

Landscape Valorization Models For Regional Development

Author: Kamen Petrov

Abstract: This article is devoted to the derivation of individual models for the implementation of valorization in rural areas following the example of the European Union and in particular their adaptation to Bulgarian conditions. The article highlights the importance of landscape and its valorization as a factor in determining the functional development of the rural area as part of the spatial development of the modern state. The methodology of the research is outlined, the place of rural areas as a part of regional space is outlined, highlighting the most common problems in rural areas and their specifics so far. The aspects of valorization are also outlined and illustrated with several examples, which of course have a discussion character. The conclusion draws relevant conclusions and recommendations based on the present study.

Keywords: rural areas, development, patterns, progress, deficit, territory, space

JEL: R14, R29, R52, R58

1. INTRODUCTION

Europe's rural areas, a colorful mosaic of activities and landscapes, provide us with food, homes, jobs and essential ecosystem services. The role of landscape in supporting rural economy and the quality of life in rural areas has been increasingly recognised in the literature, hence the interest of policy makers in identifying and designing suitable policy instruments for enhancing the potential benefits that the maintenance and valorisation of landscapes may provide to the rural economy. In this context, this paper provides a qualitative analysis of the specific functions of landscape, and of the mechanisms through which targeted rural development instruments could generate positive leverage effects on rural economies. This paper is based on literature research, and is part of the analytical work developed to support the preparation of the post 2023 rural development policy. The concepts of multifunctionality of landscape and of its multiple values represent the starting point of the analysis, to explain the potential generation of socio-economic benefits. The analysis of the different functions of landscapes and the recognition of their attributes and peculiarities is an essential condition for valuating the possible socio-economic benefits that landscapes may generate in rural areas. The interaction between the fundamental features of landscape, such as its historical, cultural, recreational, production, aesthetic, biodiversity and ecological functions, determines the multifunctional character of landscapes and generates their value as perceived by society. In turn, this potential of satisfying social expectations and needs can represent a valuable factor for generating economic benefits in rural areas (Przygoda. M., 2014). To sum up, landscape is a non-commodity output produced as direct or indirect outcome of the activities operating in a particular area and it is valued

by society for its functions (use and non use values, ecological, recreational, cultural etc). Due to this complex nature, it produces second-order effects that are captured by the stakeholders in rural areas (farmers or others), and that generate potential markets for new activities. Therefore, through the generation of these effects, landscape contributes to boosting the economy of rural areas and is an important driver for the whole regional economy. Two main mechanisms through which landscapes may generate socio-economic benefits are identified: multiplier effects generated by the injection of additional income from the outside into the local economy (e.g. tourism, retiree migration, second-home ownership, "periurban" working-age in-migration), and by an endogenous source of additional income (e.g. "non periurban" working age in-migration, firm (re)location). Both types of mechanisms may entail job and income creation which, if appropriately distributed, eventually lead to local and regional development (Patachanov, P., 2016). The conditions for these multiplier effects to occur and the potential for creating a rent of territorial quality are dependant on the extent to which a specific set of amenities (including landscape) meets a corresponding demand. Moreover, the generation of such a rent relies on the capacity of private and public stakeholders to set up institutional arrangements that are suitable for matching the demand and supply, and to internalise and capture the externalities generated by amenities, converting them into drivers for local economic development. This potential is at the core of the justification of public policies in support of the valorisation and conservation of landscapes. The first necessary condition identified is that the characteristics and the state of landscapes in a given area correspond to the ones desired by the society (Taylor, Cr. 2018). This means that the level of provision of landscapes must match the societal demand. The second condition to generate spill-over effects is that the actors operating in rural areas are able to exploit the potential market opportunities offered by landscapes and their functions. Only in this case are the potential benefits likely to be translated into new opportunities for income and jobs.

2. EXPOSITION

Cultural landscapes have undergone fundamental changes, both today and in their history, and their spatial-temporal dynamics is a defining feature. Partly reflecting global trends, partly exhibiting regional particularities, multiple causes are influential in reshaping European cultural landscapes, Among the causes of landscape change are urbanization, agricultural intensification, land abandonment and forest expansion, international commerce and trade, new demands of land for nature conservation, and development of renewable energy uses. Depending on prevailing social-ecological conditions, these trends find strongly varying regional expression, exhibiting diverse directions and pace. The magnitude of these changes has given rise to concerns that landscape sustainability – the capacity of a landscape to consistently provide long-term, landscape-specific ecosystem services essential for maintaining and improving human well-being – is currently at risk. In many parts of Europe, traditional landscape practices have been gradually replaced by more standardized and mechanized land uses, which has frequently been accompanied by social and ecological tensions (Zasada, I., at all,2012). A central tendency is the fundamental decoupling of the socio-cultural and ecological subsystems in cultural landscapes, often

leading to the degradation of biodiversity and cultural heritage values and rendering the future of many of these landscapes highly uncertain. Regional policy includes five main components of spatial development from an economic point of view: the economy of a region, the economic linkages between regions, the regional system (including the national economy as a system of interaction between regions), the deployment of productive forces (in the process of physical or deliberate diffusion over the territory of objects and phenomena) and the regional aspects of economic life (production, employment, quality of life, finance, etc.). An important part of the conceptual apparatus of regional science in a local context are the characteristics and form of the structuring of economic space, which is treated as a region containing multiple objects and the connections between them. Each region has its own internal space and communications with the external space. The most important characteristics of space are: density (population, gross regional product, natural resources, fixed assets, etc. per unit area), accommodation (percent homogeneity, differentiation, concentration, distribution of population and economic activities), connectivity (intensity of economic). In the analysis, it is important to distinguish the relations between parts and space, in terms of the mobility of goods, services, capital and people, driven by the development of communication networks. In the World Heritage Convention, the term "cultural landscape" embraces a diversity of manifestations of the interaction between humankind and its natural environment. Cultural landscapes often reflect specific techniques of sustainable land-use, considering the characteristics and limits of the natural environment they are established in, and a specific spiritual relation to nature. Protection of cultural landscapes can contribute to modern techniques of sustainable land-use and can maintain or enhance natural values in the landscape. The continued existence of traditional forms of land-use supports biological diversity in many regions of the world. The protection of traditional cultural landscapes is therefore helpful in maintaining biological diversity. This was an important first recognition of the role and of the relevance of landscape, as well as a good attempt to define it. The European Landscape Convention seems to provide the most suitable, comprehensive and useful definition. It applies to the entire territory of the parties involved, and relates to natural, urban and suburban areas, whether on land, water or sea. It therefore concerns not just remarkable landscapes but also ordinary everyday landscapes and blighted areas. With regard to regional development and regional policy, it is necessary to emphasize the following: first, the object of study in regional development from an economic standpoint is positioned within the scope and content of the regional economy (Yarkova, N., Ivanov, St., et al, 2010). Regional development is seen as a process resulting from the behaviour of a complex dynamic system, which is formed, on the one hand, on the basis of the socio-economic and natural elements of space within a given territory, and, on the other hand, in accordance with the intentions and desires of society, formulated through a certain normative framework and expressed through regional planning and the implementation of targeted actions by the State towards its regions. Secondly, the complex nature of the regional development process implies its linkage with the analysis of categories and concepts such as: forecasting, planning, programming, as well as the clarification of the characteristic features of the objective territorial basis, within the boundaries of which the specific interaction of natural, social and economic factors that ensure the uniqueness of a given territory is observed. Third, the European Union (EU) cohesion policy, national and

sectoral development policies of the country have a direct impact on the state policy for regional development in political, technological, economic, social, cultural and environmental aspects. At the same time, the objectives and priorities of the chosen state policy for regional development take into account the assumptions of local development policies in the country.

3. METHODS FOR ASSESSING RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The research methodology necessitates the use of traditional statistical and correlational dependences based on analysis and synthesis. In addition, the attempt to construct the process of rural volunteerism provides an overview of various theoretical methods developed over the last three decades for the economic valuation of the landscape. Since the value of amenities is driven by human perception, the existence and the characteristics of the demand for amenities is determinant for assessing the values associated with landscapes by the different users. In this respect, different valuation techniques can be used to quantify people's preferences related to certain types of landscapes. On the other hand, the supply of amenities in a particular location is strictly linked to the specific features and elements of landscape of a given territory. Only when the level of the demand is matched by an equivalent level of provision (or supply) of landscapes, potential benefits can arise for the local economy. Concerning private goods and services associated with use-values of landscape amenities (e.g. tourism, recreation, etc) provided through the market, their economic value can be associated with the respective price as determined by the market. As for the economic valuation of non-use values of landscape amenities, this is made difficult by the fact that their appreciation depends on human perception, and is therefore driven by aesthetic, and thus highly subjective, considerations (Marangon and Tempesta, 2008;). As a consequence, preferences for landscapes are complex to identify since they are highly dependent on the specific characteristics of landscapes in given areas as well as on the individual perceptions of the observers (Burgess et al, 2009). For public goods or services and for non-use values, the marginal willingness to pay and hence the value associated with a certain function cannot be estimated from direct observation of transaction, and the demand curves are usually difficult to construct. One of the main landscape development processes studied by regional economics is related to regional development. Important to regional development is the research that others who have worked in the field of regional science. However, it has proved difficult to give a clear and unambiguous definition of the term "regional development". Tracing a considerable number of sources shows that "regional development means different things to different people", as found in the Human Development Report 1999. Other definitions suggest that in some cases regional development is associated with the state's policy for the development of municipalities, in others with the territorial projection and coordination of sectoral policies and actions, in a third situation it is considered a component of overall development policy or even a distinct policy in its own right. In the field of economic sciences, regional policy is considered in the context of geoeconomic knowledge, macroeconomics and economic geography. As a science, it starts from general managerial and economic objectives linked to assessing the state of the nation-state and analysing factors such as

administrative capacity, economic growth, social justice, property security and commitment, etc. From the point of view of the individual countries of the European Union, regional policy has a common focus for their development. In contrast, regional planning is seen more as an administratively expressed, technical (engineering) task in which regional policy objectives are set. In the framework of regional planning in the EU, the budgetary and legal resources to be invested, according to technical requirements, in real projects are determined by expediency, size and stocktaking. Regional planning according to these criteria is also linked to various microeconomic criteria (Marcou, G., 2002).

4. OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT AT REGIONAL LEVEL

In practice, the formation of a sustainable level of redevelopment within municipalities carries one charge, however, when it comes to a larger area and several municipalities, problems of a different rank emerge and their solution requires the implementation of different regional policies based on mutual benefit and the search for maximum efficiency of the impacts carried out at a territorial scale. As a deficit in our country we can define the problems of gathering sufficiently reliable information at the meso-level or the intermediate inter-territorial level, which implies a large area subject to spatial planning. This in turn makes it difficult to collect, process, analyze and interpret detailed spatially referenced information. As a result, the baseline and target spatial development patterns at this level are too general and generalised. From a public works perspective, it is therefore necessary to gather information through an introductory component that reflects the purpose, place and role of the strategy document, and presents the policy and strategic framework and context of its development. At a second level, it is necessary to define an analytical component that presents the spatial characterisation and assessment of the area and reflects the spatial development challenges, opportunities and capacities of the area. At the next level, the redevelopment needs to define a strategic component that shapes from the conceptual framework for spatial development to the horizon of action of the priority statutory thematic areas of development. In this way, strategic spatial development guidelines for the lower territorial levels and target indicators for them can be formulated through public works. This implies that in the assessment of public works, the productive and social activity of the population in a country or its economic region depends mainly on the territory inhabited by the population, as well as on the complex of specific natural features and the influence of territorial factors and conditions. In purely pragmatic terms, the natural complex enables people to organise their rational and normal existence. On the other hand, the economic potential of this territory is formed on the basis of the demographic situation and the natural features of the individual territorial units. In order to achieve an efficient territorial system, including rational production and economic structures, a socially acceptable demographic configuration and a modern settlement network, it is necessary to plan, regulate and direct the various activities in accordance with the objectives and tasks set in advance and depending on the main priorities of the regional economic policy in all its aspects (Petrov, K 2016). Thus, we can assume that regional development is a conscious activity of society aimed at coordinating and regulating the processes taking place in a given territory in order

to harmonise them and create optimum conditions for the work, living and recreation of the population, and the development of the welfare of workers on the basis of increasing the efficiency of social production. Public works thus has the final dimension of regional spatial planning. Thus, urban development brings to the fore the level of building infrastructure and material and technical basis for the development of systems for the optimization of work and life, through settlement planning, urban planning - the object here is the spatial development of cities and spatial urbanization structures. An important element of urban development is also cadastral planning, the implementation of local financial budget planning - the object is to ensure self-management and self-financing and administrative planning. In practice, administrative planning concerns the creation of programmes for the implementation and execution of all other plans related to territorial concentration. It can be noted that in the theory of regional economics a lot of attention is paid to the problems of territorial concentration of productions and activities. Concentration is usually understood as the concentration in a particular area of some set of industries, industries and activities. The essence of territorial concentration lies in the indisputable advantages, all other things being equal, of large-scale industries over small and medium-sized ones and, consequently, has an impact on the level of amenity. In this direction, the main group of factors for the development and territorial concentration are the favourable resources of the areas - natural, labour, capital and management. Sometimes the availability of a single resource is sufficient to stimulate concentration processes and improve the level of redevelopment, but often a deficit worsens the quality and level of redevelopment. In general, the impact of one or other combinations of resources, which do not always have a unidirectional impact, is considered. Factors such as the state of infrastructure, the size and degree of development of district markets, political stability, and others influence the level of amenity. This logic reveals the interrelationship between location and spatial concentration and the importance of the level of amenity in modelling regional development.

In this direction in Bulgaria, factors that have an objective prerequisite for territorial concentration, such as the aspiration of people to live not in isolation but in certain communities, are often overlooked. From a social point of view, this is a stable regularity, manifested in the tendency for population concentration to increase in towns and especially in cities, or urbanisation in the strict sense of the term. Rural development is the "second pillar" of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), which reinforces the "first pillar" of income support and market measures by strengthening the social, environmental and economic sustainability of rural areas. Thus, when assessing the level of development, factors that counteract and limit the development of territorial concentration are related to the increase in transport costs for the supply of raw materials and the marketing of production, to the increase in environmental risk, and also to the complexity of managing production and activities in rural areas. In a specific way, social factors that may indirectly influence the landscape may also have a deterrent effect. There is ample reason to believe that the effectiveness of processes of territorial concentration is determined less by their quantitative characteristics than by their qualitative ones - the management of large-scale production, the functioning of rural settlements, the effectiveness of inter-industry linkages, etc. Often, due to the dynamic degree of economic development, an important factor influencing the

level of development is the specialization of territorial systems. Of course, the specialisation of territorial systems is a concept with a broad scope, often subject to debate. One of the relatively widespread points of view takes as determinants of territorial specialisation those industries, industries and activities whose production is intended for sale outside the area in which it is produced. From a development perspective, these can be defined in narrow and broad terms. Specialised in the broad sense are those industries which participate in the inter-territorial division of labour, irrespective of their relative share in the total volume of the regional product. In a narrow sense, specialised industries are those whose output is mainly intended to satisfy needs in other areas and which have a relatively high share in the structure of the regional economy. In practice, territorial specialization also influences the level of welfare, because it allows the comparative advantages of regions to be effectively exploited, the multiplier of interregional trade to be realized, i.e. the positive effects of the territorial division of labor to be manifested. It creates conditions for the priority development of those industries and activities for which the most favourable conditions exist in the locality. The spatial structure of the economy and the existing spatial organisation of public services should be characterised and assessed. An important focus is the intra-regional disparities in geodemographic and socio-economic terms. It is necessary to point out the possible risks related to public works associated with the manifestation of extreme climatic and meteorological phenomena (drought, torrential rainfall, etc.). It is advisable to interpret the possible changes in climate parameters and their impact on spatial and socio-economic development (in the processes of climate change adaptation). The focus of the analysis should be on the provision of water resources for the population and for the economy in the area and spatial differences (incl. areas with water resources deficit), as well as on the state of hydraulic engineering facilities, flood threat and risk, etc., which disturb the level of development. Rural development actions will also contribute significantly to key Commission priorities and strategies, such as the European Green Pact and the long-term vision for rural areas. Important for the development of European landscapes and rural areas, respectively, is the Pact for Rural Areas, which was developed together with the Committee of the Regions, the European Economic and Social Committee, the European Rural Parliament and the networks within the framework of the common agricultural policy and the cohesion policy. The European Parliament and the Council Presidency also contributed to the preparatory steps.

5. DIRECT AND INDIRECT SOCIO-ECONOMIC BENEFITS IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT

In conditions of development, regional policy begins to play a key role in the systematization and analysis of national states. Through it, the processes of the opening of the national geographical space in a social, economic, infrastructural and cultural aspect and its functional, on the other hand, in particular for Bulgaria, connection with the European structures can be brought out and visualized accordingly. Direct socio-economic benefits arise from the management of landscapes: the maintenance, conservation and restoration of specific landscape elements (e.g. hedgerows and tree rows, rural and farm traditional buildings, terraces and stone walls, fencing etc.) can provide additional employment

opportunities and returns for the farmers, thus representing a way to diversify on-farm activities. Indirect socio-economic benefits arise from landscape functions and amenities, the development of rural tourism linked with the attractiveness of specific landscape amenities can stimulate additional on-farm activities, such as renting accommodation on the farm and the direct selling of farm products, in local stores, markets, etc. Moreover, niche-market opportunities can arise for the selling and marketing by farmers of local products with high value-added (food, craft products etc.). Finally, a positive "image" can stimulate the general demand for local products. Direct benefits related to the management of landscapes can also arise for rural stakeholders other than farmers (e.g. local contractors or environmental associations) directly involved in these activities. A categorisation of the main potential indirect socio economic-benefits for the whole regional economy is presented below. This classification is however purely illustrative, since the mutual synergies and interactions between these categories make it impossible to consider each of them in separation from the others.

This may also have an impact on the development of the tourism industry. since people's perception of the landscape, including the subjective assessment of its aesthetic components, can act as a driver for people's choices regarding tourist destinations (Heijman W.J.M, Hubregtse M.H, 2003; Van Huylenbroeck G, Durand G, 2003). Improved recreational opportunities: In addition to the beneficial impact on tourism, the presence of valuable landscapes in an area can also play a role in people's residential decisions. We must clearly define that in rural areas we have a deterioration of the demographic picture, mainly from the deteriorated living environment. moreover, internal migration of workers leads to demographic change. for example, by improving the quality of life and building a strong and renewed local image, landscapes can contribute to reversing well-established outward migration flows in certain rural areas. Thus, we can assume that the features of the landscape can significantly influence directly the recent trends of migration to rural areas, especially in developed countries. Very good infrastructural provision is also available in them. Another option is to create niche market opportunities for local products. In rural areas, to a large extent, landscapes contribute to the construction of the image of places, regions, districts, provinces, which have a specific character. This cannot be ignored in an existing real regional economy. This directly affects the demand for food and non-food products. Encouraging the continuation and viability of rural crafts and traditional skills is another important development model. It influences the image of a region with its traditional products and cultural events. This can contribute to the preservation and viability of cultural and traditional activities. Another important component is improving the quality of life in rural areas. The need to improve the quality of life in rural areas is a fact that can influence the localization of a number of economic activities (Valkov Vladimir 2018). Although difficult to quantify, some evidence suggests that people enjoy landscapes because they provide opportunities for various forms of recreational and sporting activities. Opportunities for inspiration and vision, a source of mental, physical and spiritual renewal and a place for understanding and learning. In this way, landscapes can provide many intangible benefits. But they need quality infrastructure. A main factor for the development of rural areas is the attraction of domestic investments and quality local solutions. This is associated with a

higher quality of life enhanced by certain types of landscapes. Therefore, the territorial image of the landscape can also be captured by the real estate sector, by rural residents or other economic agents in rural areas, such as companies (e.g. drinking or bottled water companies) using the image of the areas in their marketing (Tsonkov N, 2022). According to the existing literature, more extensive forms of agriculture (farmland, grassland) have a positive influence on real estate value, while intensive forms of agriculture (large animal or mushroom farms) reduce nearby property values. Creating and maintaining jobs is important in rural areas. Reference to expert assessment shows that landscape conservation offers the potential to create jobs and retain a skilled workforce for a number of local contractors or environmental associations. Experience in Scotland and the Republic of Ireland shows that these types of jobs are more often undertaken by local and small-scale contractors, thereby contributing to improving local incomes and the economy, and in effect setting a need to develop a regional economy and sustainably of the population's potential. In practice, investments in rural areas generate positive externalities on the incomes of the local population. New and more diverse job opportunities and alternative local activities are a direct consequence of the injection of financial resources into the local economy, leading to demand for development and lifestyle amenities. In addition, landscape quality stimulates local economic activity by attracting workers and businesses to the area, thereby increasing local economic diversity and creating employment and income. Furthermore, there is strong evidence that property prices are influenced by landscape amenities. Cultural heritage and identity are also important in rural areas. Thus, landscapes are often recognized as exceptional assets that should be preserved as cultural heritage. A similar contribution can be made to biodiversity and ecosystem management, with all the positive externalities this would bring in terms of tourism, investment and employment (Stoencheva, C 2010). On the other hand, recognizing a particular landscape as a special, suitable, unique place can generate a virtuous circle of attention, protection, valorization and popularity, which leads to the strengthening of the local identity of the population in the region. Last but not least, social and regional integration is also important. In practice, an important indirect effect of landscape conservation, management and planning can be overcoming the isolation of some rural areas and revitalizing their social systems. Assessing the relationship between landscape and rural economy suggests that valorisation and conservation landscapes should be maintained not only for their intrinsic value and their environmental character public good, but also for its potential to generate socio-economic benefits in rural areas. Public intervention can therefore focus on the landscape as an important driver for the economy development of these areas. This means that the current level of provision of landscapes should be in line with society's demand for landscape and public intervention is needed to reverse the 'undersupply' of landscape found in certain areas. The second condition for generating such potential side effects is actors working in rural areas are able to exploit the potential market opportunities offered by landscapes and their features. Only in this case are potential benefits likely translated into new income and employment opportunities. Reference to these two conditions is important in order to understand what kind of audience intervention is needed, in what circumstances, to generate those landscape-related opportunities.

6. CONCLUSION

Regional policy is the policy implemented by the state for regional development to create conditions for balanced and sustainable integrated development of regions and municipalities and comprises a system of regulatory documents, resources and actions of the competent authorities aimed at reducing interregional and intraregional disparities in the degree of economic, social and territorial development. Providing conditions for accelerated economic growth and a high level of employment and development of territorial cooperation. Sustainable integrated regional and local development" means preserving, developing and making targeted changes in living and working conditions in regions through interrelated action in the economic and social spheres in accordance with the requirements of environmental protection and protection against all forms of discrimination. Regional development policy is a policy based on social, economic and infrastructural development as well as on the system of regional economic mechanisms at European, national and regional level. The mechanisms for the implementation of regional development policy are analysed. Emphasis is placed on its integrating multisectoral nature. The concepts of regional planning, forecasting and programming, region and regional system are critically analysed. Particular attention is paid to regional systems as integrated structures comprising complex elements of natural and artificial origin. In the context of the scientific study, their distinctive characteristics and properties are synthesized. In order to manage regional development effectively and efficiently and to ensure publicity and transparency at all levels in the implementation of planning, financing, monitoring and evaluation of regional development, a unified information system for regional development management is developed. The unified information system for regional development management includes an integrated information system for strategic planning of regional and local development and an information system for monitoring the implementation of regional development strategic planning documents.

The article is published as part of the project "Landscape valorization models for regional development" with contract № KP-06-N65/11 from 12.12.2022, funded by the Fund "Scientific Research" - MES

References

1. Burgess D, Patton M, Georgiou S, and Matthews D, (2009). Public attitudes to changing landscapes: an exploratory study. 1st International Conference on Landscape Economics (Vienna 2009).
2. Heijman W.J.M, Hubregtse M.H, (2003). Regional economic impact of agritourism: method and application to the 12 Provinces of the Netherlands. In: Agrárgazdaság, vidékfejlesztés és agrárinformatika az évezred küszöbén (ava) nemzetközi konferencia A konferencia ideje: 2003.
3. Marangon F, Tempesta T, (2008). The economic evaluation of the rural landscape in Italy. Third Workshop on Landscape Economics, May 2008 Versailles (Paris)
4. Patarchanov, P., (2016) Problems of Local Development of Small Municipalities and Settlements, Yearbook of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Book 2 - Geography, Volume 108,

5. Petrov, K (2016) Approaches to spatial development and regionalization of the territory of Bulgaria, UNWE, Sp. Geopolitika, Issue 5,
6. Stoencheva, C (2010)., Regional Economics, Sofia, 2010.
7. Yarkova, N., Ivanov, St., et al,(2010) Territorial Differences in Bulgaria - Trends, Factors and Policies, BAS - Economic Institute, Academic Publishing House "Prof. Marin Drinov, Sofia, 2010.
8. Marcou, G., (2002)Regionalization for Development and Accession to the European Union.
9. Przygoda. M., (2014) New trends in the regional development. 6th International Scientific Conference on Economic and Social Development and 3rd Eastern European ESD Conference: Business Continuity, Vienna 24-25 April, 2014, p. 47-54.
10. Taylor, Cristian editor.(2018) Innovation management. Library Press. New York. ISBN 978-1-9789-1269-4. 2018. p. 221-227.
11. Van Huylenbroeck G, Durand G, (2003). Multifunctional Agriculture: a new paradigm for European agriculture and rural development. Ashgate. ISBN: 0754635767.
12. Valkov Vladimir (2018) The role of authorities at central and local level for social policy. UNWE, Research Papers vol4 2018 p. 269-280
13. Zasada, I., Piorr, A., Hinterstoisser, P. & Berges, R. (2012). Peri-urban Adaptation Strategies of Horticultural Farms in the Berlin Metropolitan Area. Cuhier Thomatique 10: 131-140.
14. Tsonkov Nikolay (2022) Regulatory Models for Territorial Development, Publisher IK - UNWE, ISBN 978-619-232-644-9, p.23-45