

**THE ROMANIAN REGIONAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION**

**THIRD INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM**

**COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES  
AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**- ABSTRACTS -**

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## SECTION 1

### REGIONAL COMPETITION – THEORIES AND MODELS

#### 1. NEIGHBORHOOD AS REGION

**Charles L. Leven - Washington University of St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.A.**

There have been great changes in the past half Century in the U.S. (maybe all Western countries?) in the way that young people 'grow up' and in particular how they are prepared and prepare themselves for adult roles in society. A big part of the change in the U.S. is a decline in the significance of 'neighborhood' as part of the social and economic fabric of life in large metropolitan areas. Among the important forces reducing the significance of 'neighborhood' as a meaningful socio-economic aggregation are: 1) Changes in what people do to earn a living, what products they make, and how they make them; 2) Changes in what people consume and how they pay for them; 3) Changes in how people spend non-work time; 4) Changes in the structure and kinds of people making up 'families'; 5) Changes in the kinds of institutions providing neighborhood infrastructure, especially services provided by government and non-profit institutions; 6) Changes in public and private priorities and values for society as a whole.

#### 2. INTELLIGENCE COMPETITIVENESS AND THE COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE. SOME REGIONAL PROJECTIONS

**Marta-Christina Suciú – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

In *new economics* and *knowledge-based society* we experience the emergence of concepts such as: *intelligence competitiveness, intellectual capital, human capital, intangible capital, knowledge management, learning organizations*. This fact seem to suggest a new way of thinking regarding *the competitive advantage* of an organization, an industry, a region or a country. Recent studies pleaded for new foundations for *the regional development policies* based on *competitive index* applied also on the *regional level*.

*Key words:* intelligence competitiveness, competitive advantage, intellectual capital, human capital, intangible capital, knowledge management, learning organizations.

#### 3. THE DYNAMICS OF REGIONAL COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE

**Eugen Țigănescu – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

This paper addresses aspects of system analysis in regional comparative advantage field.

Starting from the idea that the theory of national competitive advantage can be extended to firm, sector and region competitiveness, the paper seeks to identify the components and links between these components.

By integration of the obtained subsystems and the use of cybernetic-economic models, including internal and external influences, the evaluation of each component's contribution to the national comparative advantage as well as the ranking of the internal and external factors' contribution is performed.

This approach offers the methodological background to the management policies at micro, mezo and macro level. It can also better explain the dynamics of the national comparative advantage and the macro-system components' competitiveness.

#### **4. THE ROMANIAN REGIONS COMPETITIVENESS**

**Dorin Jula - Ecological University of Bucharest, Nicoleta Jula - Nicolae Titulescu University, Bucharest**

The concept of competitiveness is relatively clear when applied to enterprises, but is more difficult to define and measure the competitiveness when applied to regions or countries. In spite of those, over the latest years, the issue of regional competitiveness has been the subject of a lot of studies. In this paper we are providing an extension to the Romanian regions of the European Commission analysis focused on EU regions competitiveness. Certainly, because of the lack of reliable data on the different aspects that determine overall competitiveness, any analysis can only be partial. However, as in the Commission studies, in Romania four factors emerged as being closely linked with regional differences in the competitiveness: the structure of economic activity (the division of employment between agriculture, manufacturing, construction and services), the extent of innovative activity (employees from research activity), regional accessibility (transport infrastructure) and the skills of the work force (training level).

#### **5. LIVING AREA DIFFERENCES IN LABOUR PARTICIPATION OF ELDERLY. THE ROMANIAN CASE**

**Monica Mihaela Roman, Mihai Daniel Roman - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The paper considers the marginal rate of activity among the elderly people and analyses the differences between the activity rates in urban and rural area and gender. The activity rates among older people follow an interesting pattern and are increasing during the observed period (1990-2000), so that in the beginning of the new millennium, almost half from the elder people are economically active. We put this aspect in connection with some political measures (such is the land law (1992)) and with the poverty and the poor quality of life. These push the older people to work in order to ensure the minimum for living, for themselves and for their relatives. Does the society effort to support this increasingly number of elder people? In order to answer this question, we considered the demographic projection method and we present the share of people older then 60, for the period 2001/ 2010.

#### **6. THE CORE-PERIPHERY MODEL AND ENDOGENOUS GROWTH**

**Caracota Dumitrache, Caracota Constantin Razvan, Macelaru Sorina – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

This paper presents a model where long run growth and industrial location are jointly endogenous. It shows that growth is a powerful destabilizing force, but inter-regional learning spillovers are a stabilizing force. Moreover, including endogenous growth allows a broader view of integration. While traditionally seen only in terms of trade costs, many aspects of economic integration are more naturally viewed as lowering the costs of trading information rather than goods, i.e. as reducing the extent to which learning externalities are localized. Raising learning spillovers is stabilizing, so integration may encourage geographic dispersion (the traditional result is that integration tends to encourage agglomeration). This may be useful for evaluating real-world regional policies - e.g. subsidization of universities, technical colleges and high-technology industrial parks in disadvantaged regions – that are aimed at combating the localization of learning externalities. Finally this paper shows that agglomeration of industry is favorable to growth and that this growth effect can migrate, but not reverse, losses suffered by residents of the periphery when catastrophic agglomeration occurs.

## 7. POSSIBLE DIRECTIONS FOR INCREASING THE REGIONAL COMPETITIVENESS

Marioara Iordan, Mihaela Nona Chilian - Institute of Economic Forecasting, Bucharest

The decisions concerning the development of society are weighted and adopted by the decision makers and impact upon the whole society, as well as on the microeconomic actors, namely the companies, employees and consumers. In their turn, the microeconomic decisions have also positive or negative effects on the nation's welfare dynamics. For different time horizons the motivations of the economic agents' behaviors involve economic and social actions with contradictory impacts. The final result, at the level of the whole nation, will be the dynamic sum of the effects, and their intensity and speed of propagation within the economic system depend on the time horizons within they bear effects, namely in the short, medium or long run.

Generally speaking, competitiveness is a complex phenomenon, which refers to the capability of a country (assessed by comparisons with other countries) to create and secure a political, economic and social environment able to sustain accelerated value added creation (which has a high share in securing the welfare of the people). Therefore, competitiveness is the concept that substitutes best the premises for increasing the prosperity and development of a nation, playing a major role in these respects.

The level on which the competitiveness is generated is the economic one. In other words, a country becomes competitive when it manages to build that environment allowing to every value added producing company to become efficient, and to be able to survive and develop in any economic and, especially, international circumstances.

The level where competitiveness is sustained and reinforced is the macroeconomic one. A country maintains and improves its international profitability when it 'decides' to implement that set of economic policies able to stimulate achievement of an optimal climate for the microeconomic expansion. Concomitantly, the national competitiveness has a territorial dimension, namely there exists area or local clusters of competitive economic agents.

Having as starting point the international quantitative approaches, and considering that competitiveness is an endless moving target, the more an economy 'moves' towards and into an international (and especially European) economic environment, in order to design the regional development policies the competitiveness criterion may be approached through the following coordinates:

- Privatization /liberalization /stability
- Business environment (inflation, legal regulations, competition, public administration, new enterprises)
- Tangible (investments and infrastructure) and intangible assets (human capital investments, information/technology/communications)
- Foreign trade and foreign direct investments
- Environment protection and social framework.

From the above mentioned, in our opinion the Business environment is one of the crucial criteria when assessing the competitiveness of a region. The defining elements, through which that can also be 'measured', provide the basis for the foundation of the regional development policies in accordance with the new requirements of the future accession to the European Union. As such criteria might be considered (to the extent they are economically and statistically 'visible' at regional level):

- *Economic macrostability*, with impact on investments and long-term planning of business decisions,
- *Openness of economy to foreign trade and investments*,
- *Prices, unemployment and labour market*,
- *Standard of living*, as a goal in itself for the economic activity and as a determining factor for the economic performance.

## **8. SYNERGETICS AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Gheorghe Ruxanda, Valerian Tobultoc - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The authors of the paper titled "Synergetics and Regional Development" intend to provide, first and foremost, a most comprehensive description of the concept of synergy. Starting from what old folks said, "the whole is more than the sum of its parts", this principle was employed by Lester Ward in sociology studies in the 19th century and, later on, by Buckminster Fuller in constructions. More recently, Hermann Haken has applied this concept to the sphere of computers.

Finally, the authors stride to implement synergetics in the field of regional development.

Through this communication, the authors' aim is to increase awareness of economists, practitioners in particular, towards the strengths of the theory of synergetics.

## **9. JAPANESE COOPERATIVES - A BENEFICIAL SOLUTION FOR THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Anda Gheorghiu, Anca Gheorghiu - Hyperion University, Bucharest**

The cooperatives movement has helped Japan to develop and has proved to be extremely beneficial for its members. The Japan Joint Committee of Cooperatives (JJC) gathers various organizations like: Producers of cooperatives (agricultural, fishery or forestry), Consumer cooperatives or Livelihood clubs that make a direct link between producer and consumer.

They provide their members with production materials, agrochemicals, farming machinery, packaging, as well as daily necessities (household goods, gas and oil) purchased in quantity at low prices.

They also offer a full range of insurance, banking or marketing services, health care, process agricultural products, encourage youth and women association. Nevertheless, extremely helpful are hospitals and clinics or facilities for Senior Citizens of well fare established by the cooperatives.

In short, cooperatives have helped the regional areas of less-urbanized Japan to develop and achieve high standards of living.

## SECTION 2 THE IMPACT OF THE E.U. ENLARGEMENT ON REGIONAL COMPETITION

### **10. GERMANY-POLAND TRADE FLOWS AND THE UNDERLYING DIFFERENCES PRODUCTION -EFFICIENCY STRUCTURES**

**Jan S. Kowalski, Jolanta Dziembowska-Kowalska - University of Karlsruhe, Germany**

The input-output tables for the Federal Republic of Germany and Poland for 1995 (the latest presently available) are compared with respect to the emerging patterns of the differences of production relationships in the sectors of the two economies. The foreign trade flows between Germany and Poland in the second half of the decade are then investigated according to similar sectoral disaggregation as the input -output tables. Preliminary results, which will be further extended till May point to the relevance of the Heckscher-Ohlin hypotheses as the explanation for the emerging trade patterns. Possible evolution in the coming decade, in particular in connection with the East-Enlargement of the European Union are discussed.

### **11. CONVERGENCE AND DISPARITY IN BUILDING A EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION AREA**

**Mihai Korca - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

In June 1999, European ministers of education agreed in Bologna to build up a *European Higher Education Area*. The aim of this political decision freely assumed by the signatory countries was to conserve and enhance the traditional competitive advantage of European universities in the field of tertiary education in the new context of globalization. In Bologna (1999) and later in Prague (2001), it was assumed that European universities have to implement until 2010 measures referring to key goals that could determine a convergence towards the European Higher Education Area and make the universities belonging to it world wide competitive and attractive for students.

In the follow up of the *Bologna Declaration* it become clear that this convergence is highly influenced by the disparities existing between the European higher education systems of the signatory countries. They influence beyond the understanding of the aim and importance of the *Bologna Process* the path and the coherence of the implementation measures undertaken by various european universities. The research paper proposes a new methodological tool for a numerical and visual analysis of those disparities.

### **12. ECONOMIC INTEGRATION, SPECIALIZATION OF REGIONS AND CONCENTRATION OF INDUSTRIES IN EU ACCESSION COUNTRIES**

**Iulia Traistaru - University of Bonn, Germany**

**Peter Nijkamp - Free University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands**

**Simonetta Longhi - Free University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands**

Since 1990, Central and East European economies have increased their integration with the European Union via trade and foreign direct investments. The spatial implications of this process have not been investigated in-depth so far. Has a relocation of manufacturing activity taken place? Have patterns of regional specialization and industrial concentration changed over the last decade? How does regional specialization relate to economic performance? What are the determinants of industrial location patterns? This paper identifies and explains the effects of economic integration on patterns of regional specialization and the geographic concentration of manufacturing in

Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Romania and Slovenia. Using a specially created database, we find evidence of regional relocation of industries, leading to higher average regional specialization in Bulgaria and Romania and lower average regional specialization in Estonia. In Hungary and Slovenia the average regional specialization has not changed significantly. Our results indicate that both factor endowments and geographic proximity to European markets determine the location of manufacturing in accession countries.

### **13. CONCERNS REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT OF STRUCTURAL INSTRUMENTS IN THE CANDIDATE COUNTRIES**

**Gabriela Dragan – The European Institute, Bucharest**

The study is focused on the administrative capacity required to manage Structural Funds in candidate countries, with particular attention to the Romanian's experience. The administrative capacity needed for managing the Structural Funds is seen as a part of a wider challenge, namely the efficient making use of the SF.

As part of the negotiations under Chapter 21, “Regional Policy and Co-ordination of Structural Instruments”, the Commission has expressed its concern regarding the administrative capacity of the candidate countries. Based on the past experiences, the Commission arrived at the conclusion that candidate countries have a limited capacity to absorb external investment support effectively and efficiently. Absorption capacity can be determined by at least three main factors, namely macro-economic situation, the co-financing situation and the administrative capacity.

Many problems remain to be solved in several candidate countries in relation to the preparations for the Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund and one major problem consists in the lack of a definition of responsibilities in terms of programming and managing the SF, which would clearly reflect the requirements of Council Regulation 1260/99 laying down the general provision on the SF.

### **14. SMEs AND REGIONAL POLICY: THE QUESTION OF TERRITORIAL NETWORKS**

**Daniela-Luminita Constantin – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

Networking is a key word in the recent debates on SMEs and regional policies, pointing out the need and advantages of integrating these businesses in a coherent framework, which creates links, relations, exchanges between them and other actors within the region (banks, universities, research institutes, training centers, consulting firms, chambers of commerce, associations of producers, local public administration).

This paper aims to explore the main features and significance of the SME sector development for addressing the regional question in Romania during the transition period and to identify the emerging evidence and perspectives of SME territorial networking phenomenon in the specific context induced by the European integration processes.

Up to present the idea of creating and supporting regional networks has not been offered the adequate importance in Romania – being only partially, indirectly envisaged, so that this paper proposes some reflections that could be considered by the Romanian regional policy in the forthcoming years, as resulted from the analysis of the international experience and literature devoted to this subject.

## **15. THE USE OF TERRITORIAL COHESION PRINCIPLE IN THE PROCESS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE E.U.**

**Gabriela Carmen Pascariu - Universitatea "Al. I. Cuza", Iași**

The European integration process is built up on the sustainability principle. Territorially applied, it represents the economic-social cohesion. The option used in order to consolidate cohesion within EU has as purpose “the harmonious and well-balanced development of economic activities inside of Community”, as part of the general objective of the member states.

The present paper synthesizes an analysis of the European conception on the territorial cohesion and its manner of implementation that concerns the sustainable development within the communitary area.

The paper is structured onto four sections. The first section analyses the determinant factors of territorial cohesion, according to the real convergence strategy adopted by the Community. The second section analyses the impact of communitary regional policy on the regional convergence in EU. This analysis focuses on the causes of the determinate effectiveness of structural policies in the process of sustainable development. The third section explains the role of other communitary policies (agricultural, competition, internal market, environment, transport) concerning the evolution of regional disparities. The last section includes the suggestions for a more effective communitary structural policy in order to realize a sustainable development through territorial cohesion.

## **16. REMARKS ON THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT WITH REGARD TO FUTURE ENLARGEMENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION - CASE OF AUSTRIA AND ROMANIA.**

**Carmen Beatrice Păuna, Ileana Dumitrescu - Institute of Economic Forecasting Bucharest**

The paper presents the European Spatial Development Perspective in the context of the at times conflicting interests behind such diverse strategies for promoting regional development as creation of balanced environments for living, the spatial / functional separation of functions, promoting autonomous regional development and sustainable spatial development. A further chapter is dedicated to an examination of trends in spatial development in a EU country, as Austria and in a Non-EU country, as Romania.

## **17. INNOVATING REGIONS IN EUROPE**

**Dumitrache Caracota, Constantin Razvan Caracota, Sorina Macelaru- Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The purpose of this paper is to analyze the level of several indicators from some European regions. This indicators are: position, level of industrial research and development, innovation rate of industrial companies, transport and communication infrastructures, the structure of the gross domestic product, employment and many others.

The first step of this paper is a SWOT analysis of each region focusing on its strong sectors. It is followed by a cluster analysis of those sectors.

In the beginning, it becomes obvious that the companies require a support beyond technology issues and that large companies should also be involved in the innovating activities.

The main conclusion of this paper is that supply and demand do not match up and that intermediary organizations have to play a key role to bridge the existing gap.

The strategy proposed contains several lines of action. These include awareness raising of the importance of the innovation, facilitating the knowledge transfer and its application fostering company cooperation and making finance available for innovation.

## **18. COMMON EUROPEAN MACROECONOMIC POLICIES**

**Marius Băcescu - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The starting point in approaching the theme is the fact that the essence of the European Union is represented by the European Single Market, which supposes, in a definite way, a “free exchange space” with the free movement of goods, services, capital and persons. Such an “advanced integration space” supposes the constitution of a “homogeneous economic environment”, able to eliminate all the negative effects on the consumers and enterprises, that can appear in the integration complex process; an environment which can be created and maintained only through a system of common European macroeconomic policies.

The common European macroeconomic policies are grouped in two categories: common policies and accompanying policies.

Within the framework of common policies, there are discussed, one by one, the common agricultural policy, the common commercial policy, the common security and foreign policy, and the common monetary policy.

Within the framework of accompanying policies there are discussed, one by one, the competition policy, the industrial policy, the social policy and the regional policy.

For each approached policy it is also presented the main objective, the basic principles, the action directions and the expected effects mainly on the respective field, and generally on the entire economy.

## **19. THE EFFICIENCY OF ROMANIAN AND CENTRAL - EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES (MEMBERS OF EU) EXTERNAL TRADE. A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS.**

**Erika Tuşa, Cristina Manole - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The external sector has a special place within the macroeconomic conjuncture of a certain country. The growth of the external trade efficiency may be certainly considered as a powerful engine for a sustainable economic growth.

In December 1999, the European Union invited Romania to begin accession negotiations; however, the EU’s most recent progress report notes that Romania cannot be regarded as a functioning market economy and that progress needs to be made on numerous fronts, including agriculture, corruption, and reform of the state-owned economy. Isarescu’s government passed new legislation designed to address Romania’s flawed legal framework with World Bank approval in 1999, as well as a new law on corruption in 2000. However, since year 2000, Romanian economy has started a revival process, confirming the accession within the path of the economic growth and proving our country’s capacity of having high levels of growth that permit the comparison between Romania and South - East European Countries already members of European Union.

This paper surveys the comparative analysis of the efficiency of the Romanian external trade versus that of South - East European Countries already members of European Union (namely Check Republic, Poland, Slovenia and Hungary) in 2001 related to 1997.

In this view, it is presented a complex analysis of the static and dynamic influence of the external trade on national economy of these countries, as well as a study of terms of trade in order to characterize the input factors efficiency and the comparative advantage of these countries

## **20. THE TRAINING OF FIRMS IN CANDIDATE COUNTRIES TO OPERATE ON THE EUROPEAN SINGLE MARKET**

**Gabriela Marchis – „Danubius” University, Galati**

The Chambers Accession Programme for Eastern Europe (CAPE), funded by the European Commission, is the initiative of Eurochambres (the Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry), financial supported by Phare. This programme assists Chambers of Commerce and enterprises from candidate countries to prepare for EU accession.

The Enlargement process of EU may be a successful one and entirely materialized only if the business community will be fully aware of its importance.

Representing the business community, Chambers of Commerce and Industry from Central and Eastern Europe have legal and significant responsibilities in supporting enterprises from candidate countries to prepare for EU accession. To confirm this role, Eurochambres initiated the CAPE project, which included 2 parts:

1. CAPE I, which regarded the consolidation of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry from Central and Eastern Europe.
2. CAPE II, which regarded the preparation of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry from Central and Eastern Europe for supporting the firms to adopt the *aquis communautaire*.

Eurochambres co-operate with the Chambers from 10 Central European Countries (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia). Enlargement is not only a matter of adopting laws and regulations, it requires to prepare the business community and the civil society in general. CAPE II measured the state of preparation of Central European companies for accession, based on an extensive self-assessment. For this qualitative survey of business expectations in the regions of Western and Eastern Europe, it has been used six economic indicators: total turnover, domestic sales, export sales, employment, investment and the general business climate.

This work relates the successful conclusion of Eurochambres' CAPE I and CAPE II programmes, regarding the general business climate in Eastern Europe, which were run from 2000 to 2002.

## **21. THE ANALYSIS OF ROMANIA'S FOREIGN TRADE WITH EUROPEAN UNION COUNTRIES**

**Ionuț Goleț - West University, Timișoara**

The development of European Union enters the list of two strategies: the one in which the state members function after their own rules and the one of a good and solid cooperation among the states that signed the collaboration in foreign trade. According to the European Union treaty, its main purpose refers to the promotion of economic and social progress in a lasting and solid way.

Romania, being a country that wants to enter E.U. till 2002, must obey the same evolution process which, because of the economic differences, must be a faster one.

The countries from central and Eastern Europe, whose economy depends on the exports in E.U., are directly influenced by the evolution of euro zone. E.U. is the main partner of Romania in the foreign trade activity (in 2002, from the whole amount of foreign trade 67,1% was with E.U.). The results much lower than expected, of E.U. countries, mean a lower economic growth of the eastern economies. Although the chance of Romania regarding the growth of foreign trade in E.U. countries, depends even on the use of the offered opportunities in the market. The Romanian companies can cover same parts of the market, leaving out other U.E. producers who have bigger productive costs.

Apparently, the last decade showed an intensified export of the developing countries. In spite of the first impression, the rapport of UNCTAD shows same negative aspects of that commerce, general features that exists even in the Romanian foreign trade's structure. First, a lot of

countries didn't succeed for years to overcome the step of exporting raw materials, exports that are constant. Those that passed the first stage are selling products with a high range of complexity or which need a lot of people to be produced. The products with a high range of complexity are made by the well-known Lohn system and they have a small added value. Competition that is based on cheap work force is not able to reduce the handicap that separates us from the developed economies.

In order to change the orientation of foreign trade of Romania, for reducing the economic distance against the developed countries, we need to pass from the traditional economy to new activities like the software activity with a big added value and which in Romania knows a great growth and a lot of specialists work in that activity in the last years.

I mentioned above the main aspects that will be enlarged and enhanced in the paper using the adequate statistical techniques and methods.

## **22. COSTS AND BENEFITS OF EUROPEAN UNION ADHERING FOR THE NOMINEE COUNTRIES FROM CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE**

**Dumitrache Caracota, Constantin Razvan Caracota, Sorina Macelaru- Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

This paper presents the most important qualitative and quantitative results of the costs-benefits analysis of the EU adhering for the nominee countries from Central and Eastern Europe. Concise inventories of all the studies that have ever been undertaken lead us to certain conclusions.

Concerning this kind of cost-benefits analysis of EU adhering it can be easily seen that the list of the five nominee countries is inhomogeneous. For example, one can notice the attention paid by Slovenia in this respect, a small country as it is (about 2 million inhabitants) but placed in the leading group of the candidate countries. Also, the majority of these studies have been performed with governmental aid and subsidy. Romania is placed at the opposite side judging by the extent of its economic gap comparing to the EU countries, thus, the concerns towards a scientific basing of the adhering costs and benefits should become a major priority of the Government in elaborating its pre-adhering policies.

Concerning the general aspects, of descriptive nature, for the implementing of common policies that have been identified through these studies we must draw the attention towards the fact that many scientists have different opinions. Furthermore, the diversity of these opinions is an extra proof of the difficulty of examining both positive and negative EU adhering implications for the candidate countries.

Not only that the scientists have different views, but even one policy may offer some contradictory aspects. For example, the Internal Market accessing will offer new opportunities for increasing exports though it might lead to some export decreases in other domains as a result of competitiveness losses due to the obligatory character of the Internal Market acquis and the increasing competition pressures. Particularly, the distinct effects of all this evolutions are very important, which means the implementing of certain EU policies will be rather benefic than damaging.

## **23. METHODS OF EVALUATING THE EUROPEAN INFORMATION CAMPAIGNS**

**Dana Şerban – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The objective of this presentation is to promote the public transport within the tourist at the Black Seaside. This activity implied a previous opinion research using the sampling techniques. The main purposes of the research were: to analyse the volume and the structure of the Romanian tourists at the Black Seaside as potential users of public transport; to identify and characterize the travel behaviour of the tourists; to determine their level of awareness on the problems caused by car

use; last but not least we meant to conclude what kind of campaign would be the most appropriate to change the travel behaviour.

#### **24. EUROPEAN INTEGRATION BETWEEN GLOBALIZATION AND REGIONALIZATION**

**Mariana Luntrașu - “Ștefan cel Mare” University, Suceava**

European integration is an essential element of globalisation within which the global economy is an integrating part of the global society with its appropriate decision structures. Each European State must choose integration as an essential step towards globalisation. Within this context, in the “subterranean backstage” of integration, the most delicate strategies are adopted, through which every state is trying to occupy a most favourable position within the global society. It is understood that any delay in this process, for any European state, will lead to isolation. European unification entails the sovereignty transfer of the national states, a process which may occur, on the one hand, through central European structures and, on the other hand, through the regions on the administrative structures of the states.

The European approach on globalization by means of integration has many opponents who are trying to preserve the acquired economic level. Nevertheless, the essential trend is that integration is the secure path towards the European, as well as the world global society.

#### **25. THE LIBERALIZATION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SERVICES. THE CASE OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

**Erika Tușa, Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) is regarded as one of the most important single development in the multilateral trading system since the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) itself came into effect in 1948. GATS extends, for the first time, the internationally-agreed rules and commitments into a huge and still rapidly growing area of international trade

The reach of the GATS rules extends to all forms of international trade in services. . This means that the GATS agreement represents a major new factor for a large sector of world economic activity. It also means, because such a large share of trade in services takes place *inside* national economies that its requirements will from the beginning necessarily influence national domestic laws and regulations.

The aim of the paper is to present the main issues related to the liberalization of international trade in services in both developed and developing countries, why was a need for these international commitments and how governments in one hand and business in the other hand are reacting when applying the commitments.

The developing countries are facing several challenges in applying the commitments. Most developed countries agreed to provide unrestricted access and national treatment for all forms of commercial presence, while others bound at less than fifty percent ownership levels on relatively few sectors.

#### **26. REGIONALIZATION AND FEDERALIZATION IN THE EUROPEAN CONTEXT**

**Monica Băcescu - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The process of European unification brings forward the borders problems in Europe, a thing that generates the idea of the need to main changes in the world power structure and also, the discussion about the state powers and the relations structure among states.

In this way, it is analyzed “the theory of the European regions” of Jean Fouéré, who rejects the “theory of the European nations” of de Gaulle, and also “the theory of limited cooperation among the sovereign states” of the former prime minister Margaret Thatcher.

The regional model of the former president Pompidou is presented as being the one that allows the accomplishment and rational administration of the important collective projects, and the region is a delegated authority regarding the state.

It is also presented “the theory of the interregional relations” of the Swiss Jürg Witmer, according to which, the contradiction between the territory institutional fragmentation and the existence of some transnational problems concerning the European integration imposes a transborder cooperation.

Afterwards, it is presented “the theory of the Austrian professor Egon Matzner”, according to which the transborder regions represent the basis of the Central and Eastern Europe, and also “Michel Foucher’s theory” concerning the European spatial restructuring.

In the end, it is analysed the report among the regional policy, political regionalization and spatial policy, taking into account the intersection of the cultural, political and economic space.

## **27. THE EVOLUTION OF HUMAN POTENTIAL IN THE COUNTRIES NOMINEES TO JOIN THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Dumitrache Caracota, Constantin Razvan Caracota, Sorina Macelaru- Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The human potential evolution in these countries and as its mobility as well are influenced by several economic, social, educational and demographic factors as well as by the implications of the EU adhering process.

These countries may answer the requests of the adhering process by choosing a type of economic growth which blends the concerns in improving the quantity and quality of labour opportunities with policies that promote human development, solving the problems concerning poverty placing the accent on those regions with low economic development level and low life condition. Though many of the ex-communist countries have the necessary human and intellectual capital for innovation and can easily gain this statute in the future, the most pressing economic task is to catch up with the western income level.

An important effect of joining the European Union is the migration of the population and of the labour force. After a few years in the community, the new members of the European Union will become members of the free labour market. This fact will probably encourage the migration of the labour force and, consequently, the remuneration will increase.

The reduction of long distance migration and the diminishing of the population which wants to migrate, mostly from regions with low development potential can be realized by improving the socio-economic environment of these regions and by creating and developing new job opportunities on the basis of governmental programmes alongside with the European Union. During the pre-adhering process, the EU is supporting the regional development by implementing programmes for the employment growth, improving infrastructures and life conditions of the population.

## **28. TRENDS IN THE EVOLUTION OF THE LABOUR MARKET OF THE EUROPEAN UNION MEMBER STATES**

**Christiana Balan - Al. I. Cuza University, Iași**

**KEY WORDS:** Employment, unemployment, disparities, statistical indicators

**OBJECTIVES:** Identification of new trends in the UE labour market evolution

Analysis of the main statistical indicators of the UE labour market

Description of the structure of the employees in the UE member states

### **SECTION 3**

## **THE COMPETITIVENESS CRITERION AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES**

### **29. THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN – INSTRUMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ROMANIA’S POLICY FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COHESION**

**Gabriela Frentz –Ministry for Development and Prognosis**

The paper gives a brief historical account of the planning process for Romania’s economic and social development, resumed in 1999, this time in the context of a market economy and based on European methodologies. The difficulties characterizing such an endeavor are highlighted, as well as the stages through which the NDP has become an operational instrument.

Designed as a national strategic planning and financial programming document, integrated sectorally and regionally, the NDP also underpins our country’s access to Structural Funds-type financial assistance, granted by the European Union to help Romania approach the level of development in Member States and at the same time to reduce disparities between development regions.

The planning process undertaken through NDP is meant to achieve the most efficient use of human and financial resources and aims to optimize activities undertaken in fields relevant to Romania’s development, recognizing the importance of a strategic framework based on balanced regional development.

The study makes a critical assessment, from the inside of the planning process, of NDP drafting method and content, highlighting the progress made during the two planning exercises.

Starting from the existing aspects, the study introduces new elements to be considered in updating the national strategy for regional development, brought about by the new international developments that are expected to have an impact on Romania’s economic policies and implicitly on implementation strategies.

The strategy for regional development is increasingly becoming an alternative, due to the fact that national macroeconomic and structural policies alone cannot solve the territorial diversity of the problems. The regional strategy facilitates the improvement of public policy efficiency and at the same time provides public policies with a substantial social component, without which economic growth and structural adjustment are not possible.

### **30. THE NECESSITY FOR A NEW PARADIGM IN THE ROMANIAN REGIONAL POLICY WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE INTEGRATION INTO E.U.**

**Romeo Ionescu - “Danubius” University, Galati**

The either short or medium term integration of Romania into the E.U. stands for a both illusory and scientifically baseless objective.

The origins of such a conclusion can be tabulated to form at least two ample categories: ones of a macroeconomic essence and others connected to a regional level-oriented way of approach.

The macroeconomic development of Romania, considered beyond some 3,4 or 5% increase in the yearly rate of GDP, witnesses a universally accepted truth, though one slightly confirmed on the record: in terms of size, Romania’s GDP in 2002 is ranked beneath the one in 1989, precisely the way the President of Romania himself admitted in December 2002.

Moreover, according to the last research published by the Statistical Office of the European Communities in January 15<sup>th</sup> 2003, Romania’s GDP per capita is ranked with 265 beneath the

average of all 15 states. An unpropitious situation is also noticed if this bench-mark is compared to the indicators of those countries candidates to an E.U. adhering.

Some other two representative macroeconomic indicators- the unemployment rate and the inflation rate-have higher values in Romania as compared to the average of the E.U.. respectively 8,6% as compared to 7,6% in 2001-the rate of unemployment and 17,8% as compared to 2,5% the rate of inflation.

In order to see the exact position of Romania and to define its perspectives for an economic growth, we are to consider the W.I.I.W. Report on 2002, one that stresses the fact that Romania and Bulgaria, the poorest out of all E.U. candidates, will show the weakest results even in 2015<sup>1</sup>.

Table 1: The economic growth of E.U. candidates\*

State	GDP/inhabitant (euro)	% of the E.U. average			
	2000	2000	2005*	2010*	2015*
The Czech Republic	12.538	59	64	71	78
Hungary	11.245	53	59	65	72
Poland	8.779	41	45	49	54
Slovakia	10.433	49	54	59	65
Slovenia	15.562	73	81	89	99
Bulgaria	5.237	25	27	30	33
<b>Romania</b>	<b>5.741</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>35</b>
Estonia	8.713	41	46	51	56
Latvia	6.348	30	33	36	40
Lithuania	6.362	30	33	36	40
<b>E.U. average</b>	<b>21.253</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

\* GDP has been calculated according to the purchasing power;

\*\* Prognosed data.

All of these statistical pieces of information and prognostications above lead to one single conclusion: the economic growth in Romania is fair from the one necessary to draw our situation near the average in the E.U.

As an additional element, the regional development in Romania benefits, for the moment, by the existence of numerous organs and organizations which operate with costs that do not have full covering in terms of integration.

Significant European funds acquired by our country in connection with its regional development are dissipated or wrongly administrated. The main causes leading to such a situation are:

- the splitting of our territory into 8 developing regions has been carried out exclusively according to geographical criteria, without taking into account the level reached by the socio-economic development;
- European developing funds and foreign investments are channeled towards certain counties without any competence between potential beneficiaries;
- the huge disparities existing between the level of socio-economic development in the counties that belong to a certain developing region;

<sup>1</sup> The Institute of Economic Comparative Studies in Wienn- 2002 Report

- the lack of steps taking procedures in the active regional economic policy, meant to effectively protect disfavoured areas.

To solve these problems, we recommend the following solutions:

- the reconsidering of the developing regions;
- reduction of the number of the developing regions up to 4;
- the carrying out of a correct competence between counties in order to obtain E.U. funds;
- the separation, within the new created areas, of all assisted regions and the ensuring of an active government intervention in the areas at issue;
- an exclusive making use of specialists in regional sciences in all organizing and leading structures, at a regional level;
- the elimination of bureaucracy along with the cut in all functioning costs at the level of regional organizations.

In our opinion, it is only by adopting such steps taking procedures that we can lay the foundation of a new, viable regional policy in Romania.

### **31. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AT REGIONAL LEVEL**

**Gabriela Prelipcean - "Ștefan cel Mare" University, Suceava**  
**Mircea Boscoianu – Technical Military Academy, Bucharest**

The gaps between the levels of development of different regions are the result of their various endow with natural and human resources, as well as their quite specific types of economic, technological, demographical, social, political and cultural evolution which shaped their development during the history.

This fact led to prevalence of the agriculture as an economic force in the regions where the climatic and pedologic conditions were propitious; of the hard industry in the regions where there were resources of iron ore and to the concentration of services in the urban and administrative centers. The power of the market tends to favor the depths of the existent gaps.

The assignment underlines the role of the economic development politics in the elimination of some gaps, which are the social-economic disadvantages of some regions, and in the economic and social growth, and also in underlining the degree of economical development of the Northern Eastern Region.

### **32. TENDENCIES REGARDING THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AT HISTORIC PROVINCES LEVEL**

**Ion Dobre – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

Over the complex and continuous reconversion process required by the integration of Romania in the EU structures grouping the counties by historic criterion can and must be taken into consideration allowing for the need to substantiate the future regional development strategies.

### **33. THE POLICY FOR DISADVANTAGED ZONES – A FEATURE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY**

**Mădălina Constantinescu - Ministry of Development and Prognosis**

The paper proposes a terse approach of the policy for Disadvantaged Zones (D - Zones), distinguishing feature of the regional development policy currently promoted in Romania. Regional policy presupposes that there are parts of the country that are, on some measure, disadvantaged and that these zones should be identified in order for specific action to be undertaken to redress their perceived disadvantages.

As seen from the legal provisions in force, the purpose of this type of policy consists in assisting the economic recovery of those zones severely lagging behind in terms of their development level, through a range of fiscal and financial incentives. In spite of the incentives established by the law, the precarious situation of these zones still affects their attractiveness to possible investors. Hence, improvement of the infrastructure endowment of all the D-Zones, in order to ensure a better accessibility to and from these zones, as well as training courses for the local human capital, are arguably the most urgent needs to be tackled.

Also, in this paper, we presented the assisted zones problematic because, since 2002, Romania's regional policy is carried out by supporting an additional type of problem zones. The policy for assisted zones involves designing and implementing development programmes meant to support economic growth in the respective zones and has starting point the promoting a pilot programme at the national level.

#### **34. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPORTUNITIES IN ZARAND AREA**

**Dorel Ailenei – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

**Ananie Gârbovean - “1 Decembrie 1918” University, Alba Iulia**

This paper develops the results of a scientific research paper referring to Strategies for Administration of Crises Situations owing to Regional Disequilibria – Apuseni Mountains Case Study. In the final stage of this paper preparation a workshop was organized by Brad Town Hall, focusing on that part of the Apuseni Mountains included in Hunedoara county. The economic and social characteristics make Brad town play a major role in Zarand area. The economic development opportunities of this area have been identified and promoted by means of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, resulting in an increase of the credits for the entrepreneurs acting in this area.

#### **35. REGIONAL POLICY PERSPECTIVES IN ROMANIA**

**Mircea Taloş – Bistrita-Nasaud County Council**

Even influenced by less regional disparities than other countries in Central and Eastern Europe, Romania is experiencing a stressed dynamic of economic performances upon the territorial structure, and that leads to the necessity of building a proper regional policy able to manage effectively the risks which should arise from an asymmetric development. The economic policies in the last 50 years succeeded in a large measure to decrease the development gaps between the country's regions, but the chosen path didn't bring a real development, but rather the creation of some rigid social and economic structures, disproportionate with the real economic potential. Today Romania is presenting severe hindrances in respect with the regional development as a consequence of the lack or insufficient development of infrastructure and the weak institutional framework for regional policies. The policy pattern of economic development in Romania after 1990 avoided as much as possible sharp transformations of the institutional and economic structures in order to preserve the electoral bodies support.

The future regional policy should ensure a compatibility increase of the institutional structures with the existing ones in the European Union. In the short run, the motivation consists in development of the Structural and Cohesion Funds absorption capacity in the period to come just after the integration. The development of some coherent and competitive regional structures represent a long run objective in the building approach of the “Europe of Regions”.

It is crucial that the Romania's future regional policy to be guided on modern principles such as decentralization, use of subsidies, programming, partnership and transparency. The central objective of the regional policy should be the support for a balanced regional development in accordance with the European Union regional policy principles.

Complementary, the regional policy should envisage the development assistance for the mechanisms and institutional structures of the market economy in all regions, creation of proper conditions for sustained development, economic and life conditions improvement through the coordination between the social, economic and environmental interests. More, the decrease of the existing differences between the economic, infrastructure, social, cultural and living conditions between the more developed and the less developed regions, as much as between the urban and rural areas should also represent important objectives of the regional policy. Some very important issues are also the promotion of the partnership formulas and the encouraging of the initiatives of the local and regional communities and their coordination with the national objectives in respect with regional policy.

### **36. CURRENT ELEMENTS OF METHODOLOGIES FOR MACROECONOMIC PLANNING**

#### **Alexandru Folescu - Ministry of Development and Forecasting**

After 1989, macroeconomic planning has become more difficult due to the deep socio-economic changes witnessed by Romania as a result of the transition to a market economy, as well as to a certain depreciation of this concept's value – owing to its association with centralised macroeconomic planning, experienced by Romania during the communist years.

One important moment in the development of macroeconomic planning in Romania was represented by the decision to accede to the European Union. As a result, Romania, through the Accession Partnership, established as an important objective for attaining EU membership, the elaboration and implementation of a national policy for economic and social cohesion, undertaken mainly through the regional development policy. The regional development policy, an important part of the *acquis communautaire*, is a key component of the process of EU integration, representing chapter 21 of Romania's accession negotiations to the EU.

Beginning with 1998, the promotion of a regional development policy – aiming at the reduction of discrepancies between the country's regions and areas, as well as between Romania and EU Member States – has led to reorientation of macroeconomic planning toward new territorial-statistic units (development regions), to the creation of institutional structures (Regional Development Agencies, decentralised services of certain ministries and central public institutions), to the emergence of programming documents (National Development Plan, Regional Development Plans etc.).

At present, the basis for macroeconomic planning is the National Development Plan. This document sets out the development priorities and plans investments in infrastructure, the business environment, human resources, environmental protection etc., investments that contribute to the rise in Romania's economic and social cohesion.

The drafting of the National Development Plan is based on Regional Development Plans, as well as on documents similar to them, elaborated by ministries. From the point of view of methodology, in the period 1999 – 2003, this document, as well as other similar documents at the regional and sectoral levels, has experienced continuous improvements in all its components: analysis, strategy, financial programming.

At present, the addition of new concepts such as regional and sectoral operational programmes, of the *ex-ante* evaluation method, of the quantification of objectives, of the partnership principle etc., are just as many elements contributing to the improvement of methodologies for macroeconomic planning.

### **37. THE NATIONAL POLICY FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Radu Munteanu, Bucharest**

The Paper introduces an overview of the Regional Development Policy in Romania.

The timeline for the Regional Development Policy in Romania starts with documentation that intended to establish the premises of such policy: the Green Book of Regional Development in Romania. Achieved by both Romanian and Foreign consultants with the support of the Phare Programme from the European Commission, the Green Book made a proposal to the political and bureaucratic environment of 1997 Romania, a vision on Regional Development in which the adoption of the Acquis Communautaire in the field was to be made together with “original” characteristics, for a certain specificity, according to which Regional Development and the birth of development regions was not supposed to affect the status-quo, so strong against challenges such as rationalization, and in a greater sense, federalization, or any administrative changes to be induced by some or others, in Romania or elsewhere.

This kind of speech was strong enough during the adoption in the Romanian Parliament of the Law for Regional Development, in 1998, the birth certificate for Regional Development Policy in Romania. The institutional architecture foreseen by law represented a compromise accepted by all decision-makers involved and started from defining heterogeneous regions, institutions with legally uncertain status and budget inputs with unclear basis.

The first Regional Development Programme was implemented during 1999-2001, based on 1998 Phare Financing Memorandum. The conclusions of the evaluators of the programme, in December 2001, include recommendations that are significant to the Regional Development National Policy. Following this programme, the Phare 2000 Financing Memorandum and subsequent programmes represent the main instruments for the implementation of a Regional Development Policy, on a national basis. Related or not to this, financing from the State budget, separate programmes supported by the National Fund for Regional Development, programmes related to areas with special status (D-areas, or, after 2000, assisted areas) is contained by the framework of regional development programmes, that is, the National Development Plan.

How comprehensive the National Development Plan is, to what extent it is based on Regional Plans, what is the institutional capacity for defining Regional Development Policies and, based on these, a National Policy for Regional Development, what is Romania’s capacity for absorption of structural-type financing, how is the correlation between different instruments of this kind ensured, as well as with other programmes of the line ministries, or implementing authorities, how efficient is the institutional architecture in managing, monitoring, evaluating and auditing budget inputs for Regional Development – these are some of the issues addressed by our Paper.

### **38. JAPANESE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT - A CHALLENGE FOR THE XXI-st CENTURY**

**Anda Gheorghiu, Anca Gheorghiu - Hyperion University, Bucharest**

The aim of this paper is to present practical solutions that local administrative bodies (prefectural and municipal governments) have implemented in Japan, in order to build up regional development. Depopulation of traditional agricultural areas, migration from rural to metropolitan areas and also the problem of aging population have forced public authorities to take steps for local economy improvement. Special projects have been developed, like: setting up of new cities, industrial and software parks, leading-edge technology factories or business incubators in less-augmented areas. Telecommuting (working from home), farming subsidies, facilities for young people have been strongly encouraged.

Tax exemptions, subsidies and loans to finance the acquisitions of land and buildings, operating expenses, industrial and services expansion have enhanced new regional centers, local culture and market, as well as small and medium enterprises sector growth

### **39. PRIORITIES REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF APUSENI MOUNTAINS. SWOT ANALYSIS**

**Ananie Gârbovean - "1 Decembrie 1918" University, Alba Iulia**

In order to underline the strategy for developing the Apuseni Mountains this paper presents the socio-economic profile of this area, followed by SWOT analysis, aiming to identify the development priorities for agriculture, silviculture, industry, tourism and services.

### **40. SOUTH MUNTENIA REGION - DIAGNOSIS ANALYSIS AND THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE POSSIBILITIES TO DECREASE THE INTERCOUNTIES DISPARITIES**

**Irina Cimpoeru - Ministry of Development and Prognosis**

Based on a topic of great current interest on the internal and international level – regional development – the study addresses one particular aspect of this ample topic, namely territorial disparities.

The study is dedicated to the development region that has the highest inter-county disparities in Romania– the South Muntenia Region. Through a comparative analysis of the counties' development level, with the help of basic indicators, the study highlights the intraregional disparities that are persisting and, in some cases are amplified.

The socio-economic profile and the comparative analysis of the two subregions of South Muntenia Region represented the starting point for identifying some solutions to decrease intraregional disparities. The possible action directions needed for achieving a balanced regional development are thus approached.

The core of this study lies in the finding that the entire social and economic situation could be improved through changes in the zoning of the region's territory. Based on identification of problems, as well on the analysis regarding needs and potential, the study highlights the possibility to promote the south subregion of South Muntenia Region, as an independent development Region.

It also proposes a solution which would contribute to the efforts made for a profitable and rationale use of Romania's territory, and would ensure, within the current millennium's terms of reference, the country's sustainable development as fast as possible and, in the same time, regionally balanced.

### **41. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT – FAVOURABLE PREMISE FOR DOBROGEA**

**Laura Iacob - „SPIRU HARET” University, Constanta**

Dobrogea, a historical province, consists of two counties, Tulcea and Constanța, which, although in time have had a distinct evolution in many aspects, are united through an important development potential and multiple resources, regrettably exploited insufficiently.

Considering Romania's adhesion to the European Union, through voluntary cooperation of the counties were created eight *development regions* (according to the Law no. 151/1998). From this perspective, the two above-named counties are components of the South-East Region together with Braila, Buzau, Galati, Vrancea counties.

The History of Dobrogea has been a eventful one, putting its mark upon the present social-economic development.

Each of the peoples settled in these places have kept their habits, religion and life-style in a cohabitation lasting for years .

Outline on the current situation of the Dobrogea labour market has determined me to underline the following aspects:

- Demographic tendencies, especially, the population ageing phenomenon manifested on a national scale as well as arial, have generated a series of direct effects – diminishment of future occupied population, indirect – increasing of the pensioning age, inducted – decrease in the population which contributes to the social insurance and creation of the State reserves, which, also corroborated with the decrease of the occupational level, is reflected in the increase of persons depending on the occupied population. For the Tulcea County, the situation is the more critical as we observe that along with negative natural population growth (including for 2000) and, in general, with a population density , compared to the Constanta one, much lower, is also confronted with a negative inter-county movement balance;
- The real wages earnings are decreasing in comparison with 1990 reference year, this leading to a deterioration of life conditions for more and more population categories, many households living today under the minimal poverty threshold;
- Dobrogea, on the whole as well as on both its components, regarding the structure of occupied population between 1992-2000, follows an agrarian-ising tendency of the economy in the disadvantage of the industrial sector;
- Correlating the preponderance of the agricultural sector in the province's economy with the level of monthly medium nominal wage in agriculture (which is situated much under the monthly medium wage level of economy) we can draw the conclusion that this area's population is confronted with serious problems regarding the standard of life;
- The highest minimal wages are registered in the industrial branches and the tertiary branches of transport and depositing, economic branches which during 1992-2000 confronted themselves with a less and less occupational level, consequence of the economic de-structuring correlated with the absence of reconstruction according to the parameters solicited by the new international demands, fact which – moreover for the Constanta economy- reflects itself upon the average purchasing power of the whole population. Diminishment of the population's purchasing power directly affects the volume of goods and services demands, which, on a company level is translated in a diminishment of labour demand;
- Continuing the previous ideas, it is to be observed that – after the professional status criteria – there is an increase in the number of workers on own account and unpaid family members, category to which also belongs the population working in agriculture;
- the private sector has constantly extended in all activity branches, with an even higher pace in agriculture (over 98% in 2000);

the number of unemployed has risen considerably between 1992-1999, for 2000 observing an improvement of the situation, compared to the national average the Constanta County registering constant decreased levels and rates of unemployment. From the corroborated analysis of all the studied indicators we can observe a difference between the development level of the Tulcea County and that of the Constanta County, on the whole, the Constanta economy, although confronted with many disfunctionalities, presents a more favorable situation than the Tulcea economy.

#### **42. DEVELOPMENT POLICIES CONCERNING MOUNTAINOUS AREAS IN ROMANIA. AN EXAMPLE CONCERNING ALBA COUNTY** **Nicolae Gavrilă – CENTROCOOP**

The paper aims to present the strategy issued by the local authorities within the European context and the national policies as presented by the National Development Plan.

## **SECTION 4**

### **REGIONAL STATISTICS AND ECONOMETRICS**

#### **43. REFLECTIONS ABOUT THE COMPETITIVENESS REFLECTED IN STATISTICS INDICATORS**

**Vergil Voineagu, Daniel Pele - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**  
**Daniela Ștefănescu - National Institute of Statistics**

The problem of competitiveness reflected quantitatively by statistics indicators is very actual in the debates about the quantitative approach of the results of economic activity. In this paper the authors intend to present the most utilized methods and indicators for measuring the competitiveness.

#### **44. CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS AT REGIONAL LEVEL**

**Gabriela Prelipcean - “Ștefan cel Mare” University, Suceava**  
**Mircea Boșcoianu - Technical Military Academy, Bucharest**

Once the concept of sustainable development appeared, it also appeared the necessity to identify new methods of measuring the progress, besides the ones economic exclusive, which were able to show the largest meaning of human's and environment's welfare. Although they didn't come at consent regarding the indices and their number, yet there were made big steps in initiation of the set of indices of sustainable development.

The paper presents the requests of the set of indices of sustainable development, which are specifically at a national level, but, especially, at a regional level, and characteristics which they have to accomplish while indicating the tendencies of the future evolution. The paper presents also the necessity of elaboration of this set of indices in the view of principles of progress evaluation to a sustainable development.

#### **45. THE COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE REGIONAL INTERNATIONAL SERVICE TRADE**

**Erika Tușa - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The most recent international developments are showing the slowing down of the world economic growth (to 2,5 percent in 2001), due mostly to a decrease in the international trade with goods.

In this context, the trade in services accounts for about one-quarter of international trade in goods, being one of the most dynamic, the fastest growing sector of world trade.

The statistical data on international trade in services are though not always reliable, in one hand because of the methodological problems related to the definitions of services and the different classification systems used by each country.

On the other hand, a large proportion of international trade in services does not cross national frontiers, because the service supplier (such as a branch of a foreign bank) or the service consumer (such as a foreign tourist) does so instead.

The paper shows the development on international trade in services, the latest regional evolutions of the world exports and imports of services, for both developing and developed countries.

**46. PRICE SCISSOR INDEX, A STATISTICAL INSTRUMENT AS A RESULT OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI), USED FOR ESTIMATION OF TERRITORIAL DISPARITIES**

**Gheorghe Săvoiu - „Constantin Brâncoveanu” University, Pitești**

The first part of the study is based on common “exchange ratio” index well known as “price scissor index”. The original idea is how to use the consumer price index (CPI) to create a permanent price scissor index. Some examples from the measurement of inflation represent the conventional final of the study.

**47. THE DEMAND AND SUPPLY MARKET FOR HOME APPLIANCE PRODUCTS IN ROMANIA**

**Maria Bădiță, Silvia Elena Cristache – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The Home Appliance Products Market is divided into several categories according to quality and price. We distinguish so: brand products, which are made by prestigious firms, with high qualitative level - price ratio that match, accessible only for buyers with financial possibilities above average; domestic products, with average quality and low prices, accessible to middle class people; counterfeit products, which are cheap, with extremely low fiability, made in different countries from Far East, which appeal people with very low revenues, who don't care about products quality.

In this study are presented: the market share for different categories of products, the main connections between demand and supply and forecasting for a future period.

**48. THE ECONOMETRIC ANALYSIS OF THE ROMANIA'S TOURISTIC ACTIVITY IN THE TERRITORIAL PROFILE DURING THE PERIOD 1992-2000**

**Andreea Iluzia Iacob - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

In the first part of this study are presented some present characteristics of the Romanian tourism and the perspectives of development. Also, are presented the main indexes by which is characterized the touristic activity in the territorial profile in Romania.

Between these, an important place is occupied by the tourists accommodation capacity in function.

The objective of this study is the econometric analysis of the correlation between the tourists accommodation capacity in function, the number of tourists and the number of stayings overnight in the territorial profile by applying econometric models using panel data, which were estimated with common intercept (Pooled OLS) and fixed effect model (FEM) using the EViews programme. In the case of all models it was tested the existence of the heteroskedasticity phenomena using White test. In order to choose between common intercept (Pooled OLS) and fixed effects (FEM) model it was used F-statistic. At the end, it was chosen the best model that approximates the best the dependence between these variables.

**49. THE EVOLUTION OF THE COUNTRY RISK AND FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENTS IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES**

**Aniela Danciu - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

Nowadays, the expansion of big organizations outside their national boundaries represents an important factor in the overall development of the world economy.

In the last decade, the foreign direct investments have had a great impact over the economic growth, international trade and productive structures all over the world, being one of the most important and dynamic components of the international economic exchanges.

The present article analyses the relation between the evolution of foreign direct investments and the country rating for the Central and Eastern European countries.

The country risk evaluation is important for foreign companies because even if it does not eliminate, it significantly reduces the risk of transnational businesses by increasing the efficiency and the security of abroad activities.

#### **50. ROMANIAN TRADITION OF THE ECONOMIC ANALYSIS FOR DIFFERENT TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT, BASED ON PRICE SCISSOR AND SOME INSTRUMENTAL SOLUTIONS**

**Gheorghe Săvoiu - „Constantin Brâncoveanu” University, Pitești**

Unfortunately, there is a few important statistical information based on price scissor index for Romanian territorial development and only on the eve of first and the second world war. The most interesting scientific analysis are the studies of the well-known economist N. Georgescu-Roegen and V. Madgearu. A survey made between 1998-1999, in Argeș County, is a good reason to use the price scissor index. The results of the survey are the confirmation for the heterogeneous territorial development of the Romanian economy.

#### **51. THE STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF THE PUBLIC SERVICES FOR PEOPLE IN THE TERRITORIAL PROFILE IN ROMANIA**

**Andreea Iluzia Iacob - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The objective of this study is to realize a hierarchy of the regions of Romania in 2000 after a certain category of public service for people using the ranks method and the relative distance method.

#### **52. THE CONTRIBUTION OF FOREIGN TRADE TO NATIONAL ECONOMY DEVELOPMENT**

**Maria Badita, Silvia Elena Cristache - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The economic growth of Romanian economy is highly influenced by external factors generally and specifically by foreign trade. Its influence consists in the Social Product development even if the aggregate demand is different as structure and volume compared to the aggregate supply.

Secondly the international trade induces increases and decreases on the national income considering the ratio between the domestic value and the international value of the trade merchandises.

#### **53. STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF THE REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED BUSINESSES**

**Lilea Florin-Paul, Bucharest**

Analyzing the data published in the 2001 statistical yearbook on distribution by regions (and within them by countries) of the local businesses operating in industry, building, trade and other services, according to their activities and sizes in the year 2000 we established their structure with respect to: their number, turnover, gross investments and staff and then we arranged the regions hierarchically according to the average rank. Furthermore, based on the rank coefficient we established the interdependence between these variables. The results are presented in tables and charts featuring the regional distribution of these businesses.

## SECTION 5

### REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF TRANSITION TO THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

#### **54. THE USE OF INFORMATICS FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF TRANSITION TO THE INFORMATIONAL SOCIETY**

**Marin Burtica, Simona Dalota - West University, Timisoara**

The informational society is considered to be an essential condition of any developing project's success, finishing all the strategy's measures, thanks to the training effects that the advances technologies of information have.

The economic developing represents the main target that the strategy wishes to achieve in different schemes of projects meant to stimulate some sectors in which the region has competitive advantages and training effects at a regional level e.g. the services and informatic applications domain, tourism, the production regarding the increasing quality of the business planning of the turistic and transport planning, all this also contributing to facilitate the formation of networks between these poles.

All these can be made with the aid of computer, through different ways of using informatics, as far as regional development is concerned.

#### **55. THE ROLE OF TELE-COTTAGES FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPING**

**Bogdan Ghilic-Micu - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

For all of the world, the Information and Communication Technologies development represents a good saving solution for unwanted phenomena from every country: rural emigration of population from villages to the urban centers, high level of unemployed pupils in villages, no opportunities for employing in rural zones. The build and develop of tele-centers is not just an opportunity for amelioration of this dysfunction, but can be also a good solution for their final evaluation.

Like superior form of cultural and social-economic development, the information society, through the instruments for citizens, offer real possibilities for regional developing: tele-cottages, virtual organizations, digital communities, electronic commerce, cyber-marketing etc. In the context of new technological revolution and of digital economy, for a real regional developing is necessary that every individual to have one minimal informational culture.

The role of tele-cottages for regional developing can be very important if we see that through the opportunities for natural environment protection or through the advantages for small and medium enterprises.

#### **56. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS BETWEEN ROMANIAN REGIONS OF EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM**

**Emilia Titan, Cristina Trandas, Simona Ghiță - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest, R**

“Education is every child's right: nothing can compare or compete with it, and when it is of good quality and relevant to children's lives, it truly can fight poverty” - Juan Somavia, Director-General of the International Labour Organisation.

Formal education (school, college, university), professional training or informal education, give us almost limitless possibilities to learn more, to understand better the world we live in and how we can make it a better place to live.

This paper is an analysis of national education system by Romanian regions. We examine financial resources invested in education, patterns of participation, the results of education in terms of student achievement and the labour market outcomes of education and also the teaching and learning conditions in education systems, using specialized indicators from literature and international practice.

#### **57. THE ROMANIAN EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT**

**Stelian Stancu, Maria Stancu – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

This paper presents different aspects concerning the Romanian education development analyzing in this context the following elements: the importance of the education development, the educational policy objectives – by the use of the statistics indexes which characterize the educational spending.

The present structure of the public spending for education is not favorable for experiments. The big pressures on the wedge costs in the maximum budgetary austerity conditions emphasize a common phenomenon for the last years: the maximum limitation for the funds allocated to the capital spending. The laws adopted in the last period (The special fund for the education support, The school rehabilitation program) don't have, at least for the moment, major influences over the actual and current spending.

#### **58. INTERNET ACCESS IN RURAL AREAS, SOLVING THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS**

**Dana Colibaba - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

Telecommunications companies, entrepreneurs and policymakers have regarded rural and poor markets with some combination of too-complex-to-serve and not interesting enough to be worthy of sustained attention. But times and technologies have changed, leaving what have been perceived as backwaters poised to become significant growth areas in the next decades.

Stakeholders are beginning to recognize the political and economic significance of the more than half of the world's population that lives in largely rural markets. Governments and nongovernmental organizations are increasingly concerned with addressing economic development goals and stability, stubborn deficits in rural health and learning, urban migration, environmental degradation. The private sector craves new consumers, producers, and ideas in our globalizing environment. What most have yet to understand, however, are the tremendous opportunities to address these challenges through new information and information communication technologies (ICTs). ICTs present staggering new opportunities for social and economic integration. Achieving the promise of ICTs does not require sacrifice on the part of business, government, or civil society, but it does demand their cooperation and action to create the environment and mechanisms necessary for ICTs to flourish in the rural areas of the developing world.

#### **59. THE IMPACT OF INFORMATION SOCIETY ON REGIONS DEVELOPMENT**

**Lorena Batagan – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The tendency of our day is the change. In the world who always change or we can say in the world in which the only constant is the change to have the information is essential. We must to create the systems which to administrate this information. In our days, the information is an essential resource to developing the new society. The complexity of the new society, which make to grow diversity and quantity of information processing and which use the information and communication technology, go us to the *Information Society* concept.

When we talk about the *Information Society*, we're talking about a world in which people work with their brains instead of their hands. A world in which communications technology creates global competition. A world in which innovation is more important than mass production. A world in which investment buys new concepts or the means to create them, rather than new machines. A world in which rapid change is a constant. A world at least as different from what came before it as the industrial age was from its agricultural predecessor. A world so different its emergence can only be described as a revolution. In this world is increasing competition between the different territories and their activities, but not all regions enjoy the same economic, social and geographic conditions.

For the beginning it is important for all of *communities* (town of region) to become *tele-communities*. For more than any financial or commercial incentive, the real value in becoming tele-communities will be in the valued economic return from knowledge acquisition and creation. Will we participate in steering the information society toward increasing and accelerating technological consumerism or toward becoming a knowledge based society?

The new society come with some problems and one of them are “*digital divide*” who refers to differences in computer and Internet use: between developed and less-developed countries, between people of different socioeconomic statuses (education, income, occupation, wealth) and between different local areas and regions.

## **60. SOFTWARE VERIFICATION AND VALIDATION IN THE CONTEXT OF SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Paul Pocatilu - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

Developing and using software applications occupy an important role in sustainable regional development. Taking into account the specific of regional and interregional activities, distributed applications are mostly used. The quality of software applications that are being developed has to be very high, considering the great number of users and the importance of the transactions made. Reliable applications are being achieved through a comprehensive verification and validation process, where the software testing has an essential role.

## **61. DIGITAL COMMUNITIES – SUPPORT FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPING**

**Marian STOICA - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The impact of technological revolution from 21 century, but in special the big explosion of Internet has as the result new opportunities for regional developing and environmental protection. Between the most recent and modern forms of work and activities in information society are the telework (occasional, telecommuting, virtual office), imotique and domotique, teleservices (electronic commerce, tele-banking, telemarketing) and teleactivities (teleeducation, telemedicine, cyber marketing, tele-socialization). One of the concrete forms of these work forms is digital community or virtual community.

In this way, the digital community is one of the most optimistic forms of information society evolution because of she's great potential for socialization re-launching, stress reduction, new ways of human relationships, regional developing and ambient environment protection.

## **62. THE ROMANIAN EDUCATION FUNDING**

**Stelian Stancu, Marilena Stancu - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

This paper presents different aspects of the subscriptions equilibrium, the taxation of the consumer income, the taxation of the private goods consumption and not at least, the taxation of the consumer income and of the private goods consumption.

In this context we assume that the public good funding is made based on a volunteer subscription. We observe that the consumer volunteer subscription at the education production gets the biggest private goods consumption level, but the measure of the educational spending has a sub optimal value; because of the large consumers number from the economy, the deviation to the optimal point is also large.

Analyzing the evaluation of the social utility for each way of financing the educational spending, we conclude that both the taxation of the consumer income as well as the taxation of the private goods consumption offers an Pareto optimal allocation of goods, under the assumptions of some pairs of fixed taxation rates.

### **63. TENDENCIES IN THE EVOLUTION OF SOME INDICATORS IN ROMANIAN PREUNIVERSITARY EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM**

**Claudiu Herteliu - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The article analyses the evolution of indicators that concern demographic aspects, number of education units, students and didactic personnel flows. I also studied complex indicators as pupils teacher ratio and enrolment ratio.

All the information needed in this report were found in official publications of National Statistical Institute (published between 1985 and 2001). For 2001-2002 school year, the information were available at Ministry of Education and Research.

### **64. EXTERNALITIES IN E-COMMERCE: REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS AND THE SPATIAL DISPARITIES DECREASE**

**Silvia Elena Cristache, Dana Serban - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

Currently the high development of the communication technologies induced global communications with a low cost. The connection between computer use and commerce made possible the development of the new trade type: the e-commerce, whose influence on the general trade will induce the development of the backward regions.

### **65. THE DEVELOPMENT OF BANKING PRODUCTS AND SERVICES**

**Dorina Poanta – Romanian Banking Institute, Bucharest**

Due to an encroaching competition on the Romanian market, both foreign and Romanian banks try to attract their customers by means of new competitive products, based on innovative IT solutions. Bank customers are getting more interested in electronic banking services and the number of users of such banking services increases every month.

Most of the questions regarding e-banking refer to security issues. The banks involved into the process claim that there will be no problems, as information is at all times encrypted and secured.

The future certainly belongs to e-banking. Thus, experts claim that after 2003, large, front-line banks will aggressively impose global electronic payment services and consequently become the benchmark of a very competitive e-banking market.

## **SECTION 6**

### **THE INVOLVEMENT OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION IN THE MANAGEMENT OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS**

#### **66. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND DECENTRALIZATION IN ROMANIA**

**Ion Mihailescu – Arges County Council**

The integration in the European Union structures is conditioned by the structural and functional public administration modernization so that governmental institutions to function effectively – to be much closer by the citizens. Public administration reform requires changes at the national and local public administration level as well as at the public services level.

Public administration reform claims: to stop bureaucracy, to change the relation between citizen and administration, to restructure central and local public administration, to decentralize public services and to strengthen the local autonomy, to depoliticize communitarian services, to show a total transparency of the public institutions activity, and last, but not the least to harmonise the legal framework with European Union regulations.

Public Administration reform started in the year 1998 when three important laws had been adopted: Local public finances Law, Concessions Law and public assets Law.

Public administration reform is connected with the decentralisation process at local administration level, and in the regional development process the first step is the decentralisation one. An important role in this process is played by the regional development agencies, business centres, entrepreneurs associations and last but not in the least by the citizens. The success of this process is assured also by the way it is involved the civil society.

The regional development policy strengthens the role and the responsibilities of the local public administrations and the regional bodies, this being an essential component of the local autonomy.

The main objective of the decentralization is to solve the issues of the citizens and of the society through an efficient and correct management of the financial resources.

The international experience in the field of decentralisation developed so far shows that these complex actions suppose two main actions: transferring the responsibilities of some activities performing, the expenditures involved as well as assurances the necessary resources to the local public administration bodies.

The decentralisation process started after year 1990 in Romania is going on with transferring the public services from the central to local level. So, the relation between citizen and administration has been rearranged.

Through Romanian Constitution (art. 119, art. 120) and through Law no. 215 from April 23rd 2001 regarding local public administration (articles 2, 3, 9 and 10), public administration from territorial administrative units is build on the principle of local autonomy and public services decentralisation.

The practice of the local autonomy supposes: the right and the effective capacity of the local public administration authorities to solve and manage the public necessities, in the name and in the interest of the local collectivities, in conformity with laws as well as the right to dispose the financial resources, taking into consideration the competences and responsibilities stipulated in law.

The decentralization is a complex process, changing from the simple spreading of the responsibility of the central government towards the regional government offices (deconcentration) till the privatization.

Decentralization has many dimensions; the main types of decentralization being territorial decentralization, privatization, political, administrative, fiscal, financial and market decentralization.

The outstanding ways of the public administration authority decentralization are following:

Delegation- delegation of responsibility towards other local authorities;

Deconcentration- the government distributes responsibilities for delivering some services towards their regional offices.

Devolution- the government transfers the decision, financing and management power towards the quasi- autonomy units of the local administration institutions.

Market decentralization is the total form of decentralization from the government perspective, because this one transfers the functions responsibility from the public sector to the private one. This form comprises two main forms: privatization and deregulation. The decentralization effects will be evaluated also in terms of equity, efficiency and response capacity.

## **67. THE ORTHOGONALITY – QUALITY SPECIFIC FEATURE OF THE REGIONAL PROJECTS**

**Ion Ivan, Paul Pocatilu, Marius Popa – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The regional development is a new tackling way of the economic and social processes in the actual period. The practice showed that the durable evolution is characteristic of some organizational structures in which the management has a high level degree of the efficiency. To have access to the dedicated funds to some specific and major objectives of the durable development of the regions, it elaborates projects that must be grounded scientifically and they must observe the fundamental proportions of the progress from the financial viewpoint.

The specific nature of each region requires the tackling specific features of the resources and staging specific features of the activities. All these establish the individualization of the project offers.

This paper defines the project orthogonality concept. The orthogonality is a quality characteristic showing the presence or the absence of the clones which praise redundancy in the regional development projects which were proposed. Testing ways of the projects that include the orthogonality characteristic are established. It was proposed indicators to set the measure of the project orthogonality and to validate the measures of these indicators. Identification methods of the clones in the projects proposed are also established.

To illustrate all these concepts it uses the software product OrtoPro that established the acceptance or rejection the projects from the viewpoint of this quality characteristic.

The structure of this paper is:

1. Project Structures;
2. Structured Text Orthogonality;
3. Indicators of the Project Orthogonality;
4. Orthogonality Software;
5. Conclusions;
6. References.

## **68. IMPACTUL PROGRAMARII MULTIANUALE IN MODERNIZAREA ADMINISTRATIEI PUBLICE**

**Perla Simion, Tudorel Andrei – Ministry of Public Administration**

One of the goals of the reform is the modernization and adaptability of the public administration to the new realities of the Romanian economy and society. At the same time, the Romanian public administration must adopt and implement the administrative values defining the European space: transparency, predictability, responsibility, adaptability and efficiency.

In Europe there are current practices regarding the draw-up and implementation of the public administration modernization programmes.

This paper intends to present the impact on Romanian public administration of a planning and monitoring tool, elaborated on a multiannual basis, that includes the modernization activities of the public administration institutions.

The function of this tool is three folded:

- drawing-up and/or improving modernization activities related to public administration;
- conducting the changes, meaning implementation of the envisaged modernization activities;
- monitoring and evaluation of the results.

The main benefits obtained by using the Multiannual programmes for public administration modernization are as follows:

- ensuring the correlation between the strategic orientations of the institutions and their capacity to implement them;
- permanent improvement and periodical adaptability of policy implementation methods with the necessities of the Romanian society, which is in a continuous changing;

a reform planning and monitoring tool of the public administration institutions, on a multiannual basis.

## **69. INSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES IMPLEMENTATION**

**Dana Antonescu, Radu Munteanu - Institute for Industrial Economy**

Starting with the year 2000, the European Union programmes for candidate countries are conceived following the model of financing addressed to member states. The general idea is that, besides technical assistance and investment support, they will help these countries develop their institutional capacity for accessing structural funds so that the accession will represent a continuity point in transferring opportunities offered by membership.

Romania has promised, based on the 1998 Memorandum of Understanding signed with the European Commission, to develop its institutional capacity needed for implementation of structural-type funding. This is why, starting with 2000, together with the achievement of the second major reform of structural funds for the European Union, Romania has continued its structural dialogue with the Commission within a new environment, represented by an annual financial framework that is 6 times bigger than the previous ones, through 3 main programmes shaped after the structural instruments.

More than 70% of the budget of one of these programmes – the Phare Programme – is addressing the Economic and Social Cohesion, which means, in practical terms, more than 100 million Euro each year, to be spent based on the National Development Plan, in accordance to procedures emulating the European Fund for Regional Development and the European Social Fund, while the other two – ISPA and SAPARD – programmes are also meant to “train” Romanian institutional structures for accessing the Cohesion Fund and, respectively, the European Agriculture Orientation and Guarantee Fund, Orientation section.

First steps were taken in 1999, by setting up the National Pre-Accession Fund and the Phare Central Financing and Contracting Unit with the Ministry of Finances. Subsequently, each public authority has targeted the development of the institutional capacity for the adoption of the Acquis in the field and the role of Implementing Authority or Agency, on a case-to-case basis.

The Economic and Social Cohesion component was related to setting up a more complex institutional architecture, due to the need for cooperation both between two-level structured decision-makers (central and regional), that are no legal persons and some executive structures similarly distributed, but with the central level represented by a public authority and the regional one by a special-status non-governmental organisation, not belonging to the civil society and trying to play a substitute role for a regional administration that has been carefully avoided by the existing legal framework.

With respect to the attributes and experience gained over 4 years of functioning, the institutional framework used for the implementation of the Regional Development programmes has registered both notable performances as well as critics. The Paper intends to make a brief inventory and introduce them, together with a set of proposals that are, at least in theory, achievable.

## **70. THE NECESSITY OF IMPLEMENTATION OF A BUSINESS CENTRE IN GIURGIU AREA**

**Gabriel Popescu - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The administrative district of Giurgiu with the city of Giurgiu is situated approximately 80 km south of Bucharest River. The only bridge on Danube River in the border area between Romania/Bulgaria measuring 400 km links this region with the Bulgarian city of Rousse. Approximately 290000 people live in the administrative district of Giurgiu, 70000 of these people live in the Giurgiu city. The population in Rousse consists of approximately 170000 people. There is little economic activity in the region of Giurgiu and it lacks dynamism. The employment rate is below average in comparison to the rest of the country. Large-scale industrial enterprises that were settled here during the time of the planned economy did not survive the transition to market economy structures. The establishment of a Start-up and Innovation center in Giurgiu is to inspire the economic development in the region. In this connection it is to be conspired, that innovative starts-up and company settlements, whose commercial idea is based on the implementation of research results, are of special importance to the economic development. Such enterprises grow noticeably faster than non-innovative enterprises and achieve higher productivity profits. In the OECD member states 70% of the workplaces are thanks to founders of small and medium-sized companies.

## **71. CONSIDERATIONS ON THE “PLANIFICATION AND STRATEGY” CRITERIA FROM THE MANAGEMENT OF QUALITY MODEL EFQM**

**Cosmin Dobrin, Ion Popa – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The EFQM model of excellency incorporates nine criteria for the autoevaluation and improvement of the performance attained through the implementation of the total management of quality. These criteria practically cover all organizatory processes and the model assigns each, a score or a specific weight, varying from one criterion to the next. This paper concentrates on the analysis of a single criterion – “Planification and Strategy” – with the purpose of justifying the 8% rate it has been given and also to underline the importance that strategy and planification holds in the processes` viability of the implementation of the total management of quality in public organisations.

## **72. THE LOCAL PUBLIC AUTHORITY – CITIZEN RELATIONSHIP, DETERMINING FACTOR FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF THE DEMOCRACY AL THE LOCAL LEVEL**

**Nelu Fleşer – Alba County Prefecture**

The local public administration`s reform can be accomplished through the development of the partnership between the local public authorities and the citizens, based on the saying “the local administration must be of, through and for the citizens”.

Creating a partnership requests an efficient relationship (information, communication, consultation and participation) between the two partners engaged in resolving community`s

problems. The main activities must be based on the historical traditions of volunteer participation of the citizens, traditions, cultures, mentalities, etc.

**73. SOME ASPECTS OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY IN ROMANIA**  
**Angelica Băcescu Cărbunaru - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

In this paper the author starts from the idea that the former big industrial complexes that were characterized by an extraordinary deepening of the manufacturing process, producing almost all the marks of a product, had also created a kind of know how system, starting with the knowledge about raw materials up to the exact knowledge of the product corresponding to the customers' requirements. It is demonstrated that this know how has the possibility to offer an integrated system of solutions and corresponding to the customers requirements connected from that area, creating in this way networks of light connections; a thing that would allow the movement of the actual policy weight center from the narrow perspective of the sole firms efficiency growth up to the creation of some good conditions at the level of some industrial, sector or regional complexes.

It is also demonstrated that, in the Central and Eastern European countries, and in Romania too, the development of such light connections are favoured by the existence of the Regional Development Agencies (RDA), organizations with a double character: public and private. In these conditions it is suggested the creation of a commercial and development banks system, that should give the opportunity to the individual economic system to act as a market creator, resorting to banks for financing some wholesale merchandise which should be distributed at intervals in time or in the area in different places.

Afterward, there are indicated the alternatives of regional policy that the Romanian Government has and the main instruments of regional policy.

**74. THE IMPORTANCE OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**Diana Hristache – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

„Regional development in Romania will be consistent and the Romanian economic environment will change only through the growth of the contribution of the small and medium enterprises (SME)” is highlighted in a study made under the authority of the National Council of SME. We consider that this affirmation is valid, because no matter how developed any region is, it can not be viable from a financial-economic point of view, if the business environment does not allowed. This objective can be solved only through the business communication. On the Romanian SME level, the relationship between the company and its customers has to be based on the importance, the aspirations and the needs of the last one.

**75. PROJECT CYCLE MANAGEMENT - THEORETICAL APPROACH WITH A CASE STUDY IN THE FIELD OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**Carmen Emilia Chașovschi - „Ștefan cel Mare” University, Suceava**

PCM stands for Project Cycle Management. Project Cycle is the entire development of a project, and the Project Cycle Management is the method to manage such a process using the Project Design Matrix.

Logical Framework was the original name of the PDM (Project Design Matrix) and defined in the U.S.A. The LF was incorporated into ZOPP (Objective oriented Project Planning System).

The analysis of the project is undertaken based on the logic of cause and effect relationship and the results are expressed by tree form chart.

More current problem can be solved with the help of this instrument. Beneficiaries of the project and the important related parties are brought together to take part in the above-mentioned analyses.

We tried to apply the PCM method in order to define the steps which must be done for the improving of the eco-standards with participatory approach in Suceava county.

The steps which were followed: participation analysis, problem analysis, objectives analysis, project selection, formulation of Project Design Matrix.

## **76. ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES**

**Minodora Moldovan, Ioana Roman - Institute of Agricultural Economy, Bucharest**

In the developed countries, the success of rural development policies is built on partnership basis between local and regional authorities. We consider that in Romania, regional institutional and partnership structures should emerge, which mobilize and make the best use of the local potential and initiate programmes for agriculture, tourism, handicraft development, etc.

In our opinion, in order to ensure the continuity of these partnership-based activities at regional level and their consolidation, it is necessary to build up in parallel some complementary structures, i.e. associations, committees or foundations, which support the information exchange as regards: achievement of projects and experiences between different players; organization of some training stages for local workers, which should provide extension services to less-favored areas and watch over local development projects.

The development projects initiated by these complementary structures will be based upon studies elaborated by the public administration or other institutional structures, using either the proposals formulated at local and regional level (bottom-up approach) or the elements included in the medium and longer term programmes elaborated at regional and national level.

## **SECTION 7**

### **THE URBAN – RURAL RELATIONSHIP IN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

#### **77. ECONOMIC RESTRUCTURING AND CITY REGENERATION**

**Ion Plumb, Irina Popescu - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

In this paper the city is seen as a locus of economic and corporate restructuring. The city as a locality (rather than a region or a country) displays an intrinsic diversity, a capacity for economic innovation and a capacity to interact with global economic processes. In a context of global economic and political change, I will reflect this on the implications of economic and corporate restructuring for city management in Central and Eastern Europe, exploring what lessons can be learned from Western Europe.

I start in the section 1 with an overview of the role of the city in the process of economic restructuring. In section 2 I demarcate global, sectorial and specific factors for urban economic and corporate restructuring. Section 3 looks at the role of city governments in urban regeneration processes which have taken place over the last twenty years in Western Europe. Urban development strategy elements are listed and a number of short cases illustrate the points made. Local government leadership and urban partnership emerge as critical factors in the strategy.

The situation of cities in Central and Eastern Europe will be described in section 4. In section 5 I will come back to the key factors of partnership and leadership and discuss the implications for Central and Eastern Europe.

#### **78. URBAN VERSUS RURAL IN THE MAIN INDICATORS ANALYSIS OF THE POPULATION NATURAL MOVEMENT IN TERRITORIAL PROFILE**

**Eugenia Lilea, Elena Biji, Mihaela Vătui – Academy of Economic Studies**

Basing on regional variation of the population natural movement indicators our paper surveys the dimensions and implications of these indicators on regional development. In this respect, our paper is mainly based on territorial distributions published by statistical reports regarding: birth rate, mortality, infantile mortality, and marriage and divorce rate.

We have found the trends and structural changes. In this view, we have grouped the districts in five sections using the variation amplitude, for each indicator identifying the differences between positions.

The results analysis focus the fact that there are a few districts that still remain in the same group for all calculated indicators.

#### **79. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT -A FRAMEWORK FOR THE INTEGRATED APPROACH OF URBAN AND RURAL AREAS**

**Narciza-Adela Nica - Ministry of Development and Prognosis**

For a long time, the village and the town have been perceived as two separate entities, which, it went without saying, were characterized by different lifestyles and discrepancies in economic development. According to this concept, the village was in a subordinate relationship to the town, the rural areas being in the position of provider of material and human resources for the welfare of urban areas.

For decades Romania's state policy focused on stimulated, even forcing urban development, based on the ideological principle stating that progress comes only from the town and is generated only by industry. Rural areas had to accept and bear the negative effects of this mentality.

After 1990, for many internal and external reasons, the emphasis in Romanian policy shifted from urban to rural areas. For the last 13 years, much has been said about rural development and the policy for supporting rural development but, yet again, from a one-sided perspective. It is the concern for urban problems which is lacking now, although urban areas have been the first to experience and were hardest hit by the transition shock.

The subject of the paper that will be presented is a call for conceiving urban and rural development – for the first time – from an integrated and correlated perspective, based on the argument that the two exist and function interdependently.

The conceptual, legislative and institutional framework for the success of this approach is offered by the policy for regional development, whose objectives consist in ensuring the balanced development of all Romania's areas, reducing development discrepancies between areas – where urban-rural discrepancies are the most obvious – achieving economic, social and territorial cohesion.

It is time to introduce a balanced approach, in order to achieve balanced development.

## **80. URBAN MARKETING - A TOOL FOR COMPETITIVE CITIES**

**Alina Proftoiu – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The paper introduces the term urban marketing, drawing up a reference framework and highlighting its essential components. It defines the framework's utility as a tool whereby towns and cities may induce development processes by two types of actions: by gearing to competition on a supra-local scale to attract new investment and by effectively reorganising urban policies to exploit the specific resources already available. In the light of which it supports planning that is strategic - that is, replaces a general plan with a programme of transformation - capable of clarifying objectives and permitting the implementation of projects.

## **81. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE FINAL HOUSE HOLD CONSUMPTION BY RESIDENCE**

**Marioara Iordan, Vladimir Calmuschi – Institute of Economic Forecasting**

The population final consumption examined in the integrated general framework of the aggregate demand, by the means of the interdependence it generates at the level of and inside the economic system, turns into a variable whose evolution is able to characterize the stability of the system, to express its functioning or malfunctioning, equilibrium or disequilibrium at the national level.

In such a context, and starting from the assumption that during the transition the structure of population consumption is an important parameter of the economic development programme – being a variable sensitive to the smallest fluctuations in incomes – we consider as adequate to deepen (in relation to the available data) some aspects of the population consumption by residence environments.

The analysis performed for different household categories allowed to reveal the aspects that characterized and made each household specific and, at the same time, showed some trends common to all households that existed and carried on their activities in the same environment or in different environments during the transition to the market economy.

There are different consumption patterns and models for low, medium and high-income groups of families. The demand dependency on income and prices varies according to the social and professional categories of the members of the families, the age groups, and the number of persons in a family all influence the distribution of demand inside the structure of expenses, namely expenses on food, clothes, and durable goods. The families located in the urban areas spend more than those

located in the rural ones, the rural families use to a larger extent their own households resources, the families with many members spend more on food and clothes, etc.

**82. A PSYCHO-SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE UPON THE RESOURCES AND BARRIERS OF INTER-COMMUNAL COLLABORATION IN REGIONAL CONTEXT. A CASE-STUDY IN THE DEPRESSION TRASCĂU (ALBA COUNTY, ROMANIA)**

**Mihai Pascaru, Adina Dobrea, Mihaela Stroescu - „1 Decembrie 1918” University, Alba Iulia**

In the context of the European territorial politics, the inter-communal collaboration is just as frequently invoked as the inter-departmental one, or in a extended sense, in a region one, or in an extended sense, in a regional. Some countries, such as France, adopted a series of special rules in this respect. For Romania, the problem is still being debated, in an isolated and timid manner. Several problems that go beyond the administrative and territorial department of some communes bring forward the necessity of the inter-communal collaboration. At the same time, it seems that different barriers come across this type of collaboration. Among these blocking elements there are some series of socio-psychological aspects that also manifest themselves (e. g. Strong local identity, powerful local pride, some breakings among local communities that are territorially delimited etc.). Our study, starting from a vast experience of research, focuses on the case of the Depression of Trascău (Alba County), a micro-region where the collaboration between the communes Livezile and Rimetea seems necessary.

**83. URBAN-RURAL RELATION EVOLUTION IN SUCEAVA COUNTY BETWEEN 1990 AND**

**Elisabeta R. Rosca - “Ștefan cel Mare” University, Suceava**

The paper “The Evolution of Report between Urban and Rural Areas in Suceava District Economy in 1990-2000 period” contains the presentation of some concepts concerning the areas and its forms, especially the rural and urban areas. It’s presenting the basic criteria used for defining a rural areas in different countries (USA, French, Germany), the main categories of rural areas according to Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (economically integrated rural areas, intermediate rural areas, remote rural areas), the common fundamental components of rural areas (the arable ground, pastures and hayfields, rural settlement, human group), the analysis methods of rural areas (the statistics indicators system and SWOT analysis).

The paper defines the urban areas, presents the criteria which separate the human settlements in towns and villages, presents the features of urban areas (urban areas are physical and geographical areas, economic areas, social areas, adapted areas, are areas different perceived and lived by the individuals, are places of many conflicts and contradictions), the components of urban areas (the environment, the enterprises, the urban equipments, the green areas, the technical equipments, the constructed areas, the circulation, the dwellings, the people, the labour).

Also, it is defined the town-planning and are presented the features of town-planning which are: the permanent progress in time, the concentration of the people in the cities, the territorial expansion of the towns, the growth of the third sector, the decrease of the arable ground and the diversity of areas with a special destination (the areas with function of recreation, green areas into and out of urban spaces represented by parks, sport ground, public garden etc.).

The analysis of urban areas can be made using specific geographical models (the arrangement models, the gravitation models), using economic methods (the SWOT analysis), using methods of analysis for towns tackled individual and on whole (analytic methods, graphic methods, information geographical systems).

The paper contains a SWOT analysis of rural and urban areas in Suceava district, using criteria like these: the physical and geographical features; the demographic features, the economic

features which are: the urban and rural areas, the structure of ground, the economic activities, the productive capacity, the rate of work and the unemployment etc., the training features, the infrastructure features, the living standards features etc.

Depending on the existent statistics, some of these criteria were presented in evolution, for 1990-2000 period in Suceava district, in comparison with the levels achieved on the whole economy or with the levels from other districts.

#### **84. COMPETITION BETWEEN CITIES, URBAN PERFORMANCE AND THE ROLE OF URBAN POLICY**

**Irina Popescu - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

Interurban competition basically is rivalry between cities in the European urban system for the creation or attraction of economic activity which produces income.

This concept of competition is not without problems:

- First, is the city an entity which actually competes, or a group of urban actors, perhaps with conflicting interests, which are driving the competition forward.
- Secondly, to what extent can the city as a unit influence its own chances of success?
- Thirdly, success in income generation assumes a certain stability in income generation over a longer period.
- Fourthly, a factor related both to income-generating capacity and to stability is of course power - primarily: power of decision and capacity to determine the behavior of other actors. Successful cities are powerful cities, but city power is very difficult to measure.
- Fifthly, cities are located within a city system and indirect and induced effects of income generation can spread unevenly within the system.
- Sixthly, income generation usually implies employment generation.

#### **85. RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN ROMANIA: TERRITORIAL DISPARITIES**

**Marioara Rusu - Institute of Agricultural Economics, Bucharest**

During the last years, the issue of rural development has gained an important place both within academic disciplines, and in the political debates. In many countries of the world, but especially in the developed ones, bearers of the new and modern trends of the contemporary progress, the national strategies for social and economic development comprise also in their structural composition the rural development. This fact, more frequently met in the last decades, is not at all at random. The significant share of the rural population and the large area of the rural space, as well as the importance of rural life for a nation, make the issue of the rural development reach special dimensions.

During the transition period, in Romania, together with the increase of the rural communities underdevelopment, there took shape a trend for stressing the disparities existent among them. The economic and social gapes of the local rural communities are, on one hand, the result of their different endowment with natural and human resources, and on the other, the result of the specific ways for economic, social and cultural evolution.

The paper objective is of identifying the present differences among rural communities regarding their main structural elements and of realizing their classification. The approach is targeted towards the identification of the level and the development profile of the rural communities using six analysis dimensions: demographical, demo-economic, agricultural, industrial, tourism and infrastructure. The starting point was the theoretical perspective focused upon multi-dimensions character of the rural development and upon its local specificity. The classification of the local rural communities, following the six dimensions under study, was made by using the factorial and cluster analysis.

Based on obtained results there were presented, synthetically, a series of actions having the rural development in view. In general terms, Romania needs its own concept of rural developments with roots and specific national trajectories coming from our historical matrix. The rural development, starting from the present state of the rural, from the potential of the natural and human factors, is necessary to encompass in its structural components all that could define a dynamic, modern and efficient development, with a large view to the outside.

## **86. URBAN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES. PROGRESS EVALUATION, SOLUTIONS AND POLICIES FOR IMPACT AMPLIFYING**

**Irina Popescu, Oana Abăluță - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

This paper is a stock-taking exercise to inform managers about the conduct and performance of CDS and to look forward to greater impact.

The paper proposes an analytical framework for City Development Strategies (CDS), based on the idea of the city production function. This framework helps to sharpen the objectives and purpose of CDSs and allows us to gauge progress.

The City Development Strategy (CDS) is both a planning process and a product which promotes partnership among the various stakeholders in a city - the city government, the private business sector, academic and national government agencies - to jointly analyze growth issues, develop a vision for the future, formulate development strategies, design programmes, prioritize projects, mobilize resources, implement, monitor and evaluate implementation.

The CDS is anchored on the following principles of a sustainable city:

- Livability - what can be done to ensure a healthy and dignified standard of living for the city's residents?

- Competitiveness - how can the cities be more competitive in the global economy?

- Bank ability -- how can cities be more financially sustainable? How can public-private sector partnerships be promoted and/or enhanced?

- Good Governance – how can a city's management be improved? How can accountability, integrity and transparency be made an integral part of a city's management?

The objectives of the CDS are:

- to guide the city's direction for economic development with the aim of creating more employment opportunities;

- to develop a consensus building process to establish the city's priorities, strategies and actions;

- to assist local authorities outline their financing and investment strategies;

- to build local capacity for more effective urban management.

## **87. COORDINATES AND PRIORITIES OF THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN ROMANIA IN REGIONAL PROFILE**

**Mirela Rusali - Institute of Agricultural Economics, Bucharest**

The Romanian rural areas represent an important economic and social space which requires an increased attention regarding its policies of modernization, revitalization and balanced development, either within the internal fundamental reforms, or as a response to the social necessities and to the requirements of the EU accession.

Currently, the Romanian rural is featured by an accentuated underdevelopment degree, is the most disfavored segment of the economy and society and is still marked by the past. The distorted evolutions of the transition were added to the alteration of its vital functions, so that poverty - the most significant symptom - is present in alarming sizes. Poverty is not an isolated phenomenon –

through causes and implications has organic links with the situation of the agricultural and other non-agricultural rural realities within the entire society.

The analysis in regional profile reveal certain inter-regional and intra-regional disparities in terms of the main socio-economic indicators that point out several structural unbalances as well as dysfunctions at the level of the institutional and legal framework.

The paper aims at handing a message in the direction of substantiating and implementing of a coherent regional socio-economic cohesion strategy based either on identification and assessment of the specific rural necessities, or on the coordination of the efforts at national, regional and local levels and with an active implication of all rural stakeholders.

## **SECTION 8**

### **EQUILIBRIA AND DISEQUILIBRIA ON REGIONAL LABOUR MARKETS**

#### **88. REGIONAL RANKING USING THE MAIN DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS**

**Elena Maria Bijj, Eugenia Lilea, Mihaela Vătui - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

Using the information published by National Statistic Institution regarding the regional repartition of the main indicators, our papers surveys a statistical ranking related to the values registered in the last two years.

In this view, we have considered following variables: total number of population, population density, birth rate, mortality, and infantile mortality.

Giving ranks to all these indicators, we have calculated the medium rank that helped us in ranking the regions and districts. Comparing the results in this period, we identified also the changes in territorial ranking.

The results analysis has been made using statistical methods on ranking and correlation.

#### **89. REGIONAL DIFFERENCES REGARDING AVERAGE LIFE EXPECTANCY**

**Daniela Stefanescu – National Institute of Statistics**

**Virgil Voineagu– Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

**Pavel Wagner – Titu Maiorescu University, Bucharest**

There are obvious differences in life expectancy among regions, between urban and rural. These differences analyzed since 1970 have increased or decreased from one European country to another. Are there valid patterns for countries' groups? The intended analysis will be built upon a tentative theory of causes explaining the regional differences in life expectancy and on a concrete proposal to measure the magnitude of the regional differences.

#### **90. THE IMPACT OF ROMANIAN POPULATION'S ATTITUDE WITH RESPECT TO REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT**

**Constantin Mitrut, Dana Serban, Cristina Mitrut – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The research is based on a survey designed and conducted on a representative sample of the Romanian urban population. The sample structure is according to the population structure considering the age, gender, professional status and regional distributions. The survey main conclusion is the population attitude and opinion on work in general and on specific jobs, identifying its implications on the labour market disequilibria's and on the additional phenomenon implied by the lack of equilibrium: unemployment, formal and informal training.

#### **91. THE REGIONAL MOBILITY OF THE POPULATION OF ROMANIA DURING THE CENTURY BETWEEN 1992-2002 - SPATIAL-TEMPORAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**Corneliu Iașu – University „Al.I.Cuza”, Iași**

The main objectives of the paper are:

- to underline the repartition of the fluxes of the migratory population and the changes that have taken place considering the data of the censuses in 1992 and 2002.

- to apply a method of statistic analysis (the hierarchical classification) in order to highlight a certain behavioural typology of the migrations between 1992 and 2002.
- to make a spatial analysis of the migrations in order to underline the spatial structures and forms of organization.
- to study the part played by migrations in the evolution of the demographic structures.

## **92. EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMMES AND THEIR INFLUENCE UPON TERRITORIAL MOBILITY**

**Cornelia Pârlog, Zizi Goschin - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The territorial distribution of labour resources as well as their territorial mobility can influence – in a favoring or disfavoring manner – the economic development at both national and regional level.

The corrective measures for unacceptable spatial distribution of human potential and the diminishing of ‘push’ forces in the migration process – particularly in less developed zones – can be integrated in various programmes encouraging economic development and new job creation.

This paper discusses the programmes elaborated by the Romanian Government together with the European Commission in order to support regional development and prepare at the same time the accession to the EU. These programmes can influence – directly or indirectly – the employment and labour force mobility.

The emphasis will be put on Economic Pre-accession Programme, National Development Plan for 2002-2005, National Employment Action Plan, special programmes for economic development in the disadvantaged areas, programmes for supporting SMEs, the Programme of the Romanian Social Development Fund, the SAPARD programme for agriculture, the ISPA programme for improving transportation and environmental protection infrastructure and so on.

The implementation of these programmes can be stimulated by creating new job opportunities at the same time with social security measures for unemployment and other categories with hiring difficulties (the long-term unemployed, women, young persons), especially in areas of lower economic potential.

## **93. DIFFERENCES IN EMPLOYMENT’S STRUCTURE BY AREA AND BY REGIONS**

**Maria Vincze, Stefana Varvari, Györfy Lehel - Babes – Bolyai University, Cluj Napoca**

The main aim of this paper is to emphasise the major discrepancies in employment’s structure by urban and rural area.

In the first part of the paper the discrepancies in employment by area at national level is analyzed. The correlated situation of employment by age groups and profession groups, by educational level and profession groups, by work programme and age groups and so on, is compared. This study is based on data collected from “Household Labour Force Survey - 2001” (AMIGO – Ancheta asupra forței de muncă în gospodăria-anul 2001). Even if only these average values would be analyzed, one could draw some conclusions about the essential differences between urban and rural areas’ structure of the employment by age groups. One must take in consideration these present realities when taking measures of economic and social policies.

The second part of the study is extended to the level of the eight statistical development regions. The discrepancies between the urban and rural areas taking in consideration the structure of employment by age groups, by educational level, by activities of national economy, by vocational status and so on, are quantified in this paper, in details, on regions. The ratios rural/urban show significant differences by regions, but these discrepancies manifest themselves very differently on age groups.

The synthetic results of this study concerning employment, which quantify the discrepancies between urban and rural areas and among regions, can serve as base for creation of regional development programmes and especially to emphasise the acute necessity to develop rural areas, which presently covers 89% of the national territory and 45% of the national population. Without a real cohesion policy that can facilitate the reduction in discrepancies between rural and urban and among regions, one cannot talk about sustainable development of the country.

#### **94. THE USE OF LABOUR RESOURCES IN THE WEST REGION IN TERMS OF ECONOMIC RESTRUCTURING**

**Gheorghe Vârlan - West University, Timisoara\**

**Mariana Nagy – Arad University**

**Adrian Vârlan – Hamburg University, Germany**

The diminishing of labour market, as a sequence of the economic restructuring, imposed by the demands of market economy, has taken place in terms of some important changes, when using the labour resources on sectors and branches of activity.

In the interval 1992-2000, the growth of the population engaged in the system of agriculture trade, public administration, education, health and social assistance, has been excelled by the diminishing of the population working in the fields of silviculture, industry, building and other activities, influencing the diminishing of the population caught in the primary sector with 0.4%, in the secondary sector with approximately 34% and the third one with almost 8%.

Under these conditions, the population engaged during the year 2000 has diminished with approximately 15% compared to the year 1992, being engaged in percent of approximately 36% in the primary sector, almost 31% in the secondary sector and about 33% in the third sector.

Such an evolution of the engaged population highlights the deepening of the efficiency's decline when it comes to the use of the most important resource, with direct consequences on the economic development and implicitly of life level.

#### **95. THE ACCELERATED DEMOGRAPHIC AGEING REPERCUSSIONS ON THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Constanța Mihăescu – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

**Dorina Poanta - Romanian Banking Institute, Bucharest**

In the beginning of the year 2002, in Romania, the proportion of the aged people passed 13,5%, what imposes a conclusion of population already old from a demographic point of view. The values of the demographic dependence rate became worrying because of the growth of the burden that the active adult - potential active people, must support it, especially because of the old people, who have numerous materials, health, economic and social needs.

This pressure varies in a meaningful manner accordingly to the type of residence and across country regions. At the same time, the consequences of the territorial development of this process are numerous, complex and varies as degree of severity. This paper refers especially to the regional unbalances due to the ageing of labour resources and on the labour market offer.

#### **96. METHODS FOR ANALYSING HUMAN RESOURCES AT REGIONAL LEVEL**

**Elisabeta R. Rosca - "Ștefan Cel Mare" University, Suceava**

The paper "The Methods Used for Regional Human Resources Analysis" presents the concept of human resources and the main statistical indicators used in characterizing of the level,

the structure and the employment of these. This system includes: the population in the limits of work age, the population in the limits of work age but incapable of work, the population out of limits of work age but which working.

The main instrument used in analysis of human resources is the balance of work resources, which contains the work resources indicators (the population capable to work, the population over the limits capable to work which working, the population in the limits of work age, but incapable of work), the employment indicators (the employment in enterprises and public institution by activities of national economy and by districts, the employment in associated units, by activities of the national economy and by districts), the labour reserves (pupils and students, military men, unemployed workers, other reserves). These indicators are used for estimating the general rate and the specific activities rates. The balance of work resources is an important instrument for regional work resources analysis by districts, special for employment.

In the whole human resources, a part represents the labour which can be characterized using the following indicators: the employment, the average number of salaries, the average number of workers, the number of unemployed workers etc.

The structure analysis of labour in the regions can be also made using the matrix method, which contains the distribution of the employment by activities of the national economy and the second criterion, the social and professional category, the age groups, the work age groups etc. If this method is applying to the national level, the matrix of employment distribution depending on the activity of the national economy can be made by the regional criterion, by districts and such a model is presented in the paper.

Another problem presented in the paper is about the forecasting population methods and this problem is important because it permits to know the evolution of the work resources and the employment, used for the substantiation of the economic and social development. The population forecast methods can be group together in two categories which are the global projection methods and the analytical method (the components method). The first category contains, beside other methods, the economic methods for population projection which are used in the last time and have a large application for the regional population forecast because they permit to emphasize the changes in the evolution of population number based on the economic growth of the regions through the absorption of labour from another regions.

## **97. UNEMPLOYMENT TENDENCIES IN SOME COUNTRIES IN THE CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE**

**Zizi Goschin, Cornelia Pârlog - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

Unemployment was a major problem of the former socialist countries in the last twelve years. Unemployment came out in the early 90<sup>th</sup> and, despite some variations, continued to grow afterwards. In Romania both the number of unemployed and the unemployment rate are relatively high. However other former socialist countries in the Central and Eastern Europe have even bigger unemployment rates.

The dimensions and the structure of the unemployment are related to the difficult economic and social changes that occurred in the countries that experienced the transition to the market economy.

The main unemployment tendencies in the last years were:

- high unemployment rate in most of the countries in the Central and Eastern Europe;
- a usually higher female unemployment rate; opposite to many other countries, since 1999 in Romania there are more unemployed among male than the female labour force;
- higher unemployment among the youth; in Romania, compared to the period before 1997, when the young population under 25 years of age used to hold the highest share within unemployment, after this year this share has started to decrease, being almost equal to the share of 40-49 aged population, the main category affected by industrial changes;

- unlike most of the European countries, in the former socialist countries from the Central and Eastern Europe, including Romania, the highest share among the unemployed is held by the high school leveled persons.

## **98. THE INTENSITY OF THE EMPLOYMENT SECTOR STRUCTURE IN TERRITORIAL PROFILE**

**Ileana Gabriela Niculescu-Aron - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The occupational structure expresses the way the human capital is allocated in the national economy at a certain time. It is the result of the interaction of a great number of factors that are different as nature, intensity and meaning. Even though at first glance the occupational structures appear as a line of percentages, they express the relationships that are born between the lines of activity regarding the usage of labour, the level of development of the economy.

In the definition of the human potential of a region or a country regarding the occupational structures the main place is taken by the sector structures. The spreading of the population on the sectors has a special importance because of the following reasons:

- Each sector has a corresponding level of work productivity. Accordingly, the social labour productivity depends on the percentage of each sector in the total employed population;
- The sector structure is not only defined by the percentage of each sector in the total of the employed population, but also by the ties that a certain structure creates inside the economic body of a country.

In 1991 the sector structure of the national economy situated Romania in the group of the East and Southeast European Countries in which the ratio of the employed population in the primary sector is between a quarter and a third of the total. On a regional scale it was noticed the existence of an equilibrium regarding the employment capacity of labour.

The transformations taking place inside of the employment of labour place Romania on an entirely different position of a mainly agrarian profile. The differences between the regional occupational structures have increased at a significant rate, the Northeast and Southeast regions having a ratio of the primary sector of over 50%.

Pursuant to the sacking of the labour in the industrial sector mainly situated in the urban area, a migrating flow from the urban to the rural area is generated (against the law that says that the destination is more developed than the source). This population surplus in the rural area has been almost entirely geared in the agricultural activities, engaging in subsistence agriculture.

In these terms, the rural environment has to stimulate a labour movement from the main agricultural activities to collecting, processing, selling of the agricultural products, services that are necessary to the population and to the workers from the agriculture, including the rural tourism.

## **99. SPATIAL DIFFERENCES IN TIME USE PATTERNS IN ROMANIA**

**Mihai Daniel Roman, Monica Mihaela Roman - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

Time use survey examines how people allocate their time to different kind of activities.

The purpose of this paper is to determine whether significant differences exist between the eight statistical regions observed in Romania. In order to analyze this, we first present the time use patterns in respect with economical activities, gender and age.

We use the factorial analysis to observe the differences existing in time use between eight Romanian regions and we also identify the factors that cause these differences. These aspects help us to better understand the role of each region in Romanian economy.

The data source is Time Use Survey, conducted in Romania in 2000 on a pilot basis. The survey covered residents of private dwellings in urban and rural areas across all counties of Romania. All households within selected dwellings were included in the survey and all persons

aged 10 years and older living in this households were in scope, so that the results are comparable at international level.

#### **100. THE GENERAL CONTEXT OF INTERREGIONAL MIGRATION IN ROMANIA IN THE 1990s**

**Zizi Goschin, Daniela-Luminita Constantin, Cornelia Pârlog - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

Since 1990 the territorial mobility in Romania has recorded a series of particularities determined by major transformations in the political, economic and social life. *The economic disparities already existing between the prosperous and the lagging regions have increased during the transition years*, influenced by institutional renewal, restructuring, privatization, etc. Several regions display higher unemployment rates, lower activity rates, lower incomes per capita and higher out-migration rates compared with the average. These regions have adapted inadequately to the changing economic conditions, such as the decline of various industries (e.g. coal mining in the south part of Romania) and, as a result of this fact, their out-migration has been intensified. In the early 1990s were already noticed widespread regional disparities in terms of labour supply as well as the main demographic indicators.

This paper examines the general context of interregional migration in the 1990s, referring to the general economic situation, regional growth disparities and regional differences in labour resources and their use. Thus, the main characteristics of regional labour markets and migration flows will be highlighted.

## **SECTION 9**

### **REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL MODELS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

#### **101. THE FACTORS' PRODUCTIVITY IN THE ROMANIAN AGRIFOOD ECONOMY – REGIONAL DIMENSIONS, TRENDS AND IMPLICATIONS**

**Carmen Stefanescu, Filon Toderoiu - Institute of Agricultural Economics, Bucharest**

The approach of the regional character, of the endowment with resources and factorial productivity in the agrifood economy consists, on one side, in the importance of the sector within the economy, and on the other, in imposing more and more often, the treatment applied to the different indicators of the economic and social life, also from the regional perspective.

If the measurement of the resource endowment degree, in regional profile, is relatively easy to be done, at least for agriculture, where the informational support is rich enough, the productivity growth in the agrifood economy is an interesting subject for the intense researches made lately.

The majority of the generalist and agrarian economists have examined the sources for the productivity growth in time and the differences of productivity between countries and among regions.

It is considered that the productivity ' increase in the agricultural sector is essential, if its output is increased at its turn with a rate, sufficiently rapid as to intersect the demand for foodstuffs and for raw materials, and if it outruns, constantly, the rate of demographic growth.

In the Romanian economic research, the approach of the theme of productivity factors in the agrifood economy, in regional profile, could be considered almost a "bare land".

Fact for which, by the present paper, we shall try to make a first methodological and applicative step in this important matter from regional perspective, starting from the present stage of the development of the 8 statistical regions.

#### **102. ASSESSMENT OF THE INFLUENCE OF THE ENVIRONMENT ON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AT THE ROMANIAN LEVEL**

**Elisabeta Jaba, Carmen Pintilescu, Corneliu Iașu - "Al.I. Cuza" University, Iași**

**KEY WORDS:** Urban, rural, demographical structure, economic structure, social structure, disparities, multidimensional statistics

**OBJECTIVES:**

- Statistical description of the demographical, economic and social structure at the environmental level of the regions;
- Comparison between the structures and assessment of the regional disparities;
- Correlation of the structures with the level of development of the regions.

#### **103. MONITORING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS TO ENSURE ZONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Sanda Visan, Virginia Cibotaru, Anca Angelescu - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The following presents the complete overview of the zonal industrial development. First it offers a quantitative expression of each environmental factor and then relates an overall environmental consideration expressed by the pollution index.

#### **104. RURAL DEVELOPING POLICY IN ROMANIA**

**Claudia Manda – Romanian Social Development Fund**

The paper presents the main financing programmes targeted to rural areas, in order to improve the life conditions of the beneficiaries from the poor rural communities, disadvantaged areas and groups and to develop initiatives and local organizational and mutual assistance capacity.

The principles the programmes promotes are as follows:

- orientation of resources towards the needs and demands expressed;
- increase of community participation and civic commitment;
- development of “*social capital*” by promoting certain norms and values (trust, transparency, mutual help and involvement in the life of the community);
- empowering beneficiaries and making them responsible by authorizing them to technically and financially manage the subprojects and by requesting their work, material and/or financial contribution in order to accomplish them;
- encouraging partnerships with local authorities, NGOs and other civic organizations;
- sustainability of implemented subprojects;
- competition in financing the subprojects;
- decentralization of its activities and creation of communication and collaboration networks;
- transparency and responsibility in managing resources.

Decisions on financing the projects are based on exact and complex information regarding the necessity and opportunity of the project, costs and financial resources, cash flows as well as project efficiency and impact, implementation and life span of the investments.

Financing projects based on applications sent by the beneficiaries is contributing to improving the local organizational and resource managing capacity, to improving life conditions in rural communities and disadvantaged areas.

#### **105. ECONOMIC IMPACT OF CONVERSION TO ORGANIC FARMING IN ONE VEGETABLE GROWING AREA IN ROMANIA**

**Elena Sima - Institute of Agricultural Economics**

The paper presents the analysis of the environmental impact and socioeconomic benefits of a possible conversion to organic farming in one vegetable growing area situated in the South of the country’s capital – Bucharest, at only 18 km. The locality named “Vidra”, is very well known for its fresh and high quality vegetables, obtained under protected system (hothouses and greenhouses), but also directly in the field.

Private farming in the area under study is represented by individual households, family associations and Farm Companies with juridical entities which cover 87.20% of the agricultural area.

Although vegetables represent 10% in the field, their place and role in the production structure of the individual farm is strengthened by practicing the protected crops, as well as by their commercial character, which could ensure the obtaining of some rapid and safe incomes.

Organic farming prohibits the use of chemical inputs, and thus the crop rotation could be more important. The land use system depends strongly on the marketing possibilities of organically grown products. On the other hand, labour demands are increasing. The conversion to organic farming has also led to positive income effects for the majority of farms.

## **106. THE AGRICULTURAL COMMERCIAL FARM IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE ACCESSION TO THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Viorica Gavrilă - Institute of Agricultural Economics, Bucharest**

The assessment of the results of the agricultural farm in time, the comparison of the results of different types of farms, the importance of a certain type of agricultural farm in different agricultural regions and the analysis of differences of results between similar farms is made by the help of different criteria of efficiency. These criteria are based upon incomes and costs of the farm. There are obtained different notions of efficiency or income after all costs or only some costs are deducted from the income.

The fact that in the costs assessment there are used both paid costs and calculated costs has important consequences for the interpretation of efficiency criteria.

The costs which are varying strongly on short term, in function of the production volume, as are the chemicals, fodders etc, are named operational costs. They can be attributed clearly to the respective production line, the calculation by activity branch of a Gross Margin.

The choice of an efficiency criterion is determined by the objective of the study. According to these objectives, there will be indicated different income notions. The number of objectives to be analyzed is limited. There are taken into consideration the following objectives:

- ❑ comparison of farmers and non-farmers` incomes.
- ❑ comparison between agricultural farms and their results.

## **107. WATER-A REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FACTOR**

**Carmen Oatu – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

The economic dimension is given by water's double quality: economic resource and essential constituent of the surroundings, evidenced by the standardized system of tariffs and penalties, constituent part of economic instruments existing in the field.

The principle situated at the basis of this paying system is: covering costs through tariffs, adjusted so as to impose to the beneficiaries a more efficient use of water resources and of investments achieved in the field. With this purpose the entities:

- conclude agreements for raw water delivery as well as for processed one and maintenance services, receiving worn-out substances into water flows, producing energy;
- provides the quantities of water needed by the users according to the contracts signed, settles measures for the best satisfaction of users;
- draws up and applies the cashing policy, payments and credits, the programming and execution of economic activities, draws up the budget for receipts and expenditures, analyses their execution and destination of the profits.
- applies a penalty system for the deviation from the standards regarding the sampling of water from resources;

The rational and unified water management based on and develops on complex scientific Knowledge, both quantitative and qualitative, of water resources in a country, achieved through a unified and continuous activity of supervision and observation over the water resources, including evolution forecast.

The informational system is capable to assure the collecting and the convenient processing of all the information and data necessary for taking the most efficient decisions in the field of knowledge and exploration of water resources.

## **108. IMPACTUL ACTIVITĂȚII ECONOMICE ASUPRA MEDIULUI**

**Giani Grădinaru - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

Natural resource management is crucial to the developing of the world. These economies are highly dependent on primary production as the source of long-term, sustainable economic development. Successful exploitation of primary production – agriculture, fishing, forestry and minerals – in turn depends on efficient and sustainable management of the resource base supporting primary productive activities.

Business activity has a substantial impact on the environment. The manufacture of products involves extracting raw materials from the environment and processing them to produce saleable items. As a result of the production process, various forms of waste (solid, liquid and gaseous) enter the environment. The activities surrounding the manufacturing process - such as maintenance of plant and infrastructure and the packaging and transport of goods - all have environmental impacts. The paper shows these impacts from a statistical perspective.

## **109. ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE ROMANIAN RURAL AREA**

**Iuliana Dobre - Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

By virtue of the administrative spirit, man has found many possibilities to meet his unlimited needs during his existence. Nature had the primordial role in meeting them by offering men the resources they needed; it was the main supplier for everyday goods. Under the influence of human needs, as a result of man's evolution, the natural resources are used in the view to caring on economic activities meant to meet the present and future needs of the people. As a result, the human actions to meet the food needs must be carried on under the influences of the limiting conditions that characterize the natural factors, so they will be handed down to the following generations. From this point of view the economic theory approaches the problems of economic growth and sustainable development.

In this context the economic growth and the sustainable development must be analyzed together, taking also into consideration the economic and social implications, respectively:

- The consumption of some resources is reflected into the production expenses- which make their utilization an economic issue;
- The intense exploitation, especially the one of the renewing resources, may cause strong ecological disequilibria.

The economic growth imposes an use of the resources that justifies all the efforts. This reason is found in the social efficiency that was acquired during the years as an effect to the man's preoccupations concerning the environment protection and the obtaining of clean products.

So between the two concepts there is a relation of dependence, a positive connection where the involvement of human factor is crucial.

## **110. THE IMPACT OF FOREIGN INVESTMENTS ON DEVELOPMENT REGIONS – AGRIFOOD SECTOR CHARACTERISTICS**

**Dan Marius Voicilaș – Institute for Agricultural Economy, Bucharest**

Since 1990, as a result of the 'Iron Curtain' collapse and because of the opening of the economies from Central and East-European countries to the market economy, significant changes have been produced as regards domestic and foreign investments in all the economic sectors. For the developed countries with investment potential, a new 'outlet' appeared for their surplus of resources; at the same time, for developing countries there was an opportunity for get in linea with

the international financial flow and to develop their economies on the basis of foreign capital contribution.

Romania took steps in the last year to provide foreign capital flows into the economy; however, these capital flows are not sufficient when considering the domestic needs. Although theoretically there is an external large investment absorption potential and the needs are urgent in the context of integration to EU structures, the amount of foreign investments is still low.

To this was added the lack of a solid, continuous and clear policy from the part of the government as regards investment in general and foreign investment in particular.

The existence of the sub investment phenomenon in the Romanian agriculture and food industry sector is obvious, as it can be also seen from the present study. This has negative effects on long term upon national economy; the lack of foreign investments determines lots of economic and social distortions.

The analysis of the foreign capital flow evolution in the agriculture and food industry sector, by development regions, by sources and destinations, will strengthen the above-mentioned issues and will reveal the present drawbacks and the need to accelerate the investment process.

## **SECTION 10** **TOURIST SERVICE QUALITY**

### **111. TOURIST ROAD TRANSPORT QUALITY AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (ILLUSTRATED WITH EXAMPLES FROM S-W ROMANIA)**

**Marin Burtică, Filip Pațac - West University, Timisoara**

Tourist road transport is done and can be seen in two ways, qualitatively and quantitatively. The actual manifestation of these two perspectives can be linked to the level of the regional development, which compromises, among other things, the existing infrastructure, the categories of transportation, the volume and the structure of the tourist services offered.

As concerns the quality of tourist road transport, while it is connected with tourist flows, it also depends on the value of some parameters that can measure its level.

Since regional development refers to tourist activity as well, this influences the evolution of tourist road transport, which is linked to certain components of regional development.

Starting from these premises, the paper aims to highlight the relation between regional development and tourist road transport, seen retrospectively as well as prospectively.

Throughout the paper, the main indicators will be presented that enable us to describe the connection between the level of regional development and the quality of tourist road transport, supporting the theory with data collected from the south-western part of the country.

### **112. FORECASTING TECHNIQUES AND MODELS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TOURIST CIRCUIT**

**Maria Bădiță, Silvia Elena Cristache – Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest**

International tourism represents one of the most active elements of the economic relationships between countries, integrated in the world values system.

Concerning the place in the world economic system where the services are supplied, there are two international services categories: services that are made beyond the country border (international transportation of merchandise and of persons, telecommunications and others) and services that are made within the country's borders (international tourism, naval services, air transportation services, transit and others).

In this study are presented some models and methods of forecasting that are used in different countries around the world: The Spanish Tourism Institute Model, Time series model for crossing the English Channel, Arthur D. Little Model, Lansing Blood Model, Battelle Research Institute Model, Time series models, testing methods.

### **113. RURAL TOURISM AS FACTOR OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN PERIPHERICAL AREAS. RESOURCES OF RURAL TOURISM IN THE MOUNTAINEOUS AREA: ALBAC – HOREA – GÂRDA DE SUS**

**Nicolae Gavrilă - CENTROCOOP**

The paper aims to present the way in which tourism may determine the involvement of natural and human resources existing in peripheral areas such as mountainous ones. As an example, information will be provided concerning the Albac – Horea – Gârda de Sus area in the Apuseni Mountains and the way under which local resources are or can be used to foster local development

#### **114. BUCOVINA TOURISM ASSOCIATION – A PROJECT FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN TOURISM**

**Carmen Emilia Chașovschi, Carmen Eugenia Năstase - “Ștefan cel Mare” University, Suceava**

In the past 5-6 years efforts have been made to relaunch tourism in the area (tourism information centers, the creation of the center for tourism instruction in Campulung Moldovenesc, the development of the ANTREC network in the area, the creation of CEFIDEC in Vatra Dornei, the attempt to capitalize some local resources in Cacica).

Projects were written and/ or financed in order to develop certain tourist objectives like the National Park Of Monasteries in Bucovina and also projects for the development of new destinations, of smaller degree, to capitalize local opportunities.

Unfortunately, all the previous initiatives were not made within a coherent strategy, which would have insured the expected impact for the tourist destination Bucovina.

On several occasions, the organizations which developed projects for tourism didn't know of the activities of other organizations with similar intentions. Lack of communication led to an improper structure and coherence in the development of tourism.

The IBD-GTZ Project (Integrated Consultancy Project for the Economy – Romania) and the Chamber of Industry and Commerce initiated this association, becoming aware of the importance of integrated tourism the area has to offer within the project for regional economic development.

#### **115. INTERREGIONAL NETWORK ON SUSTAINABLE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT**

**Cătălin Nechifor - Suceava County Council**

Objective: setting up an interregional network in the “Upper Prut” Euroregion (Suceava, Botoșani, Cernăuți, Edineț, Bălți), with responsibilities in the following fields: sustainable development, tourism strategies, local and regional administrative management, cooperation and coordination, PR, economical planning and industrial restructuring, sectorial economical development, environment and standard improvements.

Partners: Suceava County Council, Regional State Administration Cernăuți – Ukraine, County Council Bălți – Moldavian Republic, Regional Council Schwaben – Germany, Department de la Mayenne – Franța.

Historic background:

“Upper Prut” Euroregion was set up on 22 September 2000, in Botoșani, and its members are Suceava and Botoșani counties in Romania, Cernăuți Region in Ukraine, and Bălți and Edineț counties in Moldavian Republic. In the framework of “Upper Prut” Euroregion 2000 – 2006 Agenda, assisting and encouraging the transfrontalier cooperation in order to set up a network of local and regional authorities in the border region are among the top priorities.

Suceava Council is part of a European Consortium, including Schwaben Region in Germany (Partnership Protocol signed on 02.05.1997) and Department de la Mayenne in France (Partnership Proposal in 2002).

Activities:

- setting up a transfrontalier network made up of 8 regional development technicians,
- organizing thematic informational seminars in the field of sustainable tourism development:
  - o for each partners
  - o for the Euroregion,
- settling the best practices and procedures,
- system analyses and transfer of know-how, Schwaben and Mayenne cases,
- sectorial and regional studies – drawing up the tourism regional development strategy for the “Upper Prut” Euroregion,

- institutional reinforcement measures, legislative initiative in the field of sustainable tourism development, environment and standard improvement, submitted to the Governments of Romania, Ukraine and Moldovan Republic
- dissemination of the achieved results, promoting the Euroregional Tourism (ruttier signs, tourism marks, information billboards, tourism brochures, video tapes, multimedia CD, Internet site, etc.)

Project duration and continuity: 15 months implementation, the public authorities as partners, will ensure the financial and institutional project continuity.

Budget and finances: 240.000 Euros, out of which 200.000 Euros are elicited in the Tacis Transfrontalier Cooperation Programme – Winter 2002, Suceava County Council, as solicitant, will co-finance 20% of the project, respectively 40.000 Euros.

Expected Results:

- increasing the tourism flows to the “Upper Prut” Euroregion members, by 12% in the first 2 years,
- settle a 8 technicians network in the field of sustainable regional development.

#### **116. COMMUNITY BASED TOURISM – WAY FOR THE SUSTAINABLE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Carmen Emilia Chaşovschi, Carmen Eugenia Năstase - “Ştefan cel Mare” University, Suceava**

Community Based Tourism includes few types of tourism which are generally developed through the local people: Ecotourism, Agrotourism, Rural Tourism, Village-based Tourism, Ethnic or Indigenous Tourism, and Cultural Tourism. In addition, the promotion of local arts and crafts can be an important component in CBT Projects.

Based upon the curiosity or desire of tourists to learn more about the daily life of people from different cultures, CBT is “typically associated with urban people visiting the countryside while enjoying, for a certain period of time, the simple way of life”. However, CBT could also include tourism to cities by integrating urban communities (schools, local arts and crafts organizations, dancing clubs, etc.) into the programme.

Community involvement in the planning of social activities focused on cultural monuments can enrich the cultural calendar with fairs, festivals and theatrical performances for the education of not only tourists, but for local residents as well.

When local people are active participants in these activities, they will develop a personal stake in development of long-term sustainable tourism through conservation and maintenance of the authentic cultural heritage of a site.

#### **117. THE QUALITY OF ROMANIAN TOURIST SERVICES**

**Alexandru Nedelea - ”Ştefan cel Mare” University, Suceava**

The quality of tourist services represent the cause of the decline of hospitality industry in all the regions of Romania. Accommodation, catering, transportation, balnear services, touristic infrastructure have a poor standard of quality.

The regional associations of tourism development have to conceive marketing polities to improve the quality of services in Romanian tourism.

**118. THE DEVELOPMENT OF DURABLE TOURISM-IN A PROTECTED AREA-  
„SATCHINEZ SWAMPS”RESERVE,TIMIŞ COUNTRY,V WEST REGION  
Cipriana Sava - Christian University „Dimitrie Cantemir”, Timișoara**

Durable tourism is defined by satisfying present and future needs of tourists, by maintaining cultural and environmental integrity.

Protected areas may represent, in my opinion, a first step towards the development of durable tourism in our country.

I shall take into consideration the environmental impact of touristic activities on these areas or on their surroundings and its consequences on the development of tourism.

At present 4.8% of Romania's territory (1,140,590ha) has been officially declared a protected area. The Reserve "Satchinez Swamps" is much an area, a biocoenosis of ancient swamps situated in the Timiș Country, V West Region.

Unfortunately, it is small and isolated and it is characterized by lack of management.

In the past few years (1999-2001) a scientific study was conducted. The study regarded the evolution of bird population belonging to this environment, and it certified their multitude and variety.

Taking into account the principles of durable tourism, one could benefit from the uniqueness, beauty and richness of the natural touristic resources that this protected area has to offer.

The following categories: environmental; physical, social-perceptive, economical and psychological are to be discussed in the projects of planning and developing durable tourism in the mentioned areas.

**119. TOURIST AREA DEVELOPMENT**

**Alexandru Nedelea -"Ștefan cel Mare" University, Suceava**

One of the ways in which a region can develop its economy is to make full use of its tourism potential. It is necessary the rehabilitation of the district infrastructure and modernising the logistic base. The tourist potential of the region brings hope for major future economic growth. Renewing the practices of tourism, increasing service quality and supporting it all with an efficient publicity campaign both inside the country and abroad together with the hospitality could provide a brilliant future for tourism.