



The 4th International Conference

Rural Space and Local Development

CONFERENCE READER



Regeneration of the Rural Space

July, 22 - 25, 2010

Bistrița
ROMANIA



4th Edition of the International Conference
Rural Space and Local Development
Regeneration of the Rural Space



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ORGANISERS:

„BABEȘ-BOLYAI” University, Faculty of Geography, Cluj-Napoca

Department of Human Geography

Centre for Research on Settlements and Urbanism

„BABEȘ-BOLYAI” University, Faculty of Geography, Bistrița Division

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County Centre for Culture, Bistrița-Năsăud

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FOR THE 4th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE „**RURAL SPACE and LOCAL DEVELOPMENT**”, on “*The Regeneration of the Rural Space*”, BISTRIȚA, JULY, 22-25, 2010

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EDITORS:

Vasile **SURD**, Vasile **ZOTIC**, Diana-Elena **ALEXANDRU**

* We are not responsible for the scientific content and grammar accuracy of the articles



4th Edition of the International Conference
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I. GENERAL PROGRAMME



4th Edition of the International Conference
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Thursday, July, 22nd, 2010

Arrival and accommodation of participants

Friday, July, 23rd, 2010

08:00 – 09:30 Registration of participants

10:00 – 11:30 Opening ceremony

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee break

12:00 – 14:00 Plenary session (5 keynote speakers)

14:00 – 15:00 Celebration Ceremony

15:00 – 17:00 Traditional Lunch (Restaurant – Cafeteria – University centre)

Book and traditional culinary art exhibition

Book Launch, author: Diana-Elena ALEXANDRU,

Title: “Modificări structurale ale spațiului rural din România ca urmare a implementării
programului cu finanțare europeană SAPARD”

17:00 – 20:00 City sightseeing, organized cultural tour of Bistrița City

20:00 Dinner (Restaurant – Cafeteria – University centre) or elsewhere

Saturday, July, 24th, 2010

08:30 – 10:30 Parallel sessions

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 13:30 Parallel sessions

13:30 – 15:00 Lunch (Restaurant – Cafeteria – University centre) or elsewhere

15:00 – 17:30 Parallel sessions

17:30 – 18:00 Coffee break

18:00 – 19:30 Closing Ceremony

20:00 Conference dinner (Crama Veche Restaurant)

Sunday, July, 25th, 2010

Field trip

08:00 – Departure

Itinerary: Bistrița – Dumitra – Năsăud – Maieru – Sângeorz Băi – Valea Vinului – Rodna – Alpina Touristic Complex, Blazna Locality - Bistrița

Stop 1. 08:30 “Liviu Rebreanu” Memorial House

Stop 2. 10:00 Frontier Guard Museum, Năsăud

Stop 3. 11:30 “Cuibul Visurilor” Museum, Maier Locality

Stop 4. 13:00 Sightseeing Sângeorz Băi Resort

Stop 5. 14:00 Presentation of Rodna Mountains National Park (Valea Vinului Locality) – Traditional lunch

Stop 6. 16:00 Ruins of a Dominican Basilica, Rodna Locality

Stop 7. 17:00 Alpina Touristic Complex, Blazna Locality – Closing dinner

21:00 Return to Bistrița



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II. DETAILED PROGRAMME



4th Edition of the International Conference
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Detailed Programme:

Friday, July, 23rd, 2010

08:00 – 09:30 Registration of participants (*in the hallway of Bistrița Division*)

10:00 – 11:30 Opening ceremony (*Aula, ground floor*)

WELCOMING WORDS:

Dr. Vasile SURD, „Babeş-Bolyai” University, Faculty of Geography, Cluj-Napoca - Chairman of Conference

Dr. Andrei MARGA, Rector of „Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca

Dr. Dănuț PETREA, Dean of Faculty of Geography, „Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca

Dr. Alina UJUPAN, Adviser of the Commissioner, European Commission, Bruxelles

Mr. Cristian FLORIAN, Prefect of Bistrița-Năsăud County

Mr. Liviu Mihai RUSU, President of Bistrița-Năsăud County Council

Mr. Teodor Ovidiu CREȚU, Mayor of Bistrița City Hall

Dr. Marina TODORVIĆ, Representative of foreigners

Dr. Mircea MUREȘIANU, „Babeş-Bolyai” University, Faculty of Geography, Bistrița Division

Dr. Ion BOLD, PhD, University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Bucharest

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee break

12:00 – 14:00 Plenary session („Aula”)

1. Regeneration of Rural Space in Romania

Vasile SURD (*“Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

2. Spatial Planning and Rural Space Regeneration in Romania

Mihaela VRABETE (*Halcrow Romania, Development Planning & Design, Bucharest, ROMANIA*)

3. The Regeneration of Rural Space in Difficult by Family Multiple Activities: the Case of Mediterranean Mountainous Toukabeur, Chaouach and Hidous (The Down-Valley of Mejerda – Tunisia)

Hédi RIAHI (*Manouba University, TUNISIA*)

4. Different Patterns in Agriculture in a Rural Dutch-German Border Region and Its Historical Relations

Jan G. SMIT (*University of Nijmegen, NETHERLANDS*)

5. The Rustic Household. Recognition, Modernity and Empowerment in the Present Romanian Village

Vintilă MIHĂILESCU (*National School of Political and Administrative Studies, Bucharest, ROMANIA*)



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14:00 – 15:00 Celebration Ceremony

1. Profesorul universitar dr. Vasile SURD, în al 65-lea an de viață

Grigor P. POP (*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

2. La Mulți Ani, mereu tânărului Profesor Vasile SURD

Dănuț PETREA (*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

3. Gânduri și reflecții despre Profesorul Vasile SURD

Nicolae CIANGĂ (*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

4. What does it mean to know Vasile SURD

Marina TODOROVIC (*University of Belgrade, SERBIA*)

5. Omul și profesorul Vasile SURD

Constantin VERT, (*Universitatea de Vest din Timișoara, ROMÂNIA*)

15:00 – 17:00 Traditional Lunch (Restaurant – Cafeteria – University centre)

Book and traditional culinary art exhibition

Book Launch, author: Diana-Elena ALEXANDRU,

Title: *“Modificări structurale ale spațiului rural din România ca urmare a implementării programului cu finanțare europeană SAPARD”*

17:00 – 20:00 City sightseeing, organized cultural tour of Bistrița City

20:00 Dinner (Restaurant – Cafeteria – University centre) or elsewhere



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Saturday, July, 24th, 2010

SECTION 1
Rural population. Status, dynamics, tendencies

Online Room

Moderators

Professor Constantin **MATEI**, PhD
Senior Lecturer Constantin **VERT**, PhD

08:00 – 08:15

Demographic Evolution and Rural Space Depopulation

Constantin **MATEI** (*Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, Chişinău, REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA*)

08:15 – 08:30

The Rate of Economic Activity of the Population in the Rural Areas

Constantin **VERT** (*West University, Timişoara, ROMANIA*)

08:30 – 08:45

Study for the Better Harmonization of the Local and Regional Development Priorities, with Accent on the Growth of Rural Employment. Case Study: Bistriţa-Năsăud County

Mária **VINCZE**, Elemér **MEZEI**, Emese **SZŐCS** (*“Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

08:45 – 09:00

Geodemographic Perspectives on the Sub-Carpathians between Dâmboviţa and Ialomiţa Rivers

Rădiţa **ALEXE** (*Valahia University, Târgovişte, ROMANIA*)

09:00 – 09:15

Oradea – Bratca Depression. The Illiterate and Unemployment. Results of Socio – Economic Changes

Claudiu **FILIMON**, Cosmin **CHIRIAC** (*University of Oradea, Centre for Territorial Studies and Analyses (CSAT), ROMANIA*)

09:15 – 09:30

Doctors' Emigration: An Answer to the Crisis of the Romanian Medical System

Despina **VASILCU** (*“Ştefan cel Mare” University, Suceava, ROMANIA*)

09:30 – 09:45

The Relation between Physical Activity and Rural Space Concerning Romanian Youth of 13-18 Age

Iosif **ŞANDOR**¹, Stuart **JH BIDDLE**², Istvan **SOOS**³ (*¹“Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA, ²University of Loughborough, GREAT BRITAIN, ³University of Sunderland, GREAT BRITAIN*)

09:45 – 10:00

Geodemographical Changes in Rural Space of Oradea Metropolitan Area

Marcu **STAŞAC**, Liviu **BUCUR** (*University of Oradea, ROMANIA*)

10:00 – 10:15

Geo-Demographic Changes in the Rural Areas of the Someş Plateau

Voicu **BODOCAN**, Filip **IPATIOV**, Gabriela **ROTAR** (*“Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

10:15 – 10:30

Structural Modifications of Rural Education System in Sălaj County

Ioan **ABRUDAN** (*School Inspectorate of Sălaj County, ROMANIA*)

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break



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11:00 – 11:15

Analysis of Population Structure in the Someș Plain (The Transylvanian Plain)

Ramona Flavia RAȚIU (*"Dimitrie Cantemir" University, Târgu Mureș, ROMANIA*)

11:15 – 11:30

Local Disparities in Infant Mortality Rates in Rural Areas of Neamț County

Ana-Maria BURLEA (*"Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University, Iași, ROMANIA*)

11:30 – 11:45

Historical Evolution of the Educational System and the Scholastic State within Ilva Mare Commune

Olivia-Ioana MUREȘAN (*"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

11:45 – 12:00

Cultural and Technical Dimensions of the Quality of Living in Rural Areas of Moldavia

Daniel TUDORA (*"Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University, Iași, ROMANIA*)

12:00 – 12:15

The Influence of Demographic Ageing on the Potential of the Labour Market Supply

Ibolya KURKÓ (*"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

12:15 – 12:30

Opportunities for Employment Diversification in the Rural Area of Bistrița-Năsăud County

Kinga KEREKES, Enikő VERESS, Bernadett PAKUCS (*"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

12:30 – 12:45

Rural German Education in Sibiu County

Adriana MISACHEVICI (*"INDEPENDENȚA" Technical High School, Sibiu, ROMANIA*)

12:45 – 13:00

The Analysis of Women's Role in Development of Rural Economy in Jannatroudbar Section of Ramsar, Iran

Sharifnia FATEME¹, Sharifnia MOHAMMADBAGHER¹, Khadige GALYANMOQADDAM²
Mehdi RAMEZANZADE LASBOUIE¹ (¹*University of Tehran*, ²*Azad University of Rasht, IRAN*)

13:00 – 13:15

HDI Trend in Rural Areas during the Last Three Decades of Kermanshah

Rahmat BAHRAMI (*Payam e nor University, IRAN*)

13:15 – 13:30

Rural Sustainable Development and GIS

Fatemeh AKBARPOUR, Mohammad AKBARPOUR (*University of Tehran, IRAN*)

13:30 – 13:45

Agricultural Population of Central Serbia at the End of the 20th and the Beginning of the 21st Century, a Case Study: Goc Mountain and its Foothill

Tamara LUKIĆ, Anđelija IVKOV-DŽIGURSKI (*University of Novi Sad, SERBIA*)



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SECTION 2

Reconstructing the agricultural areas

Room 13

Moderators

Researcher Valentin Mihai **BOHATEREȚ**, PhD
Professor Valery **RUDENKO**, PhD

08:00 – 08:15

“Cultivating Meadows”. An Alternative to the Utilization of Uncultivated Agricultural Land

Valentin Mihai **BOHATEREȚ** (*Romanian Academy, Iași Branch, “Gh. Zane” Institute for Economic and Social Studies, ROMANIA*)

08:15 – 08:30

Ukrainian Natural Regions: Geographical Problems of Nature Resource Potential Cost Re-Estimation

Valery P. **RUDENKO**, S. V. **RUDENKO** (*Chernovtsy Yuriy Fedkovich National University, UKRAINE*)

08:30 – 08:45

The Evaluation of the Sustainability of Agricultural Holdings in Bistrița-Năsăud County Using the IDEA Method

Camelia **TOMA**, Camelia **GAVRILESCU**, Crina **TURTOI** (*Institute of Agricultural Economics Bucharest, ROMANIA*)

08:45 – 09:00

The Agriculture of the Mountain Areas in Bulgaria - Problems, Challenges, Decisions

Plamen **PATARCHANOV** (*“St. Kliment Ohridski” University, Sofia, BULGARIA*)

09:00 – 09:15

Importance of Soil Quality in the Planning and Management of Land Use in the Western Part of Transylvanian Plain

Horea **CACOVEAN**¹, Teodor **RUSU**² (¹*Oficiul pentru Studii Pedologice si Agrochimice Cluj, Cluj-Napoca*, ²*University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

09:15 – 09:30

Agricultural Land Fragmentation – A Risk Factor for Sustainable Economic Development of the Romanian Rural Space. Case Study: Movileni and Izvoarele Communes (Boianu Plain)

Iuliana **VIJULIE** (*University of Bucharest, ROMANIA*)

09:30 – 09:45

Increasing Farm Concentration in Hungary

Alajos **FEHÉR**¹, Róbert **CZIMBALMOS**², Györgyi **KOVÁCS**², Edit **SZEPESY**¹

(¹*Regiocon Commercial and Consulting Co. Ltd., Kompolt*, ²*University of Debrecen, Centre for Agricultural and Applied Economic Sciences, Karcag Research Institute of the Research Institutes and Educational Farm*, ¹*Regiocon Commercial and Consulting Co. Ltd., Kompolt*)

09:45 – 10:00

The Rural Landscapes and Small-Scale Agricultural Practices in the Transylvanian Plain

Nicolae **BACIU**¹, Mircea **MUREȘIANU**², Eduard **SCHUSTER**², András István **BARTA**², Octavian-Liviu **MUNTEAN**¹, Carmen **STĂNESCU**³, Radu **MIHĂIESCU**¹, Cristian **MALOȘ**¹, Geo **ROȘIAN**¹
(¹*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca*, ²*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Bistrița Division*, ³*“Iuliu Hațieganu” School, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)



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10:00 – 10:15

Management of the Environmental Risk in the Agrarian Economic Sector in the Republic of Moldova. The Insurance Policy

Irina **RABOȘAPCĂ** (*Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, Chișinău, REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA*)

10:15 – 10:30

Limiting Factors of Agricultural Production in Potlogi Village (Dâmbovița County)

Liliana **STANCIU** (*Potlogi School, Dâmbovița, ROMANIA*)

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 11:15

The Organisation of the Agricultural Area in Tarna Mare Village

Horațiu **POPA-BOTA** (*“George Barițiu” National College, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

11:15 – 11:30

Agricultural Inputs in the Romanian Agriculture – Evolutions and Potential for Development

Crina **TURTOI**, Camelia **TOMA**, Camelia **GAVRILESCU** (*Institute of Agricultural Economics Bucharest, ROMANIA*)

11:30 – 11:45

Animal Waste Management

Fatemeh **AKBARPOUR**, Mohammad **AKBARPOUR** (*University of Tehran, IRAN*)

11:45 – 12:00

Transformations of the Agricultural Land between 1989 and 2010. Case Study: Bilag Hill - Oiejdea-Sard Corridor

Veronica **CONSTANTIN**¹, Marian **MUNTEAN**² (¹“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ² „Horea, Cloșca și Crișan” National College, Alba Iulia, ROMANIA)



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SECTION 3

Rural infrastructure – sine non qua condition for rural development

Online Room

Moderators

Professor Dănuț PETREA, PhD
Professor Rahman NURKOVIĆ, PhD

15:00 – 15:15

The Impact of the Road Works at Transylvania Highway on the Proximity Rural Space

Dănuț PETREA, Ioan Aurel IRIMUȘ, Ioan RUS (*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

15:15 – 15:30

The Role of Road Transportation Infrastructure in the Regeneration of the Rural Space. Case Study: Iara – Hășdate Depression.

Ciprian MOLDOVAN, Vasile SURD (*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

15:30 – 15:45

The Role of Infrastructure in the Development of the Romanian Village. Comparative Case Study: Almașul Sec and Sântuhalm (Hunedoara County)

Gabriel DOBREI (*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

15:45 – 16:00

Localized Role of Infrastructure and Its Impact on Population and Rural Economy

Emilia PATARCHANOVA (*South-West University „Neofit Rilski”, ROMANIA*)

16:00 – 16:15

A Model for Calculating the Coefficient of Accessibility in Rural Areas from Transylvania

Marius - George OPREA (*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)



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SECTION 4
Reconstructing the rural habitat

Room 1
Moderators

Professor Ionel **HAIDU**, PhD
Lecturer Marinela **ISTRATE**, PhD

15:00 – 15:15

Regional Development Problems of the Rural Settlements in Bosnia And Herzegovina

Rahman **NURKOVIĆ** (*University of Sarajevo, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA*)

15:15 – 15:30

Aspects Regarding the Rural Development in the Villages of Craiova`s Metropolitan Area

Amalia **BĂDIȚĂ**, Cristiana **VÎLCEA** (*University of Craiova, ROMANIA*)

15:30 – 15:45

The Typology of Moldova`s Rural Area according to the Urban Influence

Marinela **ISTRATE** (*“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University, Iași, ROMANIA*)

15:45 – 16:00

Characteristic Features of the Habitat in Maramureș Mountains

Mihai **HOTEA**, Marin **ILIEȘ** (*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Sighetu Marmației Division, ROMANIA*)

16:00 – 16:15

GIS Algorithm for the Identification of Rural Settlements Vulnerable to Flash Floods in Apuseni Mountains

Ionel **HAIDU**, Matei **DOMNIȚĂ**, Augustin Ionuț **CRĂCIUN** (*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

16:15 – 16:30

Villages in the Apuseni Mountains

Helena Maria **SABO** (*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

16:30 – 16:45

The Evolution and Typology of Rural Settlements in Brăila

Steluța **DAN** (*“Gh. M. Murgoci” National College, Brăila, ROMANIA*)

16:45 – 17:00

Functions of the Rural Settlements

Bogdan-Nicolae **PĂCURAR** (*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

17:00 – 17:15

Iara - A Polarization Model in Local Development

Laura **GIURGIU** (*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

17:15 – 17:30

Demographic, Physiognomic and Functional Changes of the Rural Settlements in the Outskirts of Suceava Municipality

Maria Magdalena **LUPCHIAN** (*“Șefan cel Mare” University, Suceava, ROMANIA*)

17:30 – 17:45

The Impact of Implanting Holiday Houses in Rural Areas. Case Study: Rânca Mountain Resort

Antoaneta-Carina **POPESCU** (*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)



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SECTION 5
Alternative economic activities and sustainable development

Room 2

Moderators

Professor Ion **IONESCU**, PhD
Professor Mircea **PETRINA**, PhD

15:00 – 15:15

A Diagnosis of Competitiveness in Territorial Rural Communities

Ion **IONESCU** (*“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University, Iași, ROMANIA*)

15:15 – 15:30

Complementary Economic Activities. Case Study: Training Center, Jucu Commune, Cluj County

Mircea **PETRINA**, Rareș V. **DRĂGAN** (*Technical University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

15:30 – 15:45

The Barcău Basin. The Natural Resources between Exploitation and Exhaustion. Part 1: Socio – Economic Effects and Perspectives of Territorial Conversion

Ribana **LINC**¹, Luminița **FILIMON**¹, Claudiu **FILIMON**¹, Aurelia **DUMITER**² (¹*University of Oradea, Centre for Territorial Studies and Analyses (CSAT)*, ²*Bihor County Council, Oradea ROMANIA*)

15:45 – 16:00

The Economic Geography of the Rural Regions in Bulgaria

Kosyo **STOYCHEV** (*“St. Kliment Ohridski” University, Sofia, BULGARIA*)

16:00 – 16:15

Wine Tourism in Rural Areas - Polish Conditions after the Transformation

Magdalena **KUBAL**, Bartosz **PIZIAK**

(*Institute of Geography and Spatial Management, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, POLAND*)

16:15 – 16:30

Patrimony, Archaeology, Tourism. Patterns for Rural Sustainable Tourism

Florin **FODOREAN**, Cristina **PĂTRAȘCU**, Ioan **FODOREAN** (*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

16:30 – 16:45

Evaluation of the Agro-Tourism Sustainable Development Potential of the Bran-Rucăr Valley (Transilvania, Romania)

Gerald **BILLARD**¹, Daniela **DUMITRESCU**², Adrian **BALTĂLUNGĂ**², Guillaume **BAILLY**¹
(¹*Université de Rouen, FRANCE*, ²*Valahia University, Târgoviște, ROMANIA*)

16:45 – 17:00

The Importance of Non-Agricultural Activities in the Multifunctionality of Romanian Agricultural Farms

Mariana Daniela **MARICA**¹, Alina Maria **POPĂRLAN**¹, Sia **SĂRARU**¹, Mihaela **KRUZSLICIKA**², Viorica **GAVRILĂ**² (¹*Bioterra University, Bucharest*, ²*The Romanian Academy, Institute for Agricultural Economics, Bucharest, ROMANIA*)

17:00 – 17:15

Izvoru Crișului – A Touristic Handicraft Based Village

Ioana-Raluca **CORPĂDEAN** (*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)



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17:15 – 17:30

The Alternative Tourism and Development of the Regions for Purposeful Support in Bulgaria - Impact of Financial Crisis

Milen **PENERLIEV** (*Shumen University “Ep. K. Preslavski”, Sofia, BULGARIA*)

17:30 – 17:45

The Rural Tourism and the Rural Development

Mirela **MAZILU** (*University of Craiova, ROMANIA*)

17:45 – 18:00

Re-Conceptualising Rural Resources as Countryside Capital: the Case of Multi-Stakeholder Co-Operation in the Development of Eco-Rural Tourism in Bezdan (in the West Backa Distict of Vojvodina)

Miroslav **VUJIČIĆ**, Igor **STAMENKOVIĆ**, Saša **KICOŠEV**, Ivana **BLEŠIĆ**,
(*University of Novi Sad, SERBIA*)

18:00 – 18:15

Developing Cultural Tourism and Events in Kovilj Village (Local Community Has the Last Word and Is the Leader and Stakeholder in the Process of Event Organisation on the Pan-European Corridors 10 and 7)

Igor **STAMENKOVIĆ**, Saša **KICOŠEV**, Miroslav **VUJIČIĆ**, Ivana **BLEŠIĆ** (*University of Novi Sad, SERBIA*)

18:15 – 18:30

Rural Tourism and Sustainable Development

S. M. **NORBAKHSH**¹, M. Akbarpour **SARASKANROUD**², S. F. **NORBAKHSH**² (¹*University of Alborz Qazvin*

²*University of Tehran, IRAN*)



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SECTION 6

Territorial, socio-economic association and cohesion patterns

Online Room

Moderators

Professor Dănuț **PETREA, PhD**
Professor Rahman **NURKOVIĆ, PhD**

16:15 – 16:30

Knowledge-Based Networks. Territorial Cohesion Factors in Rural Development

Krisztina Melinda **DOBAY** (*Romanian Academy, Iași Branch, “Gheorghe Zane” Economic and Social Research Institute, ROMANIA*)



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SECTION 7
Aquis communautaire. Rural development policies

Room 10

Moderators

Professor Simion **CERTAN**, PhD

Professor Alexandru **ILIEȘ**, PhD

08:00 – 08:15

Rural Areas in the Republic of Moldova. Achievements and Desiderata

Simion **CERTAN** (*Moldova State University, Chișinău, REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA*)

08:15 – 08:30

Identifying Regional Disparities in Romania in the European Context of Increasing Regional Cohesion

Cristian **TALANGĂ**, Radu-Daniel **PINTILII**, Alina **PEPTENATU**, Andrei **SCHVAB** (*University of Bucharest, CICADIT, ROMANIA*)

08:30 – 08:45

Reevaluation, Promotion and Re-Branding in Romanian Rural Space

Dorina **ILIEȘ**, Alexandru **ILIEȘ**, Ioana **JOSAN**, Grigore **HERMAN**, Vasile **GRAMA**, Ștefan **BAIAȘ**, Maria **GOZNER** (*University of Oradea, ROMANIA*)

08:45 – 09:00

European and National Dimensions in Rural Tourism Epistemology

Călin Cornel **POP** (*"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

09:00 – 09:15

The Detailed Urban Plan of the Țișterai Neighbourhood. SWOT Analysis

Ioana **SCRIDON** (*"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

09:15 – 09:30

Mitigating Regional Disparities through the Polycentric Development Strategy. Case Study: South-West Development Region

Cristian **BRAGHINĂ**, Daniel **PEPTENATU**, Cristian **DRĂGHICI**, Daniela **STOIAN** (*University of Bucharest, CICADIT, ROMANIA*)

09:30 – 09:45

Actual Problems of Bulgarian Rural Regions

Veselin **BOYADZHIEV** (*"St.Kliment Ohridski" University, Sofia, BULGARIA*)

09:45 – 10:00

The Administrative-Political Reorganization in Romania during the Transition Period as a Strategic Alternative to Mitigate the Economic-Geographical Disparities. Case Study – Some of the Newest Administrative Units in the North-West Development Region

Rozalia **BENEDEK**¹, Ana-Maria **CORPADE**² (¹*"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Zalău Divison*, ²*"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

10:00 – 10:15

Tendencies in the Evolution of the Rural-Urban Fringes. Case Study – Constanța Metropolitan Area

Liliana **GURAN-NICA**¹, Narcizia **TODICĂ-ȘTEFAN**² (¹*"Spiru Haret" University, Bucharest*, ²*University of Bucharest, ROMANIA*)



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10:15 – 10:30

The Neighbourhood Programme Romania-Ukraine 2004-2006 and Its Importance

Nicolae **BOAR**, Sorin **KOSINSZKI** (*"Babeş-Bolyai" University, Sighetu Marmătiei Division, ROMANIA*)

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 11:15

Tourism sustainable development strategy of Bistrița Bârgăului commune

Viorel **PUIU**¹, Mihaela **VRABETE**², Silviu **FONOGEA**¹ (¹*"Babeş-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca*, ² *Halcrow Romania, Development Planning & Design, Bucharest, ROMANIA*)

11:15 – 11:30

SWOT Analysis Model of the Romanian Countryside

Cristian Ovidiu **SIMION**, Radu **COȚIANU**, Mariana **SIMION**, Liana Angela **NECULAIE**, Mihaela **PÂRVULESCU** (*Bioterra University, Bucharest, ROMANIA*)

11:30 – 11:45

Implementing Community Acquis. SAPARD Funds Dynamics in the North-West Development Region

Ioana **SUCIU**, Teodora **CAPOTĂ** (*"Babeş-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

11:45 – 12:00

The Reflection of the Economic – Social Situation in the Local Budget Balance in the Rural Communities in Reghin Micro-Region

Andreea **POP** (*Gurghiu Forestry College, Mureş, ROMANIA*)

12:00 – 12:15

Financial Input for the Development of Rural Areas in the Republic of Moldova

Ion **CERTAN** (*Moldova State University, Chişinău, REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA*)

12:15 – 12:30

Anthropogenic and Habitational Resources in the South-Eastern Part of Trascău Mountains

Gabriela Adina **LĂZĂR** (*"Babeş-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

12:30 – 12:45

Management of Investment Projects of Romanian Rural Environment

Cristian Ovidiu **SIMION**, Răzvan **COȚIANU**, Alina Maria **POPÂRLAN**, Mariana **SIMION**, Radu **COȚIANU** (*Bioterra University, Bucharest, ROMANIA*)

12:45 – 13:00

Strategic Plan of Physical Development in Iranian Rural Areas

Seyed Ali **BADRI** (*University of Tehran, IRAN*)

13:00 – 13:15

Rural Area Settlers' Tendency toward Agricultural Tourism Development (Rural Areas of Central Sectors of Tonekabon County)

Mehdi Ramezanzadeh **LASBOYEE** (*University of Tehran, IRAN*)

13:15 – 13:30

Success and Failure of Rural Development Programmes at Spatial Level in India

Ali **MOHAMMAD** (*Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, INDIA*)

13:30 – 13:45

Evaluation Function and Bottlenecks in Rural Tourism Development in Kurdistan

Rahmat **BAHRAMI** (*Payam e nor University, IRAN*)



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13:45 – 14:00

Urban – Rural Disparities in the North-West Development Region. Indicators for Sustainable Development – Public Health

G. RĂDUCANU, Anamaria BOGDAN, Anamaria NISTOR-PUIU, Claudia POPESCU (*“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

14:00 – 14:15

Giving Regions a New Identity: a Contribution to Rural Development?

Walter ZSILINCSAR (*University of Graz AUSTRIA*)



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SECTION 8

Alternative energy technologies and their impact on local communities

Online Room

Moderators

Professor Dănuț **PETREA, PhD**
Professor Rahman **NURKOVIĆ, PhD**

16:30 – 16:45

Establishment of an Agricultural /Biofuel Feedstock Research Field Station in Rural South-Carolina
Florence **ANORUO**, Mihail-Radu **KANTOR** (*Claflin University, South-Carolina, USA*)



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SECTION 9
Reconstructing and preserving the environment

Room 2

Moderators

Professor Virgil SURDEANU, PhD

Professor Ioan Aurel IRIMUȘ, PhD

08:00 – 08:15

"Regional" Conflicts Around the Forest in South India

Koichi KIMOTO, (*Hiroshima Jogakuin University, JAPAN*)

08:15 – 08:30

The Risk of Convective Rainfall Occurrence. Spatio-Temporal Estimations

Ionel HAIDU, Augustin Ionuț CRĂCIUN, Traian TUDOSE (*"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

08:30 – 09:00

Bio-Waste Composting in Rural Conditions

Bohdan STEJSKAL, Miloslava NÁPLAVOVÁ, Kristýna NOVOTNÁ, Tereza KNIEZKOVÁ (*Mendel University in Brno, CZECH REPUBLIC*)

09:00 – 09:15

Biodiversity and Biogeography in Judea Lowland

Haim MOYAL¹, Vasile SURD² (¹*University of Tel Aviv, ISRAEL*, ²*"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

09:15 – 09:30

Risk Assessment in the Periurban of Bistrița

Ioan Aurel IRIMUȘ, Iuliu VESCAN, Bianca TOMA (*"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

09:30 – 09:45

Ecologic Education through Nautical Entertainment

Virgil GANEA (*"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

09:45 – 10:00

The System of Settlements of Siret River Basin, Romania

Ioana CIOBAN (*"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

10:00 – 10:15

The Influence of Natural Parks in the Regeneration of Romanian Rural Space. Comparative Study: Apuseni Natural Park. Arieșeni Village, Alba County and Mărgău Village, Cluj County

Maria-Cristina ONET (*"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

10:15 – 10:30

Simulation, by Using GIS, for Intervention Time of Fire Crews in Case of Disaster Caused by Forest Fires

George COSTEA, Ionel HAIDU, Augustin Ionuț CRĂCIUN, Matei DOMNIȚA (*"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 11:15

The Influence of the Anthropogenic Factor on the Rural Landscapes in the Târgoviște Plain

Mihaela SENCOVICI (*Valahia University, Târgoviște, ROMANIA*)



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11:15 – 11:30

The Impact of Extractive Activities on the Relief in Barcău River Basin

Ribana **LINC**, Stelian **NISTOR**, Liviu **BUCUR** (*University of Oradea, ROMANIA*)

11:30 – 11:45

Respiratory Health Effects Caused By the Proximity to an Industrially Polluted Area of the Arieş River Basin, Transylvania, Romania

Camelia-Maria **KANTOR** (*“Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA, Claflin University, Orangeburg, South Carolina, USA*)

11:45 – 12:00

Rural Landscape and Its Deterioration in the Someşului Mare Hills

András István **BARTA**¹, Nicolae **BACIU**², Ioan **BÂCA**¹, Eduard **SCHUSTER**¹, Lia **CIOANĂ**¹ (*“Babeş-Bolyai” University, Bistriţa Division, “Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

12:00 – 12:15

Rural Space and Local Development in Relation to Exposure to Fluvial Geomorphologic Risks in the Last 100 Years. Application to Out-Carpathian Alluvial Plain of the Moldova River

Francisca **CHIRILOAEI**¹, Maria **RĂDOANE**² (*¹“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University, Iaşi, ²“Şefan cel Mare” University, ROMANIA*)

12:15 – 12:30

“Glimee” Deep-Seated Landslides from Transylvania - Support for the Development of the Rural Space

Monica **MOLDOVAN**, Virgil **SURDEANU**, Iulia **PANDIA**, Ioana **SIMEA**, Alina **SIMION** (*“Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

12:30 – 12:45

Considerations on the Land Degradation Management of the Communes Situated Along Dâmboviţa Valley in the Subcarpathian Sector

Rădiţa **ALEXE**¹, Iuliana **IONIŢĂ**², Nora **RĂDULESCU**³, (*¹Valahia University, Târgovişte, ²Vladimir Streinu College, Găeşti, Dâmboviţa, ³Măneşti School, Dâmboviţa, ROMANIA*)

12:45 – 13:00

The Influence of Minor and Major Riverbed of Mureş River on the Development of the Bogata Locality (Mureş County)

Iulia **PANDIA**¹, Virgil **SURDEANU**², Monica **MOLDOVAN**³, Georgiana **PANDIA**⁴, Sanda **ROŞCA**⁵, Ioana **SIMEA**⁶, Alina **SIMION**⁷ (*^{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7} “Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ⁴Primary School, Alunu, Vâlcea, ROMANIA*)

13:00 – 13:15

Reconstructing Policies for Environmental Sustainability in Africa

Kumar **SURESH**, (*University of Delhi, INDIA*)

13:15 – 13:30

The Analysis of the Ecological Consequences of Recreational House Development in Jannatroudbar Section of Ramsar, Iran

Fateme **SHARIFNIA** (*University of Tehran, IRAN*)

13:30 – 13:45

“Rural Ecosystem Approach” - A Promising Leap towards Sustainable Rural Development. A Study of Jorhat District of Assam, India.

Saikia Borkakoty **JONALI** (*N.N.S College, INDIA*)



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SECTION 10
Traditional versus modern rural

Room 1

Moderators

Senior lecturer Dorina **ILIEȘ**, PhD

Lecturer Sorin **FILIP**, PhD

08:00 – 08:15

Țara Lăpușului – From Traditional To Modern Traditional or From Traditional To Cosmopolitanism?

Ana Maria **MARIN**¹, Marian **MARIN**², Adrian **TISCOVSCHI**² (¹“Jean Monet” High School, ²University of Bucharest, ROMANIA)

08:15 – 08:30

Traditional Versus Modern in Romanian Rural Space. Crișana-Maramureș Case

Alexandru **ILIEȘ**, Dorina **ILIEȘ**, Ioana **JOSAN**, Grigore **HERMAN**, Vasile **GRAMA**, Ștefan **BAIAȘ** (University of Oradea, ROMANIA)

08:30 – 08:45

Modern Dualities of Traditional Architecture in Rural Areas. Vernacular Architecture in Trascău Depression, Alba County

Ana-Maria **POP**¹, Viorel **PUIU**² (¹Centre for Regional Geography, “Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ²“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA)

08:45 – 09:00

Traditions and Modernity in the Șieu River Basin

Claudia Loredana **CLIVEȚ** (căs. **CRISTEA**), Ioan Aurel **IRIMUȘ** (“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA)

09:00 – 09:15

Tradition and Modernity in the Occupational Structure of the Population From Gurghiu Morphohydrographic Basin

Maria Luminița **NEAGU** (“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA)

09:15 – 09:30

Post-Modern Values and Rural Peripheries

Eva G. **FEKETE**, Katalin **LIPTAK** (University of Miskolc, HUNGARY)

09:30 – 09:45

Tradition and Modernity in Muscel Countryside. Case Study: Villages of Valea Mare Pravăț, Lerești and Mioarele

Gabriela **MANEA**, Elena **MATEI**, Marian **MARIN**, Adrian **TISCOVSCHI** (University of Bucharest, ROMANIA)

09:45 – 10:00

An Ethnographic Coordinated of Brăila Plain: Fishing

Brîndușa **ILIE** (Brăila Museum, ROMANIA)

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break



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SECTION 11

Legislation, urbanism and territorial planning in developing rural areas

Room 1

Moderators

Senior lecturer Dorina **ILIEȘ**, PhD

Lecturer Sorin **FILIP**, PhD

11:00 – 11:15

Rural-Urban Spatial Relations in the Hârtibaciu River Valley. Strategic Approach.

Sorin **FILIP** ("Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA)

11:15 – 11:30

Good Practices in Rural Territorial Planning in Romania. Case Study: Mihai Viteazu Commune

Corina **POPȘE**¹, Vasile **ZOTIC**², Călin **POP**¹, Viorel **PUIU**²

(¹S.C. Experiment Proiect, Cluj-Napoca, ²"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA)

11:30 – 11:45

Optimization of the Mechanism for Administrative Sanction for Infringements of Environmental Legislation in the Rural Space

Petru **BACAL** (Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, Chișinău, REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA)

11:45 – 12:00

Baia Mare Centre of Attraction of the Rural and the Structure of Its Functional System

Iosif **COVACI** (North University, Baia Mare, ROMANIA)

12:00 – 12:15

The Romanian Legislative Framework of Rural Tourism

Simona Nicoleta **STAN**¹, Vergina **CHIRÎTESCU**², Mariana Daniela **MARICA**¹, Răzvan **COȚIANU**¹, Septimiu Mihai **MARICA**¹ (¹Bioterra University, Bucharest, ²Romanian Academy, Institute for Agricultural Economics, Bucharest, ROMANIA)

12:15 – 12:30

The Centrality and the Influence Zones of Vișeu De Sus Town

Ioana **SCRIDON** ("Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA)

12:30 – 12:45

Colibița Climatic Resort (Bistrița-Năsăud County) Between Project and Purpose

Ioan **BÂCA**, Mircea **MUREȘIANU**, András István **BARTA**, Eduard **SCHUSTER** ("Babeș-Bolyai" University, Bistrița Division, ROMANIA)

12:45 – 13:00

The Rank-Size Relationship within the Urban Settlements Network in the Turda-Alba-Iulia Corridor

Cristina **DOHOTAR**¹, Vasile **DOHOTAR**² (¹Lucian Blaga Theoretical High school, Cluj-Napoca, ²"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA)

13:00 – 13:15

The Utopia of Tourism Planning in Vama Veche

Bogdan **IBĂNESCU**, Alina **MUNTEANU** ("Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University, Iași, ROMANIA)

13:15 – 13:30

The Importance of Urban Plans in Rural Land Planning

Ion **DANCI** ("Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA)



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13:30 – 13:45

Rural Guide Plan and Regeneration of Rural Space in Iran

Mohammad Reza **REZVANI** (*University of Tehran, IRAN*)



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SECTION 12

Tourism in rural areas – expectations and reality

Aula Room

Professor Nicolae CIANGĂ, PhD
Senior Lecturer Virgil GANEA, PhD

08:00 – 08:15

Tourist Management of the Rural Space in the North-West Development Region: Tourism Development Index
Nicolae CIANGĂ (*“Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

08:15 – 08:30

Tourism in Rural Areas in Serbia
Marina TODOROVIĆ¹, Snežana ŠTETIĆ² (¹*University of Belgrade*, ²*University of Novi Sad*, SERBIA)

08:30 – 08:45

The Development of Leisure and Tourism on Arieş Valley by Constructing a Cycling Route on the Abandoned Railway Track
Virgil GANEA (*“Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

08:45 – 09:00

Current Trends in Unlocking the Tourist Potential of Romania’s Rural Areas. Case Study: Snagov Area
Florentina ION, Laurențiu DINU, Petronela NOVĂCESCU (*University of Bucharest, ROMANIA*)

09:00 – 09:15

Tourist Organization of the Rural Space. Case Study. Săpânța Village, Maramureş County
Gheorghe Mihai BÂRLEA¹, Ion IUGA² (¹*North University, Baia Mare*, ²*George Coşbuc School, Sighetu Marmației, ROMANIA*)

09:15 – 09:30

Incentive Components of the Tourist Offer Regarding Hârtibaciu Valley (Sibiu County) Development Micro-Region Major Guidelines of the Tourist Development Strategy for Its Integration and Promotion on the Tourism Market
Ștefan DEZSI (*“Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

09:30 – 09:45

Rural Tourism in Mureş County
Voicu DUMITRU (*“Transylvania” Economic High School, Târgu-Mureş, ROMANIA*)

09:45 – 10:00

Rural Tourism in Bistrița-Năsăud County between Desiderata and Reality
Mircea MUREȘIANU (*“Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

10:00 – 10:15

Tourism and Archaeology: Back to Origins
Cristina PĂTRAȘCU, Florin FODOREAN, Ioan FODOREAN (*“Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA*)

10:15 – 10:30

The Traditional Village – the Sociological Perspective Involved in the Sense Making and Supposed By the Labelling and the Touristic Exploitation of the Concept
Simona MĂLĂESCU¹, Gabriela ILIEȘ² (¹*“Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca*, ²*“Babeş-Bolyai” University, Sighetu Marmației Division, ROMANIA*)

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break



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11:00 – 11:15

An Analysis and a Diagnosis of the Tourism in the Subcarpathians between Ialomița and Prahova Rivers

Mariana **MIHĂESCU** (*University of Bucharest, ROMANIA*)

11:15 – 11:30

The Generation Poles of the Rural Tourism in Maramureș

Alina **SIMION**¹, Monica **MOLDOVAN**², Iulia **PANDIA**² (¹"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Sighetu Marmăției Division, ²"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA)

11:30 – 11:45

Conditions and Prospects of the Tourism Development in Montenegro

Mekic **NUSRET** (*University of Sarajevo, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA*)

11:45 – 12:00

The Public Relations in Romanian Hostels and Guesthouses

Mihaela **KRUZSLIČKA**¹, Liana Angela **NECULAIE**², Septimiu Mihai **MARICA**², Simona Nicoleta **STAN**², Gabriela **CORFU**² (¹The Romanian Academy, Institute for Agricultural Economics, Bucharest, ²Bioterra University of Bucharest, ROMANIA)

12:00 – 12:15

Using Maps Evaluation of the Agro-Tourism Sustainable Development Potential of the Bran-Rucăr Valley (Transilvania, Romania)

Guillaume **BAILLY** (*Université de Rouen, FRANCE*)

12:15 – 12:30

Evolution of Tourism and Agrotourism Infrastructure in Romanian Rural Areas during 2000 – 2010

Vergina **CHIRIȚESCU**¹, Mihai **CHIRIȚESCU**², Sia **SĂRARU**², Camelia **GAVRILESCU**¹, Camelia **TOMA**¹ (¹The Romanian Academy, Institute for Agricultural Economics, Bucharest, ²Bioterra University of Bucharest, ROMANIA)

12:30 – 12:45

The Villages from around the Sub-Carpathians of Vrancea. Resource for the Development of Rural Tourism

Laurențiu **DINU**, Cătălina **CÂRSTEA** (*University of Bucharest, ROMANIA*)

12:45 – 13:00

Representations de L'espace Rural dans les Guides de Voyage sur la Roumanie

Gabriela **ROTAR** ("Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA)

13:00 – 13:15

The Tourism Potential of Târgu Lăpuș Microregion

Amalia Izabela **MIHALCA** ("Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA)

13:15 – 13:30

Tourism Development along Drăganului Valley

Helena Maria **SABO** ("Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA)

13:30 – 15:00 Lunch (Restaurant – Cafeteria – University centre) or elsewhere

15:00 – 15:15

The Tourist Organization of a Monastery - The Monastery of Bărsana

Gheorghe Mihai **BÂRLEA**¹, Ion **IUGA**² (¹North University, Baia Mare, ²George Coșbuc School, Sighetu Marmăției, ROMANIA)

15:15 – 15:30

The Capitalization of the Tourist Potential in Tulnici, Vrancea

Alexandru **MUREȘAN** ("Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA)



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15:30 – 15:45

The Town of Cavnic – Tourist Organization Model

Ion IUGA¹, Horațiu POPA BOTA² (¹George Coșbuc School, Sighetu Marmației, ²“George Barițiu” National College, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA)

15:45 – 16:00

Geotourism – A Perspective of Sustainable Development of Rural Space in Măcin Mountains

Ionela Georgiana GAVRILĂ, Virgil SURDEANU (“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA)

16:00 – 16:15

Present and Future of Rural Tourism in Tarcău Basin. A Branch to Be Developed

Ioana VIERU (“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA)

16:15 – 16:30

Natural Tourist Potential in Bilbor Depression

George-Bogdan TOFAN (“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA)

16:30 – 16:45

“Greenways” Tourist Organization – The Maramureș Heritage Road.

Ion IUGA¹, Vasile ROMAN² (¹George Coșbuc School, Sighetu Marmației, ²“Ioan Mihaly de Apșa” School, Sighetu Marmației, ROMANIA)

16:45 – 17:00

The Relationship between English Language Teaching and International Tourism Development in Rural Areas of Iran

Mehdi SARKHOSH (University of Tehran, IRAN)

17:00 – 17:15

Reserved Title

Alina IONIȚĂ (“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University, Iași, ROMANIA)

17:15 – 17:30

Study the Role of Tourism on the Development of Kashan City

H. LOTFI¹, M. MIRZAEI², Sh. VAZIRPOUR², F. EDALATKHAH² (¹ Islamic Azad University, Garmsar Branch, IRAN, ² Islamic Azad University, Tehran Science & Research Branch, IRAN)



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FIELD TRIP DETAILED ITINERARY

Bistrița Municipality. Situated in the North-eastern part of the Transylvania Depression, in a geographic area dominated by the contact between the Bistrița Hills and Bârgaului Mountains, Bistrița River's erosive-cumulative depression hosts one of the oldest towns in Transylvania, as well as in Romania – Bistrița Municipality.

Firstly documented in 1241, this settlement received all rights of a town and became one of the seven fortresses of Transylvania (Siebenbürgen). Today, it represents the capital city of the Bistrița-Năsăud County (district), the historical heart of the city still preserving its rich medieval aroma. In the new part of the city - the neighbourhood known to locals as “Decebal” residential area - Bistrița University Division was founded in a modern building purchased by the Babeș-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca in 1998, nowadays providing several highly demanded majors (Geography of Tourism included). Bistrița city is one of those cities that you'll miss while still roaming, offering numerous and various opportunities to practice cultural and historical tourism (Bistrița-Năsăud County Museum Complex, the Șugălete Complex, Evangelical Church, the former minorette monastery, the Silversmith House, the House of John the Masonry, the Synagogue, the Coopers Tower, the fragments of the medieval fortress wall, the streets of Dorna, Liviu Rebreanu and Gheorghe Șincai (Teilor) in the old urban centre, where you can find buildings in a multitude of architectural styles, the old city gateways, and others.

Nevertheless, knowing how much geographers enjoy exploring, let's pay a visit to the Năsăud county, beyond Dealul Târgului (the Fair Hill), along the morpho-hydrographic and inhabited axis of the Someșul Mare River, in the land of George Coșbuc and Liviu Rebreanu.

Our first stop, as long as it is in our way, must be in Prislop, the village hosting “**Liviu Rebreanu**” **Memorial Museum** (today, Liviu Rebreanu residential area, named after the famous writer). It was opened on May 27, 1969, in the house that Liviu Rebreanu bought in 1930 and had owned until September the 1st, 1944, when he died at only 59 years old; in 1957, after a period of serious degradation, it was rebuilt by the efforts of the local community, on the same spot (his father's house) where the author conceived his masterpiece, the novel “Ion”, thus providing the foundation of the modern Romanian novel.

Among the objects exposed in the house, one might admire some of the writer's personal belongings: family photographs, various editions of his work published in Romania and abroad, each and every object evoking the writer's strong personality.

Taking as its starting point the initiative and personal collections of several famous and influential people from Năsăud town, such as Iuliu Moisil, Iulian Marțian and Virgil Șotropa, **the Frontier Guard Museum** was founded in 1946 in the „Șvarda” building (18th century), where the former barracks of the Romanian Border Regiment II used to be settled. The Museum heritage consists of folk art collections representative of the upper Someșu Mare River Valley, namely: traditional clothing, house textiles, glass religious representations, ceramics, agricultural and sheepfold tools, folklore technical facilities, etc. The museum collection also includes numismatic coins and banknotes values donated by Iuliu Moisil, as well as herb collections of Florian Porcius and A. P. Alexi.

After a nearly 40 km journey through the beautiful Romanian villages strung as a bead along the Someș Valley, we will find ourselves in one of the largest and finest village of the Năsăud County - **Maieru Village** (of over 7,600 inhabitants). Maieru is another very old settlement situated on the upper valley of Someșu Mare River, firstly registered in 1440, even if the geographic area was also mentioned in 1245 as a grazing of the locals (“the rodneni”).

The well known novelist, Liviu Rebreanu (1885 - 1944), born in Târlișua, Bistrița-Năsăud, spent his childhood in Maieru, where his family moved in 1889. Remaining permanently linked to his childhood places, he named the area of Maieru the “*nest of dreams*”.



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Therefore, a museum, suggestively named „**Cuibul Visurilor**” (“**Nest of Dreams**”), was founded in 1957 by Professor Sever Ursa, who showed a remarkable effort directed toward the recovery and capitalization of objects that belonged to Liviu Rebreanu (furniture, first editions, and letters). During time, this Collection will be continually enriched through acts of donation. More specifically, the ethnographic collection includes old and very valuable pieces, formerly owned by the inhabitants along the valley of Someșu Mare River (icons, chests, clothes), while the history collection exhibits pieces dating from antiquity to the contemporary period.

Any visitor who needs to have a rest in **Sângeorz-Băi town-resort** (10,000 inhabitants), it would be charmed of its old flavour. It was firstly acknowledged in 1245. In addition to the generous geomorphologic site which hosts a wide built area both along the Someș River, in areas of plains and terraces, as well as on the Borcutului Valley, this settlement is well-known in the country and abroad for its hydro-mineral heritage (about 10 mineral springs used for spa internal cures), for its opportunities to practice balneotherapy, for the hospitality of the locals, as well as for its traditional costumes and ethno-folkloric customs of an irresistible charm. Furthermore, a Museum of Comparative Art has been opened here, and, at about 200 meters downstream, there is a valuable high school.

Valea Vinului (the Wine Valley) is a village of the Rodna “commune” (village) located at the foot of the Ineu Mountain, at an average altitude of 715 m and firstly officially recognized in 1909, even if the small mining town proved to be much older (on a wall in the “*Schneider's Bathroom*” Cave there is an inscription dating from the 18th century). Once the mining activities died out in 1996, although having a two million years tradition in Rodna area, the village becomes part of a private remodelling plan of the village built area, today being about to become a true holiday village. The Wine Valley is also the only permanent settlement in the area entirely located within the borders of the **Rodna Mountains National Park**.

Rodna is the oldest border rural town in Năsăud Land, firstly attested in 1235. The presence of the gold and silver nests (deposits), the mining and the transit over mountains helped at the genesis of this settlement. During the 12th century, the Hungarian kings colonized Saxon groups and Benedictine monks in Rodna in order to revitalize the mining activities and guard the Rotunda Mountain Pass (Rodna Pass).

Proving a continuous development, based on constructions, especially after the only **Benedictine Monastery** of the Someșu Mare River Valley was built in its Centrum in the last two decades of the 12th century, Rodna became an urban settlement (oppidum) at the beginning of the 13th century. At the beginning, this was only a stone church, surrounded by the annexes needed for housing the local clerical staff, missionaries and monks of the Crusades. The church was an imposing building that looked like a true cathedral, composed of three main vessels or main compartments, between the altar and towers. The imposing basilica (monastery) was turned into ruins by the predatory hordes of Mongols and Tatars in 1241, being rebuilt in the next four decades (at a much greater size, as compared to the first) and demolished again in 1285, during the second great invasion of Mongols and Tatars. Designed and built in late Romanesque and early Gothic architectural styles, the monumental Cathedral has only a few remaining wall fragments defying the passing centuries.

In the end, an inspired ending formula of this journey leads us to the **Alpina Blazna Tourist Complex**, which was built a few years ago on the administrative territory of the Șanț “commune” (village), Bistrița-Năsăud County, at a 5 km distance from the village centre, in the Rodna Mountains, at an altitude of 1,100 m. The mountainous area, the fascinating landscapes, the ski slopes, the pool, the Dacic SPAs, the hospitality of hosts are all charming challenges for the mountain lovers.

Welcome to Năsăud Land, wonderful places with a sweet scent of paradise!



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II. ABSTRACTS



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PLENARY LECTURES

REGENERATION OF RURAL SPACE IN ROMANIA

Vasile SURD

“Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca
ROMANIA

Over the past 20 years, the Romanian village, along with the entire rural space has generally faced a rapid regression under all aspects (demographic, economic, social as well as ecological). Nationalized economic disintegration, which began in December 1989, has generated an insidious process of pulverisation/spreading of the agricultural land, the productive functional land structures (cooperative and nationalized) being virtually destroyed. The Law No.18/1991 stipulating the return of land to former landlords (compelled or not until today) has created and maintained a state of chaos and confusion in the rural areas, inadmissibly weakening the ability to work the land as a means of production. Most villages have returned to physical labour (human and animal) of the land and to extensive agricultural practice, mostly autarchic. The ‘90s generation who has been trying to separate the dynamic, currently aging rural economy, has also abandoned the breeding and the working of the land by choosing rural retirement instead. The irrigation systems covering about one third of the arable land built during the centralized economy with foreign loans, were soon abandoned and destroyed. Intensive orchards in suburban areas were cut, while fruitful vineyards were deserted.

The “immigrated” demographic segments, and those returning to their native places from the urban areas, were not capable of individual and collective efforts to support the rural economy. On this cleavage of systematic degradation of rural life, Romania, an essentially agricultural country is forced to import over 70% of its food needs with external loan money.

The Romanian village is in a deep crisis!

The regeneration of rural areas is a complex and difficult process involving political will, local participation as well as economic thinking. In our opinion this process must start from top to bottom by creating a rural space law mainly stipulating the building of new farms, process differentiated by categories of natural units and led by agricultural specialists highly and effectively government supported in the early stage, without having denied the right to land ownership.

Otherwise, many villages might be removed from the individual and collective memory, probably disappearing as territorial units, with unparalleled economic, social and cultural losses.

SPATIAL PLANNING AND RURAL SPACE REGENERATION IN ROMANIA

Mihaela VRABETE

Halcrow Romania, Development Planning & Design, Bucharest
ROMANIA

The EU state members are eager to record, assess, plan and value the territorial capital, looking at the rural space as to a special territory to care of. Strategic documents and practical action plans, together with concrete financing programs are mobilized in support of regeneration of the rural space and related capital, as major values of the EU.

The Romania’s 89,9% rural space of its territory, is a core capital structuring the territorial quality, identity and efficiency, relying on interactive, synergic socio-cultural, environmental and economic systems. Based on this territorial capital, Romania is expected to have plans and instruments in order to regenerate the



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rural space, develop equity and wealth for local communities, produce economic efficiency and growth, generate ecological and esthetical balanced structures and environment. Romania is facing the process of becoming a part of the EU system and, more than other, is facing the economic and financial crisis. Within this context, the rural space capital is a major resource and potential of Romania.

The paper aims to display an overview of the Romanian institutional approach regarding the assessment, planning and management of the rural space capital regeneration and sustainable development.

**THE REGENERATION OF RURAL SPACE IN DIFFICULT BY FAMILY MULTIPLE
ACTIVITIES: THE CASE OF MEDITERRANEAN MOUNTAINOUS
TOUKABEUR, CHAOUACH AND HIDOUS (THE DOWN-VALLEY OF MEJERDA – TUNISIA)**

Hédi RIAHI
Manouba [University](#)
TUNISIE

The mountainous spaces in the Mediterranean zone constitute, ever since ancient times, very populated locales. Human pressure and surrounding natural constraints are the main cause of rupture of the fragile equilibrium of ecological systems and the movement of rural exodus towards the plains and local towns. The case of mountainous village in the down-valley of Mejerda in the north of Tunisia (Toukabeur, Chaouach and Hidous) offers a manifest example of the grave structural crisis which the Mediterranean mountains suffer at present. The disequilibrium of the relationship population-resources push the dwellers of the mountains to develop short and long term strategies of adaptation, carried out through a traditional management of the rural space. The poor out puts of the letter led to the emergence of a new tendency towards a rural recession and a restructuring of familial activities by giving a greater importance to pluriactivities and extra-agricultural employment. This new tendency lies behind the socio-professional and special redeployment of the mountainous population. The case study of this space leads us to raise queries as to future of the Mediterranean mountainous space, in the context of the state's disengagement as well as giving ampler chance to market mechanisms in the rural and local development. This it in incumbent upon the state to play a primordial role of reorganization of property structures as well as battling against erosion and orienting the systems of agricultural production and broadening the spatial framework of intervention. This will be achieved by means of diversifying activities and intensifying employment in the local towns.

**DIFFERENT PATTERNS IN AGRICULTURE IN A RURAL DUTCH-GERMAN BORDER
REGION AND ITS HISTORICAL RELATIONS**

Jan G. SMIT
University of Nijmegen
NETHERLANDS

Agricultural policy in the Netherlands and Germany are now part of the common agricultural policy of the EU. Till about 1965 different kind of agricultural policy had its effects on the place of agriculture in a global way in both countries, and in local societies. Agriculture in the Netherlands has been an element within a national economy based on trade; agriculture was in many parts of the country part of this trade oriented economy, especially in the north and the west. In Germany, agriculture has had another function within the national economy: it was a strategic part of the economy as food supplier for the own nation. The farmer was not an entrepreneur, but a strategic element within this nation. During the agricultural crisis and



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the industrial revolution at the end of the nineteenth century, agricultural policy in both countries took different patterns: in Germany agriculture was protected against imports, in the Netherlands had to modernize in order to survive. Not only the west and the north, but all the country became part of the trade oriented economy. Agriculture was not protected, but had to modernize in order to survive. Owing to these different policies agricultural and rural landscapes changed in a different way: in Germany the landscapes kept their old character, in the Netherlands the landscape changed a lot. Till the start of the common agricultural policy of the EU these different policies have made its traces, not only in the landscape, but also in the mentality of the farmers in both countries.

In the paper I will try to demonstrate the effects of the policies on regional and local level in a border region. In such regions the differences on regional and local level are still visible, especially in border regions with the same physical structure and settlement patterns. One of these border regions is the Rhine valley border region between the Dutch towns of Arnhem and Nijmegen and the German towns of Cleve and Emmerich. Not only the effects of the former agricultural policies is part of my lecture, I also will try to demonstrate the different ways of modernization of the rural landscapes in the border region: German farmers now try to modernize their farms by agricultural modernization, in the Netherlands their colleagues start with non agricultural activities on their farms.

As a result the rural problems now have many similarities, as there is the strong decrease of farms, most modernization tendencies and the losses of agricultural land for natural purposes. But in the way of farming is, although there are now many border crossing relations, still different as we see in the reactions of farmers, institutions and politicians on similar developments. The EU, especially the local Euregion Rhine-Waal did not change a lot in this situation.

**THE RUSTIC HOUSEHOLD.
RECOGNITION, MODERNITY AND EMPOWERMENT
IN THE PRESENT ROMANIAN VILLAGE**

Vintilă MIHĂILESCU

*National School of Political and Administrative Studies, Bucharest
ROMANIA*

Free market and migration have dramatically changed the Romanian rural space in the last ten years or so. The logic of these “proud houses” is very different both from the traditional household and the modern functional habitat. For most urban intellectuals they seem even irrational.

The present paper aims to take a further look in the aesthetics and social meaning of these recent rural settings. It starts with the “agonistic households”, huge houses of brick, metal and glass expressing a kind of revenge over the former modest “civilisation of wood”. Their reason is not functional but social, engaging their owners in a fierce competition for “social recognition” (Ricoeur, 2000). More recently, a new trend emerged that can be labelled “rustic”. Inspired by urban residences, Romanian and Western alike, by media and designers, these houses turn back to wood and peasant markers made out of wood. For urban people, this means mainly a return to nature: *wood is the only natural and healthy building material* – an expert was explaining to his clients. For the rural householders it means a shift from “big” to “nice”: *we want to make something nice here!* Its main logic is revisiting tradition in order to express a modern control over it: *Something modern, up to date and back to the old tradition too... Everything that used to be in the past we are copying now!* – one such householder explained to me.

In different ways, both trends, still coexisting, are seeking for “modernity” perceived as emancipation from a typical peasant state of backwardness. Being for the first time in history that (Romanian) peasants turn from objects of modernisation to its active subjects, the recent rural styles of houses are also a social means of self-empowerment.



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SECTION 1 RURAL POPULATION. STATUS, DYNAMICS, TENDENCIES

DEMOGRAPHIC EVOLUTION AND RURAL SPACE DEPOPULATION

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REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

The consequence of the extended economic transition is the economic and social decline, especially localised in the rural areas. For several decades, rural space induced a favourable demographic evolution not only in the rural areas, but also in the entire country. Due to the high values of birth rate, (over 30‰) the gender structure, which had been deteriorated after the Second World War, has been re-established. Rural population was a major factor in the compensation of the urban human resources and in the process of a balanced population age structure. From the demographic point of view the Republic of Moldova is characterised by young population.

The unsuccessful economic reforms have had a negative impact on both the economic development and the demographic evolution. The rural areas of the Republic of Moldova was characterised by a positive demographic balance sheet because of the high values of birth rate all along the post-war period and until the beginning of the 80's in the 20th century. The decrease of birth rate (to 20-21‰) and the amplification of the rural migration lead to a slow process of population decrease in the rural areas.

Beginning with the 90's of the 20th century, the economic and social regression induced a sudden decrease of the birth rate values (10-11‰) and the intensification of the rural population migration abroad (especially to other countries). So, the number of the rural population decreased. The decrease in number was more than 100 thousands persons (over 5%) between 2000 and 2009. These transformations marked the beginning of an unfavourable period in the demographic evolution in the rural space, which consists of:

- disequilibrium Increase of the gender structure in the case of urban population;
- the intensification of the ageing process of the rural population as a result of the birth rate decrease and not because of the low life expectancy;
- significant increase of the out-migration rate of the rural population, both towards West and East;
- increase of the mortality rate in the rural areas;
- the beginning of an intense depopulation process of the rural space in the Republic of Moldova.

THE RATE OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY OF THE POPULATION IN THE RURAL AREAS

Constantin VERT

West University, Timişoara

ROMANIA

The rate of economic activity of the population in the rural areas is a specific, synthetic rate, determined by the share of the active rural population in the total rural population, and reflects the degree of "involvement/engagement" of the rural population in the economic activity in view of both the demographic characteristics of this subpopulation and the rural economy and in particular the level of development.

The rate of economic activity of the population in 2002 was 38.48% lower than overall (40.83%) with 2.35% and with 4.45% compared with that in urban areas (42.93%).



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County hierarching results in a high value ranking amplitude of 23.8% between the highest value that is Timiș County, ranked with 51.57% and the lowest value of 27.77% in Ialomița County on the last position.

Compared to the mean value of the rate, 17 counties are over it and 24 below it. To this adds the fact that out of the 41 counties only 3 have a rate of economic activity of the rural population of over 50% while the remainder, 38 are below this value, which indicates that in general, the rate of economic activity of the population in the rural areas has a very low level.

Among the extreme values, six frequency intervals with a variable number of counties were outlined, of which the (30.35)% one includes the most, respectively 15. This gives a very large variation in territorial distribution of the rate of economic activity of the population in the rural areas in the shaping of rural areas, with higher values in Moldova, Muntenia, Oltenia, whereas those with lower values are quite diffuse.

Among the counties with the highest rate of economic activity of the population in the rural areas are: Timișoara, Bistrița-Năsăud, Bacău, Botoșani, Dâmbovița, located in totally different areas; while on the opposite side are Mureș and Ialomița counties. This shows the territorial heterogeneity of the distribution of the rate of economic activity of the population in the rural areas.

This pattern of territorial distribution of the rate of economic activity of the population in the rural areas was determined by the socio - economic potential of the regions of the country and reflects its level of development.

**STUDY FOR THE BETTER HARMONIZATION OF THE LOCAL AND REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES, WITH ACCENT ON THE GROWTH OF RURAL
EMPLOYMENT. CASE STUDY: BISTRIȚA-NĂȘĂUD COUNTY**

Mária VINCZE, Elemér MEZEI, Emese SZŐCS
“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca
ROMANIA

Based on the principles of the European Union regional policy and rural development policy, Romania elaborated its regional and rural policy in accordance with the Romanian realities. Our study concludes the poor synergy of these policies, which is confirmed by our analysis of the regional and county level development strategies and of applied rural development measures. Our case study on the North-West region, its counties and the 58 rural communities from Bistrița-Năsăud puts in evidence the lack of correlation between development priorities on regional, on county and on local, rural communities' level. Our working assumption is: the rural development is a local action, but its foundation has to be done at global level.

In this paper we try to identify on the one hand which are the main bottlenecks of the competitiveness growth of the studied region and its counties, and on the other hand which are the most important measures which have to be applied in different clusters of the rural communities. In the first part of the paper we analyse the direct factors of the competitiveness on the level of the North-West region (NUTS2) and on the level of its counties (NUTS3).

In the second part we analyze multiple socio-economic indicators on the level of Bistrița-Năsăud County, mainly on rural level regarding the variation of the rural population, the increasingly unfavourable age and educational, respectively economic activities' structure. We try to answer the following questions: Which are the strengths and weaknesses of the Bistrița-Năsăud County in increasing the competitiveness of the North-West region? What is the position of Bistrița-Năsăud County in the North-West region on the basis of demographical and employment criteria? However, the aggregated data can give an indication on the size



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of the rural problems on regional and county level, but not on the local priorities, as the priorities differ from one locality to the other.

In the third part we try to find the answer to the question: which typologies of the rural communes can be identified based on different criteria in the context of the employment issues?

We put in evidence different typologies of rural communities by relief, by accessibility of Bistrița (the only growth centre of the county), by labour force supply, by structure of employment in economic sectors, by life standards, and by available endogen resources (human, natural and financial).

Finally, a typology of rural communities has been created on the basis of 23 indicators reflecting the above mentioned factors. In order to eliminate the autocorrelation before the cluster analysis we applied factor analysis for the complex multiple indicators. We offer a short description of the groups of localities which belong to different clusters.

We prove that rural localities in different clusters, in general, need different measures for rural development and mainly for employment growth. This information can help local, county and regional level decision makers to identify the most efficient approaches to stimulate together at the same time the regional, the county and the local development and through these the rural employment.

GEODEMOGRAPHIC PERSPECTIVES ON THE SUB-CARPATHIANS BETWEEN DÂMBOVIȚA AND IALOMIȚA RIVERS

Rădița ALEXE

Valahia University, Târgoviște
ROMANIA

The Sub-Carpathians between Dâmbovița and Ialomița rivers, which are part of the Curvature Carpathians, present a great variety concerning the evolution of their population in space and time. It is highlighted the presence of two towns, of Fieni and Pucioasa, which represent the main polarizing centres, where the population has registered significant increases, especially due to the economic development and by attracting labour force. For the future, the specialists foresee a slow decrease of the population, with differentiations between the rural and urban area, triggered by a decrease in the birth rate and an increased migration, and by the economic crisis which has reduced the number of jobs.

The demographic perspective on the dynamics of the population shows that the birth rate presents a negative trend, while the death rate is increasing; the previsions are worrying because the population has entered an ageing process, which will lead to low resources for the labour market. The human migration is also noticeable, and the estimations indicate the movement of an increasing number of people from the urban into the rural area; a problem remains the migration of a significant number of young people towards the developed European countries, mostly towards Italy, Spain and Great Britain. Important changes have occurred as well in the structure of the population on ages in the area under analysis, in the sense that the young population records a decline, while the old population is increasing, which will determine discontinuities in the age groups size. The perspectives of the socioeconomic structure of the population highlight the increasing number of the inactive population, completed by an increase in the adults' unemployment rate. This situation generates an economic regress with direct implications on the standard of living, which requires well-thought programs from the part of the local and regional communities for professional retraining and for the unemployment decrease and also for the reduction of the work on the black market which, during the last years, has acquired increasingly higher proportions.



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**ORADEA – BRATCA DEPRESSION. THE ILLITERATE AND UNEMPLOYMENT.
RESULTS OF SOCIO – ECONOMIC CHANGES**

Claudiu FILIMON, Cosmin CHIRIAC

University of Oradea, Centre for Territorial Studies and Analyses (CSAT)
ROMANIA

The changes in the Romanian society after 1990, especially the economic and political ones, determined the official “recognition” of two major problems of the rural space: the illiterate and the unemployment.

For our studied area the illiterate and unemployment are analysed through the information from the two Censuses, 1992 and 2002. After the interpretation of statistical data resulted that during this period the unemployment rate in this area grows from 4.8% in 1992 to 10.5% in 2002, when the illiterate values decrease from 6.8% in 1992 to 5.3% in 2002.

The causes that constitute the base of illiterate and unemployment are represented by the presence of aging population, the presence of important Roma communities, and because of the restructuring from the economic sector. Even if between illiterate and unemployment there is no such a direct bound, really visible, we consider the possibility of finding a job is difficult by the lack of studies and a high value of unemployment rate drastically reduce the school access.

The reorganisation of economic system and in the same time of education system can help the reducing unemployment, and even at the disappearing of it, or at least of the illiterate from depression

**DOCTORS' EMIGRATION:
AN ANSWER TO THE CRISIS OF THE ROMANIAN MEDICAL SYSTEM**

Despina VASILCU

“Ștefan cel Mare” University, Suceava
ROMANIA

The international migration of the Romanian health professionals is part of the general dynamics of the migratory phenomenon that occurred in Romania, after 1989, inducing a new form of labour globalisation. The interrelations between the migration and the economic development illustrate complex changes: institutional and political ones, demographic and social mutations, territorial and cultural reconstructions, disruptions in the sanitary field.

The interest taken in the study of the migration occurring in the health field resides in the unprecedented increase in this type of migration, as a result of the acknowledgement of the medical degree obtained in Romania. The Romanian doctors are attracted especially by the developed countries that do not pose to them particular language problems. For several years now, France, the destination preferred by the vast majority of the emigrants, has confronted a doctor shortage, especially in the rural environment. The « medical desertification » phenomenon, as it is called by the press, concerns certain small towns, especially on the urban peripheries. At the beginning of 2009, the doctors of Romanian nationality ranked second among the doctors of foreign nationality who practised their profession in France.

The increased mobility of the specialists is accompanied by the feminization of the migratory flows. The current female migrants enjoy a privileged status in comparison to the way things were in the pioneer migrants' stage, when women were generally dependant migrants and did not work. This is why we may speak now about a redistribution of the roles within the family, which shows their role of migration female initiators.



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The international migration of the health professionals constitutes the answer to the specific problems faced, on the one hand, by certain E.U. countries, and on the other hand, by Romania. At present, the Romanian medical system crisis has been worsened by the fact that the economic problems are accompanied by the shortage of qualified personnel. The latter refers to the fact that the doctors who have left open the emigration gate to their colleagues who have remained in Romania, thus generating new migratory flows. The doctors' reasons for leaving are innumerable. The decision to emigrate is mainly based on financial reasons, but there are also other grounds. We mention: medical practice insecurity, unfit working conditions, obsolete technology, a limited professional career span in the country of origin, and, in the case of the female family migrants, the wish for their family to have access to a different life quality.

The right to free circulation and the already existent pay differential of the sanitary personnel will deepen the gap between Western and Eastern Europe, while the negative effects of the health agents' emigration will become more and more severe in the long run. The current stakes of the migration of this professional category encompass several sectors. The challenges to be taken up require a better understanding of this phenomenon and its being taken into consideration by the politicians, both in the departure and the destination countries

THE RELATION BETWEEN PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND RURAL SPACE CONCERNING ROMANIAN YOUTH OF 13-18 AGE

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Introduction. Limited data are available on Transylvania rural space youths active and sedentary behaviours. Romania it is relatively new member of the EU, however socio-economic status (SES) of people in this country may differ from other countries. Also, the main, not only geographical, differences between rural and urban space could specifically influence the health and quality of life of the population, in our case the youths between 13-18 years.

Methodology. Ecological momentary assessment diaries collected behavioural data on 3 weekdays and one weekend day for 623 young's, 13-18 year olds.

Results. For weekday behaviours, the young's has high physical activity levels Physical activity (PA) includes sports activities and exercise, organized and non-organized games as well as active travel (walking/cycling). For weekend behaviours, the young's has a low technological sedentary behaviour. Low levels of Technological sedentary behaviours of Romanian rural areas children may reflect the reduced access that they have to such forms of entertainment compared to urban areas young's.

Conclusions. Even the European countries report quite high levels of sedentary behaviours and also the same in Romania in urban spaces, the Romanian rural young's are still physically active due the specificity of their living conditions. The percentage of the performers born in the Romania rural areas is much more significant than of those coming from the urban areas. The sport performers coming from the rural spaces have better motoric skills, and that the rural offers somatic models fit for the practicing of certain sports. Knowing all the constitutive elements that define the geographical rural area, and implicitly all the relief forms in which they are situated, is an indispensable condition for a scientific estimation of the Romanian specific sport selective process for the various sportive fields.



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GEODEMOGRAPHICAL CHANGES IN RURAL SPACE OF ORADEA METROPOLITAN AREA

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An important reason for the association of villages bordering Oradea to form a metropolitan area was to stimulate and support the increased prosperity, the citizens' welfare, quality of life that continued population growth. By analyzing demographic components can be explain and determine a series of indicators that can highlight certain features of the population, which in turn can stimulate or conversely, slow process of economic development of the metropolitan area. Such as Oradea calls to adjacent (around) rural spatial development based on traffic congestion the development of transport function, function of leisure, etc., so the surrounding administrative areas need a range of urban facilities, such as related medical services, cultural, commercial as well as jobs offered by the city of Oradea.

This way it could achieve economic and social cohesion and promoting a harmonious development of all localities, boosting employment to increase quantity and quality of economic activities, increasing competitiveness of the area and thus can avoid the migration unjustified.

GEO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES IN THE RURAL AREAS OF THE SOMEȘ PLATEAU

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The Someș Plateau settlements, both peripheral and those located within the hilly regions, have some general characteristics as the rest of the Romanian rural area but also specificities as concerns demographic and socio-economic development. Territorial disparities relating to socio-economic and geo-demographic indicators are developing on two axes, a North-South territorial relationship and a West-East functional one. North-South discrepancies are found between the Cluj and Dej Hills and West-East ones between remote areas located within the plateau and the settlements located on the main axes of transport and communication, specifically in the area of Someșul Mic Valley.

STRUCTURAL MODIFICATIONS OF RURAL EDUCATION SYSTEM IN SĂLAJ COUNTY

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The number of those who are serving the education in Sălaj county in the 2010-2011 school year, is smaller with 234 comparing with the previous school year (4424 instead of 4658). At the first look the system looks it will suffer a serious loss.

In reality, not taking in account the social problems generated by this reduction which is among the most important side effect of the reduction, the educational system itself is not affected by this reduction of the staff costs because these are due more to the demographic crisis rather than to the economical and financiar one.



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The reduction of the school population in the last 15-20 years has to have an effect on the school network whose recalibration exerts an increasing pression.

Synthesizing, the solution of an educational network which ensures highly qualified teachers, which is eliminating the amateurism, which provides a modern infrastructure for the Romanian educational system, consistent with the European standards, ensuring in the same time equal chances for all children lays in the fusion of small schools having small groups of pupils, in a number below the standards fixed by the law.

ANALYSIS OF POPULATION STRUCTURE IN THE SOMEȘ PLAIN (THE TRANSYLVANIAN PLAIN)

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The Someș Plain, situated in the central northern part of the Transylvanian Plain, covers the whole sector crossed by the tributaries of the Someșul Mic River (Zăpodie, Murătoiu, Gădălin, Fizeș and Bandău) and the Someșul Mare River (Meleș and Șieu through its tributary Dipșa). Its individuality, from a geo-demographic point of view, is the result of a long evolution of its communities under the definite influence of physical, geographical, social and historical factors.

The analysis of the population structuring on age groups was done progressively during the population censuses in 1910, 1966, 1992 and 2002. In 1910, the young population accounted for 49.3% of the total population. The share of adult population was slightly more reduced than that of the young population (43.2%) while the old population (of 60 and over 60) accounted for 7.4% of the total population in the Someș Plain. Until 1966 it can be said that the population in the Someș Plain was young, the share of the population under 20 being of 49.3% in 1910 and 37% in 1966. After 1966, there were significant changes as far as the share of old population was concerned at the population censuses in 1992 and 2002, when the population of 65 and over 65 exceeded 18% of the total population, these values placing the population in the Someș Plain.

The social and economic structure of the population shows the degree of population participation in the economic activities. In 1966, 66.5% of the 101 057 inhabitants registered in the Someș Plain were active. The decrease in the number of the economically active inhabitants was more severe between 1966 and 1992, when there were significant reductions in the number of population all over the settlements of the Someș Plain. At the 2002 population census, under the well-known circumstances of geo-demographic evolution in the Someș Plain, the share of the active population dropped to 37.4%.

Agriculture is the specificity of the area. This explains the exclusively rural character of the Someș Plain, the “plain” denomination referring to its agricultural function and not to its relief, which is hilly. The social and economic development of the localities in the Someș Plain, oriented towards the basic sector, can be explained by the specificities of its relief, the drinking and industrial water deficit, the difficulty of organizing and maintaining certain intensively used

The general rate of the educational level is of 88.6%, higher than the national average rate (84.6%). The study of population, according to the educational characteristics presented in the data of the 2002 population census, shows that the most numerous category (37.8%) is represented by the secondary school graduates.



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LOCAL DISPARITIES IN INFANT MORTALITY RATES IN RURAL AREAS OF NEAMŢ COUNTY

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In public health is well - known that the infant mortality rate reflects better than any other indicator the community general health.

Infant mortality is a negative indicator that reflects the intensity of children deaths in the first year of life, and it is considered one of the most sensitive indicators of living standards, population health cultural level and healthcare system efficiency. The research aims to capture the infant mortality territorial disparities existing between rural and urban areas, and differences between the two faces of Neamţ county rural areas, represented by newly emerging periurban areas and rural space known in its most classical expression.

Source of information was the current statistical data collected on the Neamt County, regarding the level, the territorial distribution and development over time of the indicator. In our study were taken the raw data and were calculated following indicators: infant mortality, lethality and dead at birth index, to an earlier and available period of time (1999-2008).

In Neamţ County, the infant mortality index and attached thereto - lethality and dead at birth index - have higher levels in rural areas, but with downward trend in the period under study; there are high-risk areas in the county in terms of these indicators, valued singly or in combination, requiring studies with rigorous methodology for evaluating health and its determinants at population level. Analysis results can be starting points for implementing local public health policies to improve the indicator identified in risk areas, knowing that the health of children is actually the foundation of the population future health.

HISTORICAL EVOLUTION OF THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AND THE SCHOLASTIC STATE WITHIN ILVA MARE COMMUNE

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Ilva Mare commune is located in the northern part of Romania, territorially situated in the north-eastern part of the Bistriţa-Năsăud County. The locality is crossed by the Ilva River and is found in the Bârgău Mountains. Along with the arrival of the first inhabitants, a first church was built which was also served as a school, the first lessons being held here driven by the need of knowledge. Even though throughout the three centuries of history the faith wasn't always favourable, the local inhabitants remained stoutly in front of their enemies, thus continuing the process of mental development. The school from the Ilva Mare commune has a multi-century tradition, a period when generations developed, studied and grew up in order to encounter life and live a respectable one. A small incursion in the history of the Ilva Mare School was made in order to show how was possible the development of this school, from a small and inconspicuous place, improvised in the first church to a much developed one, nowadays represented by four schools and four kindergartens. For the last three decades and as a result of the fact that didn't occur many changes in the educational structure, but, due to the economical and social transition period that have occurred, a much detailed analysis requires to be made. The purpose of this analysis is to observe an accurate situation of the numerical evolution of the pupils and of the educational state and to show that even in this rural space, a quality education can be provided to the community.



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**CULTURAL AND TECHNICAL DIMENSIONS OF THE QUALITY OF LIVING
IN RURAL AREAS OF MOLDAVIA**

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Used in the most scientific approaches that aim at ratings on quality of life, living indices are - unlike those that examine other aspects of development of rural communities - more dynamic and likely to induce many biases, especially when used in large regional analysis, consisting of various sub-regions, with wide differences of cultural or lifestyle. From this perspective, the quality of living indexes have the advantage of their situation at the junction between parametric and non-parametric, simultaneously applying the lessons both on the level of economic development and welfare of communities, while appreciating the synergies that the two components are articulated and circumscribe the notion of local empowerment/emancipation.

Using methods related to nomothetic geography, the authors preferred achieve a quality living index, centred on the idea of impartiality in the analysis of rural areas in Moldova. The index is composed of two indicators with different purposes:

1. Living density index is intended to make the difference of intensity of living of the same area, based on three statistical variables: number of people per dwelling, number of households and the number of occupied dwellings. It will be expressed as:

$$I_{hd} = N_d(N_h + N_p), \text{ where}$$

Idl – index of housing density, Nl – number of dwellings, Nf- number of households, Np – number of persons.

2. Technical comfort index of habitat will consider five types of facilities: running water supply, hot water supply, electricity and gas connections, the existence of channeling.

All these types of facilities are considered as participating unequal in shaping the level of development of a community, thus equipping homes with electricity while vital to the study of absolute poverty, have little relevance in the characterization of community poverty, since this is a ubiquitous good, only creating some uniform states when it is offered the same proportion in the final result. In respect of other municipal assets, ranking will be made following the principles of diffusion and using as a methodological support the spatial diffusion of innovation model proposed by Swedish geographer Torsten Hagerstrand. So the four facilities will be arranged by rank in inverse proportion to their frequency in the area and under the four stages of development of spatial diffusion process: priming (running water supply), expansion (hot water supply), condensation (gas connections), and saturation (the existence of channelling).

Finally the two indicators will be summarized, obtaining a typology of rural areas according to living quality index, which will identify the main weaknesses of rural settlements in Moldavia and also the trends in solving existing deficiencies.

**THE INFLUENCE OF DEMOGRAPHIC AGEING ON THE POTENTIAL
OF THE LABOUR MARKET SUPPLY**

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In terms of evolution of the different economic structures and processes, the most important demographic category is the active population - the potential labour supply of a society. The quantity and



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quality (number, structure, level of education and training) can lead to the economic, social and cultural development of a country and can have a major influence on the evolution of gross domestic product. With the transition from a planned economy to a market economy, the post-communist socio-economic changes have left their imprint on the evolution of employment, both in terms of structure, its quality and volume. The most important factor that marks the transformation and change in the structure of employment is the process of demographic aging. The decrease of fertility to less than 15 years, the worsening living conditions emphasized by the increasing mortality rates had a negative impact on the development of the natural increase. This last aspect has influenced the age structure of the population by increasing the proportion of the elderly at the expense of the rate of young people. From this point of view, the year 2000 can be accounted for as the as a demographic watershed, because for the first time in history, the proportion of elderly people in Romania has exceeded that of young persons. Thus, at first being just a purely demographic issue, demographical aging has become an actual and a difficult problem, having economic and social side-effect as well, the solutions becoming all the more difficult, since no real scientific research has been done on demo-economic policies, thus decisive factors did not fully understand the evolution process and the drawbacks to an increasingly large aging population (Mihăescu, 2002).

The decrease of the younger population (between 15-24 years) and the increase of the elderly (even from 45 years onwards) will surely affect the potential supply of the labour market on the long term. However, as the balance of the active population will bespeak, it will endanger the social welfare system as well (health care, pension, social security). The thesis presents some aspects of the structural change in the population's demography that appeared in the last decade, and concentrates on it's manifestations in time and space. All these analyses have as their final goal the measuring of the influence of demographic aging on the potential of the labour market supply and also their future tendencies.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT DIVERSIFICATION IN THE RURAL AREA OF BISTRIȚA-NĂȘĂUD COUNTY

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This paper presents the results of a qualitative field research on rural employment carried out in Bistrița-Năsăud County as part of the RuralJobs FP7 research project, financed by the EC. The main objective of RuralJobs is to provide a clearer understanding of the factors influencing the employment potentials of different types of rural areas to support the future evolution of rural development policies. The field research has been carried out in pilot areas in six NUTS2 regions across the European Union: Essex County (UK), North Great Plain Region (Hungary), North West Region (Romania), Andalusia Region (Spain), Limousin Region (France) and Lithuania. The research team of the Babeş-Bolyai University received the task to study a predominantly rural, remote and low GDP region. There are several reasons to choose Bistrița-Năsăud county as a pilot area: it has the highest share of rural population (62.8% in 2009), the lowest population density (59.2% in 2009) and the highest share of young population (20.6% of 0-14 years old population at the Census from 2002) and the highest share of agriculture, fishery and hunting in regional GVA (15.44% in 2006) within the North-West Region. Moreover, Bistrița-Năsăud is the only county in the North-West Region to have a positive natural increase of the population and the value of GDP per capita (7300 Euro in PPS) is lower than the regional average (8500 Euro in PPS). There are at least two major differences between the situation of rural and urban employment in Bistrița-Năsăud County: the high share of agriculture in total rural employment (73%), six times higher than in the urban area; and the low



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share of employees within the employed population in the rural area (13%), compared to 75% in the urban area. (Source: NIS Tempo Online Time Series, Eurostat, Census 2002)

The study of our pilot area has been done using both qualitative and quantitative methods: analysis of statistical data, semi-structured interviews and focus groups. On the basis of the information collected through the interviews we have elaborated a SWOT analysis, which included all the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats mentioned during the interviews. This draft, organised as a questionnaire, was sent out to all interviewees, asking them to choose five items which influence the issue of rural employment each. On the basis of the feedbacks received we have built up a draft SOR-table, which was presented and discussed on focus-group meetings. We have opted for the methods of SWOT and SOR analysis, as they are frequently used to analyse the internal strengths and weaknesses and the external opportunities and threats of a certain unit (organisation, territory etc.). In our study the analysed 'unit' was the rural labour market in Bistrița-Năsăud County.

The major strengths that can lead to the boost of rural employment in Bistrița-Năsăud County were considered to be the agricultural potential and the natural resources, forestry and wood industry, demographic resources, traditional crafts and specific agricultural products (plums, apples, pears, and wine). Weaknesses that could cause the most serious problems are the low level of development of the physical infrastructure, the low supply for skilled jobs for the young people in the rural areas, the lack of development strategies and sustainable views in many communes and the incapacity of local stakeholders to create partnerships. Opportunities that could be used are the EU and national-level funding programmes for infrastructural and agricultural development, the modernization of agriculture, the creation of services for the local population and the development of tourist infrastructure. Threats having a negative influence on rural employment are the high level of international migration of young people, the low preference of Romanians for rural tourism and local products, the strict conditions and the overwhelming bureaucracy imposed by the implementation of the EU funding programmes.

The measures which can have a positive influence on rural employment in Bistrița-Năsăud County are mostly oriented towards the removal of the problems and barriers identified: investment in rural education at all levels (with priority on vocational training); transport infrastructure development; modernization of the villages; and support for the extension of agricultural activities (processing and marketing of agricultural products).

RURAL GERMAN EDUCATION IN SIBIU COUNTY

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Even if the number of the rural German students of Sibiu County can't compare with the number of students in the urban area, we can notice some rural places, where the German education still persists, even though most people of German origin migrated to Germany. The review presents the current state of German education system in the rural county of Sibiu. We can see that in the rural areas, unfortunately there is only one secondary school where there are still classes from 5th grade to 8th grade, namely the primary school of Apoldu de Sus village. This school has a large number of students, because they also have a dorm. The other localities have usually a group of kindergartens and primary schools. Unfortunately, a significant numbers of students do not longer study in German since the fifth grade because they do not have the opportunity to be taught the first eight grades in German language in their place of residence German language teaching.



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**THE ANALYSIS OF WOMEN'S ROLE IN DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL ECONOMY
IN JANNATROUDBAR SECTION OF RAMSAR, IRAN**

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Today, one of the ways to developing rural economy is the strategy of rural development with emphasis using internal resources in that environment. Women work force is one of the internal resources in countryside, which can have an important role in economic development. Jannatroudbar section is in north of Iran that has good weather and capable land. It has a good potential to developing agricultural activities with the emphasis on women's role. In this section, traditionally women cultivate and ranch, therewith they help to provide family foodstuff. Also, they help rural economy. The prime object of this research is consideration and analysis of rural women's economic role. This research is based on descriptive and analytical method and field studies. Early we studied related theorist basis, then we derived needed variables which are designed in open and closed formats. The questionnaires having been classified and coded, where analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively variables by the SPSS software. The findings are suggestive of the fact that women have significant role in creating small jobs and they attend in all agricultural process. They have an important role in rural economic development.

HDI TREND IN RURAL AREAS DURING THE LAST THREE DECADES OF KERMANSHAH

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Human development process can be selected in expanded bed space from the ability to achieve a better life may be defined. Bryan HDI variability in a period was analyzed. This paper focuses on the answer to the position in rural areas of Kermanshah (one of province in Iran) HDI position is located in country? I reduced the development gap or poverty trend has been to increase? Descriptive case study method - is analytic. Results show improved results from the process of human development index years 1989, 1999, 2004 and 2006 respectively equivalent to process /314, /450, /708, and /783 is enjoyed. This trend owes improve life expectancy index and the percentage of male and female literacy is. But we talk of per capita income growth, but the process was not salient poverty gap is increasing.

RURAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND GIS

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Environmental degradation, socio-economic decline, and extreme weather patterns are contributing to changing pattern of morbidity and mortality and posing serious challenge to public health. The problems of health are increasing in both spatial and temporal dimension to many newer places, especially in the rural areas due to increased risk of disease transmission fuelled by developmental activities, demographic changes



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and introduction of newer products. However, with advanced knowledge on the principles underlying the disease transmission dynamics, prediction of occurrence of diseases is possible based on environmental factors and satellite-based remote sensing data. Limited physical access to primary health care is also a major factor contributing to the poor health of rural populations in India. Modern tools like remote sensing and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) have now come in handy to address the issues on the disease surveillance, control, monitoring and evaluation. The rural health care information system envisaged on GIS domain in this article explains how it eventually facilitates utilization of resources, preventing disease and promoting health care, working towards the overall rural development and thereby ensures sustenance of the programmed at all levels.

AGRICULTURAL POPULATION OF CENTRAL SERBIA AT THE END OF THE 20th AND THE BEGINNING OF THE 21st CENTURY, A CASE STUDY: GOC MOUNTAIN AND ITS FOOTHILL²

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In this paper there has been elaborated an analysis of distribution of arable and agricultural land on the territory of Goc and its foothill, then the distribution and density of agricultural population that live on its territory. The analysis refers to the end of the 20th and beginning of the 21st century. Special attention is given to active agricultural population. The received results show that the number of agricultural population has been decreasing. The importance of the paper is in the fact that it will enrich the knowledge about the population and settlements of the Goc Mountain and the West Morava valley.

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SECTION 2 RECONSTRUCTING THE AGRICULTURAL AREAS

“CULTIVATING MEADOWS”. AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE UTILIZATION OF UNCULTIVATED AGRICULTURAL LAND

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During the past communist period, profound changes in Romania's agriculture have determined important changes in the ownership and exploitation of agricultural lands. The restoration of the proprietorship of lands seized during the communist age has led to the creation of over 4,3 million landed properties (~ 2,3 hectares on average) of 3 to 6 plots each.

This situation has resulted in the excessive parcelling of the restored properties. Thus, the former communist collective farms have disintegrated into circa 4,1 million individual farms (~ 2,15 hectares on average), covering about 65% of the country's agricultural lands and about 18.000 farms with legal status of circa 270 hectares on average, which practise commercial activities.

Due to the decline of the national food and agricultural produce processing industry, the internal food and agricultural produce market has collapsed, leading to the widespread disinterest of the individual farmers.

A consequence of this situation has been the setting up of about 3 million semi-subsistent individual farms which also market a share of their produce, and circa 1 million subsistent ones of less than 1 hectare.

The absence of an attractive agricultural market, the high costs of farming, the small prices of produce, the continuous aging of the active rural population, the external migration of the young workforce contribute to the annual increase of the uncultivated lands, which have reached ~ 3 million hectares, depending on relief, region, level of social-economic development and traditional culture.

For the most part, the uncultivated lands are of low productivity, affected by serious degenerative factors; but there are also arable lands suitable for cultivation, some of which large areas. On the other hand, there are currently policies for the conversion of agricultural lands unsuitable for cultivation into forested areas, a slow and highly costly process.

The largest part of uncultivated lands, particularly arable ones, continues to preserve their current status with extremely negative effects as a result of their: weediness, perennial and annual herbaceous vegetation of low economic value, for natural meadows, both hayfields and pastures.

It is an imperative for the temporarily uncultivated agricultural lands to undergo a process of “growing pastures”, following special policies with a view to spreading the valuable specific perennial herbaceous species, depending on the specific geographic conditions to increase the economic value of the plants cultivated on it, and eliminate plants of low economic value.

This is a way of providing a weedless regenerated reserve of agricultural land which can be formed as the economic context allows. Beneficial effects include the restoration of the pedofauna specific of uncultivated lands; soil conservation and the development of the fauna specific of natural herbaceous areas, as well as the restoration of the picturesque natural rural environment, well integrated into the geographical area, which eliminates the waste of natural resources whether unused or badly used and managed in the economic circuit, also ensuring environment conservation.

“Cultivating meadows” is a temporary alternative - from several years to several decades – to the utilization of uncultivated agricultural lands.



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UKRAINIAN NATURAL REGIONS: GEOGRAPHICAL PROBLEMS OF NATURE RESOURCE POTENTIAL COST RE-ESTIMATION

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The methods to re-estimate the cost of Ukrainian nature resource potential (NRP) are substantiated on the basis of lands' natural yielding capacity provided that crop is rotated and plough land is cultivated only mechanically with no fertilizers. The NRP of Ukrainian landscape complexes was estimated in the aspect of 3 physic-geographical countries, 4 zones, 3 sub-zones, 14 krajs.

THE EVALUATION OF THE SUSTAINABILITY OF AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS IN BISTRIȚA-NĂȘĂUD COUNTY USING THE IDEA METHOD

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The IDEA method (Indicators of Agricultural Holding Sustainability) is a method by which the sustainability of agricultural holdings is evaluated. The method comprises 10 sustainability components, grouped by three levels: agro-ecological, socio-territorial and socio-economic, summing up 41 complex indicators, consisting of over 100 aggregate indicators. Depending on the scores obtained by each component and at each level (the maximum score at each level is 100), the sustainability level of each holding can be estimated, for each component and level separately, and finally for the holding as an entity.

In 2008, the Institute of Agricultural Economics Bucharest carried on a comprehensive survey in 800 farms all over Romania. The paper is presenting the results of the evaluation of the sustainability in several agricultural holdings interviewed in Bistrița-Năsăud county, using informations collected in the survey.

THE AGRICULTURE OF THE MOUNTAIN AREAS IN BULGARIA - PROBLEMS, CHALLENGES, DECISIONS -

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Mountain areas in Bulgaria occupy a significant portion of the area. They are very diverse in its natural characteristics, which puts its stamp on their overall profile and effectiveness. Agriculture, which in most cases is the main economic activity here, is highly dependent on the restrictions imposed by the geographical environment in the mountains.

The study provides an analysis of current realities in the development of the sector in mountain areas. We have identified the main spatial and organizational problems and challenges facing the sector. Indicated are some solutions which could preserve the mountain scenery and unique cultural landscapes in the utilization and sustainable economic development in those areas.



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**IMPORTANCE OF SOIL QUALITY IN THE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF LAND USE
IN THE WESTERN PART OF TRANSYLVANIAN PLAIN**

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The western part of Transylvanian Plain has been the object of extensive pedological and management investigations. This paper reports a research that seeks to understand the problems that hamper the sustainable agriculture in that region. The intensive and frequent land use changes in this region of Romania have numerous and very environmental impacts. Changes in land use are foreseen on a great scale in the whole Transylvanian Plain. In our days, the assessment of soil quality hardly plays a role in spatial planning and consequent land use. Therefore, we analyzed the inter-relationships between land use and soil quality by means of empirical ecological metadata at a regional scale. Soil management regimes, historical land use and geographical situation determine soil properties, but the influence of farming systems on the soil biodiversity has also been clearly observed. These results suggest that land use has persistent, multi-decadal effects on the spatial heterogeneity of soil resources, which may not be detectable when values are averaged across sites. Results suggest that two forces will increasingly determine land-use systems in this region. First, the lack of regional land tenure policies will provide a push factor making it increasingly difficult for farmers to improve the land-use practices. Second, market less pressures of the commercialization of subsistence resources and the substitution of commercial crops for subsistence crops will provide a pull factor that not encourages farmers to engage in new and different forms of commercial agriculture.

**AGRICULTURAL LAND FRAGMENTATION – A RISK FACTOR FOR SUSTAINABLE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE ROMANIAN RURAL SPACE.
CASE STUDY: MOVILENI AND IZVOARELE COMMUNES (BOIANU PLAIN)**

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The proposed study is based on the realities regarding the land use types in the Romanian rural space and the involvements generated by the present management of the agricultural land upon social-economic development of the human communities in the rural environment and upon the real chances of Romanian assertion on the great agricultural markets in the European Union.

Romania has a 14,741.2 thousands hectares area (61.8% of the total land area – INS, 2008) and an extremely favourable soil potential for the agricultural productive actions, especially in the southern and western regions. In Europe, Romania is the second country (after France) having a great agricultural area and potential as well. The main obstacles for getting a better profit level in the Romanian agriculture are: *the agricultural land fragmentation* – due to the large number of small farms, hardly oriented towards market requirements and having no eligibility for the investors; *aging of the population working in agriculture*. In order to find out why the agricultural land was so highly fragmented after 1989, a case study involving the Boianu Plain started, focusing on the two administrative components – Movileni and Izvoarele communes.

Thus, it came to the conclusion that high land fragmentation in the Boianu Plain is a consequence of the laws implementation during the agrarian reform after 1989. These government-initiated measures led to



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property redistribution to the former owners, forced to join CAPs (Production Agricultural Cooperatives) or donate their lands to the state. Redistribution of the properties was made by local commissions of land laws appliance, according to land productive potential and also to the former location of the properties. Another important cause of land fragmentation is that many of the former owners deceased and their properties were split between heiresses. In the Romanian rural space, the old habit of splitting the farm in order to separately continuing their agricultural works is still vivid.

A geographical analysis of the land fragmentation has been applied for the two communes, Movileni and Izvoarele, using the land participation map. In order to appreciate the spatial dimension of the agricultural land fragmentation, two farmers from each commune were asked to identify the parcels which make up the farm they manage on the satellite imagery.

The results shown that most of the farmers have 3-4 small parcels each (0.15 - 1.2 hectares), located far one from each other, which means wasted time and high costs, due to the rising of fuel consumption.

In conclusion, it can be affirmed that before 1990, land parcels smaller than a few hectares were almost inexistent, except for those owned by the CAP workers; now these are the most prevailing in the Movileni and Izvoarele communes. Excessive land fragmentation is the main cause for turning from mechanized production to manual work, as well as from commercial to subsistence farming.

Arguments favouring the agricultural land defragmentation on the plain may be: presence of the lands with a high soil potential, of the land owners who do not live in the village or are too old to work by themselves on the farm land (in Romania, 40% of the farmers are over 65) and not in the end, the presence of the investors who practice a performing farming activity.

Aim of the study: reiteration (inside of a case study) of the problems which Romanian rural communities are confronting to and will confront to in the future, if practicing subsistence farming on uncompetitive areas will continue further.

Research methods and techniques: diachronic analysis, diagnostic analysis, mapping, social and statistic techniques, investigation.

INCREASING FARM CONCENTRATION IN HUNGARY

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In the EU as a whole, there was a reduction of 1.658 million Annual Work Unit (12.4%) in those employed in agriculture, between 2003 and 2007. This reduction was 16% in the EU-10 countries and 9% in the EU-15 countries. In Hungary the decrease was 21% in terms of AWU per 100 hectares of agricultural land. In Hungary the concentration of land areas took place between 2005 and 2007 in such a way that the arable land used by farms of less than 50 hectares declined, while that of larger farms increased. This process was more intensive in private farms.

This was equivalent to the loss of 122,000 jobs in agricultural enterprises. Research indicates that this process is related to the fact that there is less demand for labour per unit area on larger farms, so they are unable to employ those whose land they have rented or purchased.

This Hungarian process may be exacerbated by supports granted for the purchase of machinery aimed at improving competitiveness, since these payment schemes back up the endeavours of farmers to carry out all farm operations with their own machinery. They then need to utilise this increased capacity, but



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are unable to do so as other farmers also prefer to make their own investments. This unexploited machine capacity tends to influence both increases in farm size and, partly due to the latter and partly to the replacement of live labour, reductions in the number of employees. The proportion of payments made to aid machinery investments for conventional agricultural activities amounted to 13.2% of the resources available in the Hungarian national rural development programme between 2004 and 2006. During the 2007–2013 period, 17.7% has been earmarked for this purpose.

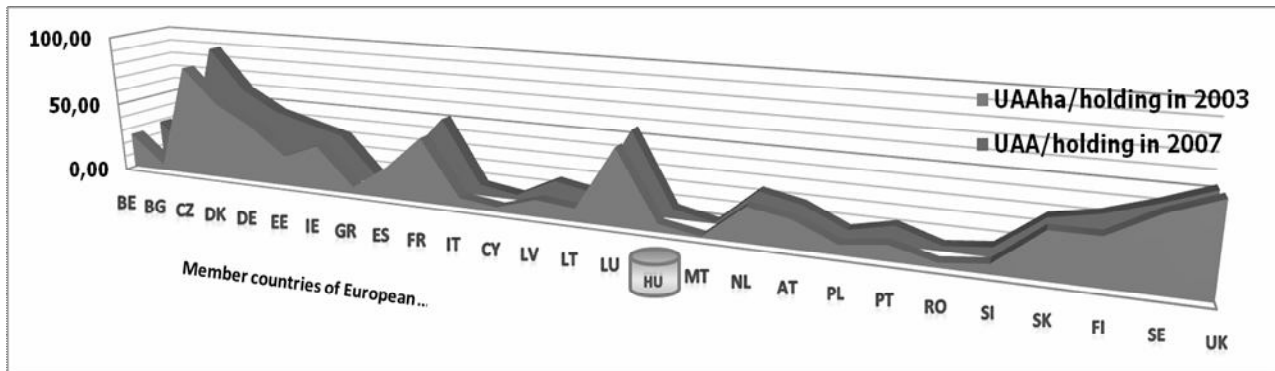


Fig. 1. Farm size measured in terms of utilised agricultural area (UAA) in the member countries of the European Union in 2003 and 2007.

In order to discover farmer's motivation and reaction, a survey was carried out in 2008 involving 104 farmers in settlements belonging to three LEADER action groups located in Heves and Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok counties, namely the Karcag Micro-region, Tarna Mente Micro-regional Spatial Development Association and Tisza-Tarna-Rima-Menti Action Group Association. On the surveyed farms there was a very modest proportion of market-driven, non-agricultural activities ensuring employment. The only really decisive elements of agricultural multifunctionality are heavily supported, non-market-driven activities and functions. Farmers intending to diversify did not consider diversification as a means of creating jobs for other people. Despite the tensions in their micro-regions due to unemployment, the need to introduce flexible forms of employment came near the bottom of their list of priorities. In response to another question, they clearly regard this as a task for the central government, and do not feel that they have any substantial role to play.

- The motivation for economic growth is the most intense (54% of farmers plan to expand their farm over the next 5–10 years, and the majority of these farmers are thinking in terms of land purchase).
- Farmers wish to create jobs for family members, not for outsiders!
- Farms with an area of 50.1–100 hectares require 70% less labour per hectare than those smaller than 50 hectares, while farms larger than 100 hectares employ less than a seventh of the labour needed per hectare by farms with less than 50 hectares of land.
- The responding farmers considered the standard of mechanisation on their own farms to be moderate to good. Nevertheless, machinery purchases were given priority in their development plans, since they desired to carry out practically all major farm operations at a higher standard, using their own machinery.
- 45% of the responding farmers accept the farm concentration processes taking place in their micro-region and are in agreement with them.



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THE RURAL LANDSCAPES AND SMALL-SCALE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES IN THE TRANSYLVANIAN PLAIN

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This paper is focused on the relationships between small-scale agricultural practices and cultural landscape of Transylvanian Plain. The geographical position of Transylvanian Plain in central part of Romania shows with relevance its favourability for sustainable agriculture and developing assumptions. Despite of this, the region was kept outside of the major infrastructural and economic trends. We could, also, include the Transylvanian Plain into a typical rural “central isolation space” relating on this historical-political tendencies, concluding on different types of rural and agricultural landscapes.

In this context, small-scale agriculture practices are alternatives to factory farming or more broadly, intensive agriculture or unsustainable farming methods. Sustainable agriculture is not only a package of prescribed methods but is a pre-requisite for territorial development of rural areas.

Small scale agriculture include a number of sustainable farm practices such as: organic farming, which removes all chemical pesticides, herbicides and fertilizer from agriculture; permaculture, which provides a holistic methodology for farm design; arable land use that is used for growing crops; non-arable land use; pastoral land use etc.

Generally speaking, the small-scale agricultural practices are oriented to: produce enough food; produce safe food; take care of the environment; build thriving and strong rural communities.

For instance, some indicators are used: *physiologic density index* (number of inhabitants per agricultural surface) reflects the intensity of human pressure reported to main rural activities; *settlements' density index* has importance in studying of the infrastructural pressure, the weight of cultural landscape in the regional framework. Both indicators were calculated during the last three censuses (1966, 1992, and 2002) and they are mentioned on thematic maps.

The settlements' density index is a very interesting one, because gives additional information related on human pressure. Although the territorial configuration of the villages creates an image of a regional uniformity, their density is a heterogeneous one. We can notice discrepancies between the villages' areas and the number of small villages (hamlets) in the Mureș Plain. The low level of settlements' density reveals an assumption of defining of the rural spaces and landscapes, critical and aging.

The defining of the rural landscapes in the Transylvanian Plain is a conclusive part of this study, because for an agricultural region is the most relevant indicator of the state of development. This shows the historical, political and demographic dynamic results inside a typical central isolated area. The energetic flux was permanently centrifugal and distributes the agricultural products and the human interests outside the region.

We made comparisons and we correlated previous indicators and we established two types of rural spaces and landscapes which have highly relevance: *the critical rural landscapes* overlap the north, with elder and decreasing population, and *highly integrated rural landscapes* on the south, well defined rural spaces network.

We tried to make a comparison between land cover (CORINE 1992, 2002) and age structure knowing that they could relieve similitude. The decrease of arable surface and increase of pastures one is in



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relating with growing of elder population and it shows the labour force handicap.

Following the previous ideas, because of the permanent population diminution and its aging, the human pressure by small-scale agricultural practices reduces, and this is a good premise for the appearance of a *secondary natural landscape (embryonic landscapes)* with a further agro-ecological based developing.

MANAGEMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL RISK IN THE AGRARIAN ECONOMIC SECTOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA. THE INSURANCE POLICY

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Uncertainty and risk are part of the life and there is no other field but the environment and its processes where the statement proves to be completely true. The yearly average number of the extreme climatic disaster was of 320-355 between 2000-2008 and they affected about 270 millions people every year, which is almost twice as much as the values registered in 1980. Most people live in the rural areas where the environment is highly vulnerable to the risks generated by floods, droughts, earth flow, earth quakes, and tropical cyclone. No less dramatic are the consequences of the technical catastrophies. The harsh reality is due to the superficial knowledge we have about the ecosystems' working and also because of our incapacity to efficiently manage (to manage in an efficient manner) all the consequences of human intervention in natural processes.

Nowdays, the rural population in The Republic of Moldova represents more than 58,6% of the country population, and the agriculture still is one of the most important economic sector of activity at the national level, and also one of the most affected by the environmental risks.

Consequently, the implementation and the study of the environmental risk concept as part of the general strategy of risk management are imposed by the necessity to decrease both population vulnerability to natural disasters and environmental vulnerability to negative impact of human economic activity. The management process is both difficult as it needs a large amount of knowledge and specific methodology that should be adapted to the particularity of each situation and also responsible as the person involved in decision-making needs specific abilities and skills. The native scientific literature proves there have been many searches in the risk management field: bancar risk, currency risk, investment risk and others, but few in the environmental risk management. It can be noticed the lack of fundamental research in the methodology of environmental risk management, based on the nowadays realities and particularities of the republic.

In The Republic of Moldova, besides risk management strategies such as risk acceptance, risk avoidance, losses minimization through preliminary actions, monitoring and management activities or risk diminishing, the risk transfer (assignment) or insurance gains more and more ground.

According to **The Insurance Policy Law**, insurance is the activity in which one transfer a possible risk to the insurer. The insurance plays an important role as it gives the possibility to manage the environmental risk without a significant consumption reduction and excessive resources depletion; the private insurance market has the main position together with the subvention policy. On one hand the risk transfer is an element of the management, on the other it can lead to poverty reduction. In the developed countries, one usually appeals to private insurance market which is not the case in the under-developed or developing countries where the state interferes with subventions. This is also the case of the agrarian risk management in The Republic of Moldova. Here, law reglementation of the subventions for climatic risk insurance has



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constantly changed, in the sense that the state used to take a significant amount of money from the agrarian insurance: 80% in 2007 and 70% in 2009.

The distribution in the society of the risks caused by extreme phenomena and/or their transfer stimulates a better adaptability of the society to the changes and their risks. Even though the risk transfer does not prevent the damages, it is an efficient mechanism to manage the difficulties related to risk event happening, especially for the risks that can not be prevented. More that that, the risk transfer mechanisms which are properly conceived, have the potential to generate influences in the sense of risks reduction.

**LIMITING FACTORS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN POTLOGI VILLAGE
(DÂMBОВИȚA COUNTY)**

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Analysis of environmental conditions in the Potlogi village reveals that large areas of land are affected by one or more limiting factors of agricultural production, although the soils are conducive to a wide range of crops.

Limiting factors of production potential in the study area are: land degradation, excess rain and ground moisture, soil compaction, and inundability land near watercourses.

Degradation of soil structure has two main causes:

1. Soil chemistry changes by decreasing humus content or its acidification due to unbalanced fertilization,
2. Direct action to destroy the works of structural failure.

Preventing these limiting factors to agricultural work involves the execution and maintenance of an adequate moisture in the soil limits the optimal response.

Excess moisture causes stagnation of rain water from the soil surface. Phenomenon occurs especially in microdepressions. In the Potlogi village, land area marked by the phenomenon of gleyzation was 6320.30 ha., in the year 2008. Also, near the rivers Argeș and Sabar, the land located in shallow groundwater favor gleyzation process. This phenomenon affects 583.00 hectares.

Appropriate measures relate to: levelling micro-depressions of soil compaction, development of drainage channels, proper implementation of agricultural works, loosening the soil with high clay content, etc.

Another limiting factor in agricultural production is the inundability land located in low areas adjacent to watercourses. In the Potlogi village, are exposed to this phenomenon 415.23 ha, in 2008. Risk of flooding can be reduced by: regulation of watercourses, construction of reservoirs, work of draining the land, and embankment works (in some sectors).

Soil compaction is a phenomenon which affecting large areas of land in the study area (1700.75 ha). The consequences are: low permeability, lower water retention capacity, deterioration of soil structure, and unbalanced air-water relationships in soil. This factor may limit the capacity of the soil up to 50%. Preventive measures are: rational fertilization of soil, crop rotation, ground work to achieve optimal moisture, and tillage made correctly.



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THE ORGANISATION OF THE AGRICULTURAL AREA IN TARNA MARE VILLAGE

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Tarna Mare Village is situated in the north-west extremity of Romania in Satu Mare County; the village extends to mountain, hill and field units. The variety of landscape offers possibilities and a diverse potential to this village. Thus, both farming and raising animals are practised.

During the communism period of time only one of three component parts was not included in the collectivity properties being individual in this village, which gives it a privileged status.

The present work aims at analysing the organisation of the agricultural area comparatively, both in the communist system and nowadays, each with its own particularities.

**AGRICULTURAL INPUTS IN THE ROMANIAN AGRICULTURE.
EVOLUTIONS AND POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT**

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The low amount of inputs used in Romanian agriculture, the present level of technical equipment, together with the poor management in the agricultural holdings, cannot possibly ensure the performance of agricultural works on due time, as required by the proper cultivation technologies. This results both in a low productivity and in significant harvest losses. The paper is analyzing the trend of input use as well as the main synthetic indicators quantifying labor productivity in agriculture: (i) agricultural output per employed person and (ii) gross value added per employed person. Among the main causes leading to this situation, the following have been identified: excessive land fragmentation, low scale use of the technical-material base, precarious operation of the irrigation system, inadequate management of the agricultural holdings and of the production factors in general. The working methodology resided in a detailed analysis of the statistical data basis for characterizing the agricultural production structures, the main production factors and economic efficiency of the agricultural activity, accompanied by an international comparison with the UE-27 countries.

The main areas covered by the analysis were:

1. The structural changes in the structure of the utilized agricultural area and its distribution by main land use categories, reflected in the data of the farm structure surveys 2002, 2005 and 2007.
2. Evolution of the main inputs (technical and mechanical equipment, irrigations, fertilizers, labor).

ANIMAL WASTE MANAGEMENT

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An increase in the number and concentration of livestock and poultry operations presents .Repeated application of manure to meet the nitrogen need of crops has increased concentrations of phosphorus and other nutrients in many soils raising water quality concerns. New and existing facilities should be encouraged to work with surrounding farmers and ranchers to spread the manure at rates equal to less than two times the phosphorus requirement of the crop. Waste handling, storage and treatment facilities, as well as application of manures and lagoon effluent, must be managed properly to address water quality and odor concerns. A certain level of odors will be present with animal industries .More and more scientists in private and public sectors are investigating different technologies and management practices to control these odors.

**TRANSFORMATIONS OF THE AGRICULTURAL LAND BETWEEN 1989 AND 2010.
CASE STUDY: BILAG HILL – OIEJDEA - SARD CORRIDOR**

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The multidisciplinary approach to changing the agricultural landscape by anthropogenic means offers the possibility of a complex analysis with further implications of such an effort to transform the landscape and other natural elements in the overall geographical framework. Identification of these correlations, as determined and evolving within the studied geographic area is essential for understanding of the dynamics, of the good functioning of the whole geographic system, for determining the quality of the environment, of the economic development trends and of the influence on the quality of life and the prospects of the inhabitants.

The agricultural landscapes broadly overlap with rural landscapes, the most predominant type of landscape being closely related to the degree of rural land inhabitation. Rural landscapes are the most complete ways of characterizing the specific of a territory. In general, agricultural landscapes include views of cultivated land, livestock grazing landscapes and human modified landscapes in order to assert their agricultural potential.



Fig. 1. Geographic localisation of the studies area.

The present study is planned as a review of the occurring transformations of the agricultural landscape over the last 20 years in the defined geographical area limited by the Bilag hill by and the Oiejdea – Şard pass, identifying both the consequences of the economic profitability as well as the standards of living



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of the inhabitants of the area. Based on a complex analysis alternatives might be proposed related to the efficient use of land while identifying opportunities for the sustainable development of agricultural landscapes based on EU directives and targets.

The identified geographical area is located in the Southwestern Transylvania Basin, on the northern and northwestern side of the city of Alba Iulia, in the middle of the Mureș Valley. From the administrative point of view it is placed in Alba County, covering an area of 135 km².



Fig. 2. Landslides and former vineyard terraces in Barabant Area.

The anthropogenic intervention conflicting with the laws of nature is responsible for the intensity and pace of the chaotic transformation of the view of slopes present in the studied area. Thus, as a result of the field research, degraded landscapes have been identified as a consequence of essential changes of their components or their total removal from the territory, thereby affecting the natural balance.



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SECTION 3

RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE SINE NON QUA CONDITION FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

THE IMPACT OF THE ROAD WORKS AT TRANSYLVANIA HIGHWAY ON THE PROXIMITY RURAL SPACE

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In December 2009 the section between Gilău and Turda of the projected Transylvania Highway (Borș-Oradea-Brașov) was inaugurated with great satisfaction by the authorities in spite of the huge costs of the works supposed to fulfill this only 42 km long sector. Seen at macroscale nobody could ignore the utility of this major infrastructure project although many critics stressed that this highway built up by Bechtel Company was probably the most expensive among all the other roads that appeared on Europe's map in the last years. But a microscale analysis could emphasize many examples of severe local impact in the land use, soils, water, vegetation and fauna determined by the geomorphological interventions related to the roadworks that took place. An overview of the built environment shows the fact that large surfaces of land cannot be used for any economic purposes in the future, as they are occupied by huge wasterock piles emerged from the relocation of the enormous volume of excavated material. They consist mainly in clays mixed with rocks and boulders that emphasize a chaotic morphology. Their surface is strongly affected by gullying and the eroded fine sediments already filling up parts of the drainage system of the highway. Another factor contributing to these processes is the unsuitable localization of the stock piles mainly in torrential drainage basins, on the watershed or on slopes. It is obvious that the preliminary environmental agreements (including also the obligation to smooth down the stock piles and to restore the topsoil on their surface) accepted by Bechtel Company were almost totally neglected. We argue that the current solutions found by the company of relocating the excavated material on leased surfaces – that are to be returned to their legal owners in a suitable condition – is an unacceptable practice. On the other hand we are aware of hidden costs consisting in rehabilitating surfaces affected during works by residual and excavated material. Besides this, taking into account the severe damages of many secondary roads, houses (due to the heavy traffic) and agricultural lands as well as the fact that all along this sector there is no connection of the highway with any rural settlement there are several reasons to argue that this major infrastructural objective generated mainly negative physical consequences within the crossed rural area and severe financial losses and disappointment for the inhabitants. The aim of this study is to evaluate in a quantitative manner the spreading of affected surfaces along with the financial implications. Methods used in this purpose are analysis of topographical maps, satellite images and direct observation through fieldwork.

THE ROLE OF ROAD TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE REGENERATION OF THE RURAL SPACE. CASE STUDY: IARA – HÂȘDATE DEPRESSION

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Romanian rural space is confronting, generally, with a lack of properly infrastructure networks, and especially with a road transportation infrastructure, which can assure a modern style of life for the rural population. This study aims to distinguish both the accessibility of the rural population to the road transportation infrastructure and the discrepancies between opportunities and the actually capitalization of the possibilities of road transportation existing in the studied area.

**THE ROLE OF INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ROMANIAN VILLAGE
COMPARATIVE CASE STUDY:
ALMAȘUL SEC AND SÂNTUHALM (HUNEDOARA COUNTY)**

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The paper aims to explain the role of infrastructure in the development of two villages in Hunedoara County. The study follows the development of the villages over a period of one hundred years, from 1910 to 2010. The two villages are Almașul Sec and Sântuhalm. In the course of their development the villages acquire different infrastructure networks which influence the overall growth of the village. Results reveal the fact that the village with more infrastructures has a higher development rate in both total built surface and in number of houses. During the one hundred year period, Sântuhalm (village with infrastructure) grows four times the original size, while Almașul Sec (village without infrastructure) grows only two times the original size

**LOCALIZED ROLE OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND ITS IMPACT
ON POPULATION AND RURAL ECONOMY**

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Infrastructure in each economy operates as a relatively independent subsystem that creates the basis for the development of other economic activities. At the same time it is an important element of the environment in rural areas. The state of the regional infrastructure of each area is an important part of its resources and development potential. Based on these understandings attempted analysis of the current state of social infrastructure in rural areas, through which passes an international transport corridor. Locate demonstrated role of this transport corridor to the other infrastructure elements. He had a strong influence on the spatial location of population and depopulation of the processes that occurred in rural areas.

Developed as necessary infrastructure is essential promoter and further sectoral and territorial concentration and specialization of the rural economy.

**A MODEL FOR CALCULATING THE COEFFICIENT OF ACCESSIBILITY IN RURAL AREAS
FROM TRANSYLVANIA**

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Accessibility is a fundamental but often neglected concept in transportation analysis and planning. The present presentation analyzes the essential aspects regarding the accessibility by applying an assessment model of the accessibility of the administrative territorial units from Transylvania who are located in rural areas. The methodology used for the calculation of the accessibility coefficient is based on the analysis of the distance between point A and point B, respectively of the access points in which these analyses can be carried out. The calculation was made using different methods of calculating the distance based on satellite points.

Following the analysis of the obtained results regarding the accessibility we can calculate the accessibility level of relief units (eg. The Trascău Mountains – 7.4 points or the Hârtibaciului Plateau – 6.17 points) or we can see we can see which are most accessible or inaccessible rural Administrative Territorial Units. The values obtained as a result of this analysis can be used in the future local, micro-regional or regional studies which will also comprise elements of accessibility.



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SECTION 4 RECONSTRUCTING THE RURAL HABITAT

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS OF THE RURAL SETTLEMENTS IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

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The paper considers developmental problems of the rural settlements in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which are result of long-term disparity in the regional development. The latest indicators of socio-economic development of Bosnia and Herzegovina have been discussed more closely, as well as general movement and age structure of its population as the major limiting factor of development of that area loaded with most of problems. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, rural settlements are the areas that appeared, first of all, as a result of falling behind the national average in development, which then appears as a thrust factor of emigration of population. Selective emigration, regarding the age and education structure, is reflected in weakening of the biodynamics and working potential of population, which causes further deepening and even more extends the spiral of developmental backwardness of the emigration areas. In set of causes of the occurrence of developmental problems of the rural settlements in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the war in ex country had a significant role. Within discussions of the specified topics, fundamental indicators of polarisation development of Bosnia and Herzegovina and its influence on extension and deepening the depopulation will be presented, predominantly in the rural and less developed areas of the state territory that were, at the same time, most affected by war. Socio-political changes have not brought major changes in regional development of the agricultural production yet, particularly in private sector.

ASPECTS REGARDING THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE VILLAGES OF CRAIOVA'S METROPOLITAN AREA

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Currently the agriculture and rural development in Dolj County are facing multiple economic and social problems, also numerous concerns regarding the identification of solutions and methods for solving them occurring, and problems in the implementation of the EU model of rural development in the mentioned area. Some elements as: the low productivity, the lack of a realistic vision on the future of the Romanian village, of the new jobs and qualification necessary in the process of diversifying the activities- which could set up a multifunctional rural development model, and also the inefficient ways of following the EU rural development policy, are slowing down the process of development. The paper aims at realizing an analysis of the multiple ways of rural space evolution of the six villages from Craiova's metropolitan area, with emphasis on the concepts of sustainable and multifunctional rural development, with a focus also on the rural development problems, types and models implemented in the area, starting with their historic concepts and ending with certain visions on what there should be organized in the studied area. In this context, the European model of agriculture and rural development could play an important role in the process. The so called rural culture, specific for each geographical area, which gives a specific aspect to the landscape,



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implies often the necessity of a certain typology of rural development customized according to the current social and political requirements. The proximity and at the same time the influence exercised by an urban pole of development on a rural area can imply favourable economic and social consequences, reflected also in the way of adopting some viable policies of development in the studied rural space. By analysing these six villages, we are trying to formulate solutions and proposals, according to the presented reality, regarding the creation of an environment favourable to development, by consolidating a sustainable and multifunctional development model of rural space.

THE TYPOLOGY OF MOLDOVA'S RURAL AREA ACCORDING TO THE URBAN INFLUENCE

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After 1990, a large share of rural areas from Moldova found itself in a crisis rather than in a transition. The territorial structures founded during the former political regime conferred a fragile nature to rural and urban settlements, as well as to the ties connecting them. The urban ranges of influence, formerly characterized by labour force polarization and by the emphasized unbalance of demography, by economic, cultural and social stagnation of rural regions, took on new shapes these days. The objective of this paper is to outline a typology of rural areas from Moldova region according to their degree of dependence on the urban area and according to the intensity of urban polarization which is felt. In order to achieve this goal, I made an ascending hierarchical classification based on indices selected according to the relevance they might have to show the extent of the influence of an urban centre on a rural administrative division. Therefore, I shall refer to: the natural accessibility index; the territorial accessibility index; the average yearly growth pace of the population from 1977 to 1992 and from 1992 to 2002; the migration balance from 1977 to 1992 and from 1992 to 2002; the population employed in the major three fields of activity (primary, secondary, tertiary); the number of people who work in some other place than the place of residence in relation with the total active population; the number of people working in some other county than the county of residence in relation to the total active population; crop area in relation to the total population; milk production in relation to the total population. A map diagram made for each variable, points out the relative position of each administrative division inside the field of inter-relations set at regional level between all the areas studied. The final typology achieved allows the development of scenarios for the future development of the Moldova area, and may also be considered a reference for estimating the changes which affect these territorial structures.

CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES OF THE HABITAT IN MARAMUREȘ MOUNTAINS

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Maramureș Mountains situated in the northern part of Romania include a number of ten villages belonging to eight communes and two urban localities. Throughout rural areas of the Maramureș Mountains, 125 hamlets have been identified, the most numerous being at Moisei (23) and Poienile de sub Munte (17) and the fewest are at Ruscova (4). In the two cities we have identified 30 districts, 21 in Borșa and 9 at Vișeu



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de Sus, the distribution of the population in the territory is quite uneven. The statistical analysis of the demographic potential of the localities in the Maramures Mountains reveals a particularly interesting situation, standing out a series of phenomena analyzed in the paper. To highlight the distance between the hamlets and the centre of the localities we calculated for each hamlet, the walking time required, on the roads, between the hamlet centre and centre of the locality.

GIS ALGORITHM FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF RURAL SETTLEMENTS VULNERABLE TO FLASH FLOODS IN APUSENI MOUNTAINS

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The need to estimate vulnerability to torrential floods becomes particularly important, especially in small ungauged catchments. Rural settlements appear frequently in such catchments and these settlements, in the absence of water alerts, face the negative effects caused by floods. Usually the residents and/or authorities do not have the time to take any kind of prevention measures. Negative effects rise when the settlements are located in the convergence zone of two or more catchments. The aim of this paper is to present an algorithm, based on the use of geographical information systems, which was created for identification of rural areas or households with high exposure to floods. Using a comprehensive GIS database on rainfall, antecedent moisture conditions, land use, hydrologic soil group, spatial representations are obtained for the runoff depth, runoff coefficient, time of concentration/flow. Assumptions about storm flow hydrograph into different sections of interest are also made. The application of the algorithm is presented in the rural settlements of the Apuseni Mountains.

VILLAGES IN THE APUSENI MOUNTAINS

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The concept of rural location or rural habitat supposes the presence and interrelationship of social and territorial components, which define the rural system or complex. A central part of my research, in the area of rural geography, has been owned by the role and the place held by the rural households in the entirety of socio-economic activities in the saddle of the Apuseni Mountains. In addition, my research was also motivated by the manner in which the rural households established and still establishes in the present, as a basic core of rural development phenomena.

THE EVOLUTION AND TYPOLOGY OF RURAL SETTLEMENTS IN BRĂILA

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This paper represents an analysis of the changes that have occurred in the organization of the geographical area ever since the setting up of rural settlements in Brăila and up to the present, as well as an



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identification of the elements that can form the basis for rural development, on which lays the increase of life quality, in accordance with sustainable development principles. The ultimate aim that this paper has is that of achieving a comprehensive review that reflects the past of analysing the present and offering solutions for a lasting rural development of localities in Brăila County.

The peculiarities of the landscape are an important factor in the structure of the area because of its geographical location, landscape features, geological structure, climatic, hydrological and pedological characteristics etc.

Therefore, Brăila s`Plain, located on the low terrace of the Danube in the vicinity of the lake with the same name, delimited by the lower valleys of Călmățui, Buzău and Siret rivers, has always been a bridge at the junction of roads that descended towards Dobrogea and the Black Sea. Given its geographical position, at a time when the history of these places was almost unknown, the completely unreasonable idea according to which here we have to do with an area of penetration, without human stability and thus without a demographic singularity, has been spreading.

A wrong image has been created regarding the poor population of Bărăgan from ancient times and up to the Middle-Ages, when they all discussed only about the descent of the Transylvanian shepherds who, in the nineteenth century were joined by people coming from everywhere, especially from the sub-Carpathian region of Prahova, Buzău and Râmnicul Sărat. Far from being an uninhabited steppe area, the terraces and meadows surrounding this plain have drawn in human settlements, the natural environment providing excellent conditions for food and shelter here, ever since the ancient times.

If the interior of the plain, appearing as an open steppe strewn with salt lakes, was less inhabited due to either the harshness of the climate or to the various events that have affected the history of this region, the terraces have encouraged the settlement of a big population, but which, numerically reported to the extent of the whole area of steppe, seems reduced when compared to the sub-Carpathian areas, which have benefited from a different geographical framework. Research has also proved the large role of Balta Brăilei in the life of Câmpia Brăilei's residents during their tumultuous history; the lake has provided food, shelter and defence, in a similar manner to the forests in other parts of Romania, also enabling the locals to extend the inhabited area in times of peace or retreating to the lake in case of danger.

The paper includes an analysis of the developments and structures of the villages from Brăila done on significant steps: Brăila in the IX-XIV centuries, the villages in the period 1400-1829, the Raiaua Brăilei settlements, during 1829-1950, the period of regions and districts 1950 - 1968, Brăila villages today.

It is interesting to watch the increasing population, too, based on both natural increase and the establishment of population from other parts of the country in this area, especially after the land reforms in 1864, 1878, and 1889. Their settlements were called "sheepfolds", containing up to 10 - 15 families, mostly related to one another and forming the centre of some settlements, which today are well structured and developed.

The second way of newcomers settling that worked in parallel with the first one was that of the incorporation within the old villages (the newcomers were welcomed by the locals, phenomenon that was specific to the villages situated along the Danube). In order to be in agreement with this development, in terms of the typology of rural settlements from Brăila, the paper emphasises more the structure, texture, their way of inhabiting (permanent and seasonal) and functions.

In conclusion, the paper aims to demonstrate and support that the villages in Brăila county, represent a basic unit in human settlements evolution, an element of stability, an independent and cultural structure, even though we are in an open area, geographically speaking, with a large demographic fluctuation.



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FUNCTIONS OF THE RURAL SETTLEMENTS

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The first chapter of the article „The Functions of Rural Settlements” tackles, through personal considerations, a series of concepts and terms which are crucial to the understanding of the presented conception, such as: settlement, rural, village, function, “*țară*”, “*ținut*”, territory, functionalism, dynamics, finality, “*moșie*” etc.

Chapter 2 encompasses gnoseological considerations on the functions of settlements. The geography of settlements generically classifies human settlements, starting from their basic element, „the habitat”, into: „rural settlements” and „urban settlements”. Both the village and the city, at the social-organisational level, are geosystems which, by achieving their finality, generate and develop certain *functions*, since every human settlement is the product of the region in which it lies and towards which it creates processes of interdependency, of mutual exchanges. These functions have double aims, more exactly satisfying their own needs and satisfying the demands of the hinterland.

Concerning *rural functions*, they must respond to the necessities of two structural elements (*the territory* - composed of “*vatră*” and “*moșie*” – and the *community*), which sustain and determine each other, through the relations between them and also through the relations created by their states. Depending on the village’s conceptual structure, the geographical literature contains a series of definitions for it, from which geographers, anthropologists, sociologists, geo-anthropologists, etc., configured the village’s functions. We will present the different conceptions and classifications of the village’s functions, found in the Romanian geographical literature as well as in the international literature.

When it comes to villages we can no longer say that the function “is a practiced profession”, because the village’s functions, are foremost vital, having a rural anthropogenetic role. The function is *the synergetic and vital property of the village, which generates, and sustains its life, in order to reach its finality, its fate*. Starting from the above mentioned definition, we can configure a classification of the rural functions of the Romanian village:

- 1) the residential function (as “*hearth*”);
- 2) the agricultural function;
- 3) the agro-pastoral function;
- 4) the religious function;
- 5) the agro-piscicultural function;
- 6) the administrative function;
- 7) the agro-forestry function;
- 8) the agro-trade function;
- 9) the agro-industrial function;
- 10) the agro-touristic function.

These crucial functions for the Romanian village can be classified in: a) *vital functions* and b) *conjunctural functions*. The former category includes the residential function, the agricultural function, the religious function and the agro-pastoral function, while the latter includes the administrative, agro-forestry, agro-piscicultural, agro-trade, agro-industrial and agro-touristic functions.

Out of the four vital functions mentioned above, each village encompasses, in its structure, at least three functions. These become one, by definition, with the rural settlement, with the village, with the “*hearth*” and the land. Therefore, we plead for the usage of the term “*moșie*” in geography, because, in the



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case of the geo-anthropology of the Romanian geographical space, the village is made up of two symbols: “moşie” and “vatră”.

IARA - A POLARIZATION MODEL IN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

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Iara, the main commune inside the Iara-Hăşdate Depression, located in the south-west part of Cluj County, inside the limit between the Transylvanian Plain and the Apuseni Mountains, is one of the largest localities regarding the territorial aspect summing up to 15 km².

The central place of this commune is revealed and shown since ancient times, through the last archaeological research studies in the area, as here people used to have economic, social and cultural activities proving the existence of material and social life going back until the Roman Empire.

An ex-mining centre, Iara is trying to recover from the immediate consequences following the mining restructuring process by implementing different projects meant to increase the quality of life for the inhabitants still living here.

Taking this background into consideration the commune Iara has succeeded in creating a suitable space for local development to flourish and little by little to offer a polarizing centre for all the settlements inside the Iara-Hăşdate Depression, one offering the main services and thus partially replacing the services acquired only in the urban centres outside the depression: Turda and Cluj-Napoca, and also offering a rich environment for the foreign investors to develop their future businesses in the region.

DEMOGRAPHIC, PHYSIOGNOMIC AND FUNCTIONAL CHANGES OF THE RURAL SETTLEMENTS IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF SUCEAVA MUNICIPALITY

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After 1990, in Suceava city the territorial evolution has been similar to that of the majority of the big and middle size cities of Romania. This evolution meant the spreading of the city towards the territory of the neighboring communes and this phenomenon generated multiple changes of the last ones.

The demographic changes manifested through the modification of the negative migration balance into a positive one and also through the transformation of the population structure from various points of view. These modifications were detected both through the analysis of the average annual rhythm of population growth in 1977 – 1992 and 1992 – 2008, and through the analysis of the migration balance for the same periods. The functional changes refer mainly to the commercial and residential profile acquired by these settlements, which replaced the predominantly agricultural one prior to 1990. These modifications will be highlighted especially through the examination of the professional structure of the population.

The aspectual changes are the most surprising and they lead to the birth of two worlds, sometimes sharply separated, sometimes not: the new villas district and the village itself. These changes are reflected by the modifications occurred in the type of land use and also by the numerical and qualitative evolution of the housing resources. The evolution of the two components of the peri-urban settlements in the context of the



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appearance of the Suceava metropolitan area will emphasize probably even more the dichotomy rural-urban which already exists at the level of the analyzed localities.

**THE IMPACT OF IMPLANTING HOLIDAY HOUSES IN RURAL AREAS.
CASE STUDY: RÂNCA MOUNTAIN RESORT**

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In this paper we aim at showing how the rural space suffers modifications nowadays, meant to produce different changes in terms of physiognomy and also at a social and economic level, focusing on the phenomenon of building holiday houses in rural areas, by a population coming from an urban area.

The case study we have chosen refers to Râncă mountain resort, situated 18 km away from the town of Novaci, in the North of Gorj County, at 1600m average altitude, on the Râu-Şes erosion platform, in the Parâng Mountains.

If ‘the adjective *rural* is used to define, generally speaking, life in the countryside, found outside urban agglomerations’, opposed to it, the term *urban* designates everything that is connected to the town. (Matei, D., 2005:9) Therefore, we consider Râncă mountain resort a special case. This place, which thirty years ago could have been considered peripheral rural, is now characterized by an incipient urbanization. It is interesting to observe the fact that this process isn’t sustained by the closest urban centre, the town of Novaci, which doesn’t have the economic-administrative power of influence to sustain such a process, but by the cities located at greater distances, especially the cities of Târgu-Jiu and Craiova, whose range of influence expand to over a 50-100 Km distance.

Even if Râncă used to be a profound rural area, frequented in the summer by shepherds, when climbing sheep herds to the mountain, having as proof the old Transalpina road and the sheepfolds that can still be seen there, it now has the tendency to transform itself into an urban-like touristic area. New, recently constructed buildings have appeared, as a consequence of citizens’ growing incomes. They come from larger cities from the Gorj County (Târgu-Jiu) or from even greater distances, such as those coming from Dolj (Craiova). They all have been seduced by the mountain scenery of the Parâng Mountains and the accessibility of the area facilitated by the Novaci-Sebeş mountain road, which determined them to build holiday houses in this area.

The ‘urbanization’ process has led to significant changes, many economic and social mutations being caused by this phenomenon: tourism development of the area, the appearance of technical infrastructures, built areas replacing grazing fields, wood exploitations and deforestation, unequal distribution of tourist flows – high influx during week-ends and insignificant during the week.

Hence, the skyline in Râncă has gradually increased and developed, starting with the construction of the first holiday houses, reaching later an urban-like area density, along which other tourism facilities have appeared: guest houses, hotels, roads etc.

In conclusion, we can say that the rural space in the Râncă region has undergone multiple structural modifications during the current period. Among other factors, the urban individuals’ obvious mobility determined a greater affluence in certain areas, isolated not so long ago, but which have an important natural touristic potential. They have been integrated especially into week-end flows. The consequence of such flows was the changing customs of the locals caused by the periodically interference of the incoming population, a process that wasn’t necessarily negative, as it usually led to a complex development process of the rural place, as in the case of Râncă mountain resort, having profound implications even in the



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approach of the notion of village and city. It is a fact that the rural space evolution is a normal phenomenon, which must be, however, well thought and planned, and not left at random, so as not to become an anarchical phenomenon, which would cancel the specificity of this space, which, until not so long ago, used to take into consideration ancient landmarks.



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SECTION 5 ALTERNATIVE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

A DIAGNOSIS OF COMPETITIVENESS IN TERRITORIAL RURAL COMMUNITIES

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Europe adopts the model of sustainable development. Its diversity should be respected. In a globalized world, rural communities' development requires their competitiveness. Cohesion policy aimed at reducing disparities between communities, European funds are instruments of an integrated finance rural development, while Romania has a national strategy for sustainable development. The study we propose to follow is: diagnosing the level of sustainable development of the villages, to what extent the objectives adopted in the pre- and post were in UE made in Maramureș, risks and vulnerabilities arising from internal/exogenous factors, prospects of development of territorial communities rural (Săpânța, Ieud), building their economic competitiveness, social and environment; analyze experiences, methods, strategies used by local government and other stakeholders in this regard; identify development strategy through projects using the Territorial capital; use Romanian and foreign literature, the current Romanian and European legislation, reports, provision of rural development programs for 2010-2020; find solutions to problems of villages and identify the role of designing strategies to increase competitiveness with local actors. The opportunity to attract funds to our country is accompanied by a great challenge for the potential beneficiaries of these funds. Gap is constructed as vulnerable, so fight against them requires an approach based on territory. European Rural Development Policy is the wide variety of communities in rural areas: some are close to large cities (and feeling the pressure on land), others are "in decline" (migration of young people faced with the aging population, etc.), others are marginalized (in mountainous areas) etc. Their future requires territorial approach and the involvement of residents. Such an approach respects principles such as integrated approach, diversification of economic activities and social sustainability (preservation quality of rural landscapes, exploitation of natural resources, biodiversity conservation, and cultural identity), subsidiary, programming, funding local projects for sustainable development, productive investment, quality management, monitoring, evaluation and analysis of results obtained by spending money on projects. This will diagnose: situation, practices in implementing the existing value, organizational systems, and values underlying these systems of organization. Social competitiveness analysis will cover: the diversity of rural territorial communities investigated, (re)building social these territories, governance and operation of institutions and social services, know-how sites implicit/ explicit, competencies. Analysis of competitiveness environment will allow us to assess: natural resources of the territory, landscape and countryside, relationships with outside markets etc.

COMPLEMENTARY ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES. CASE STUDY TRAINING CENTER, JUCU COMMUNE, CLUJ COUNTY

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Jucu is a town located in the centre of the growth of metropolitan area of Cluj that benefit first from major urban and national road equipment, upgraded roads, airport and proximity to urban amenities and second of a natural meadow particularly given interference by Someş proximity to hills and meanders of Someş River.

The context of a city that offers proximity services such as Cluj and a chain of cultural facilities and loisir located along Someş River creates opportunities for cultural and economic development benefiting the local rural context and urban areas nearby.

This context has created the opportunity for proposing the Training and Recreation Centre of Jucu by the County Council. The project comes as an addition to sports amenities in the city and as a complement facility for the international stadium "Ion Moina" - Cluj Arena. This sports facility becomes virtually a permanent training centre nationally and internationally, a competitive Olympic centre and also a recreational facility open to the public.

The great range of internal functions by the wide range and versatility of the spaces and the wide range category of user public makes this investment to be attractive for achieving public-private partnership with multiple benefits for both parties.

The complex is developed on 5 ha and is composed of: 120 hotel beds, a swimming centre with facilities for water polo, swimming and jumping, restaurant, two Multisport competitions play court, four outdoor Multisport playgrounds, four tennis courts and a football field with the 6 athletic tracks, all designed to international level.

Achieving such a sports and entertainment facilities, the investment builds a pole of growth in rural areas through the usage of local workforce, attract additional services in the area, development of transport infrastructure, proximity to the urbanized area of Cluj and allowed for the joint development Jucu future pole sub-urban areas in the metropolitan area.

THE BARCĂU BASIN. THE NATURAL RESOURCES BETWEEN EXPLOITATION AND EXHAUSTION. PART 1: SOCIO – ECONOMIC EFFECTS AND PERSPECTIVES OF TERRITORIAL CONVERSION

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The current study deals an actual problem, which of human communities being in difficulties because of traditional economic activities decline after the fall of the Communist regime, which failed in finding development alternatives and that, were not assisted at the elaboration of some territorial conversion strategies through other resources improvement. This situation, as a matter of fact pretty frequent in Romania's former areas of resources exploitation, was shown for villages from Barcău Basin. The current article consists of four parts: the first part is a synthetic presentation of resources from this area, including also some historical details of their exploitation; the second part shows the specific of resources exploitation during Communist period; the third part analyses the decline for these activities and their impact on human communities, and the fourth part evaluates the balanced territorial development perspectives, proposing some solutions for territorial conversion.

In the NW part of Romania, the Barcău Basin is an area that was remarked through its many natural resources, especial those of subsoil (petrol, bituminous sands, coal, carbon dioxide, mineral waters, thermal



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waters), valorised through intensive exploitation in the second half of 20th century. The Communist period represented the climax of petrol and coal exploitation, this region's population and economy bloomed for a period of about half of a century. In the same time, to the first decline of the 21st century, the economic exhaustion and profitless of petrol and coal exploitation, determined the close of quarries and mines for coals and oil exploitations. The socio – economic impact on local communities is shown through some indices evolution: the decline of activity rate, the increase of unemployment rate, the increase of economic dependence rapport, etc. The repellent of this area, found in this moment in decline for young population risks to attract other negative socio – economic effects with the lack of some territorial conversion strategies through a sustainable development based on other resources exploitation. The main lines for territorial conversion are both of social and economic degree, important being that of organising the interregional and cross border cooperation in order to reduce the isolation and create new initiatives and new impulses for growth, and even projects of regional development, that could be financed through Structural Funds of European Union.

THE ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY OF THE RURAL REGIONS IN BULGARIA

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All the countries in the South-East Europe region in accordance to the land use, development rates and way of live are primary rural. Bulgaria is not an exception of this general statement. This has as well as positive consequences as well as negative ones. In the first group are the well preserved environment, keep cultural traditions and diversity, environmentally safety way of live and very good agriculture potential. Anyway, the second group constitutes by the depopulation, lack of labour force, lack for job alternatives, and low rate of mechanization and intensification of the agriculture production which cause low rates of incomes for the rural regions.

The purpose if this paper is to discuss and estimate both the measures taken by the government by the Program for development of the rural regions in Bulgaria and secondly, the efforts of the farmers and other social groups locate in the rural regions. The discussion takes into account the results obtained by the program until now and elaborates some questions about its efficiency and accuracy. The observations of the farmer's group shows that most of them are not well market oriented and often takes the “wrong turn” in accordance to product specialization and markers. Finally, all the processes in the rural regions have very strong geographical matter, which in our opinion are not used at maximum scale.

WINE TOURISM IN RURAL AREAS - POLISH CONDITIONS AFTER THE TRANSFORMATION -

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For centuries agriculture was the basic source of income for rural communities. It has been and still is as an element of rural tradition and culture. Agriculture households in old times used to be oriented solely toward the production – they existed to farm and rear animals.



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The socio-economic transformations after 1989 brought huge changes in administration of personal properties and made it possible to manage the private property. Centrally planned economy has been replaced by the market economy, where single farm households became the subjects of the market. It opened a new way to realize modern ideas and plans, especially on rural areas. As a result, rural households from being solely the attribute of the national agriculture sector have become prominent players in the services sector, particularly in the hospitality - tourism industry.

One of the means to diversify profile of rural households is to transform an agriculture household into an agro-tourism household. Nowadays, the rural communities face new, market-oriented requirements, which make them to respond to them by joining the tradition and modernity. Rural areas are not only obliged to produce and supply food for the cities. Their image is now created by product, which includes: natural environment, natural and cultural landscape, the cuisine and regional art as responses to tourists' needs and requirements (Xose A.A.M., Belen Gomez M., 2005).

Over the last years wine tourism has become more and more popular, even in those countries, which were not traditionally considered wine countries. In Europe, wine tourism is now perceived as a form of tourism in rural areas (Kowalczyk, 2003) and is defined as 'trips to wine regions, aimed at visiting places of wine production (vineyards, wine farms) and participating in wine events'. This is how in many countries wine-trails developed.

In Poland wine tourism is a new and dynamic phenomenon copying successful resolution from the West. The main purpose of creating and popularizing wine-trails is to promote the region. This, in turn mobilizes local firms such as producers, vineyards' owners, hotels, restaurants, cafes (Karafolas, 2007) and wine amateurs to work together, as their cooperation is the basic element of tourism development and local initiative. Setting up particularly oriented agro-tourism farms (e.g. wine agro-tourism farms) can be a mean to transform and modernize the rural households and, equally a great opportunity to owners to improve their financial situation and status of life.

**PATRIMONY, ARCHAEOLOGY, TOURISM.
PATTERNS FOR RURAL SUSTAINABLE TOURISM**

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Archaeological tourism has rapidly developed all over the world and became a huge business for many countries. We reached this point in when the contemporary society became conscious that for a country, region, city or village the past represents an inestimable treasure. There are numerous exceptional sites in exceptional locations. Pompeii, for example, is the most fascinating location for all the archaeologists, researchers who have had, as their main interest, the Roman era. Pompeii is annually visited by the large public. In the last 10-15 years, another Roman marvel has become an attraction: the Roman roads.

As we have outlined before, archaeological tourism constantly developed in many parts of the world (Himmelmänn 1984). Numerous recently published books, articles and other studies present to the reader the concept of "landscape archaeology". In these contributions, the specialists inform the large public about the modalities in which the antique landscape was created and functioned in the Roman era, how the Romans understood to use this landscape, and which were the relations between the position of archaeological structures (legionary and auxiliary fortresses, cemeteries, Roman farms, stone quarries, roads, rural settlements) and the natural elements.



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How important are Roman ruins? How are they seen today in a geographical region, such as Europe, where the main issue is to create a unified space, both politically and economically? Why is it important to understand the importance of archaeological tourism? These are questions we will try to answer.

Let's take, for example, the Roman roads. Why is this topic important?

We will present a well known region of Transylvania, the valley of Arieș. The archaeological remains are quite well known. The most important sites registering Roman discoveries are Mihai Viteazu, Moldovenești, Cornești and Buru. All these settlements are, apparently, villages with no possibilities for the development of activities related to tourism. We said apparently because the local authorities, not only in the enumerated cases, but in general, don't know the importance of the Roman traces that could be found above or buried in the ground. A beautiful Roman Road can be seen today at the exit from Buru. At Moldovenești on the hill called Cetate a tower existed in the Roman era. At Mihai Viteazu, in numerous points were made archaeological discoveries. In all, we say that these villages, these local communities can develop self-sustained tourism activities. They have only to look around and capitalize these archaeological remains and the geographical landscape and money will be included in their local budgets.

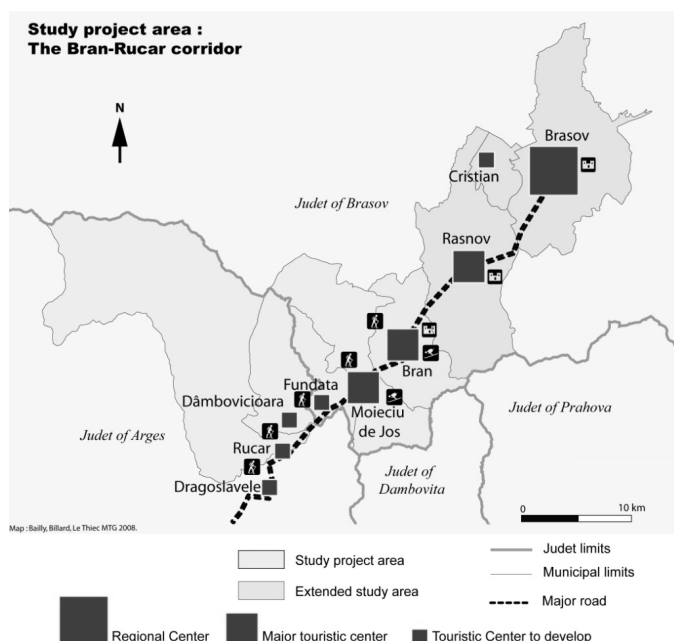
EVALUATION OF THE AGRO-TOURISM SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL OF THE BRAN-RUCĂR VALLEY (TRANSILVANIA, ROMANIA)

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The Bran-Rucăr valley stands out as a true area of tourism development. In the same time, there are a series of threats that stand up on an already fragile environment. The chaotic acceleration of construction work (houses, hotels) in the northern area of the valley can lead to a fast degrading of the landscape. Moreover, the concentration of human activities can produce an imbalance in the spatial development of the valley as the southern part is underdeveloped in spite of favourable factors. This space, that bears an



the capitalization of its resources.

international brand (Bran/ Dracula's castle) and its geographical position of a gateway to and from Transylvania must cope with the modern changes. Finally, as we watch the course of its development, it continues to develop without a model scheme like a master plan. This uncontrolled development could lead to fragmentation of the valley and to accelerating disparities as well as an inefficient capitalization of its potential and agricultural usage and thus make the local authorities continue with an inefficient development model. The principal aim of this paper is to show the methodology which has been implementing to conduct the diagnostic for one year. The goal of this diagnostic is to identify favourable and unfavourable aspects for the purpose of developing an articulated plan for the sustainable development of the region through



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THE IMPORTANCE OF NON-AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN THE MULTIFUNCTIONALITY OF ROMANIAN AGRICULTURAL FARMS

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A wide range of non-agricultural economic activities, alternative, complementary and related to agriculture, can be stimulated to develop in rural Romania, in the conditions when the financial resources from the EU rural development programs can be absorbed. Besides other positive effects, the non-agricultural activities will also lead to the increase of rural area attractiveness from the economic, investment, social, tourism etc. point of view. Without denying the strategic role of Romanian agriculture, we consider that the development of non-agricultural activities can have obvious effects upon the sustainable rural development; a direct extension of the economic flows between agriculture and the non-agricultural upstream and downstream branches is needed, by agriculture participation to industry development and to the development of other non-agricultural activities through income and labour transfer. The development of relations between the direct participants to the agricultural activities and the subjects of non-agricultural activities practiced in the upstream and downstream sectors ensures not only the creation of conditions for the substantiation of decisions on production and its commercialization, but also increases the general knowledge and information level of the population from the rural communities.

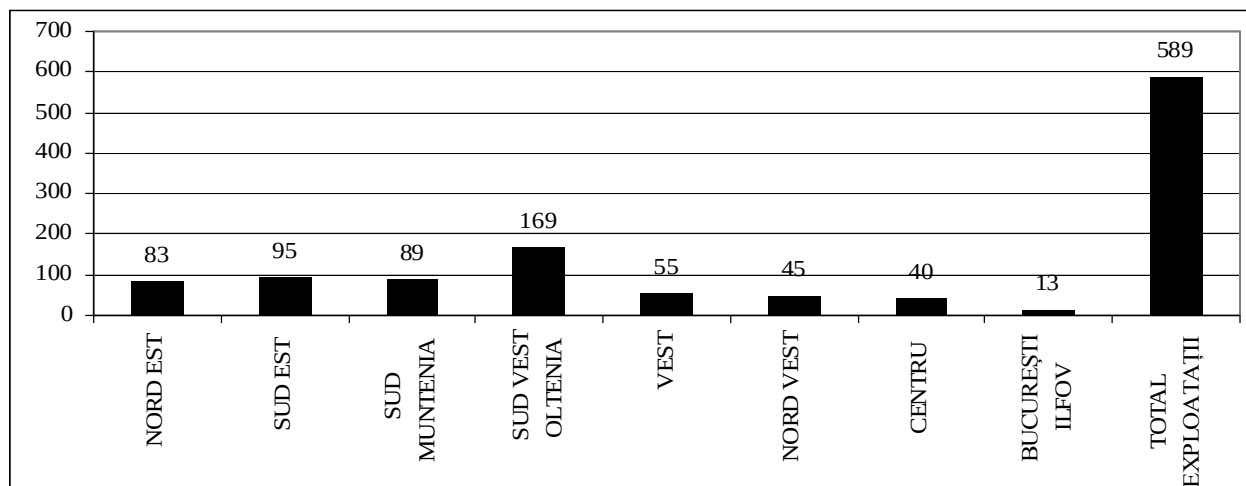


Fig. 1. Distribution holdings were held on non-agricultural activities in romanian region economic development.

Range of non-agricultural activities or practices charged Romanian farms is wide, among them stand out: trade, processing of agricultural products, activities of chopping and mixing feed, service to others with their own equipment, milling activities, agritourism activities, woodworking and other processing.



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IZVORU CRIȘULUI – A TOURISTIC HANDICRAFT BASED VILLAGE

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Izvoru Crișului (in Hungarian, Körösfő), residence of the commune bearing the same name, was attested for the first time in 1276. Since the late 19th Century, wood processing has gradually turned into a handicraft.

In a period of time when in Romania the concept of rural tourism is related to negative stereotypes, which fail to bring the image capital required for a harmonious development, the village Izvoru Crișului proved itself as a model of special strategy. The village is one of the richest in Cluj County and has a continuous potential of economic development. The key to its success lies in the proper exploitation of its cultural resources (handicrafts, architectural heritage, folklore), exploitation of the advantages provided by the natural environment (location at the boundary between the Huedin Depression and the Pâniceni Plateau), as well as the transport network (the village is crossed by DN1 - E60). Moreover, being a village of ethnic diversity, it received a stable starting point by default. It was supposed that the customs and traditions had to be preserved, and this was done via handicraft. Subsequently, this led to progress in tourism, precisely because of the complementary character between art and tourism-based economy. Through its flexibility, the village Izvoru Crișului managed to build an effective economic model, which perfectly complies with the requirements of globalization. The approach of this subject is both quantitative (based on statistics) and qualitative. The qualitative aspect lies in the manner how local community gets involved in the development of rural tourism. Thus, we used such methods as the questionnaire and interview. Results and interpretations will be presented in the final paper.

THE ALTERNATIVE TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGIONS FOR PURPOSEFUL SUPPORT IN BULGARIA - IMPACT OF FINANCIAL CRISIS -

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Objective: The subjects of the research are mostly the country and those which are in the border area territories of Bulgaria, which are undeveloped compared to the rest of the region. Their natural resources and preserved country life and culture are premise for accelerated development of the alternative tourism. Which the help of the different projects financed by the found of the EU, added to the personal initiative of the population in some parts of these regions the alternative tourism max influence beneficial economical effect. Impact of financial crisis.

Methodology: Through analysing the statistical and demographical pieces of information some of the undeveloped regions of Bulgaria are outlined. Their natural and anthropogenic resources are being analyzed in order to develop the alternative tourism.

Results: The negative aspects of the undeveloped regions are being discovered (aggravated age structure, bad MTB and infrastructure etc.). Having in mind all that information me are able to render an account of the positive economical influence of the development of the alternative tourism in the examined regions.



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THE RURAL TOURISM AND THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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Agritourism is a component of the rural tourism, with implications in the revaluation of the local resources and in the increase of the lifestyle of the people, in the social and economic development of the rural locality and of the community, in the protection and the preservation of the natural and built environment, in the context of an economic activity on ecological principles.

Between rural tourism and agritourism there is a close relation from the whole to the part, agritourism being one of the components of rural tourism. Agritourism, however, being practised mainly in the areas with diversified agricultural vocation, in the relatively isolated and isolated areas, which impose the provision of all the necessary stuff to live through own forces or where there is a specialty, creates monopoly positions regarding the production of some appreciated and sought food products (orchard and viticulture areas, Shepard villages, the delta and other fishing areas).

The nature experience does not represent the only feature that differentiates ecotourism from other similar forms of tourism. That is why it cannot be considered a simple form of rural tourism or an easy way of agritourism, where the activity is often reduced to the observance and the participation in the agricultural activities or the caring for animals. Nature, a non-exhausted source of entertainment, remains a permanent and cheap attraction or handy for more participants in the tourist act.

Ecotourism involves the visit of the natural areas for an educational purpose, as well as the implementation of solutions with a minimum impact on the ecosystem, for the development of the local community.

The mass tourism is the one responsible for the most visible and most profound negative influences on the destination tourist areas, these being the majority of the cases of negative impacts.

The alternative tourism tries to avoid the traditional destinations with a mass character, focusing on the responsible and ethical attitude of the consumers taking part in the newest forms of tourism.

The sustainable tourism represents the development of all the forms of tourism, through a tourist management and marketing which complies with the natural, social and economic integrity of the environment, in such a way that the exploitation of the natural and cultural resources should be done in the interest of the future generations.

The sustainable tourism should comply with the following principles:

- the minimization of the impacts of the tourist activities on the natural environment for obtaining the ecological sustainability;
- the minimisation of the negative impacts of the tourist activity on the local communities and its members for obtaining the social sustainability;
- the minimisation of the negative impacts of the tourist activity on the culture, traditions and local community customs for obtaining the cultural sustainability.

The guarantee of success of such a tourism means:

- the stimulation of the private initiative in tourism and the creation of a support frame for the local tourism;
- the revaluation of the tourist potential of the county through the development, diversification and the promotion of the tourist offer;
- the sustainable development of tourism through: the rational use of the tourist resources and the promotion of the preservation and protection methods of the environment under the national legal stipulations on the environment;



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- the maximisation of the tourist potential through the integration of tourism in other sectors of the regional industry;
- the offer of assistance for the local institutions and the operators to achieve and change the resources according to the community demands;

**RE-CONCEPTUALISING RURAL RESOURCES AS COUNTRYSIDE CAPITAL:
THE CASE OF MULTI-STAKEHOLDER CO-OPERATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ECO-
RURAL TOURISM IN BEZDAN (IN THE WEST BACKA DISTRICT OF VOJVODINA)**

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Rural resources, on which rural tourism is based, are often called the countryside capital. The definition of countryside capital presently adopted by the Countryside Agency is 'the fabric of the countryside, its villages and its market towns'. Bezdan, one of the largest rural settlements (village) of the western Backa District in the Vojvodina Province, on the left of the Danube, is located on the contact of loess terrace and marsh in the north-western part of Vojvodina. It is popularly called watery settlement, because it is surrounded by water flows and one can get to it only across bridges. Its natural, cultural and tourist potential (countryside capital) is presented in the aim of development of eco-rural tourism.

Moreover, multi-stakeholder co-operation in the development of eco-rural tourism in Bezdan (in the West Backa District of Vojvodina) is much more important in planning one tourist event which will promote this destination in the very best way. Event tourism and the event industry, including festivals, meetings, conferences, exhibitions, animation programmes and a range of other events, is rapidly developing and makes a significant contribution to business. In order to ensure positive experience and repeated visitation of tourists who participate in an event, multi-stakeholder co-operation is necessary in process of planning and managing. Therefore, event managers are now required to identify and service a wide range of stakeholders and to balance their needs and objectives (Stamenković, Dragičević, Stankov, 2009).

One of the goals of this essay, with theory aspects and concrete examples, is to point out the importance of events and animation, as a considerable factors and new trend of promotion one product on eco-rural tourism market (in Pan-European Corridors 10 and 7). Moreover, the thesis is to emphasize the crucial role of stakeholder co-operation in the mentioned processes.

**DEVELOPING CULTURAL TOURISM AND EVENTS IN KOVILJ VILLAGE
(LOCAL COMMUNITY HAS THE LAST WORD AND IS THE LEADER AND STAKEHOLDER IN
THE PROCESS OF EVENT ORGANISATION ON THE PAN-EUROPEAN CORRIDORS 10 AND 7)**

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The village of Kovilj has splendid natural suitability (convenience) for the development of tourism. It has a characteristic of big agglomeration of its population (over 5000) which is a good prerequisite for the possible development of tourism. Also, the village owns some good features such as tourist resources and is rich in folk heritage. Furthermore, good lines of transportation with neighbouring places and the city of Novi



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Sad and incredibly attractive location right beside the Danube swampy area make this village attractive for relaxation and recreation

During the last decade the rural tourism industry has been the tourism niche that has experienced one of the most rapid growth of all, in the Europe and at the Balkan Region. The results of the analysis have shown that the rural regions have positive impact on the tourist market of the Republic of Serbia. Although, the benefits exclude food and accommodation expenditure, they are noticeable within the following segments: tourism promotion (of ethnological elements of cultural heritage and natural values), increase in foreign tourist turnover, new job opportunities, adequate infrastructure, souvenir shops etc. Animation in tourism with its animation programmes, introduces very important segment in touristic offer on many types of tourism markets. In this way tourists are able to feel local atmosphere. In theme nights, for instance, authentic food is served and everything is enriched with the folkloric characteristics of nation we want to represent.

One of the goals of this essay, with theory aspects and concrete examples, is to point out the importance of events and animation, as a considerable factors and new trend of promotion one product on eco-rural tourism market (in Pan-European Corridors 10 and 7). Moreover, the thesis is to emphasise the crucial role of stakeholder co-operation in the mentioned processes.

RURAL TOURISM AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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Rural tourism has long been considered a means of achieving economic and social development and regeneration. More specifically, it has been widely promoted as an effective source of income and employment, particularly in peripheral rural areas where traditional agrarian industries have declined. More recently, however, a number of established tourism destinations have also turned to rural tourism in order to diversify their tourism products and markets and to spread the benefits of tourism away from the coastal resorts into the hinterland. This research focuses on the applying sustainable development thinking in the case of rural tourism.



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SECTION 6

TERRITORIAL, SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION AND COHESION PATTERNS

KNOWLEDGE-BASED NETWORKS. TERRITORIAL COHESION FACTORS IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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“Gheorghe Zane” Economic and Social Research Institute

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Development is about transformation of societies which involves people changing how they think. Knowledge is the basic mean through which we understand and give meaning to the world around us. The tangible form of knowledge is the information. The information changes something or somebody by making an individual (or an institution) capable of different or more effective action.

Human actions and practices can be seen also as tangible expression of knowledge. Nowadays we are speaking about knowledge-based networks, knowledge-based co-operations, and knowledge - based communities and about knowledge and information systems.

The aim of this article is to present arguments for considering the knowledge-based networks as important territorial cohesion factors in rural development. In this regards, the recent studies, published by authors like Nijkamp, Sorensen, Andersson, Karlsson, Johansson, shows how the exchange of complex knowledge demands face-to-face interaction. People interact frequently with those who live and work in close geographical proximity and with whom they share backgrounds and interests. We are referring in this context also to the quality learning interactions that are the precondition to building social capital.

Finally we are going to present some experiences from the North-East Development Region of Romania in facilitating rural development by organizing knowledge-based networks.



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SECTION 7 AQUIS COMMUNITAIRE. RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

RURAL AREAS IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA. ACHIEVEMENTS AND DESIDERATA

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During last years EU has been interested in the development of rural areas. The diversity of natural conditions, cultural particularities, traditions and customs, micro and macro level changes represent milestones for further rural area research. In this article the natural resources of rural areas as well as human resources potential are the object of study. A special place is dedicated to agriculture, as the key factor of Moldova economy, and entire rural area development, as well as to the market tools that must provide the sustainable development of rural areas.

IDENTIFYING REGIONAL DISPARITIES IN ROMANIA IN THE EUROPEAN CONTEXT OF INCREASING REGIONAL COHESION

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The restructuring of the Romanian economy has led to profound changes in the territorial systems functionality. This study aims to identify the stage of development of the regional dynamics, in which the polarization of development leads to profound ruptures, in the functional relationship between rich and poor regions. After the 1989, the change of political system led to increased regional disparities in close connection with policy decisions. In 1990, the populist economic features, as the increase number of employed in industry, has led to labour migration from village to town and, consequently, a rural poverty. At the opposite, the urban economy recorded a significant jump. Between 1991 and 1999, the economy drops dramatically; the most affected areas are the urban centres, the massive redundant labour force focused on rural areas. It produces a major rift between rural areas and many small towns on the one hand, and cities over 300 000 inhabitants. On the other hand, although it records an economic growth, the regional disparities are still present, and the detailed analysis highlight large areas falling within the category of deep disadvantage. The methodology was developed to work within the following research projects: Territorial Management Based on Growth Poles Theory (UEFICSU-PNII-Idei, 1950), Entrepreneurial Sector and the Attenuation of the Regional Disparities (UEFICSU-PNII-Idei, 196), Discontinuities Controlled Production And The Treatment Of The Deeply Disadvantaged Areas (UEFICSU-PNII-Idei, 194).

REEVALUATION, PROMOTION AND RE-BRANDING IN ROMANIAN RURAL SPACE

Dorina ILIEŞ, Alexandru ILIEŞ, Ioana JOSAN, Grigore HERMAN, Vasile GRAMA, Ştefan BAIAS, Maria GOZNER
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One of the development modalities of some territories, uppermost rural, with approved regional identity, is increasing their attractiveness for non-polluting investments and especially a transformation in touristic brands. Promoting the image and the services by performing materials in the printed and digital forms is one of the main concerns on the entire continent. In the actual social and economic context, elaborating a revitalization strategy of the Romanian rural area plays an important role in developing economy programs. In this context, the development and the integration of rural tourism and not only, in the local development strategies, regional and national by creating adjusted models for the local specific and by involving the determination factors of all the levels, is looming as main objectives for the research activity in the domain.

Many elaborated works by the specialists from various domains and also by interdisciplinary teams, pointed out during the time the geographical peculiarities of one of the most “*preserved and authentic*” territorial systems, among them the “*lands*” were included first and foremost. The variety of the ethno-cultural resources involves interdisciplinarity and collaboration at the level of some domains as: ethnography, folklore, art, museography and so on.

EUROPEAN AND NATIONAL DIMENSIONS IN RURAL TOURISM EPISTEMOLOGY

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The directing principles of PAC, of market politics and rural development politics have been defined at the European Council reunion from Göteborg (on 15th and 16th June 2001). According to its conclusions, an advanced economy has to work square with the durable usage of natural resources and the durable management of the waste, biodiversity respect, ecosystem conservation and desertification control.

To be able to face these challenges in its present and future estate, PAC should try contributing to a durable development by encouraging the use of healthy and good quality products, of some production methods which are viable ecologically, including an ecological agriculture, regenerative raw materials and biodiversity protection.

The next politics of the rural development focuses on three basic domains: agri-food economy, environment and more specifically the population and economy in rural environment. The new set of strategies and programs of rural development will articulate on four axes:

- Axis 1 – “competitive agriculture, nutrition and forestry products “.
- Axis 2 – “space and environment management”.
- Axis 3 – “quality of life and rural zones diversity”.
- Axis 4 – “founded on Leader experience”.

Regarding axis 1, a set of measures will point the human and material funds of agriculture, nutrition and forestry products (promotion of knowledge and innovations transfer), and quality production. Axis 2 provides measures of protection and improvement of natural resources, conservation of agrarian and sylvan systems which are so valuable from the natural point of view and of cultural landscapes from European rural zones.

Axis 3 contributes to the development of the local infrastructures and human resources from rural zones in order to ameliorate the conditions of economical growth and jobs creation in all sectors and the economical diversity. Axis 4 introduces possibilities of innovating governance through some local ascending tackling of the rural development.



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Each of the community's priorities and their contribution to the accomplishment of the purposes from Lisbon and Göteborg would have to picture to the level of member countries in the national strategic plans and in the rural development plans. In many cases it will be assigned national and regional priorities for specific problems regarding the agri-food chain or the situation of the agriculture and silviculture from an ecological, geographical and climatic point of view.

The provision of ecological products, especially through agro ecological measures, may contribute to the identification of the rural zones and nutritional products. These ecological products can be the basis of economical growth and employment generated by tourism and the accommodation options in rural environment, especially when these are correlated to tourism diversity, handicraft, formation or the non-food products.

Tourism, handicraft and the accommodation provision are sectors of economical growth in many regions and it offers possibilities not only in the domain of exploit diversity, which does not include agriculture, but also in the domain regarding the development of some micro enterprises of rural economy.

Tourism is a very important sector of economical growth in many rural regions, which can rest on natural and cultural heritage. The increased use of TIC in tourism for bookings, promotions, marketing, creating services and recreational activities may concur to the growth of visitors and length of stay, especially when it offers links to the small facilities and encourages the agro tourism.

Integrated tackling which associates the peasants, forester and many other rural actors may salvage and capitalize the local, natural and cultural heritage, sensitize to the environment problems and promote typical products, tourism and the renewable resources and energy.

THE DETAILED URBAN PLAN OF THE ȚIȚĂRAI NEIGHBOURHOOD. SWOT ANALYSIS

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The case study SWOT analysis – regarding the strategic plan – takes into account a number of essential factors on which the final results depend, such as:

- opportunities and threats of the external environment of the neighbourhood;
- administrative strengths and weaknesses of the neighbourhood;
- personal values which characterize the main responsible people involved in the elaboration and implementation of strategy;
- the expectancies of the local community and tourists regarding the activities and its results.

To elaborate a strategic plan, it is absolutely necessary to make a deep analyse on the socio-economic field in order to detect the major changes that may influence the Țițărai neighbourhood in its developing process.

The process must be the response to the community's needs and the real transformations of the community.

Romania, like many other countries, faces an important migration phenomenon, which has a series of positive and negative consequences from temporal point of view. Regarding the fact that the phenomenon is the response to the community's needs, the local authorities are directly responsible in coordinating the phenomenon to a rational, responsible process.



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MITIGATING REGIONAL DISPARITIES THROUGH THE POLYCENTRIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY CASE STUDY SOUTH-WEST DEVELOPMENT REGION

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After 1989, the change of the political system led to the increase of the regional disparities, in close connection with the policy decisions. In 1990, the populist economic measures, to increase the number of employees in industry (although economic decline was evident), resulted in a migration of the labour force, from village to town and, consequently, rural poverty. At the opposite, urban areas (especially in urban centres with regional functions) recorded significant economic leaps. Detailed analysis shows weak bonds between rich and poor regions and a small dynamic development in both categories. Reducing regional disparities requires administrative action in developing complementarities between rich and poor regions. The aims of this study sought to identify the role of the decisional impulses from the development poles level in the functional structure of the local settlement system. Analyses were made at each census, highlighting the measures taken by policy makers to develop the growth poles economy. The methodology was developed to work within the following research projects: Territorial Management Based on Growth Poles Theory (UEFICSU-PNII-Idei, 1950), Entrepreneurial Sector and the Attenuation of the Regional Disparities (UEFICSU-PNII-Idei, 196), Discontinuities Controlled Production And The Treatment Of The Deeply Disadvantaged Areas (UEFICSU-PNII-Idei, 194).

ACTUAL PROBLEMS OF BULGARIAN RURAL REGIONS

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In the Bulgarian Regional Development rural regions occupy important place. There are new elements in the organization of the Bulgarian territory, imposed by the membership in the European Union. More than 40% of the Bulgarian population lives in the rural regions. Rural regions cover more than 80% of the national territory. The main problems of their development are: depopulation, poverty, weak economy, poor infrastructure, low capacity of management. Rural regions have been drawn up by the administrative municipalities administrative/obshtini/. Their activity does not meet the needs of local development. We need of an administrative-territorial reform, especially at the local level. Cross-border collaboration is minimum, as well. Unfortunately, the participation of geographers in the development of rural regions is at minimum. It is not organised and it is time to time and here and there.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE-POLITICAL REORGANIZATION IN ROMANIA DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD AS A STRATEGIC ALTERNATIVE TO MITIGATE THE ECONOMIC- GEOGRAPHICAL DISPARITIES. CASE STUDY – SOME OF THE NEWEST ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS IN THE NORTH-WEST DEVELOPMENT REGION

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The traditional rural economy has faced important changes during the last 20 years, two trends prevailing: one of diversification, specific to the main villages or to those benefiting from a strategic location that also induces investment advantages and another one, of decay or disintegration, describing with prevalence the subordinated localities. In order to mitigate these disparities, some local communities chose to adopt an independent administrative status, thus, new localities were born with the purpose to better manage the local economy and cultural heritage and to improve the public local services. The present paper investigates the efficiency of this strategy, by analyzing some relevant case studies in the North-West Development Region.

**TENDENCIES IN THE EVOLUTION OF THE RURAL-URBAN FRINGES.
CASE STUDY – CONSTANȚA METROPOLITAN AREA**

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Romania, as many other East-European countries, is a space of various and profound changes in the last two decades. Having a more rigid totalitarian regime than other ex-communist states, that determined a slower evolution of its socio-economic and spatial structures, this country experienced after the political events in 1989 a strong flux of changes beginning with the political and legal system and including all the socio-economic components.

This all new evolution involves the rural-urban relationships. The two worlds (urban and rural), stone-still structures before 1989, are new emerging forms. Even though they are totally different, they interpenetrate as a result of the demographic and economic flows, giving birth to a new space in the rural-urban fringe.

We analyze this kind of spaces focusing on the periphery of Constanța. One of the largest and functionally most complex cities of our country, Constanța is continually enlarging, thus having a strong impact on neighbouring rural settlements. These villages have experienced important socio-demographic, functional and environmental changes in the last 20 years, which are spatially determined by the location of the settlements in relation with the city and by their natural potential.

The important issues that are to be discussed in the paper are:

- the rural-urban population mixing and its incidence on the contact between farm and non-farm residents;
- the motivations behind the newcomers' decision to move to the rural-urban fringe (need to be better understood);
- the pressure on the land for non-farming purposes (demand for residential, commercial and industrial land-uses) and its environmental impact.

A final question arises from this analysis: are we facing a process of rural gentrification in some areas or is it only suburbanization?

Knowing the answer is very important and gives the specialists the opportunity to understand the new tendencies in the evolution of the rural-urban fringes, and implement then the best policies and programs to solve the emerging problems.



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**THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PROGRAMME ROMANIA-UKRAINE 2004-2006
AND ITS IMPORTANCE**

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As a consequence, even from the preliminary stage of Romania's adhesion to the European Union, cross-border cooperation programmes, from communitarian funds, were launched in order to stimulate the development of border areas and to maintain good relations between Romania and the neighbour countries.

In march 2004, at Galați (Romania), ***The Neighbourhood Programme Romania-Ukraine 2004-2006*** was launched, and it benefited from a budget of 35,5 million euros, distributed as follows: Romania 29 million euros from the PHARE CBC Programme and Ukraine 6,5 million euros from the TACIS Programme. These funds could be accessed by the contiguous administrative units, respectively five counties from Romania (Tulcea, Botoșani, Suceava, Maramureș and Satu Mare) and four Ukrainian regions: Odessa, Cernivetska, Ivano-Frankivska, Zakarpatska.

The Common Programme Document identified the following priorities:

Priority 1: Social and Economic Development

Measure 1.1: Tourism Development and Expansion

Measure 1.2: Economic Cross-Border Cooperation

Priority 2: Developing an Integrated Infrastructure System in the Cross-Border Region

Measure 2.1: Developing the Cross-Border and Frontier Transport Infrastructure;

Measure 2.1: Improving the Cross-Border Environment Management

Priority 3: „People to People” Activities;

Measure 3.1: Common Fund for Small Grant Projects

Priority 4: Technical Assistance

Measure 4.1: Programme Management and Implementation

Measure 4.2: Programme Marketing and Evaluation

The total budget for Romania's grants was of 10.000-50.000 euros for small projects and 50.000-800.000 euros for large projects. For Ukraine the small projects financial limits were the same but the large projects could extend from 50.000 up to 1 million euros, at which a national co-financing of 10%, insured by the beneficiary institution, was added.

For the post adhesion period the Joint Operational Programme Romania-Ukraine-Republic of Moldova 2007-2013 (JOP RO-UA-MD) was launched, financed through the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), having an allocated amount of 126.718.067 euros at which a national co-financing of 11.404.628 euros was added. Practically this programme was launched only in 2009; therefore the present research will focus only on the PHARE CBC 2004-2006 Programme, implemented up to present.

**TOURISM SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY
OF BISTRIȚA BĂRGĂULUI COMMUNE**

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A background study was conducted regarding future prospects for sustainable development with the detailation of tourism potential in order to approach the sustainable development dimension of the Bistrița Bârgăului “commune”, as part of the Town Planning Review project (The Urban General Plan). The central concept of the study was set up on a number of axes: addressing sustainable development as a result of social, economic and environmental dimensions; the review of the village tourist potential as a factor in ensuring its sustainable development; the provision of the integration of the background document planning of the intersectoral efforts, of the approaches and of the documents resulting from relevant public or other organisations’ initiatives; providing clarification of relations between local sustainable development strategy, the tourist potential of the village, the Urban General Plan, the multi-annual investment plan, the opportunity to engage EU funds for relevant investments in order to give the Colibița area the status of a tourist resort; to ensure the continuation of these efforts by involving the relevant entities, of the working groups.

SWOT ANALYSIS MODEL OF THE ROMANIAN COUNTRYSIDE

**Cristian Ovidiu SIMION, Radu COȚIANU, Mariana SIMION,
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Bioterra University, Bucharest
ROMANIA

SWOT analysis is a [strategic planning](#) method used to evaluate the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats involved in a [project](#) or in a [business](#) venture. It involves specifying the objective of the business venture or project and identifying the internal and external factors that are favourable and unfavourable to achieve that objective. The technique is credited to [Albert Humphrey](#), who led a convention at Stanford University in the 1960s and 1970s using data from [Fortune 500](#) companies. The first step in conducting a SWOT analysis is to identify areas mentioned above. SWOT matrix analysis and provides the general framework that allows definition of strategic alternatives, based on a combined analysis of the organization and external environment. Sometimes, a simple analysis of four specific elements allows the accumulation of information management and other useful data. Another problem is a decision. Even if the matrix was prepared with care, decisions will be made after careful reading and analysis by management. The decision, considerations related risks of each alternative and the related resources can play an equally important that the analysis itself. Key issues facing the Romanian countryside are:

- rural income per capita 27% lower than in urban areas;
- poor development of rural infrastructure (roads, water supply, sewerage, communications, etc.);
- migration of rural youth, poor development of activities generating additional income, sales promotion and weak possibility of handicraft objects;
- poor use of local resources, low level of education of the rural population;
- poor promote areas of real concern and potent.

Still plays a **SWOT model of the Romanian countryside**.

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
- existence of natural resources; - existence of traditional activities; - attractive and diverse landscape; - rich cultural and architectural heritage.	- low income and low income source; - Low promotion and exploitation of traditional products; - underdeveloped physical and social infrastructure; - weak level of education and entrepreneurship.	- access to EU funds; - increased interest for the Romanian traditional village; - sustainable development opportunities.	- poor absorption of EU funds due to their low financial resources and low capacity for training; - globalization.



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IMPLEMENTING COMMUNITY ACQUIS. SAPARD FUNDS DYNAMICS IN THE NORTH-WEST DEVELOPMENT REGION

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One of the dimensions of rural reality, which sometimes overlapped it was for a long period, agriculture. However, in the context of EU accession, Romanian village issue is approached mainly in terms of strategies, policies and rural development programmes, along with those aimed at developing agriculture. In 2001, at Gothenburg, the European Council concluded that rural development policy should highlight less the agricultural market support and that should be more focused on assuring the welfare of humans, animals and plants, environmental preservation, the concern for nature and to ensure a healthy diet. Thus, it emphasizes the idea that rural development means more than economic development, social development, human development, all drawing on the concept of sustainable development.

The European Union puts emphasis on rural development, which is included in the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). The importance and weight of the CAP and rural development have increased with the enlargement of the EU and Romania's development in this direction is intended to be in accordance with the Union's values and precepts on environment, agriculture and the role of tradition. Thus, national strategic plans are developed as frames of reference in order to welcome rural development programmes: The National Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development (*Programul Național pentru Agricultură și Dezvoltare Rurală*, PNADR) is the basic document that ensures the implementation of the acquis communautaire during the pre-accession, while providing the frame for the implementation of the first operational programme-the SAPARD programme. The Special Pre-Accession Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development is a tool designed to reduce some deficiencies that characterize the Romanian rural area. It was created to financially support rural development and agriculture so that, after integration, candidate countries of Central and Eastern Europe are economically prepared to participate in CAP, but also for easy adaptation to specific working mode of European structures.

This study is a description of the dynamics of SAPARD funds in North-West Region. It focuses on a comparative analysis of the SAPARD funds characteristics awarded to the counties region; thus, we will take into account the number of projects submitted, the number of projects supported and their characteristics in each county. To outline the initiatives in this area we will examine the directions (measures) of communities' interest and the directions encouraged by authorities by accepting projects.

THE REFLECTION OF THE ECONOMIC – SOCIAL SITUATION IN THE LOCAL BUDGET BALANCE IN THE RURAL COMMUNITIES IN REGHIN MICRO-REGION

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The developmental trend of a community is influenced by both the private initiative and the entrepreneurial spirit of a settlement, as well as by the decisions of the local authorities and the financial possibilities. Thus, the importance of the local budget balance is fully sustained through its double dimension: that of establishing the budget represented by the chapter of income and that of expenditure. According to the principle of subsidiarity the competencies of the ministries and other authorities are transferred to local authorities on county, town and village level.



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The transfer is realized according to a special methodology and according to some systems of indicators of monitoring elaborated by the ministries and other authorities in collaboration with the Ministry of Administration and Internal Affairs. The transfer is realized together with the providing of the necessary resources for this, resources granted according to the cost standards established by the government, ministries and other authorities of the central administration.

In order to be able to fulfil these competencies local authorities fix a budget of income and expenditure which reflects the financial aspects of desire – possibility – practice.

This is the point where theory comes into practice and where a good finance management reflects on one hand the real socio-economical situation of a community, and on the other the local authority capacity to handle the situation. The income of a local authority depends on its own financial power, represented by the taxes on property and usage of property, as well as on the sums given by the county council and the grants given by the government. According to the actual European conception it is necessary that the planning of local budgets should be realized by taking into consideration the structuring of the resources based on the criteria of economic development, social – cultural necessity and the necessity of the functioning of the local authority. Through the structure of income and expense, local budgets express a clear situation as far as the power of sustainability of a community is concerned the most favorable situation is that of realizing more income than expenditure.

**FINANCIAL INPUT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL AREAS
IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

Ion CERTAN

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Republic of Moldova is dominated by rural areas, therefore the policy of sustainable development of rural area becoming crucial, proving the necessity of a more careful and detailed approach in terms of elaboration and implementation of efficient economic and social system. Massive outflow of inhabitants abroad, especially from rural areas, looking for a „better life”, losing of traditional markets for agricultural production, changes on macro and micro levels caused a considerable regression in rural area development an enforced the scientific society to dig deeper in order to assure the necessary „blood” for further maintaining and improving of current level through efficient investment and financial management. This article considers the ways of formation and distribution of financial sources within the rural area. An important place is taken by the analysis of investment opportunities that must assure the sustainable development of rural areas under the conditions of market economy, as well as factors with a considerable impact on it.

**ANTHROPOGENIC AND HABITATIONAL RESOURCES
IN THE SOUTH-EASTERN PART OF TRASCĂU MOUNTAINS**

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The current paper represents an analysis of the role of the anthropogenic component in the modelling of the geographical landscape of Trascău Mountains, its evolution as well as the habitational resources



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identified within the analysed unit. Located in the eastern extremity of Apuseni Mountains, at the contact with Transylvanian Plain, Trascău Mountains distinguish from the rest of the neighbouring units as a unique area not only in terms of its relief but also regarding its anthropogenic component, considered a determinant element in the evolution and quality of the landscape.

Regarding the human component of this complex geosystem we need to mention that there is a quite balanced percentage of all age groups identified within the analysed area, fact partially explained by the increase of the life quality conditions offered by these rural areas, much developed nowadays, partly reflected by the increase of the total number of settlements/commune. The traditional values of these rural communities, the touristic potential and the uniqueness of the analyzed region recommend the implementation of an adequate regional management in order to assert a sustainable development of the local communities strongly correlated with the biotic and abiotic component of the entire geocomplex of the Trascău Mountains.

MANAGEMENT OF INVESTMENT PROJECTS OF ROMANIAN RURAL ENVIRONMENT

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Following the common agricultural policy reform, rural development has gained an increasing role in all actions which are supported by rural areas face the challenges of XXI century in terms of economy, social and environmental policy. Rural areas constitute 90% of the merged some extended. Investments in rural areas, namely agriculture and processing oriented manufactured products aimed at the development of initiatives, investments that generate jobs and create wealth.

Project management in a large area, including components, as follows: business plans, investment projects, restructuring plans for refurbishment projects and introduction of technical progress, revitalization project information system etc. With regard to conditions for operation management through investment projects they emerge the following components:

- resource management at a higher level of use;
- existing own resources and be attracted to achieve efficient use of strategic and tactical objectives;
- consumption of resources must be done with maximum efficiency;
- need for their management as a proper entity, is a decisive prerequisite for a profitable activity and achievement of performance indicators;
- projects include responsibilities and incentives at the center;
- the development projects is imperative to attend the best specialists to provide a structure to be functional performance.

To provide a modular organization of **management of investment projects** is necessary to promote the most advanced methods and techniques of management and organization. This process is innovative and creative, aiming at, based on a thorough SWOT analysis, to stimulate the hottest points and opportunities, along with the adoption of vigorous measures to limit and remove disfunctionalitatile determined the existence of weaknesses. Essential benefits they provide leadership through projects refer to:

- increasing scientific analysis to establish project objectives,
- improving monitoring and evaluation methods, and ensure motivation for personnel engaged in making proiectului;



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- conditions for increasing activity of foreign revenues, the prerequisites for increasing economic efficiency, profit and performance;
- provided ample opportunities contributions to the strategy of regional and national.

STRATEGIC PLAN OF PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT IN IRANIAN RURAL AREAS

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Physical development of rural areas in Iran had experienced different plans and programs but the challenges go on. As rural development is comprehensive and multi-dimension process that should been paid attention to economic, social, institutional, physical-environmental different dimensions but non of plans, local or national level, haven't integrated and so they haven't pay attention to physical development in a systemic and holistic approach. According to the documents on development planning studies, comprehensive rural and rural development has low in attention. Dominance of sartorial look to process of planning in the country level and absent of holistic approach is cause of island operation. Therefore this article in the first step use continental analyses method for codify of organizational characters, dimension and structure of suitable rural physical planning and management system; in the end with use of PRA and SWOT method in relation with new institutionalization approach and participatory planning, offer strategic rural physical planning and management system. Results of research show that all activity and action should employ holistic look in subject. For achieve to this goal has need new pattern in rural physical planning and management in relation with institutionalization theory until can answer to rural physical problems. This is possible by associate and participatory of state institutions and rural people.

RURAL AREA SETTLERS' TENDENCY TOWARD AGRICULTURAL TOURISM DEVELOPMENT (RURAL AREAS OF CENTRAL SECTORS OF TONEKABON COUNTY)

Mehdi Ramezanzadeh LASBOYEE
University of Tehran
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Today any activity related to tourism is one of the main sources of income in rural areas. The problems of city life such as heavy population, noise and air pollution have made people pay more attention to rural areas. Tonekabon County is one of the main tourist destinations in Iran since it enjoys good weather and eco tourist attractions such as proximity to the Caspian Sea and lush jungles and different tea and rice farms. The variety of agricultural activities is a potential for tourism development in this area, but the major challenge is the acceptance or non-acceptance of the rural area settlers.

The goal of this paper is to investigate the tendency and attitude of rural area settlers toward agricultural tourism development in this area. Data were gathered using a questionnaire, and the descriptive analytical Data analysis procedure was used in this study. The sample is rural area settlers and the local informants.

The data analyzed through SPSS revealed that local informants have a higher tendency for investment but need government's assistance because of economical problems, in contrast, rural area settlers have a lower tendency for tourism activities development because of the damage done to land by tourists.



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SUCCESS AND FAILURE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES AT SPATIAL LEVEL IN INDIA

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Various rural development programs before and after independence was started with the slogan of our national leader like Mahatma Gandhi (in the year 1920) and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru (in the year 1947). They declared that the destiny of India lie in the villages. Without the development of villages, development India is not possible. Rural population has increased with in the limited space at village level at an alarming rate causing the decline of per head cultivable land from 0.5 hectare per head to 0.12 hectare within the 50 year.

Rural to urban migration was noticed in an unplanned manner causing the increase in urban poverty. Urban poverty was 10% lower than the rural poverty. But the urban poverty increased to such an extent that the rural and urban poverty became equal even after more than 51 programs of rural development was started after 1951 but success could not be achieved and rural poverty remained on the same platform which is responsible for urban slum with minimum level of amenities and facilities.

Policies and programs of rural development were largely based on elections and creation of better vote banks. Many of the programs were repeated and continued for several years but success could not be achieved.

It was also declared in 1975 after a gap of 25 years of planning that till 1985, 100 % literacy will be achieved, poverty will also be reduced to the level of 5% margin. The present situation is very alarming in view of the increasing small- marginal and land less farmers and agricultural labourers as well as youth unemployment in rural areas is going to take a serious turn. The chance of rural chaos at large scale and unrest in urban population is going to start very soon. It has already taken a platform through naxal and moist movement in some of the parts of India. Therefore, in some regions rural development planning should be done in different manner as compared to other regions.

Rural development planning and policies in 0.7 million villages of India should be treated with different methodologies and techniques and uniform methodology of development is not possible keeping in view in large space and millions of villages.

EVALUATION FUNCTION AND BOTTLENECKS IN RURAL TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN KURDISTAN

Rahmat BAHRAMI
Payam e nor University
IRAN

Tourism phenomenon important early twentieth century as one of the important sources of economic and cultural development factor, social and economical human societies is considered. Modern trends in rural tourism are tourism, which brought decades after the 50th. Today, rural tourism as a strategy can be identified with the planning principles and advantages and limitations of rural tourism, an effective role in economic development and regional diversity to charge part is, research that explores these questions and potential restrictions on rural tourism development are the province of Kurdistan? And how to develop strategies and solutions that lead to rural development truism is, are there? For this purpose, the present method and field studies to determine the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats presented method



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to strategy and SWOT strategy for tourism development in rural areas of Kurdistan is paid. Experimental analysis in the study showed that the threshold of vulnerability in rural areas due to tourism being the western province is extremely high and need Reviewing and providing suitable policies to eliminate restrictions and use of relative advantage is available.

**URBAN – RURAL DISPARITIES IN THE NORTH-WEST DEVELOPMENT REGION.
INDICATORS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT – PUBLIC HEALTH**

G. RĂDUCANU, Anamaria BOGDAN, Anamaria NISTOR-PUIU, Claudia POPESCU
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ROMANIA

By using a set of specific indicators for sustainable development, such as the ones promoted and structured by Eurostat could become a suitable basis for periodical monitoring of the progresses registered by the rural areas of the North-West Development Region in terms of accomplishing the strategic objectives of sustainable development in accordance with the population health. This set of indicators is structured on three-level architecture: 1. the main indicators; 2. indicators used for monitoring and revision of the programmes for sustainable development; and 3. analytical indicators. The study regarding the health state of the population proves the existence of major disparities in the region, both in rural and urban areas, in terms of sanitary indicators and the access to public health services.

GIVING REGIONS A NEW IDENTITY: A CONTRIBUTION TO RURAL DEVELOPMENT?

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AUSTRIA

Although development policy of the European Union frequently is being criticised on its centralistic tendencies and over-regulation one should not forget about one of the most important goals of the Union's spatial development policy which is based on strengthening regionalism and regional development. The various programs of the EU to support backward and remote regions are well known and many of them were and still are a success story. The Eastern provinces of Austria namely the Burgenland, Lower Austria, and Styria since the end of World War I until the fall of the Iron Curtain have suffered severely from their geo-politically founded marginality. Numerous local, regional and national development initiatives especially since World War II have been implemented meanwhile, however, the more or less impermeability of Austria's Eastern borders was a huge obstacle for the economic progress of the incriminated regions. Austria's joining the European Union in 1995 has initiated a predominantly positive socio-economic development in her Eastern border and close to border rural spaces. The paper aims at demonstrating that the stage of advancement which has been achieved until today is not only based on financial supports from Brussels or the Austrian Federal Government but, moreover, on various initiatives of the local and regional economy, policy makers, tourist managers, active and highly motivated citizens, etc. Among these initiatives the focus will be laid on the role of regional identity as a possible precondition or support for rural societal evolution and economic stability resp. progress. By the example of newly created regional identities in the province of Styria like the "Apple Land", "Vulcano Land", "Thermal Land", "HIGH Styria"; etc. an attempt shall be made to prove the effects of giving regions a new identity on their way to regeneration and further evolution. Not all experiments like that of the "Vulcano Land" have



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turned out successful and were accepted by the regional population as well as by the foreign guests, others like the creation of the term "HIGH Styria" by tourist organizations for one part of the geographical region of "Upper Styria" could not reach a similar level of acceptance so far.



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SECTION 8

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES AND THEIR IMPACT ON LOCAL COMMUNITIES

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AGRICULTURAL /BIOFUEL FEEDSTOCK RESEARCH FIELD STATION IN RURAL SOUTH CAROLINA

Florence ANORUO, Mihail-Radu KANTOR
Clafin University, Orangeburg, South-Carolina
USA

Today's worldwide growing interest in biofuels production, in obtaining higher biomass yields, and in providing cleaner liquid fuels for an affordable price could lead to results that might positively solve known present concerns related to global warming and decreasing petroleum fuels resources through the use of the natural rural landscapes. Grass biomass can be converted to bioenergy using technologies such as: conversion to liquid fuels (ethanol); combustion alone or in combination with fossil fuels to produce heat, steam, or electricity; and gasification. This paper presents our efforts in establishing an agricultural/biofuel feedstock research field station in the rural area of the Orangeburg County, South Carolina, geared towards establishing, equipping, and staffing mass production of biofuel feedstock. Since there is a growing interest in using perennial grasses as renewable fuels for generating electricity and for producing bio-ethanol, four crops (Sugarcane, *Mischanthus*, *Sorghum*, Sudan grass) have been selected for use in biomass production. All these crops are going to be harvested in two different fields: the organic field (environmental sustainability/organic farming) and the non-organic field. Each field has approximately 15 acres (60702.85 m²) while the experimental design used for the data collection is going to be the Randomized Complete Block Design. So far, the first step in the crops establishment was to take soil samples for scientific analysis which were sent to Palmetto Agri-Services, York, SC. The plot was mapped out using a GPS program and 40 soil samples holes were collected from each field. Our project's mission is to identify the most suitable crop for the local climate and soil while advancing knowledge for agriculture, the environment, human health and the well being of rural communities. Biofuel production from these four crops might be extended to other agricultural areas, namely rural areas in countries like Romania and other developing countries where there is a large number of non utilized agricultural fields as well as access to European funds and relatively cheap labour. It might constitute an innovative way of revitalizing and developing remote rural areas.



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SECTION 9

RECONSTRUCTING AND PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT

"REGIONAL" CONFLICTS AROUND THE FOREST IN SOUTH INDIA

Koichi KIMOTO
Hiroshima Jogakuin University
JAPAN

In India, after 1980's social forestry project started, and after 1990's Joint Forest Management (JFM)

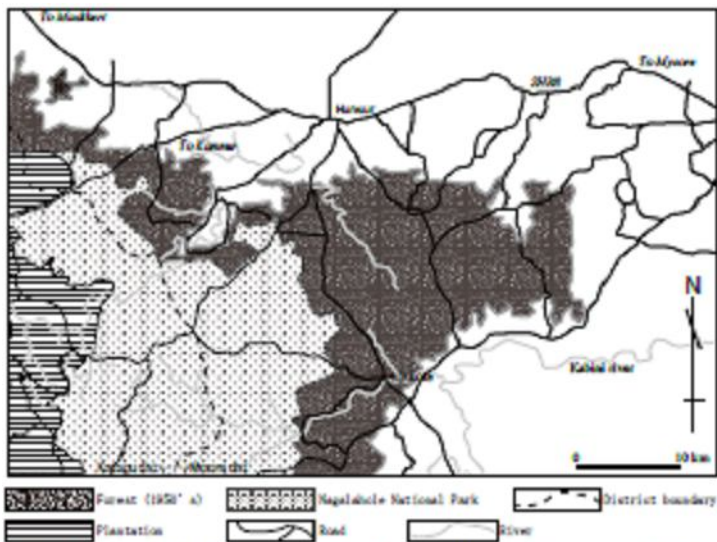


Fig.1 Nagarahole NP Hunsur talk, Mysore dist., Karnataka, India
out that the structural condition of the "region" around the fo

have replaced it. The purpose of JFM is, of course, its "joint-ness" between the forest office and people. But, around the forest area, there are many types of people and actors. The former is Scheduled Tribe (ST) pushing out of the forest, middle-class farmer searching good land for agriculture, poor people expelled from urban area and so on. The later includes land developers, tourist agents, agents dealing with non timber forest products (NTFP) and agricultural products.

This region consists of the complex space, the results of urbanization, land grabbing and deforestation, and the conflicting peoples.

The object of this study is to point it

THE RISK OF CONVECTIVE RAINFALL OCCURRENCE. SPATIO-TEMPORAL ESTIMATIONS

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ROMANIA

The study of convective rainfalls that appear in our country during the summer has great importance particularly in making estimates of floods and water and issuing warnings that should be imposed in these circumstances. The nature of such torrential rain is likely to produce large volumes of water in a short time prone to cause material damage and loss of human lives. The aim of this study is to develop a methodology based on GIS technology to allow demarcation of areas with different degrees of risk in terms of convective rainfall production. Therefore, the probability of exceedance and return period of different convective rain events is studied and spatial representation of the results in raster format is obtained. Time estimates are achieved through the existing functions in specialized software packages for statistical analysis and estimates of spatial distribution are the result of applying GIS and geostatistical analysis. The study area overlaps the northern part of the Apuseni Mountains.



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BIO-WASTE COMPOSTING IN RURAL CONDITIONS

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One of the most serious problems of waste management of Czech Republic is the useful treatment of bio-degradable municipal waste because EU Council Directive 1999/31/EC requires member states to limit the amount of bio-degradable waste deposited into landfill. Solution of this problem can be composting of bio-degradable municipal waste but there are many operational and economic problems.

This article describes advantages and problems of bio-waste composting in rural conditions (of Czech Republic) at all parts of composting process, i.e. from bio-waste sorting and collection through bio-waste composting to utilization and sale of compost.

Bio-waste composting in countryside brings many benefits. The waste is treated at the place of origin and it is possible to get the organic mass of compost back to the field with minimal transport distances. Decentralized waste treatment brings jobs to regions of a small rate of employment.

It is necessary to solve many problems related to the process of composting. Quality of input raw material is the first of them. It was found that the amount of undesirable impurities in separately collected biodegradable municipal waste depends on the type of building density and the settlement size. By the measurement of 200 kg samples of sorted bio-waste it was showed that purity of waste sorting is much better in small villages than in rather big cities.

Right size of composting plant is another question to discussion. A lot of small composting plants built for several villages allow wastes treatment in the place of origin but just a big composting plant is reach enough to have adequate machine equipment. Of course, in this case there are long transport distances.

Compost selling is connected with other problems. Farmers usually do not want even high-quality compost because the costs of compost application to the field (although missing of organic mass in the soil). Lots of low-quality compost is used as a reclaim material.

BIODIVERSITY AND BIOGEOGRAPHY IN JUDEA LOWLAND

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Judean lowlands have an impressive variety of plants and animals at global scale from different zoogeographical sources because of unique location in the junction of 3 continents and different landscapes and ecological niches. There were approximately 730 plant species registered until the end of 20th century. Biodiversity of species and quantity decrease as we go west and south from the mountain ridges. Many areas cultivated with monocultures new method of agriculture changed dramatically the landscapes, animal and plants population. Many plants and trees became extinct or scarce. Other major factor that played important role is the intensive planting by JNF organization and exotic or cultural plants that has great impact on Fauna and Flora there. Among approximately 225 species of birds recorded in surveys at Judea lowland (among 540 species in Israel). Most species are Mediterranean Zoogeographic zone (68%). Judea lowlands considered as major bird migration routes on their way to Africa in the fall and back to Europe in spring, with almost 205 passages. A lot of natural habitats continuous damaged by industries, intensive buildings constructions due to demographic population growth and building intensity. Other factors like poisoning, hunting and electrifications. Among 80 species of 103 (77%) species of Mammals in Israel documented in



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Judea lowland. 86% considered as Palaearctic species (compared to 70% in all Israel). About 45 species of reptiles (45%) counted in Judea lowland (among 100 species of Israel). They inhabited on different ecological habitats on that area. Little is studied about reptiles in those relatively huge lands.

RISK ASSESSMENT IN THE PERIURBAN OF BISTRIȚA

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Geographical space of Bistrița periurban reveals duality aspects of processes with a restrictive nature in the territorial development and those with sustainability in the rural development. Studies carried out in the 2005-2007 PATZ with introspections destined to radiography status of a territory, for developing strategies for sustainable development, have emphasized the territorial dysfunction reported to Law 350/2001. Base support territorial system of Bistrița periurban reside in geomorphologic, hydric and hydro-geological, climate and agri-climate, biopedogeographic and anthropogenic potential.

Regional dysfunction are inventoried and evaluated by reporting to material, cultural and human damages to the rural community from Bistrița periurban.

Risk assessment methodology in periurban of Bistrița, focused on the experience of geomorphological French schools (Method Champenoise), Italian (Modena) and Romanian schools. Applying Romanian experience in evaluating geomorphological, weather-climate, geological or anthropogenic territorial dysfunction, gives periurban of Bistrița landmarks of a sustainable development or sustainable, eliminating amateurism of regional and local researches.

Paper work argues through the vulnerability and risk maps, the state of comfort and discomfort in urban and periurban design limits, in the argument of Bistrița periurban development strategies.

ECOLOGIC EDUCATION THROUGH NAUTICAL ENTERTAINMENT

Virgil GANEA
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“The environment is a concept that refers to that part of nature who gives the chance to life forms to appear and to live through a very close connection of all its components. It's about more than just a straight contact; it's an intimate relation, in the way that many of the environment's attributes are parts of the anatomical and physiological qualities of the living organism.” (Ioan Mac 2000, General Geography, page. 418).

In the Environmental Geography and in the Environmental Science as well, a central point is represented by the relationship between the men and the environment. Because of its knowledge, the men, as a life form, controls nature, conquers it and either changes it in a careful way, for his vital needs, or exploits it uncontrolled and in a very chaotic way, driven by his desire to expand.



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The Environmental Science notes the change of nature and the actions taken for its protection and its reconstruction. In this direction big efforts are done through legislation and technical solution to save the environment.

Through its nature, water, a main element of the environment, hides, moves, deposits and covers the damage done by humans through pollution. What humans don't know is that this damage will come back against them at one point.

From the river Romania looks dirty. Knowledge and education are the only ways to make people understand the importance of water so that his interventions will be done knowing the long term effect of his constructive or destructive actions. The acceptance of hydrotherapy, as a way of life, will lead, unavoidable, to a change of mentality from considering the river the garbage bin of the living areas, to building the house with the front towards the river. Human intervention on the rivers through water sports could contribute to the change of mentality towards the utility to the water front. The most sportive nations are also the cleanest ones.

Why could not rivers also become natural reservations protected by law?

THE SYSTEM OF SETTLEMENTS OF SIRET RIVER BASIN, ROMANIA

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ROMANIA

Human settlement systems of Siret basin is a complex basin lace to cover a variety of types of settlements. Study their complexity remains high in order to study the risks and hazards in case of flooding.

Large urban systems can be considered as final point of convergence of resources, environmental services and human activities in rural villages to cities in towns large and small.

By its geographical position, altitude, massive and major forms of landscape orientation and dimensions of human impact, Siret basin area have certain characteristics that define the features of formation and evolution of the floods.

If case that a flood occurs, may be affected infrastructure different elements of economic importance, social and moral. These are agriculture, forest, railways, roads, airports. In the unleashing of nature may even affect housing demolished to the ground, but the highest price we have lives that are threatened.

For the sustainable development of natural and anthropogenic environment, to ensure quality of life, but especially to ensure the life of people, these issues require to be studied to find viable solutions.

THE INFLUENCE OF NATURAL PARKS IN THE REGENERATION OF ROMANIAN RURAL SPACE. COMPARATIVE STUDY: APUSENI NATURAL PARK. ARIEŞENI VILLAGE, ALBA COUNTY AND MĂRGĂU VILLAGE, CLUJ COUNTY

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According to OUG 57/2007, the natural park represents a protected natural area where activities such as the protection and conservation of landscape are developed, piles in which the interaction between human activities and nature has created in time a different region with cultural or landscape importance, frequently with a significant biological diversity. The management of natural parks tries to maintain a symbiotic



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relationship between humans and nature in order to protect the habitat's and landscape's diversity by promoting traditional activities both in agriculture and daily life.

Romania has a total number of 13 natural parks, summing up 7282.72 km², meaning 3% of its total surface. One of the most important natural parks regarding its scientific and touristic level is Apuseni Natural Park. Declared Natural Park in 2003, it has managed to influence since then the touristic evolution of the region, both to the villages included in the park and to those near to it, especially in the rural tourism field. Arieșeni village from Alba County is included in the park's area and has in its administration some of the most important objectives of the park. We can easily think about Vârtop Glacier, Coiba Mare Cave, which has the biggest cave entrance in Romania, Coiba Mica Cave, Hodobana Cave, one of the most labyrinthine caves from all the world, Vârciorog waterfall or Tăuz Intermittent Spring, which has the deepest explored underwater passage in Romania with a depth of -85 m when we talk about Arieșeni. On the other hand, Mărgău village is not included in the park, but due to its strategic position according to some important objectives from the park, such as Vârfurașu Cave, the Mare Cave from Humpleu hill, Piatra Ponor Cave or Stanciului valley with Vălul Miresei waterfall, it felt the influence of the park's natural area from touristic point of view. Arieșeni is a resort of local interest, although it hides some of the most beautiful places in Romania of national interest, situated at surface or in the mountains heart, meanwhile Mărgău is mostly a connection point for those who want to go to the Padiș region. Nevertheless, both of them have suffered major changes since the declaration of the Apuseni Natural Park, because, as a positive consequence of the management regarding the protected areas such as the natural parks, activities involving the communities and nature have been blooming.

We must also emphasize the fact that this protected area of Apuseni Mountains is quite new in the conservation field and local people do not have the ecological or sustainable development thinking and the region is still facing some major problems. Among the most important problems, we mention the massive deforestation and different administrative issues, which, most of the time, are the result of the insufficient awareness of locals concerning their impacts. Yet, big steps are made by different organizations in this field such as Outdoor Apuseni and Local Salvamont Mărgău-Vlădeasa Service or Apuseni Adventure, which have developed different information campaigns about the importance of the Apuseni Natural Park among the inhabitants of the Apuseni region.

SIMULATION, BY USING GIS, FOR INTERVENTION TIME OF FIRE CREWS IN CASE OF DISASTER CAUSED BY FOREST FIRES

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Fire crews' intervention in case of disasters such as those caused by forest fires is an important step in reducing the risk of casualties and damage to properties. Simulation of such intervention using computers is very useful. The data required to achieve this simulation are vector data for roads and land use and a Digital Elevation Model. Basically using the GIS data presented, we can simulate the time of intervention in the area, considering its physical and geographical conditions, when intervention is needed. Thereby the crew coordinator may decide if the intervention is the best solution to solve such emergencies. The methodology will be applied in the village of Gilau, from the Cluj county, for forests under the Somesul Rece Forest Department.



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THE INFLUENCE OF THE ANTHROPOGENIC FACTOR ON THE RURAL LANDSCAPES IN THE TÂRGOVIȘTE PLAIN

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Rural settlements and especially villages represent the oldest form of inhabitation and component of the rural landscape in the Târgoviște Plain, to which they impose certain dynamism, while at the same time through its natural qualities (plane relief, fertile soils, and favourable climate) this plain holds a very high habitat potential.

The network of rural settlements from the Târgoviște Plain is made up of 94 villages organized in 21 communes of different sizes. Predominant are mid-size settlements (47 in number) representing 50% of the total villages, followed by the small ones, with 27 villages, namely 28.72 of them all, and by the big villages, which are 20, that is 21.28 % of the total. The average village size in the Plain of Târgoviște counts 1291 inhabitants per village, that is above the average of Romania (955 inhabitants / village, Cucu, 2000), a fact explainable by the big number of villages with over 2000 inhabitants. The density of the rural settlements is influenced by a complex set of natural, economic and social factors, which refer to: the low and accessible relief forms, the presence of water, the ground and underground resources, which have drawn in the population and have consequently led to the formation of settlements. The average density of the settlements in the Târgoviște Plain is 9.72 villages/100 km², higher than the Romanian national density (8 villages/100 km²).

In the Târgoviște Plain, the agricultural activities and the rural area are prominent, which makes it necessary to analyze the interaction between these activities and the components of the natural environment in general. Agriculture constitutes an activity with impact on the environment through: the human pressure exerted by the diverse land uses in agriculture, the consumption of chemicals, the land degradation processes triggered, and the incorrect exploitation of the cultivated areas.

The anthropogenic pressure on the environment we highlighted was calculated based on the agricultural land use, as the landscape has been transformed mostly by this activity. The more an agricultural activity has involved areas where the initial spontaneous vegetation has been replaced by different cultures, the higher the anthropogenic pressure has been. The degradation of the soil structure given by different agricultural works and by the use of chemicals in agriculture has been felt to a higher or a lesser extent (depending on the capacity of support of different soils types and of the technology used in agriculture) on all the surfaces used for crops. On the contrary, the erosion processes can be noticed only locally on terrace fronts or more abrupt lands in the western area of the Târgoviște Plain, where in certain places the horizon A of the soil has been almost totally removed.

THE IMPACT OF EXTRACTIVE ACTIVITIES ON THE RELIEF IN BARCĂU RIVER BASIN

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In Bihor County, Barcău basin is well known as an area with various natural resources, mainly mineral resources (coal, oil, and sandy bitumen), the systematic and intensive exploitation of the resources being started in the second half of the 20th century.



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The structural and geological conditions of the contact between the Plopiș Mountains and Barcău Valley lead, in case of the coal exploitations, to major transformations of the relief: underground holes or surface holes, the appearance of anthropogenic relief forms (dumps, artificial terraces), profound modifications of the slopes, the acceleration of erosion processes (rill, gully erosion, falls, creep), the appearance of temporal lakes and a chaotic micro-relief.

Abandonment of mining fields after termination of mining is prevalent in the country after 1990, the anthropogenic relief falling slowly under natural modelling conditions. The coal area of Barcău, the former Budoii village quarry was placed in a rehabilitation program, and ecological modelling, so tried to reconstitute the original profile of the slope. But the lack of vegetation, the slope, the geological conditions of the filling material were perfect conditions for surface and vertical water erosion (rills, gullies)

The other old quarries for many years already evolves under natural conditions, but for the first 2-3 years of a further stage of opening of new lignite quarry, so anthropogenic processes were resumed.

The oil exploitations from the area took place in a relatively plain area and the impact on the relief in an insidious, less spectacular. Nevertheless, within the administrative area of Suplacu de Barcău, due to the oil exploitation using the underground combustion method two „combustion crater” appeared, locally known as the „muddy volcanoes”. The dimension of the first crater (appeared in 1968) is constantly reducing in the last 7-8 years, but the second one presents an intense activity and the surface of it is continuously increasing.

RESPIRATORY HEALTH EFFECTS CAUSED BY THE PROXIMITY TO AN INDUSTRIALLY POLLUTED AREA OF THE ARIEȘ RIVER BASIN, TRANSYLVANIA, ROMANIA

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Claflin University, Orangeburg, South Carolina, USA*

This study represents the efforts in identifying a possible connection between the close proximity of one village, Mihai Viteazu, Transylvania, Romania, to the former industrial platform of the two cities, Turda and Câmpia Turzii, and the causes of the population’s respiratory health condition, study based on survey data. Consequently, 150 health face-to-face interviews were undertaken in Mihai Viteazu in August 2009 (out of which only 117 were conclusive) and 50 from the control area, in search for indicators of significant respiratory symptoms due to exposure to chemical compounds and/or conditioned by periods of employment in one or more of the polluting industrial plants. The two main objectives were to first determine whether there was a significant difference between the health of the population living in the exposed area as compared to the control population represented by the Micești village, situated on the other side of the two towns, out of the exposed area’s influence, and second, to identify whether those involved in industrial activities were be the most affected. The results concluded that close proximity to the industrial area and employment at the former plants can be associated with higher risk for chronic respiratory diseases, the exposed village registering a 57% of the surveyed population suffering of at least one acute and/or chronic respiratory disease (tuberculosis, chronic bronchitis asthma, pulmonary emphysema) and/or higher incidence of irritant respiratory symptoms. From discussions, it also seems that the population is generally aware of the possible effects, but would still prefer being employed and working for the former plants, the industry representing for most of them employment stability and better living conditions.



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RURAL LANDSCAPE AND ITS DETERIORATION IN THE SOMEȘULUI MARE HILLS

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The region is part of the Someș Plateau and is bounded on the north by the Țibleș Mts., on the east by the Rodnei Mts., on south-east by the Bârgău Mts., on the south by the Bistrița Hills, the Șieului Hills, and the Ungurașului Hills, and on the west by the Sălătrucului Hills, the Breaza Crest, and the Lăpuș Depression. The Someșului Mare Hills stretch over 38 rural territorial-administrative units and, on the southern limit, on the Someș morphological-hydrographical axis, 3 urban settlements. Being a highly rural region (even the three towns feature certain rural elements), the landscape was severely modified by non-agricultural activities such as building rock excavation from pits, improper waste management, and by the construction of buildings contrasting with the local traditional architecture. At the same time, the rapidly decaying agricultural activities are deteriorating the landscape by allowing the expansion of secondary vegetation dominated by species without economical or ecological value and also highly unaesthetic.

RURAL SPACE AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT IN RELATION TO EXPOSURE TO FLUVIAL GEOMORPHOLOGIC RISKS IN THE LAST 100 YEARS. APPLICATION TO OUT-CARPATHIAN ALLUVIAL PLAIN OF THE MOLDOVA RIVER

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Downstream of Gura Humorului, Moldova River is recognized as having a strong braided channel bed (braiding coefficient measured as twice arms length amount per unit of river length greater than 4) and a highly developed alluvial plain (with widths of over 6-8 km).

Anthropogenic structures arranged this area varied in size and complexity over time as shown in the maps from 1910 onwards. After 1960, human intervention (in this case, especially exploitation of ballast), complicates the understanding of interactions between natural hazards (natural vulnerability) and society (human vulnerability).

Our research focused on geomorphologic mapping and evolution of anthropogenic structures (hearths localities, various civil constructions, bridges, railways, roads, dams, gravel mining, etc.) in the space of Moldova River alluvial plain. At the same time we created a database using cartographic documents in 1910, 1960, 1984 and 2006.

For the geomorphologic characterization of Moldova River have been considering setting up a *database* with reference to morphometric features of the entire alluvial plain of the river. This is the latest creation of river and at the same time subject to change by fluvial processes in a stronger way than elsewhere. Setting up the database required to define morphometric parameters and their measurements made on principle of transects (cross sections) of the valley. These are perpendicular to the river course and at a distance of 100 m in the succession. So, we made morphometric measurements on the floodplain (or alluvial plain with lower relative altitude of 5-7 m). The alluvial plain is composed of active belt of channel (the band of free migration of the river), of 2 m, 4 m and 5-7 m fluvial terraces.



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Floodplain stores the ancient traces of riverbed as abandoned river arms. Alluvial plain surface (which may be covered by water at exceptional discharges of recurrence interval of 500 years) are located settlements and communication routes. Humanizing is relatively high and this was possible by construction of dams of protection along the entire length of river.

From our point of view, anthropogenic structures are at risk of flooding and exceptional lateral erosion may occur. For this we measured the distances from river channel bed to the socio-economic objectives placed on the floodplain.

Results of quantitative researches focused on exposure to fluvial risk assessments of different anthropogenic structures between 1910 and far.

**“GLIMEE” DEEP-SEATED LANDSLIDES FROM TRANSYLVANIA
- SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RURAL SPACE³ -**

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It is said about the massive landslides that they are: “catastrophic moment in the slopes ‘evolution” (S. Jakab, 1981). The glimee deep-seated landslides look like catastrophic moments been massive and with a considerable area, with high relief energy. The altitudinal variations of the glimee depend on the position they have on the slope and on the lithology of the areas in which they developed.

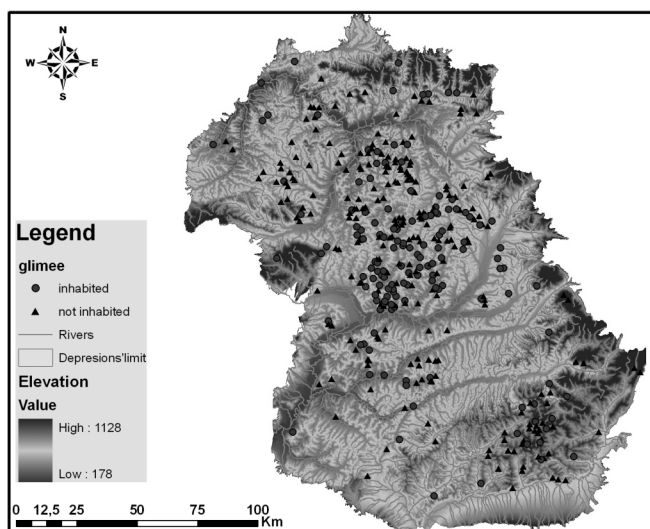


Fig. 1. Map of the glimee deep-seated landslides in Transylvania.

From the morphologic point of view the positive forms are rather rounded, elongated (Dâmburile, Suatu, Cheia), or having different shapes such as pyramids or cones (Sona, Şoimeni). The negative forms are well developed depressions, longitudinal and transversal, being occupied by permanent and/or temporal lakes (Cheia, Urmeniş), by torrents and erosion processes (Cornăţel, Ranta, Unirea) or they are cultivated or even inhabited (Dâmburile, Saschiz, Movile) (fig. 1).

Our study intends to complete the work of several researchers regarding the relations between the glimee landscape and the rural development by identifying the lands that are included in the agricultural use (land use, overgrazing) and as support for buildings. The utilization of the areas with glimee for the development of the rural space is reflected by the high number of those that are inhabited. From a total number of 384 glimee identified, we observed that a percentage of 38% are support for the development of the villages.

³ 1,4,5 Investing in people! PhD scholarship, Project co-financed by the SECTORIAL OPERATIONAL PROGRAM HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT 2007-2013

Priority Axis 1 “Education and training in support for growth and development of a knowledge based society.”

Key area of intervention 1.5: Doctoral and post-doctoral programs in support of research.

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**CONSIDERATIONS ON THE LAND DEGRADATION MANAGEMENT OF THE COMMUNES
SITUATED ALONG DÂMBOVIȚA VALLEY IN THE SUBCARPATHIAN SECTOR**

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Dâmbovița Valley in the Subcarpathian sector is a factor of polarization for human life, and has a special role in the construction of the human settlements and concerning the land use.

The Subcarpathian Hills in this area have a high natural potential for the generation and intense manifestation of land degradation processes. The strong action of the modeling processes is amplified by man's activity, which has recently become increasingly uncontrolled. These factors trigger the special slope mobility, namely processes of massive displacement (landslide, mud flows, earth fall etc.), associated with the erosions and floods generated by Dâmbovița river and its tributaries from this area. Land degradation in the region under analysis has occurred as landslides in Malu cu Flori Commune (Capu Coastei Village), alarming erosion and a shift in the minor riverbed near the inhabited areas in Căndești Commune (Dragodănești Village) and in Voinești Commune (Lunca Village), processes generating streams and ravines in the case of the abundant precipitations of Tătărani Commune (Gheboieni Village), as well as repeated floods in Mănești Commune (Drăgăiești-Ungureni Village). The land degradation management in the communes situated along Dâmbovița Valley in the Subcarpathian Sector supposes both the identification and the knowledge of the factors involved in the occurrence of these phenomena and of their directions of development, as well as the completion of specific works for the prevention of the destructive processes and the reconstruction of the endangered areas. So, for the prevention and the limitation of landslides, the necessary actions are: protective plantations, water drainage canals, drainage tubes at depths of 1.5 - 1.8m to catch the water of the springs, sowing grasses in the levelled areas etc. In the case of superficial and deep erosion, the necessary actions are: creating terraces, building dams, constructing water drainage canals, and, last but not least, restructuring the categories of land use. It can be noticed that the solution of the problems raised by the land management degradation in the area under analysis requires interdisciplinary research and the completion of local projects integrated in national projects, which can include accessing European funds.

**THE INFLUENCE OF MINOR AND MAJOR RIVERBED OF MUREȘ RIVER ON THE
DEVELOPMENT OF THE BOGATA LOCALITY (MUREȘ COUNTY)⁴**

**Iulia PANDIA¹, Virgil SURDEANU², Monica MOLDOVAN³, Georgiana PANDIA⁴, Sanda
ROȘCA⁵, Ioana SIMEA⁶, Alina SIMION⁷**

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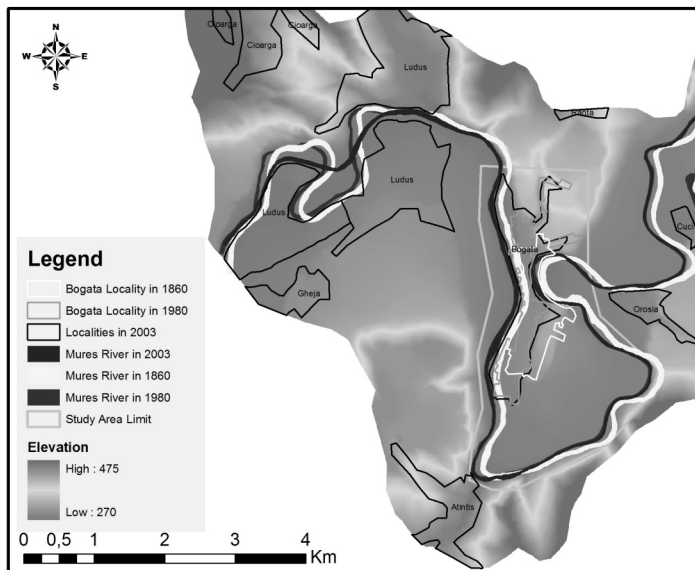


Fig. 1. Bogata locality dynamics.

Rural area development is closely related to the general dynamic of valley-slope system. Through our study we tried to emphasize this connection focusing on Bogata locality area which is located on the right bank of the Mureş River. Bogata locality is surrounded by a river meander on its three parts. The position inside the meander of this locality induces many restrictions in terms of expansion just because of minor and major riverbed dynamics of Mureş River.

In our study we took in consideration variations of rainfall and also monthly average flows over several years (1988-2002), and by

using the cumulative curve method of standardized and weighted precipitation anomaly (SWPA) were identified the periods of deficit and excess of precipitation during the analysed period.

The correlation between cartographic documents and field observations has led us to find out that Bogata locality migrate towards outside the meander (see fig. 1) and goes up the slope on the right side of the Mures river, due to negative effects induced by frequency of flooding and their consequences.

Following this analysis we have made a model evolution of the built space and the used land of Bogata area (Mures County).

RECONSTRUCTING POLICIES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IN AFRICA

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Africa contributes the least to greenhouse emissions but they suffer the consequences the most. The impact of climate change in Africa deals with water shortages, hunger and rising sea levels. Moreover, the possible disappearance of Entire Island states, which is at risk of being submerged because of rising sea levels. These problems are directly related to investment in agriculture, infrastructure, Power & Non conventional Energy, Information & Communication Technology, Education and Skill Development, Biotechnology, Institutional capacity building and human resource development. The outcome of cold war period industrialization (1948-1990) led to stress on Earth's ecosystem and rise of consumption of natural resources. Here the question is that how to develop green industrialization in Africa (Food Storage & Social Security) by restricting the blind race of industrialization. The environment alarm bell has now sounded about this nexus of business houses and promotion of consumerism (through media and print advertisements) and the positive news is that after decades of denial or inaction, many governments have now made low-carbon and inclusive growth a national priority. The comparative analysis of impacts in Africa from rising sea levels identified 10 African countries and Massawa, Djibouti and other Southern Africa Sea Ports as the most vulnerable to storm surges. African Islands and particularly Seychelles and Dahlak Island are at risk and it may lose 60 % of their land because of sea rising levels. There is a rise in temperature in the Southern



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Africa that will lead to diseases and dangerous pests. The example of southwestern Uganda is the real case where the temperature has been risen that poses a real threat of the return of old pests such as Malaria and the outbreak of new ones. Staple crops such as Soya and cassava are at risk. Even some of the African countries rejected the final Copenhagen document and convinced that the final text was cobbled together by rich nations long before the start of the conference. African states lack the money and access to technology restricted by patent laws in industrial nations to counter the effects of climate change, or to build green economies. The offer of \$100 billion a year by 2020 to be financed by governments and the private sector not only ridiculously lacks the details, it is simply inadequate. The big fear among African states is that the financial mathematics to finance the deal is all a double-cross i.e. industrial dangers will just transfer existing aid commitments to this fund, as they did before. It is not surprising that the deal is rather vague on just how the private sector is going to partially finance African and developing countries efforts to overcome the effects of climate change as it proposes. The failure of Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) in the agriculture sector in Africa leads only to poverty and degraded rich forests environment as one can see the effect of deforestation and use of this land for commercial agriculture. It is fundamental that African as well as Asian countries understand that any development efforts to undertake climate change in Africa and the developing world are unlikely to take place, unless there is also a parallel transformation of the global political, trade and finance rules. African states need a genuine common union on these issues and should involve civil society, non-governmental organization (NGOs) together with village communities and common man and should put pressure on their governments and fix their accountability.

**THE ANALYSIS OF THE ECOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES OF RECREATIONAL HOUSE
DEVELOPMENT IN JANNATROUDBAR SECTION OF RAMSAR, IRAN**

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IRAN

Jannatroudbar section of Ramsar, Iran has perfect weather and lush vegetation. Therefore, it has experienced the development of recreational (second) houses in recent years. Such places in which recreational (second) houses are expanding are in danger of ecological contamination. In this research the expansion of recreational (second) houses and the dangers this might create for the ecological system of the environment are discussed. The findings are suggestive of the fact that recreational (second) houses are built by the rich, and some local people as well as it seems that the rich from cities are more responsible in contaminating this area. If the expansion of second houses continues, this area will lose its capacity for a healthy and peaceful life in future. This research is based on descriptive method and field studies. The questionnaire includes some of the research variables which are designed in open and closed formats. The questionnaires, having been classified and coded, were analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively by the SPSS software.



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**“RURAL ECOSYSTEM APPROACH” - A PROMISING LEAP TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE
RURAL DEVELOPMENT. A STUDY OF JORHAT DISTRICT OF ASSAM, INDIA.**

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This paper tries to discuss a potent concept towards progress and development of rural environment. Productivity of rural ecosystem is the primary infrastructure for development of a nation. About 90.8% of the total geographical area of India and about 72.9% population occupy India's rural area spreading over 6 lakh villages which also consist of tribal and backward areas. In India enormous rural resources abide but due to the lack of sustainable development and ever increasing population pressure (2.2% p.a), 26% (2003) of its population is living below poverty line. Due to lack of sustainable use and growing population pressure, available resources are not able to meet the needs of the people as well as deteriorate the rural environment. Therefore, an international effort on the basis of local environment is a primary requisite for regeneration of rural space.



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SECTION 10 TRADITIONAL VERSUS MODERN RURAL

ȚARA LĂPUȘULUI – FROM TRADITIONAL TO MODERN TRADITIONAL OR FROM TRADITIONAL TO COSMOPOLITISM?

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After 1989 due to economic conditions the Tara Lapusului labor force was forced to move abroad (especially the young ones). The main areas who had received were Spain, Italy and France. At the beginning of the 2000 the new constructing methods and the new materials characterized new houses that appear in Tara Lapusului. Most of them are far from the traditional model, others just preserve some aspects but not entirely. On the other hand we can identify behavioral transformations (language – elements from Spanish, Italian and French languages; habits – food, drinks; clothes etc.).

The paradox appear when we talk about traditions (Easter, Christmas, Rusalii) and the main religious events. They are well preserved and transmitted from a generation to the other. Main advantage in this case is represented by the holydays when the people from abroad return to their homes.

The rural and urban landscape, but especially the first one, suffered a lot of structural changes and now it is in a fully transformation, If the authorities do not try to preserve the local finger print, and to revitalize the local economy based on using local materials for buildings, local food products and handicraft goods, it would be very difficult in a globalization context, to keep the landscape traditional pattern.

Key words: modern, traditional landscape, cosmopolitanism, materials, behavior, living.



Fig. 1. House build with local materials (wood and stone) in Poiana Botizii.



Fig. 2. New house in Cupșeni.



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**TRADITIONAL VERSUS MODERN IN ROMANIAN RURAL SPACE.
CRIŞANA-MARAMUREŞ CASE**

Alexandru ILIEŞ, Dorina ILIEŞ, Ioana JOSAN, Grigore HERMAN, Vasile GRAMA, Ştefan BAIAS
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The integration of the Romanian political area in the European Union involves both the revaluation and the promotion of the traditional and authentic patrimony as an essential resource for developing the tourism in Romania. The identification, evaluation, quantification, mapping, integration and the promotion of the authentic and traditional patrimony, natural and anthropogenic, as part of a sustainable development strategy which has an international characteristic, it represents a necessary intercession by all means within this new context which is favourable to the „*cultural equalization*” and being strongly placed under the incidence of the globalization’s advantages. Against the European integrator background of the Romanian area where the elements of the authentic cultural patrimony include priceless values, hard to be quantified, these elements’ stocktaking, their qualitative revaluation, mapping, and the creation of some in situ preserving patterns are precautionary measures necessary to prevent their disappearance or their transforming process under the pressure of the kitsch import. The Romanian rural territory is still one filled with authenticity and tradition, and the peasant has to be responsabilized and motivated in order to preserve the customs and the civilization specific, on the background of an adequate natural environment. A scientific incursion focused on such a direction will be materialized through a quantitative, qualitative and cartographic knowledge of authentic, traditional and representative meanings within Romanian rural environment and especially within those ethnographical areas recognized as traditions and authentic values preservers as for instance the „*lands*” of Maramureş-Crişana areas.

**MODERN DUALITIES OF TRADITIONAL ARCHITECTURE IN RURAL AREAS.
VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE IN TRASCĂU DEPRESSION, ALBA COUNTY**

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The uniqueness of the rural space is, by all means, reflected by its architecture, in addition to the particular way of life of inhabitants, as well as by traditions, customs, and folk costumes. Nowadays, the “modern”, characterized by comfort and unjustified imitative facilities (kitsch type), both emphasizes and rather questions the existence or continuous presence of traditional elements. The aims of this research were to thoroughly identify the traditional architectural elements of a given rural area, in this case, Trascău Depression, Alba County, to issue the existence of a certain vernacular, the implementation of a modern vernacular, as well as to highlight the changes configured in the local landscape and also the involvement of local community in maintaining and perpetuating a genuine rural area.

TRADITIONS AND MODERNITY IN THE ŞIEU RIVER BASIN

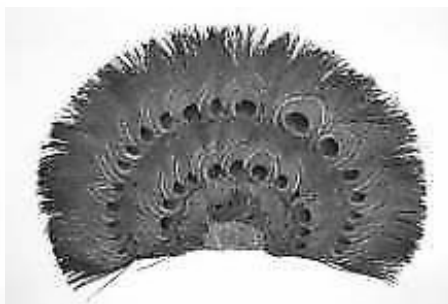
Claudia Loredana CLIVET (căs. CRISTEA), Ioan Aurel IRIMUŞ
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Broadly, the traditions of a nation include socio – cultural values, generated by humans in important moments of the past, values that are creeping into the present reality of the individual. Tradition is therefore a constant included in the production of culture and civilization, containing elements that are within themselves known as values of their own, as permanent.

Habits are included in the tradition of a nation and appear to us as complex cultural facts, meant to organize people's lives, to mark the important moments of passage through time, to shape behaviours. They give a meaning to some of the moments of collective emotion, having a syncretic structure, a moral meaning and aesthetic events, representing rural life and the genesis of all forms of folklore. Over time, habits acquire authority, often deciding what is good, true, beautiful and useful, highlighting those deeds and actions which, through their maintenance and repetition, are desired by the individual and its community. The repetition and use of ceremonial forms strengthen values, rules and prescriptions.



Due to their pure aesthetic qualities, some of the ceremonial habits have become part of the artistic domain, some remaining in their original form, others changing their characteristics, determined by many factors, of which prevailing are the economic ones. Nowadays, when the Romanian village, including the villages of the Șieu River Valley, are in a profound transition, the nostalgia for pure traditions and habits of the interwar period are not productive. Meanwhile, a number of concepts have appeared in order to serve to the achievement of a new cultural model, that of improving through multiple ways the reality in which the villager lives, a peasant – based society, relying mostly on unwritten rules, on customs and traditions incompatible with a modern rural society. In this micro-rural universe, increasingly fewer individuals live, in whose conduct, recognizable is the element of traditional folk culture with its implications in the everyday life. Having in front of us the image of a heterogeneous structure of the rural population, and its continuous depopulation, it is hard to believe that folklore, the traditional culture, may be in a state that would allow its functionality, as a way of life.

Something changed, and it is hard to say whether for the better, and just this something is in the mentality of the peasant, which, subject to multiple influences, has evolved and no longer conceives, can no



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longer live by norms imposed by the ritualized tradition and folklore, specific to the forerunners. Therefore, the traditional culture specific to the Romanian rural, has entered a period of gradual decline. Under the pressure of the renewal of scientific structures, industrial and informational ones, the homogeneous traditional folk culture is gradually replaced, beginning with surrogates, then with influences coming from the urban area, which probably respond better to the more pragmatic expectations of those who adopt the new values, of not very clearly defined interests. Accordingly, the remnants of the traditional folk culture do not have the impact and educational influence that traditions and the habits from the period previous to the Second World War used to have. So, in terms of the conditions of today's Romanian village, one can no longer speak of stabilizing harmonies characteristic of the ritual – ceremonial – traditional culture, which was based on a homogeneous world, with totally different ideals of the ones that guide today's increasingly fragmented Romanian rural world.

**TRADITION AND MODERNITY IN THE OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE
OF THE POPULATION FROM GURGHIU MORPHOHYDROGRAPHIC BASIN**

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This paper approaches on the aspects referring to the tradition and ancient customs of the region of the Gurghiu Basin, the specific characteristics of the mountain villages, emphasizing at the same time the aspects which are connected to the modernization of the Romanian village, in terms of touristic development (agro-tourism, ecologic tourism, cultural tourism), generating a modern infrastructure, and also their impact on the rural traditional structure.

The purpose of this paper is to relieve the fact that tradition and folklore represent the most important poles on which the economical development of the villages stands up, combining both the tradition and modernity.

The Gurghiu Valley Festival is one of the events which has as principal aim promoting tradition and customs of the Gurghiu's Valley area, a region situated to the interference of many cultures, but which is unique by the fact that the population guarded and handed down the traditional customs. But, on the other side, the modern accents marked their influence on the Romanian village, mostly by generating a modern infrastructure providing the economic development of the area.

POST-MODERN VALUES AND RURAL PERIPHERIES

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Some new values and trends based on strengthened needs for nature, culture and safety have emerged and offer favourable opportunities for the less developed rural areas. The environmental and social aspects of economies are getting to have more power as well as the information society provides assets to break off the distances and these processes lead to change the term of underdevelopment especially in rural peripheries.

While the rural spaces have resources necessary to start a new way of development, they are in a dual cultural snare. On one hand, the rural policy forces to follow one kind of modernization, but most of the



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rural areas do not have resources for that. On the other hand, local societies are not ready to follow a post-modern way. Local actors have waned, they are weak, traditional and modern values are mixed within their value system. Post-modern values are imported by migrants and it is accompanied by important conflicts

The main question of our research is that how the pure nature, the sustainability, the cultural heritage and social participation as some basic values for post-modern type development are present in rural spaces. According our hypothesis the relation of local society to post-modern values depends on economic development, the size of community and their links to out of the region. We have started an empirical research project in 8 groups of villages (6 in Hungary, 2 in Transylvania) in order to verify the hypothesis. Some 440 local residents are asked on their values and preferences. The poster will show some of the results of these questionnaires.

**TRADITION AND MODERNITY IN MUSCEL COUNTRYSIDE.
CASE STUDY:
VILLAGES OF VALEA MARE PRAVĂȚ, LEREȘTI AND MIOARELE**

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Despite the economic and social difficulties, the Romanian countryside has encountered for the last 50 years, (confiscation of people's right to own agricultural land, forced systematization during the communist regime, rural exodus to big industrialized cities, and, for the last 20 years, the problems caused by lack of efficiency in agriculture, environment and long-lasting development policies), it still keeps on preserving to a large extent genuine values of "life in the countryside" – a national characteristic which is not highlighted enough, in as much as to stimulate rural people's desire to settle down in the countryside, and, in the same time, to focus the curious ones' interest in discovering the "unexpected" in the rural way of life, such as: young people who were born and brought up in cities and foreign visitors for whom, the encounter with the Romanian village, may mean a "sui generis" experience, an "in situ" Ethnography and Folk Art lesson. On short and medium term taking advantage of the Romanian countryside depends on the balance between the valuable cultural and historical potential, on one hand, and the dwellers' living standard, on the other hand, who are preservers and heirs of the rural cultural legacy.

The arguments this study is based on are the following:

- the great changes in quality and quantity, influencing both the administrative and territorial structures, the functions of the rural area, the demographical behaviour of the rural population, and the types of activities practiced by the local people and their outlook during the last 50 years; the risk of losing the cultural identity of the rural area, especially that area situated nearby cities, due to the actual progress in science and technology;
- the example of continuance of folk art and architectural tradition in the rural area of Muscel, on the background of constant interest in improving the housing, thus, the living standard; the need to promote some models for preservation and perpetuation of cultural and historical potential in the Romanian countryside, as a source and a resource of important economic value (exploitation through worthy rural tourism).

The aim of the study lies in that we wanted to identify the relation between the tradition preservation and modernization in three main villages in the Subcarpathian area of Muscel: Valea Mare Pravăț, Lerești and Mioarele which are situated in the outskirts of the Câmpulung Muscel city.



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The objectives refer to the sequential analyses of different stages of evolution of habitation which we refer to in this study ; the study of folk tradition dynamics within the context of local people's modernization, especially during the last 20 years; the impact the vicinities (the city of Câmpulung Muscel, Dragoslavele-Bran-Rucăr Defile, Iezer-Papușa Mountain) may have on the relationship between tradition and modernity in the area of habitation we studied; the appreciation of the preservation and perpetuation chances the folk tradition has in the present social and economic context.

To fulfil these goals we focused our research on **classical and modern methods and techniques**, such as: inductive and deductive methods, diachronic analyses (longitudinal, and diagnoses (cross section), social and statistics methods: interviews, comparative questionnaires.

AN ETHNOGRAPHIC COORDINATED OF BRĂILA PLAIN: FISHING

Brîndușa ILIE
Brăila Museum
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Over time, geophysical climate of Brăila Plain ethnographical region was a major element for deep transformations from this space, in absolute accordance with inhabitant's sedentary life. This region permitted the development of a strong ethnographical background, fishing, that, in time, has become a strong identity brand of the area.

Archaeological excavations have highlighted a rich material showing the intensity of fishing territory to the Neolithic period Plain Brăila.

For news on the Middle Ages abound selling fish in the three Romanian countries and fish exports to Poland. The privileges granted by rulers to recognize the importance of Brăila fishing centre. Brăila port gets also a special importance after the Peace of Adrianople in the nineteenth century.

Later, the scientist Grigore Antipa registered in his studies of various specializations of fishermen villages Brăila, showing that fishing was a major pursuit of the inhabitants along the Danube and its swamps. We proposed that the research front to make the villages Brăila Gropeni, Chișcani and Tichilești, where there have been generations of fishermen.



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SECTION 11

LEGISLATION, URBANISM AND TERRITORIAL PLANNING IN DEVELOPING RURAL AREAS

RURAL-URBAN SPATIAL RELATIONS IN THE HÂRTIBACIU RIVER VALLEY. STRATEGIC APPROACH.

Sorin FILIP

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The complex aspects related to the territorial development involves, necessarily, the integrated approach of the settlements which are the subject of the development plans. The analysis of the territorial system status is a common stage in the development plans. But it should be used as a preamble in the creation of development strategies which should always take in account the favourable and the restrictive elements, as factors of sustainable development.

Starting from these conceptual premises, it may be initiated a strategic approach which's landmarks are represented by the *state we want the territorial system to reach* and the *ways in which to achieve that state*. In other words, it is necessary to *formulate some objectives*, to *formulate strategies* but also *their proper implementation*.

The considered territorial system contains thirteen territorial administrative units, of which one has the rank of town (Agnita), summing an area of ~ 1190 km² and a population of 34.795 residents (2007). From the systemic point of view, the considered territory is unique in terms of its peripherization features, which is a paradox in the context of its central positioning within the national territory. The city Agnita and also the neighbouring rural areas present symptoms of a significantly fragile economic system, whose expression is increased by the poor connectivity with its neighbouring systems, both at county and regional level.

At the phase of strategic approach, the development of this territory must be judged in terms of a general strategy which targets the whole territory, and also in terms of sectorial and organizational strategies. In terms of urban-rural relationships the specifics are given on the one hand, by the reduced polarization capacity of the urban centre Agnita, and on the other by the existence of a latent potential that this city has, derived from both traditions and the state of a possible augmented urbanity. In addition, the presence of commune centres with significant vitality (Nocrich, Roşia, Vurpăr) allows the outline of a significant relationship potential, that will contribute to overcome the state of peripherisation in which the analysed territory is cantoned in the recent decades.

GOOD PRACTICES IN RURAL TERRITORIAL PLANNING IN ROMANIA. CASE STUDY: MIHAI VITEAZU COMMUNE

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The regeneration of Romanian rural space and its sustainable development is based on four major factors: political programmes, financial resources, natural and human resources, as well as rural space



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planning and organizing. The planning and organizing of the rural space include the other three factors in a single unit and transform them in viable solutions for sustainable development. This is the case in which the quality of the territorial organizing and planning becomes, on the one hand, extremely important in the sustainable development of the rural space and, on the other hand, the only way to its regeneration. Before 1989, when public institutions were in charged with the territorial designing, the elaboration of the documents regarding city planning and territorial arrangement used to be of state monopoly; after this period, anyone with proper education could become a planner. The liberalisation of this profession had both positive and negative aspects. One of the good aspects was that it gave the opportunity for universities and foreign experts to take part in this process; the negative aspect was the fact that territorial planning and designing process has become quite an unfair business that betrays its purpose. Many commercial companies appeared during this period, companies whose only purpose was to win the auctions but proving no real competence to establish qualitative projects and provide real, practical solutions for rural space territorial planning. The consequence was a major decrease in the quality of projects, their incompatibility on the hierarchical scale, proposing unpractical and unuseful solutions. Consequently, the public money becomes inefficiently spent and the regeneration process and the sustainable development of the rural space as well as of the national territory is endangered. This way, the Romanian Central Administration should either impose monopoly again or it should establish a rigorous selection of the companies involved in city planning. Besides the measures mentioned above, the specific legislation and the methodology of processing planning projects, there should also be added a code of practice in city planning and territorial management. This paper presents an example of such a code that was established by SC EXPERIMENT PROIECT SRL, a private company that has more than 15 years of experience in the field and has collaborated with planners, geographers, economists, civil engineers, sociologists etc. The code of practice has determined an increase in the quality of the projects and therefore it can be taken as a good comparing example. This code is put into practice in the case of general urban planning of Mihai Viteazu commune, in Cluj county.

**OPTIMIZATION OF THE MECHANISM FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTION FOR
INFRINGEMENTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION
IN THE RURAL SPACE**

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At the present, the alarming environmental situation in rural areas in Republic of Moldova is caused by irrational exploitation of agricultural land, by the communal waste, massive illegal logging of forest areas, etc. Under existing national legislation, fines for violation of environmental legislation depend on the status of the offender, the type and size of injury. Administrative sanctions are frequently applied for: 1) failure to clean the cities, 2) illegal use of land, soil and water sources, 3) pollution of soil, water and air, 4) failure to pay payments for environmental pollution, 5) unlawful felling of trees in the state forest and green areas, 6) violation of hunting rules. Rarely are fines for: 1) soil erosion, 2) burning stubble, 3) falsifying information about the status and use of natural resources, 4) environmental security breach requirements in the mining enterprises and municipal landfills; 5) destruction and coppice stand young plants listed in the Red Book, 6) degradation of pastures and hayfields, 7) breach of the protection of natural targets.

The amount of fines imposed does not reflect the frequency and intensity of violations in the rational use of natural resources and environmental protection. Due to financial shortages in rural minimum rates of



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finances apply. Extremely small amount of fines and application surface conditioned a weak influence on polluters and effective management of air and water.

Under the new Code Offences substantially increased the amount of fines imposed and the number of offences for waste, for protection zones and wildlife, water use and air protection. Fines are imposed for failure to observe the activity within the water protection areas, in particular for washing vehicles, application of chemical pesticides and placement of deposits in these areas, failure size pieces and protective curtains to discharge untreated waste water, deteriorating supply systems water and sanitation. Warnings were excluded and placed in community work and business interruption. Environmental authorities will examine the most offenses of infringement of use and protection of natural resources.

BAIA MARE CENTRE OF ATTRACTION OF THE RURAL AND THE STRUCTURE OF ITS FUNCTIONAL SYSTEM

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In this case we analyze the functional system of localities from the attraction area of the Baia Mare municipality. The localities of urban or rural type from the Baia Mare attraction zone are geographic spatial systems ranked according to the capacity of attraction of each of them, a capacity directly proportional to the degree in which they are equipped with utilities that give them functions with a certain role of “central place”.

The spatial constituent elements taken into consideration, which ensure the good operation of the system, refer to the position in space and to the relations with the other habitat systems; the economic and social potential of the services; the traditional relation etc., which determine corresponding functions and attractions.

Starting from these reasons we distinguish several functional systems of localities:

- BAIA MARE as main polarizing centre of the region;
- An IMMEDIATE SUBURBAN SPACE (the UMLAND) with indispensable fundamental relations that connect the municipality and the other farther regions from the attraction zone;
- A CLOSE SUBURBAN SPACE (the HINTERLAND) with occasional relations oriented towards Baia Mare, having a stable character but with a more reduced frequency of some fluxes, having functional subsystems of localities;
- An EXCEPTIONAL SUBURBAN SPACE with exceptional relations, which make the influence of the Baia Mare municipality remarkable, it also being divided into functional systems.

Therefore Baia Mare is a complex functional system redefining the functions and the types of attraction that keeps assuring it the position of “central place” based on some relations with systematic character in the territory, by some characteristic elements: its physical environment, the functions that have created the attraction zone; the individual behaviour and the spatial preference; communication network with a favourable connection index;

The existence of these elements of organizing and operating the BAIA MARE space gives us the possibility to establish the role and the types of attraction of the municipality Baia Mare: demographic and outlet role; role of supplier in the region; centre of financial-banking attraction; medical attraction; cultural and political role; attraction for the new peak domains; administrative function, recreation function, etc.



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THE ROMANIAN LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK OF RURAL TOURISM

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The agriculture example and impulse in Romania came from the west Europe, where the industrial revolution was produced at the 18th century and that revolution developed the industrialization process destined to change the main activities of production and services of national economy from techniques and manual labour into techniques and mechanized work. An essential deficiency of Romanian agritourism developing process is not have being taken seriously for a long time and the analysis of its long time results are to be taken into consideration for social development. Classifying the rural areas as touristic villages was possible in Romania by identifying and promoting the rural area, together with their ethnography, cultura values and their natural landscapes, creating in the same time premises for an official development of agro-tourism. According to the World Tourism Organization and to many other European associations, the rural tourism is a form of tourism that includes any kind of organized touristic activity run in the rural area by the local population, capitalizing local touristic resources. Romanian village touristically orientate dis an original touristic product on the national market and especially on the world market. Romanien touristic village promotion on the world market, together with the international economical relations like touristic services a products, will put the Romanian rural village's name down in the family of world values. A positive movement of agritourism in Romania has been noticed in the last few years. Many efforts have been made in every direction, in order to bring the concept of sustainable development of the Romanian village in the European Community model. Although the point of view not seen a clear distinction, however, from the beginning should be made clear that, rural tourism and agritourism is constituted in different fields. Controversy over the identity of rural tourism and tourism are still among specialists, some authors claiming that the two concepts have the same content, while others, identifying differences between the two concepts. Agritourism, we can say, is the most demanding of rural tourism industries, because it involves organizing and carrying at least two complementary activities in the same place and at the same time. We refer here to require that when doing tourism, to be farmers and tourist service co. The main legislation governing the Romanian rural tourism and agritourism are:

- Law 145 / 1994, on rural tourism development in the mountains, Black Sea and Danube Delta;
- Government Ordinance. 62/1994 and Government Ordinance. 63/1997 on the establishment of facilities for rural tourism development in the mountains, the Danube Delta and Black Sea;
- Law no. 187 / 1998 approving Government Ordinance no. 63/1997 on the establishment of facilities for rural tourism development;
- Law no. 151 / 1998 on regional development in Romania;
- Order no. 20/1995 for approving standards and minimum criteria for the classification of stars and flowers and farm agritouristic pensions;
- GD 1328 / 2001 on the Classification of the functions of accommodation and catering in Romania;
- Order no. 636 / 2008 approving the Methodological Norms on Classification of travel;

In Romania must urgently developed and adopted legislation for tourism, as there are across Europe. This legislation should be to encourage the remaining traditional producers, but also young people who want to continue this tradition.



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**THE CENTRALITY AND THE INFLUENCE ZONES OF VIȘEU
DE SUS TOWN**

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The centrality of a town in a region, in the central places theory, elaborated by W. Christaller (1933), is defined in economic terms of regional servance in connection with the report between the urban centre and the rural space around it. The main function of the Vișeu de Sus town is to assure the necessary services for the surrounding villages. The function or the activities of central place are those urban services of which efficiency depend of the centrality of the town where they are situated. According to W. Christaller, the bigger the town from the number of person's point of view, the bigger is the number of the central places functions.

The influence area of the Vișeu de Sus town is proved though many ways of administrative, commercial, medical, judicial, educational or religious importance.

The Vișeu de Sus's centrality and influence in the region was proved evens since the period of district administrative entity. Since October, 2000, Vișeu de Sus town has become local resort which will certainly have a good influence on territorial development of the area.

**COLIBIȚA CLIMATIC RESORT (BISTRIȚA-NĂȘĂUD COUNTY)
BETWEEN PROJECT AND PURPOSE**

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The Colibița Depression lies on the contact between the Bârgău and Călimani rock formations, overlapping the upper basin of the Bistrița Ardeleană River. The area posses a significant touristic potential, exploited in the past by the existing climacteric resort. The hydroelectric development activities that took place between 1976 and 1996 deactivated the spa, but once they were finished, tourism experienced a powerful come-back. As a result, county institutions (namely the Bistrița-Nășăud County Council) and local authorities (the mayoralty of the commune Bistrița Bârgăului) are interested in the revival of the climatic resort Colibița. This is already happening, by means of several specific activities and projects. Under these circumstances, our study tries to realise an evaluation of the region's attractive potential, as well as a analysis of the criteria needed to be fulfilled in order to re-establish the climatic resort Colibița.

**THE RANK-SIZE RELATIONSHIP WITHIN THE URBAN SETTLEMENTS NETWORK
IN THE TURDA-ALBA-IULIA CORRIDOR**

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When studying the rank-size relationship within a settlement system, principles like hierarchy, centrality, specialization should be the prevailing instruments, while primacy just to a lower extent.



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According to the TANP (Territorial Arrangement National Plan) in the Turda-Alba Iulia Corridor there are settlements of rank II, III and IV, respectively county capitals municipalities, other municipalities and towns. According to PATN rank II may include differently ranked localities, a good example being Alba-Iulia and Aiud. However, the first mentioned above has a clearly larger size as far as administrative, service, and equipment utilities (hospitals, supermarkets, etc).

The relationships between the urban centres in the Turda-Alba Iulia Corridor can be grouped into four categories: relationships of county subordination, relationships of inter-county indifference, relationships of local competition, and relationships of local collaboration.

- The subordination relationships prevail in the Alba County, being induced by the hierarchic position of its capital town, Alba Iulia, a classical case of administrative subordination.
- The indifference relationships develop between the urban settlements in the Cluj County and those in the Alba County.
- Relationships of competition appear mainly between the urban centres in the same county, both in Alba and Cluj.
- Relationships of collaboration develop between Turda and Câmpia Turzii, although between these two towns relations of competition were also identified.

THE UTOPIA OF TOURISM PLANNING IN VAMA VECHE

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The fall of the communist regime in 1989 removed the control which existed during decades over some isolated communities situated on the Black Sea shore. The pressure of free markets and the rhythm of development have increased progressively during the first ten years of transition, having reached their peak in the year 2000 due to a unique economic growth, never registered in the former *socialist* Romania. Therefore, rural settlements which based their existence on traditional agricultural practices, on fishing or on a familial version of tourism, have suffered in the past thirteen years various changes produced by a series of factors such as the explosive growth of land prices, the massive investments in real estate, the growth of the motorisation rate and also the development of mass tourism. The local and regional administrations are still inexperienced in order to control the pressure on natural habitat and infrastructure which crawls under the flow of tourists.

The present paper wishes to present one of the most attractive Romanian rural settlements, the touristic village of Vama Veche. Its reconversion from a *no man's land*, forsaken by most of the tourists who came on the Romanian seashore, to a most unconventional high class destination left its mark on the local community and on the territorial planning practices. The expansion of the built-up area wanted by local Council, the diversification of tourist accommodations have incited the arrival of a significant number of tourists but also a land price increase which has turned into a real estate business encouraged and fuelled by the development of the touristic phenomenon.

The results of the study show that the village suffers a fast and intense territorial development towards a maximal valorisation of its natural potential. The research presents these problems by focusing on the development of the peripheries and also on its built-up area.



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THE IMPORTANCE OF URBAN PLANS IN RURAL LAND PLANNING

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This paper approaches the importance and role of urban plans in rural space arrangements. Generally, these plans have the character of a specific regulation, establishing rules and outlining directives for the development of localities, determining the areas to be built and the area with no constructions of a certain locality, assigning the functions inside the localities, thus influencing the development and organisation of the territory.

Ultimately, any construction or any investment is made on the basis of such a plan (General Urban Plan, Zonal Urban Plan, Detail Urban Plan) following the legislation and the specific urban plans for that specific territory in that moment. The wider territorial plans (National Territory Land Planning, County Territorial Land Planning, Communal Territorial Land Planning, etc.) and the present urban legislation regulate the intervention manner for a territory through the urban plans. However, the urban regulations apply differently according to the specificity of the rural area, taking into account the cultural influences, the traditions, customs, the relief forms, population, etc. (ex. the General Urban Plan for Săvădisla – Hungarian influences in land planning, General Urban Plan Râşca, General Urban Plan Unguraş – land planning influenced by the landscape). The Zonal Urban Plan and the Detail Urban Plan are documents that have the role of modifying the regulations of the general urban plan, establishing new requirements for building regime and spatial arrangement (ex. Zonal Urban Plan Călăţele holiday village - planning of a touristic area), taking, of course, into account the area's specificity and the needs of the community, the territorial offer, etc. The urban plans can contribute to the spatial development of a locality by setting the functions and facilities, yet it can also restrict and limit the way in which a rural locality develops.

RURAL GUIDE PLAN AND REGENERATION OF RURAL SPACE IN IRAN

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Rural Guide Plan while organizing and renovation the existing physical texture, amount and location for future development and how to use of land to determine for different functions such as residential, commercial, agricultural, and infrastructural and welfare services in villages according with legislation, regional master plans and policies. Objectives of this plan in Iran as follows:

- Preparation a background for rural development according to local cultural, social and economic conditions;
- Providing the equitable facilities through development of welfare, productive and social services;
- Guided the physical structure and texture of villages; and
- Creating the necessary facilities to improve the rural housing and the local services.

Rural Guide Plans or RGPs in Iran in 1983 and at first in one of the villages of Iran's south-west is started. Up the end of 2008, the numbers of approved plans have been increased to 20528 plans. According to the rural development policies in Iran, all of villages (35000 villages) should have a Rural Guide Plan. Up to end fourth development national plan (2005-2009) all of villages with over than 50 households should



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have the Rural Guide Plans. Also so far this plan has been performed in 9898 villages. Since the executive period in this plan is 10 years, these plans have been revised in some villages.

Evaluation of Rural Guide Plans indicates that there is a suitable speed in numbers of prepared plans, but these are some weaknesses in implementation of this plan. Numbers of implemented plans is almost a half of approved plans, and a little section of approved plans has been implemented. Of course the success of these plans is very different and it is fluctuation from very low up very high according to local and regional conditions. The most important causes the low successful these plans as follow:

- Low participation of people in preparation and implementation of plans;
- Lack of village municipality in many of villages (only about 14000 villages have village municipality);
- Physical nature of Rural Guide Plans and the little attention to economic and social aspects;
- Copying from urban master plans in preparation of Rural Guide Plans and little attention to particular conditions of rural communities in preparation of plans;
- Lack of local consultants in many of regions to preparation of plans according to local conditions;
- High costs to implementation of Rural Guide Plan, and the very high dependency to regional and central government to finance these plans.



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SECTION 12 TOURISM IN RURAL AREAS – EXPECTATIONS AND REALITY

TOURIST MANAGEMENT OF THE RURAL SPACE IN THE NORTH-WEST DEVELOPMENT REGION: TOURISM DEVELOPMENT INDEX

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A detailed analysis has been developed at the level of administrative-territorial units - village level for the North-West Development Region and its six dependent counties regarding the natural tourist potential, the anthropogenic tourism heritage and the tourist facilities. Consequently, we attempted to establish a several categories ranking, based on this analysis and after a partial and final quantification of tourist attractions.

Furthermore, a significant comparison between the tourist facilities and their attractiveness degree is obtained based on a mathematical formula lectured and argued on the occasion of the previous symposium regarding *the tourism development index*, comparison that changes the tourist resource into a specific usable product.

TOURISM IN RURAL AREAS IN SERBIA

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Rural areas have the special place in tourism, as areas of exceptional value, as an ecological oasis, the fortress of the traditional culture and ethnic diversity and cultural heritage. Tourism is the activity which has significant impact on the economic, social and functional structure of rural spaces. Tourist feature occupies a significant place in the transformation of the physiognomy and features of rural settlements. This phenomenon is due to the increasing needs of the urban population for stay in a different ambient, in rural areas. Bearing in mind, that rural tourism is broad concept our aim is to prove that it includes not only holiday but also all the other activities in rural areas, and that rural tourism forms many others specific tourism activities. Because of that, tourism in a rural area now has become a reality, needs and desires of tourists, but also the holder and an instrument of development in rural areas.

Development of rural areas through Tourism merge over twenty potential types of tourism: farm tourism, residential tourism, wine tourism, gastronomic tourism, cultural tourism, heritage tourism, mountain tourism, cycling tourism, sports and recreational tourism, adventure tourism, health tourism, educational tourism, health tourism, camping tourism, transit tourism, nauticak tourism, religious tourism, hunting tourism, fishing tourism, close to nature tourism, eco-tourism, sustainable tourism, mixed and other types of tourism.

In the second part of the paper we discussed about the characteristics of tourism in rural areas of Serbia and its potentials. Serbia as continental country has many natural and cultural potentials for development of Tourism. Are they developed or not? How can we used them in aiming to develop sustainable tourism, are some of the questions in this paper. Because of that, special attention is paid to the



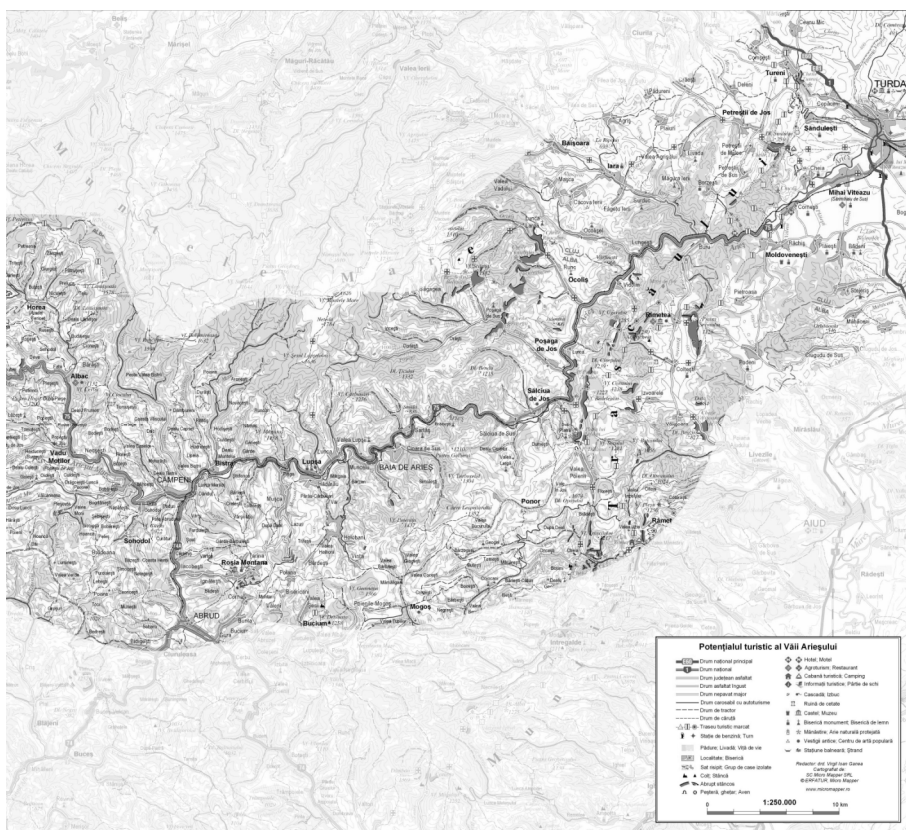
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pressure that exists between a successful tourism development and the attractiveness of rural regions. The main task of the Tourismologists and space planners is bring the tension to the level of sustainability.

**THE DEVELOPMENT OF LEISURE AND TOURISM ON ARIEȘ VALLEY
BY CONSTRUCTING A CYCLING ROUTE ON THE ABANDONED RAILWAY TRACK**

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The Arieș River is located in the Apuseni Mountains, the Western Carpathians, in the counties of Cluj and Alba. The area is rich in varied natural and anthropogenic resources and the relief imposes itself through the beauty of its scenery. The valley also has many mountain roads that facilitate access to touristic attractions in the Apuseni Mountains. The Arieș River Valley is cross passed by the national road DN75, the Aries River and the small railway between Turda and Abrud. In time, the increase of auto traffic led to the decrease of railway profit and finally to railway closure, the only access to

the area being now by road. In the western countries cycling has been sustained and promoted as a “green” way to travel, especially when it comes to travel and leisure, and the infrastructure has been improved to support it. In Romania these facilities are underdeveloped, and due to the increase in traffic and the decrease of the safety on the main roads, interest for cycling decreased, as well. This study is trying to promote cycling and cycle tours along Arieș Valley, by constructing a cycle route on the abandoned railway track between Turda and Abrud. The conversion of the railway to a cycling route is facilitated by some important factors: the land is owned by the state, the route is consolidated and raised above inundation limits and the slope is light. Beside the significant impact that this cycle route will have on the health of people of all ages that will use it, it will also attract new investments, create new work places, and develop tourism even further in this beautiful touristic area. The paper concludes that developing the *Aries Valley cycling tourism system* is appropriate and that the model, once implemented, could be extended in other mountain areas in Romania, areas that own similar disabled infrastructure that could become a bicycles heaven.



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CURRENT TRENDS IN UNLOCKING THE TOURIST POTENTIAL OF ROMANIA'S RURAL AREAS CASE STUDY: SNAGOV AREA

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Romania has enormous potential to make rural tourism an important source of income for investors and the State budget as well. Despite this fact and despite the 20 years that have lapsed since the fall of communism, rural tourism is still on its nascent phase. It looks like there is still a difficult way to go until this sector is fully developed, especially as the Romanian authorities, who admit only in part the importance and potential of this type of tourism, continue to support massive investments in classical, mass tourism.

However, ever more entrepreneurs have caught a glimpse of the potential and benefits of rural tourism. The first - quite timid - initiatives in this domain appeared a few years ago, in a few traditional tourist destinations across the country (like Valea Prahovei, Brașov area, Dornelor area), and they later reached other Romanian regions. Now the offer is diverse, starting from accommodation opportunities and ending with locations.

Nevertheless, Romania's rural tourism lacks a few things that could give it back the place it deserves. The main issue is the country's poor infrastructure, especially the transport one, needed to allow easy access to those tourists in search of something other than sharing a sunny patch of beach with thousands of other tourists. Besides, even though it might bring Romania visiting tourists all year round, the promotion of touristic destinations is absent, especially beyond the borders of the country. The owner of a boarding house located in an isolated mountainous area will never have by its own means access to tourism fairs in Vienna or in any other city of the world. And last but not least, we are facing a lack of know-how, in that owners of boarding-houses (or hotel managers) are not able to offer tourists an experience that goes beyond good accommodation or rich meals.

This paper is an attempt at persuading that the rural tourism is a viable source of income in all rural districts of the country, such as, for instance, the Snagov area. The tourist potential in this region is insufficiently exploited and the method of practicing tourism is detrimental to the natural environment, which deteriorates with every passing year. Thus, the paper is intended as an alarm signal for those who have the possibility to improve transformation and conservation technologies of the natural setting and particularly of the anthropogenic environment, who need to be aware that the anthropogenic tourist attractions, which have great historical, architectural and anthropogenic value, must be preserved and restored. Both the natural and anthropogenic environment represent, by being put to use, a source of income for the local community, which could result in an improvement in its standard of living and a decrease of the commute and final migration phenomenon, by creating new jobs.

This paper is also an alarm signal for tourists coming to this region, who need to be aware of the fact that any change brought upon the natural environment is irreversible and the thing which attracted them in the first place and convinced them to visit the area under analysis may lose interest or even repulsive, unless the natural setting is preserved within its regenerative capacity limits.

The lacustrine area of Snagov marks the physical particularity of this region, as well as the human and economic personality. The fluvial shore Snagov is an integral part of the inhabitants and the development of rural tourism in this area is closely related to its existence.

The survey, which is based on field researches in the Snagov rural district and its neighbouring districts (observation incursions, mapping and photographing) and the consultation of bibliographical papers



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which completed numerous fragments remained unclear following the field survey, may be used as a local tourist guide, as it presents natural and anthropogenic tourist attractions and the lodging infrastructure.

**TOURIST ORGANIZATION OF THE RURAL SPACE.
CASE STUDY. SĂPÂNȚA VILLAGE, MARAMUREȘ COUNTY**

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In the village of Săpânța the following forms of tourism organization can be identified:

a. area with specific planning organization and transit tourism is the area drained by the national road, an area with intense traffic, as it crossed the road linking the historical Maramureș and west of the country. In this area is required the development of catering units, either within existing hostels (by their extension), or separately from them. It also must be planning some camping areas or open a motel;

b. organizing and planning area specific for cultural tourism is the area where the Merry Cemetery is located and many hostels, which occurred precisely because of their proximity to this important goal. In these hostels are listed many local handicrafts, but some traditional activities and local crafts. Within this area is necessary to set up creative centers and a museum;

c. area under the organization and planning of recreational tourism and spa is located in Săpânța Valley, where there are, the reserve of traditional technique, complex of "vâltori", Dendrological Park, waterfalls, mineral springs, canyons, hunting areas and fishing area could contribute to the development of spa tourism specific infrastructure (bathrooms, pools, etc..) and in the surrounding mountain area can be organized many mountain activities: hiking, climbing, cycling, fishing;

d. area under the specific organization and planning of religious tourism, is in the surroundings of Săpânța monastery - Peri, in the area called "Livada". In this area, through the establishment of hostels, but also by developing the infrastructure (accommodation, conference room, museum) in the monastery can be developed religious tourism by organizing pilgrimages;

**INCENTIVE COMPONENTS OF THE TOURIST OFFER REGARDING HÂRTIBACIU VALLEY
(SIBIU COUNTY) DEVELOPMENT MICRO-REGION
MAJOR GUIDELINES OF THE TOURIST DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR ITS
INTEGRATION AND PROMOTION ON THE TOURISM MARKET**

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From the beginning, the present study tries to achieve a general overview of the motivating elements of the tourism phenomenon in the Hârtibaciu Valley micro-region of development. They were approached in accordance with their suitability and restrictiveness for the tourist development and integration within the functional tourist networks. In the second part, it focuses on the main directions of the tourism development strategy for the reference area, whose provisions were described, adapted and refined according to the characteristics of the real state of the territory as well as taking into account the elements set out by the specific strategies. These have been developed by different institutions involved in organizing, managing and promoting tourism phenomena at regional and local levels, trying to comply the official strategy with the



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needs, requirements and expectations of local people and with the specific current or short, medium or long-term expected financial and economic opportunities.

RURAL TOURISM IN MUREȘ COUNTY

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Rural tourism is a phenomenon that gained weight in the past two centuries and appeared as an alternative to the other forms of tourism; it seems to be the result of the modern man's needs who is eager to go on holidays and travels as genuine as possible, to return towards the nature and to avoid the crowd in the well-known tourist areas.

Mureș County, which is situated in a natural background with varied landscape scenery, presents a variety of historical and cultural values, popular art, ethnography, folklore, customs and archaeological vestige. All these stand for a valuable tourist potential in the county, which allows the development of an intense rural tourism, including 464 villages grouped into 91 communes; moreover, the rural population represents 47.8% of the total population in Mureș County.

The rural settlements in Mureș County preserve alive the ancient traditions and customs, a rich and varied folklore, original elements on ethnography and handicraft that can be turned into touristic advantage by a well-organized rural tourism. The village in that part of the country represents an area with many spiritual elements which interfered with those of the living nationalities and, consequently, they gave birth to an original symbiosis. Here there are villages that are extremely interesting due to their ethno-folkloric values, crafts, traditional gastronomy and by preserving famous historical and cultural values, such as the villages that have German walled churches, pastoral villages where people grow trees and grapevines, villages that are settled in the neighbourhood of natural reservations or particular geomorphologic phenomena.

In Mureș County, as well as all over Romania, the interest for rural tourism grew after 1990 at the same moment with the appearance of the first associations and organisations whose aim is the development of the tourism in rural areas (Romanian Agency for Agritourism and National Association for Ecological and Cultural Rural Tourism in Romania (ANTREC), member of the European Federation of Rural Tourism (EUROGITES).

For a better exploitation of the rural area in Mureș County it is necessary that the tourist activities enlarge in diversity as well as the offer of tourist accommodation:

- The exploitation of traditional popular gastronomic products;
- Specific leisure activities in the rural areas;
- Pilgrimages to well-known spiritual settlements;
- Transport by traditional means of transport;
- Visits in crafts' workshops

The work highlights also another branch of the rural tourism in Mureș county, namely the attention that should be given to agritourism, so that the implicit activities linked to agriculture should combine with those connected to services (the third sector). From the point of view of the effects on the peasants' settlements, agritourism appears as a variant to the development of the rural areas, particularly in the areas with difficult conditions of life as they are at the mountainside.

Moreover, the growth of activities in rural areas and rural tourism (ecologic and cultural) can lead to a rebirth of villages. Unfortunately the rural tourist product is insufficiently exploited although these villages benefit of a generous tourist potential but which is weakly used. An exception to this is the North-East part where it is concentrated a valuable tourist potential in the mountainous and sub-Carpathian communes.

In Mureș County, the following villages were declared tourist villages: Gornești, Bezid (village which is part of Sângeorgiu de Pădure), Lunca Bradului, Stânceni, Neagra (com. Lunca Bradului), Răstolița,



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Gălăoaia (com. Răstolița), Borzia (com. Răstolița). Potential tourist villages could be: Gurghiu, Lăpușna (com. Ibănești).

To sum up, a detailed analysis of the tourist potential of the entire rural network in Mureș County, entails a reconsideration of the actual state of exploitation.

**RURAL TOURISM IN BISTRIȚA-NĂSĂUD COUNTY
BETWEEN DESIDERATA AND REALITY**

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Located in the north of Transylvania and Romania, at a triple interference between Transylvania, Maramureș and Bucovina, Bistrița-Năsăud County stretches over 5355 km² (rank 34 among Romania's counties) and has a population of 317,254 inhabitants (rank 33). It comprises 4 towns, 58 communes and 235 villages, giving it important rural characteristics, all the more so as three of the four towns (Sângeorz-Băi, Năsăud and Beclean) feature significant rural characteristics. Under these circumstances, the county presents good opportunities for the development of rural tourism, generally, and of agritourism particularly. Unfortunately, the significant offer of favourabilities is underexploited (small number of functioning pensions in the touristic network, well-equipped rural housings but that are not linked to the domestic agritourism, etc.). For all these reasons, as rural tourism is an activity capable of helping the villages in the Bistrița-Năsăud County to develop sustainably, the state should effectively support its development as well as of agro-ecotourism in the county's protected areas.

TOURISM AND ARCHAEOLOGY: BACK TO ORIGINS

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Between archaeology and tourism there are mutual interests, based on discovery, education, preservation and capitalization.

It is quite obvious that today we are overwhelmed by a huge amount of information from various sources: internet, online books, TV, press etc. In this era of technology, though, important things that can be found close to us, such as the archaeological resources, are present every day. Among them, one of the most fascinating subjects is related to Roman archaeological remains.

In the same time, the idea of preserving the “spirit of place” by safeguarding of tangible and intangible heritage is an important point in capitalizing the rural space. An archaeological site induces respect and attracts through the mystery of collective memory.

In Romania, a lot of roman sites can be found in rural areas and can contribute at the local development. Most of them are not capitalize; the local communities don't understand the value for tourism of these sites. Fortunately the sites can't be moved from the rural area, but unfortunately there were destroyed over time and the destruction continues today because of the non-involvement of local authorities.

The touristic interest for archaeological sites is multiple: they are very well integrated in the rural area which they belong (that could be found above or buried in the ground), they are/should be protected areas (due to their unique and specific feature), they represent tourist attractions that generate respect in the



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light of cultural identity, they are generally integrated in a natural area and they are subject of archaeological studies which generates useful information for its capitalization. All these elements generate attractiveness of the sites.

In this paper we want to make a classification by level of importance for tourism of these sites.

First, we will take in consideration the area of Ilişua (with roman remains like: a Roman camp, a rural settlement, and a roman road, Dej-Ilişua-Orheiu Bistriţei-Brâncoveneşti), Porolissum (a Roman camp, a Dacian Settlement, an amphitheatre, a very well preserved Roman road, temples, a civil settlement, an air aqueduct) and Bretcu (a Roman camp, Romans thermae and a guard tower).

Secondly, we will study Aiton (with its milestone from the Roman period), Copăcenii (with a rural settlement from the Roman era, an aqueduct and a Roman road) and Tibiscum (a Roman camp, a Roman road, temples, possibility for a site museum).

Finally, the paper will consider three sites near Cluj-Napoca: Dealul Lomb (a Roman villa), Polus Centre area (the remains preserved *in situ*) and the Sănduleşti settlement (Roman remains, near the spring of Copăcenii which was captured in the Roman era, as well).

This classification is determined by the historical, archaeological and cultural aspects, wondering how to attract tourists in a rural area in Romania, based on capitalizing archaeological remains. Roman ruins are present everywhere and the exploitation of this resource is the most important issue for the contemporary society.

**THE TRADITIONAL VILLAGE – THE SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE INVOLVED
IN THE SENSE MAKING AND SUPPOSED BY THE LABELLING
AND THE TOURISTIC EXPLOITATION OF THE CONCEPT**

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This paper brings out some results of the theoretical research work from a research grant on the traditional village and its usage in tourism (PNII Partnerships 91032/2007) and the transformation that comes with. Sometimes *the traditional village* in tourist literature and in its exploitation is taken for a fact, without any preoccupation on the matter of what is behind this concept and, after all, what makes a traditional village touristically exploited more *traditional* than others. On the other side, this kind of research preoccupations brings out an amount of valuable knowledge on the field of tourism development - differentiation in exploitation, what makes a traditional village exploitation more successful than others – like in the sociological modern-traditional cultural villages typology that presents a factorial typology that underlies those labels and explains in the same time the social processuality and mentality that rules those rural communities, therefore-some extremely favourable to the tourism activities development some closed to all that entrepreneurship implies.

From the tourism geographies' perspective, the rural specificities for tourism activities in Romania could be approached by the two ends of the problem, generating a bidirectional process. Tourist destination image is the ultimate capture of a more complex reality in the rural space. Villages which are not yet integrated in the tourist flows tend to “stick to this image” in order to benefit from the existing pathways towards tourism. The issue here is “the mechanism to avoid dilution of regional rural specificity which generated this kind of cultural tourism activities”, by promoting an authentic village. The second direction is from the Romanian traditional village towards the tourism involved village, which benefits from its



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specificity in future tourism activities, as alternative development means in respect with the forest exploitation, as listed in the majority of local strategies.

On the other side there is no *snap-shot* of a *traditional village* touristically exploited that stays forever this way – the tourist exploitation of the traditional village *means* and implies its modernisation – and renegotiations of the transformation boundaries and the limit between the traditional culture and the new culture and the *new paisans* that develop in their families tourist activities. What sociologist define by traditional and where tradition/al as a resource ends in tourism as a tourism outcome represents some issues that this paper aims to bring some supplementary light onto.

**AN ANALYSIS AND A DIAGNOSIS OF THE TOURISM IN THE SUBCARPATHIANS
BETWEEN IALOMIȚA AND PRAHOVA RIVERS**

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The Sub-Carpathians between the Ialomița and the Prahova River are part of the Curvature Carpathians, which represent one of the most complex units in the entire Sub-Carpathian arc, both from a physical-geographic viewpoint, and in point of their demographic or economic-geographic features. The SWOT analysis of the tourist phenomenon in the area under analysis highlights the strengths and weaknesses, the opportunities and risks that can define the directions of its evolution. The *strengths* refer to the variety of relief forms, the richness of mineral water sources, flora and fauna and also to the diversity of the anthropogenic tourist resources. The *weaknesses* include the poor quality of the access roads for this area, the low boarding capacity of the very comfortable boarding units, the very poor national and international tourist advertising, also the reticence of the boarding units' owners to get associated into organizations with a better delineated tourist offer. The *opportunities* refer to the possibility of developing the green tourism and the ecotourism, and the *risks* concern the excessive forest exploitation, the poor waste management and, last but not least, the emigration, especially of the young population, towards Western Europe, which leads to the loss of our traditions. It can be noticed that in the Sub-Carpathians of Ialomița there is a strong mingling between the urban tourist area, with a high degree of ruralization, especially at the periphery of the small stations which concentrate as well numerous boarding units of the pension type and the rural tourist area, which has recorded a very strong development of the urban-like facilities and of the tourist infrastructure recently.

THE GENERATION POLES OF THE RURAL TOURISM IN MARAMUREȘ

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The variety of the touristic potential in Maramureș County is differently put in value in its four regions: Maramureș Region, Lăpus Region, Chioar Region, Codru Region. Under the aspect of the management of the touristic potential we may identify, along time, development poles, mainly constituted by mountain and watering and climatic resort from Maramureș Region. The apparition and development of these polls is owed mainly to the presence of the local natural resources (sparkling mineral waters, salty



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waters, favourable climate), with old exploring conditions, to which we care add the costumes, traditions and habits very well conserved along time.

In the villages inside the Maramureş Region we find testimonies of the touristic practices on these lands long before the apparition of the rural touristic category, under the form of documents and ruins which attest the existence of some resorts which put in value the sparkling mineral and salty waters, frequently present in the Historical Maramureş.

The Maramureş Region is the region where the rural tourism made its appearance and developed itself inside the county, fact which it is owed to the touristic nets such as OVR, ANTREC, Agro Tur Art, B&B, and MTMM, which played an important role in its promotion at the national and international level.

Therefore, on the basis of the existing potential, we can say, that Maramureş Region is the launching pitch and support of tourism in the county, and especially of the rural tourism. The apparition of the rural tourism in Maramureş has given birth to a series of multiplicative effects for the local communities, but beside positive effects, negative effects have appeared too.

Due to the “adoption” of many modern and day to day adapted elements, the rural identity of Maramureş is in danger of disappearance. For a longer existence of the rural tourism in the region it is necessary to maintain a balance between the modern and the traditional and in the same time a keeping of the natural environment for a long lasting development of tourism.

CONDITIONS AND PROSPECTS OF THE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN MONTENEGRO

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The paper first synthesizes the results of previous research and the prospects of tourism development in Montenegro. Beside this, the contemporary possibilities of tourism development under the influence of new integration process in Europe were analyzed. Montenegro is an attractive tourist country that will base its tourism development on the richness of its natural and human resources, and the closeness to major markets. Condition of the tourism resources shows that the majority of high-quality tourist areas are less used for the touristic purposes. Even though Montenegro has specific and attractive tourist locations, they have not been fully validated, since most of the tourist demand is still focused on a smaller area of the marine tourism. By analyzing the main elements of tourism, the reached conclusion shows that the guests, who come to Montenegro, express a high degree of satisfaction with country's natural beauty, food quality and its adjustment to the general tourist industry. Tourist values of the Adriatic Sea, mountains, rivers and lakes, are resulting from their recreational significance and possibilities to be used as areas for different types of sports. Until the mid-90s of the twentieth century, the development of tourism in the former Yugoslavia along the coast of the Adriatic Sea was largely concentrated in Montenegro. Based on research, and representation of geographic elements that are of a great importance for tourism development in Montenegro, it can be concluded that there is a successful connection with other economic activities in the new concept of regional development.



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THE PUBLIC RELATIONS IN ROMANIAN HOSTELS AND GUESTHOUSES

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The development of a business in agrotourism is a complex and particular problem for every enterprising person and even for every rural area. Being a family type business characteristic to the rural areas it represents a possibility to ensure supplementary incomes for the rural communities, according to the present tendencies of the economical development of the rural areas. The agro-tourism appeared from the need to escape in quiet spaces, beyond the crowd from the big urban centers or from the much promoted touring resorts. The agro-tourism promotes the specificity of some rural areas which vary from one region to another. They are extremely generous geographical spaces, more or less large, where the leisure is combined with the recreation, the walks, the practical activities, the reading, etc. Here appears a marketing instrument very important for the promotion of the Romanian agro-tourism and this is the public relations. So, the public relations represent a genuine communication mean in order to promote the services from the agro-tourism domain. The public relations represent an efficient mean to inform the consumer about the existence of some services and about supplying some information concerning these services taking into consideration the present tendency of continuous increase of the communication costs. Agro-tourism, as a component of rural tourism, has the greatest impact on valorizing local resources, in increasing standard of living and, last but not least, in protecting and conserving natural and man-made environment, within an economic activity based on ecological principles. The interest of government and of local community is to develop organizational, developmental, and promotional strategies for agro-tourism on both national and international levels, and to involve all economic agents responsible for the well to do of this business.

One of the socio-economic phenomena whose development, with remarkable speed and continuity, was a true revelation for the end of this century and millennium, it is tourism. Tourism activity is part of the social-economic processes of particular importance in the contemporary period, was particularly spectacular development being one of the characteristic features of our century global economy and especially its second half. Through the efforts they undertake and the effects of introducing the countrys economy, tourism has special features to a separate area of activity, representing it as the assessment of most experts, a branch of the national economy.

Agrotourism is a complex form of tourism, complementary to agriculture, which gives people who want to relax, love nature, culture and folk art, the opportunity to spend leisure time in peasant family farms. The role of public relations in tourism and agro units is reflected very well and eloquently when it comes to policy to promote tourism and agro products, which contain many differences that it emphasizes the autonomy of the services. Actually building public relations image and agrotourism establishment!



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USING MAPS EVALUATION OF THE AGRO-TOURISM SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL OF THE BRAN-RUCĂR VALLEY (TRANSILVANIA, ROMANIA)

Guillaume BAILLY
Université de Rouen
FRANCE

The Bran-Rucăr valley stands out as a true area of tourism development. In the same time, there are a series of threats that stand on an already fragile environment.

The main goal of this poster is to show the methodology which has been implementing to conduct a diagnostic which aims at identifying favourable and unfavourable aspects for the purpose of developing an articulated plan for the sustainable development of the region through the capitalization of its resources. We'll present a methods based on spatial analysis. This poster will show GIS building step which are used to present, describe and characterize our research's area. To reach that goal we've crossed different data, collected during a field work processing. They are grouped by databases families linked by primary keys. After a statistical analysis based on data use, the main goal is to extract information shown by map series. At last we'll focus on GIS structuring and web-mapping possibilities.

EVOLUTION OF TOURISM AND AGROTOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE IN ROMANIAN RURAL AREAS DURING 2000 – 2010

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More and more tourists from around the world are passionate about the beauty that nature has created. Romania holds, including or especially in rural areas, many attractions, some already known, others less known. Tourism practiced in various forms in Romanian rural areas offer to people who want to relax, love nature, culture and folk art, treasure of ancient rural civilisation values, the opportunity to spare time in particular rural delivery structures, either they are: peasant family farms, agro farms, tourist hostels and guesthouses. Evolution of these structures touristic and agrotouristic from Romanian rural areas has seen an upward trend during the studied period, respectively 2000 - 2010. This scientific work are based upon a complex processing and analysis of statistical data, to official information, the local and central institution, and numerous data and information obtained from the field. In rural areas with tourism potential and agro-tourist in Romania have been created and developed numerous boarding houses and agro-tourism to practice both forms of classical and new forms of unconventional, complementary, such as rural tourism, rural tourism, ecological tourism - ecotourism, cyclo-tourism, etc. The following table show the evolution and agro-touristic pensions in Romania during 2000 - 2010 in terms of their numbers and accommodation capacity (number of places).

Table 1. Situation of hostels and guesthouses in Romania.

Year	Number of hostels	Tourist accommodation in hostels	Number of guesthouses	Accommodation in guesthouses
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2000	201	3216	400	2881
2001	244	3904	536	4000
2002	271	4378	682	6219
2003	328	5670	781	7150
2004	461	8100	892	9405
2005	597	10910	956	11151
2006	702	12546	1259	14551
2007	736	13429	1292	15448
2008	783	14094	1348	16176
2009	876	15768	1409	16908
2010 (expected)	963	17344	1465	17584

In Romania there are many villages that have good natural conditions for tourism in various forms and have also built a framework and picturesque, with houses and farms comfortable, hospitable people, who have their own cultural and artistic tradition, with talented craftsmen and artisans. Unfortunately, just as there are many cases where these villages, representing a rich and important local heritage are insufficiently known. Agrotourism is a real opportunity and proven to help boost the local economy.

**THE VILLAGES FROM AROUND THE SUB-CARPATHIANS OF VRANCEA. RESOURCE FOR
THE DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL TOURISM**

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The Romanian village – keeper of the popular art treasure, the most of the ethnographical and folk heritage, placed in an attractive natural framework- might constitute (as part of the national and international touristic potential) the base of a quality touristic activity, having a local and national specific, giving a personal touch to the Romanian tourism. From this point of view, the *agro-tourism* –or, generally speaking, the *tourism in rural spaces*- might become a new and proper direction of transforming the rural life. In the same time, the agro-tourism is a way to increase the values of Romanian specificity, without affecting the quality of natural environment. So, it is imperious necessary to identify and typologize the specifics of the villages, from a touristic point of view, and to determine the specific activities that can polarise different segments of touristic necessities. Another objective is to find some more ways than can promote tourism into external touristic markets, mostly the touristic activities based on religion, hunting and fishing, horse riding and even culinary tourism.



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REPRESENTATIONS DE L'ESPACE RURAL DANS LES GUIDES DE VOYAGE SUR LA ROUMANIE

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L'identité d'un espace touristique est communiquée à travers une multitude de supports dont la présente étude se propose d'analyser les guides touristiques comme grilles de lecture spatio-temporelle. Les corpus pris en compte comprendront des guides de voyages français traitant de Roumanie.

Une réflexion sera menée sur la sélection des éléments présentés par les guides et leur mise en scène en fonction des publics visés et de l'organisation des matériaux proposés. Nous nous attacherons à: montrer comment les auteurs décrivent les villages roumains et guident les voyageurs à travers les textes, les paratextes et les supports visuels; analyser l'aptitude des guides à saisir les mutations de leur époque aussi bien qu'à reproduire des images et des clichés sur la Roumanie rurale; surprendre les stéréotypes qui deviennent représentations; mettre en évidence les permanences et les changements concernant les marques d'évaluation et les marqueurs spatiaux et symboliques dans les représentations de l'espace rural roumain.

THE TOURISM POTENTIAL OF TÂRGU LĂPUŞ MICROREGION

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The first part of the paper presents the elements which make the analyzed territory a centre of tourism attraction. The position of the microregion together with the elements of the natural environment highlight the favourable character of the microregion. Therefore, it imposes itself as a strong competitor for the integration in the tourism circuits, at local, national and international level.

The natural tourism potential highlights a diversified morphological complex and an extremely picturesque landscape. Thus, leisure tourism (mountaineering, winter sports, and fishing) may be capitalized by means of the mountainous and hilly units (Văratec Peak, Secu of Lăpuş Mountains, Şatra Peak and Breaza Range). The hydrographical potential is given mainly by the thermal waters which attract tourists due to their curative use in the treatment of a diverse range of diseases. The mineral springs of Stoiceni (bicarbonate, sodium chloride, calcic, carbonated, magnesian mineral water), Borcut (carbonated mineral water) and Rogoz (carbonated, magnesium mineral water) are well-known. The bioclimatic and biogeographic potential is related mainly to the forest landscape and the rich hunting grounds.

The anthropogenic tourism potential includes a series of objectives (cultural institutions, museums, libraries, historical and art monuments, wooden churches, monasteries), traditional activities (traditional dances, egg ornamentation, wood carving), historical remains. The spirit of the human community is reflected in the local architecture, in the whole set of anthropogenic objectives which make a consistent tourism potential. The SWOT analysis is presented in the second part of the paper. It stays at the basis of the measures proposed for the revitalization of Târgu Lăpuş microregion and its integration in the national and international tourism circuits.



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TOURISM DEVELOPMENT ALONG DRĂGANULUI VALLEY

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This paper presents a description of the region's tourism potential along Drăganului Valley. The motivation for choosing these theme is given by the variety of tourism resources which are found in the picturesque valley of Drăgan and the attractiveness of this tourism recently appeared on Romanian land, rural tourism, and in particular the prospects of development in the context of European level promotion. Drăganului Valley basin is a major tourist attraction area in the north-western mountainous region of Cluj County. There is observed an attractive landscape that presents a large variation, from Alpine heights snowbound barren picks in dense spruce forests, mountain meadows with millions of flowers at the impressive vertical scale is enriched by the presence of unique natural phenomena: waterfalls, springs, caves, but also by the existence of Drăgan-Floroiu lake which reflects the beauty of the surrounding forest. The natural potential of tourism in the region is complemented by the important cultural and historical attractions and religious. Nevertheless, the local tradition which is kept alive by the village communities, originality, the richness of the specific forms of the rural life, simplicity of life and philosophical depth, naturalness and kindness of the people.

THE TOURIST ORGANIZATION OF A MONASTERY - THE MONASTERY OF BĂRSANA

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Thus, the main strengths that determine the organization and development of tourist locations are:

- geographical location of the monastery, near very attractive natural landscape, driveway and flower gardens in the complex;
- church tower has a height of 57 m and is the third of the country after cult locations of Săpânța and Ieud;
- purchase of houses near the monastery and planning for tourism;
- monastic hospitality staff;
- the existence of workshops;
- the opening of a restaurant nearby, will increase the number of visitors.

The main weaknesses that hamper the development of the monastery from a tourist point of view are:

- the degradation of buildings, making up all the monasteries;
- promoting tourism is rather low;
- lack of tourism promotion;

The main opportunities that may lead to the development of cultural tourism in general and religion in particular are:

- organization of thematic camps for pupils and students, would increase the number of tourists both in the monastery and the village;
- organization of thematic channels, with monasteries and wooden churches of Maramureș and Bucovina;



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- increasing the number of accommodations, by extending the two locations acquired, and by building new ones;
- development of packages, depending on age group, the season, and depending on the origin of tourists.

THE CAPITALIZATION OF THE TOURIST POTENTIAL IN TULNICI, VRANCEA

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Located in the Vrancea Land, on the upper valley of the Putna River, the Tulnici commune occupies a predominant mountainous area, with numerous sites which can easily become touristic attractions. The preservation of the ethnographic traditions, the presence of several touristic important monuments, and the characteristic climate of this area, the hospitality and the humaneness of the inhabitants are reasoned arguments for recommending this rural space as a touristic destination. The agricultural activities materialized by means of producing traditional foods and dishes also recommend the practicing of the rural tourism related activities. Another important aspect is represented by the improvement of infrastructure within the area, not only in regards to the modernization of the roadways, but also of the lodging facilities in the new established boarding houses and cabins, built especially in the Lepșa and Greșu villages.

THE TOWN OF CAVNIC – TOURIST ORGANIZATION MODEL

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Cavnic Town was known in the county and country, as a mining town, and after 2005 became known for winter sports. At the bottom are Mogoșa Peak there is a Ski Resort and recreational Superski Cavnic, with the latest slope, perfect for leisure and holidays. The major cities nearby resort are at a distance of 30 km from Baia Mare, 12 km from Ocna Șugatag spa.

The resort offers tourists slope of a cumulative length of 3.1 km, opened each winter season for 5 months, equipped with modern cable transport. In the resorts there is the possibility of accommodation in two cottages, situated at the foot of the slope, for people can spend moments of relaxation and fun.

GEOTOURISM – A PERSPECTIVE OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL SPACE IN MĂCIN MOUNTAINS

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The term of geotourism was introduced in the scientific vocabulary at the beginning of the '90s but a universally accepted definition was not issued until today. Even so, the geotourism focuses mostly on the



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recovery of the geological and geomorphologic resources considering their scientific, aesthetic, cultural, historical and economic values. The sustainable development is also taken into account, providing potential for the development of rural space.

Although it covers a relatively restricted area, with altitudes lower than 500 meters, Măcin Mountains are individualized in relation with adjacent units through a variety induced by structure, lithology, tectonics and impact of external agents which give relief and geomorphologic landscape a great variety of forms. Geodiversity and unique relief are doubled with the original socio-economic life of local communities, relatively isolated from the modern world and which still maintains traditional values.

Our study approaches a topical issue and follows both recovery of geotouristic potential of Măcin Mountains and highlighting of economic benefits of local communities. Thus were assessed the geological and geomorphologic features of the analyzed space, were identified the attractions of geotouristic interest, their distribution in space and were made cartographic representations of the phenomena. Also, were issued proposals for sustainable development of rural space in Măcin Mountains.

To achieve the proposed objectives were made field observation and were used the methods of geological mapping, geomorphology, photo-interpretation and digital mapping.

**PRESENT AND FUTURE OF RURAL TOURISM IN TARCĂU BASIN.
A BRANCH TO BE DEVELOPED**

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Situated in the Eastern Carpathians, the basin of Tarcău River develops completely in the mountainous area of Tarcau Mountains, appreciated not for their very high altitudes, but for the landscape their flysch rocks covered in coniferous forests offer. Fairly unknown to the large public, the basin shelters 5 villages, stretched along the 33 km-long river, the altitudes ranging from 400 m to 1664 m. The climatic conditions recommend the area both as a favourable summer destination due to its fairly low mean air temperatures (16-18°C) and reduced cloudiness in what the warmest months are concerned, as well as an appropriate place to enjoy winter, considering the number of days with snow cover.

However, tourism plays a minimum role in the local economy, only 4 economic units being registered as having tourism as the main activity. Their number is exceeded by a series of secondary residences that offer accommodation to the tourists, mainly during holidays, although their official status is that of a private home.

In spite of the favourable natural elements, the lack of infrastructure, including both accommodation and transport, corroborated with the lack of public awareness of the area's potential, make Tarcău only a stop-over destination also visited during week-ends by tourists from the neighbouring areas.

Considering the circumstances, the public authorities have adopted a development master plan to be implemented between 2007 and 2013, also with European funding, in order to transform the commune of Tarcău into a dual profile mountain resort. Their intention is both to promote the local cultural features of the area, and to increase the quantity and quality of accommodation, recreation, and sports facilities, by building new two and three stars hotels, restaurants, camping facilities, chalets, ski slopes, parking lots and an information centre. In order to achieve their goal, the access road must be modernized and the water supply network and sewage system to be set in place. Up to now, funds have been collected only for the projects of the information centre and the ski slopes, supposed to materialize next year.



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NATURAL TOURIST POTENTIAL IN BILBOR DEPRESSION

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„We climbed down in life from a village hooked on the Carpathians ridges. A fairy tale village. It is named Bilbor. No one knows where this name is derived from. Located at the foot of haughty Călimani, where Bistricioara, whose waves as clear as tears are arrowed by trout and grayling springs, Bilbor is a very picturesque mountain town....There only vigorous people can live because the weather is harsh and the land not too generous in fruit”.

Octavian Codru Tăslăuanu - Confessions

The Bilbor Depression is situated in the Oriental Carpathians, in their central group, between the volcanic and the Crystalline –Mesozoic area, in the superior stream of the Bistricioara. From the administrative point of view the researched zone overlaps the territory of the commune of Bilbor in the northern part of the Harghita County.

The commune of Bilbor is situated at the intersection of the 47°04' north latitude parallel with the 25°29' east longitude meridian being the most Nordic settlement in the Harghita County (the precincts of the village ranging from 950 to 1050 m altitude thus counting among the altitude settlements of our country).

Bilbor is a depression region, located between three mountainous massifs which surrounds it as walls do to a citadel. It is open towards all cardinal points to allow mountain tourism since it offers visitors beautiful landscapes situated under a cloak of firs which descend near the town in order to lure the traveller.

The relief of the depression and of the surrounding areas shows a very diversified and picturesque landscape which fully rewards travellers' curiosity: the huge crater dominated by pyramidal peaks, with its sides covered by stone torrents; huge areas of blocks similar to some turned to stone waves; glacial cauldron suspended above some deep valleys.

Together with the relief, the climate, the hydrography, and the biopedogeography set up themselves as main tourist attraction belonging to the natural setting.

Unlike the alluring resources of the natural setting which is a gift of nature, the anthropogenic tourist dowry represents a total of elements which have leisure function created by man himself.

Among the attractive anthropogenic elements the most important ones are the following:

- Trades and handicrafts;
- Customs;
- The costume, dances and folk songs;
- The architecture and technical peasant equipment;
- The settlements;

The Bilbor Depression represents a real geographical laboratory through which pupils and researchers geographers can assimilate and consolidate a series of geographical notions. Observations can be made about various phenomena and meteorological processes, also about the equilibrium in an unaffected environment or little affected by society. It is as well a framework of the development of the love for the beauties of our country.



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“GREENWAYS” TOURIST ORGANIZATION – THE MARAMUREȘ HERITAGE ROAD.

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In October 20, 2006 was inaugurated the „Maramureș Heritage Road, first Greenway in Maramureș, the Ecological Association, a project conducted jointly with the Town of Ocna Șugatag. The road was opened for tourists on October 20, 2006. Such a green way can be crossed on foot, by bicycle or wagon in summer or winter ride. Wildlife observation, nature photography, outdoor tours are cultural and recreational experiences that enrich the visitor's knowledge base along the Green Trail route.

**THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING AND INTERNATIONAL
TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL AREAS OF IRAN**

Mehdi SARKHOSH

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IRAN

Today tourism is an emerging important international issue and is becoming a lucrative business in the present century. Tourists more often prefer to visit far-fetched and intact rural areas with local cultures and traditions. A mutually intelligible language is a must for both the host community and the tourists. Therefore, English language learning can be a very facilitative and conducive means in tourism development in Iranian rural areas.

The goal of this paper is to investigate different dimensions of the necessity of English language teaching in Iranian rural areas and its role in the development of tourism industry in these areas. Data were gathered using a questionnaire, and the descriptive analytical Data analysis procedure was used in this study, the sample was the number of successful entrepreneurs in tourism industry in different areas of the country. The data analyzed through SPSS revealed that almost 80 % of entrepreneurs are not familiar with English Language at all and the remaining 20% have a very rudimentary knowledge of English.

**STUDY THE ROLE OF TOURISM ON THE DEVELOPMENT
OF KASHAN CITY**

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Tourism Industry is one of the biggest and most diverse industries in the world. Many countries know this dynamic industry as a main source of income, employment, private sector growth and development of infrastructure. Concentrating on this subject in developing countries seems vital due to the fact that other economical factors such as production and services have no effective role in the trade and business of these countries. It must be noted that today, tourism industry ranks as the second major industry in the world after energy industry and motorized transporting system. Kashan is one of the beautiful cities of Iran which



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has a very long historical background and because of this; there are many historical –cultural monuments that can be seen around the city. This unique feature which is separating this city from others could apply appropriate potential for upgrading of kashan city management and guide it toward stable urban development. For making use of these potentials, it is important that different state organizations and public institutions apply required support for developing of tourism industry, and gave enough consideration to tourist's security and proper advertisement. This article tries to review this and provide solutions for development of Kashan City.