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AGRICULTURE AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL AREAS: EFFECTS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL PROGRAMME OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

The paper makes an analysis of the business and rural development in Romania investigating the level of fund absorption from the rural development program mainly from Axis 1 and axis3. To compare the two axes we used a set of socio-economic indicators which were used in order to compare the measures belonging of these axes. The paper uses comparative analysis to asses the level of fund absorption for each measure. The results highlight the need and support for structural change and rural diversification. The conclusion suggests that for a better improvement of fund using there is a need for a better balance between different measures within the axis when projects are submitted and contracted, more facilities in terms of eligibility criteria and more information and awareness among farmers and local administration, improved access to credit.

Keywords: business and rural development, fund absorption

USE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY AS A WAY TO REDUCE COSTS AND CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AT REGIONAL LEVEL

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Abstract

Gradual but irreversible, exhaustion of fossil fuels existing on earth makes renewable energy, potential energy derived from resources such as water, wind, solar, biomass and ocean energy, to become the alternative to create new ways to implement an sustainable development, improving living standards and creating energy independence. Increasingly more countries began to adopt policies to encourage use of renewable energy sources and measures of their production for use as large scale. Since 2007 was approved by Romania's energy strategy for 2007-2020 which aims to meet the energy needs both now and in the medium and long term, at a price as low as suitable for a modern economy market and a high living standard in terms of quality, security of supply, while respecting the principles of sustainable development. Starting from this premise, in this article we try to develop a green energy profile, suitable for North-Eastern region of Romania that will complement ongoing efforts to create a regional sustainable development policy.

Keywords: clean energy sources, energy independence

REPRESENTATIVITY OF ENTERPRISES COOPERATIVES IN STATES OF THE E.U. 27

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Abstract

The paper aimed to present the evolution of Cooperatives in 2007 in all the countries of the EU. It is based on the statistical data provided by the European region of the International Co-operative Alliance. The data have been processed into the following indicators: the number of cooperatives from E.U., the main sectors of cooperatives from E.U., the number of members from cooperatives, the employees in E.U. cooperatives has continuously increased, so that in the year 2007 there are 147.000 cooperatives, 107.000.000 members and 4.300.000 employees in EU. The figures mentioned are from the 141 direct member organizations of Cooperatives Europe and its 6 European Sector Member Organizations. All EU co-operative member organizations are structured in enterprise federations and have the capacity to consult their member enterprises. As a conclusion, the importance of cooperatives is confirmed by the fact that total turnover of EU agriculture in 2007 was 675 billion euro and 38.5% (260 billion euro) is generated by the cooperative sector.

Keywords: cooperatives, members, employees, evolution, European Union.

RETROSPECTIVE OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE CURRENT ECONOMIC CONTEXT

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Abstract

Geo-strategic position of our country can promote the development of agriculture, which still holds an important position relative to the economy. This paper aims, based on analysis of available data, development of agriculture in Romania and its influence on the economy as a whole, highlighting an important manifestation of macroeconomic fluctuations: gross domestic product. It also analyzes the dynamics of national agriculture and extensive size of the component of subsistence agriculture as a priority to maintain production variation dependence on natural conditions, strongly influenced by the real convergence of the Romanian agriculture confronted with the European Union.

Corresponding author: crystachy@yahoo.com

Keywords: *economic development, rural area, agricultural area and economic normality.*

ECONOMIC TRENDS OF AGRICULTURE IN ROMANIA

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Abstract

The purpose of this article is to analyze the degree of implication of the agricultural sector in the national economy. Its development highlights once again its increased ability to cope with fierce competition in the specialty market by offering products that meet quality standards. Agricultural development should follow, therefore, the limits of endurance and regeneration, the nature of time and space, only in this way, the effect of agricultural production and purpose of rational use of natural resources, will find expression in raising living standards. Based on the national plan for agriculture and rural development, by attracting investment in our country, Romania moved to modernize existing units and the establishment of new units as required by the European Union in an effort to reduce trade deficit in agriculture.

Corresponding author: crystachy@yahoo.com

Keywords: *coherent and cost balance, the dynamics of agricultural production, agricultural economic outlook*

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY IN ROMANIA IN THE CONTEXT OF SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

European Union environmental policy developed by its location above the national policies of Member States, the main source - or at least as a reference point - theirs. Article seeks to clarify this issue new and difficult, especially for those countries - including Romania - where environment, as theme for politics, has undergone fundamental changes in recent decades. For the countries concerned, the transposition of Community environmental regulations were often one step higher than it would have made their own. It is now clear that environmental issue has become one of the most visible and strong fields. This was partly due to broader changes in how citizens and scientists perceive environmental issues, but also because the EU has become an important independent actor in these changes. The European Community has grown rapidly into a strong supporter of the principles of community and national policy formulation in the idea of protecting and preserving the environment - such as "polluter pays" principle and the precautionary principle - its impact on other players is enormous.

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Keywords: *sustainable growth, healthy environment, EU acquis, economic balance*

CONCEPTS OF SAFETY AND FOOD SECURITY IN THE CONTEXT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

The paper aims to achieve some clarification on the definition and characterization of the two concepts very present conditions continue the upward evolution of the population Globe. Every day world population grows by about 220,000 people and the world's population each year we add 80 million people. All these people must have access to sufficient food and safe food. In a generic sense, food safety is to ensure that food conditions: do not suffer physical deterioration, physical - chemical, biochemical, microbiological, etc. which affect them harmless; do not contain, as such species beyond the limits permitted by microorganisms legal rules; are not infested with insects and pests; do not become harmful to human body; ensuring the pleasure of food consumption. According to FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization - United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization), food security means "guaranteeing each individual at all times, in any place or time of access to adequate and healthy diet to allow him to have a regime sufficient food for a healthy and active life". Multidimensional nature of food security, just as the fight against poverty, calls a good correlation between the various sectors - agriculture, commerce, infrastructure, health - and the variety of intervention levels - local, national, regional, international.

Keywords: *food safety, food security, sustainable development.*

ASPECTS OF TRANSFORMATION OF SEMI-SUBSISTENCE AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS IN EFFECTIVE AGRO-TOURISTIC FARMS

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Abstract

Develop and support such fears is aimed at resuming multifunctional farm idea and identifying the means by which many semi-subsistence agricultural holdings in Romania can be converted into effective farms, through the provision of agro-farm services. Given that we accept the idea that sustainable rural development can not be based only on agriculture, agro-tourism may be the main non-agricultural activities, agricultural activities in family farms complementary, being primarily a source of additional income for them. The European Union encourages, supports and finances the development of tourism and agro-tourism and additional activities related to agricultural holdings, especially those of subsistence, semi-subsistence and family. The conditions necessary for rural tourism activities undertaken to achieve the desired goal are: the conservation of local resources (natural, historical, cultural, ethnographic, folklore, etc.), environmental protection, improving the quality of life and welfare of residents rural, etc. Minimum criteria for the classification of households in rural tourist circuit covers: access to sleeping rooms and toilets, which must be direct without going through other rooms; mandatory connection to the public sewerage and running water there is domestic; connection compulsory public electricity network. In general, establish an agro-touristic farm or a rural locations requires a relatively small start-up capital, given that recovery starts on the premise of the peasant farm surplus accommodation, of those "guest rooms". This capital and depend upon the material available to the household, the state property that is intended to be transformed in rural locations, existing infrastructure in the area, etc.

Keywords : agricultural holdings, agro-touristic farms, sustainable rural development.

SUBSIDIES ALLOCATION IN AGRICULTURE AND ITS EFFICIENCY: THE CASE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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Abstract

This paper presents the evolution of subsidies allocations in Moldova's agricultural sector and the impact of subsidies on agricultural outputs and profits. The data used were provided by the National Bureau of Statistics, the Agency for Interventions and Payments in Agriculture, as well as data from agricultural farms collected by the author. The results show that despite the fact that the amount of subsidies have increased during the last years, their amount is still low. The carried research of agricultural farms in the period of 2007-2009 demonstrates that only 239 enterprises received subsidies over 650 lei per ha, thus obtaining 1522 lei per ha profit and a profitability rate of 29,6%. In the same time, the regression analysis reveals that not all the subsidized directions are efficient. According to it, the most efficient are the subsidies oriented to support the establishment of multiannual plantations (0,79) and for capital investments (0,5). More inefficient farms are able to absorb larger amount of subsidies without obtaining any positive results, therefore subsidies should be allocated to the farms relatively efficient in order to achieve higher results.

Key words: *subsidies, farmers, agricultural sector, agricultural policy.*

IS RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY IN SLOVENIA REALLY SUSTAINABLE?

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Abstract

Slovenia defined its basic goals of agricultural policy by adopting Strategy of Slovenian Agriculture in 1993. The "eco- social orientation" of development of agriculture had been decided. The main objective of Slovenian agricultural policy was permanent increase of competitiveness in accordance with social and environmental functions of agriculture. In the paper the implementation of the Rural development programme 2007-2013 is analysed. According to the analysis of the programme priorities it is possible to conclude that at least at strategic level all components of sustainable development are considered. An analysis of the implementation of the measures shows that there is great imbalance between the strategic goals and actual implementation of the programme. In the first three years of the implementation majority of the funds were allocated to the measures which pursuing economic and environmental components of sustainable development while the measures which pursuing social and especially spatial aspects lagging behind.

Keywords: agricultural policy, rural development, sustainability, Slovenia

THE IMPORTANCE OF ECOMARKETING IN DEVELOPING OF ECOTOURISM IN ROMANIA

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Abstract

Ecotourism appeared in order to satisfy the people's need to retreat in the middle of nature and to visit and know natural areas still unaffected or little affected by man's presence and activity. The first steps in developing ecotourism have already been made: the protected areas perimeters have been established, most of them (26 out of 28) have their own administrative structures, projects have started to develop for the conservation, the development of (eco)tourism or for raising awareness at local level. For most protected areas, management plans have been elaborated, certain good practices models have been created. Ecomarketing deals with promoting these products and services. It promotes the products and services which have ecological benefits and low impact on the environment, in other words „eco” characteristics. Nevertheless, in Romania there are still many things to improve in this domain.

Keywords: ecotourism, ecomarketing, „eco” products and services, ecological benefits.

DEVELOPMENT OF ECOTOURISM IN BUZAU COUNTY

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Abstract

From a touristic point of view, the Buzau County is situated among the first five counties on a national level. During the past years, various territorial development initiatives have been finalized such as: roads, water supply and sewage systems, Roman castrums, spa resorts, touristic and agro-touristic board and lodging etc, that have increased the number of tourists attracted by the tourist attractions of the county. The hereby theme undertakes to study one of the most beautiful areas in the country which is very little known by tourists in the same time. This is the 'Meledic carst plateau' in the Buzau County. The aim of this study is to calculate the costs needed for improving the Meledic Carst Plateau for developing eco-tourism in the Buzau County. The first part of the study analyzes the present situation in the area, while the next part shows what we would like to improve and finally, the cost calculation of such an environmental initiative, regardless of who is going to substantiate it: non-governmental organization, local authority, private legal entity, etc.

Keywords : Environmental initiative, improvement, eco-tourism, carst, plateau.

EVOLUTION OF TOURISM IN S-W OLTENIA REGION

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Abstract

This paper is a simple pass through the development of tourism in S-W Oltenia region from 1990 to 2009. Were considered and analyzed: the state of reception capacity in Oltenia region in comparison with the other seven regions, the situation in the reception capacities Oltenia region, comparison between the counties of components, development of accommodation capacity from 1990 to 2009, tourist reception with functions Accommodation in the Oltenia Region 1998 - 2009 and the situation where levels of classification of hotels, from 03/31/2005. In all these cases conclude that S-W Oltenia region in the early '90s, had a capacity of a five rank among the eight regions and 7th place at the facilities (accommodation). In coming years the situation has not changed much, Oltenia was all between the last regions to these indicators. It is remarkable that only after 2003, have diversified forms of tourism and the increased number of accommodation, having been a more intensive development of rural tourism and the tourist and agro tourism in the region in the year 2009 to 50 respectively 70. Some conclusions are also presented the idea of a better exploitation of tourism in the area.

Keywords : S-W Oltenia Region, rural tourism , reception capacity

THE REORGANIZATION OF THE AGRICULTURAL CONSULTANCY SERVICE IN ROMANIA

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to analyze the manner in which the agricultural consultancy service operates in Romania. The analyzed material is represented by the legislation in force and the manner of operation of the agricultural consultancy services. The agricultural consultancy services represent a vital element in the field of agricultural information and technological transfer, providing flows of information which can contribute to the improvement of the living conditions of the population in the rural area. The consultancy also plays an important role in the transfer of the results of the research by adapting them to the local agricultural ecology conditions and the farmers' resources. The reorganization of the agricultural consultancy service occurred following the intention to make it closer to the needs of the farmers and the inclusion thereof in the decisional process. The agricultural chambers represent the deliberative body in the promotion of the Romanian and European agricultural policies.

Keywords: agriculture, agricultural chambers, consultancy, Romania.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE AGRICULTURAL CONSULTANCY IN THE EDUCATIONAL TRAINING OF ADULTS OF THE ROMANIAN RURAL ENVIRONMENT

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to highlight the contribution of the agricultural consultancy services to the improvement of the educational level of the adults of rural areas. For this purpose we analyzed the statistical data published by the state institutions which carry out activities in this field. In Romania, the professional training of adults is a national priority. The Romanian rural area has a high agricultural potential, large land surfaces and multiple diversification opportunities. The population carrying out agricultural activities has different degrees of training and more often than not does not have access to information related to the progress in this field. The agricultural consultancy contributes to the training and improvement of the professional skills of the persons carrying on activities in the agricultural field by means of the various performed actions.

Keywords: *agricultural consultancy services, rural area, education, Romania.*

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN VISION EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS

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Abstract

This paper presents the field of agricultural and rural development policies, assessing the scope and audit approach for the funds allocated for this purpose. After presenting the effectiveness of the systems regarding the regularity of operations, the procedures regarding the correctness of payments and the databases quality are exposed. References are made also, to control cross-compliance. Based on its audit activities, the Court of Auditors concluded that payments for the year ended 31 December 2009 for group policies Agriculture and natural resources are affected by a significant level of error, and supervisory and control systems for agriculture and natural resources are generally only partially effective in ensuring the regularity of payments. Regarding IACS, the Court concluded that significant improvements are needed, especially for three of the eight agencies interviewed. Court recommended remedy of the identified deficiencies in the systems.

Keywords: agricultural policy, rural development, control of cross-compliance, audit of rural development

STUDY ON THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ROMANIAN FARMERS, AFTER 2007

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Abstract

This paper presents the financial support mechanisms for Romanian farmers, the forms of direct payments formed by Single Area Payment Scheme (SAPS) and Complementary National Direct Payments (CNDP) and their quantum and grant arrangements in the vegetable sector during the 2007-2010 period. The European Union established a single area payment scheme for new Member States, category that includes Romania and Bulgaria. This scheme simplifies the system of direct payment that is given in the old Member States of the European Union and allocates a uniform amount per hectare of eligible land. Direct payments are given uniformly as a single payment per hectare, payable once per year and totally dislocated from production, for all farmers who meet the eligibility conditions and that submit a grant application to request this aid. The funding source is represented by the European Guarantee fund for Agriculture. CNDP represents a direct complementary subsidy form to the SAPS quantum for crops located in arable land and eligible for SAPS, support financed from the national budget and European Fund for Agriculture and Rural Development.

Keywords: European funds, direct payments, beneficiaries

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE EVOLUTION OF EMPLOYMENT IN AGRICULTURE IN ROMANIA AND FRANCE

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Abstract:

In all economically developed countries, workforce is employed in a high proportion in services (tourism, trade), then a lesser extent in industry and in a very low proportion in agriculture. Although the employment in agriculture population is still one of the largest in Europe, well above the EU average, of 3.5%, the share of agricultural population dynamics shows a gradual downward trend of it, from 40.9% in the year 2000 to 26.8% in 2009. In countries like Germany, Britain and France the share of population employed in services exceeds 70% (France holds 76%). Even in countries with a medium or below average level of development like Spain, Portugal, Greece, Croatia, Hungary and Poland the share of population employed in services exceeds 60%. Regarding Romania, in 2010, the share of population employed in services is only 51% of the total, that of agriculture 24%, construction 7% and industry 18%.

Keywords: rural, workforce, employment in agriculture

RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANALYSIS OF DAMBOVITA COUNTY

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Abstract

The present study examines the extent to which funds have been applied and used in specific agricultural policy and the effects on rural development in the county Dambovita. The development work have been taken into account statistical data provided by Dambovita County Prefecture and Departament for Agriculture and Rural Development Dambovita. Analyzing the nine measures that have been funded in the country of Dambovita a total of 1119 project with a total value 635.333.604,1 may be issued conclusions regarding the impact on rural development of Dambovita county in terms of both agricultural and economical.

Keywords: Rural area, Rural development, NPRD measures

MORPHOLOGY AND MICROSTRUCTURE RELIEF FROM DEPRESSION AGRIJ - VILLAGE ROMÂNAȘI

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Abstract

This paper is the result of both field investigations and consultation of existing bibliographic material. The relief of the commune administrative territory overlaps Românași two major relief units: Depression Agrij and Meseș Mountains. In this paper have revealed a positive or negative series of notes on planning and have shown some ways to improve spatial Românași village. Presentation of various aspects suite is recorded by a series of maps, charts and tables, many of them corresponding to some practical requirements. Due to its location along the European road E81 and in the vicinity of large cities, Zalău, Cluj-Napoca, Românași common amenities for potential investors.

Keywords: geological analysis, laminated clays, sediments, morphometric characters, hydrographic network landscape fragmentation

HYDROSPHERE ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES FROM COMPLEX PLANNING HYDROTECHNICAL CINCIȘ-CERNA

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Abstract

The reason for choosing this subject it is primarily the desire to publicize, to make known tourist report this geographical area (area-Cerna Cinciș lake), given that the literature treats this subject very briefly. For the development work we carried out field investigations, we conducted a thorough documentation of specialized bodies (Autonomous Romanian Waters-Tg. Mures, Hunedoara Steel Integrated, Hall Teliuc), an analytical research in the field, starting from the premises location (relief, climate, water, vegetation, soil, etc..), a prerequisite for achieving tourism (potential lake access, favorable land available for development, tourism can practice different). However, the work is a rich literature that have attempted to highlight the potential of the neighborhood, the potential attractiveness of water, to determine the type and existing forms of tourism in this area and make an assessment of the tourist flow.

Keywords: reservoir lake, river basin, planning hydro catchment flood waves, hydrological system, alluvial material

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL COMMUNITIES IN CALARASI COUNTY , CASE-STUDY OF VILLAGE CUZA VODA

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Abstract

Social and economic problems that have affected mostly rural areas both argue the need to develop effective national policies of its development and the need to study social factors likely to enhance the community level development processes. The subject of today's rural community development has become a strategic priority for many national development policies. The great interest of many development projects to rural communities is determined not only by increased rural-urban disparities, but also the need to improve social factors in promoting citizen participation in community development process. However, while the development of rural communities is carried out based on imported models, anchored in the reality of villages without a prior study of the existing situation, it becomes imperative need for thorough investigations of community development from the perspective of social and economic factors that stimulate.

Keywords: rural development, rural space.

CAPITALIZATION OF TOURISM POTENTIAL, IN PROTECTED AREAS IN CALARASI COUNTY

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Abstract

Areas protected by their natural value and the low level of human intervention in their territory, are the best examples and models and semi-natural ecological systems. In Europe, Romania has the most diverse and valuable natural heritage, the area of protected natural areas of national interest, reported the country's surface is 7%. Natura 2000 European Ecological Network offers numerous tools and extension inclusion and management of protected areas in Romania, is an important step towards the landscape and biodiversity conservation. In other words, in terms of natural background, the network serves both the interests of Romania and the European Union.

Keywords: *natural habitats, tourism, biodiversity, protected areas, the european ecological network*

IMPORTANCE OF THE PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL AREAS IN THE UPPER DANUBE REGION

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Abstract

During the December 2010, the European Commission established the EU Strategy for the Danube Region, Strategy that targets macro-region consisted of parts of 8 EU and 6 non-EU countries (including Serbia). Expected start of the Document implementation is April 2011. Also, according to the fact that Republic of Serbia is mostly agrarian country, where rural areas dominate, and agriculture represents substantial component of economic development, and since some of identified issues in mentioned Strategy are transportation, communication, energy and environmental problems, there is a need for presentation of general conditions of physical infrastructure facilities in the rural areas of Upper Danube zone in Serbia (primarily on the territory of Bač and Apatin municipalities). As it is known, development of certain rural regions is represented in rising of life standard quality of local population, what implies modern, reliable and well spatially projected physical infrastructure elements with adequate capacity. Complete insight into the current state of infrastructural elements could improve cooperation between territories connected by Danube River, and could also influence equalization of uneven socio-economic development of mentioned areas. From the standpoint of Serbia, through the timely prepared infrastructural projects, local authorities from the observed zone could easier reach future EU pre-accession funds for the rural development.

Key words: rural development, physical infrastructure, Upper Danube region, Serbia.

RURAL TOURISM- IMPLICATIONS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ROMANIAN VILLAGES

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Abstract

Tourism is an important economic activity in the European Union. It comprises a wide variety of product and destinations and many different stake holders are involved. Tourism has great potential as regards contributing to achievement on several major EU objectives, such as sustainable development, economic growth, employment and economic and social cohesion. Strategic approach process is to create the conditions and provide the basis for sustainable, high-quality tourism and competitive Romanian tourism. The strategy for achieving this is based on a number of points, the main ones being: to follow a knowledge-driven approach, to know how to better exploit existing information, to acquire and develop know-how, to innovate by developing new process and to benefit from best practice.

Keywords : *economic, sustainable, developing, stakeholders, great*

YOUNG PEOPLES' EXPOSURE TO FARMING IN WESTERN EUROPE: A MEANS FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN ROMANIA?

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Abstract

Many young Romanians travel to Western Europe in order to get new experiences and in order to earn money. Potentially, returning migrants might spark new development in rural areas in Romania. The paper examines, whether there are indications that this is already now taking place, or is likely to happen in the future for young Romanians, who have gone to Denmark in order to pursue an agricultural education and work on farms in Denmark. Upon arrival in Denmark, expectations and hopes of young Romanians is that someday they will be able to return to Romania – preferably to their village/town/region of origin. Evidence is that many migrants, after spending a limited period of time in Denmark, return to Romania, utilise the experience from Denmark in developing occupational career in Romania, but very few decide to start new activities in rural areas.

Keywords: *returning migrants, rural development, agricultural education, Denmark*

NON-WOOD FOREST PRODUCTS MARKETING, POTENTIAL FACTOR OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

The aim of this research is to determine future rural development directions using the marketing of non-wood forest products (NWFP). First, it was analyzed the commerce with NWFP in Romania, and then were analyzed success strategies and businesses around the world. Although at global and regional level the tendency is to increase the importance of NWFP, in Romania the research results show a decrease of harvested quantities and exports, as well the processing plants are almost absent. Therefore public authorities should involve and recover this field through concrete measures.

Keywords: *non-wood forest products marketing, rural development, tendencies*

CLUJ-NAPOCA INHABITANTS' ATTITUDES TOWARD FOREST FRUITS CONSUMPTION

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Abstract

The aim of the paper is to determine the attitudes toward forest fruit consumption based on a survey conducted in October 2009 in Cluj Napoca. The questionnaire was applied on 243 respondents using the convenience sampling. Attitude was determined and calculated using the Theory of Planned Behaviour. The findings permit to reveal the consumption motives for forest fruits and the importance in nutrition. Among the motives, the strongest is the healthiness. In the same time due to positive attitude toward forest fruit consumption, a forest fruit products business, well marketed, could have high chances of success and will help to the development of rural mountain area.

Keywords: *forest fruits, attitudes, urban inhabitants, Theory of Planned Behaviour*

DURABLE DEVELOPMENT AND DIVERSIFICATION OF ECONOMICAL ACTIVITIES IN THE ROMANIAN RURAL COMMUNITIES

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Abstract

The rural territory of Romania covers approximately 90% of the country's territory and gathers 45.1% of the population (9.7 million inhabitants). The medium density of the population from rural territories remained relatively constant throughout the years (about 45.0 inhabitants / km²). Romania's population has a more pronounced level of rurality in comparison with other E.U. countries, where the rural establishments are less populated and at a reduced scale. Therefore we consider necessary paying more attention towards village development and Romanian rural economy diversification. Even though the Romanian rural space shelters a rich culture, with a strong traditional character that differs from one region to the other, it does not manage to fully explore the value of its resources, perpetuating a paradoxal state of poverty due to lack of attractiveness and promotion of rural areas. In the present paper the authors synthesize a diagnosis of the rural areas in our country and try to emphasize the main issues with which the rural inhabitants are confronted with nowadays, trying to bring into discussion at least partial resolving solutions for these issues.

Key words: durable development, diversity, rural, economy

ACCOUNTS ON THE ANALYSIS OF THE INTENSIFICATION PROCESS OF THE PRODUCTION OF GRAPES IN AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISES IN DEVELOPING REGIONS OF REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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Abstract

In the present work was studied the intensification process of the production of grapes using the natural and value indicators system. For this study was taken into consideration the specializing of enterprises in the production of grapes. In the analysis was used the economic-statistical methods that: observation, method of medium sizes, aggregation and so. The analysis in the base of average data of the years 2006-2009 indicates an essential variation so the intensity level, how the intensification of economic efficiency in developing regions Center, South, UTA “Gagauzia” and Chisinau municipality. The intensity level is a lower level and used resources are used efficiently.

Keywords: intensification, resources, yields, specialization, intensity, efficiency

ESTIMATES ON THE ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY AND LEVEL OF INTENSIFICATION OF CEREALS AND LEGUMINOUS GRAINS (EXCLUDING CORN) IN THE REGIONAL ASPECT

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Abstract

The purpose of this work is the research of intensity level and economic efficiency of cereals and leguminous grains intensification (without corn) through the value indicators (from the lack of data in specialized forms of consumption to production in natural expression) in the agricultural enterprises in regional aspect from Republic of Moldova. For this were used the following methods: observation, aggregation and grouping, comparison method, and so. The results obtained in the base of data analysis in the average of the years 2006-2009 allowed us to conclude an essential variation in the level of intensity in the agricultural enterprises depending on region of development. Economic efficiency of intensifying of the grain production and leguminous grains (without corn) is characterized by lower level. The yields of resources are at a lower level.

Key words: *intensity, intensification, efficiency, resources, yields*

BEEKEEPING PRACTICE OPPORTUNITY IN THE CONTEXT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL AREAS

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Abstract

The article is focused on determining the economic efficiency and arguing the economic calculations connected with the economic efficiency of the melliferous bees breeding within the agricultural farms of the Republic of Moldova. In order to make an analysis, the author proposed the idea of creating a model apiary breeding 10 and 50 families of bees, the one that can be implemented and managed within a family farm. The economic calculations connected with melliferous bees breeding have been done taking into consideration the following aspects: assessment of the necessary investments, planning the annual revenues from sales, calculation of the annual consumptions and calculation of the final economic results. As a result of practicing the entrepreneurship activity within this apiary designed for melliferous bees breeding, we determined that it is possible to obtain a sufficient annual profit for further development of the mentioned business.

Keywords: *beekeeping, honey, production costs, sales income, cost, profitability.*

FOOD INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT IN THE RURAL AREA OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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Abstract

The paper is aimed to present the state of food industry in the Republic of Moldova and its role for increasing employment in the non-farm rural economy. At present in the food processing and beverage industry activates several hundreds of companies and specialized units. Most of them are concentrated in urban areas. Small-scale food processing emerges in rural localities but it remains rather limited. Analysis is based on the information provided by Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, National Bureau of Statistics, and qualitative data collected during the field study of small and medium scale food industries that have been undertaken during the period of November-December 2010 in order to reveal the current situation and major impediments for the further sector development. The analytical work was based on the semi structured in depth interviews conducted in private food industries.

Keywords: *non-farm economy, food industry, food business operators, food safety*

OPPORTUNITY FOR LAYING HENS MICRO-FARMS, TO ALLIGN WITH STANDARDS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

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Abstract

The poultry sector is a very important component in the Romanian economy, providing over 25,000 jobs in the direct poultry activities and another 100,000 jobs in the related activities. Given that, however, since 2010, poultry farmers no longer benefit from any form of support through state aid, it is considered imperative, to fully capitalize egg production, to replace the traditional peasant household with micro-farms for laying hens. This paper aims to highlight the advantages of micro-laying hens, compared to industrial poultry farms and subsistence Romanian households, especially in the context that the establishment of such farms is one of the recommendations of EU legislation.

Keywords: *poultry sector, micro-farms, egg production, EU legislation.*

PERSPECTIVES IN ROURAL TOURISM – THE GEOPARK IN BUZAU COUNTY

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Abstract

Creating Geopark " Buzău County" was initiated and is coordinated by the Council Buzau County. Geopark is a tool to preserve, promote , exploit particular natural elements of the Buzau (mud volcanoes, salt from Meledic, amber), cultural and historical heritage, to support social and economic development of municipalities.

Keywords : *rural tourism, tourism, rural development.*

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DRAFTING OF THE SUSTAINABLE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES FOR SIRIU MICROREGION

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Abstract

The paper presents Siriu area, rural community in the mountain area of Buzău county, from a durable socioeconomic development. A series of procedures, instruments and techniques were used that allowed a more exact cognition of the rural phenomena and processes, among which: commune sheet and focus-group. The development strategy of Siriu parish for 2007 – 2013 follows a durable development by valuing the local potential in accordance with the general objective of the National Development Plan 2007-2013. The main objectives of the durable development of Siriu parish are: parish basic infrastructure development; environmental protection; social cohesion increasing and poverty reduction; tourism development and advertising and rural rebirth. As a conclusion the rural development depends on all the actors of the rural development and Siriu area is one of the communities that understood the basic principles for rural socioeconomic development and that uses these both in the on going projects and in the ones in draft state.

Keywords : rural community, sustainable socioeconomic development, local potential, Siriu area

SOCIO-ECONOMICAL DIAGNOSIS OF THE ROMANIAN RURAL COMMUNITIES IN THE HILLY AREA OF VRANCEA COUNTY

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Abstract

The paper presents the situation of the rural communities in the hill area of Vrancea county. The methodology used to establish the development level and the assessment of the opportunity and restrictive items set of the diversified development in the rural community in the hill area, is the specific one for socio-economy. The research units were the following: rural parish and house hold. For a more precise assessment data were collected about a number as high as possible of noticed facts. Due to the many requirements involved by the current study, the following research instruments were used: parish sheet, and questionnaire for rural house holds. Data analysis was done on four levels: demographic dimension, educational dimension, activity dimension, activity mobility. The analyzed parishes Tamboiști, Popești și Urechești have the specific traits of the periurban rural parishes. As a conclusion the periurban parishes benefit from the closeness to the city through the economic opportunities that the town offers, by being opened to innovation and population mobility.

Keywords : Romanian rural communities, periurban hill area, rural house hols, Vrancea county

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY - REALITIES AND PERSPECTIVES IN THE CONTEXT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

The main purpose of this paper was intended to be the identification and characterization of alternative energies. In a generic sense, when we say, alternative energy, or renewable energy sources, we refer primarily to: wind, biomass and solar energy. It also undertook an analysis of national potential of renewable energy sources and resources, and prospects of this sector in context of sustainable development. In formulating this material are numerous studies and documentation, both in specialized work, and from press articles, sites and information specialized institutions of the state. According to information from the "Energy Strategy of Romania, the national potential of renewable energy sources comprises: solar, wind, hydro power, biomass and biogas, geothermal energy. Although our country has the greatest potential in the south - east Europe in wind energy, development renewable energy sector is threatened and hampered by poor infrastructure, lack of financial resources and inconsistency framework. In the world as governments strive to reduce dependence on fossil fuels to offset carbon emissions, wind farms increasingly gaining ground. Wind energy resource appears to be "ideal" is free and plentiful almost everywhere. Researchers at Harvard University say that the resource potential is huge because "even the most industrialized countries in the world can cover the entire electricity requirement by harnessing wind strictly".

Keywords: *alternative energy, sources renewable, sustainable development.*

THE PARTICULARITIES OF ECONOMY IN POLAND

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Abstract

The paper aimed to present the Polish agriculture which is characterized by significant dispersion, as an average size of agricultural holdings is about 10,15 ha of agricultural land, and more than half of the holdings produce only or mainly for their own use, thus reducing their expenses on the purchase of food as well as other family expenses. It is based on the statistical data provided by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development from Warsaw, Agricultural Market Agency from Warsaw, Agency for Restructuring and Modernizations of Agriculture from Warsaw, Agricultural Property Agency, were applied the following methods: selective, comparison and tabular methods. As a conclusion Polish economy has been suffering from the outcomes of the global recession which disrupted and hampered development process, since the second half of 2008. These turbulences have also affected the agro-food sector, especially in terms of international trade. Nevertheless, by the end of 2010, the value of export increased and the turnover balance in terms of food trade was positive. It proves that the Polish food sector is a worthy competitor on the international arena.

Keywords: Polish economy, global recession, export, turnover balance, Warsaw

STUDIES REGARDING THE CERTIFICATION OF AGROTOURIST GUESTHOUSES AND FARMS IN GREAT BRITAIN

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Abstract: The aim of the paper is to analyse the main developments in terms of quality certification in tourism and rural tourism in Great Britain, which have a long tradition and may serve as an example to Romanian agrotourism in its attempt to come out of the current crisis. The agency which deals with agrotourist establishment classification and promotion in Great Britain is called "Visit Britain". Its idea is to achieve a quality and services standard as close as possible to the one in the countries with a long tradition in the rural tourism field.

Keywords : rural tourism, legislation, Great Britain, agrotourism, certification, guesthouse

THE MULTI-FACTORIAL REGRESSION MODELS FOR STUDYING THE ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY OF LAND CONSOLIDATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to study the economic efficiency of the autumn wheat with the help of the multi-factorial regression models. Assessing the elasticity coefficient of production factors in the agrarian sector of the Republic of Moldova gives the possibility to define the criteria for optimizing the land consolidation. By means of these assessment methods we can appreciate the existence, direction and the degree of interrelatedness between the economic processes. We can also measure the degree of variation of endogenous characteristics under the influence of the exogenous characteristics in growing autumn wheat in the district of Făleşti, the Republic of Moldova.

Keywords : land consolidation, econometric models, autumn wheat

STRATEGY FOR THE DANUBE REGION - CONTRIBUTION TO IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE AND WORK OF ALL CITIZENS OF THE LOWER DANUBE REGION

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Abstract

This paper aims to raise awareness about the European Commission Strategy for the Danube Region, strategy materialized in new opportunities and new potential, in particular as regards the strengthening of EU efforts to overcome economic crisis in a sustainable manner. This paper presents the main proposals and recommendations made by the European Economic and Social Committee for the Strategy in the Danube region, so that socio-economic development, competitiveness, environmental management and increased resource efficiency can be improved, and security and transport corridors, upgraded. European Parliament was established from the very beginning as a reliable partner that will always ensure the future "development strategy of the Danube region. The strategy should make it a region that truly belongs to the 21st century, secure and confident in their forces and one of the most attractive in Europe.

Key words: *Danube Commission, the European strategy, the Danube Delta, sustainable development, conditions of life*

STUDIES CONCERNING POSSIBILITY ACCOUNT REGARDING THE RURAL TOURISM AND THE EQUESTRIAN TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN ROMANIA

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Abstract

Equestrian tourism represent a combination of rural tourism, agro tourism and ecotourism, which it has been improved with success in many European countries and I hope as in future it will be improve in Romania too. From my studies, which I have done arise that in some areas from countryside there is potential for the improvement of equestrian tourism in: Bucovina, Transylvania, Calarasi and the littoral of the Black Sea. The present project proposes to promote and to develop the equestrian practice in this areas, but also in others areas less known by tourists.

Keywords: *Equestrian Tourism, Rural Tourism, Agro tourism, Ecotourism*

THE ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN EUROPEAN UNION MEMBER STATES' LEGISLATION PROVISIONS REGARDING RURAL TOURISM

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Abstract

In this paper we aim at analysing the main legislation provisions in the most important European Union countries, regarding rural tourism and agrotourism. The purpose of this analysis is to identify the best solutions for the development of agrotourism in our country. From the performed analysis, it results that in the most representative European countries, in terms of rural tourism, regulations are very clear, even if they are different from one country to another. This is practically the basis for the boom in the development of rural tourism and agrotourism in the past few decades. The main conclusion is that in Romania we must also promote clear, unitary regulations, without which the development of agrotourism is not possible.

Key words: rural tourism, legislation, European Union, agrotourism.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS BETWEEN TOURISM AND RURAL TOURISM DURING ECONOMIC CRISIS (2008-2010)

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to present the evolution of world tourism in crisis years (2008-2010), then comparing the data with the evolution of rural tourism for the same period. For this, we used statistical data provided by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), EUROGITIS - European Federation of Rural Tourism, ANTREC - National Association of Rural, Ecological and Cultural Tourism and National Institute of Statistics. By analyzing the data, we identified that, although tourism has been affected to some extent by the economic crisis we face, rural tourism hasn't suffered equally, to say the fact that many ordinary people have given up their regular holidays, focusing on the rural areas, where they can enjoy lower prices, but also special experiences. In conclusion, we can say that rural tourism is the tourism branch with the greatest impact in the period 2008-2010, and this trend still seems to be the case. Another observation is the fact that rural tourism hasn't been adversely affected by the crisis, the proof of this being the higher degree of occupancy in guesthouses, but also the increase of the accommodation capacity of the villages every year.

Keywords: *tourism, rural tourism, economic crisis*

MAXIMIZING THE BENEFITS OF TOURISM DEVELOPMENT: THE REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

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Abstract

One of the most commonly referred to positive aspects of the tourism and recreation industry is its contribution to the reduction of the differences at the level of development among regions in any country. Indeed, tourism can develop in lagging and remote areas, thus creating income and jobs that would not become otherwise available. The contribution of visitors in such cases is very important and in both quantitative and qualitative aspects much more significant than the change that the same visitors would induce in an already developed region. There is a variety of tangible economic effects, both direct and indirect, of the expenditures arising from tourism recreation, including jobs, income, investment and tax revenues. The direct effects concern lodging, restaurants, transportation, entertainment and retail trade. The secondary effects refer to a very wide array of sectors in the economy: increase of production, resources, sales and number of jobs, increase of prices, demand due to the diversity of merchandise and services.

Keywords: rural tourism, economic impact, direct effects, indirect effects.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS OF THE COUNTY OFFICE OF PAYMENTS FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FISHING (COPRDF) FROM ARAD COUNTY

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Abstract

With access to the European Union Romania has created the institutional conditions necessary for the application, in good conditions, of the National Rural Development Programme (NRDP) for 2007-2013. Expressed in figures, the activity of COPRDF from ARAD county is finally materialized through the number of projects submitted by public and private beneficiaries, ways of implementation, the efficiency with which acquisition files are instrumented and not least through solutioning files on payment requests and reducing the period of payment reimbursement and the costs done by the project's beneficiaries. In this paper the authors perform an analysis on the situation of the projects financed by the NRDP in Arad county. Issues are presented on the situation of the submitted eligible, selected, contracted, partially paid, completed projects and the measures implemented until 31 December 2010.

Keywords: implementation projects, rural development, county, measures

STUDY ON INCREASING VEGETABLE PRODUCTION IN THE REGIONAL ASPECT

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Abstract

The purpose of this work consists in analyzing the intensity level and economic efficiency of vegetable production intensification of production in the regional aspect. For this was used the system of natural and value indicators calculated in the average of the years 2006-2009 based on data of agricultural enterprises. For to achieve the goal were used the main economic statistics analyze methods that: monograph, observation, grouping, method of tables, method of medium and relative sizes. The research results demonstrate that the potential of resources in agricultural enterprises in Republic of Moldova have been used inefficiently and the produce of vegetable production is done by extensive way.

Keywords: *intensity, intensification, efficiency, resources, yields*

FEATURES OF REALISATION OF AGRO-INDUSTRIAL INTEGRATION IN MOLDOVA

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Abstract

Agro-industrial integration represents a common phenomenon in contemporary agrarian economy in developed and developing countries. To assess the current stage of development of agriculture is important to analyze in detail the form of manifestation and the level of agro-industrial integration in the country, to track trends of changes in the parameters of volume and structure of agricultural production, as well as its level of effectiveness. Integration is regarded as a qualitatively new level of agricultural development that has engulfed all aspects of modern agriculture: production, exchange, economic relations. This involves not only the breadth of the phenomena, but also about the quality of their depth. Agro-industrial integration is immanent expression in the formation of macroeconomic agro-industrial complex, which occurs through a process of integration of agriculture and industry. Agro-industrial integration is the content of formation process of agricultural and agro-industrial production. And the emergence of agriculture is economic and legal registration of the gradual development of agro-industrial integration.

Key words: *agro-industrial integration, agricultural production, processing industry.*

RESIZING OF REAL LABOUR FORCE IN RURAL AREAS IN THE CONTEXT OF OCCUPATIONAL MOBILITY.ROMANIAN CASE STUDY

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Abstract

The size and characteristics of the labour force in rural areas are conditioned, besides other factors, by the phenomenon of temporary occupational migration. The occupational migration (both in Romania and abroad) of the population with the domicile in the Romanian rural area has many and deep economic and social implications. This phenomenon extracts a significant part of population from the rural labour market which, potentially, could offer their labour force. The size of the circulatory migration phenomenon for work – both in Romania and abroad – results in a significant decrease of the active population that effectively supports the labour force supply at a certain moment, in a certain rural area. An estimation of the real available active population on the basis of the data from the survey conducted September 2009 under the project CAPACITIES -DALFI [1] reveals that in total active population with the domicile in the 4 communes from the sample, only 37.7% is permanently present in the commune and effectively supports the labour force supply at commune level.

Keywords : rural economy, labour force, occupational migration, Romania

IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF AGROTOURISM IN THE NEAMŢ COUNTY - ROMANIA

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Abstract

The paper examines the evolution and development of agrotourism in the Neamţ County. The following indicators were considered and analyzed: tourist reception, accommodation capacity, the number of tourists accommodated, accommodation capacity depending on the type of tourist reception and classification category and number of nights. Thus, it appears in 2001-2006, an increase in tourist accommodation structures, from 11 to 48 guest houses, from the total in the Neamţ County. Accommodation capacity has also grown to a total of 742 rural guest houses, and the number of accommodated tourists increased to 17537 people in 2006. It analyzes the ways of implementation of the local Plan for sustainable development for 2007-2013 in the Neamţ County.

Keywords: agrotourism, rural house holds, egg production , local Plan for sustainable development in Neamţ County.

TRADITIONS AND CUSTOMS REGARDING ANIMAL BREEDING WITH MAJOR IMPACT IN RURAL TOURISM – STUDY REALISED IN VAIDEENI, CORBENI, RUCAR AND DOMNESTI VILLAGES

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Abstract

This study presents the results of an ample research regarding customs, traditions and manners in animal breeding (mountain shepherding), with major impact in rural tourism and with capabilities in alternative programmes for occupation of rural mountain area, being in an increasing process of aging and inactivity. The authors' option was to restrict initially to the western Carpathian mountain village zone, Vaideeni area, at the foot of the mountain Roman's peak or Romanian's peak, but were useful in distinguishing replicated elements of rural tourism programs from Corbeni, Rucar and Domnesti mountain lands. Sociological research has focused on a semi-structured interview described in the summary section describing the material and method of investigation and the results discussion and conclusions are presented in specific sections. As a final remark we can see that occupational and traditional richness and diversity, religiosity and pastoral myth of rural mountain may reopen a Pandora's box, where budding hope of resurrection of the Romanian rural mountain tourism, invading fully objective and rational agro-tourism product, but also remnants of pastoral convoluted thinking time, which seems to have disappeared many decades from European tourist memory, but is a great cultural heritage and tourism value.

Keywords : animal husbandry, traditional occupations, rural tourism, semi structured interview

