

Research Title	Local Administrative Organization's Roles on Development in Patterns of Welfare Provision for Older Persons
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The study which entitled Local Administrative Organization's Roles on Development in Patterns of Welfare Provision for Older Persons aimed to study welfare needs and compare them in urban and rural communities. It also aimed at investigating roles of Local Administrative Organization in providing many areas of welfare for older persons. The third purpose of this research study was to propose indicators on quality of life relating to welfare provision for older persons. The final purpose was to explore problems of welfare provision for older persons in urban and rural communities and figure out their solutions. This study carried out mixed methods research. For the quantitative data, in order to examine older persons' welfare needs, questionnaire was used as a research instrument. 1,880 older persons responded to the questionnaires which were statistically analyzed to compare differences in their needs. For qualitative research, 75 older persons were chosen for interviews in order to investigate roles of Local Administrative Organization in providing many areas of welfare for older persons and identify indicators on quality of life relating to welfare provision for them. For the interview data, content analysis, analytic induction, and typology and taxonomy were employed.

The findings were summarized as follows:

1. Overall and in all aspects, welfare needs of older persons were at high levels. With a comparison of an average of welfare needs of older persons according to their living areas by t-test, the results showed that those living in municipalities or urban communities needed many aspects i.e. physical welfare, mental welfare, security, respect or trust, social need, and occupational promotion and income. The results were significantly different at the 0.01 level from the older persons in non-municipal areas or rural communities. However, there was no significant difference in the aspects of family support, and services and welfare between the older persons in municipalities or urban communities and those in non-municipal areas or rural communities.

2. Having considered roles of Local Administrative Organization in providing many areas of welfare for older persons, 3 vital roles as a policy maker, a policy advocate, and a policy actor were found. Moreover, Local Administrative Organization had 4 duties in supporting and handling welfare provision for older persons. They were 1) a budget advocate 2) a personnel supporter 3) a project organizer and 4) a supporter in building participation.

3. For indicators on quality of life relating to welfare provision for older persons, 2 groups were revealed. The first group represented indicators on quality of life of older persons which comprised 6 aspects and key successful factors or 24 sub-indicators. The last group showing indicators on Local Administrative Organization's welfare provision for older persons consisted of 5 aspects and key successful factors or 15 sub-indicators.

4. Key problems of welfare provision for older persons in urban and rural communities and their solutions included 1) policy issues 2) personnel and budget issues and 3) issues on building and supporting participation.

Key words: older persons/ welfare of older persons / quality of life of older persons / indicators on quality of life of older persons / indicators on welfare provision for older persons /roles of Local Administrative Organization