

SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT UNDER INFLUENCE OF URBANIZATION

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Economic, social and ecology indicators of Ukrainian agriculture development were examined as well as problems of rural degradation under influence of urbanization. It was proposed to change the management approach to rural development by redistribution of responsibility between government, enterprises and institutions.

Key words: rural areas, degradation, urbanization.

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СОЦІАЛЬНІ ТА ЕКОЛОГІЧНІ АСПЕКТИ РОЗВИТКУ СІЛЬСЬКИХ ТЕРИТОРІЙ В УМОВАХ УРБАНІЗАЦІЇ

Розглянуті економічні, соціальні та екологічні індикатори розвитку сільського господарства України та проблеми деградації сільських територій в умовах урбанізації. Запропоновано змінити підхід до управління розвитком сільських територій шляхом перерозподілу відповідальності між державними органами влади, підприємцями та інституціями.

Ключові слова: сільські території, деградація, урбанізація.

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СОЦИАЛЬНЫЕ И ЭКОЛОГИЧЕСКИЕ АСПЕКТЫ РАЗВИТИЯ СЕЛЬСКИХ ТЕРРИТОРИЙ В УСЛОВИЯХ УРБАНИЗАЦИИ

Рассмотрены экономические, социальные и экологические индикаторы развития сельского хозяйства Украины и проблемы деградации сельских территорий в условиях урбанизации. Предложено изменить подход к управлению развитием сельских территорий путем перераспределения ответственности между государственными органами власти, предпринимателями и институциями.

Ключевые слова: сельские территории, деградация, урбанизация.

Sustainable rural development is one of the targets of the Millennium Development Goals. Accelerated rural development is essential to reducing poverty and promoting better standards of life for much of the world's population. Three spheres of development - economics, society and environment - are extremely important for rural communities all over the world and especially for countries of transitive economy such as Ukraine.

During centuries agriculture had been the strategic sector of Ukrainian economy. About one third of the total population of Ukraine lives in the countryside (to 15 ml person). The area of rural communities is more then 48.3 ml hectares. Agricultural land occupies 72 % of the country's territory, 69 % of which is arable land. In 1990 the part of agriculture in gross additional value (GAV) was 22 %; the average profitability of agribusiness was 37 . In 10 years the part in GAV reduced to 11 %, and 92 % of agrarian enterprises was unprofitable. Now figures are much better but Ukrainian agriculture has not still achieved the 1990 year's level. The core factors of such situation are:

- "freezing" the market of land in Ukraine and as a result - lack of foreign and domestic investors;
- Reduced role of government in financing agribusiness due to membership of Ukraine in WTO since 2008.

Destruction of rural communities, reduction of villages and rural population, degradation of environment are the consequence of economic unsustainable position of agrarian enterprises. It is possible to estimate rural well-being by some indicators:

1. Demographic: rural population, age, education, birth and death rates. According to the State Committee for Statistics of Ukraine, there is a trend of reduction rural population on 165 thousand people each year (-11 per a thousand), average age of a rural inhabitant is 40, only 10% the inhabitants have diplomas about high education, the rate of death among babies is 11.2%, the total rate of death is 20.7 %. As conclusion, there is a negative tendency of reduction and aging of rural population.

2. Economic activities: employment, unemployment, the level of economic activity, level of the incomes, sources of the incomes. The level of employment is about 60 %; the most part of incomes is made by selling domestic products (vegetables, fruits, milk etc); salary in agrarian enterprises is below the middle level in economics. Additional but not the most important source of income is rent. After privatization each inhabitant of rural area if he had worked on a collective farm became the owner of land certificate and the plot of land. But there are no legal opportunities in Ukraine now to sell land so owners can use their land by themselves or hand them over in rent. But rent is very low (20-100 euro per ha for year).

3. Social infrastructure: the quantity and quality of habitation, access to water sources, communication, electricity, natural gas. Availability of medicine care, education, cultures events etc. Only 10 % of villages in Ukraine have a water pipe, about 1 % use water delivered from other places. Social infrastructure is available only in a half of the need. The worst level is in medical sphere. About 90 % of social assets are in property of rural community and need repairing and modernization.

4. Safety of environment: in Ukraine there is a difficult ecological situation. Annually 60-100 millions tons of harmful substances are thrown out to environment; about 3 billions tons of toxic industrial wastes are stored in special storehouses in the rural areas. One third of water dumped in rivers is polluted; the unorganized dumps are placed near villages and farms. In some villages there are warehouses of the delayed chemical means (fertilizers, means of protection etc).

Summing up, we can speak about degradation of the rural territory of Ukraine. To restore such as important part of social and economic life of country have using conceptual and project approach. That means:

- Develop the government program of protection policy in agribusiness using the tools approved by WTO. For example, create the ecological-economic zones as the factor of the sustainability of agriculture and development of rural territories. Ecological-economic zones are the type of free economic zones with the special regime of the investment, where organic production is achieved, the newest technologies are used, agro-park or scientific technical parks function, and the economic stimulation of rational utilization and protection of the earth which are carried out in conformity of the principles of sustainability.

- Create and stimulate green tourism as alternative incomes for rural communities; use the principles of eco-tourism promoting alternative sources of energy and implementing resources-saving technology,

- Implement the co-financing for rural development: use private, government and international financing. Thus, investment projects provided principles of sustainable development will have priority.

Further development of extension services (consulting in agribusiness) will create the opportunities to promote and implement new sustainable technologies, develop social projects (for example, to start non-agricultural business) and attract investors for rural development.

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