



Comparative Analysis of Professional Competencies Needed by Public and Private Extension Field Staff in Balochistan, Pakistan

Ahmed Ali Mengal¹, Abdul Gaffar¹, Mujeeb-Ur-Rehman Mengal¹, Sher Azam¹, Muhammad Nadeem¹, Saeed Ahmed²

¹Agriculture Research Institute (ARI) Sariab Quetta, Balochistan, Pakistan

²Department of Civil Engineering (Construction Management), Mehran UET, Jamshoro, Pakistan

Corresponding Email: ahmedagric@gmail.com

Abstract—Present research sought to determine the professional competencies as needed by the public and private extension field staff In Balochistan, Pakistan. Five districts, one from each ecological zone, were selected purposively: Kech, Lasbela, Mastung, Sibi and Loralai. A sample of 375 farmer respondents were taken by using the systematic sampling procedure. However, the response rate was 82.67% for farmers. The results revealed that positive attitude 1119, self-confident 1062 and change agent 1051 were ranked 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively as used by public EFS. On the other hand, planner 854, frequent visits 850 and good conflict management 747 were ranked at the bottom of the ranking order respectively as used by the private extension field staff as perceived by the famers. The study recommended that Agriculture and Cooperatives Department Government of Balochistan arranged the need-based training programs and packages for the front EFS in order to strengthen their competency level. It is therefore recommended that public EFS should be attached with private organization for six months so as to propagate their competency skills and extension activities. It was also recommended that private extension services invite small and marginal farmers to the seminars and workshops more often, to be more realistic in their approach.

Keywords—Balochistan, extension field staff, comparative level, public, private, Pakistan