RURAL ECONOMY STRUCTURE AND LIFE QUALITY IN THE ROMANIAN RURAL AREAS

STRUCTURA ECONOMIEI RURALE ȘI CALITATEA VIEȚII ÎN SPAȚIUL RURAL ROMÂNESC

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ABSTRACT – Rural economy structure and life quality in the romanian rural areas

As a consequence of the fact that the economic development politics during the communist period considered the industry as the only branch that can support the development of an area, it has been decided the location of industries in all counties, notwithstanding the potential support with human and material potential.

In general industries developed during communism were located in predominantly agricultural counties with a dominance of the rural environment.

In the present in all regions of Romania there are counties with problems which occurred as a result of industrial restructuring combined with problems of rural underdevelopment, both aspects inducing the phenomena of unemployment and reduced living standards.

General issues of economic development existing in Romanian rural areas are similar to those European regions with low development, that applies structural policies and implements specific structural funds. In rural areas of Romania are not enough productive investment and not create enough jobs, which reduced revenues and the quality of life in rural communities.

In the present Romania has to face new challenges generated by the objective necessity of absorption of European funds allocated by the EU in the 2007-2013 period. Over 8 billion euro are intended for Romanian rural area development through the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. The European Union created this financial instrument to support the member states in implementation process of PAC (Common Agricultural Policy).

In Romania, in the National Plan of Rural Development have been formulated 4 domains (axes) which comprise the main activities financed through EAFRD.

These measures cover the following areas:

- 1. increasing competitiveness of the agricultural sector and forestry;
- 2. improving the environment and the rural areas;
- 3. life quality in rural areas and the diversification of rural economy;
- 4. LEADER

The funds are for eligible projects which reflect the real needs of the rural communities, having a direct effect on the development of romanian rural space, and indirectly improving life quality of inhabitants of rural areas.

Keywords: agriculture, tourism, income, business, services, infrastructure