

Abstract Doctoral Thesis

Economic development influenced by absorption, monitoring and management of European funds.

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Chapter 1. Management of European funded projects - Introduction, motivation, the importance of research in the field and specialized reviews

Research is an active and systematic process to discover, interpret and revise facts, events, behaviors and theories, developing practical applications using such facts and law. Scientific research is the main pillar of socio-economic development.

Conducted research objectives

The general objective in this paper is the study of complex macroeconomic management of EU funds in an attempt to highlight their importance in sustainable regional economic development. The case study addresses the situation of Romania and Region 7 Center for the 2007-2013 period, aiming to identify viable solutions for the development of the absorption and improving the conditions of implementation.

The purpose of the empirical study is to identify positive aspects of project management developed by European funds and identify possible solutions of their application to facilitate regional economic development.

The specific objectives pursued by this empirical study are:

- Delimitation state of knowledge in the field of studying and defining their vision on current concepts;
- Identify methods, analyzes and effects of the implementation of regional policies related to the use of European funds;
- Analysis of opinions project managers in public entities that have accessed European funds and implement projects for the period 2007-2013;

- Finding viable solutions to the sustainability of regional economic development through conscious management, efficient and involved projects financed from European funds. Capitolul

2. Regional economic development - Summary of literature

One of the main objectives of the European Union is the regional development. Called Policy Economic and Social Cohesion, was first defined in the Treaty of the European Communities thus: "Cohesion is needed to promote the development of general harmonious overall objective consists in reducing disparities between the levels of development of the various regions and the backwardness the less developed regions ".

Region as interim administrative-territorial unit, located at the next level above the state and other divisions (provinces, departments, districts) have direct relations with the state. Under the subsidiarity principle, the state delegates part of its regions. This transfer of powers should not be regarded as a diminution of its authority, but as strengthening the rule of law and democracy.

Quality is the totality of properties and characteristics of a product or service which gives him the ability to meet the needs expressed or implied.

Chapter 3. Analysis of distribution and absorption of European funds in Region 7 Center

By the following analysis I intend to identify both areas with a low degree of absorption of European funds, especially the ways to improve absorption by management methodologies.

Were selected from all financing contracts undertaken by the Ministry of European Funds, those we had access to full information (99%), the Central Region 7, signed during the implementation period 2007-2013 (including projects that were analyzed were It was contracted in that period and there were ongoing by May 2014).

Of the information collected from 11 973 contracts under existing EU Funds Ministry website, 1,636 are located in Region 7 Center, and in total, only 12% are from rural areas. As a first observation, we notice that there is a fairly large discrepancies related to location (urban or rural), given that (according to the latest statistical data) over 45% of the population lives in rural areas.

Budget eligible for contracts examined represented 78.6% of the total budget for 2007-2013 including, but analysis carried reports show a much lower percentage which raises a question mark on the objectivity of reporting, why is this process delayed or blocked.

The results of this analysis led us to the idea of applying a questionnaire to public entities accessing European funds. The declared aim of this approach is improving contracting, implementation, settlement and repayment of externally funded projects through management methodologies.

Contracts repayment of analysis on this implementation period 2007-2013 in Region 7 Center showed that of the total of 41 715 contracts reimbursements are only a number of 4,680 in Central Region 7, ie 11.2% of total returns.

Chapter 4. 2020 Development Strategy of Romania's perspective

Europe 2020 strategy is the European Union (EU) growth for the coming years. In a rapidly changing world, the EU wants to become a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. These three priorities are mutually supportive and are able to help EU Member States (MS) to obtain a high level of labor employment, productivity and social cohesion.

Chapter 5. European Regional Development policy 2007-2013: Analysis of influences taken into absorption, monitoring and management of European funds

Regional development policy is a set of measures that central government authorities take in favor of socio-economic development of disadvantaged regions.

The principles of regional development in the European Union have been established since 1957 with the signing of the Treaty of Rome, which founded the European Economic Community (EEC), but the objectives and tools have undergone notable changes, evolving significantly over time. Overall it felt the need to strengthen Member States' economies and reduce disparities between them, ensuring a harmonious, reducing the gap.

Chapter 6. Quantitative Methods for improving management decisions in implementing EU funds

This chapter explores the influence which the management of European funds on economic development by analyzing the number of funding projects that have been contracted and the total eligible budget allocated in the Central Region 7, compared with those of Romania, included in the 7 OPs and 2 Financial mechanisms in 2007-2013, taking into account various quantitative methods to support management decisions in the implementation of development funds.

Based on theoretical approaches analyzed that for efficient absorption of EU funds is necessary to improve project management by taking measures in this regard. We propose the following three areas which we consider priorities in project management approach:

- Streamlining and speeding up the use of technical assistance;
- Unlocking based on extensive analyzes of the amounts fixed in unfeasible projects;
- Develop administrative capacity within the public beneficiaries of EU funds.

Chapter 7. Impact of European funded projects on regional development in Central Region 7 analyzed using Questionnaire - Public entities in Region 7 Center

The questionnaire is a technique and, accordingly, an investigative tool consisting of a set of written questions and possibly graphics, ordered logically and psychologically, which by the administration by operators of inquiry or self, determined by people arrested answers to be recorded in writing. (Chelcea 2001)