

THE ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN ROMANIA IN THE SOUTH-MUNTENIA REGION

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ABSTRACT

The sustainable development is a concept of great importance today, defined by several dimensions, such as referring to the fulfillment of human interests, the environment created aimed at matching the natural man, but by the social. The definition and its practical implementation must take into account more factors and the specific principles. From the economic perspective, economic policy must integrate the ecological principles that ensure its successful development to be sustainable in the long term. This paper presents the case of economic approach in territorial that is about developing the South-Muntenia Region of Romania.

INTRODUCTION

Currently, the natural world indicated a series of negative effects of the economic activity undertaken by humans, resulting in the need to take steps leading to the juxtaposition of these two areas: economical and environmental. Just by what means the intersection of these two plans can be expected to achieve sustainable development aspirations.

The question arises how to deal with change, defending the concept of a new economy, which is put in balance with economic interests in the natural world, so taking into account the common elements of both perspectives to choose the best course of action regarding the development of certain areas.

1. THE CONCEPT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Development is influenced by five factors: population, natural resources and environment, agricultural production, industrial production and pollution, and the sustainable development strategy aims to find the most appropriate criteria to optimize the ratio needs - resources, by designing and carrying out an economic environment which, through its inputs and outputs, to be in a dynamic compatibility with the natural environment and the needs and interests of the present and future generations which are now and will come¹.

It follows therefore that the sustainable development is defined through several perspectives:

- the dimension of present interests and future generations;
- the rational dimension – state, which refers to the coherence of the optimization criteria, regarding the fact that the man-made environment is compatible with the natural environment.
- the social dimension - human, regarding all the exits from the man-made environment that must respond directly to the needs at a regional or global level.

The concept of sustainable development appeared in the World Commission on Environment and Development report in 1987 covers the following elements:

¹ Rojanschi, V, Bran, F. (2006), "Cuantificarea dezvoltării durabile", Ed. Economică, București, pag. 21

- the feature of the environmental problems that is becoming of international, even global interest;
- the long term prospects regarding the consequences of the deepening decline of natural resources and pollution for the future generations;
- the obligation to maintain or enhance this legacy is a key element of sustainable development;
- the general welfare depends not only of the economic growth but also of its quality;
- the distinction between the different forms of capital that contributes to the creating of the welfare and of the inheritance for the future generations: “the man-made capital”, “the human capital” and “the natural capital” which refers to the maintaining of the natural resources stocks and the pollution diminishing;
- the ability to make a substitution between various forms of capital, which means that we must expect a certain possibility of substitution between the natural capital stocks, on the one hand, and the accumulated human capital, on the other hand.

By adopting the goal of the sustainable development is aimed the fighting of the environmental problems, such as:

- The pollution control, the resource management and the ensuring of the life quality;
- Establishing the effective institutional framework for formulating and implementing the environmental policies;
- Promoting the technological progress for a “green” economic growth;
- A wider use of the economic instruments;
- The need to make regulatory instruments become more effective and less costly;
- Changing the production and consumption trends;
- A greater use of strategies in the formulation and implementation of the environmental policies;
- Developing the integrated strategies that include the environmental sector;
- A more detailed analysis of the links between the environment and economy.

2. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The new economy should develop according with sustainable development requirements, the way to address economic life being the way to change that will ensure continuity of economic and population, which manages the business².

The principles that are necessary for creating the new economy are considered to be those listed below, which are appropriate for each geo-economic area, each level, each feature of economic and social life:

- Systematic principle approval;
- The principle of systematic conservation and environmental resources on which the sustainability of the environment;
- The principle of relocation policy and ethical factors in conjunction with economic factors;
- The principle of the qualitative values, not just quantitative values;
- The principle of the female values, not just those men.

The policy implementation is possible through the systematic features of the new economy are the following:

- Realistic perspective about human nature;
- The systematic and synergistically;
- The critical and constructive;

² Rojanschi, V, Bran, F. (2006), “Cuantificarea dezvoltării durabile”, Ed. Economică, București, pag. 27-30

- The dynamic character of labor;
- The chancing character.

Currently, all efforts should be directed to building and implementing new economy, which is described as a sustainable economy that will challenge major activities from the market, namely those profitable both for the employees and the economy. The other economic systems are so left behind, such as the centralized one, the long-term development that integrates ecological principles and found no place to be accomplished.

In this type of economy, government should give confidence and encourage the population to be more productive and efficient by developing an appropriate regulatory and financial code, the market should reach to serve human interests and also highlights the importance the new economy nonprofit organizations, groups representing civil society, voluntary organizations to find its proper directions.

The politics of the “new economy” is concentrated towards the sustainable development of economic and social life, with particular focus on population, thus different from that of conventional economies focused on business, finance, trade organizations, employees who work directly influences economic. Areas covered by the policy implementation of sustainable development are agriculture, tourism, energy, services, construction, transport, health, law and order, local development, business, technology, etc., through their high proportion of government revenue being shifted towards the population income.

In the context of the new economy, implementation of economic policies relating to:

- Restructuring the tax system for environmental sustainability, use of labor, use of natural resources;
- Introduction of unconditional payment to all citizens from the income of the population;
- The complete restructuring of energy systems - which would help to reduce non sustainable development of this branch;
- Introduction of public procurement policy that encourages contractors to adopt sustainable practices;
- Development of local economies through financial support and would help change the image locally, would build a strong local infrastructure to ensure easy access to running residential population of productive activities, tourism, environment, etc..;
- Use of economic indicators, social, environmental, performance and progress;
- Development of audit procedures, reporting and establishing sustainable business performance and organizational levels;
- Implementing policies to reduce demand for transportation and energy resources and the need to assess their implications in terms of social, economic and environmental;
- Promoting changes that took place in the international companies that had the effect of encouraging sustainable forms of development.

3. CASE STUDY: THE SOUTH-MUNTENIA REGION OF ROMANIA

With a total surface of 34,453 km² (14.54% of the total area of Romania), the South-Muntenia Region³ consists of seven counties (Argeș, Călărași, Dâmbovița, Giurgiu, Ialomița, Prahova and Teleorman).

The relief of the Region 3 South-Muntenia is characterized by variety, the difference in level is over 2400m allocated in proportion, stepped down from north to south of the Făgăraș and Bucegi mountains and ridges to the Danube Valley, which leads to the types of mountain, hill and plain climate.

³ www.arpm-pitesti.ro

Like all developing regions of our country, in the South-Muntenia Region also are made efforts to attain the sustainable development objectives. The situation of the region is studied through analysis of the economic indicators and environmental development.

The employed population indicator has been a downward trend in the South-Muntenia Region in the 2008-2014 periods, reflecting the economic instability of the inhabitants of this development region of our country (Table 1 and Figure 1).

The employed population in the South-Muntenia Region in the 2008-2014 periods

Table 1.

The employed population	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Number of people	1684	1674	1443	1443	1417	1414	1437

Source: www.insse.ro

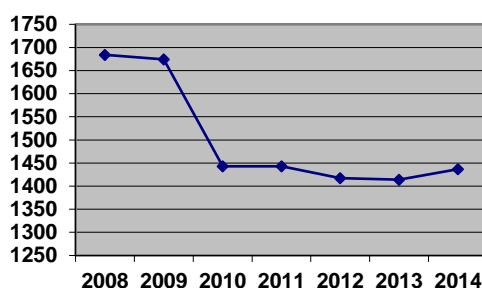


Figure 1. The employed population in the South-Muntenia Region in the 2008-2014 periods

Regarding the reorientation of services and tourism as a subordinate activity in order to promote and develop the area, the values of the tourist accommodation capacity in service in the South-Muntenia Region in 2008-2014 are increasing (Table 2 and Figure 2).

The tourist accommodation capacity in service in the South-Muntenia Region in 2000-2006

Table 2

The tourist accommodation capacity in service	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Thousands accomodation- days	6025,3	6026,9	5985,1	5932,9	6437,8	6439,0	6367,1

Source: www.insse.ro

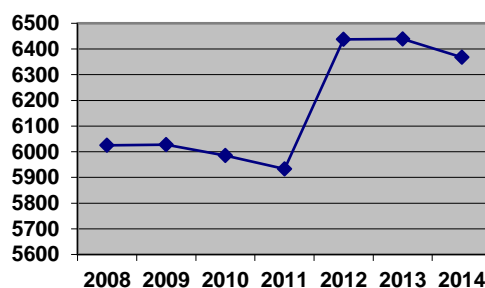


Figure 2. The tourist accommodation capacity in service in the South-Muntenia Region in 2008-2014

In the South-Muntenia Region the analysis of these indicators reveals some problems, first regarding especially to their varying development, and on the other hand, highlights a number of efforts to achieve a sustainable region.

CONCLUSIONS

Current issues that are facing the environment and human society have imposed the need for the emergence of new ways of treating economic development, allowing natural factors and improve the quality of people's living conditions. This is why appeared the concept of new economy along with sustainable development, defined as development for future generations as effective as those for the future.

The implementation of the sustainable development can be achieved only by simultaneously addressing both to the economical and ecological problems of the related business achievement. Only by considering the two perspectives it can be achieved the sustainable wishes, at general, national and territorial level.

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