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AGRO-TOURISM

IN THE CONTEXT WITH THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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Czech economy - tourism ranked on the third place

- after the **petrochemical** and **automotive industries**
- tourism is a dramatically rising segment of economy

Represents:

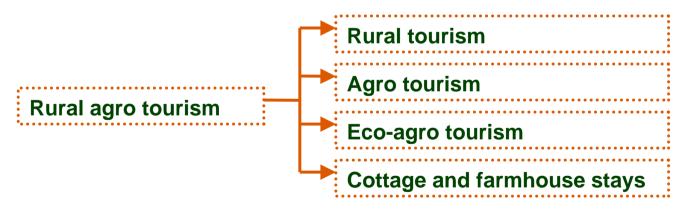
employees 110 thousands (2.3% of the total)

- EU 4 5%
- total employment rate 569 thousands (5.7% including indirect)
 - EU 9 10%

GDP 9 – 11%

EU cca 13.5%

Rural agro-tourism – part of the tourism (later as agro-tourism)



These groups - variously overlap each other in the real life

- to simplify them there is used umbrella title agro tourism

The Principle of the Tourism Development



The **Conception** of the Tourist Trade in the Czech Republic State Program for Tourist Trade Support part of this conception **Strategy** Agro-tourism Development Goals

The **total tourism support** in the Czech Republic from the **EU 2007 - 2013**

Financial support (EU structural funds):

- The Integrated Operating Program (2 mld. CZK i.e. 83 mil. €)
- The Rural Development Program (2.2 mld. CZK i.e. 92 mil. €)
- The Regional Operating Programs (23.7 mld. CZK i.e. 960 mil. €)

Goals of the Conception of the State Policy are:



- Increasing of foreign currency income from the tourist trade
- Increasing of state income and municipality budget
- Stabilization and obtaining of new job possibilities in the regions
- Support for the tourist trade activities in the regions, especially development of small and medium business
- Improving and development of infrastructure for ecologically shrift forms of agro tourism
- Establishment of the legislative frame for the tourist industry support from viewpoint of the competent state administrative and local authorities

Goals of the Conception of the State Policy are:



- Improving of the professional system (high and university education in the tourist industry)
- Effective use and protection of historical potential for the tourist industry
- Guarantee of the efficient marketing of the tourist industry in the different levels of the public administration
- Guarantee of the EU law of the tourist industry integration to the Czech legal system
- Establishing of the system for the EU financial support recruitment (structural funds) in the tourist industry
- Contribute to the preservation and increasing of the environment quality and sustainable development

Regional and Local Support



The initiative

"top-down"

highly supported by the government

agro tourism development main directions

the initiative

"bottom-up"

supported mainly by the small holders and traders

The financial support consists of three main pillars:

- Regionally oriented development programs
- 2. Co-financing by provided EU funds
- 3. State support by natural and other disasters

Agro tourism is a supplement for small and medium rural businesses

This mainly means:

- Small and middle-sized farms
- Small private vineyards
- Forest enterprises and its sections
- Trade and craft enterprises
- Old forest and agricultural estates

Strategy of Agro-tourism Development

- Based on the conception of agro tourism development in the Czech Republic
- Regional's leading role

Its goals are to ensure:

- Empower the competition
- Increasing of the economical performance
- Enhance opportunities in the tourist industry
- Boost of the agricultural roles (landscape-creating, environment and economy)
- Increasing of ecological functions of the landscape (natural and resources preservation)
- Optimization of human resource usage (professional supply and demand and increasing unemployment in rural areas)



Strategy of Agro-tourism Development

Based on the conception of agro tourism development in the Czech Republic



- Regional's leading role

Its goals are to ensure:

- Improving of living standard in municipalities and micro regions (decreasing of undercapitalization and improved infrastructure)
- Ensure accesses to the services (weak local public budget, healthcare in rural areas and public traffic)
- Injure of the inhabitants (regional history and micro region)
- Highlighting of the micro region
- Support of the mutual communication
- Empower international relationships
 (agro tourism increases mutual understanding and fasten the interpersonal relations)

Strong features	 Ancient monuments Cultural traditions Variety of countryside Favorable geographical location (relation to foreign countries) Dense network of cycle paths and nature trails
Weak features	 Low level of regional support Insufficient infrastructure (parking areas, sewage plants) Cooperation of public administration and private activities Low quality of services Insufficient information system Low competition
Opportunities	 Interconnection of historical, ethnographical and craft-industrial traditions Recreational activities and sports Agriculture and nature diversities Infrastructure expansion and quality of housing facilities Marketing offer Coordination of services supply in border areas and cooperation with abroad Support of health improving programs
Threats	 Unexplained rules of the municipality cooperation with the tourism entrepreneurs Interpersonal relations (envy to the successful businesses etc.) Tendency to enlarge tourist industry into protected areas



SWOT Analysis (some common factors)



Conclusions

- Agro tourism is a future for the development in rural areas
- Agro tourism is related with the economic support of these areas
- Agro tourism improves the development of infrastructure and other related services in rural areas
- Important cooperation with neighbouring countries in border areas



Thank you for attention...