The Practice of Use and Development of Boarder Situation Potential (Based on The Materials of the Amur Region)

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Abstract. The article is devoted to the actual problem of regional development – the existing practice and promising directions of using the potential of the border situation for the socio-economic development of the region. The author’s position is justified basing on the theoretical analysis of existing research approaches to boarder potential. In the study the current state and transformations in the use and development of border potential in terms of development of Russian-Chinese border cooperation were estimated. It is concluded that the changes under the general foreign economy conditions of cooperation and transformation of border potential provide a significant increase in regional competitive advantages. It causes the necessity to correct strategic plans, so a special importance appears - the use of the new possibilities to create international transport corridor and increase export capacity. It is revealed that the low attractiveness of the region as a place of permanent residence remains. The outflow of population is largely determined by the negative trends in the system of settlement of the region, the increase in the number of small villages and the preservation of the border zone. The paper presents the results of calculations of costs and economic effect of the use of various options for the organization of resettlement of the population in large rural settlements of the region.

1. Introduction
The last decades have become a period of great transformations, which were manifested themselves in the intensification of the polarization of the economic space, its fragmentation. The concentration of economic activity and population in settlement centers leads to a restriction of the opportunities for economic development of peripheral regions, loss of population and domestic reproduction resources. Among them there are a lot of border areas.

The weakening of negative trends is largely determined by the use of opportunities of foreign economic relations. For the Far Eastern regions, the greatest prospects are related to the development of cross-border cooperation with China.

To the current moment, great experience in the use and development of cross-border potential has been accumulated at the regional, municipal and settlement levels. The achieved results, however, do not exhaust it to the full and correspond to the existing prospective needs.

The significant differences in the border areas make them unique objects of planning and require a personalized approach to programming their development [1]. The practice shows that the low level of scientific and information support leads to the fact that many acute development problems are being overlooked, that finally can cause serious and painful problems and require a constant correction [2].
The purpose of this work is to analyze the practice of using cross-border potential in the Russian-Chinese borderland and to identify new opportunities formed during cross-border cooperation that can be used to correct strategic programming and planning of the region development. To assess the situation at the regional, municipal and settlement levels, we created a database for all settlements that existed on the territory of the region since enumeration census in 1970.

2. Theoretical and methodological foundations of the study of the borderer potential
The growth of attention to the border areas in world practice on the one hand was due to their economic degradation, the fall in the living standards of the population, and, on the other, to the growing opportunities to develop foreign economic relations of adjacent territories.

The theoretical basis of the borderland studies was laid in the framework of the theories of cumulative growth [3, 4], models and concepts of "new economic geography" (NEG) [5].

Among the most significant factors that directly attracted attention to the spatial asymmetry of boarder territorial entities there is the regionalization of the European economic space, which found its most vivid manifestation in the formation of the Euroregions in the border areas of neighboring states. The ongoing processes of globalization, the development of cross-border cooperation predetermined the scientific interest to the problems of border regions [7, 8, 9]. Despite all the significance of the achieved results, it should be noted that at present there is no generally accepted theory in the foreign scientific literature that allows assessing the content and prospects of the integration development in the border regions.

In domestic practice and scientific research, fundamental changes in the border area were caused by external economic liberalization. The increased participation of border regions in the development of foreign economic relations, the increase of their role in international cooperation, and the impact of the border situation on their socio-economic development led to the allocation of the border area to a special object of state policy.

An important role in the formation of ideas about the nature of ongoing processes and strategic prospects in the Far Eastern region belongs to ongoing research aimed at revealing the general patterns of the spatial development of Pacific Russia. Made by P. Baklanov analysis of the regional economic, geographic and geopolitical potential of the region [10], and the definition of strategic development prospects by P. Minakir are especially noteworthy [11].

The variety of boarder territories, the differentiation of border interaction have caused the multiplicity of classifications and typologies of cross-border cooperation [12,13]. The objects of scientific research are territorial formations of different taxonomic level. Along with studies of processes occurring at the regional level, significant steps have been taken in analyzing the processes taking place at the level of urban districts and municipal districts [14, 15].

As for the settlements located on the border, in the programming of regional development special attention deserves the settlements where the regime of the border zone was kept as long as possible and determines the restrictions of free movement of people and their economic activities.

3. Transformation of the Trans-Amur-Territory border potential
Assessing the level of development of the border potential of the region, as specific opportunities related to proximity to the border, with the presence of the border infrastructure in the region, it should be borne in mind that it can have significant differences in terms of the implementation of federal, regional, local and private interests (see Table 1).

Historically, the Amur Region, being on the periphery of the Russian Eurasian space, was developing as an agrarian region with a low level of industrial and export potential and a predominant transport component in the GRP region. In recent years, the outflow of population of the Amur region has become stable. All this has determined the unpreparedness of the region in socio-economic, financial, infrastructural relation to the solution of tasks and functions caused by the change of the state border. With the development of cross-border relations, conditions for cardinal changes in the emerging situation were created, for build-up and implementation of the border potential. The first step in this direc-
tion was the development of cross-border tourism. In the future, the sphere of cross-border cooperation included investments; creation of joint ventures (in the sphere of services and trade-intermediary, in construction and agriculture); improvement of bank calculations, insurance, arbitration; interaction of law enforcement, migration and statistical services; building ties in the sphere of education, culture, and ecology.

Table 1. Table captions should be placed above the tables.

| Interests                  | Border potential                                                                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Federal interests          | Transit territory. Transport and logistics opportunities, the development of the border crossing infrastructure. |
| Regional interests         | Cross-border cooperation. Level of economic development, investment and foreign economic potential, the state of the economy of the adjacent border area. |
| Large business             | Possibilities for locating export-oriented production facilities on preferential terms. |
| Small and medium-sized business | Border regime, availability of border benefits for export-import operations and tourism. |

At the same time, in the combination of the properties of borderline and peripheral nature, the peripheral role up to the present day has a dominant role. The investment potential of endogenous large enterprises, small and medium-sized businesses continues to remain at an extremely low level. Thus, regional initiatives can be implemented only by turning into projects of the federal center. As a consequence, essentially the only players in the regional investment field are large state corporations and network international and domestic companies that implement their interests in territorial expansion.

4. Proposals for the development of promising areas for building up and using the region's cross-border potential

In this work, it is possible to consider only some promising areas of the use and development of the border potential of the Amur region, within which there are the most urgent and significant problems in the competence of regional government bodies.

Among the most important directions for building up and using the existing border potential within the framework of the spatial policy pursued by the regional authorities, the formation of a transport and logistics complex that goes far beyond the interests of developing the transport accessibility of the region's territory is underestimated. The existing transport infrastructure as part of the Transsib and BAM, the Amur road, river transport on the Amur, Zeya and Bureya rivers, oil and gas pipelines is being supplemented in the near future with a bridge across the Amur river in the Blagoveschensk-Heihe area. With its introduction in the region, one of the international transport corridors that are promising in the future is being formed. China supplements the existing link between the Trans-Siberian and the Baikal-Amur Mainline (BAM) with the continuation to Yakutsk and creates conditions for the expansion of the latitudinal transport network (east west), the North-South network, ensuring the development of the continental ligament of the Far North and the creation of a new international access to the Northern Sea Route. It seems to us that the emerging border infrastructure should be supplemented by a logistics network with terminals and warehouses of various types at the intersection of the north-south and west-east railroads and inscribed in a single logistical network of the country.

In addition, one of the most large-scale underutilized resources of the region's border potential is agricultural land, a large part of which remains withdrawn from economic circulation. Currently, agricultural organizations in the region have focused on the production of cereals and soybeans, while eliminating the production of fruit and vegetable products that play an important role in the food
supply of the Far Eastern region and the implementation of the state policy of import substitution. The study carried out earlier by the authors confirms that there is no alternative to solving the task of producing fruit and vegetable products in the Far East, by using the border potential and, above all, such a resource as attracting seasonal Chinese labor [16]. The ongoing efforts of regional state bodies to create high-tech agricultural production in the region using seasonal workers from neighboring China at the level of program documents are not undertaken at all, but in practice they are clearly insufficient to obtain significant economic results. The efforts of the business community in this direction, with the current practice of government management of the development of foreign economical cooperation, cannot be realized.

The socio-economic processes occurring in the regions, their high dynamism in recent years, significantly increase the importance of measures aimed at preserving and developing the human potential of the borderland. In the border areas, the growth of the number of small settlements is becoming widespread, and the improvement of their infrastructure is virtually impossible. The considerable remoteness of such settlements from the regional and district centers also leads to a sharp restriction of the possibilities of using the potential of the social infrastructure of the established service centers of the population, causing the formation of mass forced migration of the indigenous population of the region.

A significant contribution to the desertification of the region is made by generally positive processes, among which the modernization of Russian Railway stands out. For example, in the Arkharinsky district, in rural settlements that served as railway service centers, according to the census of enumeration in 1989 19.3% of the citizens remained in the district in 2017. The prospects for revival in these settlements of economic activity are completely absent. Moreover, further introduction of modern technologies in Russian Railways is fraught with the growth and aggravation of resettlement problems in a number of districts of the region, which makes it impossible for the population of dying settlements to be resettled, at least in the part of the remaining residents who have exceeded the retirement age.

We estimated the first stage of resettlement in which the 30 most remote settlements with a share of the population over working age more than 30% were included. At the same time, the number of potential migrants was 189 persons of retirement age. Their inclusion in the State program "Provision of affordable and quality housing for the population of the Amur Region for 2014-2020" according to our calculations will require 68,607 thousand rubles. The improvement of the level and quality of life of the population is a potential social effect of resettlement due to reducing the gap in access to budgetary health, education, culture, social security services. When discussing the draft regional program for the development of the border area, our proposals were adopted as a recommendation of the Public Council under the Ministry of Economics of the Amur Regional Administration.

5. Conclusion
The analysis allows to draw a conclusion that positive qualitative changes have been achieved in the development and use of border potential in the Amur Region in recent decades. A special role in their achievement belongs to the implementation of state policy, the actions of the central authorities of the country, the increase of interest of state monopolies and other large economic structures to the region.

At the same time, a significant part of new opportunities for building up and using border potential at the regional level remains unclaimed and is not being realized. This firstly applies to the potential of the transport and logistics system of the region, the use of the possibilities of a border location for the development of agricultural production, the improvement of the settlement system.

6. References
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