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DIPLOMA THESIS

Rural development policy and the demands of rural population
(the case study of one village)

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Declaration

I hereby declare I have worked on my Diploma Thesis titled “*Rural development policy and the demands of rural population (the case study of one village)*” individually and I have used the literature and sources listed in bibliography.

In Prague, 30th November 2012

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Acknowledgement

I would like to thank to my supervisor doc. PhDr. Michal Lošťák, Ph.D. for his guidance, expert suggestions, recommendations and assistance with my Diploma Thesis.

The great thank belongs to my parents for giving me the opportunity of university education and to my friends for their support.

Rural development policy and the demands of rural population (the case study of one village)

Summary

This Diploma Thesis deals with the topic of “*Rural development policy and the demands of rural population*”. The theoretical part of the thesis processes basic conceptions and terms related to meaning of countryside, relationship of people to the landscape or rural development models. *Rural development programme of the Czech Republic for 2007 – 2013* is described as a tool for rural areas support. The practical part establishes with the theoretical recourses and it presents the social research and its analysis. The research is focused on demands of rural population of one village – the municipality of České Meziříčí in Hradec Králové Region. The results of the research can contribute to decision making of municipal authorities about future development of the village.

Key words

Agriculture, the countryside, funds, grants, Rural development programme of the Czech Republic for 2007-2013, the European Union, České Meziříčí.

Politika rozvoje venkova a požadavky obyvatel venkova (případová studie vybrané obce)

Souhrn

Tato diplomová práce se zabývá tématem *Politiky rozvoje venkova a požadavky obyvatel venkova*. Teoretická část této práce zpracovává základní koncepce a pojmy spojené s významem venkova, vztahu lidí ke krajině nebo modely rozvoje venkova. Také popisuje *Program rozvoje venkova České republiky 2007-2013* jako nástroj podpory venkovských oblastí. Praktická část navazuje na část teoretickou a prezentuje sociologický výzkum a jeho analýzu. Výzkum zpracovává požadavky obyvatel vybrané vesnice – obce České Meziříčí v Královéhradeckém kraji. Výsledky výzkumu mohou přispět k rozhodování obecního zastupitelstva o budoucím vývoji obce.

Klíčová slova

Zemědělství, venkov, finanční prostředky, dotace, Program rozvoje venkova České republiky 2007-2013, Evropská unie, České Meziříčí.

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1. Introduction

Modern economy does not work in the same way as the nature. It works conversely. The operation of modern economy and its expansionism without borders, they threaten the nature [5, p. 110]. This free translation of the quotation by Czech sociologist Jan Keller can open contemplation about the countryside or rural areas as it is more frequently titled, especially in the process of policy making and sequential in documents.

Although the quotation seems to be primarily connected with industry, it concerns the other economy sectors as well. The rural areas are generally characterised as an essential space for the whole society because these areas generate and secure food production. However, primary sector together with secondary and third are present in rural areas and every business and human activity influence the environment and life conditions.

In the beginning of the 1990s, Miloslav Lapka and Miroslav Gottlieb did social research among Czech private farmers. They anticipated restoration of farmers' social status in the rural areas and renewal of values and norms represented by this social group which was liquidated by Communist regime. The political and legislative development in the 1990s gave the opportunity to restitutions and reestablishment of old family farms. One of the questions of this thesis is whether people do agree with importance of private farmers for rural areas and what is their perception of agriculture and rural environment.

The views of countryside differ among urban and rural inhabitants. What is for one group beautiful and should be protected, the second group finds it unimportant and ineffective and vice versa. Then there is room for policy makers and sociologist to cooperate on formation of background for development projects which would satisfy rural inhabitants, their needs and demands and attract urban inhabitants to visit rural areas and at least financially contribute via their expenditures.

The Czech Republic implements rural development policy and executes this policy in cohesion with Common Agriculture Policy of the European Union. It covers wide range of business and non-business activities with expected positive influence on life in rural

areas. As the European Union is large, it consists of 27 Member States; there are differences in historical development of individual territories and national economy sectors.

The rural development policy should encourage people to live in rural areas, improve the life conditions and bring new opportunities. The share of job opportunities in agriculture is decreasing and it differs among the regions. In 2010, the highest employment rate in agriculture (14.3%) was in Středočeský Region, the lowest one was in Karlovarský Region (0.9%). The unemployment rate is usually higher in rural areas: In 2010 it was 10.2%, whereas the unemployment rate in urban areas was 8.6% [11].

If the rural areas are supposed to remain alive, as socially and economically existing areas, then it is necessary to improve and encourage young people to stay and live their lives in these areas. Investments to new business activities are necessary as well as stimulation for active participation in community work.

2. Objectives of the thesis and methodology

The objective of the Diploma Thesis is to analyse demands of rural population based on the case study of one village and its younger generation. The relevant data will be collected by the questionnaire investigation. The data will be analysed and the results will be compared with the rural development policy of the Czech Republic represented in *the Rural development programme of the Czech Republic for 2007 – 2013*. The comparison should reveal whether the policy reflects demands and expectations of rural population of selected municipality.

The literature overview of the Diploma Thesis explains basic terms for comprehension of the concept of the thesis. It describes the concept related to the meaning of rural areas for the society, the changes in rural landscape or the social role of private farmers in the rural areas. The description of the main problems of the Czech rural areas is based on the social researches made by the Czech sociologists Miloslav Lapka, Miroslav Gottlieb, and Bohuslav Blažek. *Rural development programme of the Czech Republic for 2007 – 2013* and its single sections are closely described and outlined in connection with the European Union.

The empirical section starts with a short characteristic of the surveyed locality. The key part is the social research results and their analysis. The research will be realized in the selected municipality of České Meziříčí. The theoretical part creates a base for the practical part and questionnaire design. The questions are compiled to enable comparison of the research results with the theoretical concept of rural areas and the rural development policy of the Czech Republic. The questionnaire will be distributed to young people (between the ages of 20 – 30 years old) who have permanent residence in the village. The data from completed questionnaires will be processed by computer software SPSS.

Required information for composition of the social research methodology was gained by study of literature about methods and design of social research and the questionnaire technique. The theoretical part is based on study of literature and the Internet

sources of related subjects, for example: development of rural areas, sociology, national and international regulations and documents. The description of surveyed locality is based on village chronicles provided by local authority and data from the Czech statistical office.

The Diploma Thesis is divided into chapters and subchapters according to logical sequence. Information with financial and statistical character is arranged in tables and graphs for better clearness, placed in the text or in supplements (chapter number 7).

2.1. Social research methodology

Each social research varies in time, place and circumstances in which it is done. There are two types of empirical social research: qualitative and quantitative. Both of them uses different techniques which have their advantages and disadvantages and are suitable for different types of phenomenon survey.

Qualitative research techniques do not use numerical investigation. Their aim is to understand surveyed problem and interpret the reality through phenomenon observation in its authentic environment. Qualitative approach requires deeper and more detailed contact with the phenomenon, its participants and conditions in the field. Distortion is one of the disadvantages: Circumstances in the field can influence researcher who can wrongly interpret surveyed phenomenon. It also provides much information about small number of respondents and the results are generalization of surveyed phenomenon. Frequent techniques of quantitative methods are especially interview, dialogue and observation.

Quantitative approaches collect data in measurable form, to provide simple information gathering, sorting, assortment and comparison. Analysis is viable by statistic methods and hypothesis verification, features of surveyed phenomenon and their mutual relationships. Types of quantitative methods are for example: questionnaire, public opinion survey, standardized interview, document study [8].

The quantitative methods are sometimes used as an additional method of qualitative research. For extensive and deep surveys a combination of these two approaches is appropriate but only skilled and experienced researchers can perform this.

2.1.1. Survey design

Empirical social research has its rules and an adherence to them is required. It consists of 11 stages which are independent in their sequence:

- 1) *Formulation of theoretical or practical social problem* is usually established with expert preparatory work including a study of literature which is necessary for formulation of research questions, hypothesis statement and their solution. Theoretical knowledge broadens professional horizons, integrate the topic into wide context and develop surveyed subject as well as it enables to avoid mistakes and errors during research process.
- 2) *Formulation of theoretical hypothesis* as an assumption, conditionally true statement about relationship between two or more phenomenon, presence of any event, effect or process. If the hypothesis cannot be formulated, the empirical research cannot be apply because the research proves or disproves, verifies or falsifies them.
- 3) *Formulation of working hypotheses* represents finding of the most important relationships between main variables which has to be measurable and the dependence of the variables is possible to validate.
- 4) *Decision about population and sample*
- 5) *Pilot study* means a first contact with the field and a test of surveyed social problem via empirical social research.

- 6) *Decision about the data collection techniques* is based on pilot study: If surveyed variables are measurable and the sample is constant and large, a questionnaire is suitable research method.
- 7) *Construction of data collection tools*
- 8) *Pre-research* represents examination of prepared research tools. It can be done by colleagues, family members and relatives who are similar to our sample (according to age, education etc.). It helps to discover unclear questions, usage of foreign and unintelligible words, and other mistakes in the construction of a questionnaire.
- 9) Data collection
- 10) *Data analysis* of quantitative methods can be processed by PC software, for example SPSS, which allows sorting of desired combinations of variables.
- 11) *Interpretation of the results and final discussion*

2.1.2. The Construction of the questionnaire as data collection tool

For this Diploma Thesis the questionnaire was chosen as a suitable method of empirical social research. Questionnaire is frequented, written research technique, distributed by mail or handed.

The questionnaire usually starts with cover letter which introduce the researchers, explains nature and purpose of the survey. It mentions instruction about questionnaire completion and the way of questionnaire return to the researcher. The respondents should be assured, the research is anonymous and the result will be used only for stated purposes. Credibility of cover letter can influence response rate which is essential for quality of the research. It is says that 50% response rate is adequate for analysis and reporting. But it is supposed the higher response rate creates the higher-quality research and the rate over 70%

is very good. The total extent of questionnaire and number of questions also influences return rate. It is recommended 60 questions in maximum and one hour for their completion. Otherwise the respondents lose their interest and patience.

We have to comply with character of respondents, what we question and how we question, during the questionnaire construction process. It has to be paid attention on use of words and clear statements: Do not use foreign, scientific or ambiguous words, jargon or slang language. Specific language and words can be used only if the research is focused for example on professional groups or people living in region with unique speech.

Questionnaire is ordinarily subdivided into clearly organized sections according to the character of questions and their subject. The first one is composed of identification questions on respondents' age, gender, education level, income level, and place of residence or other socio-demographic characteristics.

Questions can be categorised for example according to the responses on open-ended and closed-ended. Open-ended questions have a character of open questions which do not have specified range of answers and do not influence respondents in their replies. Closed-ended questions have scale for answers and respondents chose one or more alternatives provided by researcher. The results of these questions are measurable and comparable. They are usually used in standardized questionnaires of quantitative social research [8].

The empirical social research implemented in this Diploma Thesis is of quantitative character and it uses closed-ended questions and one open question for respondent's comments on questionnaire or opinions which cannot be state through the closed questions.

3. Literature overview

It is said that rural areas are essential for whole society. Primarily it is in people's minds connected with agriculture and food production. During the last hundred years the second meaning for the society gains higher importance: rural areas as space for relaxation, a shelter for urban inhabitants who escape from towns at the weekends, to spend leisure time in calm environment.

This Diploma Thesis deals with the rural population demands and their expectations from these areas. Therefore it seems to be more focused on the first view of the rural areas. However, the times change and the importance of agriculture for rural population as well.

3.1. *The concept of the countryside and expectations from this space / the role of the countryside in society /*

Villages as the type of settlement are older than towns and urban spaces. In modern times they gain new function. Besides agriculture and food production, additional functions are service background of the towns or industrial and residential function. The industrial function is visible especially in the areas where growing towns integrate villages and villages become new town suburbs. Design of these areas is still similar to traditional rural settlements which are predisposed to agricultural function [3].

The villages have their origin in human need of clustering. Need of water and the sun created organizational principle of geographical character. However, villages originally developed within the blood relations [1, p. 105]. Primeval villages had these characteristics:

- Community was based on blood relations.

- The land was divided seasonally among families for farming and common part for grazing. The land was owned by the community and not by individuals.
- An assembly of householders with chief had a control over the village and they judged according to customary law.
- Inhabitants of one village originally shared one religion.
- Village operated as an autonomous enlargement of a family.

In the second stage of village development, it was a part of feudal system. The village was an element of wider political organizational structures (the state or the kingdom) under the control of feudal lord. Interests of the state are wider than blood relations within the village of the first stage: It has its economical, legal, political and cultural needs. The state became a social organization which regulates relationships of heterogeneous social groups by law. Population of the second stage village is not only agricultural. It consists of tradesmen, craftsmen and professional people (priests, teachers) who have their authorities in wider social structures [1, p. 106].

Rural area or countryside is defined by Jandourek (2001) as space outside urban areas, which is characteristic by lower population density living mainly in *villages*, agricultural business and higher dependence on nature and landscape, conservative and traditional life style, larger social control and reduced professional opportunities [4].

Miloslav Lapka and Miroslav Gottlieb define countryside similarly in their book *Rolník a krajina* (2000) but they add feature of space outside industrial areas. They point current rural sociology view: Since the 1970s, the countryside has been perceived as distinctive place of healthy life environment which is necessary to be respect. Suitable level of urbanization is desirable to keep not only as agribusiness areas and calm place to live but also as a space for holiday and leisure time. Thanks to these characteristics, the countryside can secure highly attractive values and become luxurious [7].

Village is defined by Jandourek (2001) as a basal capital unit, a small residency with a relatively small number of inhabitants, strong social control and extensive portion of agriculture within business activities. Its inhabitants have proprietary and emotional bonds to the land. They are isolated from urban culture and have their own inherent culture with a higher sense of traditions. Some of these features have disappeared as a result of urbanization influence [4].

Definitions of rural areas and village mentioned above shortly summarize the typical features. Inocenc Arnošt Bláha (1968) divides the character of countryside into two perspectives: The first one is geographical meaning representing the countryside as physical natural space outside urban areas. The second one - social sense means settlements of human beings, villages formed by people containing socio-psychic features [1].

These two categories can be further separated into 4 factors, which influence and characterize the rural environment:

- *Physical space* as geographical-demographical complex where natural space and open landscape dominate over housing, and existing housing has a decentralised design of settlements in small villages with a lower density. The climatic conditions and the weather play important role in the life of inhabitants who use the land predominantly for farming, lumbering and has uncompleted technical infrastructure.
- *Time* is perceived in cycle conception what rises from natural life cycle. The general view of rural population and areas is backwards people and environment with development delay.
- *Countryside subculture* has specific features which reflect perception of time and physical space: There is resistance of normative order, distrust to changes and trust in local issues, traditions of farmers' culture and sensitive relationship to nature and its needs. People in smaller closer communities do

not live anonym life style and behave in informal way. These relationships enable execution of social control which consequently keeps normative culture (maintain existing values, norms, behavioural patterns). Mechanical solidarity based on cohesion of family bonds and neighbourhood is typical as well as perception of life as density (life in circle, not linear development). Throughout close relationship to nature, people have special severity because they see a circle of life and death as natural element.

- *Countryside social structure* is a special social category with a lower social mobility but physical proximity of people who respect and keep social hierarchy and structure.[3]

3.1.1. The European Union definitions and divisions of territories

The Czech Republic as a member of the European Union uses classifications of rural areas according to the Eurostat methodology. Eurostat is the statistical office of the European Union and its methodology is essential tool for statistical analysis of patterns and trends on the European Union level. It provides comparability among regions and Member States. It creates consistent basis for purposes of statistical reports and publications on European Union. The methodology is applied in development policy as well. It provides rational and coherent way of regional funds allocation.

Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics (NUTS) classifies the hierarchical system for harmonisation of EU regional statistical purposes and socio-economic analysis. The history of regional classification by Eurostat is dated back to the 1970s and it modifies in the time, together with the European Union enlargement and administrative changes in individual Member States. The current NUTS Regulation came into effect on 1st January 2012 and the review of the NUTS classification is proposed at three-year interval.

It has three regional levels which are identified by three principles. The first principle is minimum and maximum of average level of population and it was defined as the key indicator for comparability. The second principle is based on an administrative division applied in single Member States. The third principle reflects general geographical units. It is often necessary to identify a unit which do not correspondent with Member States' administrative units but it exists solely for statistical purposes regions [19].

Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics – 3 levels:

- **NUTS level 1** – major socio-economic regions (3 million – 7 million inhabitants),
- **NUTS level 2** – basic regions for the application of regional policies (800,000 – 3 million inhabitants),
- **NUTS level 3** – small regions for specific diagnoses (150,000 – 800,000 inhabitants).

Division of the Czech Republic territory do not exactly correspond with minimum and maximum levels appointed by Eurostat methodology. It is divided in regard to demographic and economic character of the Czech Republic regions. The whole territory of the Czech Republic is NUTS 1 although the population is over 7 million (10,548,527 inhabitants at the date of the 30th September 2011 [23]). The Czech Republic has 8 units of NUTS 2 which are defined only for statistical purpose without administrative function. There are 14 units of NUTS 3 which are same as the self-governed territorial regions of the Czech Republic (13 regions and the capital city of Prague) [12].

Local Administrative Units (LAU) is definition of regions at local level for statistical purposes, compatible with NUTS regions and formerly classified as NUTS. They usually correspond with individual municipalities: This definition is based on density of population.

- **LAU level 1** (upper level, formerly NUTS level 4) – It is not defined in all of the Member States. LAU level 2 has to meet a condition of 100 inhabitants per 1km² in the region.

- **LAU level 2** (lower level, formerly NUTS level 5) – It consists of municipalities or equivalent units in the 27 EU Member States. The index for LAU level 2 is density of population: 100 inhabitants per 1km² in a municipality. [17]

These regions are further divided into three types according to urban-rural typology.

Urban-rural typology is the next definition of territories. It is established by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). This typology classifies and splits NUTS 3 regions into three types, based on the percentage of population living in local rural units [18]:

- **predominantly urban (PU)** - the share of population living in rural LAU 2 is below 15 %;
- **intermediate (IN)** - the share of population living in rural LAU 2 is between 15 % and 50 %;
- **predominantly rural (PR)** - the share of population living in rural LAU 2 is higher than 50 %.

There are two predominantly urban areas in the Czech Republic according to this typology (the capital city Prague and Středočeský Region) and their share is 22.4% of the Czech Republic territory. Six intermediate regions have share of 44% and other six predominantly rural regions cover 33.6% of the territory. About two-thirds of the Czech population lives in rural regions [26].

3.1.2. Transformation of the Czech countryside and the role of farmers

The current situation of the Czech countryside is influenced by development of the Czech Republic, its political regime, historical dependence or independence on other countries and the systems of governance.

There are several key points which have impact on the countryside development, its population and especially farmers and landscape design: After the First World War and establishment of the Czechoslovakia in 1918, a new constitution and many reforms were approved, such as: electoral system, social system as well as land reform. The land reform changed division of land. It reduced fortune of aristocracy and Roman Catholic Church and enhanced medium-sized farmers who supported newly established state and its democratic system. During the Second World War farmers and food production were essential for survival of the whole nation.

Crucial point is era of collectivization from the end of the 1940s, throughout the 1950s. Farmers and their families were independent, conservative and autonomous rural community, with strong local and family bonds and they had major respect than Communist officers and the communist ideology. From 1948, the farmers were worried of land nationalization and creation of kolkhoz as it was in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia made a huge effort to liquidate private farmers. They were violently transferred from native villages, far from their farmhouses and land or they were imprisoned. Repressions were against whole families. Children could not study at universities and their future chance at labour market was limited.

Besides centralization of agriculture into so-called “*state farms*” and “*united agriculture cooperatives*”, there was also centralization of public services, schools and culture into defined number of “*centralised municipalities*”. These forced organization of the society damaged traditional structures. Regarding the Czech landscape, plots of field were usually connected into large areas for easier tillage and were more profitable. This

unnatural intervention was devastating and harmful for landscape and unbearable for nature. Collectivization of rural areas brought exclusion of important social class of private farmers on social edge.

As the starting point for current situation of the Czech countryside can be conceded year 1989 when the political system was changed in the Czechoslovakia, and after forty years of the governance of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, the democratic system was inducted. After Velvet revolution, there were liberation and euphoria in the society and expectation of bright future. Farmers hoped for restoration of private farming, restitution of their properties and return home.

Czech sociologists Miloslav Lapka and Miroslav Gottlieb did a research from 1991 to 1995 focused on farmers and farming in ecological sensitive areas, in the mountains and foothills of the Czech Republic (Lapka, Gottlieb, 2000). They describe a farmer as a holder of social culture and moral values who privately run his/her farm. They also use a term "*farmer's consciousness*" which is unique for people who work in unity with nature. It includes mutual influence on farmer, his/her family and the landscape. Farmers usually have specific set of attitudes, opinions, traditional conservatism (unknown to urban inhabitants) which rise from relationship to the land, country and family tradition. M. Lapka and M. Gottlieb stress faith in God as another significant feature of rural community. About 90% of respondents of their social research are believers of Roman Catholic Church. Farmers perceive God in their daily life because their performance is an element of natural order as well as transcendental order which are interconnected and they cannot capriciously break them.

Farmers see their power and the ability to survive in conviction that those who live for thousands of years in close connection with nature, they have absorbed a part of its indestructibility and eternity. They compare themselves with a grass: the more you walk on the grass the more it grows.

M. Lapka and M. Gottlieb, supposed the farmers will re-establish the tradition of private farming and expect renewal respect to their social group as those who farm and care about the landscape in the ecological and esthetical way so that they will try to reach position of the rural middle-class [7].

3.1.3. Problems of rural areas

Bohuslav Blažek deals with the topic of rural and urban areas in his book *Venkov, města, média* (1998). He stresses the difference in perception of rural areas between rural and urban populations. Both groups establish their views on the comparison of the areas where they live. The urban population assesses the problems from the viewpoint what they do not like in the countryside and what is unpleasant in “*their*” recreational area: deterioration of natural resources, harmful influence of rural work on the landscape and deficiency of the landscape maintenance. On the other hand, the inhabitants of rural areas contrast the comfort of urban life style which they would like to reach in the rural life style.

Rural population grieve more for non-rural problems. General civilization problems of the whole society are named on the first place. The typical rural problems are named on the second place: the impact of agriculture on the landscape and natural resource, poor culture activities, low civilization level or dysfunctional management. B. Blažek defines problems of the rural areas on basis of the social research implemented within the group of the Civic Forum participants, in March 1990.

The research respondents determined the *policy* as the biggest problem: negative relationships within the community, change in the way of thinking, and fear of open speech with local authorities. Other *policy problems* are for example old political structures including the Communist party or political influence in agricultural companies (cooperatives).

The second place belongs to the *culture and interests*. The respondents formulated their dissatisfaction with culture events and leisure activities together with unsuitable

places where the culture and sport events can be organized. They also point that the only place of meetings is a village pub, or an absence of the priest in a village vicarage.

Social relations are on the third place among the biggest problems of the rural areas. This point includes an indifference to community life and public interest, and little opportunities for community events and meetings. People stress jealousy, egoism, lack of character and churlish behaviour as the problems which are inherited from the times of the Communist party governance before 1989.

The lack of *education*, inadequate teachers or school and commutation to school are another group of problems.

The research showed more problems which gained lower level of importance, for example *pollution* of the air as an effect of solid fuels use for heating, water and land pollution by liquid waste, insufficient supply of shops and dissatisfaction with *services and transport system*. The lack of job opportunities is in this ranking list on the twelfth position together with other aspects related to work: too many hours spent at work, loss of personal contact among parents and their children, problems which child welfare as well as too hard work for women.

The typical aspects and potential problems which are associated with rural areas and rural life style (agriculture, landscape maintenance and ownership relations, crafts, ecological awareness and animal and plant diversity, or religion and knowledge of history) are according to this research on the middle and last position in the list [2, p. 326 - 345].

3.1.4. Development in rural areas and changes of landscape

Rural areas and the landscape experiences similar trends in all around Europe. One of them is *immigration from rural areas* in favour of urban areas continues together with declaim of traditional rural settlements Young people migrate to towns, seeking of job opportunities and services. Traditional farms and farming in rural areas have become less

efficient and unattractive for young people, especially in the border and hilly areas where the soil is infertile.

Intensification of food production moves into convenient areas and agribusiness concentrates in particular areas together with technologies, human potential and knowledge, machineries and industrial processes.

Creation of “new landscapes” emerges in attractive rural areas, for example formation of large-scale golf courses, ski resorts, tourist attractions.

On the other hand, the rural areas experiences *new migratory wave* to the countryside of people who work in the towns but they live in the countryside and they spend their leisure time there. This trend is called amenity migration which is defined by motivation in natural beauties, attractiveness of rural areas, cheaper housing, healthier air and more space. This new migration is connected with building boom and development of “*satellite cities - dormitory suburbs.*” This new suburbs are isolated from towns and village centres and their inhabitants are isolated spatially as well as socially [6, p. 62, 63].

These trends destroy traditional rural settlements and landscape as well as rural society with its culture, social hierarchy, values and norms. However, the Czech rural areas have convenient conditions for development of the “*attractiveness factor*” as well as for ecological agriculture and soft forms of tourism (ecotourism, adventure tourism).

The Czech sociologist Miloslav Lapka uses the term “*petosféra*” in reflection on ongoing changes in European rural areas and landscape, mentioned above. The term “*petosféra*” is of the Czech language origin and expresses the most reputable values of current countryside: Příroda (nature), Estetika (aesthetics) and Turistika (Tourism), whereas where the food production function retreats. He deduces an abbreviation “*PET*” and the term “*petosféra*” from these three words. He also points the English meaning of the word “*pet*” (a domesticated family animal) and uses it for explanation of changes in human relationship to the rural areas: People want to observe natural beauties, enjoy natural open space and spend their leisure time in the natural environment. “*PET*” can

consequently help to stop emigration from rural areas, devastation and leaving of the countryside but it can also modify the traditional structures and culture [6, p. 64].

3.2. The role of people in rural development /models of rural development/

This sub-chapter deals with the role of people in rural development as key participants of the projects invention and implementation.

The rural development includes consideration of geographical, ecological and economical aspects and on top social and cultural aspects because rural development point to people, their needs and demands. It creates conditions for quality of people's life that lives in the regions, rural areas. The other aim is compensation of regionals' disparities [3].

Rural areas suffer from decreasing rate of job opportunities in agriculture and there is faster increasing rate of unemployment than in developed urban areas or rural areas situated close to industrial centres. There is also limited opportunity for economy diversification [22]. Rural development and involvement of people who are in the target of rural policy can improve the situation. There are two basic models of rural development which are introduced below.

3.2.1. Exogenous model of rural development

Exogenous model of rural development is more classical approach which emerges from formulation of the rural problem as “understanding of urbanisation and industrialisation as mutually reinforcing and unilinear processes whereby capital and labour were increasingly concentrated in cities.” [22, p. 6] The main function of rural areas is considered in food production and securing and supplying of expanding urban areas. This view of development put emphasis on specialized regional economies: industrial cores in urban areas and on the other side progressive, market-oriented agriculture. The problem incurred from this classification is in high number of people who works in agriculture but they lose their jobs with increasing technological innovations, competitiveness and efficiency in agriculture. Consequently the rural areas lose population and they are in unequal relationship with growing industrial urban centers.

This approach was typical for post-war rural development when the states sponsored modernization of rural services and technologies. It had full meaning in the post-war period when the food supply was on the top of needs across the whole society and devastated Europe. Another phase of rural development emphasized *“the attraction of new types of employment to rural areas. Manufacturing firms were encouraged to relocate from urban areas or to set up branch plants. As well as financial and fiscal inducements, development agencies concentrated on providing infrastructural support, including improvements in transportation and communication links and the provision of serviced factory sites and premises.”* [22, p. 8]

Philip Lowe and his colleagues name, in their paper “Participation in Rural Development”, the following criticisms of exogenous approaches to rural development:

- **dependent development** - reliant on continued subsidies and the policy decisions of distant agencies or boardrooms;
- **distorted development** - which boosted single sectors, selected settlements and certain types of business (e.g. progressive farmers) but left others behind and neglected the non-economic aspects of rural life;
- **destructive development** - that erased the cultural and environmental differences of rural areas;
- **dictated development** devised by external experts and planners. list [22, p. 8, 9]

The last point in the list is the most frequently mentioned especially in comparison with the second approach – the endogenous model. It came into live in the 1980s after failures of exogenous approaches in the 1970s.

3.2.2. Endogenous model of rural development

Endogenous model of rural development is preferred as a tool which uses potentials of local areas. These potentials ensure meeting of needs and expectations which fits to the character of locality where the projects are implemented. It promotes forms of local

development which would be less dependent on external capital and the emphasis is on rural diversification. It is of bottom-up character whilst the exogenous model has top-down character. The other character of endogenous model is rural sustainability. This concept seeks not only sustainability of the economic development and environmental protection but also cover the viability of localities and with their population which are necessary for environment and economic activities [22].

Integrated model of endogenous rural development connects social, economic, environment political and other aspects. It emerges from:

- **Locally specific resources** which ensure sustainable development and *local order* (social norms and values, institutions and natural sources as well)
- **Local initiatives and activity** of the inhabitants which have their motives and needs. This approach enables prevention of failures connected with apathy to implemented projects and it can also eliminate negative influence of globalisation.
- **Social, cultural and human capital** which are assumption of the endogenous model because it stresses coordination of collective actions. The co-operation of all involved parties and bid for common goals are necessary.
- **Activities diversification** is an orientation of endogenous model. The diversification enables choice among opportunities for the individuals and it helps to manage changes in social situations. It also guarantees sufficient income sources.

Philip Lowe concludes the sectoral policies as “*no longer adequate mechanism for solving the multi-faceted and changing social needs of the countryside*” [22, p. 13]. The public funds and subsidies for rural development will lead up to economic efficiency for common benefits. The endogenous model involves local inhabitants as key participants of the rural development. There is necessary encouragement from policy makers but also willingness to participate in community activities.

3.3. Rural development policy

This subchapter of the Diploma Thesis deals with rural development policy, tools which are used by the Czech government and its links to the European Union.

Rural development policy in the Czech Republic is under administration and supervision of Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic. The Rural Development Programme of the Czech Republic for the period from 2007 to 2013 is a basic document which emerges from National Strategic Plan of Rural Development and ensures an implementation of European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), specified in Council Regulation (EC) No. 1698/ 2005 [16].

3.3.1. The Common Agricultural Policy

The history of Common Agriculture policy is dated back to the 1950s when whole Europe and food supplies were affected by Second World War. *“The emphasis of the early CAP was on encouraging better agricultural productivity so that consumers had a stable supply of affordable food and ensure that the EU had a viable agricultural sector.”*[21, p. 6] Support of farmers and agriculture enterprises was via subsidies to guarantee profit and higher production. In the time, the aims of subsidies were changed and financial support was provided to investments and new technologies, early retirement, training and less favoured regions. The policy was successful in meeting its objectives but with changing needs an additional changes in the policy has to be introduced. In 1980s, the emphasis was put on environment friendly approaches and in 1999 the new element of rural development policy was introduced. The CAP originally covered almost two-thirds of the European Union budget. Nowadays, the trend is decreasing of this share under one-third. It is reasonable with regard to lowering share of employment rate in agriculture. However, the measures included in the CAP are not focused only on agriculture but wide range of measures relate to different aspects of rural areas development.

The Common Agriculture Policy includes *two pillars*. The first one is the Single Common Market Organization and the Direct Aid to Farms. It provides guidance of agriculture production and stabilization of the market, keeping the basic principles of single market community preference and financial solidarity and direct support of agriculture enterprises. The second pillar of the CAP is the Rural Development Policy. From this pillar emerges the Rural Development Programme of the Czech Republic which will be describes in the next sub-chapter. In 2005, the single fund for the second pillar of the CAP was established: the European Agriculture Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) which arranges individual measures of the second pillar.

The current CAP is for programming period from 2007 to 2013. The analysis and work on the new CAP started and there are first perspectives for next seven years, to 2020: The importance of social, environmental and sustainable aspects is still present. The new topic is climate-related and technological challenges. The new CAP will take into consideration the wealth and diversity of agriculture among Member States (EU 27). [20]

The last aspect – consideration of diversities among Member States meets the criticism of the CAP in the past. Matthew Gorton and his colleagues presents in their study *The Folly of European Union Policy Transfer: Why the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) Does Not Fit Central and Eastern Europe* constructive arguments. The most powerful one is different historical development of agriculture in New Member States and EU-15. The CAP is highly focused on support of family farms whilst there is usually 40 years' experience with unwilling co-operative and state farms in the New Member States [10].

3.3.2. The Rural Development Programme of the Czech Republic 2007 – 2013

This subchapter closely describe Rural Development Programme of the Czech Republic 2007 – 2013. The document compiles social-economy, environment, and geographical characteristics of the Czech Republic and SWOT analysis. The major part of the document processes measures of rural development policy. The Programme fulfil

measures in cohesion with the Common Agricultural Policy and four Axis appointed by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).

AXIS I - Improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sectors

This axis includes measures focused directly focused on financial support of agriculture and forestry, for example:

- Modernisation of agricultural holdings
- Planting of fast-growing tree species designed for use in energy generation
- Investments in forests, forestry machinery, infrastructure
- Cooperation for development of new products, processes and technologies (or innovations) in food industry
- Land consolidation
- Further vocational training and information actions
- Setting up of young farmers
- Early retirement from farming
- Use of advisory services

AXIS II - improving the environment and countryside

This Axis is connected with environmentally focused approached to rural development and ecological sustainability of agriculture and it provides payments to compensate handicap of agriculture in specific conditions. There is list of selected measures of this Axis:

- Payments within Natura 2000 agricultural and forest areas
- “Environment friendly farming methods”
- Scheme organic farming
- “Grassland maintenance” (meadows, pastures)

- “Bio-belts” scheme
- Afforestation of agricultural land
- Improving the species composition of forests
- Restoring forestry potential after disasters and promoting social functions of forests

AXIS III - improving the quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of the rural economy

Axis III meets the need for activities diversification in rural areas. It fulfils the meaning of endogenous model of rural development: It provides choice and options in social situations.

- Diversification of non-agricultural activities, new business creation and development
- Encouragement of tourism activities
- Village renewal and development, public amenities and services
- Conservation and upgrading of the rural cultural heritage
- Training and information

AXIS IV – LEADER (building local capacity for employment and diversification)

LEADER (from French: Liaison Entre Actions de Développement de l'Economie Rurale; in English: 'Links between actions for the development of the rural economy') is approach for support of rural communities and their cooperation. Development strategies of rural micro-regions have become reliable measure for realization and administration of activities in regions. Axis IV includes three measures which demands involvement of local partners and willingness for cooperation on community activities:

- Local action group
- Implementing local development strategy
- Implementation co-operation projects on international level

4. Empirical section

The empirical part of this Diploma Thesis processes the empirical social research. Its aim is to analyse demands and satisfaction of selected municipality inhabitants and compare them with the Czech Republic policy represented in the *Rural development program 2007 – 2013* (introduced in chapter 3. 3). This section begins with description of the surveyed village České Meziříčí. The results of the social research are presented in the following subchapters.

4.1. *The description of surveyed locality*

The municipality České Meziříčí is situated in the foothills of the Orlické Mountains, twenty kilometres from the East Bohemian city Hradec Králové in the Hradec Králové Region. The River Dědina flows through České Meziříčí. The main road, which leads through the village, runs from town Dobruška (the Orlické Mountains direction) to the village of Králova Lhota and further to the city of Hradec Králové.

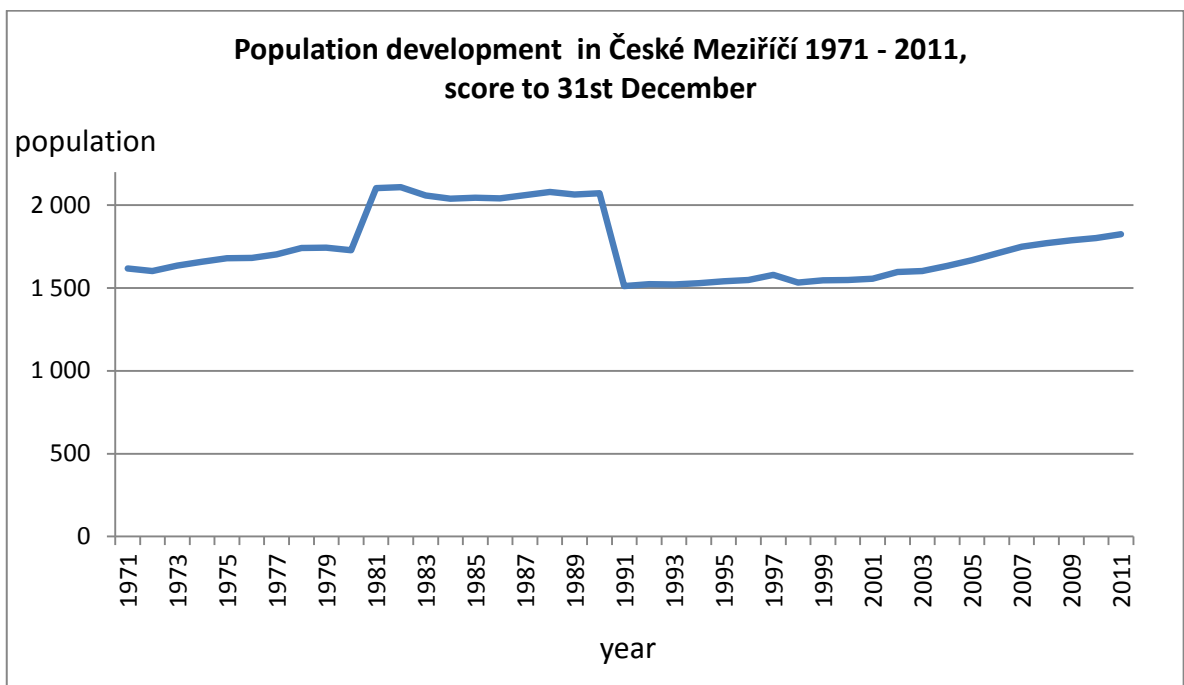
It is a background for other smaller villages in the vicinity because of its public utilities such as health centre for children and adults, pharmacy, post office or varying shops and services. The existence of primary school plays important role for village status. It was established in the 17th century and the new school building was opened in 1935. Currently, the school has about 200 students and it is attended by children from surrounding villages as well.

The biggest companies in the village have industrial character. One of the most important employers is sugar refinery (Tereos TTD, a. s.) which is one of two existing sugar refineries in the Bohemian territory. The other ones are companies manufacturing agricultural equipment (AGE s. r. o.) and electronic parts (ECOM s. r. o.). There is one farm enterprise (ZEMSPOL České Meziříčí, a. s.) which was formerly agricultural cooperative. Other businesses in the village are predominantly self-employed people and small entrepreneurs.

The district town Rychnov nad Kněžnou, the municipality Dobruška with extended powers and municipality Opočno with authorized local authority are important administrative municipalities.

The municipality of České Meziříčí consists of the village České Meziříčí and two smaller villages Skršice and Tošov. It is considered to be one of the largest villages in the Rychnov nad Kněžnou district. Surrounding villages are: Rohenice, Bohuslavice, Pohoří, Opočno, Mokré, Jílovice, Králova Lhota, and Jasenná.

Graph no. 1: Population development in České Meziříčí 1971 - 2011



Source: Data by the Czech statistical office, graph from own computation

The village had population of 1,824 inhabitants on 31st December 2011. The chart above shows the development of village population from 1971 to 2011. There are two significant fluctuations. The first one was in 1980 when České Meziříčí was unified with three villages in its vicinity (Jílovice, Skršice and Vysoký Újezd nad Dědinou). The second change occurred in 1990, after Velvet revolution. At the time Jílovice, Rohenice and

Vysoký Újezd nad Dědinou separated from České Meziříčí into autonomous municipalities.

During 1990s the village had about 1,540 inhabitants in average. In 2004 the number of inhabitants exceeded a level of 1,600 and in 2010 the level reached 1,800 inhabitants [13]. The growth is not caused by higher birth rate. The village experiences a building boom approximately from year 2001 and people from surrounding towns migrate to České Meziříčí where the land is cheaper and available. For example the town Dobruška has no municipal plots of land to sell for building and the village has convenient transport accessibility to Hradec Králové.

4.1.1. Brief history of České Meziříčí

This subchapter describes briefly history of selected village and relations to surrounding towns. It is based on chronicles and brochures published by municipality of České Meziříčí.

The first written reference about the village České Meziříčí is mentioned in the parchment by King Wenceslav II. (1283-1305) who conceded a settlement or fortified farmyard called Cungeswald (King's forest) to Mikuláš as hereditary occupancy. There is no detailed reference about Mikuláš in historical sources. However it is supposed he was king's minion or locater. The settlement was probably established in the 13th century by colonists from Lower Saxony who came to Bohemian regions at the king's invitation. Another theory says that their arrival was arranged by the Cistercian Order from the Sváté Pole Monastery located nearby the village of České Meziříčí.

The Cungeswald settlement was built next the branch road of Glatz-Polish Trail which continued to the town of Náchod and its branch road led to Opočno Castle and the market town Lešná (currently town Dobruška), to Glatz and Poland.

The first written record about a church in the village dates back to 1352. It is first referred in the list of churches and parishes which was procured for Arnošt z Pardubic, the

first Archbishop of Prague and an advisor and diplomat to Emperor Charles IV. The church is dedicated to St. Catherine, the patron saint of teamsters and wheelers and it belongs to the Hradec Králové diocese of Roman Catholic Church.

In the 14th and the 15th centuries, the village had many owners. At the beginning of the 16th century, local farmyards were bought by the family of Trčkové z Lípy who owned Opočno Castle. In 1634, properties of the family Trčkové z Lípy were confiscated for alleged participation in conspiracy against the Emperor Ferdinand II. (1578–1637). He afterwards gave the Opočno manor to Earl Colloredo of Wallsee. At that time, present form of administrative relationship to Opočno has its origin as we know today [9].

4.2. Social research model

The formulation of the social research problem is “Demands and satisfaction of young people living in the rural areas in comparison to the Czech Republic policy represented in the *Rural development programme of the Czech Republic for 2007 – 2013*.”

The research problem and possibilities of its investigation:

The rural areas are marginalized by media and sequentially by the public in long term. The Czech Republic as the member state of the European Union creates regulations of rural development in agreement with the Common agriculture policy of the European Union. It is predominantly focused on support of agriculture and forestry. The question is whether this policy meets the demands of rural population.

The objective of this research is to compare the real demands and satisfaction of young rural population with the official policy. The research will be focused on the selected municipality and its inhabitants. For this reason, it will not be representative research for the Czech Republic as a whole, but it can bring interesting data as well.

The research will be implemented from July until August 2012, in the selected municipality České Meziříčí which is situated in the Hradec Králové region. It will be focused on young people aged 20 – 30 years old who have a permanent residency in the village.

There were 262 inhabitants of the age from 20 – 29 years old according to the Czech Republic census in 2001. It was about 16.7% from the whole village population what was 1,567 inhabitants in 2001 [15]. It can be supposed there is approximately similar percentage of inhabitant in this age group now. The intention of the research is to gain about 100 respondents. If this aim is reach, we will approximately attain the opinions from 38% of addressed age group.

Choice of the social research tool and distribution: The questionnaire is chosen as an appropriate tool of the empirical social research. It enables collection of opinions from higher number of respondents although it is supposed lower return rate of questionnaires. Data collected via questionnaire enable easy categorization and evaluation with the usage of computer software (SPSS). The questionnaire distribution will be based on the list of inhabitants of the selected age group (20 - 30 years old) provided by municipal authority of České Meziříčí and author's personal knowledge of the surveyed locality. Choice of respondents will be processed by random sampling from the list.

Questionnaire: The language and terminology of the questionnaire are modified to be intelligible to every respondent (with regard to different levels of education, social and life experiences). The questionnaire mainly includes close-ended questions. The final question is of open-ended character and it provides space for comments and additional statement of respondents' opinions and ideas. The questionnaire is composed of identification questions (gender, education level, employment) and block of questions related to the topic (satisfaction with life and problems in rural areas, financial support of rural areas, agriculture). The end of the questionnaire focuses on identification of the respondents with the village and their thoughts about move to town.

4.3. Analysis of the questionnaire survey results

This subchapter processes the results of questionnaire investigation. The list of the inhabitants of the selected municipality and age group, provided by municipal authority, included 365 persons. However, on the basis of personal knowledge of surveyed locality, it has to be mentioned that the list includes names of people who are dead or have changed their permanent residency. Afterwards, let take into the consideration the number of inhabitants of the selected age group does not correspond with the reality.

The questionnaire was personally distributed to every third *existing* person from the list (to 120 respondents) and the required number of 100 completed and returned questionnaires was reached (27% of total). The detailed output of calculations by computer software SPSS is in the supplement.

4.3.1. Structure of social research respondents

The questionnaire opens with identification questions which provide information about the character of respondents. The balanced gender structure of the respondents was reached in the proportion of 50% questionnaires completed by females and 50% by males.

The highest education level of the majority of respondents is secondary school with the school leaving examination (51%). The second most frequent is an education at vocational school (secondary school without the school leaving examination) represented by 23% of respondent and the third one is a university education (18%). 5% of the respondents marked their highest education on the primary school level and 3% marked the college education.

The third identification question describes the structure of respondents according to their current "*situation in life*", their social occupation. The table no. 1 shows the structure of the frequency and percentage.

Table no. 1: Situation in life

Question no. 3	frequency	percentage
Employee in private sector	35	35%
Employee in public sector	9	9%
Self-employed, entrepreneur	12	12%
Student	27	27%
Unemployed	5	5%
On maternity leave	12	12%
in total	100	100%

56% of the respondents are employees: the biggest group is employees in private sector (35%), then self-employed and entrepreneurs with 12% and employees in public sector amount to 9%. Students establish other significant group with occurrence of 27%. It can be stated that the group of students are university or college students with the regard to the age group of respondent (20 – 30 years old). 12% of the respondents are women on maternity leave and 5% of the respondents are unemployed.

The question number 4 was focused on the employed respondents who marked options: Employee in private sector, employee in public sector and self-employed, entrepreneur in the question number 3. This group includes 56 respondents and one respondent missed the question no. 4. There are 55 responses in total and the division of their professions is shown in the table no. 2.

Table no. 2: Professions of employed respondents

Question no. 4	frequency	percentage
Agriculture, forestry, fishery	4	7.3%
Industry	18	32.7%
Construction industry	4	7.3%
Trade, repair work of motor vehicles	10	18.2%
Transportation, postal service, telecommunications	4	7.3%
Public services, military defence, police, social security	3	5.5%
Educational system, Health services, veterinary and social work	4	7.3%
Other	8	14.5%
Missing	1	
in total	55	100%

Two largest groups are employees in an industry (32.7%) and trade and repair work of motor vehicles (18.2%). 8 (14.5%) respondents did not rank their job into stated classifications. Agriculture, forestry, fishery, construction industry, transportation, postal service, telecommunications and educational system, health services, veterinary and social work professions have the same frequency of responses (7.3%). The smallest percentage share (5.5%) is for public services, military defence, police and social security.

4.3.2. Satisfaction with life in the village

One of the aims of the social research was investigation of satisfaction with life in the rural areas. For this reason, the questionnaire includes questions about aspects which can improve or complicate life in the rural areas.

The question number 5 point out possible problem of the life in the rural areas. The respondent evaluated their view of each topic on the scale from the big problem, middle-sized problem, small problem, no problem and no opinion.

51% of the respondents stressed as the big problem the lack of job opportunities. Another 31% marked it as a middle-sized problem. The other biggest problems are necessity of traveling for education and pollution of natural resources and water by industrial activities. Both of these topic gained 26% in the range of big problem.

Low involvement in public affairs gained significant percentage of 39% as middle-sized problem and another 23% as big problem. These two numbers create together 62% of people who are dissatisfied with low involvement in community activities.

The topic of limited health care seemed to be urgent but it was marked as big problem by 12% of respondents. 31% marked it as middle-sized but for 55% the limited health care represents small or no problem. It can be with regard to group of young respondents of the research who do not suffer from poor health as older people or mothers of small children. Young people have also smaller problems with commutation to health centres in towns or for other purposes.

The lack of transport services was marked as no problem by 42.4%. The next positions among the not problematic topics belong to the interpersonal relationships, lack of cultural and social events. Leisure time activities could be closely connected with culture and social events and we could expect very similar results. However, the lack of leisure activities gained higher share of dissatisfaction (52%) than lack of culture and social events (40%).

The respondents had an opportunity to express topics which were not in the list. One respondent pointed to the traffic safety, traffic density and lack of bicycle paths and he marked it as the middle-sized problem. Another respondent noted down the lack of waste collection point in the village as a small problem. The table no. 3 shows detailed distribution of respondents' opinions.

Table no. 3: Possible problems connected with life in rural areas

Question no. 5	Big problem	Middle-sized problem	Small problem	No problem	No opinion
1. Limited access to health care.	12%	31%	26%	29%	2%
2. Lack of transport services.	9.1%	18.2%	26.3%	42.4%	4%
3. Lack of leisure activities.	17%	35%	21%	25%	2%
4. Lack of cultural and social events.	15%	25%	24%	32%	4%
5. Necessity to travel for education.	26%	33%	21%	15%	5%
6. Lack of job opportunities.	51%	31%	10%	4%	4%
7. Necessity to travel for job.	22%	38%	26%	11%	3%
8. Insufficient and low quality services.	13%	27%	30%	24%	6%
9. Insufficient landscape maintenance.	9.1%	23.2%	34.3%	18.2%	15.2%
10. Loss of wildlife in the wild.	18%	24%	15%	27%	16%
11. Pollution of natural resources and water by fertilizers used in agriculture.	22%	22%	21%	17%	18%
12. Pollution of natural resources and water by industrial activities.	26%	29%	19%	14%	12%
13. Interpersonal relationships.	10%	24%	30%	34%	2%
14. Low involvement in public affairs (willingness to do something for the community).	23%	39%	23%	14%	11%

The question number 6 stressed some traditional views (the positive perceptions) of the rural areas. Respondents expressed their agreement with these statements on the scale from strong agreement, slight agreement, and slight disagreement to strong disagreement and option of no opinion.

The statement about more free space (lower density) gained the highest percentage of 62.6% for strong agreement. 33.3% of respondents strongly agreed with the low-costs housing in the rural areas. 28% of the respondents strongly agreed and 59% slightly agreed with the statement about the healthy environment in the rural areas. Most respondents also expressed their slight agreement with good community life and informal and friendly relationships in the rural areas. The respondents predominantly confirmed some positive expectations from rural areas (for details see table no. 4)

The strong disagreement (15.2%) was expressed for low crime rate in rural areas and another 33.3% expressed their slight disagreement about this topic. Some respondents wrote comments about connection between criminality and local gypsy community and their negative perception of occurred problems in the village.

Table no. 4: Positive expectations from rural areas

Question no. 6	I strongly agree	I slightly agree	I slightly disagree	I strongly disagree	No opinion
1. There is a healthy environment (clean air, etc.) in the rural areas.	28%	59%	9%	3%	-
2. There is a good community life in the rural areas.	16,2%	53,5%	21,2%	4%	5,1%
3. The life is ruled by informal and friendly relations in the rural areas.	18,2%	60,6%	12,1%	2%	7,1%
4. There is a low-cost housing in the rural areas.	33,3%	37,4%	23,2%	2%	4%
5. There is a low crime rate in the rural areas.	14,1%	35,4%	33,3%	15,2%	2%
6. There is a more free space (lower density) in the countryside.	62,2%	33,7%	3,1%	-	1%

4.3.3. Rural areas and the agriculture

The questionnaire also included topic of agriculture to investigate opinions of young generation on meaning rural areas in connection with agriculture, ecology and widely discussed organic products. On this topic was focused block question number 8 which includes 5 sub-questions. Respondents expressed their agreement with the topics as in the case of question no. 6.

At the beginning, it can be said that there was no topic which gained significant share of disagreement. Agriculture is perceived as the main function of rural areas by most of the young generation (72%).

M. Lapka and M. Gottlieb supposed that private farmers will be holder of traditions and values of the countryside in the future. The second sub-question examined view of this topic by young rural population. Most of them agreed (65%) although they do not have direct relationship with agriculture (education, job) or experience from community life because there is no important private farmer in České Meziříčí.

Most young people also believe that ecological and organic product are healthier than products of intensive agriculture and the organic farming is the only way to reach sustainable agriculture and then it makes sense to support it. In these results we can see that also young rural population is affected with current inclination to organic farming and ecological approach to landscape maintenance.

The last sub-question was related to job opportunities in rural areas. 50% of respondents agree with the statement that there are job mainly in agriculture but 44% expressed their disagreement. There is no significant difference of shares among the opinions. With regard to the job opportunities in the village (existing companies and structure of respondents' employments presented in previous subchapters) we can hardly estimate whether respondents' estimation of job opportunities is based on personal experience or it originates from general view of rural areas. The detailed division of respondents' opinions are presented in table no. 5.

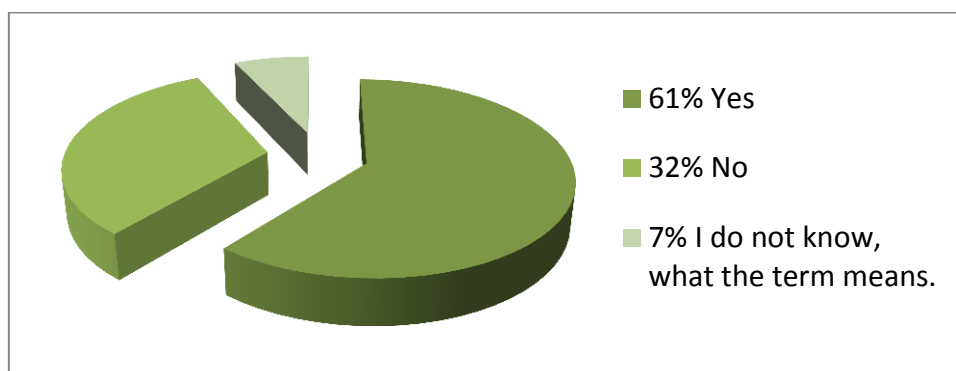
Table no. 5: Perception of rural areas and agriculture

Question no. 8	I strongly agree	I slightly agree	I slightly disagree	I strongly disagree	No opinion
1. The main function of rural areas is agricultural production.	30%	42%	16%	8%	4%
2. The private farmer is a holder of traditions and values associated with the life in the countryside.	27%	38%	25%	4%	6%
3. Ecological and organic products are healthier than products of intensive agriculture.	27%	33%	24%	8%	8%
4. Organic farming is the only way to reach sustainable agriculture and therefore it makes sense to support it.	18%	40%	24%	6%	12%
5. In the rural areas, there are job opportunities mainly in agriculture.	12%	38%	30%	14%	6%

4.3.4. Belongingness to the village

The questionnaire includes the question about identification of respondent with the term “*Meřičák*”. This term is specific for the residents of the selected municipality České Meziříčí. It is used in local area and the strangers usually are not able to recognize that the term “*Meřičák*” is a person, concretely a person who lives in this village. The purpose of this question is an evaluation of the belongingness to the village of České Meziříčí and the possible plans to move to the town.

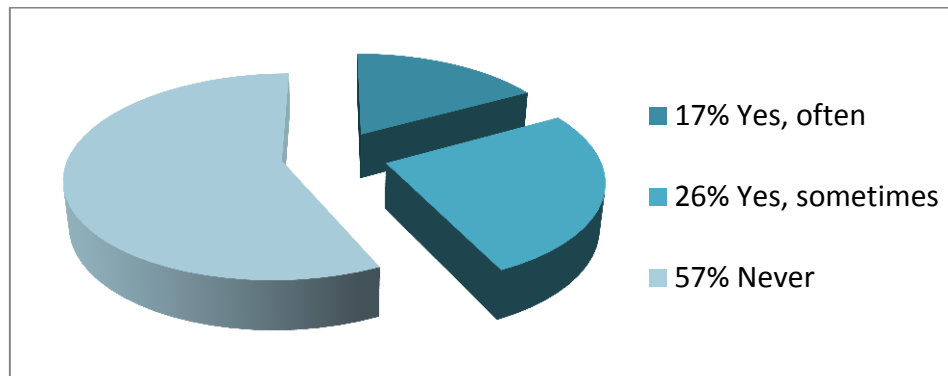
Graph no. 2: Identification of respondents with the term “*Meřičák*”



The graph no. 2 shows that the majority of respondents (61%) identify themselves with the term “*Meřičák*”. 32% of the respondents do not identify themselves and 7 respondents (7%) were not able to recognize the meaning of the term “*Meřičák*”. It can be stated that these 7 inhabitants of the village do not live in the village since their childhood, they are not in touch with older village residents or do not participate in community life.

The question number 10 was focused on the plans of inhabitants to move to the town, with the consequent option to express their reasons of the move.

Graph no. 3: Plans to move to the town



The graph no. 3 shows the intention of inhabitants to move to the town. Interesting result is that 57% of young inhabitants (aged 20-30 years old) from České Meziříčí expressed the opinion that they would never move to town. 17% think about move to town often and 26% answered that they sometimes think about it.

The respondents could mark more options of their reasons to move to town. The most frequent reason is an opportunity to gain better job in town. It was marked 12 times. The second place (with 4 marks) has the statement that the life is boring and nothing happens in the village. Three respondents expressed the opinions that there are not good relations among people in the community. The other mentioned reasons are: not healthy environment, the village has no *spirit*, opportunity to get a better housing, no need to attach myself to the village which is indifferent for me and solution of many problems by the move. One student wrote comment that he would like to move because he wants to try life in the town.

From questions number 9 and 10, we can conclude that at least 55% are native-born citizens of České Meziříčí, because 61% knows the term “*Meřičák*” and 57% express their intention to do not move to town.

4.3.5. Comparison of survey results with the rural development policy of the Czech Republic

The main focus of this Diploma Thesis is on the demands of young rural population in comparison with the rural development policy represented in *the Rural development programme of the Czech Republic for 2007 – 2013*.

The topic of financial support of agriculture and rural areas developments was processed in the block of question no. 7 (17 sub-questions). Respondents were asked to express their agreement with financial support of individual measures. The table with detailed division of respondents' opinions will be divided, for better clearness of analysed results, according to Axis and measures of the rural development programme.

Axis I – Improving the competitiveness of agriculture and forestry

First Axis is focused on competitiveness of agriculture and forestry. It includes three groups of measures. They were reduced into 7 questions which highlight specific topic, better understandable for respondents.

The highest share of agreement with financial support, within Axis I, has sub-question no. 1 – Modernization of agricultural holdings for higher competitiveness of farmers. 38% of respondents certainly agreed and 42% rather agreed. Only 10% were against the support and 10% did not express their opinion (see table no. 6).

Table no. 6: Rural areas and financial support, sub-question no.1

Question no. 7	Certainly yes	Rather yes	Rather not	Certainly not	No opinion
1. Modernization of agricultural holdings (purchase of machinery, construction, new technologies in the production process) for higher competitiveness of farmers.	38%	42%	8%	2%	10%

The reason for high share of agreement can be that machinery equipment and building constructions are most noticeable features of agribusiness in the village. And when respondents meet with these features which are outdated they agree with renewal and investments.

Planting of fast-growing tree species for use in energy generation should be should be financially supported according to 54% but 31% of respondents expressed their disagreement. The reason for agreement with this topic can be in public discussions and influence on audience via media. Generally, people tend to thought about sustainable development and sustainability of energy resources; regardless live in urban or rural areas.

Investments in forestry and land consolidation gained significant agreement. The high share of agreement for land consolidation (69%) can be justified by occurrence of ecological aspect in this topic (*ecological stability of landscape*). It was mentioned above, that the respondents tend to support of ecologically focused points (organic farming).

Table no. 7: Rural areas and financial support, sub-questions no. 2, 3, 4

Question no. 7	Certainly yes	Rather yes	Rather not	Certainly not	No opinion
2. Planting of fast-growing tree species for use in energy generation.	24%	30%	26%	5%	15%
3. Investment in forestry (machinery, forest infrastructure).	18%	41%	23%	4%	14%
4. Land consolidation (ownership relations, agricultural infrastructure, sustainable water management, ecological stability of landscape).	24%	45%	12%	5%	14%

Setting up of young farmers is the second most extensively supported topic (72%). On the other hand the early retirement from farming gained the highest share of disagreement (46%) and 20% of respondent were not able to formulate the opinion. The second highest disagreement belongs to consultancy services with 34% but there is 48% of agreement for this topic as well.

Table no. 8: Rural areas and financial support, sub-questions no. 5, 6, 7

Question no. 7	Certainly yes	Rather yes	Rather not	Certainly not	No opinion
5. Setting up of young farmers to maintain and improve the future of the whole economic sector.	36%	36%	13%	7%	8%
6. Early retirement from farming (transmission of farm to younger generation).	10%	24%	34%	12%	20%
7. Consultancy services.	18%	30%	25%	9%	18%

Axis II – Improving the environment and landscape

Axis II includes two groups of measures. They are focused on environment and landscape maintenance in relation to agriculture and financial support of environmentally friendly approaches.

In the case of Axis II, there is no significant disagreement with financial support as it was in the case of Axis I and disagreement with support of early retirement or consultancy services. Disagreement with all topics, within Axis II, is in all cases lower than 25% (in total) and no topic overreached 10% of absolutely certain disagreement. It has to be mentioned again that it seems the ecologic topics are familiar to the respondents. The support of environmentally friendly agricultural methods (77%) and sustainable use of forest land (76.8%) have almost similar share of agreement with financial support. 69%

were for the support of agribusiness in less favoured areas and 71% for support of landscape management. Detailed results are in the table no 9.

Table no. 9: Rural areas and financial support, sub-questions no. 8, 9, 10, 11

Question no. 7	Certainly yes	Rather yes	Rather not	Certainly not	No opinion
8. Support of agribusiness in less favoured areas (mountain areas, nature reservations, etc.), to maintain the stability of farmers; maintenance of the landscape, support of cattle breeding.	34%	35%	13%	7%	11%
9. Support of environment-friendly agricultural methods (organic farming).	38%	39%	13%	2%	8%
10. Landscape management (grass planting of arable land, growing of catch crops, bio-zones).	33%	38%	19%	5%	5%
11. Sustainable use of forest land, afforestation of agricultural land, improving the tree species composition of forests, forest restoration after disasters.	39.4%	37.4%	13.1%	3%	7.1%

AXIS III – Quality of life in rural areas and diversification of rural economy

Axis III includes two groups of measures which deal with village renewal and development and diversification of rural economy, job opportunities in the countryside.

The results of the questionnaire survey related to Axis III are interesting and important because of previous results of block of questions no. 5. The respondents significantly marked lack of job opportunities as the biggest problem (about 82%) and 50% think that there are jobs mainly in agriculture. About 60% of respondents also marked as problem necessity to travel for job. The sub-question no. 12 in the block of questions no.7 gave the opportunity to express need for job diversification and establishment and development of new businesses. It was expected that respondents will significantly agree with this topic as well. It gained together 64.7% of agreement which is significant but not as much as it was expected.

Table no. 10: Rural areas and financial support, sub-question no. 12

Question no. 7	Certainly yes	Rather yes	Rather not	Certainly not	No opinion
12. Support of non-agricultural activities, tourism, new business establishment and development.	27.3%	37.4%	19.2%	6.1%	10.1%

The reason of this disparity in the results of closely connected topics can be explained by *age group* (20 – 30 years old) and differences of *situation in life* of the respondents. Although young people are not satisfied with job opportunities in their village, they often own a car and currently there is very good public transport service in Hradec Králové Region and to the village České Meziříčí (it is reflected in satisfaction with public transport service). There are also 27 students and 12% women on maternity leave who currently do not solve the problem with employment or they count with commutation to work as a necessary aspect of life in the village.

Sub-question no. 13 gained higher share of agreement within Axis III. 61.6% of respondents certainly agree with financial support and 33.3% rather agree with village restoration and development. The respondents possibly stand their opinion on the experience from the village and their need for improvement of public facilities and areas.

Respondents also see the importance in conservation and development of rural heritage. 87% of respondents agree with investments to this measure. Training and providing of information to the farmers has the lowest support within Axis III (61.6%). Detailed percentage division of responses to the topic of Axis III are in the table no 11.

Table no. 11: Rural areas and financial support, sub-questions no. 13, 14, 15

Question no. 7	Certainly yes	Rather yes	Rather not	Certainly not	No opinion
13. Village restoration and development, public facilities and services (construction of water supply, sewerage system, sewage disposal plants, local roads).	61.6 %	33.3%	3%	1%	1%
14. Conservation and development of rural heritage (traditions, architectural character of the village).	53%	32%	8%	3%	4%
15. Training and providing of information to the farmers.	17.2%	44.4%	17.2%	2%	19.2%

Axis IV - LEADER

Axis IV represents measures leading to co-operation of villages and support of international experiences sharing. The financial support of local action groups for collaboration on fundraising and implementation of development project has an agreement of 72.8% of respondents. The Support for co-operation projects at the international level has 68% of agreement (details are in table no. 12).

It was expected the young people will significantly agree with support of these topics. Although it gained high share of agreement, it is lower than previous topics of Axis III. There can be several reasons why the numbers are not high as it was expected. The problem can be that these topics provide no concrete image of improvement for the environment. The lack of experiences with involvement in co-operation on the local and international level is a barrier as well as possible low level of foreign languages knowledge. This point can be improved in the future because as the university students will return to their home village they can bring new experiences from the internships and university study programmes.

Table no. 12: Rural areas and financial support, sub-questions no. 16, 17

Question no. 7	Certainly yes	Rather yes	Rather not	Certainly not	No opinion
16. Support of local action groups (representatives of profit, non-profit and public organizations) which collaborate on fundraising and implementation of development projects in their village.	35.4%	37.4%	11,1%	2%	14,1%
17. Support for co-operation projects at the international level (sharing experiences).	26%	42%	10%	5%	17%

Among the results of the questionnaire survey, there was high occurrence of “*on opinion*” (especially in the block of questions no. 7). It could be caused by misapprehension to the topics. But more probable is fact that some respondents expressed their feeling of incompetence for decisions making about financial support of individual measures in comments at the end of the questionnaire, therefore they did not complete level of their agreement and rather marked “*no opinion*”.

5. Conclusion

The objective of the Diploma Thesis was to analyse demands of rural population based on the case study of one village and its younger generation. The theoretical resources created conditions for design of empirical social research and its following analysis.

The questionnaire was designed with regard to different education level of respondents. For this reason, the language to be more colloquial and not scientific and the number of question were reduced, especially the questions regarding *the Rural Development Programme of the Czech Republic for 2007 – 2013*. If the number of questions was higher, people would be hardly willing to complete the questionnaire. Younger generation of inhabitants (20 – 30 years old) as surveyed respondents was chosen because they are highly important for the future direction of the rural areas.

The results of questionnaire survey are not representative for whole territory of the Czech Republic. The research was done in one selected village, in České Meziříčí. The Questionnaire was distributed to 120 appropriate respondents, according to random sampling from the list of inhabitants provided by local municipal authority. 100 completed questionnaires were returned with balanced gender structure.

The result of the questionnaire shows predominant satisfaction with life in the rural areas. Most of the respondents agree with general positive expectations about rural areas (healthier environment, lower cost of housing, good community life or informal relationships). Respondents expressed higher share of disagreement with low criminality rate. This is cause by personal experience from the village and existing problems with local gypsy community.

The biggest problem for young people is lack of job opportunities. This topic gained significant share of about 82%. This result is very interesting in connection with the results of the following topic within the research. Despite vast dissatisfaction with the job opportunities was expressed, “only” 64.7% of respondents agreed with financial support of

job diversification in the rural areas. About 60% also see the problem in necessity to travel for job and 50% do think that there are jobs mainly in agriculture in rural areas.

Most of the respondents tend to agree with topics which are closely connected with ecologically and environmentally friendly topics. 60% of young people believe in benefits of organic products and 77% agree with the support of environment-friendly agricultural methods as the only way for sustainable agriculture. 72% also think that the agricultural production is the main function of rural areas.

Pleasant result of the survey is share of inhabitants who identify themselves with the village. There are about 2/3 of members of young generation in this village who feels close connection to the place of their residence. This is possibly reflected in the low share of people who think about migration to town. There are 57% of them who never thought about migration and only 17% who has thought about it often.

The main part of the research was focused on opinions about financial support of measures presented in *the Rural Development Programme of the Czech Republic for 2007 – 2013*. The comparison of these results should reveal whether the policy reflects demands and expectations of rural population of selected municipality. The table no. 13 represents average agreement with four Axis of the Rural Development Programme.

Table no. 13: Comparison of average agreement of Axis I - IV

AXIS no.	Average agreement
I - Improving the competitiveness of agriculture and forestry	59,43%
II - Improving the environment and landscape	73,45%
III - Quality of life in rural areas and diversification of rural economy	76,55%
IV - LEADER	70,4%

The highest share of agreement with financial support is for the Axis III – Quality of life in rural areas and diversification of rural economy. There is topic of village restoration included. It gained absolutely highest share of agreement of 95%, followed by development of rural heritage (85%). The Axis I – Improving the competitiveness of agriculture and forestry gained the lowest share of agreement in average. In this Axis, modernization of agricultural holding for higher competitiveness of farmers gained higher share of 80%. The smallest support was for early retirement from farming (34%) but on the other hand the support of young farmers have share of 72%.

We can conclude that the Rural Development Programme of the Czech Republic for 2007 – 2013 generally meets the needs and expectations of young rural population. However, it has to be mentioned that they rather prefer financial support of non-agriculture activities within Axis III. They generally tend to agree with donations into environmentally and bio-oriented measures and prefer concrete outputs before abstract measures as further education, information and experience sharing.

The research showed considerable feeling of incompetence in decision making about financial support. With regard to previous statements, the first proposal for further directions of municipal policy makers is involvement of young people to active community live and decision making about village environment. Young people generally expressed their satisfaction with life but they also highly agree with financial support of village restoration and conservation, and development of rural heritage. Their agreement can represent their wishes for improvement of public facilities and space. There is a room for municipal authorities to involve young people and cooperate on future development.

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Source: private archive of Miroslav Zuzánek

Questionnaire: Demands of rural population on rural areas

Dear,

I am a student of the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, course Economics and Management. I kindly request you to complete the following questionnaire. The completed questionnaire will be processed in my Diploma Thesis with the topic of “Rural development policy and the demands of rural population” focused on the inhabitants of the village České Meziříčí.

The questionnaire is anonymous and the completion takes about 15 minutes. The results will be used entirely for study purposes.

Thank you, Jitka Šolínová

IDENTIFICATION QUESTIONS (*mark the answer with cross☒*):

1. Your gender?

- Female
- Male

2. Your highest finished education level:

- Primary school
- Vocational school (secondary school without the school leaving examination)
- Secondary school with the school leaving examination
- College
- University

3. Nowadays, you are (encircle):

- a) Employee in private sector
- b) Employee in public sector
- c) Self-employed, entrepreneur
- d) Student
- e) Pensioner
- f) Unemployed
- g) On maternity leave
- h) Other (please, complete):

If you filled in "a-c" in the previous question, please, answer the question no. 4, otherwise continue with the question no. 5.

4. What is your profession?

- Agriculture, forestry, fishery
- Industry
- Construction industry
- Trade, repair work of motor vehicles
- Transportation, postal service, telecommunications
- Public services, military defence, police, social security
- Educational system, Health services, veterinary and social work
- Other (please, complete):

LIFE IN THE RURAL AREAS

5. In the next table, there are possible scarcities/problems of life in the rural areas.

Express your opinion on the set topic: *Mark your answer with the cross ☒ in a relevant table cell.* If there is not a topic which is problematic for you, please, complete it in the table cell “Other” and mark its level.

	Big problem	Middle-sized problem	Small problem	No problem	No opinion
Limited access to health care.					
Lack of transport services.					
Lack of leisure activities.					
Lack of cultural and social events.					
Necessity to travel for education.					
Lack of job opportunities.					
Necessity to travel for job.					
Insufficient and low quality services.					
Insufficient landscape maintenance.					
Loss of wildlife in the wild.					
Pollution of natural resources and water by fertilizers used in agriculture.					
Pollution of natural resources and water by industrial activities.					
Interpersonal relationships.					
Low involvement in public affairs (willingness to do something for the community).					
Other:					

6. What do you think about next arguments, which are connected with the life in the rural areas?

Mark your answer with the cross in a relevant table cell. If there is not a topic which is important for you, please, complete it in the table cell “Other” and mark the level of your agreement.

	I strongly agree	I slightly agree	I slightly disagree	I strongly disagree	No opinion
There is a healthy environment (clean air, etc.) in the rural areas.					
There is a good community life in the rural areas.					
The life is ruled by informal and friendly relations in the rural areas.					
There is a low-cost housing in the rural areas.					
There is a low crime rate in the rural areas.					
There is a more free space (lower density) in the countryside.					
Other:					

RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT, SUPPORT OF AGRICULTURE

7. The European Union financially supports the development of rural areas. In the next table, there are sections which can be supported from the EU funds.

Mark your opinion with the cross ☒ in a relevant table cell whether the sections should be supported or not.

	Certainly yes	Rather yes	Rather not	Certainly not	No opinion
Modernization of agricultural holdings (purchase of machinery, construction, new technologies in the production process) for higher competitiveness of farmers.					
Planting of fast-growing tree species for use in energy generation.					
Investment in forestry (machinery, forest infrastructure).					
Land consolidation (ownership relations, agricultural infrastructure, sustainable water management, ecological stability of landscape).					
Setting up of young farmers to maintain and improve the future of the whole sector.					
Early retirement from farming (transmission of farm to younger generation).					
Consultancy services.					
Support of agribusiness in less favored areas (mountain areas, nature reservations, etc.), to maintain the stability of farmers; maintenance of the landscape, cattle breeding.					

Support of environment-friendly agricultural methods (organic farming).					
Landscape management (grass planting of arable land, growing of catch crops, bio-zones).					
Sustainable use of forest land, afforestation of agricultural land, improving the tree species composition of forests, forest restoration after disasters.					
Support of non-agricultural activities, tourism, new business establishment and development.					
Village restoration and development, public facilities and services (water supply, sewerage system, sewage disposal plants, and local roads).					
Conservation and development of rural heritage (traditions, architectural character of the village).					
Training and providing of information to the farmers.					
Support of local action groups (representatives of profit, non-profit and public organizations) which collaborate on fund-raising and implementation of development projects in their village.					
Support for co-operation projects at the international level (sharing experiences).					

8. Express the level of your agreement or disagreement with the following statements.

Mark your answer with the cross ☒ in the relevant table cell.

	I strongly agree	I slightly agree	I slightly disagree	I strongly disagree	No opinion
The main function of rural areas is agricultural production.					
The private farmer is a holder of traditions and values associated with the life in the countryside.					
Ecological and organic products are healthier than products of intensive agriculture.					
Organic farming is the only way to reach sustainable agriculture and therefore it makes sense to support it.					
In the rural areas, there are job opportunities mainly in agriculture.					

9. Do you identify yourself with the term „Meřičák“?

- Yes
- No
- I do not know, what the term means

10. Have you ever thought about move to the town?

- Yes, often
- Yes, sometimes
- Never

If your response is “Never”, do not complete the following question.

I want to move because (you can mark more answers):

- The life is boring and nothing happens in the village, so I would like to move.
- I do not like the local landscape around the village, so I would like to move.
- There is not a healthy environment, so I would like to move.
- I have no family ties in the village, so I would like to move.
- There are not good relations among people in the community, so I would like to move.
- I need to move somewhere where I can get a better job.
- I need to move somewhere where I can get a better housing.
- There is no need to attach myself to the village which is indifferent for me. It is better to move.
- The village has no “spirit” for me as the place where I would like to move.
- The move from the village will solve many problems which I have.
- Other reason (please, complete):

If you want to make a comment to the questionnaire or its topic, there is a room for your notes:

.....
.....

Thank you for your time and cooperation.

If you want to know the research results, please write down your contact information:

.....

Jitka Šolínová

Supplement no. 3: Example of completed questionnaire in Czech language

no. 4

Dotazník: Požadavky obyvatel venkova na venkovské oblasti

Vážení,

jsem studentka České zemědělské univerzity v Praze, oboru Provoz a ekonomika v angličtině. Obracím se na vás s žádostí o vyplnění dotazníku. Vámi vyplněný dotazník bude použit při zpracování mé závěrečné diplomové práce na téma „Požadavky obyvatel venkova na venkovské oblasti“ se zaměřením na obyvatele Českého Meziříčí.

Vyplnění dotazníku je anonymní a nemělo by trvat déle než 15 minut. Výsledky výzkumu budou sloužit výhradně pro studijní účely.

Děkuji, Jitka Šolínová

IDENTIFIKAČNÍ OTÁZKY (odpověď označte křížkem ☒):

1. Jste žena nebo muž?

- Žena
 Muž

2. Vaše nejvyšší dokončené vzdělání:

- Základní
 Středoškolské bez maturity (vyučení)
 Středoškolské s maturitou
 Vyšší odborné
 Vysokoškolské

3. V současné době jste (zakroužkujte):

- a) Pracující v pozici zaměstnance v soukromé sféře
 b) Pracující v pozici zaměstnance ve státní sféře
c) Osoba samostatně výdělečně činná, podnikatel
d) Student/studentka
e) Důchodce/důchodkyně
f) Nezaměstnaný/nezaměstnaná
g) Na mateřské dovolené
h) Jiné (prosím, vypište):

Pokud jste na předchozí otázku odpověděli „a-c“, odpovězte prosím na otázku č. 4, jinak pokračujte otázkou č. 5.

4. V jakém oboru jste zaměstnání?

- Zemědělství, lesnictví, rybolov
 Průmysl
 Stavebnictví
 Obchod, opravy motor. vozidel
 Doprava, pošty, telekomunikace
 Veřejná správa, obrana, sociální zabezpečení
 Školství, zdravotnictví, veterinární a sociální činnost
h) Jiné (prosím, vypište):

ŽIVOT NA VENKOVĚ

5. V následující tabulce jsou prezentovány potenciální nedostatky/problémy života ve venkovské oblasti.

Vyjádřete prosím svůj názor na dané téma - odpověď označte křížkem ☒ v příslušné buňce.

Pokud v tabulce není zmíněno téma, které vy sledáváte problematičtým, prosím doplňte jej a vyznačte míru jeho problematičnosti.

	Velký problém	Středně velký problém	Nepatrný problém	Není problém	Nemám názor
Omezený přístup k zdravotní péči.				X	X
Nedostatečná dopravní obslužnost.				X	
Nedostatek volnočasových aktivit.				X	
Nedostatek kulturních a společenských akcí.				X	X
Nutnost cestovat za vzděláním.		X			
Nedostatek pracovních příležitostí.			X		
Nutnost cestovat za prací mimo obec.			X		
Nedostatečné a nekvalitní služby.					X
Nedostatečná péče o krajinu.					X
Úbytek divoké zvěře ve volné přírodě.	X				
Znečišťování přírodních zdrojů /vod hnojiv používanými v zemědělství.	X				
Znečišťování přírodních zdrojů /vod průmyslovou činností.	X				
Mezilidské vztahy.		X			
Malá angažovanost ve veřejných věcech (např. nízká ochota udělat něco pro obec)			X		
Jiné:					

6. Co soudíte o následujících okolnostech, které mohou být spojeny s životem na venkově?

Odpověď označte křížkem ☒ v příslušné buňce. Pokud v tabulce není zmíněno téma, které je pro vás důležité, prosím doplňte jej a vyznačte míru vašeho souhlasu.

	Určitě souhlasím	Spíše souhlasím	Spíše nesouhlasím	Určitě nesouhlasím	Nemám názor
Na venkově je zdravé životní prostředí (čistý vzduch atd.).		X		X	
Na venkově panuje dobrý komunitní život.				X	
Na venkově vládne neformální a přátelské vztahy.		X			
Na venkově jsou nižší náklady na bydlení.	X				
Na venkově je nízká kriminalita.			X		
Na venkově je více volného prostoru (nižší hustota zalidnění).		X			
Jiné:					

ROZVOJ VENKOVA, PODPORA ZEMĚDĚLSTVÍ

7. V následující tabulce jsou vyjmenovány oblasti možné finanční podpory z fondů Evropské unie. Označte křížkem ☒, zda má být tato oblast podporována.

	Určitě ano	Spíše ano	Spíše ne	Určitě ne	Nemám názor
Modernizace zemědělských podniků (nákup strojů, výstavba, zařazování nových technologií do výroby) pro vyšší konkurenceschopnost zemědělců.		X			
Založení porostů rychle rostoucích dřevin pro energetické využití.			X		
Investice do lesního hospodářství (technické vybavení, lesní infrastruktura).			X		
Pozemkové úpravy (vlastnické vztahy, zemědělská infrastruktura, udržitelné vodní hospodářství, prvky ekologické stability krajiny).					X
Zahájení činnosti mladých zemědělců pro udržení a lepší budoucnost celého odvětví.				X	
Předčasné ukončení zemědělské činnosti (předání hospodářství mladší generaci).				X	
Využívání poradenských služeb.					X
Podpora hospodaření v zhoršených podmínkách (horské oblasti, chráněné krajinné oblasti, apod.) pro udržení stability zemědělců, údržbu krajiny, podpora chovu skotu.	X				
Podpora postupů šetrných k životnímu prostředí (ekologické zemědělství).		X			
Péče o krajinu (zatravnění orné půdy, pěstování meziplodin, biopásy).		X			
Udržitelné využívání lesní půdy, zalesňování zemědělské půdy, zlepšování druhové skladby lesních porostů, obnova lesního potenciálu po kalamitách.	X				
Podpora činností nezemědělské povahy, cestovního ruchu, zakládání podniků a jejich rozvoje.	X				
Obnova a rozvoj vesnic, občanské vybavenosti a služeb (výstavba vodovodu, kanalizace, čištění odpadních vod, místních komunikací).	X				
Ochrana a rozvoj kulturního dědictví venkova (uchování tradic, vesnického architektonického rázu).	X				
Vzdělávání a informování hospodářských subjektů.					X
Podpora místních akčních skupin (zástupců ziskových, neziskových a veřejných organizací), které pracují na získávání financí a realizaci rozvojových projektů v jejich obci.	X				
Podpora projektů spolupráce na mezinárodní úrovni (předávání zkušeností).					X

8. Vyjádřete prosím míru svého souhlasu nebo nesouhlasu s následujícími tvrzeními.
Odpověď označte křížkem ☒ v příslušné buňce.

	Určitě souhlasím	Spíše souhlasím	Spíše nesouhlasím	Určitě nesouhlasím	Nemám názor
Hlavní funkcí venkova je zemědělská produkce.			X		
Soukromý zemědělec je nositelem tradic a hodnot spojených s životem na venkově.		X			
Eko a bio-produkty jsou zdravější než produkty pocházející z intenzivního zemědělství.			X		
Ekologické zemědělství je jedinou cestou k udržitelnému zemědělství a proto má smysl jej podporovat.		X			
Na venkově jsou pracovní příležitosti převážně v zemědělství.				X	

9. Ztotožňujete sami sebe s pojmem „Meřičák“?

- Ano
 Ne
 Nevím, co tento pojem znamená.

10. Uvažovali jste o přestěhování se do města?

- Ano, často
 Ano, občas
 Ne

Pokud jste na předchozí otázku odpověděli ne, neodpovídejte na následující otázku prosím.

Chci se přestěhovat, protože (můžete označit více možností):

- V obci se nic neděje a je tam nuda, proto bych se rád/a odstěhoval/a.
 Nelíbí se mi zdejší krajina, a proto bych se rád/a odstěhoval/a.
 Není zde zdravé životní prostředí, a proto bych se rád/a odstěhoval/a.
 V obci mě nedrží žádné rodinné vazby, a proto bych se rád/a odstěhoval/a.
 Mezi lidmi v obci nejsou dobré vztahy, a proto bych se rád/a odstěhoval/a.
 Potřeboval/a bych se přestěhovat někam, kde je možné získat lepší práci.
 Potřeboval/a bych se přestěhovat někam, kde je možné získat lepší bydlení.
 Proč se vázat k obci, ke které nic necítím a která je mi lhostejná, to je lepší odejít.
 Obec pro mě nemá „ducha“, jako má například místo, kam bych se rád/a přestěhoval/a.
 Když z obce odejdu, tak se mi vyřeší řada problémů.
 Jiné tvrzení (prosím, uveďte jaké):

Chcete-li cokoli vzkázat k tématu či dotazníku, zde máte prostor pro své připomínky: *ml.*

.....

.....

Děkuji za váš čas a spolupráci.

Pokud chcete být seznámeni s výsledky výzkumu, uveďte na sebe kontakt:

Jitka Šolínová

Supplement no. 4: Calculation tables generated by computer software SPSS – Frequency Tables

o1

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid 1	50	50,0	50,0	50,0
2	50	50,0	50,0	100,0
Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o2

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid 1	5	5,0	5,0	5,0
2	23	23,0	23,0	28,0
3	51	51,0	51,0	79,0
4	3	3,0	3,0	82,0
5	18	18,0	18,0	100,0
Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o3

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid 1	35	35,0	35,0	35,0
2	9	9,0	9,0	44,0
3	12	12,0	12,0	56,0
4	27	27,0	27,0	83,0
6	5	5,0	5,0	88,0
7	12	12,0	12,0	100,0
Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o4

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid 1	4	4,0	7,3	7,3
2	18	18,0	32,7	40,0
3	4	4,0	7,3	47,3
4	10	10,0	18,2	65,5
5	4	4,0	7,3	72,7
6	3	3,0	5,5	78,2
7	4	4,0	7,3	85,5
8	8	8,0	14,5	100,0
Total	55	55,0	100,0	
Missing System	45	45,0		
Total	100	100,0		

o5-1

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	2	2,0	2,0	2,0
	1	29	29,0	29,0	31,0
	2	26	26,0	26,0	57,0
	3	31	31,0	31,0	88,0
	4	12	12,0	12,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o5-2

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	4	4,0	4,0	4,0
	1	42	42,0	42,4	46,5
	2	26	26,0	26,3	72,7
	3	18	18,0	18,2	90,9
	4	9	9,0	9,1	100,0
	Total	99	99,0	100,0	
Missing	System	1	1,0		
Total		100	100,0		

o5-3

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	2	2,0	2,0	2,0
	1	25	25,0	25,0	27,0
	2	21	21,0	21,0	48,0
	3	35	35,0	35,0	83,0
	4	17	17,0	17,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o5-4

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	4	4,0	4,0	4,0
	1	32	32,0	32,0	36,0
	2	24	24,0	24,0	60,0
	3	25	25,0	25,0	85,0
	4	15	15,0	15,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o5-5

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	5	5,0	5,0	5,0
	1	15	15,0	15,0	20,0
	2	21	21,0	21,0	41,0
	3	33	33,0	33,0	74,0
	4	26	26,0	26,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o5-6

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	4	4,0	4,0	4,0
	1	4	4,0	4,0	8,0
	2	10	10,0	10,0	18,0
	3	31	31,0	31,0	49,0
	4	51	51,0	51,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o5-7

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	3	3,0	3,0	3,0
	1	11	11,0	11,0	14,0
	2	26	26,0	26,0	40,0
	3	38	38,0	38,0	78,0
	4	22	22,0	22,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o5-8

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	6	6,0	6,0	6,0
	1	24	24,0	24,0	30,0
	2	30	30,0	30,0	60,0
	3	27	27,0	27,0	87,0
	4	13	13,0	13,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o5-9

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	9	9,0	9,1	9,1
	1	23	23,0	23,2	32,3
	2	34	34,0	34,3	66,7
	3	18	18,0	18,2	84,8
	4	15	15,0	15,2	100,0
	Total	99	99,0	100,0	
Missing	System	1	1,0		
Total		100	100,0		

o5-10

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	16	16,0	16,0	16,0
	1	27	27,0	27,0	43,0
	2	15	15,0	15,0	58,0
	3	24	24,0	24,0	82,0
	4	18	18,0	18,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o5-11

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	18	18,0	18,0	18,0
	1	17	17,0	17,0	35,0
	2	21	21,0	21,0	56,0
	3	22	22,0	22,0	78,0
	4	22	22,0	22,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o5-12

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	12	12,0	12,0	12,0
	1	14	14,0	14,0	26,0
	2	19	19,0	19,0	45,0
	3	29	29,0	29,0	74,0
	4	26	26,0	26,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o5-13

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	2	2,0	2,0	2,0
	1	34	34,0	34,0	36,0
	2	30	30,0	30,0	66,0
	3	24	24,0	24,0	90,0
	4	10	10,0	10,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o5-14

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	11	11,0	11,0	11,0
	1	14	14,0	14,0	25,0
	2	23	23,0	23,0	48,0
	3	29	29,0	29,0	77,0
	4	23	23,0	23,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o6-1

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	3	3,0	3,0	3,0
	2	9	9,0	9,1	12,1
	3	59	59,0	59,6	71,7
	4	28	28,0	28,3	100,0
	Total	99	99,0	100,0	
Missing	System	1	1,0		
Total		100	100,0		

o6-2

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	5	5,0	5,1	5,1
	1	4	4,0	4,0	9,1
	2	21	21,0	21,2	30,3
	3	53	53,0	53,5	83,8
	4	16	16,0	16,2	100,0
	Total	99	99,0	100,0	
Missing	System	1	1,0		
Total		100	100,0		

o6-3

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	7	7,0	7,1	7,1
	1	2	2,0	2,0	9,1
	2	12	12,0	12,1	21,2
	3	60	60,0	60,6	81,8
	4	18	18,0	18,2	100,0
	Total	99	99,0	100,0	
Missing	System	1	1,0		
Total		100	100,0		

o6-4

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	4	4,0	4,0	4,0
	1	2	2,0	2,0	6,1
	2	23	23,0	23,2	29,3
	3	37	37,0	37,4	66,7
	4	33	33,0	33,3	100,0
	Total	99	99,0	100,0	
Missing	System	1	1,0		
Total		100	100,0		

o6-5

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	2	2,0	2,0	2,0
	1	15	15,0	15,2	17,2
	2	33	33,0	33,3	50,5
	3	35	35,0	35,4	85,9
	4	14	14,0	14,1	100,0
	Total	99	99,0	100,0	
Missing	System	1	1,0		
Total		100	100,0		

o6-6

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	1	1,0	1,0	1,0
	2	3	3,0	3,1	4,1
	3	33	33,0	33,7	37,8
	4	61	61,0	62,2	100,0
	Total	98	98,0	100,0	
Missing	System	2	2,0		
Total		100	100,0		

o7-1

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	10	10,0	10,0	10,0
	1	2	2,0	2,0	12,0
	2	8	8,0	8,0	20,0
	3	42	42,0	42,0	62,0
	4	38	38,0	38,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o7-2

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	15	15,0	15,0	15,0
	1	5	5,0	5,0	20,0
	2	26	26,0	26,0	46,0
	3	30	30,0	30,0	76,0
	4	24	24,0	24,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o7-3

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	14	14,0	14,0	14,0
	1	4	4,0	4,0	18,0
	2	23	23,0	23,0	41,0
	3	41	41,0	41,0	82,0
	4	18	18,0	18,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o7-4

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	14	14,0	14,0	14,0
	1	5	5,0	5,0	19,0
	2	12	12,0	12,0	31,0
	3	45	45,0	45,0	76,0
	4	24	24,0	24,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o7-5

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	8	8,0	8,0	8,0
	1	7	7,0	7,0	15,0
	2	13	13,0	13,0	28,0
	3	36	36,0	36,0	64,0
	4	36	36,0	36,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o7-6

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	20	20,0	20,0	20,0
	1	12	12,0	12,0	32,0
	2	34	34,0	34,0	66,0
	3	24	24,0	24,0	90,0
	4	10	10,0	10,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o7-7

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	18	18,0	18,0	18,0
	1	9	9,0	9,0	27,0
	2	25	25,0	25,0	52,0
	3	30	30,0	30,0	82,0
	4	18	18,0	18,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o7-8

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	11	11,0	11,0	11,0
	1	7	7,0	7,0	18,0
	2	13	13,0	13,0	31,0
	3	35	35,0	35,0	66,0
	4	34	34,0	34,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o7-9

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	8	8,0	8,0	8,0
	1	2	2,0	2,0	10,0
	2	13	13,0	13,0	23,0
	3	39	39,0	39,0	62,0
	4	38	38,0	38,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o7-10

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	5	5,0	5,0	5,0
	1	5	5,0	5,0	10,0
	2	19	19,0	19,0	29,0
	3	38	38,0	38,0	67,0
	4	33	33,0	33,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o7-11

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	7	7,0	7,1	7,1
	1	3	3,0	3,0	10,1
	2	13	13,0	13,1	23,2
	3	37	37,0	37,4	60,6
	4	39	39,0	39,4	100,0
	Total	99	99,0	100,0	
Missing	System	1	1,0		
Total		100	100,0		

o7-12

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	10	10,0	10,1	10,1
	1	6	6,0	6,1	16,2
	2	19	19,0	19,2	35,4
	3	37	37,0	37,4	72,7
	4	27	27,0	27,3	100,0
	Total	99	99,0	100,0	
Missing	System	1	1,0		
Total		100	100,0		

o7-13

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	1	1,0	1,0	1,0
	1	1	1,0	1,0	2,0
	2	3	3,0	3,0	5,1
	3	33	33,0	33,3	38,4
	4	61	61,0	61,6	100,0
	Total	99	99,0	100,0	
Missing	System	1	1,0		
Total		100	100,0		

o7-14

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	4	4,0	4,0	4,0
	1	3	3,0	3,0	7,0
	2	8	8,0	8,0	15,0
	3	32	32,0	32,0	47,0
	4	53	53,0	53,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o7-15

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	19	19,0	19,2	19,2
	1	2	2,0	2,0	21,2
	2	17	17,0	17,2	38,4
	3	44	44,0	44,4	82,8
	4	17	17,0	17,2	100,0
	Total	99	99,0	100,0	
Missing	System	1	1,0		
Total		100	100,0		

o7-16

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	14	14,0	14,1	14,1
	1	2	2,0	2,0	16,2
	2	11	11,0	11,1	27,3
	3	37	37,0	37,4	64,6
	4	35	35,0	35,4	100,0
	Total	99	99,0	100,0	
Missing	System	1	1,0		
Total		100	100,0		

o7-17

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	17	17,0	17,0	17,0
	1	5	5,0	5,0	22,0
	2	10	10,0	10,0	32,0
	3	42	42,0	42,0	74,0
	4	26	26,0	26,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o8-1

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	4	4,0	4,0	4,0
	1	8	8,0	8,0	12,0
	2	16	16,0	16,0	28,0
	3	42	42,0	42,0	70,0
	4	30	30,0	30,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o8-2

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	6	6,0	6,0	6,0
	1	4	4,0	4,0	10,0
	2	25	25,0	25,0	35,0
	3	38	38,0	38,0	73,0
	4	27	27,0	27,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o8-3

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	8	8,0	8,0	8,0
	1	8	8,0	8,0	16,0
	2	24	24,0	24,0	40,0
	3	33	33,0	33,0	73,0
	4	27	27,0	27,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o8-4

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	12	12,0	12,0	12,0
	1	6	6,0	6,0	18,0
	2	24	24,0	24,0	42,0
	3	40	40,0	40,0	82,0
	4	18	18,0	18,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o8-5

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	6	6,0	6,0	6,0
	1	14	14,0	14,0	20,0
	2	30	30,0	30,0	50,0
	3	38	38,0	38,0	88,0
	4	12	12,0	12,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o9

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	61	61,0	61,0	61,0
	2	32	32,0	32,0	93,0
	3	7	7,0	7,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	

o10

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	17	17,0	17,0	17,0
	2	26	26,0	26,0	43,0
	3	57	57,0	57,0	100,0
	Total	100	100,0	100,0	