



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND WATER MANAGEMENT
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

Examining LEADER`s Applicability in the SAP Countries: Views from the Western Balkans

- View from Republic of Serbia-

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Head of Department

Budapest, May 19-20



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State of Rural Areas



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MAP: DEPOPULATION OF VILLAGES

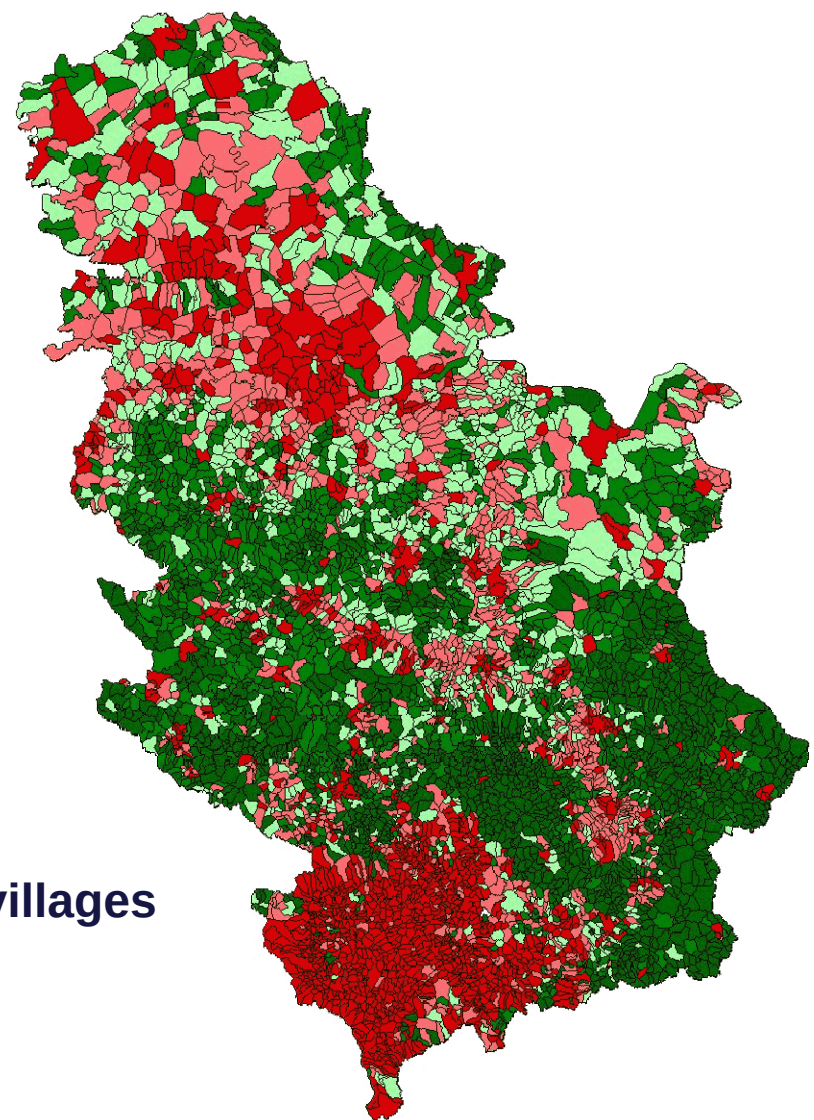
Villages with the number of inhabitants increasing

1856

Villages with the number of inhabitants decreasing

4087

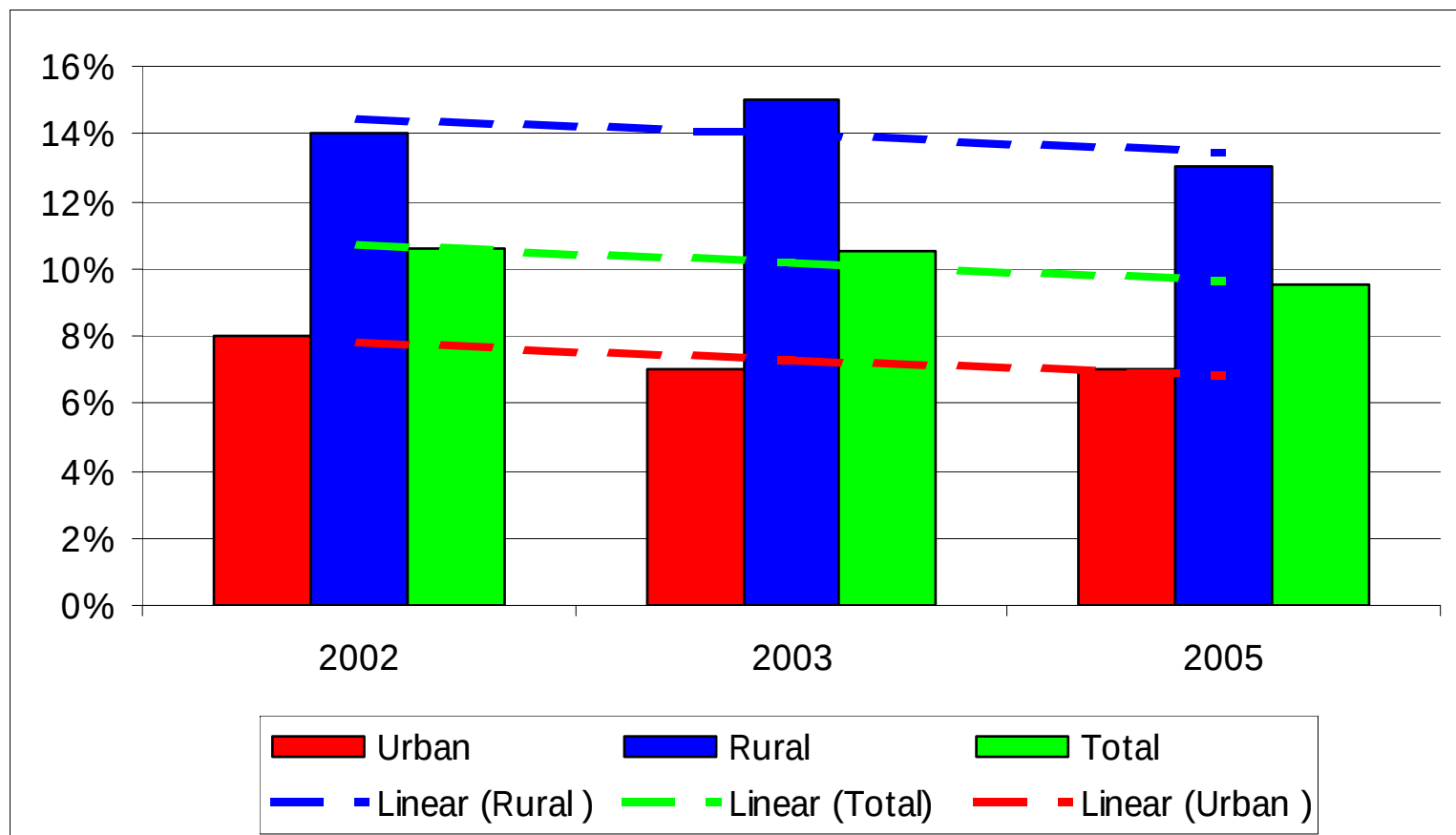
- Rural Municipality- 129
- Rural Area surface- 85%
- Number of villages- 4 706
- Rural population- 55%
- Negative increase of population 75% of villages





RURAL POVERTY

High and significantly higher than with urban population



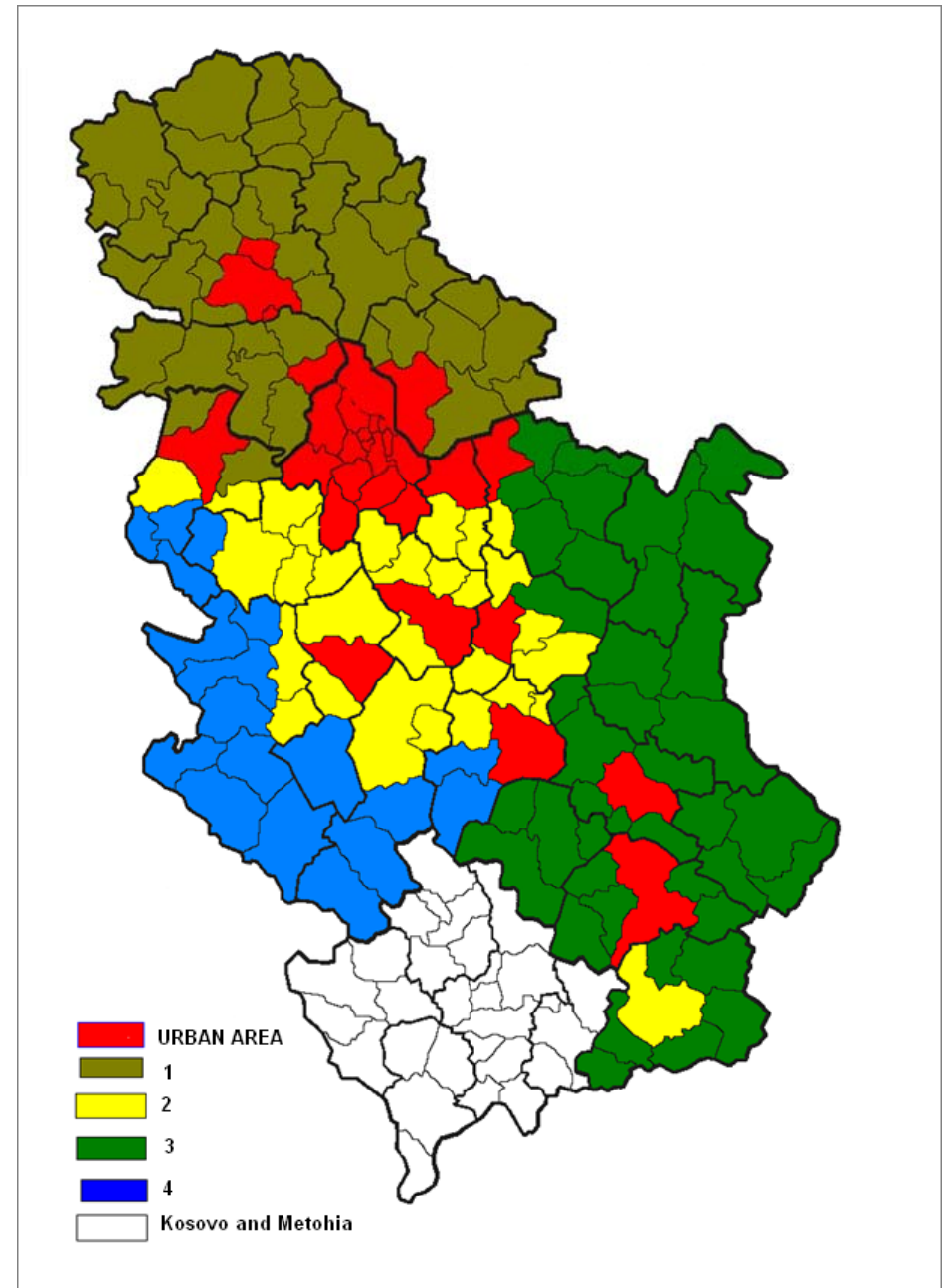


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Cluster analysis identified four homogenous groups of municipalities representing types of rural areas in Serbia;

1. **Highly productive production and integral economy;**
2. **Economy of small urban areas;**
3. **Natural resources-oriented economy, mountainous regions mostly;**
4. **Regions with strong capacities for tourism and poor agricultural structure;**

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History of RD in Serbia

- 2004. Establishment of first complex programme for support to Rural Development in line with SAPARD Programm**
- 2005. First frames for support to RD and first strategy for Agriculture dev.**
- 2005. Establishment of first Sector for RD in the MAFWM**
- 2006. Drafting of Law on Agriculture and RD**
- 2007. Preparation of Strategic plan for RD (revision of strategy)**
- 2007. Preparation of 5 year programm for RD 2008-2013**





RD SUPPORT IN 2008

Institutional
support

Support for Advisory service

Building of system for
support to RD

Measures for RD

Support for investments to increase competitiveness	Procurement of equipment and mechanization
	Procurement of quality breeding heifers
	Procurement of certified seeding material and multi annual orchards
	Establishment of cooperatives
	Implementation of standards and certification
Support to conservation and promotion of environment protection and sustainable utilization of natural resources in rural areas	Conservation of genetic resources
	Support for organic agriculture
Support to investments in promotion of quality of life and stimulation for diversification of rural economy	Rural Tourism
	Village infrastructure (NIP)



National Network for support to RD



Potencial
partners

NGO

**Local
Municipality**

County

**Chambers,
Agencies and
similar**

**Savetodavne
službe**

Projekti

Regional
Information
centers

Regional
coordination
cross roads

Function:

- Dissemination of information's about programs for support for agriculture and Rural development
- Collecting data about villages, creation of ID of villages and local strategies
- Support in creation of LAGs
- Support in fund raising and application for EU Funds
- Assistance in realization of capacity building projects



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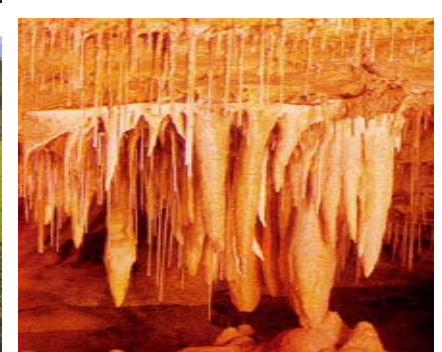
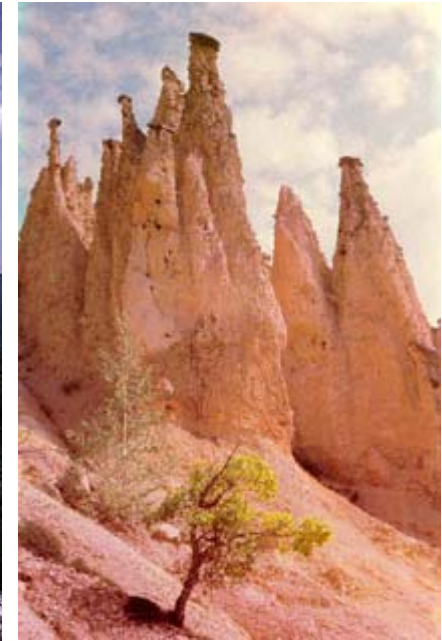
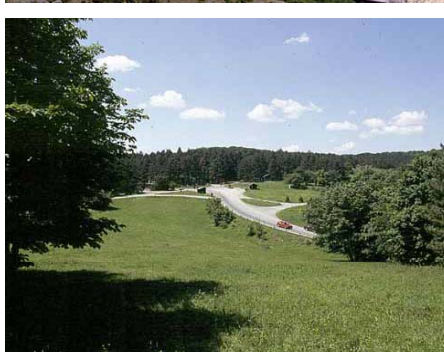
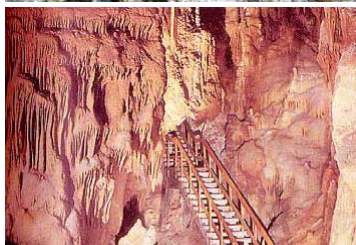
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Natural Parks



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Mountains



Kopaonik



Zlatibor



Tara

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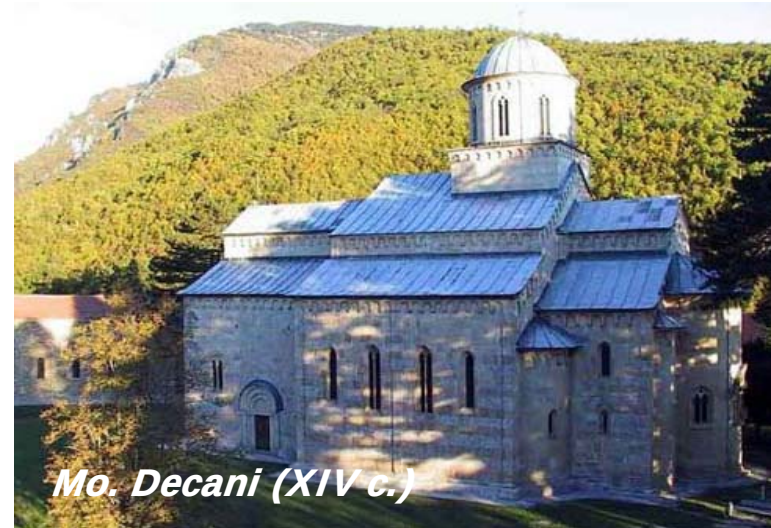


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Old Monasteries (UNESCO List)



Mo. Sopocani (XIII c.)



Mo. Decani (XIV c.)



Mo. Studenica (XII c.)



Patriarchate of Pec (XIII c.)

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Old cities



Golubac



Maglic



Smederevo



Manasija

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State of art in Serbia-National level

For IPA process on the national level
MAFWM has /d two projects::

- Support to Rural Development and Payment System(SRDPPS)-financed by EAR- National RD program for 2008-2013
- Serbian Transitional Agriculture Reform (STAR)- financed by WB-regionalisation of RD programming

National level

Both projects provide assistance and built capacities on the national level to the MAFWM, but neither of them focuses on the local level. Both consider integrated RD approach of the EU- Leader type and propose/d relevant measures to be implemented in RD programs.

Local level

Several projects financed by EAR, UNDP, SIDA, US AID, mostly, in South-West and South Serbia, are supporting integrated RD of the EU Leader type by creating of local partnerships and development of local strategies (without implementation)

Project Partnership in Development towards Participatory Local Governance in Serbia

(Regional Partnership Program Austria/Slovakia)

- Strengthening capacities of national, regional authorities and local rural actors towards partnerships in participatory, bottom up and integrated RD approach (LEADER type) in the governance of rural areas in Serbia
- Training of national and local officials and NGOs that are working on rural development in integrated and participatory regional development processes through the methodology of participatory approaches

Analyzed state:

- Geographical / topographical situation of Serbia, political and civil organizations
- Social and political situation
- Economic potentials

Concluded development challenges in Serbia:

- Tourism (agro-, etno-, rural-, SPA)
- Renewable energy
- Agri and food processing industry
- Organic production

Sucess factors to develope challenges

- Area based approach
- Bottom-up approach
- Partnership
- Innovative
- Integrated
- Networking and cooperation
- Local financing

Identification of problems that can impact sustainable development

- People
- Concept
- Process

Mapping of stakeholders

- MAFWM and other relevant ministries are important factors in development process, but from local level are seen as inactive
- MAFWM and other relevant ministries are important in decision making, but other stakeholders, like farmers, NGOs are important on local level for the new, innovative, integrated and sustainable way of governance of rural areas
- Municipalities are in some cases seen as blocking factor for RD
- Between MAFWM or other relevant ministries and municipalities/ local communities, is often only one direction of communication

Resource mapping

Resource mapping for partnership building showed that beside **financial resources** exist:

- Human resources
- Documentation resources
- Technical resources
- Institutional resources

Networking

Participants agreed that newest MAFWM's action to support rural network will bring:

- right information,
- exchange of information,
- help farmers to apply for the call for proposals,
- different organizations are working together as equal partners
- help Ministry to bring more appropriate measures for rural areas and to make appropriate programming and planning

Support to rural development

In 2007 MAFWM started with new program of measures that will:

- Prepare Serbia for Leader program
- Help system for developmental information support
- Provide interactive connection between local communities, NGOs and MAFWM
- Provide participation of local people and other relevant local stakeholders
- Provide better preparation and monitoring of the effectiveness of projects on local level
- Support to local people to recognize their needs, to formulate projects and to find different available funds

Support to rural development

- In 2007 MAFWM are opened:
 - 6 regional RD offices and
 - 60 local RD offices(1/3 of territory is covered)
- In 2008 MAFWM will open:
 - 50 local RD offices



Министарство пољопривреде,
шумарства и водопривреде
Републике Србије



Мрежа за подршку
руралном развоју

Регионални центри за рурални развој:

- Нови Кнежевац
- Шабац
- Љиг
- Краљево
- Зајечар
- Врање

