

ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC BASES OF CROSS-BORDER MECHANISMS CREATION

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Transitions in Central and Eastern Europe that we can observe in past years require essential changes in the political, economical and social systems of their countries. As many economists and politicians said the future level of economic and social life of European countries depends on their regional development. Cross-border cooperation is defined in modern economy as effective tool for regional policy formation and realization. Certainly, West European countries have rather good experience in regional and interregional cooperation, known as euro-regions creation and development. Ukrainian government as well as governments of other Eastern European countries defines such priority directions of national and international policy development as euro-regions creation and cross-border cooperation development. But unfortunately there is still no created effective mechanism of cross-border cooperation development in Ukraine, taking into consideration peculiarities of our legislative base and level of economic, social and environmental development. It should be said that environmental problems are substantial for cross-border cooperation between Ukrainian regions and regions of bordering countries. And this aspect of cross-border cooperation is also not yet solved. So, coming from the mentioned problems I consider the topic I am going to research rather actual in modern society.

Thus, environmental, economic, scientific and methodical bases for cross-border mechanisms formation, that create preconditions for adaptation of cross-border conception to the system of territory environmental and economic safety are offered and grounded in the thesis. On the basis of foreign trade cooperation analysis strategic cross-border directions are determined. The research systematizes regional environmental problems and reveals their connections with economic and environmental territory safety. It is suggested our original definition for “environmental and economic component of cross-border cooperation” and further develops theoretical approaches to grounding the system of cross-border territories development management instruments based on the use of analytical scheme “perspectives – obstacles”. Scientific and methodical principles for creation of logic-structural framework for implementation mechanism of cross-border cooperation are developed. Environmental and economic tools for its implementation in the decision making processes are suggested. Theoretical bases for complex analysis of regional development directions that allow foreseeing potential environmental and economic consequences are improved and methodical approaches to cross-border environmental-economic efficiency estimation based on the integral environmental impact damage index are suggested. Improved methodical approaches to the formation of the system of indexes and criteria allowed incorporating environmental component for grounding managerial decisions in the sphere of cross-border cooperation. Based on the calculation results of the suggested environmental and economic cross-border efficiency indexes strategies for increase of environmental and economic efficiency of cross-border mechanisms implementation in conditions of sustainable social, environmental and economic development are elaborated.

The complex analysis of the potential directions of regional development was made using Causal Loop Diagram Method (CLD analysis) (see figure 1).

As any activity is considered non-effective if it's not sustainable, then we try to create a concept of sustainable development of transboundary regions.

Description & Solutions. As the problem of research was defined as sustainable development of the euroregion, then we put it at to the central part of CLD. It was suggested solutions to solve this problem connected with different areas (political, economical, social, environmental).

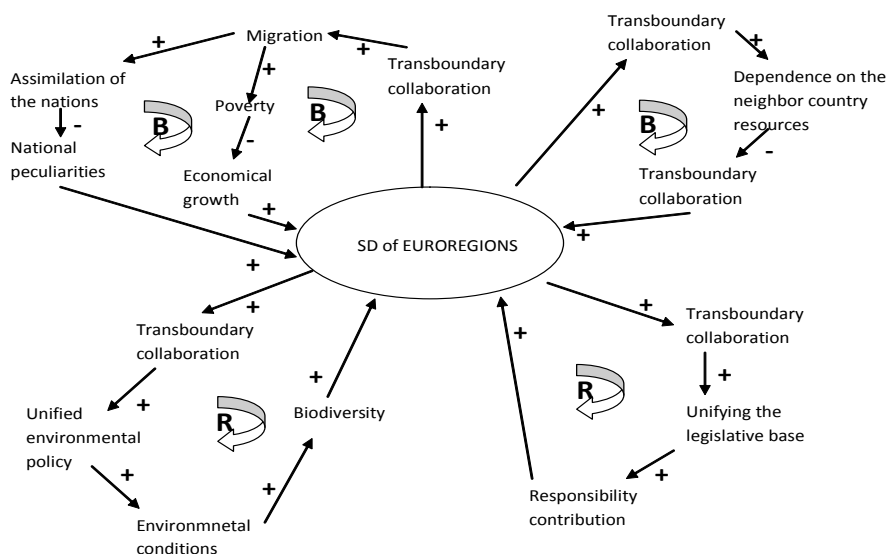


Figure 1 - Causal Loop Diagram of Euroregion Sustainable Development

Possibilities & Constrains. As for implementation of the mentioned sustainable development concept of euroregion the common economical, ecological and social problems at bordered countries can make it more

understandable and easier. And constrains that should be mentioned are the difference in legislative base (and may be in mentality of people).

Stakeholders & Drivers. Municipal government of both countries; NGOs of both countries; local community in both countries; (partly national government of both countries).

Geographical & Time Scale. Geographical area to be considered is the 2 bordering regions of Ukraine and Russian Federation. Time scale is 3-7 years.

Novelties. To our mind the system analyze using the CLD approach is rather effective instrument to take decisions, solve conflicts, find the dependences and to see the total results. You can rather easy create the loop to make decision process more understandable and to find what is the absent element in your system.