

Poverty Labs- From ‘Alleviation’ to ‘Elimination and then Prevention’

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Abstract

Any poverty elimination model should have both long-term and short-term concern that focus on altering the current socio-economic system that is causing poverty while focusing on increasing the production capacity of the poverty community targeted.

In this paper, we shall assess the effectiveness of the known poverty labs models, i.e. the operational significance, in relevance to poverty alleviation and then elimination, in comparison to the unstructured approach of the poverty-focused inspiration economy labs. Then, a framework for poverty elimination stages and steps is recommended. The paper recommends future development to the United Nations, first sustainable development goal (SDG).

Keyword: Poverty, Poverty alleviation, Poverty elimination, Poverty labs, Poverty elimination models, Poverty formulas, Problem solving, Inspiration economy labs, Sustain Development Goals (SDG’s).

1. Introduction

Poverty needs to be taken beyond economic aspects of the poor people lives, if we are to properly eliminate it or eradicate it from the source. Therefore, in this paper, we review the definitions of poverty and its main formula’s and then shade more understanding of what is meant by extreme poverty. The relation of shared prosperity and poverty alleviation and elimination is also reviewed to set the scene for both the multidimensional poverty measure and poverty cycle. Uriarte (2012).

As the scope of this paper on economic models of ‘poverty elimination’ with communities of a limited resource, poverty elimination formulas are illustrated. Types of poverty labs

available in the literature and their influence are discussed. Example of the ‘graduation model’, as a sample for the current ways the labs are run, is explored. ‘Inspiration economy’ poverty-focused labs are presented as an alternative. Poverty as a socio-economic problem is also briefly discussed. Then literature is synthesised and then discussed, before recommendations and conclusion. Buheji and Ahmed (2017).

2. Literature Review

2.1 Definition of Poverty and Its Formula’s

There are various definitions of poverty; however, the most widely held definition of poverty measures poverty in economic terms, i.e. the amount of earning in dollars or equivalent. i.e. today we hear the gauge to be less than or above US \$2 per day. However, the World Bank (2013) defines poverty as hunger, lack of shelter or access to healthcare, or access to education. Even the World Bank sees that people without a source of income or job, or living one day at a time are considered to have a type of poverty. Thus, poverty encompasses the level of living conditions, or the inability to meet basic needs because food, clean drinking water, proper sanitation, education, health care and other social services are inaccessible.

The World Bank and other poverty-focused organisations defined poverty threshold to be very related to the level of functionality and dependence. Thus, the World Bank developed a measure for the contributors and the causes of poverty through indicators that assess poverty from both income and non-income dimensions. The indicators include education, health, access to social services, vulnerability, social exclusion, and access to social capital.

2.2 Understanding Extreme Poverty

Definition of poverty is shifting as humanity develops, however the basis for poverty stays the same; it is about: security, dignity and safe food and water. When people have very low income and expenditure per capita, deficient consumption of calories of nutrition food, no proper access to food, cloth, shelter, health and education; then they are considered to be extremely poor (Vetterlein, 2007).

Extreme poverty is also about not having the ability to come out of poverty cycle such as living in a poor family and being in an environment that makes people highly vulnerable, powerless and afraid, thus feeling that your rights and freedoms are restricted. People in extreme poverty usually live without support, on the sidelines, watching economic growth and prosperity pass by them.

The extreme poverty standard of living can be characterized as the suffering of lack of building relationships, always having to seek out others, or to work for somebody else, unsupported, having nothing to eat, lacking the means to meet clothing and financial needs and having nothing to sell, mostly with restricted rights and freedoms. This would also affect their capacity to make decisions, or to create positive change initiatives.

The World Bank and UN have reported that the world has made tremendous progress in reducing extreme poverty globally to be lower than 10% in 2015. However, there surely today more than 736 million still living on less than \$1.90 a day. In a certain region, as the

Sub-Saharan in Africa, poverty percentage is increasing, and still, the majority of extremely poor people live, in this region.

2.3 Shared Prosperity and Poverty Alleviation

One of the most developed national models of shared prosperity that helps towards poverty elimination is the Bhutan Government national policy, in relevance to poverty indicators. Bhutan linked its poverty elimination model with what it defined as happiness, in relevance to a sign of shared prosperity, that would come as a result of the integration of the following enhanced per capita income, years of life expectancy, social support, trust on government and freedom to take decisions. National Statistics Bureau of Bhutan (2017).

In another approach, shared prosperity can be defined as the growth in income of the bottom 40% in each country. In 70 of the 91 countries, incomes of the bottom 40% improved between 2010 and 2015. In 54% of those 91 countries, the income grew faster than the average and specifically in East and South Asia. Actually, East and South Asia have managed to bring the bottom 40% to grow annually up to 4.7% since 2010. This progress is followed by both the Baltic countries, Latin America and the Caribbean. However poorer economies in which extreme poverty rates remain high, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa, income growth and thus prosperity level remains at the bottom compared to the rest of the world.

As the world grows wealthier and extreme poverty becomes more concentrated, there are legitimate questions over whether \$1.90 is too low to define whether someone is poor in all countries of the world. The World Bank now reports on two higher-value poverty lines: \$3.20 and \$5.50 per day instead of the current \$1.90 international poverty line. Data suggest that the rapid gains against extreme poverty have not been matched by reductions in the number of people living below these higher levels of income.

As the world develops, definitions of what constitute basic needs are changing and the same the definition of poverty. If we take, for example, the societal poverty helps to focus the efforts on those considered to be poor, to help them to afford the cost of performing essential society functions. The World Bank has introduced a societal poverty line based on the typical level of consumption, or income in each country. By this yardstick, in 2015, 2.1 billion people were poor relative to their societies, three times the number of people are living in extreme poverty. With over half of the population societally poor, Sub-Saharan Africa has substantially higher rates of societal poverty than other regions. In contrast, East Asia & Pacific has seen its societal poverty rate drop by 38 percentage points.

2.4 Multidimensional Poverty Measure

As we seek to end poverty, we also need to recognise that being poor is not just defined by a lack of consumption or income. Other aspects of life are critical for well-being, including education, access to essential utilities, health care, and security. The multidimensional view reveals a world in which poverty is a much broader, more entrenched problem, underlining the importance of stronger, inclusive growth and of investing more in human capital. At the global level, the share of poor according to a multidimensional definition that includes consumption, education, and access to essential utilities is approximately 50 per cent higher

than when relying solely on monetary poverty.

In a sample of 119 countries for the years around 2013, only one in eight are poor in monetary terms, but among them eight out of nine are also deprived in at least one other dimension, lacking education or basic infrastructure services. In the Middle East & North Africa and Latin America & the Caribbean, despite the low prevalence of monetary poverty, almost one in seven people lack adequate sanitation. In Sub-Saharan Africa, more than in any other region, shortfalls in one dimension go hand-in-hand with other deficiencies. Even though South Asia has made progress in poverty reduction, shortfalls in education remain high for both adults and children and are not strongly associated with monetary poverty. Also, the number of people in the region living in households without access to electricity is far greater than those living in monetary poverty.

2.5 Poverty Cycle

Poverty is like a loophole cycle where survival is a daily accomplishment. The cycle size increases when the poor live in communities where those in poverty have no rights. The cycle even deepens when many of those in poverty see education as an ‘unaffordable luxury’. This cycle becomes endless since the poor would see only his lack of options, be it for future development, or working with acceptable income (Vetterlein, 2007).

Almost half the world lives with a household income below \$2.50 a day. In order to bring people out this cycle we need to give slight aspiration and inspiration to bring them out their poverty trap. This means we need to equip them to what allows them to discover their opportunities by providing seed capital and encouraging family business and neighbourhood entrepreneurship.

The cycle of poverty expands when we see many people till today, in Africa for example, do not understand the importance of vaccination or making sure of the cleanliness of the water they drink, or at least monitor their health for common diseases and provide hygiene training. The situation of the poor become even worse when living in environmental risk where water supply, housing and land affect their well-being.

Vulnerability increases when people are emotionally and spiritually feel worthless and hopelessness, due to what they experience from poverty.

2.6 Poverty Elimination Formulas

The outcome of any poverty elimination program needs to be gauged by formulas. One of the well-known formulas is ‘poverty rate’, which is the headcount index and it is known to be the most important measure in relevance to poverty elimination. It is a formula that measures the proportion of the population that is below the poverty line.

The other formula for gauging poverty elimination is ‘poverty gap’. It is an index that measures the extent to which individuals fall below the poverty line, i.e. the poverty gaps as a proportion of the ‘poverty line’. The sum of these ‘poverty gaps’ is index itself that gives those concerned with poverty internationally, or in a specific country, or a community scale; what is the minimum cost needed to eliminate poverty.

The other formula that is important for those working with poverty elimination models is ‘poverty severity’. The poverty severity is an index that combines information on both poverty and inequality. It averages the squares of the poverty gaps relative to the poverty line. Angelsen and Wunder (2006).

The other formula which is considered very important to the integrity of the poverty gap and poverty average is the ‘Growth Bottom 40’ indicator. This indicator, which is used to monitor shared prosperity, shows growth in real per capita income, or consumption of the bottom 40% of the income, consumption and distribution in a country. This is very important for developing countries (Aoun, 2004).

Hence, in summary, one could simply understand that in order to count the effectiveness of any ‘poverty elimination model’, we could measure how much this model can move the poor to the middle class. Currently, the main indicators for this are both ‘Shared Prosperity’ and the ‘Growth Bottom 40’. Thus the growth of in real per capita income, or consumption, of the bottom 40 per cent of the income, or the consumption distribution in a country.

2.7 Categorising Types Poverty Labs Available

It is common sense to see types of poverty labs on a scale from correction to preventive. Some labs even might be deepening poverty as they are creating causality for more dependency on external supports, without motivating effective functionality.

Some poverty labs work on the development of poverty coping services and policies, i.e. developing services that would reach poor from dying, or being sick, or becoming more poor or weaker. i.e. delivering services that do not eradicate poverty from its routes. However, the most popular poverty labs are the ‘poverty alleviation labs’. These labs try to treat the disease with a specific mindset, or through a structured approach that has specific measures throughout the world, Uriarte (2012), Japan International Cooperation Agency (2011).

The less known poverty labs are ‘poverty elimination’ and ‘poverty prevention’. Poverty elimination labs mean it would shift many people towards a middle class or at least above the poverty line, while also reducing the ‘poverty gap’. ‘Poverty prevention’ however goes beyond this towards eliminating any causalities that might lead to enhancing the ‘poverty gap’ or cause any poverty, (Parker, 2010).

2.8 Reviewing Poverty Labs Available

2.8.1 Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA)

Even though it does not refer to its work as labs, Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) work to discover and promotes effective solutions to global poverty problems which are precisely what labs do. IPA designs rigorously evaluate and refines poverty based solutions and their applications together with decision-makers to ensure that the evidence created is used to improve opportunities for the world’s poor. IPA (2019).

IPA works to understand how the proposed solutions work, and why it works. This is done by identifying innovative solutions or model designs. IPA labs depend on field replications to

evaluate if and how the solution is useful outside of the original context. IPA Labs work to incubate effective solutions. Provide advice and technical assistance to fine-tune the implementation of a solution, ideally integrating it into existing systems.

2.8.2 The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)

The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) was established as a research centre at MIT's Department of Economics with a vast global network of 120 affiliated professors and regional offices in Africa, Europe, North America, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean. J-PAL's mission is to reduce poverty by ensuring that policy is informed by scientific evidence. It does this by working with governments, non-profits, foundations and other development organisations to conduct rigorous impact evaluations in the field, policy outreach to widely disseminate the lessons from research, and building the capacity of practitioners to generate and use evidence. J-PAL claims that over 202 million people have been reached by the scale-up of programs evaluated by J-PAL and found to be effective (J-PAL, 2019).

2.8.3 The Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP)

The Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP) is a global partnership of 34 leading organisations that seek to advance financial inclusion for the poor. CGAP develops innovative solutions through practical research and active engagement with financial service providers, policy makers and funders to enable approaches at scale. Founded in 1995 and housed at the World Bank, CGAP combines a pragmatic approach to responsible market development with an evidence-based advocacy platform to increase access to the financial services the poor need to improve their lives (CGAP, 2018).

CGAP try to focus on empowering poor people to capture opportunities and be more resilient. Their primary means for empowerment, being the World Bank, is through financial services that collaboration with leading development organisations that work to advance the lives of poor people through financial inclusion. Using action-oriented research, CGAP claim to test, learn and share knowledge intended to help build inclusive and responsible financial systems that move people out of poverty, protect their economic gains and advance broader development goals.

CGAP started recently to use behavioural research that guides policy-makers to predict and take initiatives when they make financial decisions and in the same to make the targeted poor community learn to make better decisions. Even though CGAP (2018) has put a strategic plan for seeing effective solutions through evidence-based programs, they admit that it is not enough for evidence to be used systematically.

2.8.4 Farmers Income Lab (FIL)

Farmers Income Lab (FIL) is another evidence-based approach to overcome collective farmers' challenges, such as enabling small farmers to benefit in global supply chains to meaningfully increase their incomes. FIL work on developing the key levers that most effectively contribute to increasing farmer incomes and models that unlock opportunities for

women and lead to increased business value. Farmer Income Lab (2019).

2.9 Influence of Poverty Labs

Abhijit et al. (2015) reported about the influence of Graduation approach that was carried in Ethiopia, Ghana, Honduras, India, Pakistan, and Peru. More than 21,000 people were tracked, to test how much their lives and their families' welfare were improved. Abhijit et al. (2015) the project used a comprehensive six components approach over a longitudinal study for over two years. This included the asset to be used for living, such as livestock, or goods to start an informal store, then followed by training on how to manage the asset. The other two constructs focused on: the basic food, or cash support to reduce the need of the poor to sell their new assets in an emergency, with frequent coaching visits to reinforce skills, build confidence, and help participants handle any challenges. Then the last, but not least constructs, were to set to ensure the access to both education and health care institutes that would ensure the functionality and sustained competitive survival of the poor, followed by savings account to help put away money to invest, or use in a future emergency (Markandya, 2001).

The poverty labs research uses even advanced randomised controlled trials, tracking the participants to ensure whether and how living standards are changing during and after the program ends. Parker (2010).

2.10 Graduation Model

'Graduation model' was developed by a consortium of J-PAL, CGAP and IPA that would help to develop more anti-poverty strategies and sustained benefit for the world's ultra-poor.

The effectiveness of the Graduation model approach is that it is a comprehensive approach for those living on less than \$1.25 a day. The model evaluates the boosted livelihoods, the income, and the health of this group. The model was tested in six countries, targeting 'poverty alleviation' through a lab that followed 21,000 of the world's poorest people, through a longitudinal study for three years. The data show that this model approach led to substantial and lasting impacts on their standard of living. Abhijit et al. (2015).

Graduation model is in a way like a lab that transforms the focus of just the income of the ultra-poor, to a comprehensive approach that addresses the many challenges of poverty simultaneously, as focus also on having enough food to eat, knowing ways to save, having enough information to survive, besides building positive perception of their opportunities to escape poverty (Abhijit et al., 2015).

2.11 'Inspiration Economy' Poverty-Focused Labs (ILs)

Since its inception in 2015, inspiration economy labs (ILs), called for short inspiration labs, focused on solving socio-economic problems in general with more focus on poverty, unemployment, youth, women advancement and migration issues. The uniqueness of these inspiration labs is that they target to find 'opportunities in the problem' and create models that lead 'socio-economic outcome with minimal resources'. i.e. ILs target to create independence and autonomy inside the business model proposed. All this is done through 'unstructured

approaches' that uses field data to create radical change (Buheji, 2018, 2019).

Challenging poverty in inspiration can be seen through more than 30 projects that lead to different models in areas of education, higher education, social development, psychiatric services, labour fund and woman empowerment programs. Also, many works were done in the labour market, social insurance, tender board, housing services and even police services that would support poverty elimination, or create poverty prevention. Greater focus was created towards poverty elimination models through those closest to the poor community, i.e. humanitarian NGO's, woman village NGO's, women entrepreneurship NGO's (Buheji, 2018, 2019).

The influence of the different projects mentioned, lead to the development of different small but essential 'poverty communities change programs', such as the 'camel wool carpets women cells production program' and 'fisheries and agriculture farming profit margin enhancement program'. The effectiveness of the trusts and endowments in changing the situation of poverty were also assessed to bring the purpose of their existence towards the low privileged community. For example, models were developed to bring the poor-families children back to formal-education, by focusing on sports and arts. Inspiration labs were also integrated with projects as 'Education on Wheels' & 'Education at Door Steps' and enhanced the counselling of students socio-psychologic capacity.

Recently, inspiration labs are focused on exploring the best models that would improve the quality of life of 'waste pickers', and poor villages societies through productive families' program. Currently, also poverty elimination labs are focused on small selective green-house projects, eco-tourism villages, clean-water management project for villages and anaemia-prevention programs. Also, still inspiration labs are trying to figure out how to mitigate or eliminate, the migrants and migration risks that would lead to poverty-related symptoms (Buheji, 2018, 2019).

To create all these mentioned model, the inspiration labs practitioners go through a sequence of steps of observing, exploring, learning and reflecting. These steps illustrate the development stages towards an outcome solution for the poverty issue targeted. These development stages are called: codification, classification and stratification, as illustrated in Figure 1.

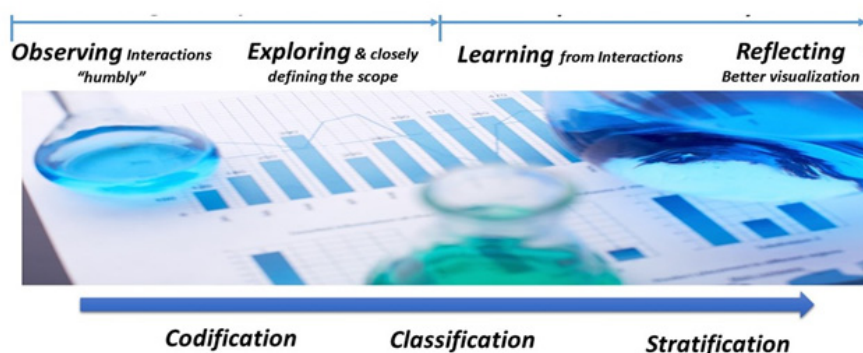


Figure 1. Model development stages during inspiration labs

2.12 Poverty as a Socio-Economic Problem

Dealing with poverty as only ‘an economic problem’ is one of the significant approaches of most of the well-established poverty labs today. Buheji (2019 and 2018) sees poverty as a deep and complex socio-economic problem that needs a scenario for tackling a visualised story, as shown in Figure 2. The clarity of the story would be more once we start a collection for the data and explore more opportunities and ideas.

Then, based on the collection of opportunities exploited, in relevance to the problem, the proposed solutions would be reflected through problem vectors modelling. The refinement of vectors modelling can be developed based on field visits and in-depth observations (Buheji & Ahmed, 2017).

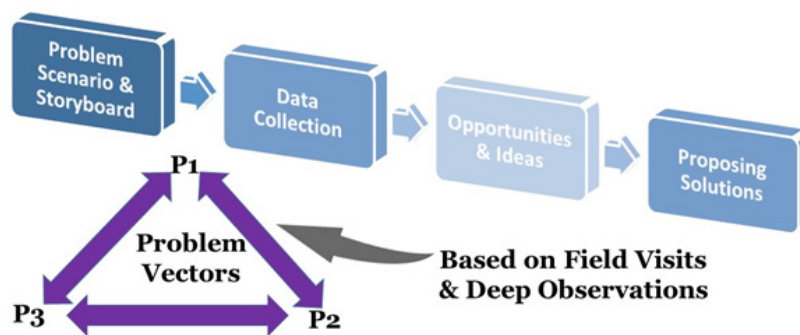


Figure 2. Exploring opportunities through the development of visualised story to the socio-economic outcome of the poverty problem

2.13 SDG Poverty Clock

United Nations have put poverty eradication as the sustainable development goal (SDG) number one, after failing to achieve the target as a millennium goal (MDG). UN kept this poverty eradication as goal number one. While the current SDG1 target poverty eradication, there is still a gap in the literature that where most of the models target only poverty alleviation. Studies show in specific areas in the world, such African Sahara region, extreme poverty persists. In fact, in order to safeguard people from different poverty throughout their life cycle, we need to develop a variety of unique models in the area of poverty elimination and poverty prevention. As UN published in its official website, to reach SDG1, the world needs even models for that reduce people vulnerability to disasters which we can see even developed rich countries like America, and Japan can suffer from periodically. Markandya (2001).

The world needs models that focus on those low-income families living on less than US \$2 per person a day and ensure that they enter the coverage of the social protection net.

The poverty clock shows there is clear evidence for the effectiveness of the UN and massive poverty NGO’s methodologies and labs in the reduction of poverty in number. However, compared to the amount of empirical research and funds, there is no clear evidence of how

these leaders are working in strengthening the capacity of the weak and less fortunate to enter the middle class. Every year more than 50% of those targeted misses passing the line towards the middle class, due to deliberate actions taken by those in power towards the suggested policies that are tested by the evidence-based labs (Parker, 2010).

Currently, there are still more than 0.6 Billion people labelled to be on ‘extreme poverty’. While certain important countries, like India and Indonesia, is on track with poverty with SDGs, many important ‘extreme poverty’ countries are rising in poverty and specifically in Africa.

3. Methodology

Based on the literature review a synthesis of the world leading poverty-focused organisation labs is done to see the direction, the effectiveness and the gaps that need to be addressed compared to the declared intent and the SDG goals.

A comparative study is carried then that differentiate the Inspiration Labs delivery to the issue of poverty in relevance to the great efforts invested by the main labs discussed for IPA, CGAP and J-PAL. The models that came as a result of the inspiration lab unstructured approach are compared to those created models by the poverty alleviation focused organisations. Uriarte (2012).

4. Synthesis of Literature

4.1 What Is Meant by Poverty Labs, So Far?

Poverty labs hence from the primary IPA, CGAP and J-PAL are representations of research, policy design, education/training and means of financial loans.

The synthesis of the review publications from all the labs show that they all works focused on finding solutions to the world’s most significant challenges that lead to poverty; through empirical research and assessment programs. However, the review of the available published literature, including the projects on the websites, shows that none of these labs follows field exploration techniques, in an unstructured way, through piloting and testing of totally different models, in the field, that would move the poor from below poverty line. Even no evidence that these organisations are working with partners or affiliation that conduct attempts towards total new approaches that prevent current models from occurring again and again.

4.2 Policy or Models

No one could debate the importance of evidence-based research for influencing policymakers’ decisions. However, one could not see the logic of creating live models that radically moves people in need of financial assistance, or suffering from poverty and its negative effects.

The other issue, despite that all the current organisation labs targets to translates the outcome of their research into action, promoting this among corrupted bureaucratic governments in countries of the south, is another issue. For example, it would be interesting to see how these labs would see the outcome of their work with the government in Africa, or South East Asia, or in South America; where they sustain reasons for their existence in the weakness of the majority of the society and demolishing of the middle class.

4.3 Way of Education and Training in Current Poverty Lab

The focus of almost all the training and education in these labs is to build the capacity of

researchers and reports that are evidence-based that might convince the policymakers and the donors to adopt change. Therefore, such training is very far from the poor. One would challenge when such investment in such training and development would reach the poor who might need just small push here and there, or a change of mindset to autonomously correct their life situations. One would argue what the benefit of J-PAL and other labs funds towards open online courses and training programs towards promoting better producers and users of scientific evidence is. How would the poor see this reflected on them? Moreover, when?

5. Discussion

5.1 Avoiding Dependency on the Developing and Under-Developing Governments

Experience and observation of working as a contracted expert for governments in developing countries and the Middle East specifically governments, follow what could be called ‘a show-business strategy’ when they are pressured directly and indirectly by international organisations, or advisory firms. Rarely one would experience a developing country government that would take a result of a lab, or recommendation for policy corrections or development and would follow it exactly. Aoun (2004).

Hence, being dependent on influencing the governments around the world on through policy analysis, or even outreaching them after they ask for help in their social policies us a source of a significant waste for the great efforts and intentions of these labs. It is even unfair for the donors who given a huge donation to benefit the poor in more professional and scientific ways.

5.2 Looking for Clear Poor Community Connected Lab

Most labs work to either empirical study with selected control samples, or preparing recommendation based on field experience. What the poverty community needs are more connected labs that show the results on the livelihood of the piloted model and then ensure generalising the model in collaboration with the community itself.

In order to enhance the return of the labs, the community-based model needs to ensure that its influence extends to change the mindset, where the weak assumptions, attitudes, behaviours and reactions would be transformed due to the model implemented or experienced, as shown in Figure (3). This needs, however, the psychology that integrates the soul, the mind and the heart. When both the mindset and the psychology of the poor changes their thinking would change. Thus their vulnerability to being abused or loss essential opportunities.

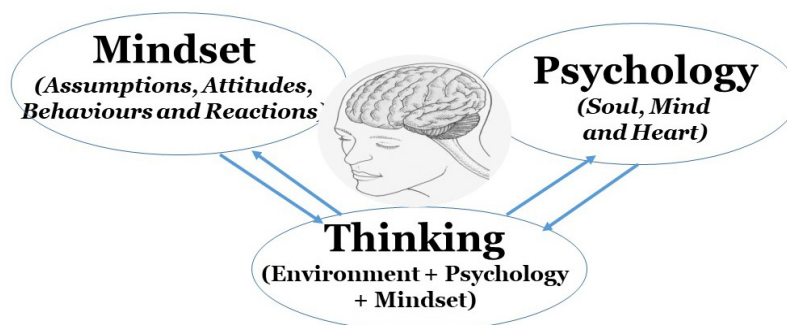


Figure 3. Community connected model influence expected to change the poor capacity

6. Recommendations and Conclusion

In reviewing the different models of poverty alleviation and the suggested poverty elimination model, the implementation stages towards such models are exploited to the benefit of getting the best practices that would ensure the generalisation of such model creation processes and methodology.

6.1 Developing Framework for Unstructured Approach for Poverty Models Development

Based on the analysis of the different labs' work and inspiration economy labs, four stages are recommended towards a useful poverty elimination model that would follow the unstructured approach:

Stage 1- Poverty Elimination Model (Identification Stage)

This stage starts with reflecting on the type of poverty problem and assigning the projects teams. Then, the detailed scope of poverty alleviation project would be more defined through the deep field observations of the type of poverty situation and what type of data needs to be collected.

Stage 2 – Poverty Model Elimination (Implementation Stage)

Once we collect enough field observation, we start discussing these observations and then identify the opportunities inside the specified poverty challenges. Once the different opportunities are linked, a trial and error would be done to ensure that the most suitable poverty elimination model would be produced.

Stages 3 – Poverty Model Elimination (Sustainability Stage)

In order to sustain the influence of the poverty elimination model, the focus on the spirit of the model would keep changing.

These stages need to be flexibly accompanied by the following steps:

- 1) Observations are collected during the Site-Visit to Assess the type of 'Poverty Problem' and types of Wealth/Assets Available*
- 2) Empathetically Live the Poverty Situation through deeper exploration Visit to see how to create influence without or with minimal power and resources.*
- 3) Do Brainstorming about the most important Socio-Economic + Then Go to the Field for Data Collection.*
- 4) The team discuss how to find opportunities inside the specified 'Poverty Problem.'*
- 5) Integration between Opportunities after it is being Identified and Selected to create a Poverty Model Development with minimal resources.*
- 6) Implement Experiential Learning (i.e. Trial & Error) until the Poverty Model lead to Moving the targeted Poor towards Middle-Class.*
- 7) At this Stage, the Poverty Model A formula would be Discovered.*
- 8) Defining Type of Differentiation in the Model Developed & Outcome Achieved.*
- 9) Building Sustenance & Spirit of Poverty Elimination and Poverty through Pro-activeness related Programs that support the Model.*

6.2 Framework for Specifying where the Poverty Elimination Labs Models Should work more

After diagnosing the type of poverty challenges, we need to see a framework that helps to

identify where it fits in the matrix of ‘type of problems’ and ‘type of diagnosis area’, as shown in Figure (4). When the poverty problem is ‘scientifically known’ and have ‘clear causality’, then our model would be straight forward. The challenge starts when the poverty problem is ‘scientifically unknown’ and with ‘no clear causality’, then how the creation of such a poverty elimination model would lead to high economic value. If the model has proven to bring a realised outcome, it could be called a socio-economic discovery.

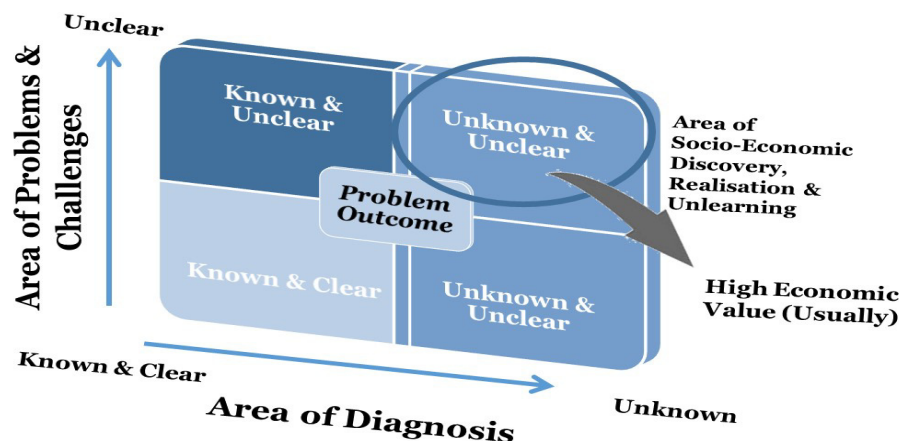


Figure 4. Framework for developing unique poverty elimination models

6.3 Tackling the Mindset of the Poor

It is vital for any poverty elimination model that includes practices and approaches that would tackle the mindset of the poor. The poverty elimination model should ensure that the poor do not surrender to the idea that their poverty is due to their fate and that the causes outside their hands. The model, at the same time, should inspire the poor gradually to see how they can be part of the socio-economic structure. In order to see how they can be part of the socio-economic productivity cycle; the poor people need to be involved, not as recipients of the results of the model, but as stakeholders of the model design. This means that models proposed should bring in more ‘learning by doing’ facts, such as the various available natural resources in their acquisition that are being disregarded, or under-utilised. Also, the learning by doing would help the poor to discover better productivity tools, or techniques and the opportunity for better learning, rather than just focus on education, for example.

Change of the poor mindset can also come through the actual implementation of what would suggest the benefit for specific and immediate structural changes as re-definition of the poor people right for ownership, be it land, skills or natural capital. Changing also the way the underprivileged can change their rights for social security or loans would also be another expectation from an effective poverty elimination model.

Finally, despite of the limitation of the scarcity of peer-reviewed literature on the development of poverty labs; this paper set a direction of what should be the aim and focus of ‘poverty labs’ and what is the alternative to the current models of ‘poverty problem solving labs’. The author recommends more in-depth studies in moving labs from ‘poverty alleviation’ to ‘poverty elimination’ and then ‘poverty prevention’. However, this can’t be easily achieved without more field testing approaches as suggested in this paper.

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