citizens.

Along with this the facilitators mainly focuses on examining the overall behavior. For sustainable development of the entire community it has been found that participatory planning is the most crucial method for the decision making, democratization of the research and the overall planning (Norheim *et al.* 2015). It contributes a lot in managing the overall growth in proper manner and through this the future development plan can be developed easily that can assist a lot in compromising the future generating in relation with the quality of life. It has been identified that the decision regarding growth management and the future development is quite crucial and are quite complex. They are embedded in the dynamics of the different systems that involves political, social, economical etc. Within the community, the complexity of values, perception and the power of the different stakeholders directly influences these decisions

With regard to the project Piaxtla the overall ractification of NAFTA directly provided devastating blow to farm workers company and the project Piaxtla. Mainly the poor famers faced issues linked with losing their overall health and the land also. Moreover, the insurrection of the

Chiapas assisted a lot to the farmers and the entire health team of Piaxtla to conglomerate in Sinaloa with the motive to regain their health and land also (Orenstein and Seib, 2016). This was the main exhibition linked with the participatory planning where the Mexican workers altogether fought for their future. Due to presence of this type of agitation, the president Salinas agreed to reinstate partly the land reforms. As per the principles associated with the participatory planning the entire marginal group participates in the process of planning and main stress is on building most effective structure so as to obtain natural input from all the citizens living in the community. This has been clearly witnessed from the overall initiatives taken by the farm workers along with the health activist for the overall welfare of their children.

After the overall victory of the health promoters and the Campesinos, the individual perceived that rights of their lands have been preserved. This was most significant as it can provide them freedom from hunger and can lead to better health also. So, this represents the principles and the processes of participatory planning

CONCLUSION

From the above report it has been stated that primary care is consider as one of the significant aspect that positively assist the region as well as community in maintaining their health and well-being. The report has assessed that through imparting the project Piaxtla it has been assessed that residential needs were assessed with the help of engaging in the communication process, encouraging individual in imparting their own thoughts and ideas etc. Along with this, participatory planning is regarded as the paradigm of the urban and the rural planning where main focus is on involving the entire community in the overall strategic process and the management of rural planning and in turn it brings favorable results in the best possible manner. Therefore, it is significant for the region as it provide freedom from the hunger and results in enhancing the health and well-being of the residents. So, this represents the principle of participative planning the overall benefit the region.

REFERENCES

- Edington, J., 2017. Herbal medicine. In *Indigenous Environmental Knowledge* (pp. 123-141). Springer, Cham.
- Edington, J., 2017. Indigenous Knowledge and the Course of Development. In *Indigenous Environmental Knowledge* (pp. 171-201). Springer, Cham.
- Edwards, I., Delany, C.M., Townsend, A.F. & Swisher, L.L., 2011. Moral agency as enacted justice: A clinical and ethical decision-making framework for responding to health inequities and social injustice. *Physical Therapy*, 91(11), pp.1653-1663.
- From Village Health Care to the Struggle for Land and Social Justice: An Example from Mexico*, 2017. [Online]. Available through: <http://healthwrights.org/content/books/QTS/qts_ch19.pdf>. [Accessed on 8th June 2018].
- Lee, A.C.W., Bini Litwin, P.T. & Harada, N.D., 2012. Social responsibility and cultural competence among physical therapists with international experience. *Journal of Physical Therapy Education*, 26(3), p.66.
- Menzel, S. & Buchecker, M., 2013. Does Participatory Planning Foster the Transformation Toward More Adaptive Social-Ecological Systems?. *Ecology and Society*, 18(1), p.13.
- Minkler, M., 2012. *Community organizing and community building for health and welfare*. Rutgers University Press.
- Norheim, O.F., Jha, P., Admasu, K., Godal, T., Hum, R.J., Kruk, M.E., Gómez-Dantés, O., Mathers, C.D., Pan, H., Sepúlveda, J. and Suraweera, W., 2015. Avoiding 40% of the premature deaths in each country, 2010–30: review of national mortality trends to help quantify the UN Sustainable Development Goal for health. *The Lancet*, 385(9964), pp.239-252.
- Orenstein, W.A. and Seib, K., 2016. Beyond vertical and horizontal programs: a diagonal approach to building national immunization programs through measles elimination.
- Stockdale, S.E., Tang, L., Pudilo, E., Lucas-Wright, A., Chung, B., Horta, M., Masongsong, Z., Jones, F., Belin, T.R., Sherbourne, C. & Wells, K., 2015. *Sampling and recruiting community-based programs using community-partnered participation research*. Health promotion practice, p.1524839915605059.
- To, A., 2003. Health for all beyond 2000: the demise of the Alma-Ata Declaration and primary health care in developing countries. *The Medical Journal of Australia*, 178(1), pp.17-20.
- Werner, D., 2014. World Nutrition. *World*, 5(4)