

INNOVATIVE ECONOMIC STRUCTURES - SUPPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF URBAN SYSTEMS

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Abstract. Training and development of urban systems (US) is a main direction of territorial and regional development which requires multiple studies, including those of economic background. They should aim to highlight, on the one hand, the economic potential of geographical areas making up the urban system and secondly to assess development trends you need to focus their own resources and those that are to be attracted to getting a economic trend upward in that area. It is therefore very important a zonal configuration of the urban system by following the joint capitalization of existing human and material resources, including by building synergy effect to be achieved following the joint evolution of settlements in the US. Along with the development of US is required, from the economical point of view, to implement new forms of economic structures to directly potentate the development of the area through constant cooperation, innovation and transfer of know-how. Romania currently has seven major urban centers that were selected and were assigned the role of growth poles. There were also 13 designated urban growth poles, including Galati and Braila. Urban agglomeration formed by the two municipalities, located at a distance from each other of about 25 km, is the second largest in the country after Bucharest. There is currently underway specialized documentation to achieve an optimal configuration for US Galati-Braila. From the economic point of view in the respective area can be implemented new development structures of cluster (Porter, M.E.,2000) type aimed at achieving the competitiveness poles and which will constitute the true engine of economic development. These two new structures of economic development are characterized by the fact that they allow and provide the necessary conditions to attract the systems and modern technologies to build local innovation systems that can be integrated into similar systems at regional and even national level. It is there a cluster effect that properly harnessed in an US could allow achieving a significant economic growth in the area.

Key words: urban systems, poles of growth, development poles, clusters, poles of competitiveness.

1. Introduction

Contemporary economic development must seek solutions to simultaneously solve several specific issues. One of these

is the development of new economic structures that allow enhancement of the human and material resources, both limited, under the form of innovative

economic structures that allow full exploitation of the available resources in a proper territorial framework. One of these structures is the cluster, economic concept introduced by (Porter, 2008). Cluster is a geographic concentration of economic entities (specialized suppliers, service providers, firms in related industries) and associated institutions (universities, research institutes, government agencies, training centers, etc.) in specific industries. This concept can be found in our legislation (G.D.918/2006), which is defined as a group of producers, users and/or beneficiaries, in order to implement best practices of EU to enhance competitiveness among economic operators. Cluster is therefore a form of organization which aims to develop collaborations between public and private sector to provide development support by attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to materialize in services of "incubator" kind, management training, research and development projects, regional marketing, etc. It is important to note that activities in clusters usually have a strong innovative character, being actually the true engine of economic development. Clusters, through the relations and cooperation between them can form a National or Regional Innovation System, resulting in a boost to economic and social development of the area in which they operate.

2. Material and Method

The organization and structure of clusters allow their division into emerging and innovative clusters. The first category consists of companies, universities, research institutes not having a management entity organized in the legal form (Broto *et al.*, 2012). The innovative ones have legal personality with activities

designed to stimulate innovation by promoting sustained interactions between its members (supporting corporate involvement in collaborative activities of research, development and innovation, sharing of facilities and know-how) and effective support of contribution to research - innovation - technology transfer - networking and dissemination of information between cluster members (Porter, 1998).

Implementation of such structures requires a larger zone (geographical area) that can not be provided at the county level as now but regionally.

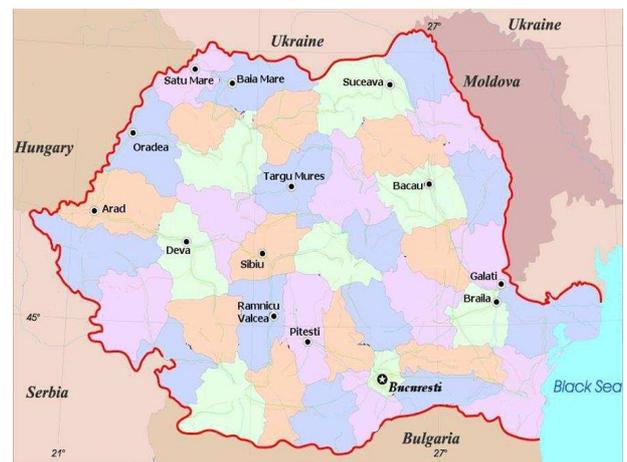


Fig. 1. Administrative map of Romania with the 13 municipalities development poles

At the national level, the arrangement in the territory of poles of growth and of those of development (Capello, 2013), shows that in the Galati-Braila area, having already strong historical links between the two county seat municipalities, it has already been formed the largest urban agglomeration in the country, if not take into account the economic development of the city Bucharest (Dijkstra *et al.*, 2013). Here can be noted that the economic development of a geographical area, enhanced by significant demographic concentration can be driven by new structures of territorial development, how could Galati-Braila Urban System.

DEZVOLTAREA POLICENTRICĂ ȘI COMPETITIVITATEA REGIONALĂ

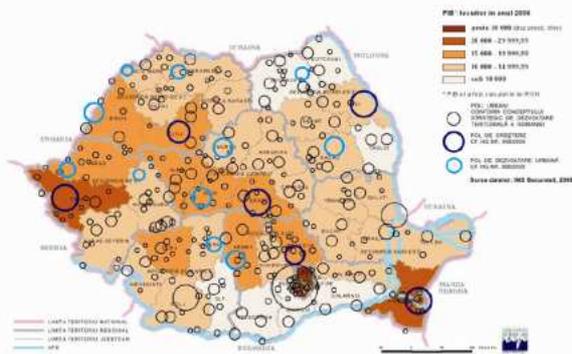


Fig. 2. Map of Romania with the 7 municipalities growth poles and the 13 municipalities urban development poles.

3. Results and discussions

At country level economic studies have been conducted that have revealed the clusters specific to all development regions (Urbano and Guerrero, 2013). A high

recovery of this structure is to achieve economic competitiveness poles. These as economic structures with legal personality that include clusters are oriented towards national and international relationships through participation in the unique market and other international markets, and by working at the network level. They have an assumed development strategy that harmonizes the interests of partners around consistent objectives with national and international economic impact (Porter, 2000). At the level of the Development Region 2 South-East were highlighted four clusters in tourism, shipbuilding, logistics and textiles. Next will be analyzed the methods and forms of realization of competitiveness poles (Dang, 2009).

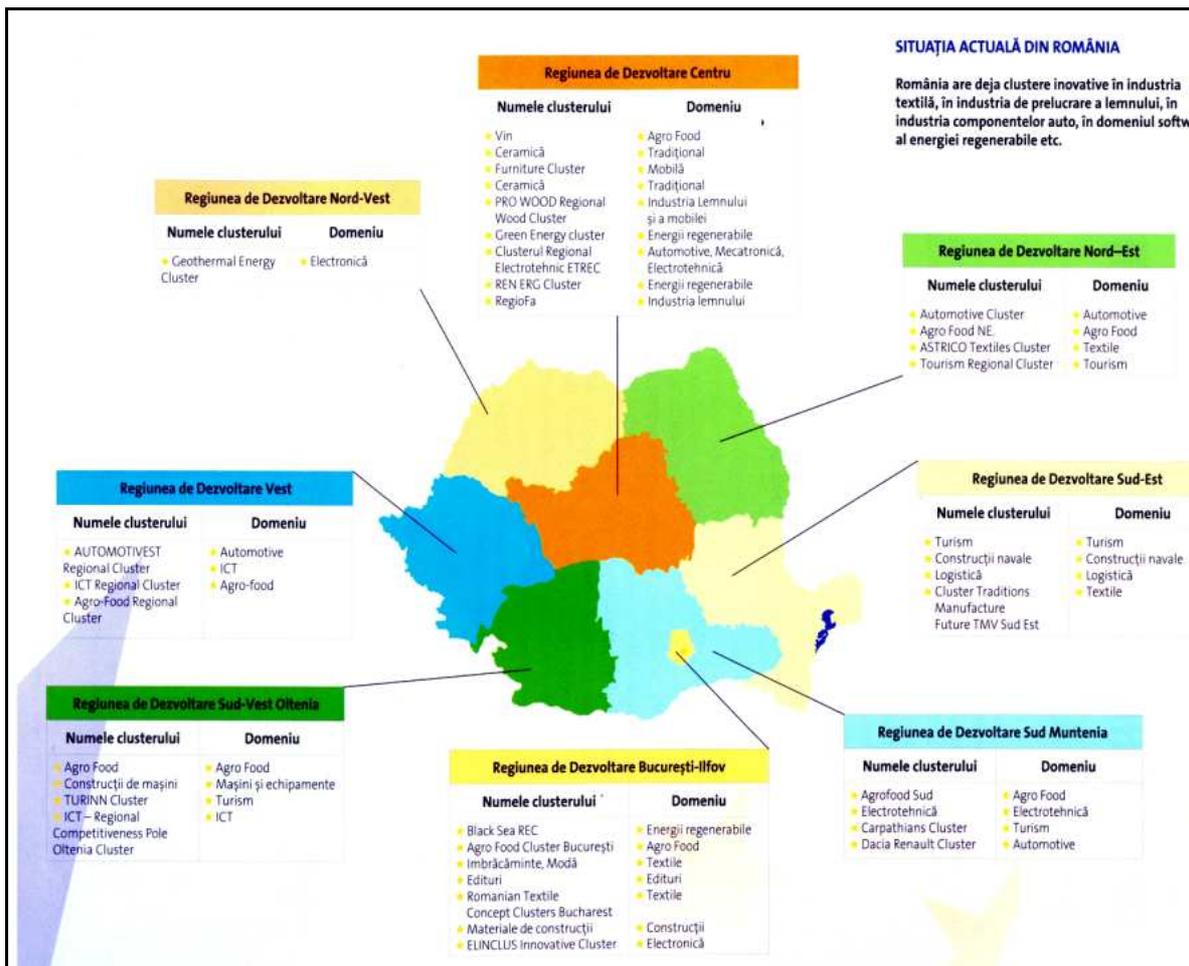


Fig. 3. Map of Romania with the 8 Development Regions highlighting the innovative clusters inside. Source: Ministry of European Affairs 2011

They are also required the achieving of studies to set an Urban System Galati-Braila, with opening towards the county of Tulcea and also towards Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.

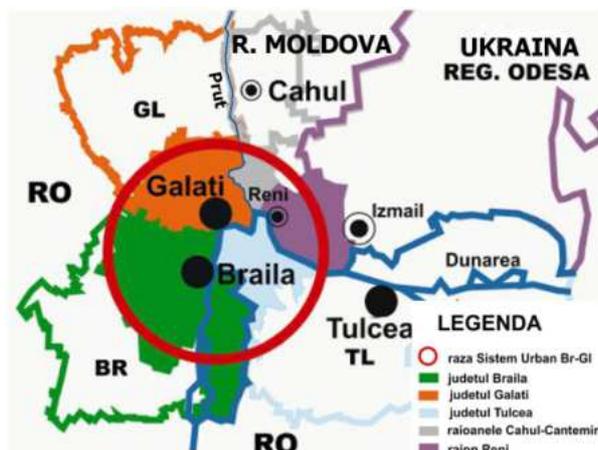


Fig. 4. Urban System Braila-Galati configuration version. Source: Council of Braila County 2012

4. Conclusions

The current economic and social development, characterized on the one hand by the human and material resources increasingly more difficult to access at the levels required by market and on the other hand, the persistent financial crisis in different forms, require the identification of new solutions (Dobrin *et al.*, 2010). They should combine the advantages of the new structures of economic development, such as of the clusters type and of the poles of competitiveness with those of new structures of territorial development such

as the urban system, in this case Galati-Braila area.

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