Розвиток сільських територій

UDC [332.122:338.43]:316.422(477.8) JEL H10, O13, Q10

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Peculiarities of implementation of social and economic modernization mechanisms in the rural areas of Ukrainian Western regions

The article aims to investigate peculiarities of rural areas development in the Western region of Ukraine in the context of implementation of their socio-economic modernization mechanisms. The main attention is focused on identifying problems and preconditions for the formation of new approaches to economic development and organization of social sphere in rural areas of the seven Western regions of Ukraine. On this basis priority areas of activation of rural areas' socio-economic modernization are identified, which lie in implementation of a comprehensive program approach that includes formation of favorable economic conditions, stimulation of the economic activity of local population, creation of proper provision of the needs of citizens in the social sphere and identification of the competitive advantages of individual rural communities.

Keywords: region, rural areas, modernization, territorial communities, socio-economic development, western regions of Ukraine.

In modern conditions of transformational changes a significant part of outdated approaches and mechanisms of socio-economic development of Ukraine calls for modernization and updating. This problem is especially acute in rural areas, which are the least reformed and adapted to the modern challenges. After Ukraine signed the Association Agreement with the EU and introduced the latest changes in the administrative-territorial system, together with the authorities' decentralization of powers, the search for new approaches to the development of rural areas became extremely vital, especially from the point of their comprehensive development and the assertion of their subjectivity. In this context it is necessary to study a number of aspects of development and the existing conditions of rural communities functioning in a regional context.

In particular, the study of socio-economic system of the Western regions of Ukraine will make it possible to highlight specific features of the region in the context of the introduction of modernization and innovation development mechanisms for rural areas.

Certain aspects of this problem were studied by some Ukrainian scientists, such as V. Borshchevsky, I. Valiushko, Yu. Hubeni, M. Ihnatenko, P. Muzyka, N. Naumenko, V. Chemerys, O. Shevchenko. At the same time, the peculiarities of implementing mechanisms for the modernization of rural areas in the Western regions of Ukraine, in particular, related to the coverage of the existing conditions of rural communities' functioning and the determinants for choosing their priority modernization routes, have not been widely discussed in the scientific environment.

The article aims to identify peculiarities of socio-economic development of rural areas of the Western region of Ukraine as a fundamental basis for choosing the priorities for their modernization in the context of providing integrated development.

The selected purpose of the study leads to the need to identify the approach to the interpretation of the concept of «modernization of rural areas». After all, for many years the problem of rural areas modernization has been a key issue for researchers, practitioners and authorities. However, such modernization usually was considered to be linked with particular industries, technologies or infrastructure. Under the terms the Association Agreements with the European Union, the problem of modernizing rural areas requires to expand this understanding. The authors of the Department of Development of Territorial Communities and Cross-Border Cooperation of the State Institution «Institute of Regional Research named after M. I. Dolishniy of the

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National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine» proposed the definition of the concept of «modernization of rural areas» based on the following key aspects:

- introduction of innovative technologies in agriculture and other spheres of economic activity, which is conducted in rural areas of a certain region;
- application of the newest approaches to organization of the social sphere of social life, namely health care, education and culture;
- modernization and development of transport, social, informational, marketing infrastructure etc.;
- diversification of the rural economy.

The rural areas of the Western region of Ukraine are characterized by a high concentration of rural settlements and a significant proportion of rural residents in the total population (Fig. 1).

An analysis of the demographic indices shows that in the Western Ukraine rural population prevails over urban (Table 1). This is true for all age groups and almost for all Western except Lviv region. An insignificant prevalence of urban residents is also observed in Volyn region, but only in the age group of population from 15 to 64 years. In addition, in the period from 2001 to 2016, the rate of reduction of the rural population in these regions was significantly lower than the average in Ukraine (17.0%). As for the age structure of the population, in all regions of Ukraine, the proportion of people aged older than working age far exceeds the proportion of children, which is gradually declining for years and is usually accompanied by some decrease in the proportion of pensioners.

At the same time, from the point of view of the potential of natural reproduction of the rural population the Western regions of Ukraine are characterized by relatively better indicators of the age structure compared to most regions of the North and East of Ukraine [2].

At the same time, the level of development and scale of entrepreneurship in the rural areas of the regions analyzed is significantly inferior to other regions of Ukraine.

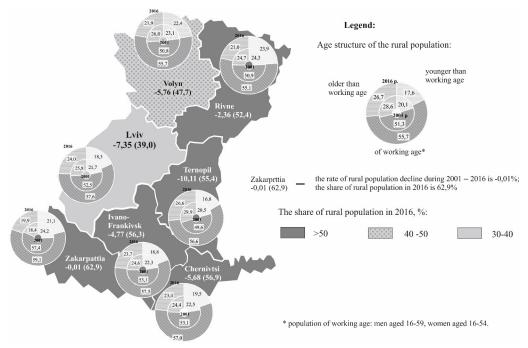


Fig. 1. Dynamics of the number and age structure of the rural population of the Western regions of Ukraine during 2001-2016.

Source: calculated and compiled according to the [1]

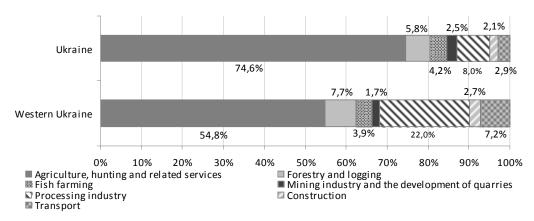


Fig. 2. Distribution of legal business entities in rural areas by economic activity in 2014 Source: designed by the author according to [3, p. 42-43].

For example, the proportion of relatively large rural settlements (with a population of more than 300 people) in the total number of villages with no enterprises as of the beginning of 2014 amounted to 40.7% (913 out of 2243 villages), whereas, on average in Ukraine, this figure was equal to 20.2% (1869 out of 9232 villages) [3, p. 44].

Another special feature of the Western regions of Ukraine against the background of the average Ukrainian indicators of the rural enterprises structure by economic activity lies in a relatively high share of industry (22.0% vs. 8.0% on average in rural Ukraine) and transport (7.2% vs. 2.9%) and somewhat a lower concentration of economic activity in agriculture (see Fig. 2). In general, 60.7% of processing enterprises and 55.5% of transport enterprises of the country located in the countryside are concentrated in Western Ukraine.

Along with this, by the number of legal entities registered in rural areas per 1000 inhabitants of rural population, most western regions take the last stages in the all-Ukrainian ranking, and the rate of reduction of the number of existing agricultural enterprises in 2012-2015 here significantly exceeds the corresponding indicator in Ukraine [4, p. 23; 5, p. 210].

This situation, first of all, negatively affects the labor market of rural areas, causing worsening of employment rates and the level of cash incomes of rural population in Western Ukraine (see table 1).

Table 1 Indicators of employment and income level of the rural population in 2013

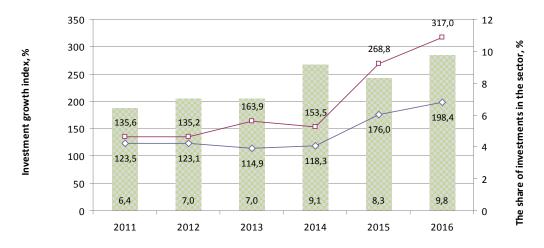
indicators of employment and meetine level of the futur population in 2015											
Region	population with per capita equivalent	The share of rural opulation with per capita equivalent ash income below the living The ratio of the number of capita equivalent area and migrant workers) to the population aged 16- The share of rural population population aged 16- 59, considered to booccupied only in their personal		The share of							
	minimum, %	59 years, %	subsidiary plots, %	population, 70							
Volyn	27.6	35.6	46.4	56.5							
Zakarpattia	29.5	43.2	27.7	69.1							
Ivano-Frankivsk	23.7	38.2	34.2	73.8							
Lviv	14.6	40.8	34.4	76.5							
Rivne	35.1	35.6	59.2	53.5							
Ternopil	31.6	36.0	46.6	58.7							
Chernivtsi	23.0	36.7	47.6	54.0							
Ukraine	21.4	45.1	29.8	54.9							

Source: calculated by the author according to the data provided by the respective regional statistic services [1; 3, p. 33-36].

According to Table 1, we can see that in the Western regions the poverty level of rural population is higher than the average Ukrainian index (excluding Lviv oblast), as well as labor migration is more intensive. At the same time, the level of poverty is usually the higher, the greater proportion of the population is recorded as occupied only in the personal subsidiary plots, as well as the smaller is the proportion of employed rural population at the working age (it is probably slightly lower than the given in the table ratio of employed rural population to the number of the rural population at the age of 16-59 years, but we do not have accurate data on the number of working pensioners in rural areas in the regions), and the smaller is the proportion of migrant workers in the number of employed rural population. We can also trace a clear dependence (especially in Zakarpattia and Ivano-Frankivsk regions): the smaller is the number of legal entities per 1000 rural population, the higher is the share of the rural population employed outside the place of residence (labor migrants).

The level of activity and intensity of investment processes is an important indicator that reflects the prospects and potential of the development of any economic sector or separate territory (region or state as a whole). In the context of analyzing the current state of economic development of rural areas, it is advisable to focus more closely on the study of investment activity of agricultural enterprises. Providing investment to agriculture is the basis for the renewal and expansion of production capacities, a key to improving the competitive position of the industry in the domestic and international markets, stimulating overall economic growth in rural areas, in particular, branches related to the agro-sector, forming the basis of food security of the state and its economic independence.

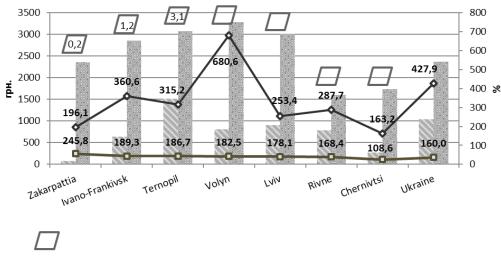
In the Western region of Ukraine, as well as in Ukraine in general, a gradual growth of the share of investments in the agrarian sector of economy is observed against the backdrop of an increase in the volume of capital investments in all types of economic activity (see fig. 3).



- The share of investments in agriculture, forestry and pisciculture, %
- ── Investment growth index overall, % in comparison with 2010
- Investment in agriculture, forestry and pisciculture growth index, % in comparison with 2010

Fig. 3. Dynamics of capital investments into the agrarian sector and its place in the total investment in the Western regions of Ukraine in 2010-2016

Source: calculated and designed by the authors according to [6, p. 5, 26; 7, p. 5, 31; 8, p. 5, 31; 9, p. 5, 29; 10, p. 6, 34; 11, p. 11-12, 48].



NNN Investments per one agricultural enterprise in 2016

Investments per 1 hectare of agricultural land in 2016

■Index of gross production output of agricultural enterprises during 2010-2016

◆Investmentsper 1 hectare growth rate during 2010-2016, %

Fig. 4. Dynamics of capital investments and gross output of agricultural enterprises of the Western regions of Ukraine

Source: calculated and designed by the authors according to [5, p. 5, 26; 9, p. 11-12, 48; 11, p. 26; 12, p. 26; 13, c. 51, 172].

At the same time, the data given on the fig. 4 clearly illustrate the lack of unequivocal correlation between the total amount and growth rate of capital investments of agricultural enterprises and the volumes of their production of agricultural products. In the country's scale, the Western regions occupy the last place in terms of agricultural production in agricultural enterprises.

There are a number of reasons for this situation, in particular: firstly, the quality of land resources and the potential of agricultural production in the Western regions are significantly inferior to other regions of the state; and secondly, given the less favorable climatic conditions, in the structure of agricultural production of the region's enterprises, the share and output of high-yielding and export-oriented crops (cereals, oilseeds) is comparatively low. It is also important to note that in the West of Ukraine agricultural enterprises are characterized by smaller land use sizes (the average area of agricultural land per enterprise in most regions here is less than 345 hectares, but in Rivne and Ternopil regions this figure exceeds 500 hectares). In addition, land plots of enterprises are rarely situated in a single land mass, and most often characterized by a high level of parceling. Therefore, the investment potential of the average agricultural enterprise here is lower than the average Ukrainian indicator, and the effect of the scale of agricultural production is not clearly evidenced.

Considering the socio-economic modernization of rural areas in the context of the need to preserve and enhance human potential, it should note that activating organizational mechanisms for the functioning of health care, social protection, education and culture in rural areas is the issue of high importance. The social sphere plays one of the key roles in ensuring the reproduction of rural population, entrepreneurial activity, education and civic maturity of the inhabitants of rural areas.

Social sphere development to a large extent determines the level of natural and migratory movement of the population in rural areas. The comparative indicators of

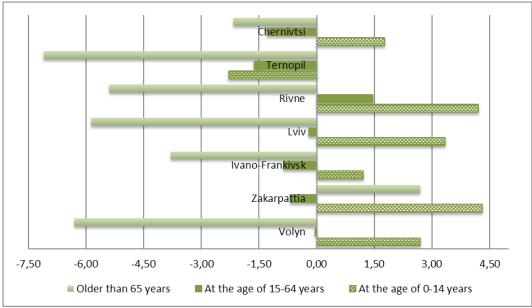


Fig. 5. Growth rates in the number of permanent residents of rural areas in the Western regions in 2017 as a percentage of 2013

Source: designed by the authors according to [1].

the number of permanent residents in the rural areas of the regions of the Western Ukraine in 2017 up to 2013 show a downward trend (see fig. 5).

In particular, in all the regions under study, except Zakarpattia, there is a significant decrease in the population above the working age. Somewhat lower are the declining indicators for rural population of the age group of 15-64 years old, and this indicator is positive only in the Rivne region. This indicates a significant health-care problem that can not provide proper care for the elderly and help to prolong life expectancy. During the last few years after a long period of decline in number of children, we can see a positive dynamics (except for the Ternopil region) of the rural population aged under 15 years old, but still it does not provide a sufficient level of natural reproduction of the population.

Organization of health care in the countryside depends mainly on the functioning of the primary care units, namely, effective medical establishments (centers of primary health care (CPHC), feldsher-midwife station or feldsher station (hereinafter – FMS/FS), outpatient clinics, ambulance stations) and on availability of qualified health care personnel. The main problems of health care in rural areas of the Western regions of Ukraine include the lack of material and technical support; low financial support for health care workers, which leads to the outflow of highly skilled personnel; inappropriate condition of infrastructure objects and transport infrastructure; lack of implementation of information technologies in rural medicine; the unwillingness of the population to seek medical assistance before the onset of critical conditions due to distrust of health workers and the inability to pay for the declared «free» medical assistance.

In particular, in the rural areas of the Western Ukraine, there is a low activity in the establishment of centers for primary health care (CPHC), though the network of FMS/FSs is wide in comparison with other regions of the country (Table 2). The largest number of the CPHCs was formed in Dnipropetrovsk oblast (54 units), and the lowest is in Lviv (4 units) and Ivano-Frankivsk (5 units) regions. One of the indicators determining the availability of primary health care is the presence of

Table 2
Indicators of organization of the health care system in rural areas of the Western region of Ukraine

indicators of organization of the health care system in rural areas of the western region of Okrame									
	Volyn	Zakarpattia	Ivano- Frankivsk	Lviv	Rivne	Ternopil	Chernivtsi	Ukraine	
Centers of primary health care in administrative districts, units	15	11	5	4	18	15	12	445	
Total number of FMS/FS, units	758	285	529	996	620	734	211	13133	
The share of rural settlements covered by FMS/FSs, %	70,4	47,7	67,0	52,9	61,1	70,6	52,0	46,3	
The share of FMS/FSs included in Centers of primary health care, %	100,0	82,5	22,5	11,1	99,0	88,6	97,2	85,1	
Staffing level of FMS/FSs (%)	97,1	91,2	97,8	97,9	97,6	95,5	95,7	92,6	

Source: calculated by the author according to [1; 14, p. 178-182].

outpatient clinics in the CPHCs. For example 28 outpatient clinics were established in Lviv region, and 56 in Ivano-Frankivsk, while, for comparison, in Dnipropetrovsk there are 418 outpatient clinics. In the Western regions there is a prevalence of the number of FMS/FSs and establishments of general medical practice and family medicine (GPFM). The largest number of independent establishments of the GPFM operate in Lviv (184), Ivano-Frankivsk (100) and Zakarpattia (61) oblasts, which should create a positive precondition for the healthcare reform approved in 2017.

A specific feature of the regions of Western Ukraine is a relatively high staffing level FMS/FSs. At the same time, the working and living conditions of health care workers in rural areas require the introduction of urgent changes. As this defines to a large extent the staffing and professional qualification levels of health care workers. Thus, in Ivano-Frankivsk, 91 medical workers are not provided with housing. A significant number of buildings with primary care facilities are in need of major repairs. The largest number of such establishments is in Zakarpattia (72 units) and in Ternopil (60 units) oblasts.

The peculiarity of the regions of Western Ukraine is the relatively high staffing level of FMS/FSs. At the same time, the living and working conditions of medical workers in rural areas urgently need sufficient improvement, because these factors to a large extent influence staffing and the level of professional qualifications of medical workers. So, in Ivano-Frankivsk oblast, 91 medical workers were not provided with housing. A significant number of buildings with primary care facilities are in need of major repairs (in Zakarpattia region there are 72 establishments in critical condition, and 60 such establishments in Ternopil region) [14, p. 185].

In the context of numerous non-systemic changes in approaches to health care reform, today the most significant and negative consequences are evidenced in particular for rural medicine. During a long period of time a spontaneous closure of medical institutions in rural areas took place without explaining the further mechanism of medical care provision for rural residents.

Today in Ukraine the next stage of healthcare reform is approved. It is being implemented in parallel with the decentralization of powers. All this leads to the creation of new baseline conditions for the organization of medicine in the countryside. A positive trend for the Western regions of Ukraine is the legislative introduction of the family medicine institute, since a prior experience of family doctors activity has been gained in these regions. At the same time, the risks for rural areas lie in the need to ensure adequate living conditions and wages for doctors who serve the population of remote rural settlements.

In the context of the introduction of modernization mechanisms for the development of rural areas, the organization of secondary medical care units does not play a decisive role, however the access to such assistance is important. This raises a problem of necessary improvement of the existent transport infrastructure in rural areas. A particular overriding problem, especially in the context of the implementation of the reform in 2017, is the unsatisfactory level of provision of medical care with sanitary transport. For example, in Zakarpattia region, primary health care facilities are provided with sanitary transport only by 32, 0% of the need. More than half of the sanitary vehicles currently exploited have been in operation for more than eight years [14, p.185].

It is also necessary to establish a public health system as a basis for modernization processes of the rural areas of the Western region. Thus, according to statistics, the biggest number of rural residents from all regions of Ukraine was hospitalized in Lviv region – more than 218 thousand people. In 2016, the highest mortality rates due to mental and behavioral disorders caused by alcohol abuse were detected in Zakarpattia region (9.5 per 100 thousand). The most difficult situation was recorded in rural areas, where the incidence of chronic alcohol syndromes was by 1.7 times higher than in urban areas, and in recent years there has been a steady increase in this indicator [14, p. 133]. The public health system today is a priority in the development of rural areas and one of the important components of the Association Agreement with the EU. International experience shows that the main role in improving the health of the population and in increasing the longevity of life is played by the concentration of policy in the medical sphere on the formation of people's ability to manage and improve their health and gain a high level of self-preservation culture.

In view of the above, the introduction of modernization mechanisms in the rural areas of the Western region in the field of health care requires a systematic programmatic approach to public health system establishment, the introduction of healthy lifestyle programs among young people and children, as well as updating the logistical, personnel and information support for the primary health care units. In this context, in our opinion, it is important not only to adopt normative legal acts on rural medicine, but also to provide sufficient financial and informational resources to local communities in order to implement a new paradigm of health care in Ukraine.

The sphere of social security in rural areas requires radical changes in the context of introduction of a managed mechanism for monetization of social benefits, organization of the social security system as a guaranteed right for adequate living standards, as well as the introduction of motivational factors and appropriate conditions engage people, who are covered by social protection, into social activities in their own community.

Education is one of the key spheres in the process of activating rural development modernization mechanisms. In the conditions of educational reform introduction of the competitive approach to the organization of the educational process is the most valuable modernization driver. Today, rural areas are characterized not only by a low knowledge level among pupils, but also the lack of skills to apply this knowledge. In the current circumstances, the only indicator of the results of educational activities is the ratings of the final external independent evaluation (EIE). In rural areas, for example, a significant lag behind this indicator is evidenced for almost all disciplines. In rural educational institutions, about two thirds of children receive show primary or intermediate level of knowledge of all disciplines by the results of the EIE (that is, from 1 to 6 points in a 12-point knowledge valuation system) (see Figure 6). In contrast to villages, more than half of the children in cities reach upper-intermediate and advanced knowledge levels on the EIE (from 7 to 12 points).

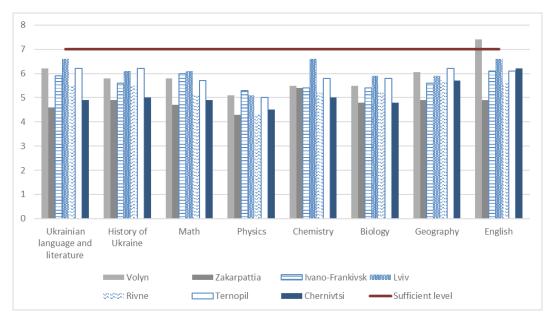


Fig. 6. Estimation of the level of knowledge of graduates of rural schools in the Western region of Ukraine by the results of the EIE in 2017 Source: designed by the authors according to [15; 16].

The demographic crisis, which led to a significant reduction in the number of school population without a proportional reduction in the number of schools and teachers, brought a significant burden on the budget, since smaller schools are more expensive to maintain. At the same time, the quality of education in such schools is usually extremely unsatisfactory.

Analysis of statistical data shows that the larger a settlement is, the better are the results of the EIE and less money per student is spent from the state budget. The highest level of expenses per one pupil from the budget occur in two regions mountainous region with a low level of urbanization – in Ivano-Frankivsk (15.1 thousand UAH) and Zakarpattia (12.1 thousand UAH) regions. In the Volyn region, this amounts to 9,8 thousand UAH, in Lviv – 9,9 thousand UAH, in Rivne – 9.2 thousand UAH, in Ternopil – 10.6 thousand UAH, in Chernivtsi – 10,5 thousand UAH [16]. This paradox has become a prerequisite for the reform of educational infrastructure, in particular, in the terms of closure of small-scale schools in villages and establishment of key point districts and schools. In these conditions, rural communities, in which educational establishments are being liquidated, should be obliged not only to transport pupils to other settlements, but also to guarantee the proper quality of the received knowledge.

It should also be noted that significant differences between results of EIE in urban and rural areas depend not only on the level of school education. Thus, in cities parents usually have stronger financial background to provide children with additional educational assistance, namely tutors. This fact raises a challenge for reforming the whole educational sphere of the country. After all, most pupils after the graduation from school are not able to handle the tasks of entrance examinations without professional help.

The above stipulates the need to classify education as one of the priority directions of modernization of rural areas. This requires the preparation of programmatic measures to reorient educational policy to ensure that every citizen has access to high quality educational materials and the possibility of obtaining a qualified support for the educational process. In this context, it is necessary to provide access to innovative and up-to-date information materials, the possibility of on-line education, updated equipping basic of schools' facilities and ensuring the transportation of children to educational institutions, as well as raising the level of educational staffing.

The level of realization of the needs of the inhabitants of rural territories in cultural leisure and recreation is also unsatisfactory. Reducing budget expenses on cultural sphere, consequently, a sharp decline in the number cultural institutions and deterioration of their condition (clubs, libraries, centers of artistic and aesthetic education, museums, etc.), leads to a reduction of the influence of this sphere on the development of the inhabitants of rural areas of the Western regions of Ukraine.

In the social sphere of rural areas, there is a lack of establishing relations between the state, public sector and business in the form of public-private partnership in achieving common goals. Stimulation of the private sector in the development of rural areas is also insufficient.

Given the above features of the introduction of mechanisms for socio-economic modernization of the rural areas of the Western region, the existing preconditions for the implementation of changes should be noted. In particular, the arrangement of certain regulations and the activation of local authorities in the direction of stimulating the economic activity of the population with the provision of adequate social guarantees in the healthcare, education, social protection and taking into account the influence of informal institutions, as well as the formation of the investment attractiveness of the territories, will create a proper ground for innovative development of rural areas of the Western region. A separate issue for research in this area is the formation and development of an appropriate marketing infrastructure in rural areas, which can have a significant impact on the activation of socio-economic achievements of rural communities.

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Peculiarities of implementation of social and economic modernization mechanisms in the rural areas of Ukrainian Western regions

Бас-Юрчишин М. А., Цимбаліста Н. А. Особливості запровадження механізмів соціально-економічної модернізації сільських територій західних областей України.

Стаття присвячена дослідженню особливостей розвитку сільських територій Західного регіону України в контексті імплементації механізмів соціально-економічної модернізації. У сучасних умовах трансформаційних змін модернізації потребує значна частина застарілих підходів і механізмів соціально-економічного розвитку сільських територій, які є найменш реформованими та адаптованими до викликів сучасності. Приєднання України до Угоди про асоціацію з ЄС і запровадження змін адміністративно-територіального устрою разом з децентралізацією повноважень влади вимагає пошуку нових підходів до розвитку сільських територій з позиції комплексності та утвердження їхньої суб'єктності.

Метою дослідження є виявлення особливостей соціально-економічного розвитку сільських територій Західного регіону України як фундаментальної основи для вибору пріоритетів їх модернізації в контексті забезпечення комплексного розвитку.

У статті увагу зосереджено на проблемах поглиблення демографічної кризи, зростання рівня бідності, безробіття, падіння підприємницької активності, зниження якості медичних та освітніх послуг у сільській місцевості, занепад культурної сфери. Показники економічного та соціального розвитку проаналізовано в розрізі семи західних областей України та показано наявну диференціацію передумов запровадження механізмів модернізації сільських територій регіону.

Зокрема, виявлено, що для областей Західної Україні характерні нижчі темпи демографічного спаду, а показники вікової структури є кращими, порівняно з більшістю регіонів Півночі та Сходу України. Водночас рівень розвитку та масштаби підприємницької діяльності в сільській місцевості цих областей суттєво поступається іншим регіонам України.

На фоні середньоукраїнських показників у Західному регіоні є порівняно висока частка промисловості та транспорту та дещо менша концентрація економічної діяльності у сільському господарстві. Хоча за показником кількості юридичних осіб, зареєстрованих у сільській місцевості, з розрахунку на 1000 осіб сільського населення більшість західних областей перебуває на останніх сходинках у загальноукраїнському рейтингу.

Аналіз сутнісних аспектів зайнятості та рівня доходів дав змогу встановити, що в Західних областях спостерігається вищий за середньоукраїнський рівень бідності сільського населення, а також більш інтенсивна трудова міграція.

Оцінка рівня активності та інтенсивності інвестиційних процесів у сільській місцевості показала, що у Західному регіоні України, як і загалом в Україні, спостерігається поступове зростання частки інвестицій в аграрний сектор економіки на фоні нарощування обсягів капітальних вкладень за всіма видами економічної діяльності. Водночас Західні області займають останні місця за показником виробництва сільськогосподарської продукції у сільськогосподарських підприємствах.

Аналіз стану сфери охорони здоров'я у сільській місцевості Західного регіону дозволив виокремити головні проблеми її розвитку. Зокрема, відсутність матеріально-технічного забезпечення; відтік висококваліфікованих кадрів; неналежний стан інфраструктурних об'єктів і транспортної інфраструктури; відсутність впровадження інформаційних технологій у сільську медицину на фоні розгалуженої мережі ФАПів і закладів сімейної медицини свідчить про неефективне використання бюджетних коштів.

Встановлено, що освітня сфера у сільській місцевості Західного регіону України є вкрай неефективною. Так, за найвищих показників фінансування на одного учня у Західних областях результати зовнішнього незалежного оцінювання випускників сільських шкіл не досягають достатнього рівня знань.

На цій підставі до пріоритетних напрямів активізації соціально-економічної модернізації сільських територій віднесено застосування комплексного програмного підходу, який охоплює формування здорового економічного клімату регіону, стимулювання економічної активності місцевого населення, створення належного забезпечення потреб громадян у соціальній сфері та окреслення конкурентних переваг окремих сільських територіальних громад.

Ключові слова: регіон, сільські території, модернізація, територіальні громади, соціально-економічний розвиток, західні області України.

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Надійшло 26.10.2017 р.