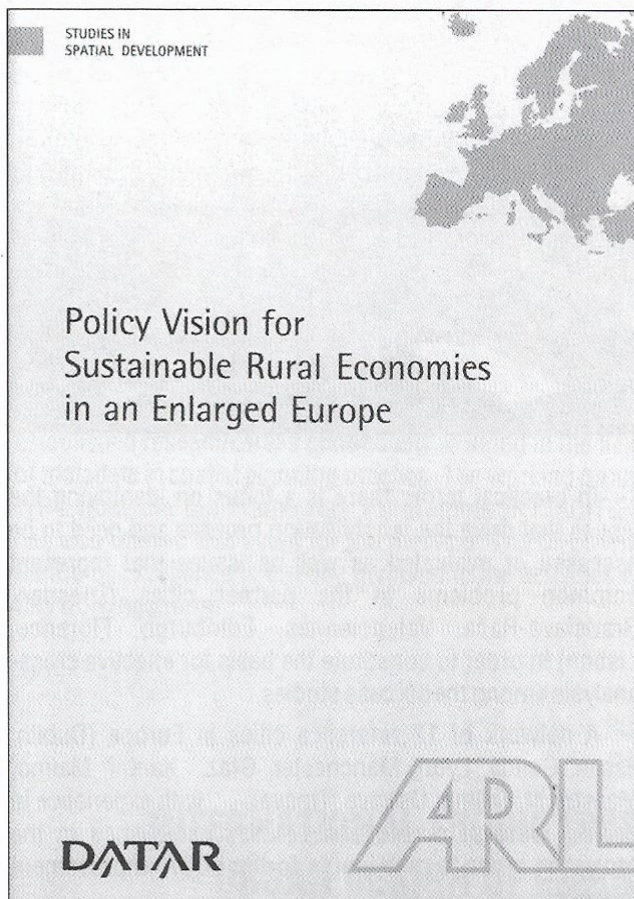




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**POLICY VISION FOR SUSTAINABLE RURAL ECONOMIES  
IN AN ENLARGED EUROPE**



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Publication " Policy Vision for Sustainable Rural Economies in an Enlarged Europe" contains the results of the working group established by a joint initiative of the Academy for Spatial Research and Planning, ARL and Délégation á l' Aménagement du Territoire et á Action Régionale, DATAR. It starts with a paper called "Policy Vision for Sustainable Rural Economies in and Enlarged Europe" that reflects the essence of the publication. For this paper the horizon of 25 years was chosen and starts with a vision for a desirable and sustainable agricultural and rural policy at the end of this period. The vision is followed by a series of individual papers dealing in more detail with specific issues of the common agricultural and rural policy, providing thus the background of the discussions that resulted in the Group`s "vision".

This part of the book starts with a reflection on the challenges and expectations related to an new Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). By Winfried von Urff, followed by considerations on the directions of change by Jan C. Blom. Specific considerations on the desirable balance between the pillars of the CAP for the promotion of a multifunctional European model of agriculture were contributed by Francois Colson and Joel Mathurin.

Obstacles to reforms were discussed by Tomás García Azcarate and José M. Sumpsi Viñas. Giovanni Anania`s paper assesses the extent of pressure on a change of the CAP to be expected from WTO in the light of the Ministerial Declaration of Doha. Jery Wilkin contributed a paper on the expectations of the Central and Eastern European Countries and their assessment of the then ongoing accession negotiations. Allan Buckwell analyzed the role of the CAP with regard to the aspects of the safety and quality of food as most important reasons that call for a major change of the CAP. Ewa Rabinowicz had a critical look at issues related to the price stabilization and safety net schemes introduced in some OECD countries. The question how the CAP can be brought more in line with environmental requirements is addressed by Allan Buckwell and José M. Sumpsi Viñas.

As the rural areas are not only the sites where agricultural production takes place and where natural and semi-natural habitats can be found, but they are also sites where people live, the paper written by Elena Saraceno is focused on the question, how the second pillar of the CAP should be adapted to better cater for the needs of rural areas.

ARL and DATAR made with this book important contribution to the current discussion on CAP reform with the stress on the integrated agricultural and rural policy for Europe.

*Prof. Ing.arch. Maroš Finka, PhD.*