ECONOMIC SECURITY OF UKRAINE
AND ENTITIES

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SOCIO-ECONOMIC SECURITY: MODERN APPROACH TO ENSURING
THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGION

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Introduction. Under current Ukraine’s realities, ensuring socio-economic security of the region is considered as the main strategic goal of public administration and regulation. Crises in Ukraine do not allow the necessary pace in developing market regulators, which causes deterioration of socio-economic condition of regions and the country as a whole. At the present stage, we have a structurally deformed and unbalanced socio-economic system in the region, with a numerous threats significant strengthening, that require more effective action. Crisis situations in the regions and in the country as a whole imply the use of effective methods of public administration and administration. One of the most promising tools for preventing and neutralizing threats to economic security of the region is method of purposeful programming of the territories socio-economic development, namely: the use of targeted programs of socio-economic development, which confirms foreign experience in regional management. Programs are an important tool that contributes to positive change in the situation in the region at internal and external markets, and therefore to improve its socio-economic security.

Overview of recent researches and publications. Significant contribution to the study of regional aspects of providing state social and economic security have made Ukrainian and foreign scientists, namely: O. Vlasiuk, V. Tkachenko, M. Yermoshenko, L. Abalkin, V. Senchahov, V. Tretiak and many others. But despite, at this time, practice and methodological support of the ensuring economic security process are not focused on forecasting-strategic decisions and measures in this direction. It is intended to reflect and justify the potential threats to economic security in the projections developed in the long- and medium-term strategic programs of the government and local authorities. The problem is not deep enough analysis of real threats, adequate perception of actual economic condition indicators, development of strategic programs not in the direction of economic security, but according to the threats, so that decisions are need to be taken immediately.

The purpose of the paper. The purpose of the article is to determine practice and methodological support for the socio-economic security of the region using a program-targeted approach to ensuring the socio-economic development of the region.
The main body and results of the research. According to experience of the countries that were steadily developing or recovered from economic crisis, the program-oriented approach to economic security is focused not only on production and quantitative indicators, but also on social and qualitative ones, combined with the implementation of individual projects that are effective for social-economic system of the region. The use of socio-economic programming with involvement of public in the context of specific tasks implementation provides an opportunity to get closer to the world standards of state regulation effectiveness.

Experience of providing economic security in the US and Canada testifies the expediency and necessity of implementing the principles of strategic programming, which is one of the effective means of influencing regional socio-economic systems development. The system of strategic socio-economic programming of the region’s economic security includes strategic goals, tactical tasks, factors and organizational tools. Therefore, strategic programming takes into account both current regional problems and perspectives and goals.

The advantage of using a program-targeted approach in the context of ensuring economic security of the region is particularly noticeable in the context of market mechanism and systemic economic crisis emergence. A program-target approach to solving regional problems, including ensuring economic security of the region, should be regarded as an instrument of regional policy, which simultaneously provides both formulation of this policy as a whole and its implementation in the form of specific programs of different levels and purpose [18].

Systematic exploitation of the region’s potential in the system of the territories economic security is one of the main means of approximation to European standards. Regional development programs can be a real tool for accelerating the region’s economy reforming.

Program-targeted approach is understood as implementation of a set of planned, organizational, economic and information measures, which allows to subordinate the activities of all economic entities of the region to achieve the set goals, which are development of socio-economic system [16, p.71].

Using a program-target approach to ensuring the economic security of the region will allow to:
- develop a system of economic security indicators with the mandatory use of thresholds that meets the economic development objective;
- increase the effectiveness of control processes over regional economic processes that affect the level of economic security;
- achieve transparency of regional governance actions towards economic security;
- improve the quality and weight of managerial decisions towards ensuring regional economic security;
- identify and address priorities and objectives of the regional economy;
- reconcile planned activities according to terms and resources;
- strengthen responsibility of developers and executors of planned activities to achieve a specific outcome.

The program of ensuring socio-economic security of the region should be more properly called the integrated system of the region development targeted programs (sub-programs), which comprehensively provides creating measures for socio-economic system of the region development in a given direction. In order to increase effectiveness of program-target program method as a tool for regional economy regulating and to ensure regional economic security, it is necessary to reduce the number of regional development programs to the most important ones; ensure sub-program coherence and cross-program coordination; to set planning figures only after careful scientific substantiation; replace the resources management objects with process ones. One of the factors that slow down improvement of regional governance in Ukraine is lack of necessary tactical tools that would be able to fulfill strategic goals of regional policy, set out in the normative documents, the main of which is economic security provision.

At the present stage, ensuring socio-economic security of the region as a complex task is not covered in any program of socio-economic development of the regions of Ukraine, only some indicators are used. As experience of using the program-target method in regulating the region’s economy shows, namely defining the horizons of social and economic development, results of the programs are achieved very rarely, including by means of adopting the next program without sufficient analysis of the results of the previous one and very low resources providing. One of the main reasons, in our opinion, is inefficient use of a systematic approach
and rejection of ensuring economic security of the region as the main strategic goal. Moreover, based on the economic security essence, sustainable development is not only an element but also a result of ensuring economic security process. Therefore, economic security strategy should be an integral part of the socio-economic development strategy.

Targeted comprehensive programs are an effective tool for implementing regional economic security strategy at the regional level [15, p. 90]. The Program means a complex of socio-economic, industrial, research, organizational and other measures related to the resources, performers and terms of implementation, which are focused on solving a specific socio-economic problem of the region – achieving the main strategic goal – improving the region level of economic security. Regional programs are now designed to play a new role, which is the most effective regulation of a market economy, integration of state, territorial, collective and individual interests. We propose a list of the main provisions of the regional strategic program for ensuring the economic security of the region (Fig. 1). This Program is a top priority in the system of socio-economic development programs and enables the right choice of directions of socio-economic transformation at the regional level.

Proportionality and balance of development of all the national economy sectors and spheres is one of the main conditions for the region’s economic security. In terms of free enterprise, the state must regulate political, economic and social processes.

The main objectives of the Program are:
increasing economic freedom of the region, provided the territorial integrity of Ukraine;
enhancing effectiveness of regional socio-economic policy through the implementation of OEMs to ensure economic security;
timely forecasting and identification of external and internal threats to economic security of the region;
development and implementation of operational and long-term measures to prevent and neutralize destabilizing factors;
achieving regional development rates sufficient to achieve an acceptable level of economic security for the region;
integration of economic interests of all regional entities;
the use of cross-sectorial and interregional integration;
development of intellectual potential of the region, which will help to overcome scientific, technical and technological backwardness;
ensuring European standards in the social sphere of the region through economic development;
improving the environmental situation in the region.

All forecast positions of such a Program are formed in accordance with the unified state standards of socio-economic development, taking into account the particular region development peculiarities. Thus, the Regional Economic Security Program determines the structural restructuring directions of the economic system of the region, taking into account local potential and features of the territory and is made on the basis of economic forecasts for the region development. The main condition for the Program effectiveness is linking of the priorities and the most promising directions of the region development with its capabilities, namely natural resources, innovative, human, scientific and other potentials. However, effective program governance requires appropriate regional economic governance status and a purposeful unification of efforts by all economic entities in the region.

State regulation of economic processes should be aimed at restoring optimal proportions between production, exchange, distribution and consumption, and at promoting economic security. Improving socio-economic policies through the use of a program-targeted approach can reduce uncertainty factor, risks and threats to economic security in the region. Therefore, one of the main functions of the economy regional management in the process of improving economic security of the territory is regulatory, which is based on constant control and improvement of socio-economic relations.
**Part I**

**CONCEPTUAL PROVISIONS**

1. Assessment of region’s economic security actual state
2. Defining the strategy for socio-economic policy of the region - ensuring economic security and its legal status
3. Identifying priority areas for ensuring economic security of the region
4. Formulation of program goals and objectives (strategic and ongoing)
5. Defining the management principles of economic security of the region
6. Relationship of this program with other programs of socio-economic development of the region being implemented
7. Information provision and public awareness
8. Resources supplying characteristics
9. Development of concrete measures
10. Involvement of business and public in addressing specific regional development challenges
11. Most significant institutional reorganizations
12. Integration of interests of all economic entities of the region
13. Monitoring the process of program realization
14. Estimation the results of program realization

**Part II**

**REGULATORY POLITICS**

1. Feasibility study of the Program in the following directions:
   1.1 Resource base (material, scientific, technical, regional budget, inter-sectorial and interregional integration)
   1.2 Regulatory control
   1.3 Development of regional production
   1.4 Development of production and non-production infrastructure
   1.5 Foreign economic relations
   1.6 Investment and innovation activities
   1.7 Staffing
   1.8 Environmental security
   1.9 Social sphere (standards of living and quality of life)
2. Basic organizational and economic regulators and instruments
   2.1 Ensuring economic freedom and activity (investment attractiveness, level of economy innovation, level of small and medium business development)
   2.2. State regulators (government orders and contractual relations; price and tariff regulation; tax support)
   2.2 Financial and credit resources
   2.3 Information and consultation support
3. Methodological support
   3.1 System of indicators
   3.2. Mechanisms for economic security ensuring
4. Administration and workflow
   4.1. Monitoring the Program stages implementation
5. Performers and responsibility (personal responsibility for program results)

**Part III**

**ANALYTICAL SUPPORT**

1. Calculation of planned indicators
2. Validation the achievement terms according to the main indicators
3. Coordination of the main indicators by individual territories, industries, elements of the economic system
4. Assessment of socio-economic consequences of alternative options
5. Timely processing of the results of the region economic security constant monitoring
6. Comparative and factor analysis of the socio-economic situation and the level of economic security in the region
7. Timely adjustment and coordination of target figures

**Fig. 1. The main provisions of the target program ensuring the socio-economic security of the region**

The planning of the process of ensuring economic security of the region should unite state and market regulators, as well as public position as for directions and course of economic development of the territory. The regional planning process must include monitoring and control steps that enable timely adjustments of the targets to be made. At the same time, such projects as the revival of a stable, distinctive and independent
economy of the regions, guaranteeing the growth of economic security at all levels, are required to be developed and implemented consistently under the Program. The most rational here is implementation of forecasting and prevention of threats to economic security of the region. Achieving an acceptable level of economic security at the regional level is not possible without reorganizing the functions and responsibilities of regional economic management and evaluating the effectiveness of their activities upon the implementation of the Program relevant stages.

Planned economic development on the ground requires persistent work, thorough analysis, long-term investment on innovative basis and involvement to the Program development maximum number of relevant specialists and population of the territory. Entities that are on a single economic platform should be ready to start (even with some risk to themselves) specific projects that would have a lasting positive impact on improving economic security of the territory. Achieving the goals set out in strategic plans for regional development should be based on creating conditions for solving existing problems. Immediate executors of the key tasks related to provisions implementation of the Strategic Economic Security Program are the local authorities, local self-governing bodies, state institutions and organizations. Their activities in the areas envisaged by the Program will create conditions for encouraging and directing the actions of commercial enterprises, individuals, public and other organizations in accordance with the foreseen goals, priorities and objectives. Regional economic management is the coordinator. Thus, implementation of the Program should be a result of concerted common efforts, consolidating factor for all constructive forces. Organizational and institutional conditions for the effectiveness and efficiency of regional governance are the following:

- availability of appropriate legal framework that regulates the strategy implementation;
- determination of the purpose (goals) of management activity;
- financial support for strategy implementation;
- defining the institutions responsible for strategy implementation;
- identifying subjects, mechanisms and tools of regional governance.

The subjects of the Regional Economic Security Program implementation, in addition to the state authorities, may also be regional development agencies, regional development funds, regional centers of innovation development and territorial communities. The Oblast Councils are responsible for determining the main priorities of the Strategic Program, taking into account the norms laid down in the State Strategy for Regional Development of Ukraine and approve official status of the Regional Program. Non-profit public organizations for regional development operating on the basis of partnerships between public, private and public sectors ensure close interaction with public authorities, local and regional self-government, political and public entities. The main directions of the social movement work are:

- assessment of socio-economic situation in the region; co-operation with authorities on planning socio-economic development and improving the investment climate; active participation in the development, discussion, adoption and implementation of the regional development strategy; participation in the development of operational plans for strategy implementation;
- promoting investment in specific regional projects; working with international financial institutions to attract investment and obtain technical assistance; search for partners and influence on potential investor partners in order to intensify their activities in the field of regional development; influencing government policy in order to create a favorable institutional and investment environment for enhancing regional (and local) development; creating strategic investment projects, assistance in attracting investment resources to the regions [14, p. 14-16]. The state financial support and ensuring the Strategic Development Program of the region is provided through:
  - state, regional, district budgets, budgets of villages and settlements of the region;
  - pension and social funds;
  - environmental protection funds; other sources not prohibited by law. Budget support programs for regional development finance activities aimed at fulfilling specific strategic objectives, in particular programs aimed at overcoming the depression of individual territories.

Provided a conclusion of regional development agreement with the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, joint financing of strategic spheres, in particular housing and communal services, agriculture, environmental policy, education, health care, small business, investment activity, infrastructure development and modernization, is ensured. Strategic Regional Development Programs should include involvement of non-state sources of domestic and foreign capital in the relevant areas of regional development; state and non-state lending to strategic programs and projects; resources of banking and non-banking financial institutions, equity, etc.

When financing the strategy implementation, all contractors should ensure that the planned tasks are accomplished by attracting a minimum amount of budgetary resources and maximizing their use. Control over the targeted and effective use of funds for the implementation of strategic programs is provided by the chief spending unit – the Region (Oblast) Council [16, p. 17].
Higher level of management efficiency means the use of management techniques that enable achieving the desired result at the lowest cost. The result is the degree of achievement of individual indicators identified within the strategic program objective for ensuring economic security of the region, the main of which should be the innovative development of the region. Given that the program for improving economic security and, accordingly, socio-economic development of the region is a comprehensive, and strategic goal of its implementation is to improve the most important socio-economic parameters of the development of the region, then methodology for assessing effectiveness of the program should be based, in our opinion, on methodological approaches and concepts used to assess socio-economic situation of the regions. Achieving the goal set out in the Strategic Program requires an assessment of the regional governance effectiveness, which can be measured by the following:

- the degree of achievement of the set goals – is used while evaluating effectiveness of management bodies actions as for implementation of the set goals and objectives;
- the ratio of the effect from management to management costs.

There are financial, budgetary and socio-economic effectiveness of regional programs. Financial efficiency determines the return on investment for the program duration for all project participants. Budgetary effectiveness determines the return on investment for the program duration for all project participants. Budgetary effectiveness of the program reflects the effectiveness of budgetary involvement in the program implementation. Social (socio-economic) effectiveness of the program takes into account socio-economic implications of its implementation for society as a whole, including direct and indirect costs, outcomes in related sectors of the economy, environmental, social and other non-economic effects. The most important task of developing programs of this level is to ensure the economy social orientation. The assessment of effectiveness of the regional development programs implementation, as an element of strategic management, is directly related to implementation of the current program on the territory development and to development of the program for the next period. Therefore, evaluation of the results of the program implementation of the region socio-economic development is characterized by: effectiveness of managing the direct process of program implementation; enables concluding that the chosen development strategy is correct.

**Conclusions.** Ensuring socio-economic security of the region is possible through the operation of effective organizational and economic mechanism, as interconnected system of economic relations within the overall economic system. This system is constantly under the influence of risks, some of which are related to liberalization of Ukrainian economy. Economic methods of management include planning, financing, motivation, accounting and analysis, while organizational include regulation and regulation, organizational design, decision-making methods, as well as methods of problem setting and control. Program-targeted programming allows to formulate the priorities of regional socio-economic policy, determine sequence and terms of solving socio-economic problems, stabilize the conditions of business, increase business activity of entrepreneurship, harmonize the activity of economic entities, rationally integrate the interests of industries and individual territories aimed at development of the entire socio-economic system of the region and, as a consequence, ensure an acceptable level of economic security.

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частини стратегії соціально-економічного розвитку регіону. Запропоновано перелік основних положень регіональної стратегічної програми забезпечення соціально-економічної безпеки регіону. Визначено основні цілі програми, які забезпечують соціально-економічну безпеку регіону. Доведено, що регіональна програма соціально-економічної безпеки визначає напрями структурної перебудови економічної системи регіону з урахуванням місцевого потенціалу та особливостей території й складається на основі економічних прогнозів розвитку регіону. Указано умови ефективності програми. Уточнено суб'єкти реалізації регіональної програми економічної безпеки та їх обов'язки. Визначено джерела державної фінансової підтримки регіональної програми стратегічного розвитку й критерії ефективності регіонального управлення.

Ключові слова: соціально-економічна безпека, соціально-економічна безпека регіону, загрози, програмно-цільовий підхід, соціально-економічний розвиток регіону.

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Socio-Economic Security: Modern Approach to Ensuring the Socio-Economic Development of the Region. The advantages of the program-targeted approach in ensuring region economic security are considered. It is noted that regional development programs can be a real tool for accelerating the region’s economy reforming. Directions of increasing the effectiveness of program-targeted program method as a tool for regional economy regulating and to ensure regional economic security are defined. The necessity of region’s social and economic security ensuring as an integral part of the socio-economic development strategy of the region is substantiated. A list of the main provisions of the regional strategic program for ensuring the socio-economic security of the region is proposed. The main objectives of the program ensuring the region’s socio-economic security are defined. It is proved that the regional socio-economic security program determines the structural restructuring directions of the economic system of the region, taking into account local potential and features of the territory and is made on the basis of economic forecasts for the region development. The conditions for the program effectiveness are stated. The subjects of the regional economic security program implementation and their responsibilities are specified. The sources of state financial support the region’s strategic development program and criteria’s of the regional governance effectiveness are defined.

Key words: socio-economic security, region’s social and economic security, threats, program-targeted approach, socio-economic development of the region.