



Infrastructure – an Element of The Social Reproduction in District Rousse

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Abstract: The process of infrastructure building, as an element of the social reproduction goes through multiple stages of the international division of labour within conditions of the globalized economy. The status of the infrastructure is widely researched and basic tools for its specific evaluation are elaborated in the district of Ruse.

Index Terms: infrastructure, system

JEL: M12

I. INTRODUCTION

The process of building the infrastructure as an independent part of social reproduction goes through various stages of the international division of labor in a globalizing economy. Identifying individual types of infrastructure is quite conditional. We could claim that it comes down to looking at them as complex in their whole entity, as general conditions of reproduction.

In a narrow sense - the word infrastructure is a set of elements which have a subordinate role to the economic system, but without which the latter cannot be developed and improved.

Therefore, the infrastructure elements form a significant part of the national wealth. They have a subordinate role, but have a definite impact on an amendment/ change of the state of the economic system and its components of its structure.

Approved and tested are the following functional types of infrastructure:

1. Market Infrastructure;
2. Social infrastructure;
3. Ecological infrastructure;
4. Institutional infrastructure;
5. Information Infrastructure.

This paper examines the state of the infrastructure and forms an aggregate and specific assessment. Synthesized are key moments for district Rousse, which is located in northeastern Bulgaria. Besides the regional center of Rousse it includes 82 settlements in 8 municipalities: Borovo, Byala, Vetovo, and Dve mogili, Ivanovo, Rousse, Slivo Pole and Tsenovo.

II. INFRASTRUCTURE – AN ELEMENT OF THE SOCIAL REPRODUCTION IN DISTRICT ROUSSE

The district of Rousse is characterized by a good soc-

ial environment and standard of living – close to the national average. The key geographical location of the region of Rousse makes it an important part of the Danube Strategy of the European Union, which suggests further improvement of infrastructure characteristics of the region. The area shows average levels for the country in the spheres of "Economics", "Demography" and "Education".

Unfortunately problems like unfavorable business environment, not enough good material base and human resources in the health system and environmental pollution still remain unsolved. As main challenges that the local administration faces are the increase of the acquisition of funds under the EU operational programs, improving the quality and speed of administrative services and especially the expansion of e-services.

Infrastructure: In comparison to the whole territory, district Rousse has well developed road and rail network, density of railway is nearly two times higher than the national average. Near Rousse is located the Danube Bridge, which so far is the only land connection between Bulgaria and Romania, through which the crossing of the Danube by road and rail is made possible. The improvement of the infrastructure in the area is paid special attention in the Danube Strategy of the European Union, and a number of projects for rehabilitation and expansion of the road network and modernization of railway lines are expected to take place. The upcoming completion of the construction of the Danube Bridge 2 at Vidin, expected before the end of 2012, will put an end the "monopoly" of the bridge at Rousse and will probably take some of the traffic through it. The losses in transport water have decreased since 2006. in proportion to the number of inhabitants of the area achieved efficiency in the transport of water is significantly higher than the national average.

The number of students and teachers in secondary and primary education decreases at a pace faster than the national average, decreasing by 31% and 33% for the period 2001-2011. The main reason for this is the negative demographic trends in the district. For the same period there are 29 schools which have been closed. According to the data from 2011 the enrollment rate of students in classes from V to VIII grade is 81.7%. The number of students who could not finish successfully a certain grade is close to the level of the country (about 1%) and the number of premature school-leavers is slightly above 3% at 2.4 percent national average. During the 2010/2011 academic year, graduates from the region showed the national average results of exams in Bulgarian language and literature. In the next academic year (2011/2012) the number of students who achieved a score below 3.00

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doubled, and the average grade fell from Good (4.43) to Good (4.11).

Despite the gradual increase in the number of students in the region (7 000 in 2001 to over 9 000 in 2011) the percentage of graduates aged 25-64 remained unchanged (20.4% in 2011). This shows that not enough young people (who have completed their higher education in the area) decided to seek professional realization within the district/region.

The main problems of the region in healthcare stem from low (compared to the average for the country) number of specialized and general practitioners. For 2011, every general practitioner accounted for an average of 2005 people from the local population, as the only areas with similar indicators are Kardzhali, Razgrad and Targovishte. At the end of 2010, 86% of the population of the area has medical insurance which complies with the national average. In the period from 2001 to 2008 the number of the patients in medical institutions increased by nearly 60%, then there is a downward trend. In 2011, the ratio of the number of people registered to hospitals aid reaches the national average levels.

Confidence in the health system remains high, with only 5% of the citizens who have been interviewed say they are 'had to make unauthorized payments Although 65% of the respondents are satisfied with the quality of health services, one in four people who have used such services in the previous year the survey had to leave the region to receive the necessary needed care. Emissions of harmful substances into the atmosphere, compared to the region remain below the national average level. However, according to this coefficient, this area is the fifth largest polluter in the country after Stara Zagora, Varna, Sofia (capital) and Kyustendil. The common waste/garbage made by the people from the region is equal to the average for the country, increasing from 2007 on. By 2010 a huge problem for the region remains the lack of a functioning sewage treatment plant in the district center - Rousse. This station was put into operation in the late 2011 but is still not working at full capacity. At the end of 2010 about 66% of the population of the region lives in settlements with access to public sewerage, which is slightly lower than the average indicators for the country.

TABLE 1.

Indicator	Description	Period	Unit	Source
Density of the road system	The indicator measures the sum of the motorways and roads (first class, second class and third class), relative to the respective region. National road system is critical for carriage of the passengers and goods transportations in the country. This indicator do not include the streets in settlement places.	2000-2010	Length of the road system is km. /100sq.m	Bulgarian Statistics Institute (BSI)
Density of the railway system	The indicator represents all the railway lines that designed to movement of traits between station or places, marked as independent points of departure and arrival of the transport and passengers and cargo. The greater is the density of the railway system in the regions, the more comfortable is the transport and passengers and cargo.	2000-2010	Length of the railway system is km. /100sq.m	Bulgarian Statistics Institute (BSI)
Share of households with Internet access	The access of households to the Internet is indicative the advent of new information and communication technologies in the region of the country	2004:2006-2011	%	Bulgarian Statistics Institute (BSI)
Proportion of people used the Internet in last 12 months	Along with Internet access, data on persons who effectively use the Internet the last year, show the introduction and use of new technologies in country regions. The subject are those age landmark 16-74 years old.	2004:2006-2011	%	Bulgarian Statistics Institute (BSI)
Main losses in the transport of water in public water systems	The data mean the quality of water transport supply infrastructure in the region and the efficiency of the transport of water for households and the business purpose.	2006-2010	ml. cub.m. y/10 000 people	Bulgarian Statistics Institute (BSI)



TABLE 2.

Region / indicator	Ruse
Gross domestic product per capita, lev (2009)	6987
Average annual unemployment rate of population aged 15 and over% (2011)	12
Average employment rate of population aged 15 and over% (2011)	44.2
Average annual income per household lev (2011)	4071
Number of non-financial companies per 1,000 inhabitants (2010)	47
Cost of acquisition of fixed assets thousand. Lev (2010)	347 785
Direct Foreign investments in companies in nonfinancial sector (2010) in €	363 261.70
Return on sales	2.10%
Value of paid sums under contracts of municipalities as beneficiaries under the operational programs of the EU thousand. Euros (about 5.12.2011)	10,281,915
Density of the road network, total length of motorways, first class, second class and third class roads, km. / 100sq.m (2010)	18.3
Density of railway lines km. / 100kv.km (2010)	5.7
Proportion of households with Internet access, % (2011)	43.2
Proportion of people aged between 16 and 74 , who have used the Internet in the past 12 months,% (2011)	51.0
Losses in the transport of water in public water supply and irrigation systems, in million cubic meters / per year (2010)	9,21
Losses in the transport of water in public water supply and irrigation systems, million cubic meters /year (2010)	541.72
Number of average annual population (number of people) (2011)	234631
Age dependency ratio 65+ to 0-14,% (2011)	172.8
Age dependency ratio 65 to 15-64,% (2011)	30.7
Share of urban population% (2011)	76.8
Population density to the territory of settlements, people / sq.km. , (2010)	1906
Coefficient of natural growth, % (2011)	-8.1
Age dependency ratio 65 to 15-64,% (2011)	08

In 2009, nearly 17% of the population of the region lives below the poverty line, and 40.9 percent of the population live in material deprivation, and in both categories the region is performing better than the national average level. The share of the people living in households with low intensity of economic activity is also low - only 4.4%, which is one of the lowest results for the country. The registered crimes against personality and property remain low for the country, making Rouse one of the calmest areas in the country. The people living in the area are unhappy most of their standard of living and lack of career opportunities within the region. Housing and the environment are highly appreciated. However, nearly 15% of the respondents claim to be willing to leave the region if given the opportunity. The evaluation of the citizens about the work of local institutions is also one of the highest in the country. The highest rate of authority among respondents are the schools, the hospitals and the law enforcement institutions. It is also impressive that the

region has a high reputation for its local units of government structures.

III. CONCLUSION

Based on this study that has been made, we have concluded that infrastructure is a key factor for the development of the region and is relevant to both the economic and the social aspects of life of the population. The Infrastructure development largely determines the competitive advantages of different region.

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