

## DURABLE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITIES UNDER ANALYSIS OF THE POTENTIAL OF WORKFORCE FROM AGRICULTURE

**Corina CRUCERU**

University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Bucharest, Romania, Faculty of Management, Economic Engineering in Agriculture and Rural Development, Slatina Branch, 150, Strehareti Street, Postal Code: 0500, Slatina City, Olt County, Romania, E-mail: c.cruceru19@yahoo.com

**Corresponding author:** c.cruceru19@yahoo.com

### **Abstract**

*This work represents a studio for 5 years in the analyze of the potential of workforce from agriculture in the context of the durable development of communities. The aim of this survey is presenting the importance, of the agricultural-food sector, by the agency of indicators economic efficient. In the context of the rural development there are many resources which help this mechanism to function. One of the most important resources is the workforce, which influences the existent human capital, the quantity and the quality of this. There are many problems in this domain, which are: the efficient usage of workforce, of productivity and the growth of income, actual facts.*

**Key words:** analysis, dynamic level, regional, processing, statistics

### **INTRODUCTION**

According the new philosophy of rural territory has to be based on the concept of a long lasting local global development, that both supposes a solid rural component, but also an important agricultural component. From the point of view of the economic structure, agricultural activities take a large surface. Thus, agriculture stands for the "backbone of rural territory" [7].

The importance of agriculture and of the rural development in Romania is given by the fact that: the surface of the rural space is of 212.7 thousands km<sup>2</sup>, i.e. 89% of the total surface of the country; 45% of the country's population lives in the rural space [9].

From a European level, the rural space is of about 85% of the European territory, with differences regarding providing the quality of life [6]. As a result of the high range of rural population and the rural surfaces, and also the importance of rural life, the matter of rural development is does not only have a national dimension, but also an international one.

Agriculture is a basic element in the modern economy, due to its contribution to national incomes and work places in different sectors

of activity (up-stream and down-stream industries, trading, distribution, infrastructures, and tourism) [10].

It has a major implication in rural life, for it contributes to valuing the local resources and the development of small businesses in this field; it also represents an export source, by balancing the charges.

It ensures the foodstuff sector, for over 60% of the expenses are for food consumption).

### **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

For analyzing this phenomena, a poll was made for a period of five years (2005-2010), reflecting both dynamic and regional level. The statistic data, resulted from this poll was taken and interpreted from official publications and own investigation [1]. As work methods, the examination, the processing and the transport of data in tables were chosen, reflecting their trends at regional and national level [3].

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

At regional and national level there exists a trend of rural population to get close to the

urban one. Regarding the employment, for the social-economic stability of Romania, it was taken into account the development of this aspect, from the lack of workplaces point of view, but also from the organization in agriculture and the agrifood sector one [8].

In Romania the employment of the population in agriculture was approximately 41,4%, in 2000, decreasing in 2004 at 32,0%.

These numbers show the decrease of productivity in agricultural domain, the decrease of the efficiency and the lack of the activities diversity at rural population level. Together with the appearance of industry, the population employment in agriculture reduced [2].

The agricultural activities have a predominant share in the entire rural economy, covering, in this way, up to 63% from the total employment at rural population level.

In 2010, the agriculture represent only 28,14% from the total rural population, to 2005 when it represented 31,87%.

Table 1. The share of population in the practice of agriculture at the level of countries from Central and Eastern Europe in 2010

Country	Share (2009)	Share (2008)
Romania	29.1	28.7
Austria	5.3	5.6
Germany	1.7	2.2
Poland	13.3	14.0
Slovakia	3.6	4.0
Greece	11.9	11.3

Source: Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2011

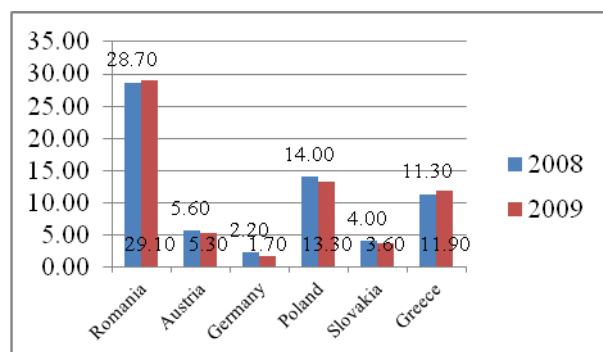


Fig. 1. The share of population in the practice of agriculture at the level of countries from Central and Eastern Europe

The evolution of workforce in agriculture was different to the European level, but in

comparison to the level from central and eastern countries, except for Poland and Lithuania has a higher level [6].

According to Table 1, the share of rural population employed in agriculture increased in 2009, keeping a growth trend.

At the European Union level, Romania still remained the first country from an employment in rural activities point of view.

Table 2. The structure of population employed in agricultural activities depending on age groups in Romania, 2009-2010

Age	Share (2010)	Share (2009)
15-24	10.2	9.4
25-34	17.7	17.3
35-44	21.1	19.7
45-54	17.4	17.6
55-64	18.9	20.1
Over 65	14.7	15.9
Total 15-64	85.3	84.1

Source: Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2011

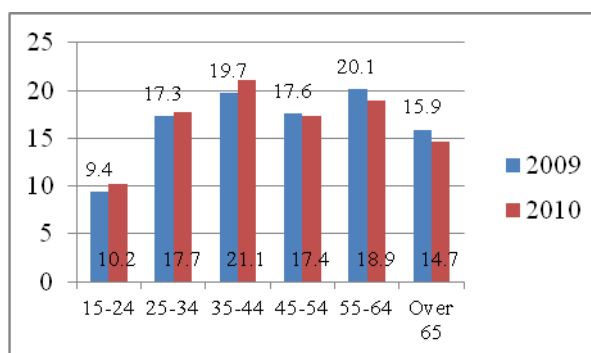


Fig. 2. The structure of population employed in agricultural activities depending on age groups in Romania

It is important to emphasize the age groups in agriculture, because we can know in this way the effects over the agricultural productivity. Before the adherence of Romania to the UE structures, the low level qualification of farmers and the lack of measures led to a low productivity.

Together with this adherence, the productivity level started to grow and the technologies started to increase it [5].

As we can see in Table 3, the younger population has started to choose agriculture as a job. This is proved by the slight increase of the groups aged between 15 and 44 years, probably due to a better quality of qualification and the possibility of European

fund accessing [4].

Table 3. The structure of the internal migration flow in Romania, 2005-2010

Flow	Number of people (thousands)					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
From rural to urban	60,195	75,275	80,235	78,671	70,246	96,201
	100.00 %	125.05 %	133.29 %	130.69 %	116.70 %	159.82 %
From urban to rural	80,732	93,924	118,237	124,828	96,513	133,052
	100.00 %	116.34 %	146.46 %	154.62 %	119.55 %	164.81 %

Source: Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2011

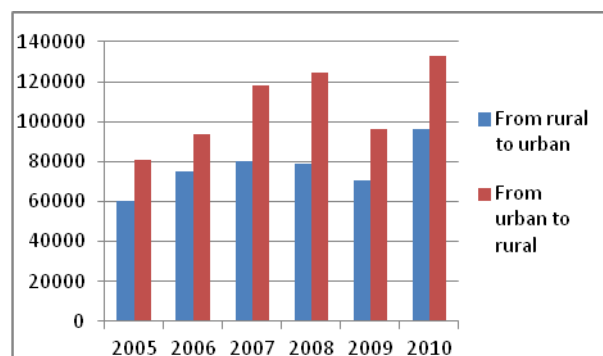


Fig. 3. The structure of the internal migration flow in Romania

The evolution of the workforce has known a growing trend, with certain oscillations. 2009 is an untypical year regarding the growth of the internal flow, because it decreased to 2008. This may be an effect of the economic crisis triggered in 2008, all the sectors from economy being affected in that period.

This approximately constant growth from urban to rural may be caused by the development of the agriculture in rural areas, being related to the growth of young population employed in agricultural activities, presented in Table 2.

Table 4. The structure of the rural population depending on the employment status, 2009-2010

Activity	Share (2010)	Share (2009)
Employee	35.7	38.1
Employer	0.6	0.7
Self-employed and member of an agricultural association	37.0	36.1
Contributing family worker	26.7	25.1

Source: Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2011

The percent values were calculated having year 2005 as base of reference.

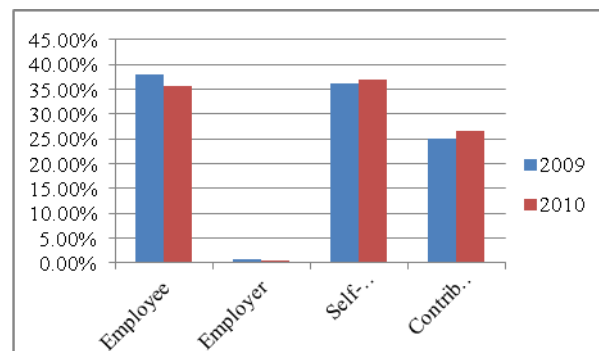


Fig. 4. The structure of the rural population depending on the employment status, 2009-2010

In 2009, the largest part of rural population developed its agricultural activity within the own household.

In 2010, the number increased slightly, also showing that this category is more willing to associate with other farmers within cooperatives and agricultural associations.

In 2010, the number of employees has decreased, as well as the employers, which means that this type of employment status is losing ground.

Table 5. The structure of the incomes regarding agricultural households, 2007-2010

	Total income (lei/month)			
	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total incomes	1,281.90	1,594.47	1,823.04	1,672.24
From agricultural income	20.6%	22.1%	23.0%	24.7%

Source: Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2011

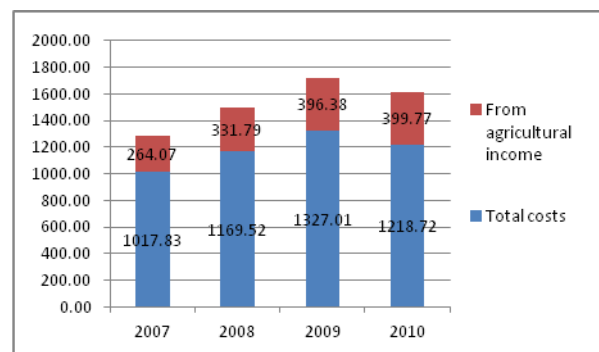


Fig. 5. The structure of the incomes regarding agricultural households, 2007-2010

The reduced dimensions of agricultural holdings, the reduced commercial character of agricultural production, the reduced costs of

the agricultural products compared to the prices on the market influence the farmers' incomes and implicitly their capacity of buy and investments in agriculture.

Table 6. The structure of the costs regarding agricultural households, 2007-2010

	Total income (lei/month)			
	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total costs	1,228.89	1,501.31	1,723.39	1,618.49
The value of consumption from own agricultural resources	49.0%	47.3%	44.6%	44.0%

Source: Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2011

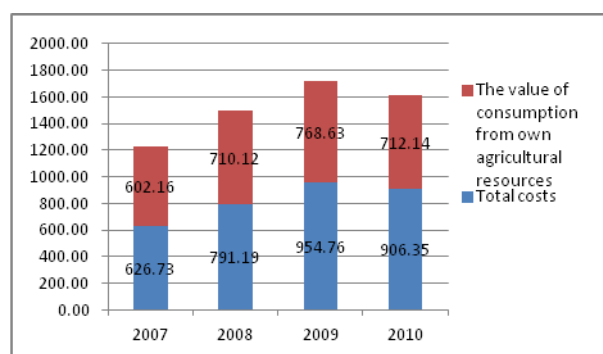


Fig. 6. The structure of the costs regarding agricultural households, 2007-2010

## CONCLUSIONS

During the analysis of the most important aspects of the population in agriculture, it was observed the fact that capacity of work has still the character of the rural economy in the rural environment.

Thus, the most part of the population in the agricultural area is employed in agricultural activities, taking into account the extension and the generalization of the aging process of the population.

Another observation refers to the low level of qualification of the population from the rural area, despite the adherence in the European structures, the traditional focus of the family members on the primary sector activities, while the youngsters are less active, a fact that leads to the decrease of rural economy development.

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