Workshop in Budapest

Working Group Session – Drivers of land abandonment (Tuesday 7 June 2011)

Group 1

1. Do you recognize the 9 drivers from JRC research?

- Add (i) infrastructure (irrigation, drainage) and (ii) The farmer has children with farming experience
- Use case studies to verify the drivers: Bulgaria, Romania, Galiza

2. Rank the 9 drivers

- Remoteness
- High age of the farm holder (… years old)
- Weak land market: no buyer (Romania)
- No user
- …
- …
- Previous trend of FLA
- Education

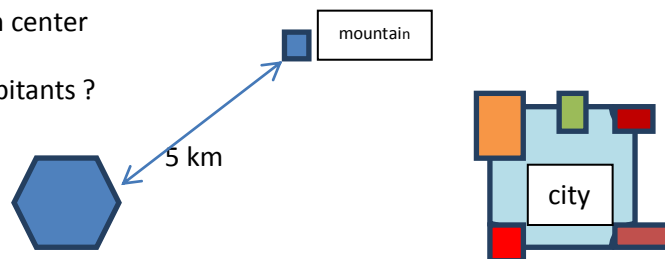New one: tradition / regional (people wants to stay there)

3. Remarks

Remoteness and difficult access

Discussion about reaching the urban center

at least 50.000 inhabitants ?

No services / infrastructures

(drawing)

Question: what is relevant in your country?

mountain

5 km

city

Group 2

1. Recognize the 9 drivers?

- Yes

2. Ranking:

- 1 - Farm income
- 2 - Size
- 3 - Investment
- 4 - Remoteness
- 5 - Age
- 6 - Qualification
- 6 - Land market
- 8 - (farm) schemes
- 8 - Previous trend

3. Remarks

- Add RD to (farm) schemes
- Farm income should include the total income of the farmer
- The size should include fragmentation and co-ownership
- The investments in the farm should be considered in relation to remoteness

Group 3

1. Recognize the 9 drivers?

- Yes

2. Ranking:

- 1 - Size
- 2 - Age
- 2 - Land market
- 4 - Farm income
- 4 - Remoteness
- 6 – Investment
- 7 - Qualification
- 7 - (farm) schemes
- 9 - Previous trend

3. Remarks

Low size of the farm:

- Ex. Socialist countries: few very big, many small
- Small intensive: farms can be profitable

Age:

- Need for differentiation? 60 / 65 ? - geographical difference
- Differentiate to countries (with early retirement – 55 ?; without early retirement – 65?)

Land market:

- N.º of leases / transactions instead of rent
- What if "no" rental practice?

Other activities:

- Other economic activities
- 3 groups (South, West and former socialist)
- Weight of criteria!