



Islamic Azad University-Ahar Branch

Geographic Space

An Approved Scientific. Research-based Quarterly

*Hossein Farahani<sup>1</sup>*

*Zahra Asdaghi<sup>2</sup>*

# **The Survey of the Impact of the Milk Collection Network for the Development in Rural Area and Enhancing Social and Economic Rural Urban Linkage, A Case Study of Central District in Hashtrud Township**

Date received: 8 May 2011

Date accepted: 4 December 2011

## **Abstract**

This research has studied the effects of the milk collection network for the rural development, and the increasing rural welfare and strengthening rural-urban linkage especially in social and economic dimension. For this mean descriptive and analytical research methods were used. For collecting data needed, documentary methods and field studies have been applied. In field studies some of the tools like observation and complement questionnaires and interviews were used to collect data and

1 - Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Zanjan University.

2- M.A. Student in Geography and Rural Planning, Zanjan University

information. For this, 42 villages and 15 milk collectors in a central district of Hashtroud township has been selected through stratified sampling. In order to describe and analyze collected data, the SPSS software and descriptive statistics were applied. For hypothesis test in gresearch Wilcoxon sign rank test was applied. The results indicate that the creation of infrastructure and facilities for collection, processing and marketing dairy products were essential prerequisites for the development of dairy activities and the underlying increase in the welfare and economic development and improving relations between urban and rural areas. Therefore, in order to diversify agricultural income, especially considering how and what of the production of milk and livestock production in this section, along with reduced production costs can increase income and welfare in the rural area as well as help create and diversify job opportunity and finally economic sustainability.

**Keywords:** Network, Rural development, Rural linkages, Hashtroud township.