

THE ROLE OF WOMEN'S COOPERATIVES IN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT: SEARCH OF YALVAÇ PİSİDİA ANTIOKHEİA WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS COOPERATIVE*

LOCAL KALKINMADA KADIN KOOPERATİFLERİNİN ROLÜ: YALVAÇ PİSİDİA ANTIOKHEİA KADIN GİRİŞİMCİLER KOOPERATİFİNİN İNCELEMESİ

Asst. Prof. Dr. Mustafa ÖZYÜCEL¹

ABSTRACT

Due to the limited resources in the world and the increasing global competition, countries are trying to use their production factors effectively. An effective resource management creates increases in the growth figures of countries. In Turkey, various supports are given to cooperatives in order to increase production and to eliminate the rural-urban discrimination. Recently, women's cooperatives have come to the fore among cooperative activities. Thanks to women's cooperatives, it is aimed to increase production and increase the place of women in economic life. Yalvaç Psidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative, which was established in 2019, can be given as an example to this situation. In the study, the evaluation of the economic supports provided by the state by the members of Yalvaç Psidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative and the reflections of the cooperatives on the financial status of the members are discussed. The findings obtained as a result of the study show that the incomes of the members in the middle age group increase more than the others, the satisfaction of being a member of the cooperative increases with a high education level, and the ideas of the members in this group about immigration emerge.

Keywords: Development, Local Development, Cooperatives, Women's Cooperatives.

JEL Classification Codes: O10, O18, P13.


ÖZ

Dünyada kaynakların sınırlı olması ve yükselen küresel rekabet nedeniyle ülkeler üretim faktörlerini etkin kullanma yoluna gitmektedirler. Etkin bir kaynak yönetimi ülkelerin büyüme rakamlarında artışlar yaratmaktadır. Türkiye’de hem üretim artışının sağlanması hem de kırsal kent ayrımının giderilmesi amacıyla kooperatiflere çeşitli destekler verilmektedir. Kooperatifçilik faaliyetleri içinde son zamanlarda kadın kooperatifleri ön plan çıkmaktadır. Kadın kooperatifleri sayesinde hem üretim artışı hemde kadınların ekonomik yaşamdaki yerlerini yükseltilmesi hedeflenmektedir. 2019 yılında kurulan Yalvaç Psidia Antiokheia Kadın Girişimciler Kooperatifi bu duruma örnek gösterilebilir. Çalışmada devlet tarafından sağlanan ekonomik desteklerin Yalvaç Psidia Antiokheia Kadın Girişimciler Kooperatifi üyelerince değerlendirilmesi ve kooperatifçiliğin üyelerin mali durumlarında meydana getirdiği yansımalar ele alınmıştır. Çalışma sonucunda elde edilen bulgular; orta yaş aralığında yer alan üyelerin gelirlerinin diğerlerine oranla daha çok yükseldiğini, eğitim seviyesinin yüksek olduğu üyelerde kooperatifleşme memnuniyetinin arttığını ve yine bu grup içinde yer alan üyelerin göç etmek ile ilgili fikirlerinin ortaya çıktığını göstermektedir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Kalkınma, Yerel Kalkınma, Kooperatifçilik, Kadın Kooperatifçiliği.

JEL Sınıflandırma Kodları: O10, O18, P13.

* For this study the approval of ethical committee no E-96714346-050.99-10167 dated 24.02.2022 was taken from the Ethical Committee, Isparta University of Applied Sciences

¹  Isparta University of Applied Sciences, Büyüköktü Faculty of Applied Sciences, Department of Banking and Insurance, mustafaozyucel@isparta.edu.tr

GENİŞLETİLMİŞ ÖZET

Amaç ve Kapsam:

Yerel kalkınma kapsamında yürütülen kooperatifçilik faaliyetleri kırsal kalkınmayı destekleyen bir olgu olmuştur. Kooperatifçilik faaliyetleri ile birlikte bir araya gelen kişiler ekonomik gelişme sağlamak için üretim sürecinde bulunurlar. Üretim faaliyetine katılan kişiler hem Türkiye’de milli gelirin artışına neden olurken hem de istihdama katkı sağlamaktadırlar. Kooperatifçilik faaliyetleri kapsamında kadın kooperatifleri son zamanlarda Türkiye’de ön plana çıkmaktadır. Kadın kooperatifçiliğin Türkiye’de son zamanlarda ileri seviyede olmasının temel nedenleri arasında Ticaret Bakanlığı’nın kadın kooperatiflerine sağlamış olduğu destekler gösterilmektedir. Türkiye’de kadın kooperatifleri ekonomik faaliyetlerini yürüterek üyelerine çeşitli ekonomik katkılar sağlamaktadırlar. Ele alınan çalışmada Türkiye’deki diğer kadın kooperatifleri gibi Yalvaç Psidia Antiokheia Kadın Kooperatifinin üyelerine sağlamış olduğu ekonomik katkı ele alınmıştır. Sağlanan ekonomik desteğin yeterliliği ile kooperatif farkındalığı incelenmiştir. Ticaret Bakanlığı tarafından sağlanan desteklerin üyelere etkisi çalışmada değerlendirilmiştir.

Yöntem:

Çalışma kapsamında Yalvaç Psidia Antiokheia Kadın Kooperatifine üyelerin üye olduktan sonra ve üye olmadan önceki ekonomik durumları incelenmek istenmiştir. Bu çerçevede Yalvaç Psidia Antiokheia Kadın Kooperatifine üye olan 46 kişiden 20 kişiye kooperatifin kendilerine sağladıkları ekonomik katkı düzeyleri ve kooperatifçilik bilinci ile ilgili çeşitli sorular yöneltilmiştir. Çalışma için Isparta Uygulamalı Bilimler Üniversitesi Etik Kurulundan 24.02.2022 tarihinde E-96714346-050.99-10167 sayılı numaralı izin alınmıştır. Anket çalışmasında kişilere 27 tane soru sorulmuş olup, bu sorular SPSS programında incelenip, yorumlanmıştır. Ankete katılan kişilerin sayıları az olduğundan dolayı Fisher’in ki-kare analiz tekniği kullanılmıştır. Ki-kare analiz tekniğine bağlı olarak hipotez tezleri oluşturulup, bu hipotez tezlerinin anlamlılık durumları ele alınmıştır. Çalışma kapsamında veriler kişilere anket yoluyla ulaştırılmış olup, kişilerin verdiği anket sonuçlarına göre değerlendirmeler yapılmıştır.

Bulgular:

Çalışmada kişilerin kooperatif farkındalığına ilişkin durumlar incelenmiştir. Ankete katılan Yalvaç Psidia Antiokheia Kadın Kooperatifine üyelerinin kooperatife bakış açıları sosyal dayanışmadan daha çok karlılık üzerine olmuştur. Kooperatif üyeleri kooperatifi karlılıklarını arttırmaya yönelik birer faaliyet olarak görmektedirler. Ankete katılan Yalvaç Psidia Antiokheia Kadın Kooperatifi üyeleri arasında eğitim seviyesi daha yüksek olanlarda kooperatif farkındalığı daha yüksek seviyede çıkmıştır. Yapılan çalışmada yaş faktörünün göç ve ticari kazançla ilişkin değerlendirmeleri ele alınmıştır. İlk olarak ankete katılan üyelerin göç ile ilgili düşüncesi ele alınmış olup, orta yaş grubuna dahil olan üyelerin Yalvaç ilçesinden başka bir yere göç etme fikri ortaya çıkmaktadır. İkinci olarak yaş faktörünün üyelerin ticari kazancına ilişkin durumu ele alınmıştır. Yapılan bu analizde ise 18 ile 56 yaş aralığında bulunan kişiler kooperatifleşme ile birlikte gelirlerinin çok arttığını beyan etmişlerdir. Eğitim düzeyinin göç ile ilişkisi ele alındığında ankete katılan kooperatif üyelerinden lise mezunlarının yaklaşık %67’si ile üniversite mezunlarının %50’si Yalvaç ilçesinden başka bir yere göç etmeyi planlamaktadır. Lisansüstü eğitim seviyesine sahip olan üye ile ilkökul mezunu üyeler ise Yalvaç ilçesinden başka bir yere göç etmeyi planlamamaktadır. Yapılan çalışmada eğitim faktörünün üyelik ve destekler üzerindeki etkileri üzerine analizler yapılmıştır. Eğitim seviyesi yüksek olan Yalvaç Psidia Antiokheia Kadın Kooperatifi üyeleri kooperatifçiliği başka kişilere de önerme yoluna gideceklerini beyan etmişlerdir. Eğitim seviyesi yüksek olan kişiler devlet tarafından kooperatiflere verilen destekleri yeterli bulmaktadır.

Sonuç ve Tartışma:

Yapılan yatırımların ülke geneline yayılması nüfusun ülke içinde normal bir dağılım göstermesini sağlamaktadır. Nüfus hareketlerinin düzenli bir şekilde olması bölgesel dengesizliğin oluşmasına engel olmaktadır. Yatırımların belirli bir yerde toplanması ve nüfus hareketlerinin bu yöne doğru olması birçok sorunu beraberinde getirecektir. Bu sorunlar; işgünün belli bir yerde birikmesine, o bölgenin imar planını aksamasına ve o bölgeye birçok fazladan altyapı ve üst yapı yatırımlarının yapılması gibi olumsuz durumları ortaya çıkarmaktadır. Ülkeler bu sorunun üstesinden gelebilmek adına üretimi tüm ülke içinde adil dağılımını sağlamak için çalışmalar yapmaktadır. Bu durumdan hareketle ülkeler nüfusun kırsal alanlarda kalmasını teşvik etmek amacıyla çeşitli ekonomik tedbirleri ortaya koymaktadır. Türkiye’de kırsal kesimde ekonomik faaliyetleri desteklemek amacıyla birçok destekler verilmektedir. Gıda Tarım ve Hayvancılık Bakanlığı ile Türkiye Kırsal Kalkınmayı Destekleme Kurumu tarafından üreticilere çeşitli destekler verilmektedir. Gıda Tarım ve Hayvancılık Bakanlığı tarafından verilen tarımsal destekler kişilerin doğrudan üretime katılmalarını sağlamaktadır. Bu sayede kırsal bölgede yaşayıp iş kuracak kadar sermayesi olmayan kişiler doğrudan üretim faaliyetlerine katılabilecek imkânı bulabilmektedirler. Türkiye Kırsal Kalkınmayı Destekleme Kurumu tarafından verilen Avrupa Birliği fonlarından (proje kapsamına bağlı olarak %60’lara kadar) üreticiler faaliyet alanlarına göre faydalanmaktadır. Türkiye Kırsal Kalkınmayı Destekleme Kurumu tarafından sağlanan fonlarla elinde sermaye açığı bulunan kişilere fon sağlanıp kişilerin iş sahibi olmaları amaçlanmaktadır. Kurumlar tarafından üreticilere sağlanan destekler ile hem kırsal bölgedeki üretim artışı ve istihdam artışı sağlanırken hem de nüfusun kentlere göç vermesi önlenmektedir. Ticaret Bakanlığı tarafından kadın kooperatiflerine çeşitli destekler verilmektedir. Verilen bu desteklerle üretim artışı ve istihdam artışı hedeflenmektedir. Yapılan çalışma kadın kooperatiflerinin önemine ilişkin birçok noktayı ön plana çıkarmaktadır. Bunlardan ilki verilecek destek miktarlarının artırılması halinde ülke içinde özellikle kırsal bölgelerde üretim artışlarının meydana geleceğini göstermektedir. İkincisi ise eğitim olmuştur. Kooperatife üye olan kişilere kooperatif farkındalığına ilişkin eğitimler verilirse kooperatifleşmeden elde edeceğimiz katma değerler daha çok olacaktır.

1. INTRODUCTION

Local development studies, which are carried out to reduce the development gap within the country, have recently started to gain weight in our country. Along with the continuation of rural development activities, in the national economies the increase in employment and production is observed. Cooperatives have an important place in the execution of rural development activities in our country. Members who come together with cooperatives go to sell the products they produce. In this way, manufacturers eliminate the risk of not selling their products. Recent success stories together with cooperative activities are destroying the negative cooperative perception in the past. With the success stories that have emerged, the number of cooperatives in our country, especially the number of women's cooperative initiatives, are increasing.

After the industrial revolution, women began to take more place in the workforce gradually. The role of women in the labor market continues to be discussed from the perspectives of wage level, education and gender. The more active participation of women in business life gives us information about the development level of those countries. While women's participation in business life is very low in underdeveloped countries, women's participation in business life is high in developed societies.

All over the world, in developed and developing countries, the public sector, private sector and non-governmental organizations work hand in hand to strengthen and improve the place of women in the labor market. The principle of positive discrimination put into practice by social welfare states and developed countries in this sense significantly increases women's active participation in the workforce. Cooperatives as non-governmental organizations are important institutions that pave the way for women entrepreneurs. With the support given to women's cooperatives in our country, there has been an increase in women's workforce participation rates. With the women's cooperatives, women are now able to get rid of traditional housework and find a place for themselves in economic life. In this way, our women in rural areas have had the opportunity to find a place for themselves in economic life. Like other women's cooperatives in our country, Yalvaç Psidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative was founded by women with an entrepreneurial spirit in the district. Most of the members of Yalvaç Psidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative stated that the cooperative they established contributed positively to both their social and economic lives. Within the scope of the study, rural development and the role of women in rural areas were discussed. Based on these issues women's entrepreneurship, women's cooperatives and Yalvaç Psidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative were discussed.

2. THE ROLE OF WOMEN AND WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

Today women take their place in business life in cities. But in rural areas women are not actively involved in employment compared to urban life. Although there are more job opportunities in the urban areas, the more limited job opportunities in the rural areas affect the employment participation rates of women in urban and rural areas differently.

The increase in the share of women in employment gives us information about the development of that country. In developed countries the share of women in business life is higher than in developing countries. From this perspective, it can be said that the role of women in the labor market is not ignored in developed countries and that women in the developing countries have an idle capacity in the labor market. With the increase in women's employment rates, countries with more workforce increase their growth rates and enter a certain development process. In this context education opportunities should be developed in order to increase the employment rate of women. By ensuring that women receive a good education, it also contributes to the development level of the country (Özdemir et al., 2012).

People living in rural areas generally earn their living from agricultural activities. Agricultural activities in rural areas are generally to meet the daily needs of the people living there. Rural areas are places where infrastructure investments are not so much due to their structure. However, people living in rural areas cannot benefit from various opportunities such as education and health. Considering the high role of women in agricultural production and the difficulty of obtaining qualified workforce in rural areas, it is revealed that women should benefit more from their labor potential in order to use the existing workforce in rural areas more effectively. (Özmete, 2012:119). In addition to these economic activities women living in rural areas also play a key role in transferring cultural accumulations to generations (Alkan & Toksoy, 2009).

Women entrepreneurs play a key role in solving these problems in rural areas. Thanks to women's entrepreneurship activities women's workforce potentials emerge in rural areas. Women entrepreneurs play an important role in the development of their places with their economic initiatives.

Entrepreneurial activities are an important factor of production in the economy. Along with entrepreneurial activities new job opportunities appear. The appearing of job fields have a great impact on employment in the economy. This chain of economic activity has a positive effect on the growth potential of countries. Almost half of the population in Turkey consists of women. For this reason, it is necessary to encourage women to entrepreneurial activities in order to benefit from the workforce potential of women. With the orientation of women to entrepreneurial activities there will be more use of the female workforce which is idle in the economy. With women taking their place in business life the growth figures in the economy will increase even more. With the growth phenomenon, both the poverty in the country will decrease and a certain level of development will be achieved (Keskin, 2014).

Despite all these expected positive developments, some obstacles arise in women's participation in business life or in entrepreneurial activities. Şahin (2009) stated the problems experienced by women in the field of entrepreneurship as follows:

- *Stereotypical female roles*
- *Family reactions*
- *Lack of education*
- *Difficulty in finding finance*
- *Women's over workload*
- *In terms of reliability, women make more effort than men* (Şahin, 2009).

These situations faced by women negatively affect their entrepreneurial activities. Like the states that want women to be active in business life Turkey also wants women to become more active in business life by giving various economic support to women entrepreneurs. In this context, various supports are given to them in Turkey. Economic supports provided to them in Turkey play an effective role in women's entrepreneurial activities. In Turkey, women entrepreneurs are provided support up to 50000 ₺ by KOSGEB (KOSGEB, 2020).

3. WOMEN'S COOPERATIVENESS AND ITS IMPACT ON LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

One of the important institutions supporting women's entrepreneurship in rural development is women's cooperatives. In our country as in other cooperatives, women's cooperatives become members of cooperatives especially due to economic factors. Being a member of cooperatives remains in the background due to cooperative consciousness or awareness. In the study of Everest and Yercan (2016) on this issue, the main purpose of people becoming a member of the cooperative is to benefit from the financial opportunity (especially cheap input) that the cooperatives offer to their members. Within the scope of the study, the consciousness (awareness) of people about being cooperative increases according to their education level. As the education level of cooperative members increases, their awareness of the cooperative increases (Everest & Yercan, 2016). A study similar to this study was conducted by Şahin et al. (2013), and it was seen that the most important factor for individuals to become members of cooperatives is to act together. Within the scope of this study, the lowest factor for people to become members of cooperatives is the cheap supply of consumer goods (Şahin et al., 2013).

Cooperatives are established with at least 7 people according to the Cooperative Law. Establishment procedures begin with the signing of the registry in the relevant chamber of commerce (Mevzuat, 1969). The working areas of the cooperatives are specified in the cooperative agreements. With the implementation of the provisions in the cooperative law, women's cooperatives start to operate. Women's cooperatives play an important role in rural development. Women's cooperatives have many contributions both to individuals and to countries in macro terms. Women working as individuals within the cooperative are on the way to gaining their economic freedom with the income they earn. When these women's movements begin to spread like a drop of water throughout the country, they play an important role in reducing unemployment and eliminating regional imbalances in our country. Various approaches emerge in the use of women's cooperatives as a solution tool in rural development. These

approaches put forward by the Women's Labor and Employment Initiative (2015); It consists of *productivity approach, employment approach and organizational approach*.

- *Productivity Approach*: In this model, what is meant by efficiency is activities aimed at filling the supply gap in the market mechanism through women's cooperatives. Women's co-operatives are taking various steps towards completing the lack of productivity in the market and completing the missing workforce.
- *Employment Approach*: In this approach, the positive situation in the workforce participation of women who have received training in various production approaches is discussed. Women who have various education certificates are included in the workforce thanks to cooperatives.
- *Organizational Approach*: The main purpose of this approach is to help women organize. With the organization of women, their economic development emerges. Economically advanced women cause both an increase in their personal income and a decrease in poverty (KEİG, 2015).

Within the framework of Koop-Des 2021 grant support to cooperatives in Turkey, various supports were provided to women's cooperatives. Within the scope of this support, to women's cooperatives, most of which are women and operating to contribute to both production and employment;

- *Procurement of machinery and/or equipment*
- *Purchases of investment goods in the form of fixtures for elderly and disabled care centers, children's clubs, kindergartens and day care centers to be operated by cooperatives, of which at least 90% of the members are women.*
- *Procurement of services for participation in exhibitions and fairs regarding the promotion and marketing of the products they produce.*
- *Qualified personnel employment related to their projects support is provided.*

Within the scope of the Kop-Des 2021 grant support, "the upper amount of support for the purchase of goods does not exceed 200,000 TL, the support for service procurement does not exceed 30,000 TL, 30,000 TL per year for a single qualified personnel and 60,000 TL per year for two personnel. Among these supports, the amount of support to the priority places in development and to the cooperatives where at least 90% of the members are female members is 75%, while the amount of support in other regions is 50%. (Ticaret Bakanlığı, 2022).

4. THE SAMPLE OF YALVAÇ PISIDIA ANTIOKHEIA WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS COOPERATIVE

Yalvaç district which is 105 km away from Isparta was founded in Antioch by his sons (Seleukos I or Antiochos) after the death of Alexander the Great in the past. The region was named Yalvaç by the Yalvaç people, the first of the Oghuz tribes who settled in the region during the Seljuk period. Yalvaç came under Ottoman rule in 1380 (Isparta Valiliği, 2022). Antiocheia is located approximately 1 km northeast of Yalvaç town of Isparta province. Pisidia Antiocheia City is among the places that St. Paul visited. These places are considered to be the places where Christianity spread. People of the Orthodox sect come to these places and perform their pilgrimage (Isparta İl Kültür ve Turizm Müdürlüğü, 2022).

Table 1. Turkey-wide Labor Force Participation Rate

		TR	TR61
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	(15-64) Male	2018	78.6
		2019	79.2
		2020	79.6
	(15-64) Female	2018	74.6
		2019	75.8
		2020	45.7
		38.3	46.2
		38.7	43.3
		35	

Source: (TÜİK, 2022).

According to Table 1 The workforce participation rate of women aged 15-64 in the Western Mediterranean Region (NUTS 2 TR61) is well above the Turkey average.

Table 2. Number of Employees by Sectors and Gender in Isparta Province in 2020

Sector	Male Employee	Female Employee	Total Employees	Ratio of Female Employees
Production	5836	1995	7831	0,254
Wholesale and Retail Trade	2415	1129	3544	0,318
Mining and Quarrying	2683	329	3012	0,109
Administrative and support service activities	1913	695	2608	0,266
Transport and Storage	1421	270	1691	0,159
Human Health and Social Work Activities	399	712	1111	0,64
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	592	399	991	0,402
Education	418	446	864	0,516
Build	681	71	752	0,094
Water supply; Sewage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities	234	2	236	0,008
Production and Distribution of Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning	153	11	164	0,067
Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	124	33	157	0,21
Information and Communication	81	13	94	0,138
Other service activities	38	14	52	0,269
Real Estate Activities	30	2	32	0,062
Total	17018	6121	23139	0,264

Source: (İŞKUR, 2022).

According to Table 2, female labor force participation rate in Isparta province is at a low level. Based on Table 1, the labor force participation rate of women in the province of Isparta is lower than the average for both the region and Turkey.

Yalvaç Pisidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative was established on 15 November 2019 with 46 partnerships. Production activities related to many product varieties are carried out within the cooperative (Ozyalvaç, 2020).

There are 46 women entrepreneurs who are members of Yalvaç Pisidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative. 20 entrepreneurs were asked 27 questions about their social and economic status, the reasons for being a member of the cooperative, the support they received from the cooperative and their awareness level. For this study the approval of ethical committee no E-96714346-050.99-10167 dated 24.02.2022 was taken from the Ethical Committee, Isparta University of Applied Sciences. All of the questions in the questionnaire consist of discontinuous and qualitative variables. In the study, using the SPSS program, the variables were first interpreted by using descriptive statistics, taking into account their frequency and percentage distributions. The existence of significant relationships between discontinuous and qualitative variables is investigated with the chi-square test, which is a nonparametric test method (Baştürk, 2011).

Testing the relationship between two categorized variables (two samples) can be performed using the independence test. In the two-sample independence test, the null hypothesis that the samples are independent of each other, that is, they are not affected, is tested. If there are values less than five in the cross tables (contingency tables) obtained from the observed frequency values of the two samples, Fisher's exact chi-square test, one of the chi-square independence tests, can be applied.

The chi-square test examines whether the difference between the observed frequencies and the expected frequencies is significant. In the chi-square test, calculations cannot be made in the chi-square test if the data are given as percentages or proportions. It is a model based on testing two independent qualitative criteria in the chi-square distribution. In the chi-square model, it states that the two criteria are independent in the H0 hypothesis and that there is a relationship between the two criteria in the Ha hypothesis (Güngör& Bulut, 2008). Fisher's exact

chi-square test was used because a large number of frequency values less than five were obtained due to the number of cooperative members in the samples of entrepreneurs participating in this study (Baştürk, 2011, Kartal, 2006).

f_{11}	f_{12}	R_1
f_{21}	f_{22}	R_2
C_1	C_2	n

(1)

In Table 1, where the values observed in the crosstabs are f_{ij} , i represents rows and j represents columns. R_i represents the sum of the frequencies in the rows, and C_i the sum of the frequencies in the columns. In Table 2, Given the observed marginal totals (R_1 , R_2 , C_1 , and C_2), the probabilities of the observed f_{ij} s occurring by chance are as follows, under the null hypothesis that the effects in the row are independent of the effects in the column (Zar, J. H., 1987):

$$P = \frac{R_1!R_2!C_1!C_2!}{f_{11}!f_{12}!f_{21}!f_{22}!n!} \quad (2)$$

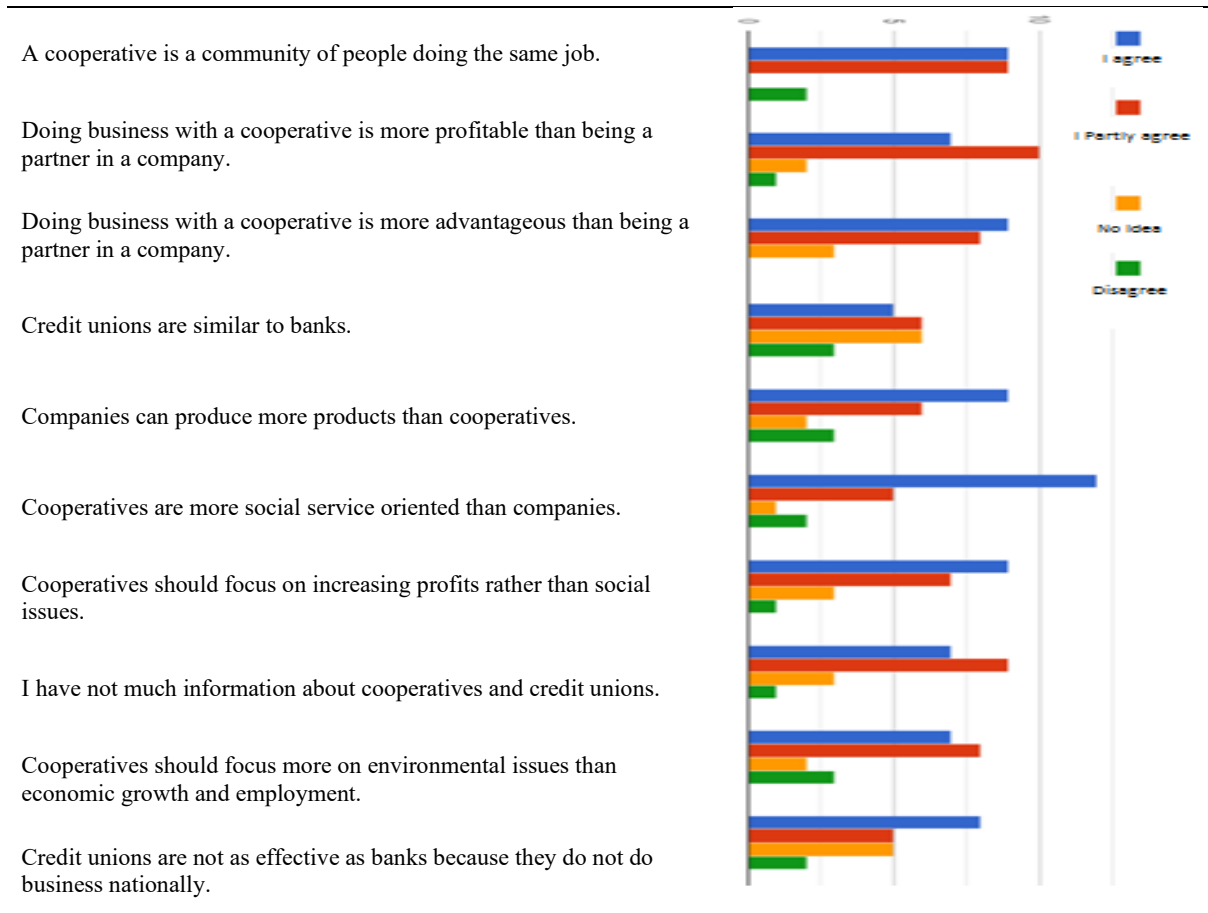
By gradually changing the observed frequencies until the smallest observed frequency becomes zero, the calculated α value is compared with the chi-square value and the null hypothesis is rejected or accepted. The hypotheses created in the study were tested by comparing the chi-square probability (p) values with five percent and 10% margins of error (Kartal, 2006).

According to the results of the survey conducted to the members of Yalvaç Pisidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative; half of the 20 cooperative members participating in the survey are in the 44-56 age group. The relative lowest and highest age group received the lowest rate. It can be said that the members of the cooperative mostly show a middle age distribution. While 40% of the cooperative members are university graduates, 30% high school graduates, 25% primary school graduates, five percent have postgraduate education. Although there are cooperative members from every education level, it is noteworthy that most of the members have a high school or higher graduation. 80% of the cooperative members declared that their monthly income was between 1000 and 1500 TL before joining the cooperative. The monthly income of most of the members is below the minimum wage level. 60% of the cooperative members declared that there was an increase in their monthly income after becoming a member of this cooperative. About 91% of the members, who stated that there was an increase in their post-membership income, stated that this increase was below 20%, and nine percent stated that it was between 40 and 59%. Among the reasons for being a member of the cooperative, the idea of doing business stands out with 65%. 35% of the members stated the reason for being a member as an increase in income.

Most of the cooperative members do not have any other cooperative membership other than this cooperative. Only five percent of the members have additional cooperative membership. The 90% yes answer given to the question "I wish I had been a member of cooperatives before?" asked to the members, also shows that this membership is the first cooperative experience of most of the members. 60% of the members do not intend to migrate from Yalvaç district. On the other hand, the main reasons behind this request of the member group considering immigration are not economic reasons, health or education reasons. According to the answers given to the question "Did your mind change after you become a member?" asked to the members, it seems that cooperative membership does not play an active role in their thoughts on migration.

All members recommend cooperative membership to others. All of the members stated that cooperative membership has changed their social life more or less. Again, all of the members say that the cooperative changes the commercial earnings of the members. Members state that the cooperative offers them the most cash support (65%). This is followed by service and personnel support with 15%, and fixtures (investment goods) support with five percent. 65% of the members find this support sufficient. A large part of the 35% member group (70%), who stated that the support provided was insufficient, stated that they wanted to benefit from more cash support. This is followed by personnel support with 20% and service support with 10%. There is no member requesting fixed asset (investment) support.

Table 3. Cooperative Awareness of Yalvaç Pisidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative Members



The answers given to the questions asked to determine the awareness levels of the members of the Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative about the cooperatives and cooperative membership in general are given in Table 2. A significant part of the members think that cooperatives are more service-oriented than companies. However, a significant portion of the members also state that cooperatives should focus on increasing profits rather than social issues. Although the members have an idea about the difference between cooperative-company-bank-credit cooperatives, they are of the opinion that a balance should be established between the social and economic aspects of cooperatives. The common prominence of the titles of being service-oriented, increasing profits and focusing on environmental issues can be considered as an indicator of this.

Table 4. Relationship Between Age and Idea of Migration

Age	Yes	No	Total
18-30 age difference	1	1	2
57-69 age difference	0	3	3
70 years and older	0	2	2
TOTAL	8	12	20
	Value	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	
Fisher's Exact Test	7,993	0,033	
N of Valid Cases	20		

Within the scope of the study, the members were asked about their thoughts on migrating from one place to another. While middle-aged members of Yalvaç Pisidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative members consider

immigrating from Yalvaç district, people over 70 years old and between 18-30 years old (middle age group) do not think of immigrating from the district.

Ho: Entrepreneurial age and immigration thought are independent of each other, $\chi^2=7,993$; Since $p<0.05$ (0.033), Ho hypothesis is rejected. According to the fisher test, there is a significant correlation between the age of entrepreneurs and the ideas of people to go somewhere else. The middle-aged people participating in the survey have the idea of emigrating.

Table 5. Relationship between Age and Commercial Earnings

Age	Little has changed	Has changed a lot	Has changed	Total
18-30 age difference	1	1	0	2
31-43 age difference	1	1	1	3
44-56 age difference	1	2	7	10
57-69 age difference	3	0	0	3
70 years and older	0	0	2	2
Total	6	4	10	20
	Value	Exact Sig. (2-sided)		
Fisher's Exact Test	11,748	0,047		
N of Valid Cases	20			

Within the scope of the study, the members of Yalvaç Pisidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative were asked a question about whether there was a change in their income after becoming a member of the cooperative. Yalvaç Pisidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative members stated that their income changed after they became a member of the cooperative. When analyzed according to age groups, the members between the ages of 18-56 stated that their incomes changed a lot, while the members between the ages of 57-69 stated that it changed little.

Ho: Age of entrepreneur and commercial earnings are independent of each other, $\chi^2=11.748$; Since $p<0.05$ (0.047), the Ho hypothesis is rejected. According to the fisher analysis, the increase in the age of the members participating in the survey also causes an increase in their earnings.

Table 6. Relationship between Education Level and Pre-Accession Income

Education Level	Between 1000 ₺ -1500 ₺	Between 2501 ₺ - 3000 ₺	Between 3001 ₺ - 3500 ₺	3501 ₺ and above	Total
Primary school	5	0	0	0	5
Graduate	0	0	0	1	1
High school	6	0	0	0	6
University	5	2	1	0	8
Total	16	2	1	1	20
	Value	Exact Sig. (2-sided)			
Fisher's Exact Test	13,249	0,072			
N of Valid Cases	20				

Within the scope of the study, questions were asked to the members of Yalvaç Pisidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative about their education level and their monthly income before membership to the cooperative. Considering the answers given by the members; Income of cooperative members up to graduate education level varies between 1000₺-1500₺. The income level of cooperative members with graduate education is over 3501₺.

Ho: Entrepreneurial education level and pre-accession income are independent of each other, $\chi^2=13.249$; Since $p<0.1$ (0.072), the Ho hypothesis is rejected. According to the Fisher analysis, there is a significant relationship between the education level of the members participating in the survey and their income before joining the

cooperative. The income level of higher education graduates who are members of the cooperative is higher than other education levels before they become members.

Table 7. Relationship between Education Level and Membership of Other Cooperatives

Education Level	Yes	No	Total
Primary school	0	5	5
Graduate	1	0	1
High school	0	6	6
University	0	8	8
Total	1	19	20
	Value	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	
Fisher's Exact Test	7,134	0,05	
N of Valid Cases	20		

Within the scope of the study, the members of Yalvaç Pisidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative were asked about their membership in another cooperative. According to the answers given, it is revealed that as the education level of the cooperative members increases, their status of being a member of another cooperative also increases.

Ho: Entrepreneurial education level and membership in other cooperatives are independent of each other, $\chi^2=7.134$; Since $p \leq 0.05$ (0.05), the Ho hypothesis is rejected. According to the fisher analysis, among the cooperative members participating in the survey, those with graduate education have membership in another cooperative.

Table 8. Relationship between Education Level and Immigration Idea

Education Level	Yes	No	Total
Primary school	0	5	5
Graduate	0	1	1
High school	4	2	6
University	4	4	8
Total	8	12	20
	Value	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	
Fisher's Exact Test	5,857	0,099	
N of Valid Cases	20		

Within the scope of the study, the relationship between the education levels of the members of Yalvaç Pisidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative and migration is discussed. According to the analysis, as the level of education increases, the phenomenon of migration to another place increases. Within the scope of the study, high school and university graduates of the members who participated in the survey are planning to migrate to another place. On the other hand, approximately 33% of high school graduates and approximately 50% of university graduates do not intend to migrate.

Ho: Entrepreneurial education level and immigration thought are independent of each other, $\chi^2=5,857$; Since $p < 0.01$ (0.099), the Ho hypothesis is rejected. According to the Fisher analysis, cooperative members participating in the survey are more willing to migrate from one place to another as their education level increases.

Table 9. The Relationship between Education Level and Willingness to Become a Member Before

Education Level	Yes	No	Total
Primary school	5	0	5
Graduate	0	1	1
High school	6	0	6
University	7	1	8
Total	18	2	20
	Value	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	
Fisher's Exact Test	5,56	0.1	
N of Valid Cases	20		

Within the scope of the study, questions were asked to the members of the Yalvaç Pisidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative about their previous wishes to become a member of the cooperative. The answers given to the question posed reveal the desire of most of the members to become a member before. Contrary to other analyzes in this question, cooperative members with undergraduate and graduate education do not want to become members before.

Ho: Entrepreneurial education level and previous desire to be a member are independent of each other, $\chi^2=5.56$; Since $p \leq 0.1(0,1)$, the Ho hypothesis is rejected. According to the fisher analysis, as the education level of the cooperative members participating in the survey increases, their desire to become a member of the cooperative increases.

Table 10. The Relationship between Education Level and Idea of Support Adequacy

Education Level	Yes	No	Total
Primary school	1	4	5
Graduate	1	0	1
High school	4	2	6
University	7	1	8
Total	13	7	20
	Value	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	
Fisher's Exact Test	6,166	0,074	
N of Valid Cases	20		

Within the scope of the study, the members of Yalvaç Pisidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative were asked whether they found the support provided by the state sufficient or not. The members of the cooperative, who are high school and university graduates, think that the support provided by the state to the cooperatives is sufficient.

Ho: Entrepreneurial education level and support adequacy are independent of each other, $\chi^2=6,166$; Since $p < 0.1(0.074)$, Ho hypothesis is rejected. According to the Fisher analysis, the increases in the education levels of the cooperative members participating in the survey reveal the opinions that the support provided is sufficient.

Table 11. There is a Significant Relationship between Income Level and Membership in Another Cooperative

Old income	Yes	No	Total
Between 1000 ₺ -1500 ₺	0	16	16
Between 2501 ₺ - 3000 ₺	0	2	2
Between 3001 ₺- 3500 ₺	0	1	1
3501 ₺ and above	1	0	1
Total	1	19	20
	Value	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	
Fisher's Exact Test	9,149	0.1	
N of Valid Cases	20		

Within the scope of the study, it was analyzed whether there is a relationship between the income status of the members of Yalvaç Pisidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative and being a member of another cooperative. According to the analysis, low-income people do not have membership in any other cooperative. Members with a higher wage group have membership in another cooperative.

Ho: Entrepreneurial income level and membership in another cooperative are independent of each other, $\chi^2=9,149$; Since $p \leq 0.1$ (0.1), the Ho hypothesis is rejected. According to the fisher analysis, the increase in the income levels of the cooperative members participating in the survey positively affects the members to become a member of another cooperative.

5. CONCLUSION

Local development is increasing its importance nowadays. In this context various support opportunities are offered to people living in rural areas in order to ensure rural development in Turkey. With the support provided to producers and those who will establish new businesses, some economic developments are observed in local areas. Within the scope of the support provided, improvements are observed in the employment problem in local areas. With this, local areas begin to reduce the development gap between them and the developed regions in their immediate surroundings with the economic gains they have achieved. The dynamics of that region play an important role as much as the support provided in the success of local development activities. Development activities in local areas are provided through the characteristics that are unique to that region and generally identified with the region.

Since there was a negative point of view regarding cooperatives in Turkey in the past, cooperative activities could not progress at the desired level in Turkey until recently. Despite this situation, local development activities in Turkey have been continuing through cooperatives recently. Undoubtedly, Tire Dairy Cooperative provided the most important contribution to this situation. The acceleration of success achieved by Tire Dairy Cooperative has set a positive example for many cooperatives today. With the cooperative structure, producers find the opportunity to sell their products to consumers without intermediaries. In this way both the producers get the rewards of their labor and the consumers reach the situation of having the product at a cheaper price. Women's cooperatives also have an important place in the cooperative. Thanks to women's cooperatives women find a more comfortable way in economic life and women are more easily integrated into economic life.

Within the scope of the study, the members of Yalvaç Pisidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative were discussed. Within the scope of the survey conducted with the members, the members stated that there was an increase in their income after becoming a member of the cooperative. Most of the people who are members of the cooperative recommend the membership of the cooperative to the people who are not members of the cooperative. Members of the cooperative want the support provided by the state to be further increased.

In the cooperative services carried out within the scope of local development activities, the weight of age level and education come to the fore. Among the members of Yalvaç Pisidia Antiokheia Women Entrepreneurs Cooperative who participated in the survey, people with higher education levels benefit more from cooperative activities. Members whose education level is above a certain level have a higher awareness of cooperatives than other members. Young and middle-aged people who are members of the cooperative have benefited relatively more from the economic contributions provided by the cooperative.

As a result according to the study, the spread of cooperative movements in Yalvaç will have a positive effect on the rural development of the district. In addition, providing various trainings to cooperative members in order to increase the awareness of cooperatives will help the people to get more efficiency from cooperatives. In this context, efforts to increase the awareness of cooperatives with the help of various public institutions and organizations in the local area will ensure the formation of cooperative awareness in the district. With the activation of these emerging situations, the number of existing cooperatives in the district will increase and inter-cooperative networks will develop. The qualitative and numerical development of the cooperative system in the district will contribute positively to the economy of the district in the future.

DECLARATION OF THE AUTHOR

Declaration of Contribution Rate: The author contributes the study on his own.

Declaration of Support and Thanksgiving: No support is taken from any institution or organization.

Declaration of Conflict: There is no potential conflict of interest in the study.

REFERENCES

- Alkan, S., & Toksoy, D. (2009). Orman köylerinde kadın ve kırsal kalkınma (Trabzon ili örneği). *II. Ormancılıkta Sosyo-Ekonomik Sorunlar Kongresi*, Süleyman Demirel Üniversitesi, Isparta.
- Baştürk, R. (2011). *Bütün yönleriyle spss örnekli nonparametrik istatistiksel yöntemler*. Anı Yayıncılık.
- Everest, B., & Yercan, M. (2016). Kooperatif ortaklarının kooperatifçilik ilkelerini algılamaları üzerine bir araştırma: Tarım kredi kooperatifleri örneği. *Ege Üniversitesi Ziraat Fak. Dergisi*, 53(1), 67-73.
- Güngör, M., & Bulut, Y. (2008). Ki-Kare testi üzerine. *Fırat Üniversitesi Doğu Araştırmaları Dergisi*, 7(1), 84-89.
- Isparta İl Kültür ve Turizm Müdürlüğü. (2022). *Pisidia antiokheia antik kenti*. Republic of Turkey Ministry of Culture and Tourism. Retrieved March 1, 2022 from <https://isparta.ktb.gov.tr/TR-165309/pisidia-antiokheia-antik-kenti.html>
- Isparta Valiliği. (2022). *Yalvaç*. Republic of Turkey Ministry of Interior. Retrieved March 1, 2022 from <http://www.isparta.gov.tr/yalvac>
- İŞKUR. (2022). *Number of employees by sectors and gender in Isparta province in 2020*. Republic of Turkey Ministry of Industry and Technology. Retrieved March 2, 2022 from <https://media.iskur.gov.tr/45170/isparta.pdf>
- Kadın Emeği ve İstihdamı Girişimi. (2015). *Türkiye’de kadın kooperatifleşmesi: Eğilimler ve ideal tipler*. 20-21. Retrieved May 2, 2022 from <http://www.keig.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/koopwweb-1.pdf>
- Kartal, M. (2006). *Bilimsel araştırmalarda hipotez testleri*. Nobel Yayın Dağıtım.
- Keskin, S. (2014). Türkiye’de kadın girişimcilerin durumu. *Girişimcilik ve Kalkınma Dergisi*, 9(1), 71-94.
- KOSGEB. (2020). *Geleneksel girişimci destek programı*. Republic of Turkey Ministry of Industry and Technology. Retrieved 26 February, 2022 from [https://webdosya.kosgeb.gov.tr/Content/Upload/Dosya/Giri%C5%9Fimcilik/2021/01.01.2021/00-UE-18_\(01\)_Geleneksel_Giri%C5%9Fimci_Destek_Program%C4%B1_Uygulama_Esaslar%C4%B1_29....pdf](https://webdosya.kosgeb.gov.tr/Content/Upload/Dosya/Giri%C5%9Fimcilik/2021/01.01.2021/00-UE-18_(01)_Geleneksel_Giri%C5%9Fimci_Destek_Program%C4%B1_Uygulama_Esaslar%C4%B1_29....pdf)
- Mevzuat. (1969). *Kooperatifler kanunu*. Retrieved 25 February, 2022 from <https://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/MevzuatMetin/1.5.1163.pdf>
- Özdemir, Z., Yalman, İ. N., & Bayrakdar S. (2012). Kadın istihdamı ve ekonomik kalkınma: geçiş ekonomileri örneği. *International Conference on Eurasian Economie*, 115-122.
- Özmete, E. (2012). *Kırsal kalkınma için kadınların güçlendirilmesi: sosyal hizmet modelleri*. Ankara Sağlık Bilimleri Dergisi, 1(1), 117-128. https://doi.org/10.1501/Asbd_0000000009
- Özyalvaç. (2020). *Yalvaçlı kadınlarımız büyük bir hikaye yazıyor*. Retrieved 15 September, 2020 from <http://www.ozyalvac.com/yalvacli-kadinlarimiz-buyuk-bir-hikaye-yaziyor.html>

- Şahin, E. (2009). Kadın girişimcilik ve Konya ilinde kadın girişimcilik profili üzerine bir uygulama. *Sosyal Ekonomik Araştırmalar Dergisi*, 9(17), 286-309.
- Şahin, A., Cankurt, M., Günden C., Miran B., & Meral Y. (2013). Türkiyede kooperatiflere ortak olmada ve kooperatif başarısında etkili faktörlerin analizi. *Akademik Ziraat Dergisi*, 2(1), 23-34. ISSN:2147-6403.
- TÜİK. (2022). *Turkey-wide labor force participation rate*. Ministry of Treasury and Finance Retrieved 1 March, 2022 from <https://biruni.tuik.gov.tr/medas/?kn=102&locale=tr>
- Ticaret Bakanlığı. (2022), *Kooperatiflerin desteklenmesi programı*. Retrieved 25 February, 2022 from <https://ticaret.gov.tr/kooperatifcilik/koop-des/koop-des-basvuru-duyurusu>
- Zar, H. J. (1987). *A fast and efficient algorithm for the fisher exact test*. *Behavior research methods, instruments, & computers*, 19(4), 413-414. <https://doi.org/10.3758/BF03202590>