SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AGRICULTURAL COLLECTIVE COMPANIES BY IDENTIFYING AND FOLLOWING ENVIRONMENTAL COSTS

DEZVOLTAREA DURABILĂ ÎN CADRUL SOCIETĂŢILOR ÎN NUME COLECTIV DIN AGRICULTURĂ PRIN IDENTIFICAREA ŞI URMĂRIREA COSTURILOR DE MEDIU

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Abstract: *In this paper we present the importance of sustainable development in an agricultural collective company. Agricultural development must be supported and encouraged by all countries because it generates incomes for the government and it also offers job opportunities Local communities must be aware of the benefits that agricultural collective companies bring along with them.*

Key words: *sustainable development, agricultural collective company, environmental costs*

INTRODUCTION

Sustainable development in agriculture means developing agricultural products that are environmental friendly. Sustainable agricultural systems are the type of systems that are capable of maintaining a high productivity rate and therefore proving themselves useful to society for a long period of time.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The research method consisted in field research with the sole purpose of identifying the problems local communities are facing in terms of agricultural sustainable development, reviewing opinions and approaches

within environmental agriculture development literature, articles and journals.

RESULTS AND DISCUTIONS

We consider that sustainable development in agriculture provides more incomes to the owners which will have a more profitable activity. It also can include environmental aspects such as protecting and improving the quality of the land. Last but not least, sustainable developments in companies which have an agricultural profile reduce the dependence on none renewing resources.

Agricultural development must be supported and encouraged by all countries because it generates incomes for the government and it also offers job opportunities

BENEFITS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AGRICULTURE

In our opinion, the history of Romanian agriculture recommends it to be one of the most significant producers of agricultural products but the reality shows otherwise. Sustainable development in Romanian agriculture exists only in large corporations which have the capability to innovate and to use new technologies, witch include environmental aspects, this leading to indirect or direct contributions to Romanians economy.

Eco – innovations in agriculture encourage local communities or local individual farmers to unite into a collective company witch supports their interests and support local economical and social development by turning opportunities into prosperous sources of income for farmers and their villages.

Due to the migrating phenomenon of the active part of the population from rural areas to urban areas in the last 20 years, rural communities can not afford to miss the opportunities offered by eco-friendly collective companies.

Sustainable environmental-economical-social development of rural communities is the only chance that Romanian farmers have against the long lasting economical and financial crisis and the new food crisis that prefigures in the near future.

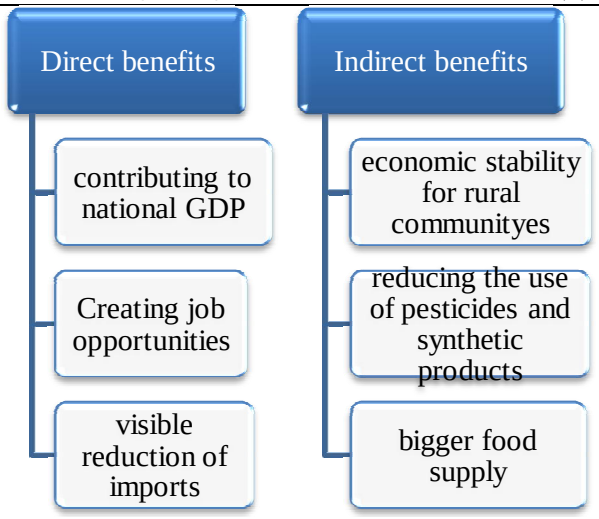


Fig.1 Direct and indirect benefits of Romanian agriculture sustainable development
Source: Projection made by author

ENVIRONMENTAL INOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN AGRICULRURAL COLECTIVE COMPANIES

We consider that collective companies must identify the impact that their activities have on the environment, both direct and indirect aspects, and apply the latest technologies which can be more productive and eco-friendly and witch also have the advantages of reducing the costs for the collective companies. Among these technologies we can identify green house cultivations, drip irrigation meant to reduce the consumption of water, rain water collecting.

Local communities must be aware of the benefits that agricultural collective companies bring along with them. We have seen examples of such association at local level that recruited more than 85% of the total employees of some small or medium rural communities, and even created job opportunities for neighboring villages.

For example, a wine cellar collective company, formed by association of all small wine producers in a local area. If we consider this

type of company we can strongly say that ”bigger is better” due to the increase in size of land used in this process that brings along a bigger production of wine.

If our wine cellar collective company purchases a machine that permits the grapes to be subject of a modern technological treatment, the company must identify and reduce the environmental coasts and impact that this process involves. This include costs regarding energy consumption of this new machine, reduction of raw material used due to a better processing of grapes and also costs regarding transport and storage of grapes and wine.

Another innovation which will lead to sustainable development in our wine cellar collective company will be improving the bottling process and label design and labeling process. This also leads to the need of identifying and following environmental costs which will result from R&D environmental costs for the new bottles and labels, costs of raw materials used in this process, cost of energy and water consumption and last but not least costs of transport and storage of the new designed bottles.

To reduce the costs of energy and water consumption our wine cellar collective company can install aerators which can reduce the quantity of water that flows witch in some cases turned out to save more than 50% of water consumption. Another way that our company can save water is trough installing sensors to ensure that water flows only when is needed.

Because we are referring to a collective company which is formed entirely of independent producers united in a company we must specify that each and every independent producer must identify and follow its own environmental costs which occurs from its vineyard.

In order to be an ecological wine cellar collective company our company must submit to a control process all vineyards participating al this wine cellar. (Figure 2)

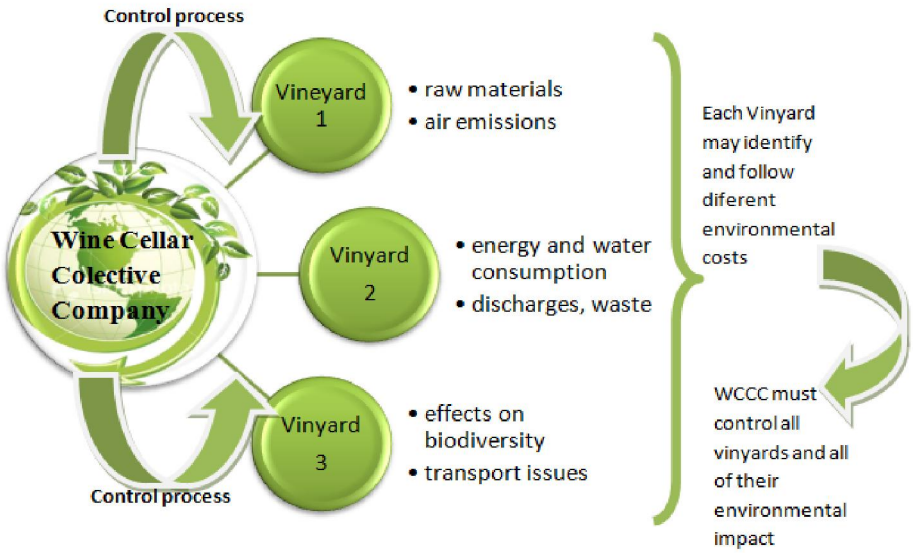


Fig. 2 Collective company control over environmental costs of each participant
Source: Projection made by author

Identifying and following environmental costs within every vineyard, which forms the Wine Cellar Collective Company, leads to a better management of costs associated with waste and loss of materials needed in the wine making process, increase in revenues by converting wastes that remain from the processing of grapes.

CONCLUSIONS

Sustainable development in agricultural collective companies meets environment, economic and social objectives because they can be identified and followed together.

Local communities must benefit from associating in agricultural collective companies for the numerous advantages this type of company brings along with them: from economic support of the local community to creating job opportunities, to reducing the impact on the environment

Sustainable economic and social development in agriculture involves keeping economic opportunities within local communities and selecting the most profitable collective companies for supporting local economical and eco-friendly development.

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