

THE ROLE OF NON-AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN RURAL AREA DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract: *Rural non-agricultural activities can be classified into two categories depending on occupancy degree of time: independent ones, those who are practiced in exclusivity, occupying entire working time and complementary, and those who are carried out in completion time, by those involved in agriculture. Through these agricultural activities it is provided employment of labor from rural area by judiciously using local resources because these products are used for individual household needs but can be a source of additional income if they are sold in markets or even exported as traditional products.*

Key words: *agricultural activities, rural area, development*

INTRODUCTION

Through its elements, rural area is different from other existing spaces in a given territory. Socio-economic characteristics of the Romanian rural area are assigned to: economic structure, population density, dominant basic professions, culture and cultural buildings, spiritual life, human relationships [2,5,8].

Within socio-cultural function, rural area have a social character, through the nature of human activities, of relationships within communities, of relatively small dimension of settlements, of some specific relationships between community members, mutual understanding and social hierarchy unlike the major urban places, where human anonymity is specifically. Social life of communities is related to the spiritual life, of traditional culture and customs being an unmistakable heritage of each localities, or rural areas, areas or rural areas, even if some traditions have disappeared, in rural area still remain treasures of ethnography and folklore, crafts which are a great wealth [1,3,7].

Services for the population, that influence leisure, in the tourism sector, includes a wide range of services in different areas that have a distinct organization and independent existence, some are common with those of tertiary components, which indicates membership of tourism to this sector, others are specific only to tourist services [4,5]. Improving services has as consequence reengineering sequence of time, which, could potentially be changed individually at leisure, because the level of improved service for population (public or private) largely determines the length of time spent developing a wide range of activities (transport time, time for household activities, to satisfy basic physiological needs), the size of these sequences influence the leisure time. Increased leisure, alternatively, through the activities in this sequence is a real market for full extension. Most demand generated by the use of leisure time increase the market requirements and improves specific activities [6,9].

Diversity of activities aimed at meeting the demands of tourists both during travel and about driving, but also the specific characteristics of tourism in any of its forms are activities included in the concept of travel. Necessary conditions for rest insurance, but also spend pleasant and instructive the free time is the main goal of tourism services. Tourist services should be designed so that after their consumption, tourists acquire extra information, knowledge and even some new skills. There is an ongoing process during the

current tourism enrichment with new types of services, responsiveness result of adaptability to changes in the structure of consumption needs. The tourism sector has a complex content, consisting of tangible and intangible elements, and tourism product is a set of goods and services able to meet the travel needs of a person upon arrival and departure of the tourist destination.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

To achieve this scientific approach we undertook a study to determine the main non-agricultural activities and the role they play in the development of an economic point of view of the countryside in our country.

RESEARCH RESULTS

From the non-agricultural activities practicable in rural area, according to geographical area (plains, hills, and mountains) we note:

- in the mountains area are practiced woodworking trades - carpentry, joinery, wheelwrights, wicker;
- in the plain area are practiced pottery, the production of ceramic crafts, brick;
- in Delta are practiced bulrush, reed, wicker;
- in all areas are practiced traditional processing products and animal by-products (meat, milk, wool) as well as horticultural and agricultural products (compotes, jams, jelly, broth).

A special non-agricultural activity is also the processing of products derived from sheep and goat wool, which are processed by weaving, traditional knitting and transformed into carpets, linen, embroidery, knitting.

In rural areas an important role have the woodworking workshops (saws), especially iron processing for agricultural inventory maintenance (tractors, harvesters) and local means of transport (carts). Also in this category are mentioned professions more useful in rural areas, such as the mason, tailor, shoemaker, upholsterer, glazier, well sinker.

Given his importance, tourism as a rural activity, it should be treated particularly, distinctly from other agricultural activities. From the start it should be noted that the activities of rural tourism and farm tourism are required, for each case in particularly, special conditions of accommodation, food, entertainment qualified human resources.

Currently occurs unnatural activity, by distorting the concerns of rural area and promotion of sales to the street, in most rural areas, of urban products - questionable quality - synthetic juices, chewing gum, vodka, beer, coffee, and so on, instead of local products, traditional, made through talent and hard work by the landowner from the country.

Tourist village or agro-tourist farm should not be limited to a few historical and cultural objectives but should contain the entire area with its natural and human resources to make it as attractive as can be through recreational activities offered to visitors.

To promote tourist villages and agro-tourist farms are required measures and efforts to develop the network infrastructure of water, sewer and media and signaling their existence in the area.

Because farmers considered agro-tourism activity as complementary one they don't invest in promoting form these reasons we consider that local authorities should be more involved in their organization in profile associations to handle their logistics and promotion

them at regional, national and even European level as authentic local agro-tourist products that contribute to sustainable development of the area where they work.

Possibilities of revival of the Romanian village

Romanian village can not make progress without a balanced and healthy development of the country and especially without financial resources allocated to biodiversity conservation and environmental preservation.

In Romania, over its history, the pace of overall economic and social development was unfortunately unbalanced, with a pronounced gap between urban and Romanian village.

This has created, in time, a significant disparity; rural areas are systematically harsh of advantages and features of urban civilization.

In many villages still lack the necessary infrastructure (electric light in isolated mountain villages, roads, water supply, sewerage and even basic social services (schools, human dispensary, maintenance and repair various workshops).

To eliminate these drawbacks the following measures are required to contribute to the development and progress of the Romanian village:

- infrastructure investments;
- development of small and medium enterprises;
- attraction and stability in villages of youth people;
- development of local pride through authenticity of natural and human resources;
- promoting traditional village as a place of leisure in optimal conditions.

Through modernization of agro-tourist farms, by investing can diversify their activities and products produced, processed may be used by private farms as fresh produce from the farm but may also constitute a source of income for the owners that they can sell directly from the farm in own stores or in fairs and exhibitions of traditional products being delights for those willing agro-tourism farm or so-called "farming fun" when those staying in farm are actively involved in the production of cheese, stewed, traditional meat products.

In this way the intermediate link is deleted because it is founded on farms food service workshops and such processed goods reach the consumers, so that agro-tourism farm is not only producing and processing raw materials but, all income remaining in agro-tourism farm with the fact that farming is seasonal.

Also fall among interest objectives in rural areas, initiatives and activities for the exploitation of local materials and traditional craftsmanship in woodworking, clay, stone, basketry, textiles, handicrafts, processing of agricultural products, livestock.

CONCLUSIONS

For rural development and stability in rural area of young people should be encouraged the investments in infrastructure and ensuring minimum social conditions, development of small and medium enterprises, create new jobs and enhance the local natural and human resources, all of which contribute to sustainable development the countryside.

In developing strategies for rural area development should not start from the premise that the village has to be a closed community (idyllic), only supplier of raw materials and human resources but the producer of goods and services to urban communities.

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