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Research Article

THE ROLE OF COOPERATIVISM IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT: THE CASE OF BADEMLER NATURAL LIFE VILLAGE*

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ABSTRACT

Cooperatives represent a powerful and viable economic alternative at the stage when people seek a way to change their lives in economic, social and cultural terms. In addition to being established to meet the needs of its members, cooperatives have responsibilities to society in a wider sense. In this study, the role of cooperatives in economic development of societies is examined. Purpose of the study; to explore how cooperatives can act towards the sustainable development of society. In this context, Bademler Natural Life Village, which was established by the Bademler Village Agricultural Development Cooperative, is examined by case study method. In order to explain the role of cooperatives in economic development of societies, interview and observation techniques were used to collect detailed data about Bademler Village Agricultural Development Cooperative. As a result of the study, it was understood that all employees working in Bademler Natural Life Village consisted of people living in Bademler village. In this way, it has been demonstrated that employment opportunities are created for the people of the village and it increases the income level. Recommendations developed by the analysis of data obtained in rural development in Turkey is intended to contribute to the development of cooperatives.

Keywords: Cooperatives, Rural Development, Agriculture, Bademler Village.

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