

OPPORTUNITIES OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF BORDER RESIDENTS OF RA BY THE EXAMPLE OF GEGHAMASAR COMMUNITY OF GEGHARKUNIK REGION: PROBLEMS AND WAYS OF SOLUTIONS

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Abstract

Identifying problems hindering the development of border areas, assessing the shortcomings of the policy implemented by the state in the sphere and developing socio-economic concepts based on them have always been and continue to be a necessary precondition for maximizing the real economic potential of any country. At present, disproportionate territorial development becomes more problematic along with all the risks arising from it: reduction of the population of settlements, reduction of economic activity, urbanization, emigration, aging of the population, reduction of territorial GDP and so on.

Key words: border settlement, Geghamasar, infrastructure, security, demographic situation, development, priority.

Introduction

The purpose of this research is to identify the real challenges of the development of the border settlements of the Republic of Armenia by the example of Geghamasar enlarged community of Gegharkunik region, to identify the priority problems in the border communities, to suggest practical ways of solving the problems, to evaluate the territorial policy of the state and to offer conceptual ways of territorial development.

Based on the above mentioned objectives, the following range of issues was proposed during the research:

- Studying the policy implemented by the state in the border settlements of Geghamasar community;
- Carrying out structural studies of programs (subvention programs) aimed at the development of infrastructure in border areas;
- Identifying the existing problems in the demographic, economic and security spheres of the border settlements of Geghamasar community;
- Proposing localization options for solving sectoral problems.

As a result of the research, it becomes clear that all the problems typical of the border settlements of the Republic of Armenia, especially in the demographic, socio-economic and security spheres, have been obviously expressed in the studied border settlements.

Literature review

In the context of solving the problems of balanced development of border settlements, the objective assessment of the problems hindering their development is of primary importance. Due to all these, in the current reality of Armenia, more than ever, the nomination of practical ways of socio-economic development and ensuring their applicability continues to be a priority and topical. The problems of territorial development and their interpretation have found their expression in the works of well-known Nordic economists - Solow, Menkue and Romer.

Recently, the process of studying the field has been intensified by Armenian scientists and researchers, who have mostly studied the issues of balanced territorial development. In particular, a number of valuable researches related to territorial development were carried out by the experts of ASUE Amberd Research Center: “Perspectives of RA territorial administration system with the introduction of technological tools” [1], “Peculiarities of inter-community cooperation in the context of economic development of RA Vayots Dzor region” [2], “Assessment of agro-tourism development opportunities in the regions of the Republic of Armenia (following the example of the Lori and Tavush regions of the Republic of Armenia) “[3]”, Development of a model of socio-economic development of the Shirak region of the Republic of Armenia “[4]”, Model of socio-economic development of the RA Lori and Tavush regions [5] where the authors tried to identify the problems in the field and offer their own approaches to solving them. It is noteworthy that the mentioned researches are of valuable importance in revealing the problems of territorial development, but there is no emphasized reference to the border settlements.

Besides, since a number of settlements in Gegharkunik actually became border only in 2020 in the post-war period, therefore, the study of the latter became a cornerstone in the conditions of the new reality. Our research can be valuable both to scientists and researchers interested in the field, as well as to individuals and policy-makers in the field.

Research Methodology

During the research the primary and secondary research methods were combined and used. The primary study was conducted on the basis of questionnaire development, community and settlement visits, joint discussions with the heads of settlements and situational assessment. Based on the questionnaires developed by us, factual assessments of the demographic situation of the community, employment indicators, sufficiency of infrastructures and main economic indicators were made.

The secondary study was based on research of official statistics. In particular, the statistical data presented by the RA Statistical Committee, other state and territorial bodies, various programs implemented in the community by various organizations and state structures, their qualitative and quantitative evaluation were carried out.

During the research the methods of expert evaluation, graphic analysis, comparison, statistical analysis of data and study of cause-effect relations were also used.

Research Results

The need to pay special attention to the border communities of the Republic of Armenia arose during and after the first Artsakh war, due to the need to restore the devastation caused by the war in the border settlements and to ensure the normal life of the local population.

On November 17, 1998, by Decree No. 713 the Government of the Republic of Armenia established the list of border communities according to which 186 settlements were totally considered border communities in the Republic of Armenia. This list was to be the basis for the development of security and socio-economic programs in border communities. However, the first and, in our opinion, the main problem arises in the following: the concepts of “Border settlement”, “border community” are not enshrined in the RA laws. No law, government decree or other legal act has yet clarified the meaning of the concept of border community or border settlement.

On April 3, 2001, the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On Border Regions” [7] was adopted which aimed to establish the basic principles of developing a state policy towards the border regions in the Republic of Armenia, the programmatic bases for the implementation of that policy, as well as the regulation of relations. With this Law, the Government of the Republic of Armenia undertook to develop and implement a clear and targeted strategy for the development of border communities and settlements.

Based on the requirements of the above-mentioned law, the Law on the Approval of the Comprehensive Program for the Development of the Border Regions of the Republic of Armenia was developed and adopted in 2002 [8]. In addition to the development of the Complex Program, in accordance with the RA Law on Border Regions, the Government undertook to develop and submit the Annual Program for the Development of Border Regions to the NA of the RA for approval each year. However, the study of the annual programs of the RA Government aimed at the socio-economic development of the border communities shows that for the last 6 years the government has refrained from capital expenditures and has been satisfied only with providing social assistance to the population, moreover, if in 2016-2019 it allocated a fixed 928.8 million drams aimed at those programs, then in 2020 and 2021 it comprised 800.0 million drams [9]. In addition to the above-mentioned social assistance programs, the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the National Assembly adopted a number of other laws and decisions aimed at improving the socio-economic situation of border settlements.

However, as our study of the actual situation of the border settlements showed, these measures did not have a long-term sustainable strategic impact on the regulation and development of the socio-economic situation of the settlements, but had a local and short-term regulatory nature.

The government has started to implement subsidy programs since 2018 in the context of the strategy of balanced territorial development the study of which shows that since 2018 not only little space is allocated to border settlements by the government, but also these programs are not always focused on priority problem solving. In particular, in 2018-2021, a total of 1862 programs worth 94.8 billion drams were implemented of which only about 14 billion programs were implemented in border settlements and these programs to a greater or lesser extent included only 62 out of 151 border settlements [10].

Note that it was planned to implement a subsidy program of 7.3 billion drams in 2021 in Gegharkunik region of which only 1.6 billion drams is directed to border communities.

The socio-economic problems of the border settlements of Gegharkunik region, especially the enlarged community of Geghamasar, became more obvious in the post-war period, when a number of settlements actually became borderline. Unlike other border settlements in Armenia which have had border status for decades and have a relatively good level of special security infrastructure, these border settlements do not have defined boundaries and minimum security conditions which limits their consideration of real economic potential and alternatives. Highlighting the documentation of the existing problems, as well as the fact that the information on individual settlements both in the reports of the Statistical Committee and on the official websites of the communities is limited and quite old, we organized visits to the border settlements of Geghamasar community which allowed to record actual socio-economic situation and identify the existing problems.

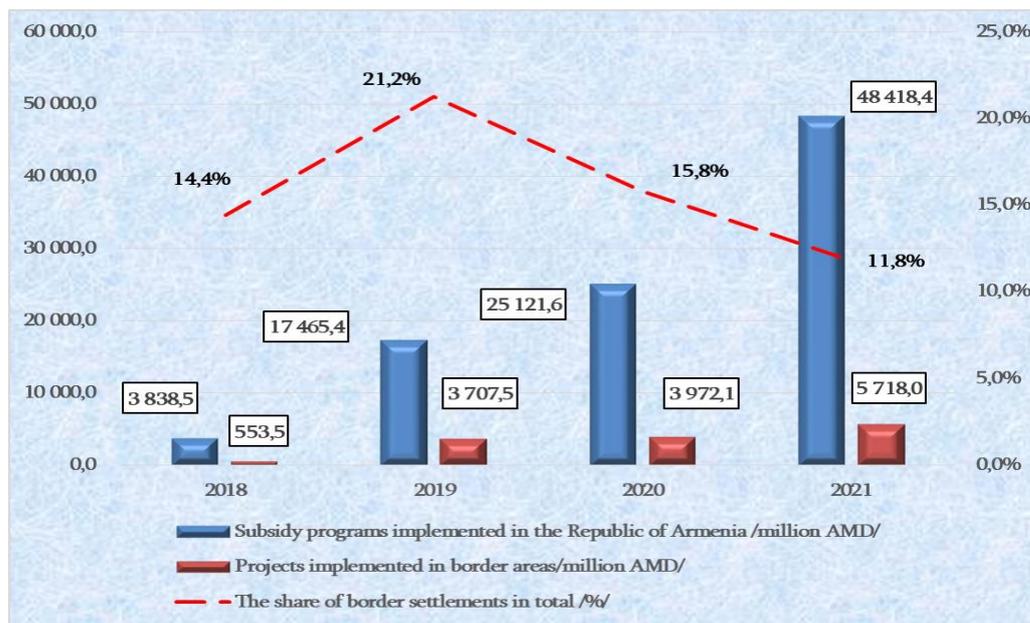


Fig. 1 The amount of subsidized programs of RA border settlements in total¹

Most of the implemented projects are part of road construction works. Under other programs, we have consolidated the work left out of the above areas (repair of common property of apartment buildings, construction / repair of street lighting system, acquisition of machinery and equipment) (Fig. 2).

We have divided the problems in several directions.

1. **Security.** From a security point of view, the border communities can be divided into two parts: moderately vulnerable and highly vulnerable. We have included the settlements in the middle vulnerable group which do not have proper military infrastructure in this part of the RA state border. These are the settlements of Pambak, Daranak, Areguni, Geghamasar, Avazan, Arpunk, Kakhakn, Kutakan, Tretuk, Shatvan. The settlements included in the highly vulnerable group not only lack the above-mentioned military infrastructure, but also these settlements are under direct fire from the positions of the Azerbaijani troops. As evidenced by this and according to media reports in July, August and September, the following settlements as Sotk, Kut, Azat and Norabak were regularly fired upon, grasslands burned and large cattle grazed on pastures.

¹ The diagram was compiled by the authors based on the data presented in the Subvention Programs section of the website of the RA Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure.

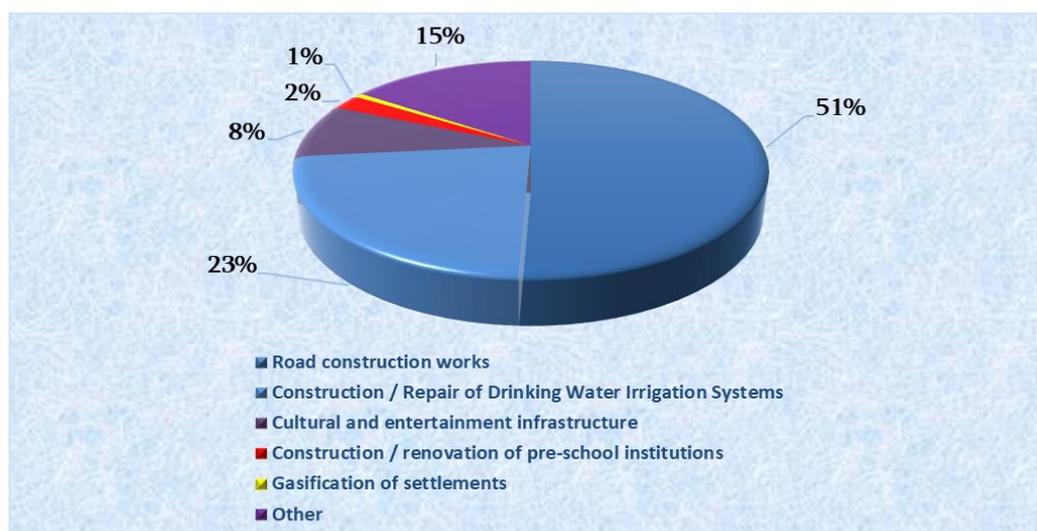


Fig. 2 Distribution of subsidized programs of RA border settlements by directions²

2. Demographic situation. For the analysis of the population in all the studied settlements, the data of the 2011 published by the RA SC [11] and the permanent and current number of population registered by us in each settlement for 2017-2020 were taken. One can get an idea of the extremely difficult situation of the population of the studied settlements by comparing their number with the average index of the rural settlements of the region. Even in Sotk, the center of the community, the population is about twice less than it was before and the rest of the settlements make up 6.5-25% of the average.

Table 1

Demographic situation of the border settlements of Geghamasar community³

	Permanent population					Current population				
	2011	2017	2018	2019	2020	2011	2017	2018	2019	2020
Average, region	1760	1745	1742	1734	1732					
Geghamasar	1132	1190	1120	1052	1015	1109	1076	1010	957	925
Sotk	824	950	990	991	942	811	942	976	978	903
Arpunk	568	562	503	479	470	564	547	490	478	460
Pambak	548	495	499	506	505	469	395	399	406	408
Areguni	344	319	313	330	259	340	289	283	300	257
Avazan	252	218	233	230	241	245	211	217	219	223
Tretuk	174	207	255	250	218	164	162	147	155	148
Daranak	168	220	205	191	170	167	202	182	172	130
Kut	193	176	197	170	168	180	170	185	160	148
Azat	101	134	141	90	110	82	60	60	58	55

The number of permanent residents in the actual settlement during the given year is reflected in the current population index, where the current population in the settlement as of January of each year is registered, which causes significant deviations in the actual registration of

² The diagram was compiled by the authors based on the data presented in the Subvention Programs section of the website of the RA Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure.:

³ Note: The average regional number was calculated from the publications of the RA SC, dividing the permanent population of the total rural settlements of the region by the rural settlements of the region. There are no statistics on the current population of the region by years

permanent residents. Temporary returnees and contract servicemen who do not physically reside in the area during their free time in combat, regardless of the fact that they are registered.

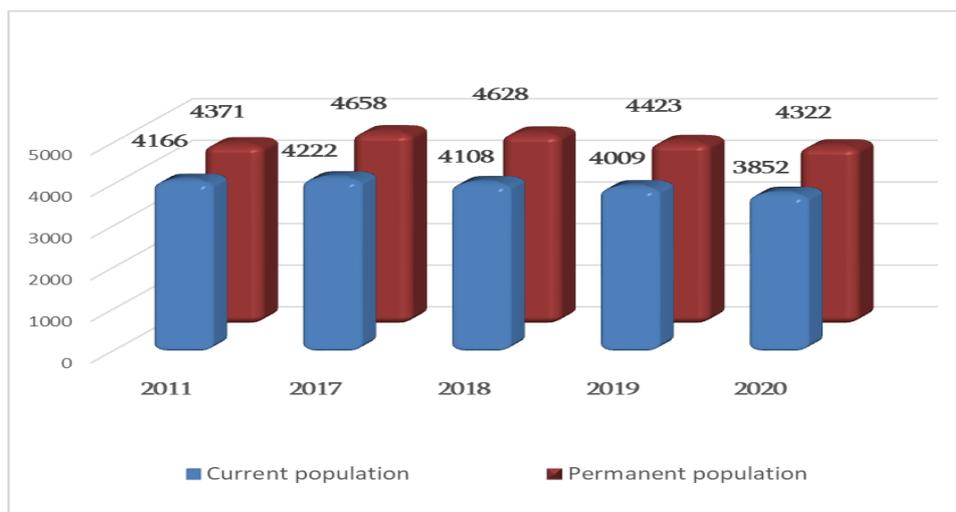


Fig. 3 The movement of the population of the border settlements of Geghamasar community by years⁴

And the number of permanent residents in the settlement directly determines the existing potential and development opportunities of the given settlement and its incorrect registration leads to the distortion of the correct assessment of the situation.

- ✓ Carry out the calculation not at the time of reporting, but at least 60 days during the reporting year based on the number of people living in the settlement.

Stimulating population growth in border areas should be one of the main strategic goals of the government. From this point of view it is recommended to

- ✓ Facilitate the resettlement of young families, especially in border areas, in particular by providing them with free housing with land based on their professional ability to provide decent work in the area.

3. Kindergartens, schools, children's sports and art clubs. Although there are more than 200 children aged 0-5 living in the studied settlements, there is a functioning kindergarten only in Tretuk and Sotk. The kindergartens are renovated having only 70 children. Although the residents of almost all the settlements we spoke about appreciate the existence of kindergartens in their village and are ready to pay for the services provided, according to the heads of the administrative districts, the lack of financial resources does not allow the operation of any type and size of primary school. However, we believe that the existence of these institutions not only provides a certain level of development for children in this age group, but also allows the caring parent to use their free time in part-time or full-time work. All these, in their turn, indirectly but steadily affect the maintenance and growth of the population in the settlement and the increase of prosperity and development. Therefore, it is necessary for either each settlement to have a pre-school with the necessary capacity or to build such an institution in several settlements close to each other and to ensure the possibility of transporting children to kindergarten (providing a bus or creating a direct public transport connection between those settlements).

⁴ Compiled by the authors on the basis of statistical reports of settlements.

As for the schools, although they are available in all settlements, the building conditions of some schools were insufficient, there are no normal classrooms and lavatory rooms. Due to the lack of specialists, the same teacher has to teach several different subjects. At the same time, in most of the border settlements observed, the number of students does not exceed 100, which is also a serious problem in terms of effective use of existing capacities.

The existence of different children groups (sports, music, painting, general development centers for preschool children, etc.) in the settlements is also very important, as such groups ensure the development of different abilities of children and their useful use of free time.

To solve the above-mentioned problems, we suggest taking into account the geographical location of the settlements and the number of preschool and school-age children, grouping the number of schools and changing the vacated buildings into a kindergarten. In particular

Pambak - Daranak - Areguni. The Daranak is located between Pambak and Areguni, the distance from each of them is about 6 km each. Preschool children are 20 in Pambak, 15 in Areguni and 14 in Daranak.

There is 1 basic school with 54 students in Pambak, 1 basic school with 60 students in Areguni and 1 high school in Daranak with 14 students. It is proposed to unite the schools in Daranak village, turning it into a secondary school and to transform the vacated school building in Pambak village into a kindergarten in accordance with the presented requirements. Areguni village, being located between Pambak and Geghamasar villages, will have the opportunity to choose a kindergarten. It is expedient to form groups according to the following principle: song, dance, painting, general development centers for preschool children in the area with a kindergarten, using the excess space of the school building turned into a kindergarten. Such a division is more expedient, as it will give an opportunity to involve the target beneficiaries of the groups as much as possible. The institutions of other settlements can also be grouped according to the same principle.

4. Inter-community public transport and intra-community roads. The provision of regular and uninterrupted public transport communication with the urban settlements of the regions, both inter-community and with each urban settlement, is of primary importance from the point of view of the socio-economic development of the rural settlements.

Large villages that are community centers and typically the only urban settlements geographically close to the typical rural settlements are generally equipped with the necessary infrastructure and services such as hospital, MES service, police, bank branches, IOM colleges, sometimes even universities. m/c, medium and large grocery and household shops, agricultural markets, processing and/or production SMEs, cultural and leisure facilities, etc. All these enables the city not only to provide itself, but also to the population of several dozen nearby villages, as well as to provide them with appropriate services. Therefore, there is no alternative to the need for a regular public route. In the enlarged community of Geghamasar, there is either no intra-community public route or connection with Vardenis which is the only town in the region. There is one reason: it is not possible to involve the private sector as there is not enough passenger flow and it is not profitable, and the community does not have the financial means to provide such a service on its own. We believe that such a vital service should not be viewed in terms of financial gain. The government should either provide partial reimbursement or tax incentives to encourage private companies to service and operate the inter-community public route, or it should be done at the expense of state-funded community funds.

5. **Agriculture.** The summary of the studies conducted on the spot and the issues raised by the heads of the administrative districts allows to single out a number of priority issues in the field of agriculture in the border villages (which, to a greater or lesser extent, are also typical of all the regions of the Republic of Armenia). They are

- ✓ Availability and security of irrigation water
- ✓ Existence of uncultivated lands
- ✓ Growing of non-targeted agricultural products (due to the impossibility of regular irrigation, only wheat, barley and fodder are grown in all the settlements observed).
- ✓ Lack of professional consultations with villagers
- ✓ Due to the proximity of some pastures to the border, safety issues of their operation, as a result, lack of fodder,
- ✓ Lack or insufficient availability of specialized processing plants, which leads to a reduction in the amount of crop grown in line with the capabilities of the procuring organization;
- ✓ Lack of crop insurance system (currently only frost or hail insurance is offered), etc.

Emphasizing the importance of solving this range of problems or mitigating their consequences, we have considered a number of primary options for solving them. The solution of the irrigation problem in a number of settlements of Gegharkunik region (Sotk, Kut, Shatvan, Azat) can be implemented as a result of drilling deep wells or cleaning the existing ones and carrying out similar works. We have estimated the possible amount of expenses to be made, which will allow us to assess the real way to solve this problem.

Table 2**Irrigation system cost calculation ⁵**

Drill	about 50 meters deep	1 meter - 20-30 thousand AMD
Pump	1 item	130 thousand AMD, average
Pipe	500-1000 meter /127 inch /	1 meter - 8500 AMD, average
Welding	30 meter	50000 AMD
Total		7 – 9 million AMD

Pambak, Daranak, Avazan, Geghamasar, Arpunk, Areguni, Tretuk, Kutakan and Kakhakn small plots of land, where mainly gardens and vegetables are grown, consume the main irrigation water from several rivers flowing along the adjacent mountain range, taking into account the individual milk. The financial inexpediency of irrigation through the system is proposed to organize the introduction of drip irrigation systems in the lands adjacent to the settlements in a centralized and enlarged way with the support of the state. This, in turn, will allow directing river water to irrigated arable land.

All these villages need partial repair of the existing irrigation network, proper management and use of river basin water exclusively for irrigation. Of the observed settlements, only the size of Geghamasar arable lands exceeds 1000 ha (1862 ha), of which about 30% is irrigated. According to preliminary estimates, 40-60 million drams will be

⁵ Authors' calculations

required for the repair of the arable land irrigation network in each settlement, depending on the size of the land and the degree of damage to the existing network⁶.

Touching upon the issue of growing crops, let us mention that Geghamasar community of Gegharkunik region has previously been distinguished by potato harvest, so we have made an approximate calculation to find out the ratio of costs and expected income for growing wheat and potatoes⁷.

Table 3**Expenses for 1 hectare in case of wheat sowing**

Seed-300 kg	48000 AMD
Cleaning the land	30000 AMD
Cultivation	20000 AMD
Sowing	15000 AMD
Fertilizer-350 kg	70000 AMD
Pesticide processing	15000 AMD
Irrigation	16000 AMD
Harvest	30000 AMD
Total	244000 AMD

Based on the calculations made, we can state that the harvest will be 5 tons / ha on average, which at an average annual price of 130 drams / kg [12], will provide about 650,000 drams of income, and profit - 406,000 drams.

Table 3**Expenses for 1 hectare in case of growing potatoes**

Seed	700000
Cleaning the land	30000
Soil cultivation	20000
Sowing	40000
Seedling cultivation	20000
interlayer baking	20000
Treatment with herbicides	100000
Irrigation / four times /	60000
Watering	20000
harvest	40000
labor force	80000
Total	1.130.000

Considering the real opportunities for potato cultivation, we can see that the harvest will be about 30 tons / ha on average, which at an average annual price of 112 drams / kg [13] will provide about 3360000 AMD income, and the profit - 2230000 AMD. In case of observing both crops, it becomes obvious that potato cultivation may be more expedient and profitable for these settlements of the region.

6. **Tourism.** Tourism is one of the special spheres, which, if properly organized, can provide sufficient employment, infrastructure, investment interest, economic growth, etc. in all settlements in the tourist zone.

⁶ Authors' calculations

⁷ The information was received as a result of a survey of individuals engaged in agriculture in the border settlements of Gegharkunik region. The calculation was made on the basis of 1 hectare, but in case of sowing at least 1000 hectares of arable land.

This region of Gegharkunik is cut off from the main highways connecting other regions of Armenia, it is relatively far from Yerevan and even being in the immediate vicinity of Lake Sevan, having all the prerequisites for sport, mountaineering and extreme tourism, has no developed tourism. Therefore, the main problem for the government should be the emergence of that interest in the private sector. As a solution, we propose to declare this region of the country a “special economic zone” for medium and large enterprises in general and for tourism in particular (hereinafter referred to as “SEZ”). One can get an idea of the possible ways and consequences of using the SDZ phenomenon by studying the website of the RA Ministry of Economic Development [14]. We propose to declare all settlements on the border with Azerbaijan as SDZ, to exempt those engaged in medium and large enterprises from property tax and land tax for the first 10 years, to set the profit tax at 2-5%. At the same time, to oblige the organizations carrying out economic activities in those zones to participate with a certain share of the profit in the programs of creation, repair and modernization of the infrastructures of the rural settlements of the given region. As a result of this measure, the government can make significant financial savings.

As for the Geghamasar community being cut off from other settlements of the Republic of Armenia and Yerevan, special attention should be paid to the fact that the Yerevan-Vardenis railway passes through the Geghamasar community, which is operated exclusively to service the Sotk ork mine and is limited only due to the tourist season, carries out passenger transportation by Yerevan-Shorzha route. We think that the full operation of the railway (up to the town of Vardenis) will not only be a serious impetus to ensure the flow of tourists to the region, but can also be a cheap transportation of agricultural products from Gegharkunik to Yerevan and other regions of Armenia, as well as for export. The only reason why the railway is not operated on the mentioned route is that the route is unprofitable due to the small number of passengers. As for the relevant stations, as we were told during the informal conversation from the South Caucasus Railway, there are stations in Sevan, Shorzhan and Vardenis, in the latter case slightly interior decoration works are needed. We think that the government should also subsidize the expenses of the South Caucasus Railway CJSC for the next few years. In addition, to take full advantage of the railway, we think it will be necessary to open intermediate stations near the villages of Geghamasar and Pambak or Daranak, as the latter are located closer to Lake Sevan and will be the main stop for customers of coastal hotels.

7. Employment. In rural statistical reports, information on population employment is generally supplemented by the following semantic breakdown

- ✓ Self-employed in agriculture,
- ✓ Self-employed in non-agricultural activities,
- ✓ Employed in state organizations: community halls, village administrations, schools, kindergartens, medical institutions,
- ✓ People working in the Armed Forces, etc.

There are no registered unemployed ones as such, as all those who do not receive a fixed salary or are not involved in any non-agricultural activities, supplement the rate of self-employed in agriculture, although our contacts increased the number of women in all settlements and up to 20 in general. The problem of employment is for 30-year-olds. Most young people either become contract soldiers or emigrate from their place of birth. The main activity of SMEs in the observed settlements is a small grocery store with no development prospects. The low solvency of the population of the settlements and being out of the scope of tourist interests make doing business in these settlements unprofitable (Table 4).

Number of SMEs operating in the border settlements of Geghamasar community

Residence	SME		
	type of activity	Quantity	Number of employees
Arpunk	grocery store	1	1
Geghamasar	flour mill	1	5
	grocery store	4	4
	thrift store	1	1
Areguni	grocery store	2	2
	gas station	1	2
Pambak	grocery store	3	3
Kut	grocery store	1	1
Avazan	0	0	0
Tretuk	0	0	0
Daranak	0	0	0
Azat	0	0	0

The solution of the problems considered in the previous sections, in its turn, will significantly contribute to the activation of employment in the settlements.

Conclusion

Summing up our research, we consider it important to note that in the conditions of the modern reality of Armenia, the implementation of measures aimed at re-evaluating the security, demographic, social and economic conditions of the border settlements has become more important than ever. The latter should not only be limited to granting border status to settlements, but should also be accompanied by the practical implementation of the above measures. Gaps in the legislative field also slow down the process of solving the problems formed in these settlements. If the issues raised by us require a relatively long period of time to resolve, then the regulation of the legal framework, the clarification of the status of settlements and the ensuing steps are subject to the implementation in a relatively short period of time. Our research shows that these border settlements have sufficient resources to use their economic potential effectively. However, their use can be beneficial only by meeting the minimum requirements of economic activity, which can not be provided only by a small budget allocated to solve the already dozens of problems in border areas. Therefore, the efficient distribution of state resources by targeted and selective implementation of subsidy programs is now on the agenda. The latter will make it possible to reduce or eliminate the existing socio-economic gaps between interregional, border and non-border settlements. The implementation of such measures will not only solve the problem of sustainable development of a large number of settlements, but will also be a stimulus for the improvement of security mechanisms in border areas, leading to a chain effect, as well as the improvement of demographic and other indicators.

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**ՀՀ ՍԱՀՄԱՆԱՄԵՐԶ ԲՆԱԿԱՎԱՅՐԵՐԻ ՍՈՑԻԱԼ-ՏՆՏԵՍԱԿԱՆ ԶԱՐԳԱՑՄԱՆ
ՀՆԱՐԱՎՈՐՈՒԹՅՈՒՆՆԵՐԸ ԳԵՂԱՐՔՈՒՆԻՔԻ ՄԱՐԶԻ ԳԵՂԱՄԱՍԱՐ ՀԱՄԱՅՆՔԻ
ՕՐԻՆԱԿՈՎ ԽՆԴԻՐՆԵՐ ԵՎ ԼՈՒԾՄԱՆ ՈՒՂԻՆԵՐ**

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Հայաստանի պետական տնտեսագիտական համալսարան

Սահմանամերձ բնակավայրերի զարգացմանը խոչընդոտող խնդիրների բացահայտումը, պետության կողմից ոլորտում իրականացվող քաղաքականության գնահատումը և դրանց հիման վրա սոցիալ-տնտեսական հայեցակարգերի մշակումը մշտապես եղել և շարունակում է մնալ ցանկացած երկրի իրական տնտեսական ներուժի առավելագույն դրսևորման կարևոր նախապայման: Ներկայումս առավել խնդրահարույց

է դառնում տարածքային անհամաչափ զարգացումը դրանից բխող բոլոր ռիսկերի հետ մեկտեղ՝ բնակավայրերի բնակչության թվի կրճատում, տնտեսական ակտիվության կրճատում, ուրբանիզացիա, արտագաղթ, բնակչության ծերացում, տարածքային ՀՆԱ-ի կրճատում և այդպես շարունակ:

Բանալի բաներ. սահմանամերձ բնակավայր, Գեղամասար, ենթակառուցվածքներ, անվտանգություն, ժողովրդագրական վիճակ, զարգացում, առաջնահերթություն:

ВОЗМОЖНОСТИ СОЦИАЛЬНО-ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКОГО РАЗВИТИЯ ПРИГРАНИЧНЫХ НАСЕЛЕННЫХ ПУНКТОВ РА НА ПРИМЕРЕ ОБЩИНЫ ГЕГАМАСАР ГЕГАРКУНИКСКОГО МАРЗА: ПРОБЛЕМЫ И ПУТИ РЕШЕНИЯ

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Выявление проблем, препятствующих развитию приграничных территорий, оценка недостатков проводимой государством политики в данной области, разработка социально-экономических концепций на их основе всегда было и остается необходимой предпосылкой для максимизации реального экономического потенциала любой страны. . В настоящее время непропорциональное территориальное развитие становится более проблемным вместе со всеми вытекающими из него рисками: сокращение населения населенных пунктов, снижение экономической активности, урбанизация, эмиграция, старение населения, сокращение территориального ВВП и так далее.

Ключевые слова: приграничный населенный пункт, Гегамасар, инфраструктура, безопасность, демографическая ситуация, развитие, приоритет.

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