

# **The role of the economic sectors for the development of rural areas in Bulgaria: structural approach**

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# **I. Actuality and aim of the research**

- ❑ The development of rural areas represents one of the main priorities of the EU and Bulgarian sectors and regional policy;**
- ❑ The researches show that until 2007, the endogenous factors were dominant for the development of the rural areas in Bulgaria;**
- ❑ After 2007 this tendency has changed – the influence of exogenous factors increases.**

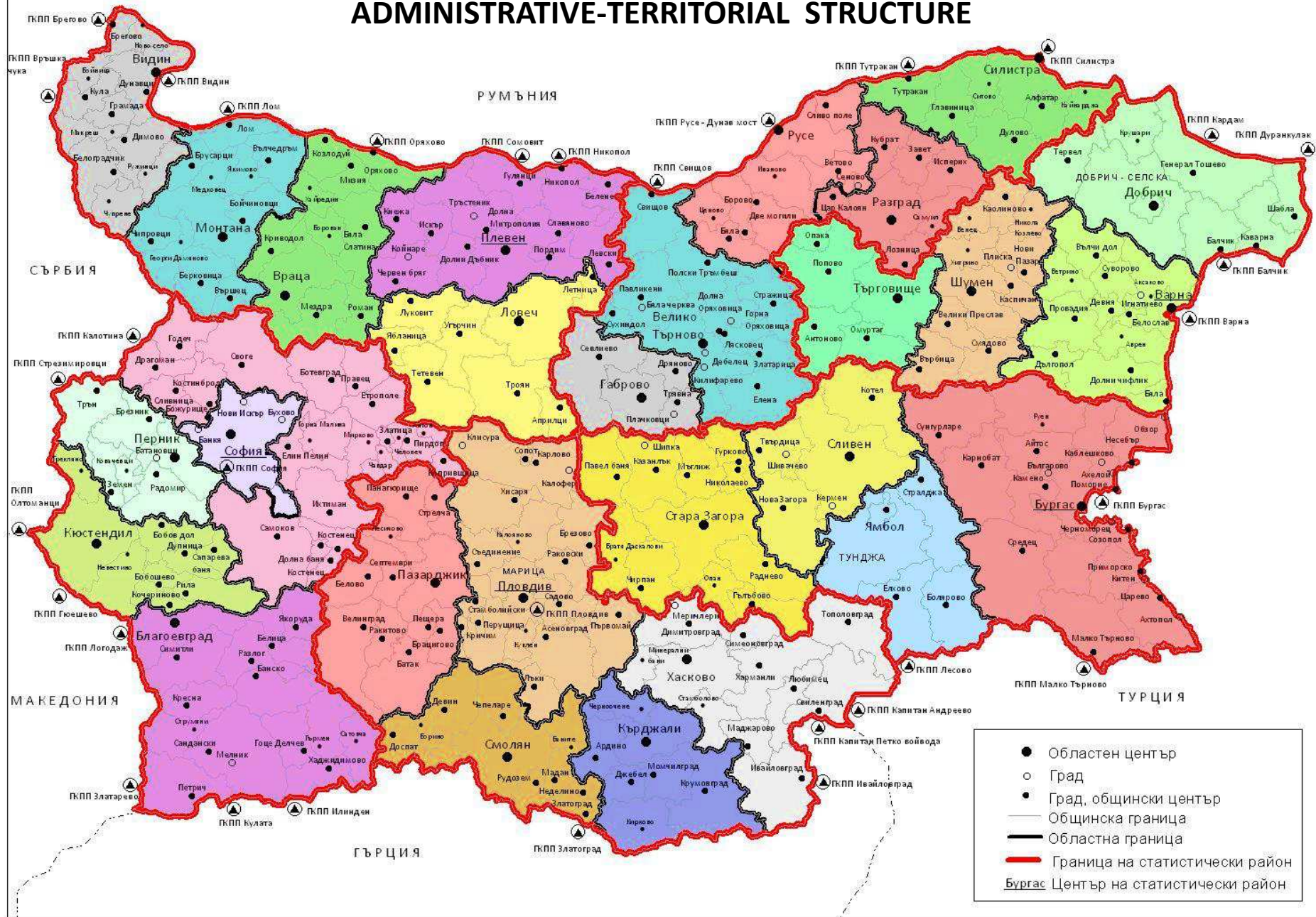
**The aim of the research is to present the influence and the connections between economic sectors on the development of rural areas in Bulgaria. The basic hypothesis is that the main factor for this development is the proportions between the economic sectors.**

## II. Results:

- 1. Rural areas cover 81,0 % of the territory and 47,0% of the human resources in Bulgaria;**
- 2. 35,0% of the Bulgarian GDP (2011) is generated in the rural areas which covers 75,0% of the towns and villages in the country.**

# BULGARIA

## ADMINISTRATIVE-TERRITORIAL STRUCTURE



- Областен център
- Град
- Град, общински център
- Общинска граница
- Областна граница
- Граница на статистически район
- ▲ Бургас Център на статистически район



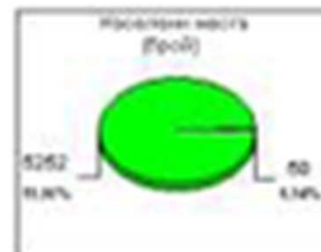
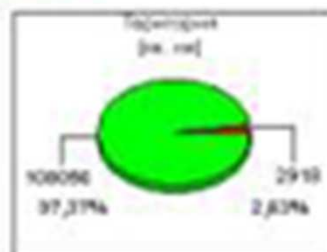
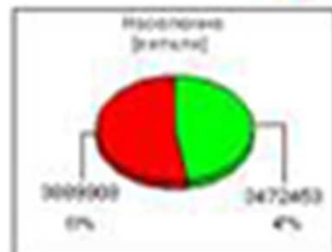
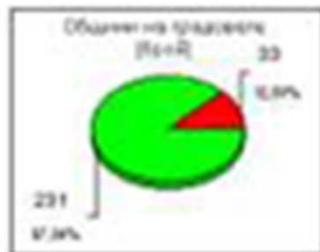
**3. The research has been conducted in the planning regions in Bulgaria – on NUTS 2 level.**

**4. Territorial structure of rural and urbanized areas :**

## Cities with a population over 30000 and their contiguous territories



Град	население_2011
Санданово	33 172
Сливен	30 642
Горно Оризарица	28 882
Дунавци	23 789
Раково	23 882
Световра	21 882
Ловеч	26 602
Гълъбово	22 611
Димитровград	20 728
Мездра	43 28
Варна	43 882
Кюстендил	44 52
Казанлък	47 32
Елхово	48 028
Алматово	50 04
Габрово	58 92
Враца	60 622
Велико Търново	68 20
Благоевград	31 028
Пазарджик	71 929
Ямбол	74 12
Калоян	26 22
Перник	80 228
Шумен	80 826
Добрич	94 622
Скопие	94 622
Плевен	206 204
Стара Загора	120 222
Русе	149 642
Бургас	200 222
Варна	224 882
Пловдив	228 222
София	1 222 224



# Regional structure of the demographical and economic indexes in Bulgaria 2011\*

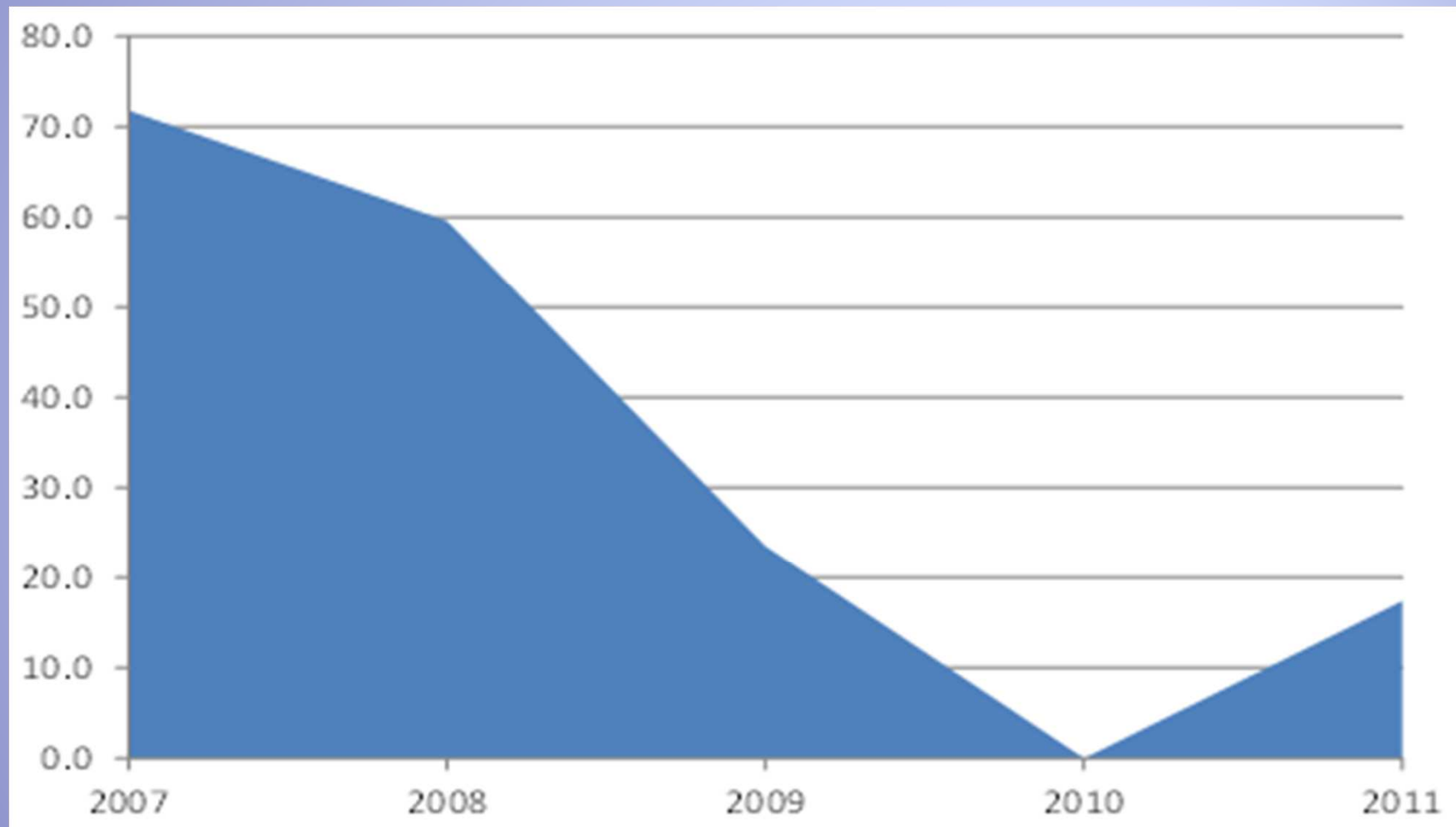
<b>Planning regions</b>	<b><i>Population density</i> <i>ρ/км<sup>2</sup></i></b>	<b><i>Index of Unemployment</i> <i>2012</i></b>	<b><i>GDP in %</i></b>	<b><i>Direct foreign investment - % from the national</i> <i>2011</i></b>
North-West	44,4	12,4	7,2	2,5
North Central	57,5	14,5	7,9	3,7
North-East	66,7	18,4	10,6	9,3
South-East	54,4	12,1	12,0	13,6
South Central	66,1	14,0	14,1	8,8
South-West	105,0	8,3	48,2	64,6
Bulgaria	66,3	12,4	100,0	100,0



**- The regional structure of the demographic dynamics reveals an increase of the territorial dissonance in Bulgaria: the average density in the North-West Region is 2,5 times lower than that in the South-West Region;**

**- The defined tendencies are even more figurative concerning the main economic indexes: the GDB accumulated in the North-West Region is over 7 times lower than that in the South-West Region in Bulgaria;**

# Dynamics of Direct Foreign Investment in the Bulgarian agricultural sector



# Regional and divisional structure of Bulgarian economy – 2011 \*

Economic sectors Regions	2007 г.			2011 г.		
	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary
<b>North-West</b>	16,0	35,0	49,0	13,0	32,0	55,0
<b>North Central</b>	19,0	39,0	42,0	16,0	28,0	56,0
<b>North-East</b>	28,0	40,0	32,0	27,0	31,0	42,0
<b>South-East</b>	24,0	36,0	40,0	19,0	37,0	44,0
<b>South Central</b>	16,0	37,0	47,0	17,0	33,0	50,0
<b>South-West</b>	6,0	51,0	44,0	5,0	49,0	46,0

## **Some conclusions:**

- The development of the economy by economic sectors reveals an increase of the share of the secondary and tertiary sectors and a decrease of the share of the primary sector;**
- A serious territorial dissonance exists in the horizontal allocation of the Direct Foreign Investment in Bulgaria;**

- It is necessary to introduce new definition and new standards for determining the range and structure of the rural areas;**
- It is necessary to introduce new regulative policy in the horizontal distribution of Direct Foreign Investment in Bulgaria;**



- It is advisable to start the implementation of regional programs for stimulation the rural areas during the new planning period, taking into consideration the increasing social and economic contrasts in the development of the different EU member states.

**Thank you for your attention!**

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