

## HIGHLIGHTS THE SPECIFIC ASPECTS THAT CHARACTERISE RURAL DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT

PALL MARTON<sup>1</sup>, IOAN CSOSZ<sup>1</sup>, RAMONA CIOLAC<sup>1</sup>, SIMONA MARTIN<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Banat's University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Timisoara, Agricultural Management Faculty, Romania*

**Abstract:** *Although sustainable rural development was initial to be a solution to the environmental crisis caused by intense industrial exploitation of resources and the continued degradation of the environment and seeks first of all to preserve environmental quality. Today the concept is expanded over the quality of life in its complexity and in economically and socially terms.*

**Key words:** *aspects, concept, rural development*

### INTRODUCTION

Rural areas development is a vital activity, both through rural area dimension, expressed by area owned, and the share of employment in various activities. A sustainable community is one that has control over the development process, of the decisions developed and adopted, ensuring sustainability at local level. This sustainable community has an active social structure formed from actors, groups, associations and institutions capable to mobilize them for long-term joint actions and take responsibility for the ongoing process of development.

The essential features of sustainable development are: equity, long-term approach and systems thinking. [11]

The principles of sustainable development in environmental conditions are:

- regeneration of natural resources and preserving their natural stock to an acceptable level;
- reducing pollution to a "minimum security";
- respecting the limits for biodiversity conservation;
- avoiding irreversibility effects of economic processes through:
  - targeted strategies for risk prevention;
  - orientation of technological development towards protecting the environment;
  - orientation of institutional changes and economic decisions towards protecting the environment;
  - distribution of incomes equitable and reasonable.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The authors of the paper were used as methods of work: data collection, processing, analysis, observation and their interpretation.

### RESEARCH RESULTS

Development is a dynamic phenomenon, extremely complex and difficult to define. Over the years, the accent has shifted from economic development to social or human development. The concept of sustainability has acquired multiple meanings due to the entry into the sphere of concerns of the economists, ecologists, sociologists, architects, parliamentarians, local government bodies, international organizations and so on, and so, although it was widely accepted, its precise meaning is still "slippery".

Robert Allen defines sustainability as a use of "species and ecosystem at levels and ways that allow them to renew themselves for any practical purpose ... development that achieves on long-term human needs satisfaction and improves the quality of life." [7]

Goodland R. and Ledec G. give the following definition "sustainable development is a model of structural economic and social transformations that optimize economic and social benefits available without jeopardizing the probably potential to achieve similar benefits in the future ... sustainable development involves use of renewable natural resources in a way that is not be degraded or not diminished their usefulness for future generations ... involves also the finishing of non-renewable energy at a rate that ensures a high probability of transition to renewable energy sources... ". [1]

Lynam J.K. and Herdt R.W. defines sustainability as "the ability of a system to maintain output at a level approximately equal to or higher than its historical average." [5]

After Pearce D., "sustainability criteria requires necessary conditions for equal access to basic resources that are available for each generation", which means: a set of constraints that determine the rates of consumption of resources witch should not be higher than natural regeneration rates of those; use of environment "as storage of trash so that rates of production do not exceed the rates of (natural) assimilation by the corresponding ecosystems." [6]

In the conception of Tolba M.K., Executive Director of United Nations Environment Programme, "sustainable development aims to: help for the very poor because they have no other option than the destruction of their environment; the idea of a secure development within the constraints of the development of natural resources; idea of developing cost-efficiency, that use various economic criteria of traditional approaches, which means that development must not degrade the environment or reduce long-term productivity; important issues related to health control, appropriate technologies, food security, clean water and shelter for all." [8]

Sustainable development can be defined as intact preservervation of consumption potential for tradable goods and natural resources per capita of future generations. [2]

But the best known and most quoted definition of the concept of sustainable development is contained in the so-called Brundtland Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development: "sustainable development is the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". The term "capacity"(ability) means maintaining the options for production and consumption, and covers broad types of capital: [10]

- a) economic capital;
- b) human capital - knowledge, health and safety;
- c) environmental capital - renewable and non-renewable natural resources;
- d) social capital - culture, institutions, social norms, etc..

Sustainable development means meeting the needs of present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This is a general objective of the European Union mentioned in the Treath, and witch govern all Union policies and activities. He refers of maintaining the Earth's capacity to support life in all its diversity and is based on the principle of democracy, gender equality, solidarity, respect for the law and to fundamental rights, including freedom and equal opportunities for all. To this purpose it promotes a dynamic economy that will provide jobs and a high level of education, health protection, social and territorial cohesion and environmental protection in a secure world, respecting cultural diversity.

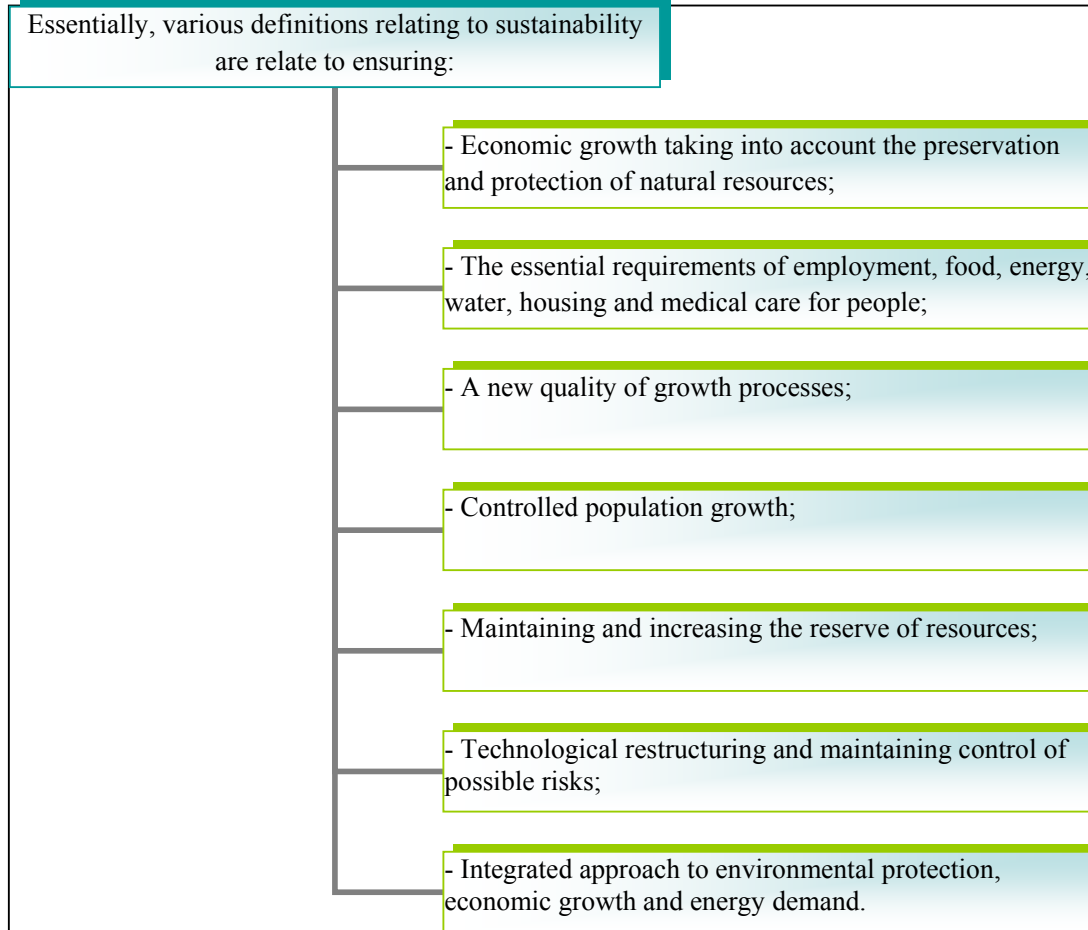
Table 1

**The concept of sustainable rural development in experts opinion**

<b>Author</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<i>Goodland R. și Ledec G.</i>	"sustainable development is a model of structural economic and social transformations that optimize economic and social benefits available without jeopardizing the probably potential to achieve similar benefits in the future ... sustainable development involves use of renewable natural resources in a way that is not be degraded or not diminished their usefulness for future generations ... involves also the finishing of non-renewable energy at a rate that ensures a high probability of transition to renewable energy sources.."
<i>Lynam J.K. și Herdt R.W.</i>	"the ability of a system to maintain output at a level approximately equal to or higher than its historical average."
<i>Pearce D.</i>	"sustainability criteria requires necessary conditions for equal access to basic resources that are available for each generation", which means: a set of constraints that determine the rates of consumption of resources witch should not be higher than natural regeneration rates of those; use of environment "as storage of trash so that rates of production do not exceed the rates of (natural) assimilation by the corresponding ecosystems."
<i>Tolba M.K</i>	"sustainable development aims to: help for the very poor because they have no other option than the destruction of their environment; the idea of a secure development within the constraints of the development of natural resources; idea of developing cost-effeciency, that use various economic criteria of traditional approaches, which means that development must not degrade the environment or reduce long-term productivity; important issues related to health control, appropriate technologies, food security, clean water and shelter for all. "
<i>Haveman Cf. R.</i>	"sustainable development can be defined as intact preservervation of consumption potential for tradable goods and natural resources per capita of future generations. "
<i>Brundtland Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development</i>	"sustainable development is the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs".
<i>Council of Europe</i>	Sustainable development means meeting the needs of present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This is a general objective of the European Union mentioned in the Treath, and witch govern all Union policies and activities.

Source: author processing by various bibliographical sources

Essentially, various definitions relating to sustainability are approached "in the vision of reconciliation between economy and environment in a new way to support human progress, not only in some places and for a few years, but for the entire planet and for long future " meaning also the implementation of a set of economic and social objectives, and relate to ensuring:



**Figure 1. Various definitions relating to sustainability**

There was the need to identify appropriate development solutions, adapted to the economic, social and environmental specificity.

- Economically, sustainable rural development requires that all take place in terms of economic efficiency.

- Socially, sustainable rural development is conceived as quarantee to ensure normal living conditions for communities to be in accordance with economic development.

- Ecologically sustainable development is achieved in accordance with the economic and social development, environmental protection is a cornerstone of sustainable development, to ensure a balance between economy and ecology.

Achieving sustainable development depends, above all, by the practice of a sustainable agriculture, whose purpose is to maintain optimal correlation between quantity, quality and structure of food and preserving environmental quality.

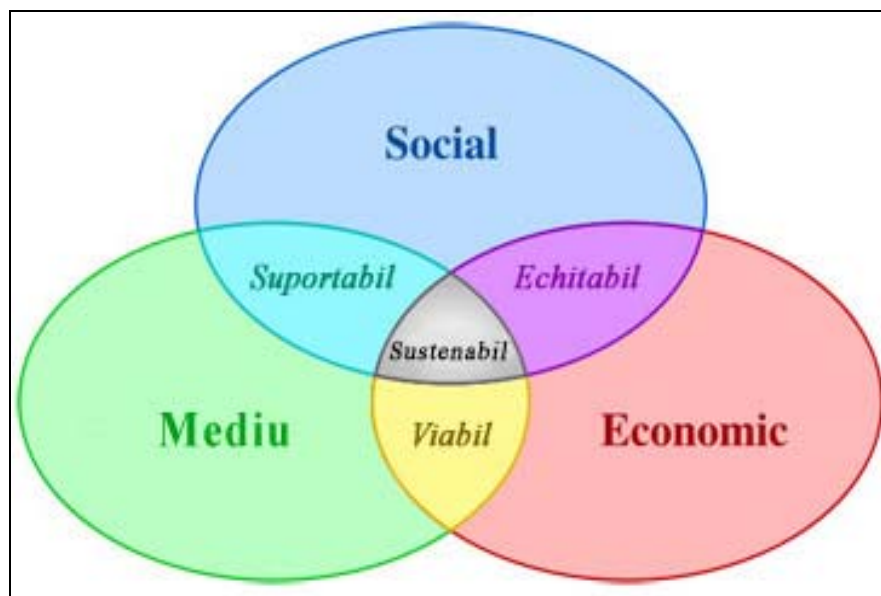


Figure 2. Sustainable development plans

## CONCLUSSIONS

In conclusion, the term "sustainable" is a thing or an action that has the ability to continue long-term or indefinitely.

Whatever can not continue indefinitely, is not sustainable.

In other words, sustainability is a goal in itself, both for people and for any other species on Earth.

In contrast, sustainable development is the process by which we directed at sustaining the natural environment.

Sustainable development is a dynamic process that allows people to realize their potential and improve their way of life, protecting the planet's support systems.

Particularly important are the social justice and equity that should be accessible to all people.

Furthermore, it means that sustainable development is not confined to the effective management of the environment, but is a social and economic process, which aims at improving the lives of people.

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