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**Some Geographical Aspects of Rural  
Development with view of Montenegro: A Review**

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**Abstract.** The paper discusses some geographical aspects of rural development with view of Montenegro. According to development of a heterogeneous, rural areas lag behind the urban and industrial, so the problem must be given more attention. In this regard, the European Union provides a powerful impetus to social and territorial cohesion of rural areas and attempt to provide a more efficient valorization of local development potential, in accordance with the principles of sustainable development. Privacy and promote rural development in Montenegro is in the interest of the whole society, and investing in the range of industries in rural areas increases their attractiveness, encourages sustainable growth and employment opportunities, especially for young employees willing and able to accept the new philosophy of development

**Keywords.** development, geographical aspects, European Union, Montenegro.

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### 1. Introduction

The Its strategy for rural first and then integrated rural development, the European Union is shaped almost from its inception to the present day. As well as extremely dynamic and open, this strategy, and it is based on policies and models, will undoubtedly continue to change, especially in the context of increasingly powerful process of globalization. This relatively long period of its formation, it could, according to some authors, divided into three phases, and in the initial phase (from foundation up to the mid-seventies of the last century), the second phase (from the mid-seventies to mid-eighties last century), and the third, the most important phase, when defining the complex concept of integrated rural development (Zakić & Stojanović, 2002).

Malešević (2004) states that the key elements of the strategy of integrated rural development can be found in the document "The future of rural society" adopted in 1988. Specifically, on the basis of annual personal experiences in rural development (in implementation Manšoltovog plan, as well as in the implementation of individual programs in Scotland, Switzerland, Belgium and some Mediterranean countries), the European Union gradually promote new territorial, multi-sect oral and integrated approach to the reconstruction and development of rural areas. With his

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complexity of this new approach becomes a major part of the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union and, more importantly, the more it transcends. Of course, this process is simultaneously accompanied by increasingly strong financial support from all three key structural funds: the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), European Social Fund (ESF) and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF), with its two sections (sections Warranty section Routing).

Thoughts on strategy, policy and the experiences of other countries, primarily the European Union, a significant population of Montenegro's integration into the European Union, i.e., to preserve and improve the economic, cultural, social and ecological functions of rural communities, especially given the fact that the rural areas in Montenegro decades faced with a number of structural and socio-economic problems. It should be however, point to the great efforts of the Government of Montenegro to a wide variety of support programs and incentives generate entrepreneurial activity in rural areas. The question then is - "Why are results of those efforts still relatively modest"? Works the definitely the more reason for which in similar surveys indicates Čavrak (2003): (1) lack of adequate policies and programs; (2) the relatively modest amounts of funds used to finance projects, (3) lack of understanding of local government roles and tasks to encourage and support local economic development and (d) lack of adequate institutional support and that such development. Of course there are many other reasons and causes. One of the most frequently represented the wrong conceptual and strategic approach to the development of rural areas, which is reflected in the fact that in traditionally rural areas implemented fully "new" and the so-called "modern" strategies that generally do not take into account the traditional advantages of having a rural village.

### 2. Research Methodology

The set object of the present work it was possible to realize the combined use of different research methods. The core of the methodological procedure used in this study consists of: a method of analysis, synthesis method, statistical and graphical methods. We used the data from the Internet. By applying the above methods, we managed to derive some general conclusions about the geographic aspects of rural development with reference to Montenegro, to which we came during the research (Rajović, 2007; Rajović, 2008).

### 3. Analysis and Discussion

Scientific interest for rural society created in the late 19th and early twentieth century, when the village and peasant society, becomes affected by global social processes of industrialization, urbanization and modernization. Then there is the need to be a combination of the social process and the practical problems rationally understand and explain. In the modern world, rural society is going through tumultuous changes, accompanied by great difficulties fitting into the dominant trends of modern society. These problems are much stronger in the so-called transition countries of Central and Southeast Europe (Todorović, 2007).

In addition to the complexity of this issue according to Janković (2012) basic problems that every social researcher at first sight "strikes the eye" are the lack of systematic scientific and theoretical foundation and the very definition of rural development, which suggests a number of authors, among

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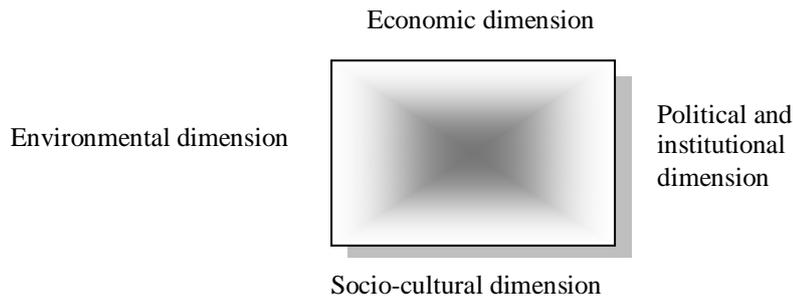
whom this occasion apostrophized (Lewis, 1954; Mellor, 1976; Lipton 1977; Meier, 1989; Porter, 1990; Duncan & Howell, 1992; Slee, 1994; Sahn et al, 1997; Marsden 1999; van der Ploeg et al, 2000; Bryden, 2001; Bryden et al, 2002; Marsden 2003; Shortall 2004). Rural society, according to Avramović (1928) "Society for itself, " or "a society that lives their lives". Peasant as the backbone of rural society, mostly still, in most of cases of conservative, tends to "live the way there and how and where used," and that his old man lived, especially the difficult quarters to other occupations (Isić, 2000). Most often it is very traditionally tied to the land, to their property and house. In this sense, according to Šanin (1966), we can single out four main characteristics, which characterized each rural society, they are: (1) family farm as the basic unit of social and economic organization; (2) agriculture as the main source of livelihood; (3) rural way of life and specific traditional culture of small rural communities and (4) subordinate position, it is the exploitation of the peasants and the power of the powerful who are outside of the peasantry.

Therefore, rural development is difficult to define. There are difficulties with the determination of the term "rural". Historically speaking the term "rural" meant something that is "outside the walls" while the economic aspect can the term "rural" involve territory to be used for production. There is also a social aspect, which says that "rural" environment characterized by strong backwardness in relation to the technological and cultural development, which is evident in the urban environment. In the past, the analysis of the rural areas uses different indicators: (1) demographic - all are sparsely populated areas rural; (2) indicator according to the principal activity of the inhabitants of the territory - that only agriculture; (3) indicator by income of – rural are regions places poverty; (4) spatial indicator - according to which the rural unrestricted space with a purpose different from the urban area (www.cerovlje.hr ).

One of the more meaningful definition of rural areas, given the Moseley (2003), under which rural development is a long and sustained process of economic social, cultural and environmental changes that are designed to enhance the long-term well-being of the entire community. In practice, rural development measures vary considerably in their objectives, of which the focus is almost entirely on the economic development of a much larger mixture of objectives in terms of economic, social and environmental development that is more aligned with the paradigm of human development. With about 60 percent of the population lives in rural areas, the extent to which it is "healthy, wealthy and wise" is included in the index of national human development. So that Janković (2012) suggests the following dimensions of rural development: (1) the economic dimension of rural development is one of the key points of the debate about the economic viability of certain rural areas in relation to agricultural development, its diversification, and the development of the overall rural economy. A key aspect of the economic dimension of rural development is the employment of the population and the sustainable use of resources that a particular rural area possesses; (2) socio-cultural dimension is very broad and it is difficult to simply surround it: the question of social structure and social change in rural areas, of poverty, social exclusion, position of social groups (young, old, women ...), to housing issues, the functioning of the village as the local community, local -regional identity, cultural heritage...; (3) the environmental dimension, have always intrinsically linked with rural, inseparable from the past because people in rural areas produce their life in

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harmony with nature and transforming nature in which they are incorporated; (4) political and institutional dimension is also crucial, because it points to the problem of optimal management of rural development, which is not a spontaneous process of improving the quality of life through spillover of modernizing developments in the industrialized, technological and infrastructural powerful city in village, but a strategic process of "managing" social change on a global, regional and local level, the development of institutions and systems support to this process, as well as the participation of local people in their efforts to engage internal strengths and motivation for development.



**Figure 1.** "Magic square" of rural development

The future of rural development in contemporary professional literature extensively studied (Van der Ploeg et al, 2000; Knickel & Renting, 2000; Reting et al, 2003). Some of the major issues to be discussed relate primarily to: a project approach to rural development, regional rural development, environmental issues of rural development, the necessary changes in the approach to rural development, the political dimension of rural development (Gsanger, 2005; Labrianidis & Sykas, 2013; Koutsou et al, 2014). Emphasizes the importance of the new rural economy, and the large role and responsibilities of are the development policy (Terluin, 2003; Bojnec, 2007; Petrick, 2013). Considered to be that it is of great importance for sustainable rural development: managing appropriate agricultural policy, integrated access to rural development, monitoring the effects of the "green revolution" (Gidakou et al, 2006; Karametou & Apostolopoulos, 2010; Gomez et al, 2013), structural adjustment and investment in certain sectors and priorities, the development of rural capacity and addressing the socio-political problems in decentralized rural areas (Nemes, 2004; Hodge & Midmore, 2008; Tsantopoulos et al, 2014).

Means that rural development policy deals with the achievement of objectives for rural areas and covers a wide range of different socio-economic activities. Half of the population of the EU population lives in rural areas, which comprise 91% of the territory, where there are more than 56% of the population, which suggests that rural development is a major area of interest in the European Union. Therefore, the objectives of the rural development of the European Union countries oriented to improve the competitiveness of activity characteristic of the rural economy, providing alternative sources of income, promotion of local vault is the product, cultural and historical heritage, improving the quality of life in rural areas and the protection of the environment, biodiversity and landscapes characteristic of rural areas. Impetus and support for rural development by the European Union are implemented through Leader program, which is an initiative of the European Community mobilization and implementation of

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rural development in rural communities through local partnerships between the public and private sectors, the establishment of the Local Action Group (LAG) ([www.exitcentre.org](http://www.exitcentre.org)).

The Member States of the European Union implemented a program of rural development called LEADER to strengthen localism as a counterweight to the Europeanization and globalization. In the period from 1991 to 2006 programs LEADER I, LEADER II and LEADER + have defined a new approach for integrated and sustainable development of rural European areas and influence the definition of many practical development policies of local rural communities. In solving the problem of the disadvantaged position of rural Europe in relation to the urban part, the LEADER program is a new innovative and creative socio-economic approach. The main advantage of the LEADER program was a bottom-up approach, which has helped to raise local resources in order to develop the local community. In addition involvement of local people is very important for the reason because the local population has the closest knowledge of the capabilities of its own development and is considered responsible and more dedicated to the success of the project than participants who come from outside. This approach is not inconsistent with access to top-down in terms of the impact of the national leadership, regional authorities and relevant ministries. LEADER program uses seven principles: (1) the territorial division; (2) The approach from down there according to above; (3) a partnership based on LAGs; (4) innovation; (5) integrated development; (6) networking and cooperation, and (7) local financing and management ([www.mojisijev.com](http://www.mojisijev.com)).

Rural Development Policy of the European Union, as part of the development of the Common Agricultural Policy, has evolved from a policy that addresses the structural problems of the agricultural sector to a policy that deals with multiple roles of agriculture in society, and, more emphatically, the challenges we face in the wider rural context. Initially, the focus was on supporting physical capital (investment) on a farm in the sectors derived from it. Gradually, attention began to be paid to the human capital in the form of early retirement and professional vocational training. The first territorial element is introduced in 1970, to establish so-called less favored areas, which had the right to use special measures. Until the mid-nineties last century the European Union has owned the whole range of instruments for achieving the objectives of the restructuring of agriculture, territorial and local development and the integration of environmental issues ([www.leader.org.rs](http://www.leader.org.rs)). Agenda 2000 introduced a policy of rural development as the second pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy, to monitor the further reform of market policy (first pillar of the CAP). Common Agricultural policy pursued is to achieve an appropriate balance between the two pillars of the CAP. Complementarily of the first two pillars of the CAP was further emphasized with the recent reforms of the Common Agricultural Policy, the introduction of "decoupling" cross-compliance and "modulation" which started since 2005. The first pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy concentrates on providing basic support to farmers, who are free to choose what they will produce in response to market demands, while the second pillar supports agriculture as a provider of public goods with all of its rural features and functions in the environment, and rural areas in their development. Contract in June 2003, leading to the empowerment of rural development through the introduction of new measures (to promote the quality and animal welfare and to help farmers to adapt to new EU

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standards) and providing more money from the EU Rural Development, by reducing direct payments (modulation) larger farms (www.leader.org.rs). The main areas (agriculture and forestry, rural development, food quality and safety, access to public services) which should be paid more attention in future rural development policy was contained in the conclusions of the "Second European Conference on Rural Development" which was held in Salzburg during November 2003.

Therefore, there are many dilemmas about how to manage the sustainable development of rural areas, even though, in theory and in practice, already known to many approaches, models, policies and strategies for sustainable rural development. In modern, conditions the problems of sustainable rural development is necessary to solve the integral (Radovanović, 2010) and the appropriate specifics of each particular area, as generally accepted universal model for sustainable rural development does not exist, but depends on the local development potential and the socio - economic environment. In this regard, the European Union provides a powerful impetus to social and territorial cohesion of rural areas and attempt to provide a more efficient valorization of local development potential, in accordance with the principles of sustainable development (Ristić, 2013).

Lukić (2011) by studying research Bengs & Schmidt (2006), Cloke (2006), Klemenčič (2006), Panelli (2006), Perkins (2006), Župančić (2005), Harrington & O'Donoghue (1998) points to recent examples of this theoretical approach to rural character (Table 1).

**Table 1.** *Recent examples of this theoretical approach to rural character*

Bengs & Schmidt Thome (2006)	The four basic approaches to rural character: 1. Definition of rural through urban features and important elements of rural identity 2. Political and economic approaches to the conceptualization of rural 3. Rural character as a social construct 4. Deconstructionist approaches to rural character
Cloke (2006)	Three important theoretical framework for the conceptualization of rural character: 1. Functional 2. Political and economic 3. Concept of the social construction of rural character
Klemenčič (2006)	Theoretical "tools" of research of rural areas: 1. Basic concepts: Rural (rural area), rural character, rural-urban continuum 2. General geographic concepts: space, area, living space, territory ... 3. The process of modernization, (sub) urbanization, globalization 4. Expanding research frameworks: (post) structuralism, (post) modernity 5. New forms of understanding of rural areas: culture, identity, connectivity, multifunctional, (post) productive
Panelli (2006)	Significant philosophical and theoretical directions in conceptualization of rural character: 1. Positivist and quantitative 2. Hermeneutic 3. Marxist 4. Feminist 5. Postmodern and poststructuralist
Perkins (2006)	Understanding rural depends on: 1. Political and economic 2. Socio-cultural perspectives
Župančić (2005)	The three most common approach to analysis of rural-urban configurations: 1. The method of ideal types 2. Distinction between rural and urban areas on the basis of empirical attributes 3. The concept of rural-urban continuum

<a href="#">Harrington &amp; O'Donoghue (1998)</a>	Two phases in the approach of rural character: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Conceptualization of through rural model urban-rural dichotomy</li><li>2. Conceptualization through model of rural urban rural continuum</li></ol>
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Source: [Lukić \(2011\)](#).

Contemporary theories of rural development, as they were developed by members of the academia, interest groups and policy-makers fall into three main schools of thought: "Agricultural" approach, which looks at the farming community as a guardian of the village and the fundamental pillar of rural life. This approach emphasizes the multifunctional of agriculture, the historical diversity of farming systems and the central role that agriculture plays in the development of rural culture. She sees farmers as a natural target group in terms of rural development, partly in order to help them preserve traditional agricultural practices, landscapes and habitats, and partly in order to help them adapt to change, seize new opportunities and respond to the changing expectations of society in its rural areas. Access to the "local development", which focuses on the diversity of rural activities and stakeholders, and who recognize that now, in many cases agriculture is quite a small proportion of rural output and employment. This approach looks at rural areas as a holistic socio - economic systems with a variety of human and natural resources and the multiple drivers of change. They are more likely to be "the neutral" when prescribing solutions and strategies, and the agricultural community to set as only as one of a group of actors with equal rights to compete for development resources. Access to the "urban centers" or "polycentric" approach, which promotes are the development of several major cities and urban seats, in order to generate economic activity and offer jobs and shops surrounding rural areas. Everything three schools are attributed considerable importance to environmental protection and emphasize the need for rural development solves social and economic goals ([www.ruralnamreža.ba](http://www.ruralnamreža.ba)).

Our research evidence based on similar research [Ristić \(2013\)](#) suggests that the review of the strategy, policy and the experiences of other countries, primarily the European Union is important from the viewpoint of Montenegro's integration into the European Union, i.e., preservation and promotion of economic, cultural, social and ecological functions of rural communities, especially in view of the fact that rural areas in Montenegro for decades faced with a number of structural and socio-economic problems. A key hypothesis of that work went verified and refers to the observation that the sustainable development of rural areas largely depends on the activity of all the key actors of development, at all levels, as well as the proper determination of the strategic directions of development and their implementation in practice, in accordance with the principles of sustainable development and the contemporary market challenges that cannot be avoided.

For rural communities in Montenegro is characterized by a marked discontinuity in the of development (see [Rajović, 2008](#); [Rajović & Bulatović, 2012](#); [Rajović & Bulatović, 2012b](#); [Rajović & Bulatović, 2012c](#); [Rajović & Bulatović, 2013](#); [Rajović & Bulatović, 2013b](#); [Rajović & Bulatović, 2014](#); [Rajović & Bulatović, 2014b](#); [Rajović & Bulatović, 2014c](#)). In Montenegro, under the influence of industrialization and urbanization proceeded rapidly process deagrarization and de rural shrinking share of the agricultural population in the total population and the population that still

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lives in the countryside. The process went very quickly, much faster than in the more developed parts of the world. Agricultural population in the total population, for a few decades, declined several times - from about 75% immediately after the Second World War, to around 6%, according to the latest estimates in most of the municipalities today. In a short period of time (even abnormally short for this type of social processes) a huge number of people have changed occupation and place of residence. On the Montenegrin village, however, remained to live much more people compared to those who are engaged in agriculture (Šarović, 2012).

According to the last Census of Agriculture in 2010 in Montenegro, there are 48.847 family agricultural holdings but also the unprocessed 59.360 ha of agricultural land, which shows that it is largely the separation of agriculture and rural areas. Official it is water that is over 48.000, and realistically practical in Montenegro, we have very few "pure" rural agricultural farms. The criteria for their determination are to put it mildly debatable, while the percentage of the majority of them living in the suburbs of major cities (and, as such, before I fall in mixed households than in rural) (Šarović, 2012). According to the National Statistical Office of Montenegro (2010), are the Montenegrin households living 98.949 people, which also represent workforce households. The age structure of agricultural holdings is characterized by a high proportion of older working-age population in the farm and a small number of younger members. Of are the total number of working-age residents of these 23.204 persons older than 65 years. Process aging village is deeply affecting all spheres of Montenegrin rural communities, as nearly 44% of the total number of persons employed in the household over 55 years of age. At least those which would be progressive farm that most, only 7% of the workforce in the Montenegrin households younger than 24 years.

According to Šarović (2013), most family agricultural holdings in Montenegro have between one and four. Of the total number of households (48 847) is by far the most of those holdings are counted from 1 to 2 members, even 37,518 or 76.8%; 3 to 4 members is 9,686 (19.84%) households; 5 to 7 members, numbering 1,424 (2.93%) households and is by far the least of those farms with more than 7 members who were once the backbone of the rural areas, they have only 196 or 0.43%. Taking into account the age structure and size of the family on the farm, we can argue that the Montenegrin village most other elderly couples or single people, and they now form the basis on which to build a safe and Montenegrin disappearance of family farms and the village as a whole. In conclusion, Montenegro in the period from 1948 to 2011 demographically transformed from a country with a high birth rate, with harmonious stationing in space, in a country with low rates birth rates, low and uneven population growth, high rates of internal migration and all the unfavorable spatial distribution of population. In fact, over 80% of Montenegrin villages recorded a declining population growth rate, and about 70% of them are affecting the process, more or less distinct, depopulation. They did not rare, and the villages that were literally before shutting down, and those that have disappeared from the demographic map of Montenegro (Šarović,2012).

Bataković (2012) indicates that the universally accepted model of rural institutional structure in Montenegro do not exist at the highest level (the state, the government), but they adapt and evolve to meet individual needs and abilities. Actors of rural development in Montenegro: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development - human, organizational and technical

terms are not trained to fully bear the burden of the necessary actions to improve and build the institutional base in this area; other ministries, state agencies, funds and donation program - in recent years intensified interest in the subject, but it is certainly the lack of coordinated activities. Inter-ministerial co-operation in the field of rural development has not been formalized and there is no body to the highest level of co-ordinate and monitor the activities of the Government. The absence of this body makes it difficult for horizontal communication and coordination and reduces the effectiveness of government policy in this area; regional institutions - organized in different forms: agencies, offices, funds, associations... "Their place in the organizational structure of the institutions related to rural development is positioned differently from institutions that have high autonomy in carrying out their activities in the vertical chain, to the institutions that are regional / local branches of government bodies, donor projects, business associations... Technical equipment of, staffing and funding at their disposal vary significantly even within the same organizational structure. Are active in are the field of entrepreneurship, public-private partnership, employment programs and education. Cooperation and contact with local communities and rural actors are still lower than the opportunities and needs" (Bataković, 2012).

Development of institutional capacity in the field of rural development in Montenegro is relatively low, despite the evident of growing awareness of the necessity of strengthening; underdeveloped institutional framework directly affects the difficult access of the rural population of Montenegro, physical capital, financial and other services, technologies and markets; the complexity of adaptation of rural policy standards and procedures of the European Union is not sufficiently respected. The adjustment is carried out quickly in the area of legislation and regulations, and much more slowly in the field of strengthening existing and establishing new institutions for their implementation and control. Montenegro insufficient used positive experiences and good lessons from transition countries. Big constraint is the lack of trained personnel at all levels (from academic to administrative) that its capacity is not appropriate for the complex demands placed upon them. Experience in use IPARD assistance programs have shown that as a country used to be ready to build institutional conditions, it is rapidly establishing the necessary structures required, it quickly managed to withdraw and use projected funding (Bataković, 2012).

### 4. Conclusion

According to development of a heterogeneous, rural areas lag behind the urban and industrial, so the problem must be given more attention. Regional differences and long time lag villages and agriculture are accompanied by stagnation in the overall development, which requires complex multidisciplinary structured development model to the countryside and rural society. Policies and promoting integrated rural development in the interest of the whole society, and investing in the range of industries in rural areas increases their attractiveness, encourages sustainable growth and employment opportunities, especially for young employees willing and able to accept the new philosophy of development (Radovanović, 2010).

The current policy of the European Union provides great support to the development of rural areas in the EU Member States and in the candidate countries for EU membership. Support for EU candidate countries is

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reflected in the accessibility of the IPA, and IPARD particular, funds. An important component of these funds is to support rural development and environmental protection. Efficiency of rural development policy, however, largely depends on the local community and even individual initiatives at the local level. Rural development policy is based on the "leader" principle, a program that aims to revitalize rural areas by encouraging social, economic and environmental entrepreneurship by individuals and groups.

Our research evidence based on similar research [Gulan \(2009\)](#) indicates that the Montenegrin village "located at the crossroads between the disappearance and survival. The process of devastation of rural areas is very intense. It manifests itself in various forms. To stop the negative trends in the Montenegrin village needs a new offensive and rural development policy. Villages not only, "production drives" but also a place to live, stay, rest and recreation... European experience should be the lesson of the rural development policy, which must be adapted to local resources and initiatives. Rural Capital, looking at the world level, is invaluable. Make it work and production potential of the rural areas, natural resources, geographical position, and cultural and spiritual life of those areas. The level of its use is quite low. The possibility of using this capital is significant. For its more efficient use, in addition to the role of government is necessary and active relationship with local management. Key role in this process is called initiative from below, i.e. bottom up in each local community. Time to live in these areas was better and closer to the quality of life and work in urban areas or cities ".

In conclusion, we point to the Danish rural development policy that best personified in its research [Svendsen \(2004\)](#). Would you like to, at least some, the experience of more than significant, segment of the general social development of Denmark, could be helpful to integrated rural development in Montenegro, particularly in its period of transition? It is on this question in the survey [Svendsen \(2004\)](#) tries find an answer. [Svendsen \(2004\)](#) indicates that after the Second World War in Denmark, has developed two separate discourses of rural. Called them agricultural and non-agricultural ("landbrugs" and "ikke landbrugs"). The first is the culminating sixties the last century and is mainly served by the Danish farmers and their interests; it is the increase in agricultural production. Key terms that are used by the Danish discourse of rural were structural changes, vertical integration, rationalization and centralization, and Productivity seeing rural. Since the seventies of the last century in the terminology of speech appear to rural concepts such as community, culture, active citizenship and environmental protection, announcing a second, non-agricultural discourse of rural. On the formed about immigrants in rural areas, mostly well-educated population, who advocated an additional dimension to the rural as a living space and suitable for leisure time. And it is this discourse has played an important role in the formation of new identities rural, both at local and national level, significantly affected the daily life of the Danish rural population.

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