RESEARCH REGARDING THE CURRENT CONTEXT OF RURAL NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN ON VRANCEA COUNTY LEVEL

CERCETĂRI PRIVIND CONTEXTUL ACTUAL AL PLANULUI NAȚIONAL DE DEZVOLTARE RURALĂ LA NIVELUL JUDEȚULUI VRANCEA

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Abstract: *Since 2007, Romania is a member of the European Union and took its first steps on the EU market. Restructuring, modernization and development of agriculture and food sector, forestry and wood processing involving a great challenge to increase their competitiveness. Thus, efforts should be made to integrate instruments of CAP in EU policies and with other structural funds in order to use all available resources and coordinate these instruments for the benefit of rural development in Romania.*

Key words: *European Union, development policy, agriculture, Vrancea County*

INTRODUCTION

Romania's rural development policy supported by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), representing the second Pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is designed to accompany the support policy of Pillar 1, which provides a basic income for farmers. The second pillar supports the development of agriculture and forestry sectors, conservation and protection of land, nature and environment and quality of life in rural areas. Support from EAFRD is to implement EU key policies, including Lisbon Strategy and Gothenburg Declaration on Sustainable Development.

There are considerable disparities between Member States in terms of gross domestic product (GDP) per capita. To eliminate these disparities, the EU aims to promote, in the range 2007-2013, a cohesion policy developed based on three objectives:(figure 1)

- Convergence;
- Regional competitiveness and employment;
- Territorial cooperation.

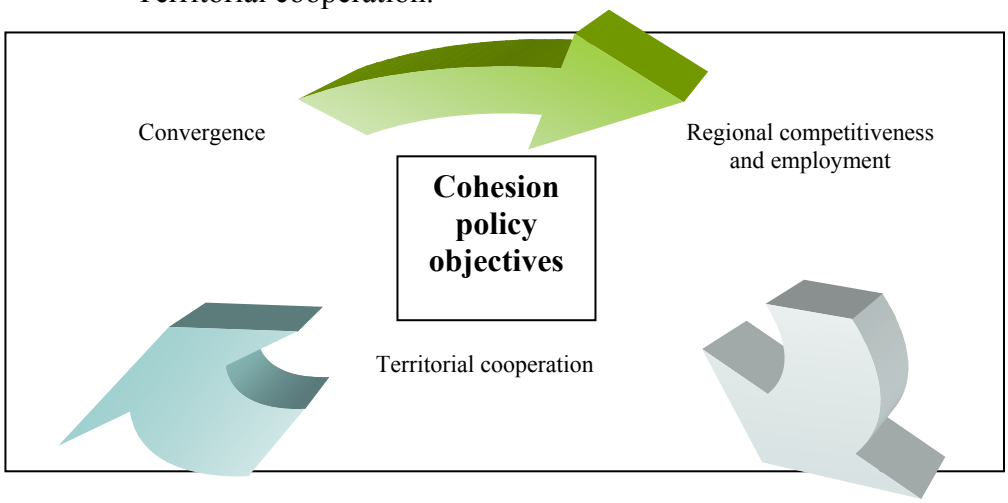


Figure 1. Cohesion policy objectives

These objectives will be achieved by allocating financial support of Member States:

- European Regional Development Fund-ERDF;
- European Social Fund-ESF;
- Cohesion Fund-FC;
- European Agricultural Fund for Regional Development, EAFRD.

Accessing EU funds is conditioned by the development by the Member States of programming documents, which indicate areas to be targeted the EU financial assistance.

For the interest for Romanian rural area is the European Fund for Agriculture and Rural Development, from this will be cofinanced rural development policy. This policy aims to increase the economic vitality of rural areas in Romania.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The authors of the paper were used as methods of work: data collection, processing, analysis, observation and their interpretation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

In December 2005 was completed National Development Plan (NDP) for 2007-2013, public investment prioritization tool for development through witch Romania will try to recover as quickly the socio-economic development disparities from European Union countries. NDP has drawn up the directions for allocation of public investments funds with significant impact on economic and social development from domestic sources (state budget, local budgets, etc.) or external (structural and cohesion funds, EU funds for rural development and fisheries, external loans etc.).

The NDP have identified six national priorities for development, which bundle inside a variety of areas and sub areas:(figure 2)

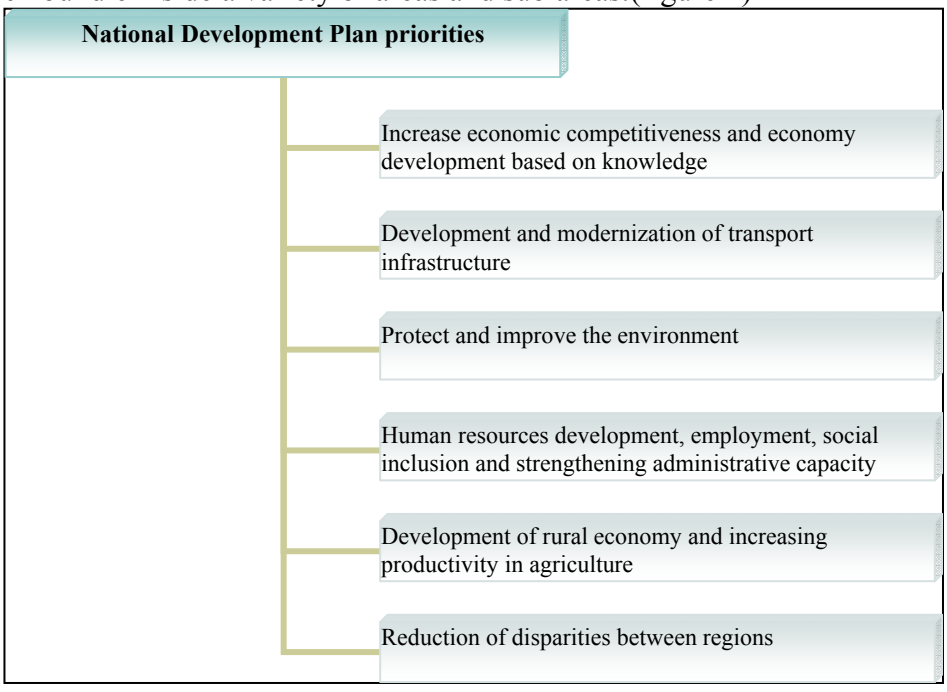


Figure 2. National Development Plan priorities

- Increase economic competitiveness and economy development based on knowledge;

- Development and modernization of transport infrastructure;
- Protect and improve the environment;
- Human resources development, employment, social inclusion and strengthening administrative capacity;
- Development of rural economy and increasing productivity in agriculture;
- Reduction of disparities between regions.

National Rural Development Plan 2007-2013 was approved only on 20 February 2008 by the Rural Development Committee of the European Commission. Following this in the period 3 to 25 March 2008 was launched the first session for submission of projects for absorption these rural development funds but only three measures, namely:

- 121 Modernization of agricultural holdings;
- 123 Adding value to agricultural and forestry products;
- 322 Village renewal and development, improvement basic services for economy and rural population and enhancement of rural heritage.

Until 2011 the stage of rural development funds accession, by the axes and measures, at Vrancea County level, can be seen through the tables below: (table 1, 2.3.4) [4,5]

Table 1

Stage of funds accessing for Axis 1 measures at Vrancea county level, 2011

Measure	Total projects	Total amount, Euro
112	147	3.014.649,00
141	1611	12.082.500/5ani
121	82	73.272.279,00
123	30	74.393.045,00
125	17	20.026.301,00
General Total	1887 from witch 1611 on measure 141	200.701.735

Source: C.D.R.J. Vrancea

Table 2

Stage of funds accessing for 221 Measure at Vrancea county level, 2011

Measure	Total projects	Total amount, Euro
221	1	245.116,00

Source: C.D.R.J. Vrancea

Table 3

Stage of funds accessing for Axis 3 measures at Vrancea county level, 2011

Measure	Total projects	Total amount, Euro
312C	2	570.186,00
312M	67	15.619.899,00
313	10	4.056.978,00
313M	13	3.944.116,00
322	51	136.471.606,00
General Total	153	160.662.785,00

Source: C.D.R.J. Vrancea

Table 4

Stage of funds accessing for Axis 4 measures at Vrancea county level, 2011

Measure	Total projects	Total amount, Euro
431	2	132.892,26
General Total	2	132.892,26

Source: C.D.R.J. Vrancea

Development of rural infrastructure and making profitable farm households are two major areas that can benefit the development of local communities. The issue of European funds always has disappointed everybody because, statistically speaking, not too mention that we are able to attract money. Investments were made in the capacity of the dairy, for example, cereals, vegetables, seeds, honey and mushrooms. [2]

CONCLUSIONS

Rural area, agriculture, food, traditional crafts are the main objectives of which will take into account the economic development of the county for the next five years. Analysis realized by the authors of Development Strategy shows that due to the specific of the county, is not

recommended a forced industrialization, through which Vrancea to compete with large industrial centers or services of the country and through witch try to attract massive investment and retraining existing work.

Rural area represents over 93% of the county, and over 62.1% of the population of Vrancea lives in villages. Statistics show that Vrancea is a rural County oriented through agricultural economy. This historical trend has been preserved; Vrancea is one of the five counties with the lowest urbanization, under 50% rate

The solution to the economic development of the county and raising living standards would be only acceptation of this situation and achieve a higher profit from Vrancea traditions. For this must be changed the approach of how to make agriculture, farm modernization, formation of strong producer groups, procurement and promotion of specific products of the county.

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