## Investigating the efficiency of Guilan province fishing cooperatives

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Abstract The fishing cooperatives in Guilan province as an example of productive cooperatives can be considered as suitable tools for rural development. The main purpose of this study is to Investigate the efficiency of Guilan Provincial Cooperative Companies and identifying model and reference cooperatives for inefficient cooperatives. Thus, the data of 20 cooperative companies related to the season of 1395-1396 were analyzed. To evaluate the efficiency, two groups of input and output variables, were used. Input variables include the total assets, the number of active members and the total cost. Output variables include total revenue and total revenue. To answer the research questions, the data envelopment analysis technique has been used. The results show that the total average efficiency in CRS is 0.874 and the average total efficiency in VRS performance is 0.940 and in the efficiency of the total efficiency scale is 0.924. It was also found that half of the fishing cooperatives in Guilan province were inefficient. Keywords: Data Envelopment Analysis, Fishing Cooperative Companies, Fixed Efficiency, Efficiency with Variable Returns, Scale Efficiency.

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