

PROJECT APPROACH TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL AREAS OF SPECIAL STATE CONCERN – CASE STUDY OF JAZAVICA AND ROŽDANIK

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The paper presents a conceptual framework for a research project involving two villages, Jazavice and Roždanik, the Sisačko-Moslavačka County declared as an area of special state concern because they were occupied from 29 September 1991 to 1 May 1995, and all the Croatian population fled. In addition to human casualties, both villages suffered immense material damage to residential, farm and public buildings and to utility services. The reconstruction of these villages should be approached as a greater development process, which should in the long run ensure demographic stabilization and an acceptable level of social and economic development. The first section is a summary presentation of the problem facing both villages. Then, the research approach is described, and objectives and basic methodology to be used in collecting the data for in-depth insight into the situation and problems determined. These will be the basis of model recommendations and guidelines prepared for future development activities.

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INTRODUCTION

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During the Serbian aggression and the recent war (1991-1995), many parts of Croatia were occupied, the population suffered war atrocities, and many fled. The major structures, such as

ŽUTINIĆ, Đ. ET AL.: PROJECT APPROACH... housing, farm and public buildings (including schools, hospitals and other institutions, churches and complete utility services) suffered war destruction. The war destruction was particularly harsh on the rural areas. Over six percent of rural settlements (about 400 villages) suffered major damages, about 70 villages were completely destroyed and demolished, about 12 percent of family farms robbed and ruined (Župančić, 2000). Furthermore, many areas, mainly the rural ones, were exposed to chemical and landmine contamination. In addition to enormous physical damage, the war caused dramatic demographic restructuring within the affected areas, change in rural image, and social disintegration.

These devastated and abandoned areas were formally declared as areas of special state care (Official Gazette 44/96, 124/97, 73/00, 87/00, 127/00, 94/01, 88/02, 26/03). The objective of such a decision was primarily to encourage the return of the local population (refugees and displaced persons) and settling of new population, including experts. The benefits regulated by law were intended to improve the living and working conditions, offer job opportunities, encourage business investment, and investment in revitalization of destroyed resources, support agriculture (allocation of the state-owned land and the like). Although this was the first case of a legally regulated regionalization based on the war damage criterion, its implementation has encountered numerous challenges and obstacles, and the results of the reconstruction program implementation have been only limited.

The present paper describes a conceptual framework for a research project which relies on a case study of Jazavica and Roždanik villages, Sisačko-Moslavačka County, Croatia, as an area of special state care. These two villages were occupied from 29 September 1991 to 1 May 1995, and the Croatian population was displaced.¹ Unlike the inadequate approach to resolving the problems of the state care areas mainly focusing on housing projects, the concept proposed here attempts an integrated solution to the problems.

The world scientific literature discusses the integrated rural development at great extent and elaborates implementation of solutions in practice. The concept was defined in the seventies of the last century² as a development and political concept of permanent mitigation of poverty and insufficient socio-economic development of rural areas, particularly in undeveloped countries (Dams, 1985; Kovačić, 1995; Ellis, 2001).³ It was almost at the same time that the industrial countries, particularly those in Western Europe,⁴ adopted it as a development concept, and objectives and instruments were elaborated for an integrated improvement in local and regional development (Van der Plas and Ulbricht, 1986; Kovačić, 1995; Mar-

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keš, 1995). The novelty in this approach is the increased relying on one's own inherent resources (natural and human), improvement in development initiatives by adopting the "bottom-up" approach (using local organizations and bodies from the public and private sectors, local associations, volunteers and local population in search of new solutions),⁵ and strengthening of local and regional diversity (building local cultural identity, and reviving indigenous economic culture on a particular territory by relying on one's own resources and ethical management of natural resources (Ray, 1998)). The whole approach focuses on diversification of economic (emphasizing location-specific synergies between different sectors) and social (access to education, health and social services, and protection) activities in rural areas, particularly those lagging behind in their development (Buckwell, 1997; Pacciani et al., 2001; Ashley, 2002; United Nations E/2003/51). In the European Union (EU),6 practical use of the "integrated rural development" enhances during the 1990s when an ambitious LEADER program⁷ was launched. Various experiments under successive LEADER initiatives8 provide "opportunities to explore the practicalities of this more integrated approach to European rural development and to explore the practical possibilities of closer integration between agricultural and regional policies" (Errington, 2001). Such experience has shown that any rural area and village deserves a differentiated approach, respect of its social and natural circumstances and characteristics to which the development programs should be tailored (Barbič, 1998)

During the last decade, numerous studies and discussions conducted in Croatia elaborated on the scientific and theoretical aspects of "universal" policy of sustainable development of rural areas and agriculture in line with the contemporary experience, particularly that of the Western European countries (Cifrić, 1992; Brkić and Žutinić, 1993; Defilippis, 1993; Puljiz, 1993; Štambuk, 1996; Žimbrek and Žutinić, 1996; Župančić, 1998; Župančić, 2000; Brkić and Žutinić, 2002; Štambuk et al., 2002; and others).9 Also, the so-called action/case studies were carried out of settlements, counties and regions which analyzed socio-demographic and economic/agricultural conditions and trends (Milinković, 2000; Milinković, 2002). These studies are valuable for the fact that they offer a number of concrete proposals based on the local situation and actual needs of the local population, which is the best baseline the experts and decision-makers could use in determining development programs for future implementation. Two studies on the Sisačko-Moslovačka County area are worth mentioning because they partly cover our study area. The first study was prepared by the collaborators of the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Zagreb, and it gives an in-depth analysis into agri-envi-

ŽUTINIĆ, Đ. ET AL.: PROJECT APPROACH... ronmental, socio-economic, and agri-technical conditions and situation in agricultural production in the Sisačko-Moslavačka County (Bašić et al., 2000). This county has over 237 thousand ha of agricultural plots, out of which about eight thousand plots are uncultivated or partly abandoned reclaimed land. The present fertility rate of most of the arable land does not guarantee more intensive and stable production unless the reclamation practices are implemented and inadequate chemical and physical soil complex mitigated. The County has not deployed all its potentials for agricultural development, particularly those in animal, fruit, and vegetable growing. Organic agriculture is a promising future option for some areas in the County. The other study, prepared by collaborators of the Ivo Pilar Social Sciences Institute, Zagreb, reports on the results of research into the current status and development prospective of settlements located in the Lonjsko Polje Nature Park (Štambuk et al., 2001). The same as most rural areas in Croatia, this one has also been exposed to the devitalization processes. The effect of these processes is "demographic and settlement degradation", which is additionally contributed by the unavailability of social and municipal infrastructure, traffic isolation of the settlements (2001: 76-78), and economic involutions (predominantly self-sustaining and extensive-input agriculture (2001: 105-133), cultural detachment and apathy (2001: 105)). On the other hand, this is an area of natural diversity and valuable (but decaying) traditional heritage which the authors consider as a key development resource. Sensibly managed (valuation and conservation of space), with respect to its specific characteristics (local cultural identity preservation and development), this area is given a window of opportunity for revitalization and development of rural communities. Desirable elements of the economic structure in the area are preservation and development of "traditional" agriculture and rural tourism based on the recreational amenities of the Lonjsko Polje. The authors claim that such a model could not come to life without synergy and partnership of actors on national (support to natural heritage conservation, survival of rural communities, education) and local levels - the county co-funding transformation of the Nature Park into a "development agent", and cities/municipalities raising awareness and stimulating the local population to undertake sustainable activities.

PROBLEM DESCRIPTION10

Jazavica and Roždanik are twin linear villages built along the state road Novska-Okučani and about seven kilometers far from the municipal center, the City of Novska. The villages are mostly located in the lowlands (88.8%), while a smaller part of the territory is at 110-160 m a.s.l. (11.2%). In the north,

ŽUTINIĆ, Đ. ET AL.: PROJECT APPROACH... the villages are bordered by Kričko Brdo hill, with forest-covered hill slopes, and in the south with the Mokro Polje wetland (part of the Lonjsko Polje Nature Park). The hilly area is characterized by pseudogley (shallow and deep) and brown soil, and the lowland area is predominated by deep pseudogley, pseudogley-gley and gley-flooded by the Sava River and Mokro Polje waters. A network of open canals¹¹ built twenty years ago lowered the groundwater table and resolved the rainwater drainage problems. The anthropogenic effects (drainage and agri-technical measures) resulted in improvement of the soil characteristics. However, the war damages included the complete destruction of boundary stones, once the cultivated land was abandoned, the canal network was overgrown with Cormophyta, agrobiocenosis in the hills got "wild", and part of the agricultural land was contaminated with mines. The other issues include a lack of arable land fertilization with stable manure and weed incidence. In extremely dry summers, the draught particularly affects spring crops.

Apart from human victims, all the residential, farming and cultural buildings were destroyed, including the school, St. Rok's church, the firehouse in Jazavica, the community center in Roždanik. The local cemetery and municipal infrastructure suffered partial damage. The war damage inflicted on houses, farm buildings, agricultural machinery and equipment was estimated to approximately 66 million Croatian Kunas.

The reconstruction of the housing stock has not been fully completed (90% of houses have been reconstructed). The project retained the agglomeration and building shape of the settlement as foreseen in the Land-Use Plan of the City of Novska (municipality). Although current planning respects the original scheme of a linear village, there are no traces of traditional residential and farm buildings. Most of the so-called quasi-rural architecture from the 20th century was destroyed. The demolished buildings were more suitable and tailored to human needs than the non-functional new buildings unsuited to rural population. The new houses were built on building plots lacking a plot organization concept, particularly locations of farm buildings. The villages have neither sewerage nor potable water supply. The public areas are undeveloped, the sidewalk is not finished and therefore does not enable safe movement of the population, while the community buildings are only partly reconstructed (school, community home in construction) or not reconstructed at all (church).

Before the war, both villages had 253 households with 892 inhabitants. Most households (212 in total) were owners of agricultural land, the farms were mostly part-time with dual structure of employment and income. Before the war, the younger farm members worked in cities in the vicinity

ŽUTINIĆ, Đ. ET AL.: PROJECT APPROACH... (Novska, Lipik, Okučani), most of them in industrial, agricultural, and fishing sectors. However, it was the privatization and social transformation that killed most jobs, so for many of the villagers their farms remained as the only hope, and farming the only source of income and chance for survival.

Today, or more exactly according to the 2001 Census data, the two settlements have 237 households and 720 inhabitants (429 in Jazavica and 291 in Roždanik). These are mostly single households (24.1%) or family communities with two or three members (38.4%). During the last decade these two villages lost 19.2 % of the total population, and the process was intensified during the war. Based on data from earlier censuses, Jazavica i Roždanik only mirror the situation in numerous Croatian villages – unfavourable demographic trends resulting in continuous losses and upset biological structure of their population. During the last forty years, Jazavica and Roždanik lost 30.4% of the total population.

The population sex structure is rather uniform and belongs to the elderly population type. In both villages, the share of young population (under 19) is 25.1%, of mature (20-59 years of age) 51.3%, and the population of 60-year-olds and over accounts for 23.6%. An additional developmental barrier is an unfavourable level of formal education (for those over 15 years of age). The more populous Jazavica has 33.9% of uneducated persons or the persons that have not completed their primary education, and in Roždanik their share is 4.7%. Approximately one third of the Jazavica population (31.7%) finished primary school, while their share in Roždanik is much higher (57.0). However, those with high education (higher or university education) are a marginal group in both villages (Jazavica – 2.3%, Roždanik – 3.4%).

There are no production plants or other non-agricultural activities in the village, but for a shop and coffee shop, so the economic activities have not been revived. No new job opportunities have been created, which is one of the main reasons for which the "expected" reversing of out-migration, particularly of the young ones, has not happened. Unemployment is a topical problem facing half of the households in both villages. The general lowering of the standard of living, and unavailability of favourable loans, incentives and expert assistance hindered private entrepreneurship (small businesses, third sector) from becoming a form of self-employment in these villages. Most of the households have survived on agriculture.

According to the 2001 data, the breakdown of total 2,154 hectares of land is: 53.5% agricultural land, 38.0% forest land, and the rest is barren land (8.5%). The agricultural surfaces are mostly plow-land and gardens (678 ha), pastures (376 ha)

ŽUTINIĆ, Đ. ET AL.: PROJECT APPROACH... and, to a smaller extent, orchards, vineyards and meadows. The orchards and vineyards are owned by family farms (86.0% plow-land and gardens, and 77.0% meadows). The family farm ownership shares are significantly lower when it comes to pastures (4.8%), forests (9.0%) and barren land (10.4%). On average, the family farms have 4.2 hectares of land in total, namely 3.8 hectares of agricultural land.

Field production is the backbone of agricultural production in both villages, with corn as a dominant culture, followed by wheat and barley, some industrial plants (sugar beet and soya 75 hectares in total), and vegetable growing on fragmented plots totaling 36 hectares in area. The reconstruction of farm buildings (stables) was not followed by organized restocking of machinery and animal stock. Individually taken steps were insufficient because no sufficient funds, grants or soft loans are available. As a result, the animal production is lower than it had been before the war. More intensive animal production (milk and pig production) is practiced by not more than a dozen family farms.

This area is visibly lacking quality market infrastructure both regarding input and output. Living in an unfavourable economic environment (undeveloped business cooperation, no adequate incentive instruments, intensive pressure of uncontrolled food import, etc.), the agricultural producers in these villages, like in other areas, are mainly left to themselves. The only form of business cooperation in this area is the organized buying off of milk (Vindija and Lura companies) and sugar beet (Virovitica sugar works). Most agricultural products are sold in the local market, in Novska, or through bulk buyers at farm sales, often at any price since this is the only source of income for many a household.

RESEARCH CONCEPT

Research Approach and Principles

A multidisciplinary approach to the proposed project is realistically necessary because of the complexity of the problems related to the integrated development of rural areas, and specifically the areas that suffered war damage and demand fast reconstruction because of economic and humanitarian reasons.

Generally speaking, the solutions should include a development policy that would involve both the structural and territorial dimension, i. e. a modern territorial and economic approach which still asks for decentralization leading to increase in local government and self-government authorities. To that end, and respecting traditional and historical aspects, and the needs of the modern person, it is proposed that the

ŽUTINIĆ, Đ. ET AL.: PROJECT APPROACH... rural areas of the Jazavica and Roždanik villages be organized in line with the rural concept rules. Special attention should be paid to arrangement of the new facilities, and the quality of space occupied by the rural population should be respected. Such an approach includes special conditions, primarily the proposal of such production and farming structures that would enable earning of parity income based on comparative advantages and competitive production in compliance with technological standards and respecting standards of environmental protection and sustainable agriculture.

The baseline of physical planning of settlements is an integrated physical planning that respects environmental (environmental and landscape conservation) and aesthetic (settlement development and fine integration with the landscape attempting to preserve rural identity) principles. Such approach should encourage initiatives of the local population and their identification with the environment they live in. Renewal of any rural area is based on rural concept rules, considering specifically the poor historical experience on the native territory, and good experience of the developed western countries. This regards both the organization of the entire rural area and physical planning that should respect the need for harmonization of different aspirations without replicating urban patterns.

The scientific and inter-disciplinary approach to research was dictated by the complexity of the problem and its multidimensional perception. This means that the research will include not only determining of aspirations of the local population as the target stratum,¹² but also of the selected potential users, respecting their opinions and positions, and taking into consideration other socio-economic aspects and possibilities. The intention is to propose model measures resulting from the research that will comply with the interests of the local population and identified carriers of individual programs on both local and national level.

The economic aspect to be included in final recommendations on the agricultural production structure and efficiency will be based on production and economic models that incorporate the relevant parameters. Creating production and economic systems in family farming in this rural area starts with the production orientation of the farms that meet certain conditions and have advantages regarding resources (labor, land, knowledge), modern marketing, production economics (such that respects the local and regional marketing needs, even the export orientation), as well as from concepts of sustainable agriculture and production practice complementary with the environmental standards. Based on these criteria, the production types will be proposed and applied to a number of farms in the area, and part-time farm models imple-

ŽUTINIĆ, Đ. ET AL.: PROJECT APPROACH... mented that include both agriculture and other activities contributing to creation of new jobs for the rural population, particularly the young, and their self-employment.

Marketing of agricultural products is currently the primary problem family farming is facing in Croatia, because of external inadequacies of the entire market infrastructure and internal weaknesses, particularly failure to connect the producers with other sectors (processing, savings/loans) for joint organization of business activities. When it comes to the forms of business (cooperatives) and interest associations (professional societies), the problems will be pinpointed and organization set up on the basis of the attitudes and opinions of the village population and farm heads, but also by accepting the models already existing in e.g. the Western European countries and the empirical models of business associations (e.g. cooperatives) tailored to the local conditions.

Since the research approach has its dynamic component, it starts from a realistic assumption of continuity – a continuation in individual segments particularly those of economic and agricultural activities which, due to variable dynamic parameters, ask for permanent adjustment. The solution model will include the monitoring and evaluation systems.

Because of its complexity and multi-dimensional aspects, the research involved experts in different fields, from sociologists, agronomists, agricultural economists and planners, to local extension service experts and officials (from municipal and county administrations), and prominent agricultural producers. Involvement of planners covers the rural land-use and zoning approach, and the issues related to recommended organization and vision of the local physical development. Involvement of sociologists covers the social aspects of population - sociological analyses. The agronomists and agricultural economists propose essential components of the production/economic model, external parameters such as the market and economic effects, and the agricultural policy measures. The professional and administrative services will help to identify external obstacles and possible solutions which are the responsibility of the local, regional and national administration as an important segment of support offered in implementation of the proposed activities.

Objectives

Identification of problems caused by extraordinary circumstances in two villages, inadequate resolution patterns applied so far, and inherited historical defects of the earlier social and political system clearly determine the general objectives of the research, i. e.

ŽUTINIĆ, Đ. ET AL.: PROJECT APPROACH... – To determine key factors affecting integrated rural development in the researched area, define their function, and propose measures for efficiency,

– To determine priorities in comprehending values of the rural area and rural life and use them to set up measures for their realization.

Formulation of the said objectives is based on the assumption that the comprehensive development of the rural area in which the villages of Jazavica and Roždanik are located (legally special state care areas) depends on successful implementation of the physical planning and structural policy measures, i.e. on coordinated organization of spatial amenities and successful implementation of diversified economic activities, mostly within the agricultural sector.

These objectives comprise a number of targets:

(a) creating land-use model for both settlements that will respect the state-of-the-art principles and their ambient, natural, economic and social framework;

(b) defining measures for the agricultural land consolidation in order to achieve economic optimization of agricultural production;

(c) defining agricultural production structure that enables optimum exploitation of agricultural resources and family farms, job opportunities and parity income from agriculture;

(d) determining development baseline for market infrastructure, and forms of business and interest associations of the farmers on the local level;

(e) determining trends for supplementary businesses that have comparative advantages compatible with the social targets, and

(f) setting up a framework for reconstruction and protection of cultural heritage.

The project is conceived to be implemented in two stages. During the first stage, which is presently under way, all relevant information on the research area will be collected (historical, land-use, demographic, production), the tours of the villages made and some field surveys conducted for in-depth insight into the situation and problems related to the three components – population, territory and economy. The collected data will be used as input in preparation of a (conceptual) study which is to identify the condition and problems in the study area and propose a model for removal and mitigation of problems, along with the guidelines for the future development activities. During the second stage, the conceptual study and set up priorities will be used to elaborate concrete development programs.¹³

Methods

Since the research is multi-dimensional, it asks for application of different methodological procedures/techniques for data collecting and processing.

The research will use relevant statistical data (settlement tables), soil maps, municipal and county documentation, etc. The statistical methods will also be used in economic analyses (time series, regression and the like).

The rural rehabilitation of the villages of Jazavica and Roždanik will particularly rely on observation method and field photography. The rural rehabilitation of the new building structures of Jazavica and Roždanik and their surrounding areas will ask for an analysis of all the projects and current condition of the structures, building plots and gardens in the villages and for survey of attitudes of their users regarding their suitability for use.

The data on socio-demographic and economic/production characteristics of family farms, and those on attitudes, opinions and aspirations of the local population will be obtained by polling. Three surveys are planned: (a) one among the local population in order to learn about the development problems and priorities as they see them, (b) another to be conducted on a sample of family farms for determination of restrictions obstructing development of market infrastructure and business associations, and (c) the third would be an in--depth poll on a target sample of "more viable" family farms in order to survey the existing capacities and level of their use, and structure of production, income and expenditure. A calculation method will be used to determine economic characteristics and production capacities of family farms (individual product calculation, farm and household calculation). The finished calculations will further be used in creation (model simulation) of sustainable economic models of farming in both plant and animal production.

The research results (first stage) would finally end up as the basis for a panel discussion to be organized for the local population and experts (local government and self-government, project-relevant local experts) who will support the research team in formulating and developing more detailed support documents and input data necessary for the decision-making process (selecting development direction, determining strategic priorities).

RESEARCH PURPOSE AND STRATEGIC RELEVANCE

Since the project is dealing with the concept for development of the rural area under special state care, the concept has been proposed as strategically relevant because of the generally known problems encountered in the Croatian rural areas (de-

ŽUTINIĆ, Đ. ET AL.: PROJECT APPROACH... population, devastation, and the like) regarding both economic and socio-demographic aspects.

The character of this project, which is ultimately intended to define the requirements for improvement in the quality of the rural population living conditions, their farms, and participation (initiatives, suggestions, willingness to undertake changes) in different research stages, clearly indicates the purpose and research objectives, and possible contribution to their realization.

The end users will be the Jazavica and Roždanik villagers, family farms willing to embrace the proposed solutions for increase in employment opportunities and earning of parity income through their engagement on the farm. The users are also the displaced persons who will return to the research area because the living and working conditions have improved and the income resources become available from their local community.

The environmental principle is conceptually incorporated in the project and it makes an integral part of the proposed measures of economic revitalization of the rural area under special state care. This makes the proposed production/economic structure and physical-planning concept complementary with the state-of-the-art technological achievements that do not cause environmental and nature impact.

On a long-term basis, such research that offers concrete proposals ensuing from the local conditions and realistic needs of the population opens a window of opportunities for the demographic and economic revitalization and generation of new values by setting the social and economic activities on a more dynamic path, which should result in an increase of the standard of living and conservation of rural values.

ENDNOTES

¹ The research is financially supported by the Agricultural Research Board of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Croatia.

² According to Ellis, the first "paradigm shift" in rural development occurred in the period early-to mid-1960s when small-farm agriculture switched from being thought about as a serious impediment to progress to being considered the very engine of growth and development.

³ Strategic steps of this concept are "building self-esteem of population through education, setting up self-support groups, and support from central institutions" (Kovačić, 1995, 3).

⁴ In 1978 the EEC decided to fund the European Development programme in Integrated Rural Development, although the national governments and European Commission have earlier supported research on less-favored areas (LFAs) of EEC (Van der Plas and Ulbrich, 1985).

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ŽUTINIĆ, Đ. ET AL.: PROJECT APPROACH... ⁵ More details on the "bottom-up" development approach and possibilities for its implementation in Croatia are available from Sanja Maleković's text in Štambuk, Rogić and Mišetić (eds.) (2002), Proceedings "Prostor iza".

⁶ The report "The Future of Rural Society" was an advance sign of the European Union rural areas policy switch from external assistance that targets only agricultural production to endogenous multi-dimensional rural development (Gray, 2000).

⁷ By launching its LEADER program, the European Union abandoned its horizontal sector approach and introduced a vertical territorial approach of integrated rural development. In 1996, such an approach was supported by the Cork Declaration on revival of rural areas. Point 2 of the Declaration highlights that "rural development policy must be multi-disciplinary in concept and multi-sectoral in application with a clear territorial dimension...It must be based on an integrated approach...(Cork Declaration: Point 2). Today, the framework for development of the rural EU areas is integrated into a system of regional structural policy measures (AGENDA 2000) and extended to all the rural areas. Legal background for these measures are the Rural Development Regulation (RDR - 1257/1999) and the Rural Development Regulation (RDR - 1750/1999) for implementation of measures amended by the EU Commission Regulation 445/02. Together, they enable the members to create regionally tailored and integrated programs of rural development.

⁸ More details are available from Maja Štambuk's text in Štambuk, Rogić and Mišetić (ed.) 2002, Proceedings "Prostor iza".

⁹ Additional reference is a published discussion from the round table "Countryside in Transition" published in *Sociologija sela* Journal, 40: 1-2 (155/156), 2002, pp. 7-74.

¹⁰ The problem is described by using statistical indicators already collected and processed by the Central Bureau of Statistics, information the research team obtained from the County and Novska Municipality services, and the field trips data.

¹¹ Land consolidation was in this area finished in 1984, and it included all the agricultural land with exception of permanent plantations. Thus, a land fund of about 150 hectares was "accumulated", mainly to meet the needs of the so-called socially owned agriculture. Although the number of plots on family farms was also reduced, their average surface area remained unchanged, and some of them "gave up" their ownership in the Mokro Polje area because of the land consolidation costs.

¹² Authors Cernea and Barbič find that the development projects prepared "for people" are generally less efficient than the projects co-created by the population the project is intended for. We should in no case act with disregard of the experience and expectations of the people affected by the project and their decision to take active part in improving their living and working conditions, which is the best general objective of any development project or action. Professional aid is certainly necessary, particularly when it comes to defining the objectives and achieving them (Cernea, 1985; Barbič, 1998).

¹³ When the concept of this research project was presented to the local self-government and regional government bodies they expressed their willingness to co-fund concrete development programs in agriculture and supplementary activities.

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ŽUTINIĆ, Đ. ET AL.: PROJECT APPROACH...

PROJEKTNI PRISTUP RAZVOJU SELA U PODRUČJU POSEBNE DRŽAVNE SKRBI – STUDIJA SLUČAJA JAZAVICE I ROŽDANIKA

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U članku prikazujemo konceptualni okvir istraživačkoga projekta za dva sela, Jazavice i Roždanik, u Sisačko--moslavačkoj županiji, koja su uvrštena u područje od posebne državne skrbi jer su od 29. rujna 1991. do 1. svibnja 1995. bila okupirana, a hrvatski živalj izbjegao. Uz ljudske žrtve, oba su sela pretrpjela velika materijalna razaranja u stambenim, gospodarskim i javnim objektima i komunalnoj infrastrukturi. Obnovu sela treba tretirati kao širi razvojni proces koji dugoročno treba osigurati demografsku stabilizaciju i prihvatljivu razinu društvenoga i gospodarskoga razvitka. U prvom dijelu ovoga teksta iznesen je sažet prikaz problema s kojima se sučeljavaju oba naselja. U nastavku opisujemo pristup istraživanju, determiniramo ciljeve i osnovne metodološke postupke koji će se primijeniti u svrhu prikupljanja podataka radi detaljnijeg uvida u stanje i probleme te kao predložak preporuka i smjernica za buduće razvojne aktivnosti.

Entwicklungsprojekte für Dörfer in staatlichen Fördergebieten. Jazavice und Roždanik – eine Fallstudie

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Der Artikel präsentiert den konzeptuellen Rahmen eines geplanten Forschungsprojektes zur Entwicklung der Dörfer Jazavice und Roždanik in der Gespanschaft Sisak-Moslavina, die zu staatlichen Fördergebieten erklärt wurden. Im Zeitraum vom 29. September 1991 bis 1. Mai 1995 befanden sich diese Dörfer unter serbischer Besatzung, die kroatische Bevölkerung war geflohen. Neben Menschenopfern waren sowohl in Jazavice als auch in Roždanik große Sachschäden an Wohnhäusern, Wirtschaftsund öffentlichen Gebäuden wie auch in der kommunalen Infrastruktur zu beklagen. Der Wiederaufbau muss in einen breiteren Entwicklungsrahmen eingebettet werden und soll langfristig eine demografische Stabilisierung sowie ein akzeptables Niveau gesellschaftlicher und wirtschaftlicher Entwicklung sichern. Im ersten Teil ihrer Arbeit geben die

ŽUTINIĆ, Đ. ET AL.: PROJECT APPROACH... Autoren eine kurze Darstellung der Schwierigkeiten, mit denen sich die genannten Dörfer auseinanderzusetzen haben. Es folgen eine Beschreibung des Forschungsansatzes, eine Bestimmung der Forschungsziele sowie der wichtigsten methodologischen Verfahren, die zum Einsatz kommen sollen, um einen genaueren Einblick in Lage und Probleme zu gewinnen und um Hinweise und Richtlinien für zukünftige Entwicklungsmaßnahmen bestimmen zu können.