

UDC 332.62:339.9
doi: 10.15330/jpnu.5.1.120-127

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MOUNTAIN TERRITORY OF THE UKRAINIAN CARPATHIANS: FOREIGN EXPERIENCE AND DOMESTIC REALITIES

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Abstract. The article describes the factors and indicators of sustainable development of mountain areas. The authors analyse the experience of foreign countries in the educational and socio-cultural activities of the inhabitants of the mountains, determine the prospects for its implementation in the mountainous regions of the Ukrainian Carpathians. The researches determine the ways and prospects of development of mountain territories of the Ukrainian Carpathians compare foreign experience of some European countries and the United States on sustainable development.

The purpose of the article is based on studying the experience of mountainous countries, identifying the leading factors influencing their sustainable development and revealing the prospects for their implementation in the mountainous regions of the Ukrainian Carpathians. In accordance with the purpose of the study, features of mountain areas were outlined, the factors that determine the specifics of their educational, ecological, economic and socio-cultural development are described. The authors analysed international experience of managing the development of mountain areas in order to determine the possibilities of its use in national practice.

Keywords: mountain environment, educational and cultural factors, mountain regions, educational space, Ukrainian Carpathians.

1. INTRODUCTION

Target setting in general and its relationship with important scientific and practical tasks. Geographical position of mountain areas, forests, climate, raw materials resources and centuries, old traditions with the unique culture of the multinational region are the main factors that contribute to the implementation of programs of economic and social development of the region. This enables to achieve harmony in the relationship between man and nature, which is realised primarily through rational use of natural resources. This way of life is typical for all nations that are closely linked with nature. The principle of rational, economical natural resource use has identified and Ukrainian social organization.

Within the Carpathian terrain, which consists of Lviv, Chernivtsi, Transcarpathian and Ivano-Frankivsk regions, most areas are mountainous and are concentrated in the western part of the Ukrainian Carpathians. Due to the specific territorial location (mountainous terrain), geographical distance from the administrative and industrial centers, unique climatic conditions, almost all

mountain settlements of the region are depressed. They are characterized by low living standards of local people and limited perspectives for development. Along with a number of social and economic problems, mountainous areas of the Carpathian region have unique tourist and recreational potential, particularly in natural resources and rich ecosystem that would promote the development of tourism and recreation. Instead, these benefits are used inefficiently [14, p. 36].

The study aims to identify the leading factors affecting the mountain environment in the educational, cultural, social and economic development of Ukrainian Carpathians residents.

According to the study aim the following objectives were outlined:

- to examine the peculiarities of mountain areas of the Ukrainian Carpathians and describe the factors that determine the specificity of their environmental, economic and social development;
- to analyze foreign experience of development management of mountain areas in order to identify opportunities of its using in national practice;
- to analyze the educational, cultural and ecological situation in the mountainous areas.

The problem of environmental and economic development of the Carpathian region was studied by many local scientists, including S. Gerasymchuk, V. Golyan, M. Dolishniy, S. Doroguntsov, V. Kravtsiv, M. Hvesyk and others. Studying of the regional development issue in the interconnection of social, economic and ecological processes was found in the works of P. Belenky, E. Boyko, F. Zastavniy, S. Zlupko, M. Kozoriz, V. Kravtsiva, M. Lendyel, P. Mazur, I. Pisarenko, J. Poburka, O. Shabliya, M. Chumachenko and other scientists. However, solving of these problems requires constant updating of knowledge, expansion of modern scientific vision and ways of overcoming them.

Research methods. To solve this problem theoretically used method of analysis of psychological and educational research literature, diagnostic methods.

2. ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

The Carpathians are natural treasure of global significance, a region that defines the state of the environment across Europe. The World Wildlife Fund relates them to the 200 most valuable ecological regions of the planet. The uniqueness of the Carpathian system is also linked with the rich cultural heritage that for centuries united different national and ethnic groups. Geographic allocation of mountain areas, forests, climate, raw material, educational resources and centuries-old traditions folk pedagogy with unique culture of the multinational region these are the main factors that contribute to the implementation of programs of educational and socio-cultural development of the region.

Carpathian region is a unique habitat of preservation of cultural and spiritual values, national traditions, rich historical, cultural, educational and educational heritage.

International UN Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, 1992), recognized mountain areas of Earth as one of the leading elements of sustainable development, to which belongs the significant role in preserving social and political stability of society.

Mountain politics at the state level in Ukraine is determined by the Law of Ukraine "On status of mountain settlements in Ukraine" (1995). This legal act provides that "... to ensure socio-economic development of settlements, to which the status of Mountain has been granted, state guarantees financing measures for development and use of tourist, recreational and therapeutic potential of mountain regions" [4]. The Act defines additional payment of 20% for pensioners and 25% for public sector workers who live in the mountains. In other words social guarantees a reset for mountain dwellers, what is a standard for other European countries. In fact "complex mountain natural conditions significantly limit the scope for selection of forms and types of economic activity, narrowing, thus, the field of employment for local residents. This causes very low-income of mountains residents, and, ultimately, leads to deterioration of the demographic situation, growing social tensions, destruction of natural resources. The tendency of out migration from mountain areas and depopulation of mountain must be stopped. The need for it is caused not only by the threat of loss of "cultural space", but also for economic and environmental reasons" [5].

In tourist areas, which include the Carpathians, appearance of heath lands or forests on agricultural areas clearly means reducing of the number of such valuable landscapes for tourism, the beauty of which creates alternation of forests and open spaces, light and dark tones, sun and shade. Carpathian mountain farmer transforms a cultural landscape, and keeps the entire tourist infrastructure in order.

However, despite certain opportunities for self-development of mountain areas, difficult mountain conditions don't allow to provide adequate standard of living for local people, what leads to the appearance of negative socio-economic and environmental tendencies which without external intervention would inevitably lead to poor demographic situation, rising of social tension, destruction of natural resources, loss of ethnicity.

Nations living in the mountains have a lot in common. They freedom-loving and heroic, kind warriors and caring hosts rich in talents and creativity, and carefully guard their customs and traditions. "The mountain region is characterized by specific features: colorful nature contributes to the accumulation of vast experience of communication with the nature, which results in preserving old traditions formed through the centuries: careful management, spirituality and respectful attitude to the world. The traditional crafts, progressive ritual traditions that certainly serve as an effective factor in the harmonious development of the child were sufficiently preserved here. In the school located in the mountains the influence of landscape-geographical and ethno-cultural environment on the establishment and development of personal values of growing personality (moral, civic, aesthetic) can be clearly observed" [1, p. 54–55].

However, in recent years of the XX century traditional model of mountain dwellers life began to collapse. The change of values and priority of consumption capture highlanders, changing their way of life.

For a broader study of peculiarities of displaying the specific conditions in mountain areas to the level of life and management of mountain residents, scientists V. Yevdokymenko, M. Habrel, V. Kravtsiv, M. Kopach [6] suggested a certain classification of the major factors that determine the specificity of mountain areas development. Based on the selected classification criteria all indicators were grouped:

- by the subject of the impact (geographical, ecological, social, economic);
- by the nature of the action (favorable, restrictive);
- by the level of the influence (general and specific).

Taking into account social and natural features of living environment, mountain dwellers developed their own experience of existence in it, the main features of which are constant (were unchanged) for centuries. Fundamental changes occurred only in the second half of the XX century.

Experience of the mountain dwellers life, as a model of being or culture of sustenance, manifested itself in the type of economic activity and the corresponding displacement; in relations with natural elements and between community members; in clothes and dance, in music and education; in character and world view.

Specific quite complex natural conditions in mountain areas greatly affect the level of financial welfare of local residents, significantly limiting the scope for choice of forms and types of employment. That's why these areas are among ten characterized as depressed, that is to say as problematic areas that are not able to solve their own acute problems without external help. Besides this mountain areas play very important natural-regulatory role in the global scale and are marked by the huge reserves of natural resources and unique culture and traditions of the local population. Environment of the Ukrainian Carpathians acts as a forming factor of traditional way of life of locals, their traditionally household culture.

Mountains provide specific conditions for their settlement and habitation of people. For a long historical period there were formed special ethnographic and psychological types of Ukrainian highlanders (Boyks, Hutsuls, Lemkos) for which the mountain way of life is the highest social value.

Rather difficult natural conditions in mountain areas significantly affect the level of financial welfare of local residents, greatly limiting the scope for choice of forms and types of employment. That's why these areas are often characterized as depressed, that is to say as problematic areas that are

not able to solve their own acute problems without external help. In mountainous countries great attention is given to the solving of an employment problem of poverty reduction and the quality of education of the population.

For this purpose, various tax incentives and credits are reintroduced and specific development project of mountain areas are worked out [13].

The experience of leading countries and the consequences of structural and systemic restructuring of most segments of the national economy show that the real changes in formation of the prerequisites for sustainable development either the whole state and individual regions, are possible with the increasing of not only production, but also natural resources, demographic, scientific, recreational, informational, and socio-cultural potential. In the mountain countries the great attention is given to solution of employment problems and to poverty reduction. That is why the various preferential mechanisms of enterprises are introduced, especially for small and farmers households. Specific projects for the development of mountain areas are Europe out. Many countries have accumulated vast experience of solving problems of mountain areas. Thus, state financial assistance to these regions is given to Germany, Austria, France, Switzerland and others.

A regional program that was implemented on federal-staffing basis in the US – *“Program of Development of Appalachian Mountains region”* is also rather educative.

The Appalachian Mountains – the most problematic region of the United States that covers 13 states with the area of 420 thousand square kilometers, and is home for nearly 20 million people. Thus, in 1965, was adopted the federal law *“On the development of the Appalachian region”* (Appalachian Regional Development Act), located in the US, according to which implementation of the *“Appalachian Program”* started. More than ten scientific research groups worked on the development of this program. They included transport, resources, education, culture, tourism, agriculture and others. This law provided stimulation, primarily, of road construction, development of social infrastructure, improving of the education level, improving labor resources and so on. The program highlighted two major parts: program of road construction and *“regional (local) development programs”*. That has become the main lever in promoting of economic development of the Appalachian Mountains [9; 11].

Among the measures aimed to improve the general attractiveness of the region, the program carries out various projects of arrangement of areas and environmental protection, including planning and design of towns and apartment, creating parks and recreation areas, sewage treatment, processing of solid wastes, reclamation of mining, protection of forests and soils. But today, by many indicators, Appalachian remains troubled and depressed area of the US.

Living and sustainment of residents of the Ukrainian Carpathians and the American Appalachians are quite similar. Their social, educational and cultural development is influenced by many both subjective and objective factors, among which the most significant in our opinion are: the uniqueness of the area, ecology, historical and Ethnographic identity development and culture, education, natural resources, climatic conditions, state support, development of pilot projects of socio-cultural and educational development in mountain areas.

Austria has especially great experience of support of social and economic development of its mountain settlements, 60 percent of its territory is occupied by the Alps. In European Mountain countries great attention is given to the solving of employment problems and poverty reduction. For this the various preferential mechanisms of enterprises were introduced, especially small farms. Banning of clear forests cutting on the slopes should also be called a positive factor of mountain areas support? What about the level of education and social protection of the population?

Certain projects for the development of mountain areas are being worked out. In this context the experience of Switzerland is very significant. Here over the decades are held diverse state measures on development of economic backward mountainous areas. They are focused on support of agriculture, road construction, educational institutions, financing of the specific investment projects.

Since the end of the 1950^s, socio-economic processes in Switzerland contributed to the move of most people from the mountainous areas to the cities. To reverse this tendency, in the mid-1960^s the Swiss federal government developed the concept of the cultural and educational, economic and social

development support of mountain areas. This concept was implemented in 1974 through various activities that have only one aim – to improve living conditions in mountain areas, to attract business to the development of mountain regions, to promote the development of small district centers in mountain areas. In the 1974 Federal Law on investment aid to mountain regions was adopted. It became the basis of mountain policy in Switzerland. In the 1997 it had been changed because in the 1990 in Switzerland, the emphasis in the new mountain policy was shifted from reducing of social inequality to increasing of efficiency and economic competitiveness. According to the law 54 development regions were created, each of them has developed its own economic development program. For almost 40 years work of the Switzerland Federal law on investment aid in mountain regions of (1974) state financed about 8,000 investment projects to nearly 3 billion US dollars (I. Pukshyn) [11].

It is important to study the experience of implementing of mountain educational policy in France. Policy in So particularly “Law on protection and development of mountainous terrain” successfully operates since 1989. It became the impetus for the development of mountain areas. This law particularly was to improve infrastructure facilities provided by the service sector in mountain areas by providing the local authorities necessary financial resource son preferential terms.

In Italy, according to the law “On the mountain territory” (1994) was created the National Mountain Fund, that is financed by contributions from the EU, state and local authorities, aims to support development of mountain areas. Financial resources of the fund are divided by regions and autonomous areas, which, in their turn, can create their own mountain funds.

In the mountain countries of the world the great attention is given to solution of employment problems and to poverty reduction. For this reason the various preferential mechanisms of enterprises are introduced, especially for small and farmers households, educational and cultural institutions. To fulfill this aim are created specific projects for the development of mountain areas. Ukraine has also developed a number of measures aimed.

“Modern socio-cultural space is the time of objections and reassessment of former values, searching for new ways of preserving and transmission of cultural experiences related to the decline of the traditional ones and simultaneously emergence of others (possibly new) socio-cultural structures that attach the study of processes and phenomena occurred in the field of modern education and culture, to the actual pedagogical and cultural problems.

Mentioned above gives us reasons to believe that the Carpathian region population today lives in the conditions of social and economic discomfort accumulated in many environmental, economic and socio-cultural problems and solution of which requires efforts of both the state and the public. All the methods and means which can help to form basic culture and consciousness of the individual are decisive in resolving the existing contradictions between human activities and nature have to become. This is possible only on the basis of deep philosophical, socio-political and psychologically-pedagogical comprehension of the content of human being, the existence of social norms of civilization. Only through the process of training and education, humanity is able to produce necessary information and knowledge, which will create the conditions for sustainable development of civilization” [2].

Regional material also allows the usage of more attractive methods and forms of teaching / learning and reorientation of training purposes. This particular aspect is related to a demand of a partial transfer of the learning process beyond school walls (further and closer trips, fieldwork, collecting, documentation of local cultural heritage, etc.). These forms can develop research interests, and give a student a substitute for the joy of research. Therefore, they can create a possibility of being a teacher's partner and the subject of education. This may result in bigger activity and independence and active attitude towards children and young people's problems.

“As a source of knowledge about life of “closer” homeland, such things as local public institutions, monuments, museums, libraries, archives (e.g., church, city, municipal), souvenirs that are in private hands, accounts of local events participants, sometimes manual, regional and local newspapers, monographs of individual towns and regions, articles in scientific and popular publications, a book of school, parish or municipality may be mentioned. Throughout multilateral and detailed examination of

the specific manifestations of life of an individual, or a group of people in the area, the natural relationship between various aspects of social, economic, cultural, etc. can be easily seen. Human relationships between the environment of geography and other people are becoming more obvious. The so-called life-historical context is more visible" [10].

In this context, academician E. Libanova, draws attention to the fact that "natural resources and industrial and technical heterogeneity of Ukrainian regions needs to develop specific and not standardized approaches to increase social and economic potential of certain areas, particularly mountain ones that are marked with the high level of problematic economic development of natural resources basic industries and regional economic complexes" [13, p. 5].

The concept of "sustainable development" is a program of actions that promotes to the strengthening of the local economy, taking into account ability of the environment to function properly and maintain long-term activity of present and future generations [12].

In addition, in the book "Lessons for Sustainable Development" the researcher A. Pometun noted, "the concept of sustainable development is not identical to the concept of "economically sustainable" and "environmentally safe development" (eco-development). It is not just about the providing of the economy progress and resources for it, or just the preservation of nature. The concept of sustainable development expresses a fairly simple idea: it's necessary to achieve harmony between people on the one hand, and society and the environment - on the other. That means that in future a socio-natural system should be formed. It will be able to solve a set of contradictions that occur in our time, namely: between nature and society, between ecology and economy, between developed countries and those that are developing, between present and future generations, between rich and poor, between already formed needs of people and reasonable needs etc. Thus, the concept of sustainable development can be understood as a strategy for survival and continued progress of civilization and separate countries in conditions of environmental preservation (especially the biosphere) [8, p. 4-5].

Under sustainable development we also understand such dynamic structural changes that satisfy current needs, but do not endanger the ability of future generations to satisfy their own needs. To ensure sustainable development of the region is a very important task that can be performed only by the agreement between all the states that are part of the Carpathian Convention [5].

Active cooperation on conclusions and recommendations for further research of the region with the central authorities, sense of responsibility of local government administrative structures can greatly contribute to the significant improvement of economic, ecological and social status of the region and the country as a whole.

Indeed, at the national level "theoretical and methodological basis of evaluating the sustainable mountain development are worked out, including its methodological base, are proposed indicators and instructional techniques of evaluation the sustainable environmental management on the example of the Carpathian region of Ukraine for studying the ways, mechanisms and instruments for achieving of its basic principles" [13]. However, they are still far from practical implementation at the regional level.

3. CONCLUSIONS

Therefore it is necessary to provide the region with the right to develop its economy, its budget, to be valid master, to be responsible for its actions. All that should accelerate the process of sustainable economic development that will guarantee a significant improvement of living standards and welfare of people, and will raise the rating of Ukraine in the world community.

Solving the problems of sustainable development of mountain regions is largely promoted by Laws of Ukraine "On a status of mountain settlements in Ukraine", "On a moratorium on clear-cutting of fir-beech forests on the mountain slopes of the Carpathian region", the decree of The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On State Support of a comprehensive program of environmental, economic and social development of mountain regions" [7]. But unfortunately, these and other legal documents are largely imperfect, and are not completely implemented.

Thus, the complexity of demographic, socio-political and environment situation in the Carpathian region, the diversity of contemporary determinants of formation, naturally raise attention to the problems of life of mountain populations.

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Received: 20.11.2017; **revised:** 05.03.2018.

Червінська Інна, Червінський Андрій. Сталий розвиток гірських територій Українських Карпат: зарубіжний досвід та українські реалії. *Журнал Прикарпатського університету імені Василя Стефаника*, **5** (1) (2018), 120–127.

У статті описано чинники та показники сталого розвитку гірських територій. Автори аналізують досвід зарубіжних країн з освітньої та соціокультурної діяльності жителів гір, визначають перспективи його втілення у гірських районах Українських Карпат. Визначено шляхи та перспективи розвитку гірських територій Українських Карпат. Здійснено порівняльний аналіз зарубіжного досвіду деяких країн Європи та США зі сталого розвитку. Окреслено провідні фактори, що визначають специфіку освітнього, екологічного, економічного та соціально-культурного розвитку Українських Карпат. Вивчено міжнародний досвід управління розвитком гірських районів, щоб визначити можливості його використання в національній практиці.

Ключові слова: гірське середовище, освітні та культурні чинники, гірські регіони, освітній простір, Українські Карпати.