

Strategic Planning of Social and Economic Development of Rural Territory of the Region on the Basis of Foresight Technologies

A. Askarov

Bashkir State Agrarian University
450001, 50 Years of October, 34,
Ufa, Russia
stovba2005@rambler.ru

E. Stovba

Birsk branch of Bashkir State University
452450, International, 10,
Birsk, Russia

A. Stovba

Birsk branch of Bashkir State University
452450, International, 10,
Birsk, Russia

Abstract— The article proves the necessity of the use of foresight technologies in the strategic planning of social and economic development of rural territories at the regional level. It shows the foresight methodology, which is used as a system tool for the formation and implementation of the development strategy of rural territories. The foreign and Russian experience of the use of fore-sight technologies at the regional level is generalized. The problems of the development and implementation of strategic plans for the development of territorial entities based on foresight applied to the Russian practice are singled out. The algorithm of strategic planning of social and economic development of rural territory of the region based on foresight technologies and the mechanism for its implementation at the municipal level are considered. It is shown that the nature of the municipal foresight is determined, on the one hand, by the need of taking into account the interests of key entities of regional development and, on the other hand, due to the obligatory interconnection of strategic priorities for the development of rural territories in long term. The necessity of using foresight technologies for the development of a roadmap and the strategy for the development of rural territories of the Republic of Bashkortostan for the period until 2030 is proved. The assessment of the current state and prospects of social and economic development of the rural territory of the region is given. The results of the comprehensive fore-sight analysis of perspective development directions of rural territories of the Republic of Bashkortostan are presented.

Keywords— *strategic planning, rural territory, foresight methodology, foresight technologies, municipalities*

I. INTRODUCTION

Currently, foresight is a megatrend of the economy of the 21st century, capable of becoming its driver, the basis for ensuring the competitiveness of the development of various territorial systems, including rural territories. Unlike classical planning methods that are more «guessing» oriented, the result of foresight research is a map of the future that visualizes the

economic space and allows to consider alternative methods and ways to achieve the desired result [1, 2, 3, 4].

Today, foresight, its heuristic, organizational and managerial potential are actively used in economically developed countries as an effective tool for strategic planning at the regional and municipal levels [5, 6, 7, 8]. In the European Union it is accepted that all countries entering the EU are obliged to form regional fore-sights. In OECD countries, foresight research is considered to be an indispensable tool for developing scientific, technological and innovation policies.

In our country, foresight is a relatively new phenomenon. The practice of the Russian foresight has been spreading since the middle of the first decade of the 21st century [9, 10, 11, 12]. However, despite the growing interest of the scientific community to the problems of using foresight and with a number of domestic foresight studies, many methodological issues of the foresight remain unsolved, are controversial, insufficiently studied, and determine the scientific study of the research topic. First of all, it concerns the problems of embedding foresight and road maps in the development of strategic plans for social and economic development of municipalities, the formation of strategies based on them, assessing the effectiveness of foresight projects, and the lack of detailed methodological approaches to the development of foresight research at the level of rural territories.

II. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the domestic practice of foresight studies, there is no single organizational mechanism for the interaction of municipal authorities with the local expert community. The foreign experience of scientific research on the use of foresight technologies in the practice of strategic planning for rural development requires adaptation and a significant adjustment in the context of Russian conditions.

The insufficiently developed theoretical and methodological base of the research problems causes the development of methodological recommendations on strategic planning for the development of rural territories based on foresight technologies, the use of which will allow designing effective strategies and taking into account the social and economic potential of rural territories to the greatest extent [13, 14]. The nature of the municipal foresight is determined, on the one hand, by the need to take into account the interests of key entities of regional development and, on the other hand, due to the obligatory interconnection of strategic priorities for the development of rural territories in the long-term perspective [15, 16]. An algorithm for strategic planning of rural territories based on foresight technologies presented in Figure 1 has been developed. For the strategic vision and the future of the Republic of Bashkortostan, the effective development of rural territories as complex socio-economic systems is important [17, 18]. The current social and economic situation in rural territories of the region as a whole can be defined as a deepening systemic degradation.

The economic development of rural territories is dominated by a narrow-sector agrarian approach, a high proportion of rural territories contributes to the lagging behind the social development of rural territories in the region. The majority of rural municipalities are characterized by an agrarian orientation, and the appearance of socially and economically depressed rural territories leads to general instability of the regional economy. The absence of well-defined strategic programs for the social and economic development of rural territories enhances polarization among municipalities within the dichotomy of «rural territories (periphery) - the city» and increases the gap in the standard of living between the urban and rural population of the republic.

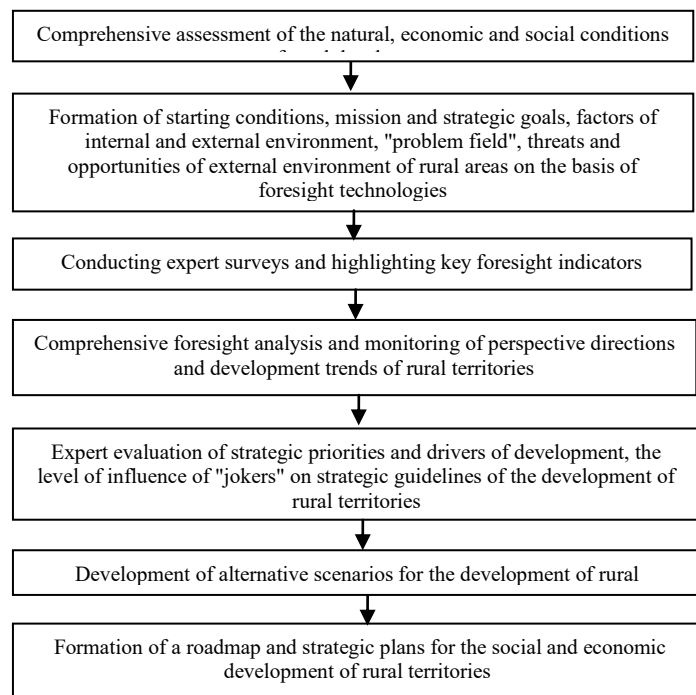


Fig. 1. The algorithm for strategic planning of rural territories in the region based on foresight technologies

The assessment of the social and economic situation in the rural territories of the region shows the imbalance of the social sphere and the growth of social tension [19, 20]. In most rural municipalities of the republic, the total number of young people and pensioners is about 40%, which in turn causes an exorbitant economic burden on municipal budgets. At the same time, most budgets of rural municipalities are subsidized. Structural disproportions in the social and economic development of rural territories cause the development of strategic plans and the definition of strategic directions for the development of rural municipalities based on foresight technologies.

The survey of experts (scientists, representatives of the public and agricultural business) on the prospects for the development of rural areas of the Republic of Bashkortostan was conducted. The results of a comprehensive foresight analysis of alternative scenarios for the development of rural territories are presented in Table 1.

TABLE I. THE MAIN CHARACTERISTICS OF ALTERNATIVE SCENARIOS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL TERRITORIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF BASHKORTOSTAN

Scenarios	Conditions and factors of formation of scenarios of development
The scenario of conservative development	<p>The preservation of the unfavorable correlation (disparity) of prices for agricultural and industrial products.</p> <p>The insufficiently high degree of intensification in plant growing.</p> <p>The shift in the economy of the agrarian sphere of rural areas to more unfavorable conditions in comparison with the actual situation achieved.</p> <p>A small amount of financial resources allocated to agricultural organizations for the purchase of productive resources.</p> <p>The significant reduction in financing of agricultural industries and state support (subsidies).</p>
The scenario of safe development	<p>The cessation of the decline in production in agricultural organization of rural areas.</p> <p>The preservation of moderate state support for agricultural organizations.</p> <p>Inertial strengthening of the existing positive tendencies in the development of the agrarian sphere in rural territories.</p> <p>A small increase in the volume of organic and mineral fertilizers introduced.</p> <p>Low rates of acquisition by agricultural organizations of agricultural machinery.</p> <p>The orientation on the gradual exit of the economy of rural territories from a crisis state.</p>
The scenario of sustainable development	<p>A significant increase in the level of efficiency of agricultural production.</p> <p>The formation of a favorable conjuncture of the agricultural food market for the development of food production.</p> <p>High rates of purchase by agricultural organizations of agricultural machinery.</p> <p>High degree of intensification of crop production.</p> <p>Realization of large-scale state support of rural commodity producers.</p>

The use of foresight technologies will enable local authorities to assess the potential and reserves of rural territories, taking into account unique features, to shape their future image and develop practical measures to achieve this

image. From the point of view of the image component, due to the development strategy and the calculated future, the image of the rural territories will improve, which, in turn, will directly affect their investment attractiveness. Strategic planning of rural development based on foresight technologies helps to identify unique activities for specific rural municipalities as «poles of growth» and create a brand of municipalities

III. CONCLUSION

The integrated use of foresight technologies and the system approach will allow special attention to be given to depressive rural territories as a kind of «poverty incubators» at the regional level and to identify the most favorable socially and economically rural territories as «potential growth points» of the agrarian sector. Applying foresight in the practice of strategic planning for the development of rural territories will help to bring rural municipalities to a qualitatively new level of social and economic development.

The introduction of foresight technology into the practice of strategic management of rural territories in the region will help to create a clear and unified image of their future, which in the long term (until 2030) can serve as a target for both regional policy and the activities of individual rural municipalities formations. Strategic planning based on the methodology of the foresight will allow selecting priority directions for the development of rural territories that promote economic growth, improve the level and quality of life of the rural population of the Republic of Bashkortostan.

References

- [1] Georghiou, L., Cassingena, J., Keenan, M., Miles, I., Popper, R.: Foresight methodology. Handbook of technology foresight, Cheltenham, Edward Elgar (2008).
- [2] Keenan, M.: Combing foresight methods for impacts. NISTEP 3rd International Conference on Foresight, Tokyo (2007).
- [3] Miles, I.: The development of technology foresight: A review. Technological Forecasting and Social Change, Vol. 77, No. 9, P. 1448-1456 (2010).
- [4] Mintzberg, H.: The rise and fall of strategic planning, New York, Free Press, 460 p. (1993).
- [5] Rodionov, D.G., Rudskaya, I.A.: Foreign experience of using foresight projects in the strategic development of regions. Global scientific potential, No. 9 (66), pp. 93-100 (2016).
- [6] Becker, P.: Corporate foresight in Europe: A First Overview, Luxembourg, Office for official Publications of the European Communities, 392 p. (2003).
- [7] Daheim, C., Uerz, G.: Corporate foresight in Europe: from trend based logics to open foresight. Technology Analysis & Strategic Management, Vol. 20, No. 3, pp. 321-336 (2008).
- [8] Popper, R., Georghiou, L.: Methodology: Common foresight practices & tools. International Handbook on Foresight and Science Policy: Theory and Practice, Cheltenham, Edward Elgar (2007).
- [9] Kozlov, V.A., Tretyak, V.P.: The state of foresight research in Russia. Economic strategies, Vol. 14, No. 4 (102), pp. 30-41 (2012).
- [10] Kolyuzhnova, N.Ya.: Regional foresight: concept, technology, management, Irkutsk, Irkutsk State University, 149 p. (2014).
- [11] Murinovich, A.A., Loginov, M.P.: Foresight project as a basis for strategic inter-regional planning. Izvestiya Ural State Economic University, No. 1 (69), pp. 101-116 (2017).
- [12] Shevchenko, E.V., Stukach, V.F., Tretyak, V.P.: Foresight: methodology, practice of research, Omsk, LTSI, 168 p. (2016).
- [13] Gornostayeva, Zh.V., Sorokina, Yu.V.: Foresight as a modern method of strategic planning and management. Economics and Entrepreneurship, No. 8-2 (85-2), pp. 429-432 (2017).
- [14] Lemetti, Yu.A., Kelebay, RR: The model of the foresight platform as a tool for the formation of an effective agrarian policy in the region. International Scientific Journal, No. 4, P. 33 (2016).
- [15] Nikolashin, V.P., Strelnikov, A.V.: Use of foresight research methods in strategic management of the agrarian sphere of economy. Technology of food and processing industry APC - products of healthy nutrition, No. 2 (10), pp. 103-109 (2016).
- [16] Sviridchenko, Yu.A.: Strategic planning and forecasting the development of socio-economic systems based on the foresight method. Economics and Entrepreneurship, No. 4-1 (45-1), pp. 339-345 (2014).
- [17] Gusmanov, U.G., Stovba, E.V.: Strategic planning of social and economic development of rural territory. International Scientific Journal, No. 5, pp. 65-71 (2015).
- [18] Stovba, E.V., Stovba, A.V.: The role of innovation in strategic planning for the development of the agro-food complex in the region. Economy: yesterday, today, tomorrow, No. 6, pp. 121-132 (2016).
- [19] Agriculture, hunting and forestry of the Republic of Bashkortostan: statistical collection, Ufa: Bashkortostan, 202 p. (2017).
- [20] Socio-economic status of municipal districts and urban regions of the Republic of Bashkortostan: statistical compilation, Ufa, Bashkortostanstat, 281 p. (2017).