

Multi-Annual Program 2019 – 2020 “The Polish and the EU agricultures 2020+. Challenges, chances, threats, proposals

Economic and social context of current social policy in the Czech Republic

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Structure of contribution

- **Socio-economic situation of the Czech countryside**
- **Social policy in the CR**
- **Social services**
- **Poverty in the CR**
- **Social exclusion and inclusion**
- **Social innovation**
- **Social entrepreneurship**
- **Summary**

Socio-economic situation of the Czech rural areas

- Determination of rural areas (EU methodology);
- Size of villages and number of inhabitants;
- Economic activity of rural and urban population;
- Education of rural and urban population;
- Employment problems in rural areas.

Rural areas in CR according EU methodology (2014)

Type	Area	Population	Regions
Predominantly rural	48.0 %	33.0 %	6x
Intermediate regions	37.0 %	43.0 %	6x
Predominantly urban	15.0 %	24.0 %	2x

Source: Ministry of Agriculture - Green report 2014
(<http://eagri.cz/public/web/mze/ministerstvo-zemedelstvi/vyrocnni-a-hodnotici-zpravy/zpravy-o-stavu-zemedelstvi/zelena-zprava-2014.html>)

Rural villages according size and rural population in CR

Population in village / year	2001		2008		2013		2014	
	Villages	Citizens	Villages	Citizens	Villages	Citizens	Villages	Citizens
Up to 99	548	38 881	518	36 512	464	33 140	458	32 649
100 – 199	1 113	166 214	1 048	155 578	997	148 389	997	148 036
200 – 499	2 041	663 416	2 024	660 126	2 012	657 282	2 001	651 677
500 – 999	1 280	893 592	1 312	922 543	1 356	953 571	1 369	962 432
1,000 – 1,999	652	903 757	692	962 615	742	1 031 212	745	1 038 124
Total rural	5 634	2,665,860	5 594	2 737 374	5 571	2 823 594	5 570	2 832 918
Total CR	6 258	10 230 060	6 249	10 381 130	6 253	10 516 125	6 253	10 512 419
Rural in %	90.0	26.1	89.5	26.4	89.1	26.9	89.1	26.9

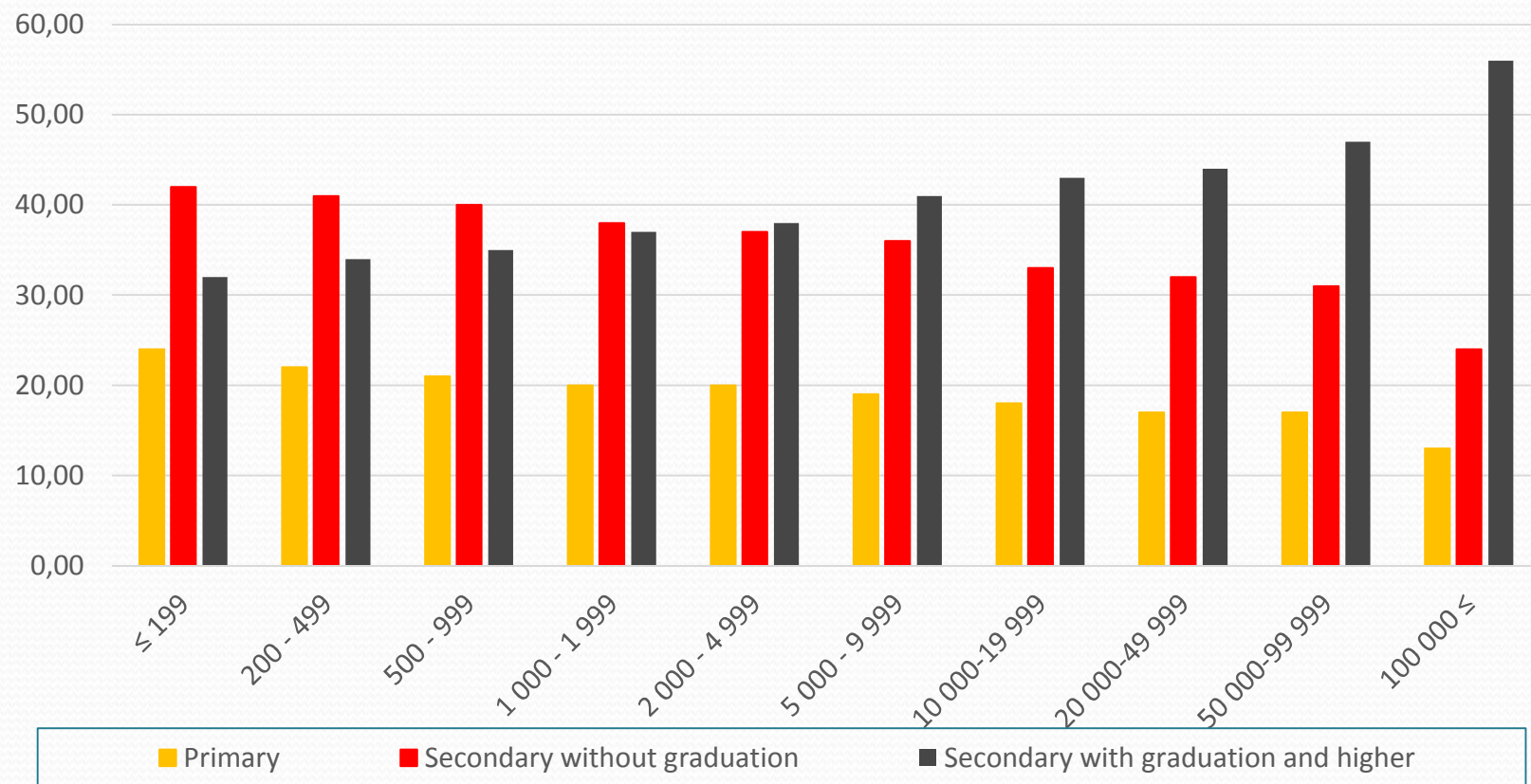
Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Green report *CR year 014*, pp. 60

Economic indicators in rural and urban space (2014)

Region	Economic activity	Employees in agriculture	Unemployment rate	Applicants / 1 free workplace
Rural	47.9 %	62.8 %	6.8 %	13.3
Urban	49.0 %	37.2 %	7.6 %	7.9
Total	X	100.0 %	X	X

Source: Ministry of Agriculture - Green report 2014
(<http://eagri.cz/public/web/mze/ministerstvo-zemedelstvi/vyrocnni-a-hodnotici-zpravy/zpravy-o-stavu-zemedelstvi/zelena-zprava-2014.html>)

Size of municipalities and education level of population in % (CSO 2011)



Social policy

- Social policy is the systematic and purposeful effort of the social subjects to change or to keep the functioning of state/municipal social system.
- Social policy, its goals, functions, tools, are not created apart, but according to the other scopes of society:
 - Economic,
 - Social,
 - Ecological,
 - Scientific and technical,
 - Political,
 - Subsistence.



Subjects of social policy

- State

- Parliament of CR, including the government;
- Ministry of Social Affairs;
- Labor Offices and Social Security Office;

- Non-state

- Profitable (social entrepreneurship)
- Non-profitable (municipal, family, civil initiatives, charitable institutions, churches).

Objects of social policy

- All inhabitants
 - Education;
 - Health care;
 - Social benefits;
 - Social services etc.
- All members of the specific social group
 - Unemployed people;
 - Seniors;
 - Single mothers and fathers;
 - Handicapped people etc.



Principles of social policy

- **Social justice;**
- **Social solidarity;**
- **Subsidiarity;**
- **Participation.**



Function of social policy

- **Protective;**
- **Redistribution;**
- **Homogenizing;**
- **Stimulative;**
- **Preventative.**

Tools of social policy

- Conformity with the principles;
- Project of social policy development;
- Collective bargaining;
- Social allowances – old age pensions scheme and immaterial securing, state social support, care benefits, care allowances etc.;
- Benefits in kind – setouts, meal tickets etc.;
- Borrowings – marriage loans;
- Dispensation and privilege – fare, entrance fee;
- State price control of a certain services and products (drinking water, heat, rental housing etc.).

Relationship of social and economic policy

- Sustainable development of any society stands on the social, economic and environmental base;
- Social problems have the both economic and social dimension;
- They are autonomous policies connected by the mutual links;
- Without the efficient economy is not possible to finance and realize the social policy;
- Social policy activates and cultivates the human capital;
- Social policy supports the political stability of society;
- Political stability contributes the economy.

Problems of the Czech social policy

- Content of social policy (broader x narrower);
- Tendency of citizens (especially some social groups) to depend on the paternalistic state instead of the own responsibility;
- Mechanism of the tax payment and the subsequent transformation to the social benefits (redistributing has the expenses and losses);
- Extent of civil participation – limits of raising individual responsibility for the own destiny.

Social services

- Social services are the social consultancy, services of social care and services of social prevention (§ 32 Act Nr. 108/2006 Collection of Laws, about the social services);
- Law about the social services introduces the method of help and support for the socially handicap persons, which provide for them the social integration, eventually to prevent the social exclusion;
- There are about 8,000 registered providers of social services in the Czech Republic.

Social exclusion and inclusion

- **Social exclusion** is *„the segregation of person outside the common life of society and the impossibility to participate owing to the unfavourable social situation“.*
- **Social inclusion** is *„the process, which ensures, that the socially excluded persons or persons endangered by the social exclusion achieve the opportunities and possibilities, which help them to fully involve in the economic, social and cultural life of society“.*

(§ 3 písm. f) zákona č. 108/2006 Sb., o sociálních službách. § 3 písm. e) zákona č. 108/2006 Sb., o sociálních službách).



Various dimensions of social exclusion

- **Economic** (long-term unemployment, low salary etc.);
- **Social** (divorces of marriage, social isolation, homelessness, criminality etc.);
- **Political** (refusal of politic and civic rights etc.);
- **Communital** (devasted life environment or dwelling, absence or unavailability of services, infrastructure, collapse of supporting networks etc.).



Various dimensions of social exclusion

- **Individual** (physical or mental handicap or illness, missing education and qualification, loss of self-confidence, self-respect etc.);
- **Group** (concentration of above mentioned characteristics in the certain social groups);
- **Spatial** (concentration of excluded persons in ghettos and contained/risk areas).



Social exclusion concerns

- Dissidents, disturbers of norms, non-conformists;
- Foreigner, which are not conform with the values, norm and social institutions of a certain society, sometimes only their distinctions (language, face, color of skin, etc.);
- Social exclusion is a tool of strengthening of shared identity, cohesion and integrity of a certain society.

Economic indicators of excluded groups of population

- Amount of salaries;
- Amount of rent;
- Level of education;
- Level of handicap/autarchy;
- Transport service function (absence of transport means and financial resources for travelling);
- Energy poverty (lack of financial resources to pay electric and gas).

Social indicators of excluded groups of population

- Rate of trust to the mayor and council (repeated election);
- Share of population from the various social groups engaged in the social clubs of the municipality;
- Frequency of communication among the various social groups in the municipality;
- Existence and frequency of misunderstanding among the social groups;
- Rate of unassimilation and the neglect of the common life rules in the municipality.



Programming period 2014 – 2020

Strategic documents containing the theme exclusion and inclusion:

- Program of rural areas development;
- European Social Fund;
- European Fund for Regional Development;
- Cohesion Fund;
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development;
- and others.

Socially excluded localities

Number of socially excluded localities increases in the Czech Republic. Contemporary number is higher than 400.

Characteristic features are:

- Unemployment;
- Lack of interest about work;
- Missing or low education;
- Insolvency;
- Lack of interest about public matters;
- Crime;
- Prostitution;
- Alcoholism and drug abuses etc.

Excluded localities in CR



- Zdroj: CAP Petr, Agentura pro sociální začleňování: *Sociální začleňování v CLLD s ohledem na synergie OP v ESIF 2014-2020*. online na [http://nsmascr.cz/content/uploads/2014/10/prezentace_ASZ.pdf], [cit. 10.1.2015]

Poverty in CR

- Poverty designates the social status of person who suffers the material privation;
- The Czech Republic belongs among the countries, which are, from aspect threat of poverty, balanced;
- Nevertheless, poverty can threaten the elderly population in the small villages in the future;
- Poverty is one of social exclusion effects;
- However, poverty is not necessary condition of social exclusion.

Feeling of poverty in CR

About 36 % Czechs label their families like poor at present.

There are more often:

- Unemployed persons (63 %)
- Manual workers (52 %)
- Pensioners (42 %).

From the aspect of party preference, the biggest share of them are Communist Party voters (59 %).

<https://www.stem.cz/tag/chudoba/>

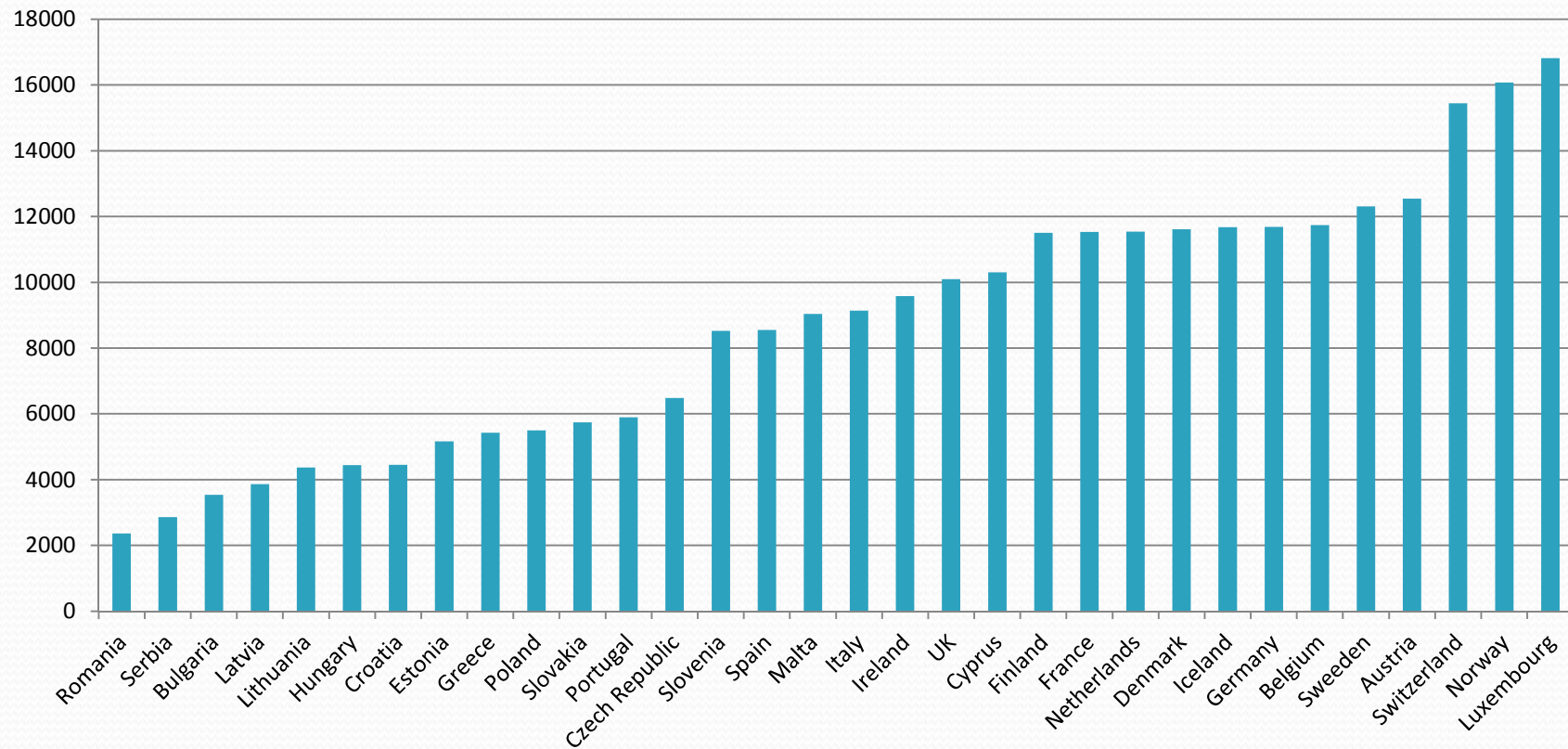
Living wage

- Living wage is socially acknowledged minimal earnings category;
- Definition of poverty limiting is the socio-political convention;
- Important source of knowledge are, except the statistical data, also representative research of households;
- Official rate of living wage for the certain kind of family (10830 CZK) is almost the same like the average (10890,- CZK) from the research sample;
- Different socio-demographic groups estimate the poverty limiting similarly, it means that the poverty limiting is widely accepted view.

<https://www.stem.cz/tag/chudoba/>

Poverty in EU Countries (EUROSTAT)

The limit of poverty in PPS (Purchasing Power Standard) 2014 PPS



Social innovation

- Concept of the solution of the new social situation;
- The goals are to improve possibilities of using the sources or to improve relations within the society;
- Transfer to practice;
- Sustainability of innovation (financing);
- Transition from the contemporary intra-generational equality to the prospective inter-generational equality to the social sources access ;
- Social innovation is endangered by the migration structure – the leaving of young and educated persons decreases the innovation potential;
- Bottom – up approach is important.

Social entrepreneurship

- Primarily are pursued the social goals;
- Development of local community;
- The social innovation are included (i. e. employment of handicapped persons);
- The rigid world of state sector is eliminate;
- Social entrepreneurship has the worse conditions to enter in the branch;
- The problems with the bank credit exists;
- About 1/3 of social enterprises in CR are in rural areas.

Living conditions in the Czech rural areas

- Families with the small children – lack of nurseries, kindergartens and grammar schools;
- Lack of sport, interest and cultural clubs for children as well as all rural inhabitants;
- Density of public transport in the distant localities;
- Increasing share of elderly rural population;
- Growth of costs on the pensions, health and social services;
- Lack of retirement homes, aged-persons homes, day care homes, assistance services for old and handicapped persons, hospices.



Impacts of social policy in rural areas

- LAGs use to be an organizers, which ensure the missing social services;
- The mechanical solidarity in the framework of family and neighborhood is growing;
- Social innovation, focused on the improving of quality of life, are supported;
- Social entrepreneurship in rural areas spreads.

Living conditions in the Czech urban areas

- Better access to the majority of social services in comparison with the rural areas;
- Smaller social control of neighbours;
- Bigger exploitation of social services and benefits;
- Higher threat of dependence on the social help (especially some social groups);
- Development of information technologies causes the new kind of social problems:
 - Decrease of direct social contacts;
 - Increase of virtual contacts;
 - Shortage of skills like communication, public behaviour, cooperation, negotiation etc.

Impacts of social policy in the cities

- Easier access to the social help promotes the rise of socially excluded localities;
- Deepening of organic solidarity increases the quality of social support;
- Social support is cheaper by reason of concentration and large number – social, health and educational facilities are more frequent in the cities than in rural areas.

Demands of social policy in rural areas

- Mobile dislocation of social services in the rural space;
- Structure and view of organizations – orientation on the local needs and local labour market;
- Support of technological infrastructure – home office, e-shopping, internetbanking, access to information;
- Improving of transport services – reduces the space exclusion of chosen social groups (seniors, families with the children, handicapped persons etc.);
- Agricultural policy aims to the social aspects of rural life – support the inter-generational bonding.

Demands of social policy in the cities

- Individual access like the reaction on the abuse of social help;
- Higher social control of utilization of social benefits;
- Increasing number of social workers in localities;
- Increasing of consultancy and help for homeless persons, immigrants, persons in the heavy life situation;
- Pressure on the inter-generational cohesion;
- Support of the different kinds of family care – financial contribution for care in family.

Summary

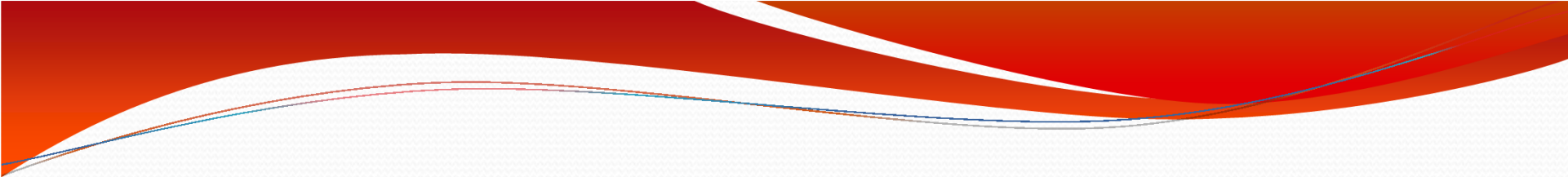
- Social policy is closely connected with the efficiency of national economy;
- Rural as well as urban areas are characterized by the specifics consequent on:
 - Socio-demographic structure;
 - Space conditions;
 - Working and living conditions of population;
 - Share of denizens and incomers;
 - Rate of social control in the municipality;
 - Conditions of solidarity and cooperation of population.



**Thank you
for your attention**

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