

STUDIES ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SMES) IN ROMANIA

T. MATEOC, NICOLETA SÎRB-MATEOC, MIHAELA TOROC, ANISOARA DUMA-COPCEA, CAMELIA MANESCU, CRISTIAN MATIAS

Agricultural and Veterinary University of the Banat, Timișoara, România
mateocnicol@yahoo.com

Romania is part of Europe and it needs to prove it in everything it does. It is no easy task if we take into account the necessity to develop European level capabilities that ensure genuine European behaviour and activities.

On January 1, 2007, Romania became the 27th member nation of the European Union.

Small and medium enterprises are the backbone of economy in any country and EU experience shows that the sector of small and medium enterprises can contribute essentially to the GDP and thus decrease unemployment (60% of the GDP and about 70% of the total labour force). SMEs can flexibly meet the demands of a strongly competitive market and quickly adapt to cyclic and structural changes of global economy.

In Romania, small and medium enterprises are defined by the Law no. 133/1999 concerning the enhancement of private enterprisers in the development of small and medium enterprises published by the *Monitorul Oficial* no. 349 from July, 23, 1999.

It is important to note the fact that the number of micro-enterprises has decreased steadily lately, while the number of small enterprises increased. This evolution shows that the sector of small and medium enterprises has grown up.

Keywords: regional development, agro-alimentary production, diversification, investment.