BERCENI VILLAGE - A SOCIAL-ECONOMICAL ANALYSIS

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Abstract

Rural modernization aims at maintaining rural societies through occupational diversification that will improve quality of life and avoid rural exodus. It aims to acquire some features of the modern world such as those related to technical, increased productivity, infrastructure, whereby rural community enriches its identity, acquiring new meanings.This study is a close social-economical analysis of the countryside households of Berceni village. Berceni is in the southern county of Ilfov near Bucharest. It is based on the statistical data provided by National Institute of Statistics. The data have been processed into the following indicators:age structure and gender, births and deaths, feminization, migration .Considering that human resources is the main factor in developing and moderinization of rural space, this study is aimed to investigate as well, the posibility of diversifying inhabitants' occupations according to pshicologycal, social and economical resources.

*Key words***:** *human resources, rural modernization, social-economical analysis*

INTRODUCTION

Rural development is a complex problem that requires a balance between the requirement of modernization of rural life and a tendency for conservation and preservation of the countryside [4]. The complexity of rural development life forms derive from rural communities and a specific system of familial, interpersonal relationships, and a whole system of values, norms, habits [3]. However, the village, the relatively autonomous social system is in close relationship with the urban and global society.
Considering that in rural areas of Romania, concealed unemployent is wide-spread and increasing, the developing of non-agriculture economy in rural areas is crucial [2].

MATERIALS AND METHODS

To this end we would like to point out in this paper based on official statistics, socio-economic changes occurring in Berceni village, Ilfov. I highlighted upon results from personal calculations, the annual statistical series, both demographic structure of rural population with its main indicators (births, deaths, natural increase, migration, etc.) and its economic characteristics.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Berceni village is in the southern county of Ilfov near Bucharest. It is crossed by the county road that connects it to north with Bucharest and to the south with Vidra and beyond to the municipalities of Vărăşti and Hotarele both in Giurgiu County.
Social potential
Population is defined as a community of people living in a particular geographic area that can be analyzed in terms of number of inhabitants, age structure and sex, births and deaths, feminization, migration and others. Knowledge of demographic characteristics is essential to identify the directions of development and modernization.
The data reveal mutations in the age structure of the population: an emphasis on demographic aging by increasing the proportion of the adult population (15-59) and especially to the elderly over 60 years along with decreasing in the number and proportion of young people under 15. There is a slight increase in the share of population under 15 years in 2011(Fig. 1).
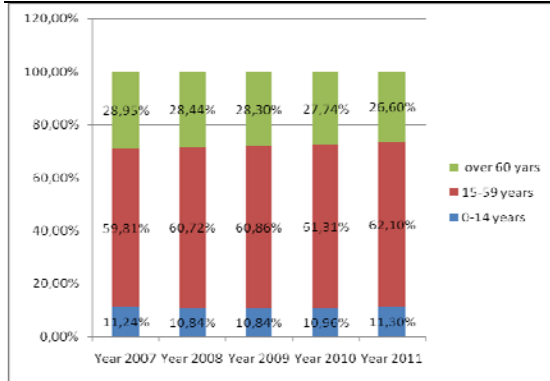
Fig.1. Structure of Berceni village population by age groups, in the period 2007-2011

Gender structure. Percentage of female population in the population structure

Gender structure of the population in 2007-2011 shows an increase in the proportion of the female population in the total population of Berceni village, which shows the feminization of rural population. Demographic structure is marked by the aging of the female population (overall the 60 years and over population reached 30% in 2011) (Fig. 2).
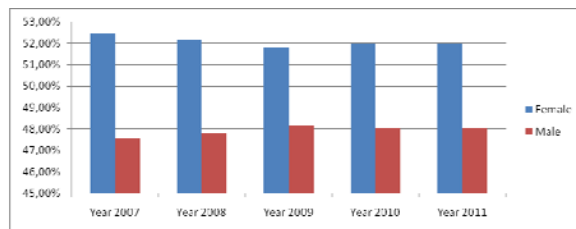

Fig. 2. Gender structure of population, in the period 2007-2011

Factors of of human resources dynamics
1.Birth rate

Birth rate of a population or subpopulation characterizes the set of live births in a given human collectivity. In 1997 there was recorded a minimum rate (4.65% o), while the period 2007-2012 shows a steady increase of it (Fig. 3).

2. Mortality rate

Gross mortality rate is calculated by dividing the set of deaths occurred in population considered during a calendar year, to the average number of population. Year 1996 marks the maximum mortality rate of 27.23% o. In the period 2006-2011 there has been a sharp decline in it. The natural increase in the

period is negative, with a slight recovery in 2012 (- 1.89% o) (Fig. 4).
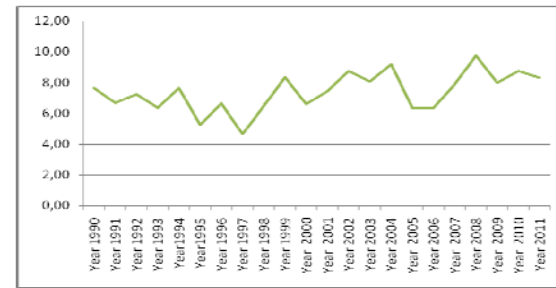

Fig.3. Gross mortality rate in the period 1990-2011
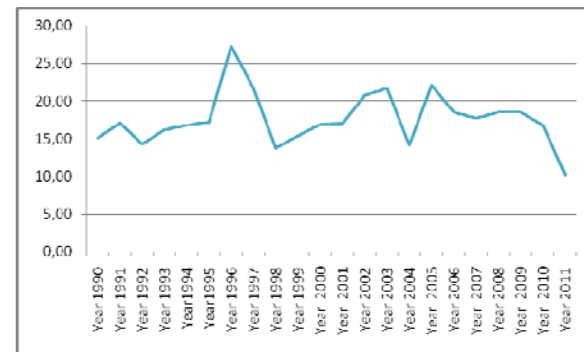

Fig.4. Gross mortality rate in the period 1990-2011

Migration

An extremely important factor for configuration of human resources in Berceni village, migration has seen large swings in the last 22 years. Migration of rural population to urban areas (Bucharest) has implications for gender and age structure of the population left to live and work in rural areas.

It appears that migration flows of individuals who changed residence occurred after 1990 with different intensities. Although the flow of rural to urban migration has been the main direction of migration after 1992 is an increase in the flow of residence changes favored by measures over land ownership.

This phenomenon is positive in the short term, for the purposes of disposal of urban space by massive unjustified inputs. In the long term, however, the effects can be contrary to the negative impact on revitalizing farms. The explanation is that there is a large labor force, not skilled enough, with outdated technical equipment and household size, far from optimal, are too small to be performing to the parameters close to those from Western

Europe [1]. Migration to Berceni village was done, especially after 2006 more for residential than for productive purposes (Fig. 5).
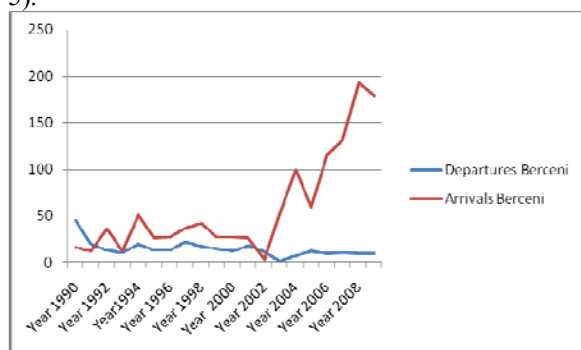

Fig. 5. Migration in the period 1990-2008

Different evolution of the population in the last decade is due to both the decrease in natural growth and the changes in migration flows.

Economic potential

In terms of number of employees, the evolution is erratic, with a maximum in 2004 and minimum in 2001. In the past four years there has been a slight decrease in the number of employees (Fig. 6).
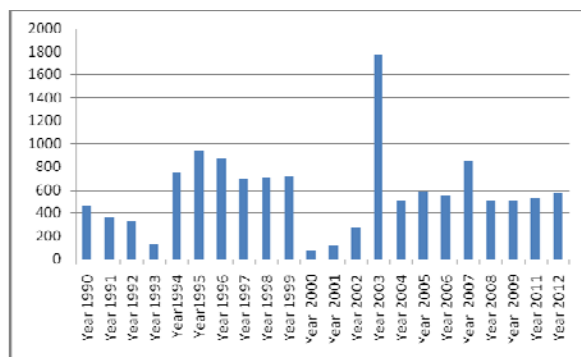

Fig. 6. Evolution of number of employees in the period 1990-2012

From the perspective of the agriculture surface structure in the period 2010-2013, there was a slight decrease in arable area, while the area of meadows, vineyards and vine nurseries is very low (0.007%). In terms of non-agricultural land area we noticed a slight increase in the period under review due to increasing surface occupied by constructions (5.83%).

Table 1. The agriculture surface structure in the period 2010-2012(Ha)

Way of use for the agricultural area	Years		
	Year 2010	Year 2011	Year 2012
	UM: Ha		
	Hectares	Hectares	Hectares
Agricultural	2389	2378	2370
Arable	2371	2360	2357
Vineyards and vine nurseries	16	16	13
Orchards and fruit tree nurseries	2	2	:
Total non agricultural land	343	354	363
Occupied by water, ponds	75	76	75
Occupied by constructions	179	190	198
Ways for communication and railways	62	61	63
Degraded and unproductive lands	27	27	27

Source: Own calculation on the basis of data from Tempo on line data base 2010-2012, NIS

In contrast, during 2000-2003 from the total arable land, in average only 0.63% of the area was cultivated, the rest was left as fallow. It is registered though a slight increase in cultivated area (Table 2).

Table 2. Land fund area by usage, in the period 2000-2003(Ha)

Way of use for the agricultural area	Years			
	Year 2000	Year 2001	Year 2002	Year 2003
	UM: Ha			
	Hectares	Hectares	Hectares	Hectares
Agricultural	2489	2489	2489	2496
Arable	2450	2450	2450	2450
Meadows	21	21	21	21
Vineyards and vine nurseries	15	15	15	15
Orchards and fruit tree nurseries	3	3	3	10
Total cultivated area	1466	1612	1740	1415

Source: Own calculation on the basis of data from Tempo on line data base 2000-2003, NIS

From the perspective of crop structure the largest cultivated area is for maize (0.69%), followed by sunflower (0.18%), wheat and rye (0.08). Vegetable crops are is slightly higher, while the area cultivated with potatoes and sugar beet is insignificant (Table 3).
In the studied period an increases in livestock is recorded for birds (300%) and cattle (0.67%). On the other hand, the pig stock fell by 0.07%. Sheep share in the herd is insignificant (Table 4).

Table 3. Crop structure, in the period 2000-2003

Main crops	UM: Ha			
	Year 2000	Year 2001	Year 2002	Year 2003
Wheat and rye	121	495	479	455
Maize	1021	830	856	689
Sunflower	269	238	345	172
Sugar beet	:	:	:	34
Potatoes	3	3	3	5
Vegetables	52	46	57	60

Source: Own calculation on the basis of data from Tempo on line data base 2000-2003, NIS

Table 4. Livestock stucture, in the period 2000-2003

The main categories of animals	UM: number		
	Year 2001	Year 2002	Year 2003
Cattle	1170	1158	1722
Swine	1278	1027	1187
Sheep	:	:	23
Birds	5200	9500	15600

Source: Own calculation on the basis of data from Tempo on line data base 2001-2003, NIS

Other sectors of activity
Construction
The construction sector has experienced an important development in the period 2009-2012 with a 15% increase in the number of private properties. Unfortunately, the number of buildings with a public character is reduced (Table 5).

Table 5. Existing homes at the end of the year by forms of ownership

	Year 2009	Year 2010	Year 2011	Year 2012
Total	1689	1807	1872	1951
Public property	0	0	1	1
Private property	1689	1807	1871	1950

Source: Own calculation on the basis of data from Tempo on line data base 2009-2012, NIS

Tourism
The data indicate a slight increase in the number of bungalows. Development of tourism infrastructure show reduced tourism potential failure recovery (Table 6).

Table 6. Types of tourist accommodation structures

	Year 2006	Year 2007	Year 2008	Year 2009	Year 2010	Year 2011	Year 2012	Year 2013
Total	2	2	5	5	5	12	10	10
Motels	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Villas	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	2
Bungalows	1	1	1	1	1	8	6	6
Tourist stops	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Source: Own calculation on the basis of data from Tempo on line data base 2006-2013, NIS

CONCLUSIONS

Emphasys of the aging process by increasing the proportion of the adult (15-59) and elderly (over 60 years) population;
Demographic structure is marked by the aging female population tendency;
The natural increase in the period is negative, with a slight recovery in 2012 (-1.89%o);
Migration to Berceni village was done, especially after 2006 for residential purposes more than for productive ones.
Decrease of arable area while increasing the area occupied by construction;
Developing non-agricultural occupations by valorizing the tourism and construction potential.

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