Perspectives for agriculture of Vojvodina in the light of scenarios and models elaborated in the framework of the research projects of the European Union

Project Team

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The primary goal of the project was to present the possible scenarios of development of agriculture in Vojvodina, basing on the models elaborated in the projects financed by the European Commission. This primary goal will be achieved through the following activities:

- indication of the directions of development of agriculture in Vojvodina in comparison with other regions of the European Union in the light of various model analyses;
- comparison of the development projections, elaborated for Vojvodina, in the projects analysed – search for the coherent and divergent development perspectives of the farming sector in Vojvodina;
- determination of the alternative development scenarios depending upon the adopted agricultural policy and economic orientation.

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Methodology

The methodology, applied in the realisation of the project encompasses the following main components:

- analysis, including comparison, of the development perspectives for the farming sector, elaborated in the selected research projects of the European Commission;
- analysis of the database of statistical data, characterising the state of agriculture and the conditions for agricultural development in Vojvodina;
- analysis of the regional strategic documents, concerning Vojvodina, in the context of perspectives for the development of agriculture;
- and realisation of the field studies (field trips, unstructured interviews, focus group interviews, expert interviews).

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## Harmonogram of the project

### Work package

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**Novi Sad, October 2010**
ESPON EDORA (European Spatial Planning Observation Network – European Development Opportunities in Rural Areas) – the over-arching aim of the project is to develop a better understanding of the development opportunities and challenges facing diverse types of rural areas in Europe. The underlying demand for such knowledge is to support targeted policy development, relating (inter alia) to job creation and social change.
EU Projects – TERESA

TERESA (Types of interaction between Environment, Rural Economy, Society and Agriculture in European regions) – the key theme of TERESA is the mutual interactions that take place between agriculture, the environment and other aspects, social and economic, of the wider rural development processes. A living countryside is essential for farming, as agricultural activity is essential for a living countryside.

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EU Projects – EURURALIS

EURURALIS (Scenario study on Europe’s Rural Areas to support policy discussion) – wants to support policy makers in discussions about the future of rural areas in the EU27 with scientifically sound data. Secondly it wants to learn about the interacting of many forces that drive the future of rural Europe. The output of Eururalis sketches what could happen to rural Europe based on conditions that differ in nature, course, duration or place. The integrated impact on People, Planet and Profit indicators as well as on land-use is assessed for four possible and plausible main scenarios.

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CEEC AGRI POLICY (Agro economic policy analysis of the new member states, the candidate states and the countries of the western Balkan) – the main objective of this project is to stimulate the networking between organisations involved in agro-economics analysis, as well to provide scientific input for policy making.
Comparable regions

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Chełmsko-zamojski – Poland

- In terms of economy it is one of the most agricultural region in Poland,
- High share of farmland,
- High input of labour into agriculture,
- High ratio of employed in agriculture,
- Very high number of relatively small farms,
- The region is an example of an area characterized by the agrarian fragmentation as the result of a combination of the economic and political phenomena,
- The agricultural land - 70% of the total territory; arable land - 90% of the total farmland,
- Decrease of the population number in the region.
one of the best developed agricultural regions, but observed such problems as disadvantageous agrarian structure, fragmented productivity, wear of the fixed assets in the farms,

in recent years there was observed the decrees of agriculture land in the region,

agrarian structure is dominated by small farms – 83% do not reach the size of 5 ha,

the agricultural land - 80% of the total territory; arable land - 76% of the total farmland,

70% of arable land is under cereal cultivation, with dominating shares of corn, wheat and rye,

natural decrease of population.
Bacs-Kiskun – Hungary

- an agricultural region – mostly because favourable environment conditions,
- share of agriculture in economy - 8% of GDP,
- the average economic magnitude of a farm is equal merely 2.3 ESU,
- the agricultural land - 50% of the total territory; arable land - 82% of the total farmland,
- the most important croplands are cereals (45%), vineyards and industrial crops – mostly sunflowers,
- rate of natural increase is definitely negative.
Some conclusions for Vojvodina

- continuation of the process of the outflow of population, especially the young, from the peripherally situated areas of Vojvodina to large towns and abroad;
- stagnation or collapse of small farms, whose production shall have less and less commercial character;
- increase of significance of the foreign capital in food and agricultural processing, which might result in the increase of production, improvement of competitiveness and expansion into new markets;
- modernisation of the agricultural sector shall be linked with a significant decrease of employment in farming;
- a barrier to the increase of productivity of agriculture may be constituted by the low level of agricultural education of farm managers;
- in plant production the role of industrial crops shall increase (soybeans, sunflower);
- there will be a decrease of the arable lands in the vicinity of Novi Sad as the results of urbanization processes and new economical functions development;
Voivodina - Serbia

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Voivodina - Serbia

Cereals:
- wheat
- barley
- maize
- oats
- rye

Industrial crops:
- sugar beet
- sunflower

Cropland:
- oil turnip
- paprika
- hop
- soya
- tobacco

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Harvested area – Vojvodina

- Wheat
- Cereals
- Maize
- Industrial
Animal products – Vojvodina

- Milk
- Pork meat
- Beef meat
- Poultry meat

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Spatial diversification – Vojvodina

Share of family holdings

Secondary and higher educ.
Spatial diversification – Vojvodina

Share of arable lands

Concentration of pigs

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Perspectives of agriculture
Perspectives of agriculture

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Main challanges
Perspectives and recommendations