PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS

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DEVELOPMENT OF THE NETWORKS OF PHYSICAL CULTURE AND SPORT FACILITIES AND OF THE TECHNICAL-MATERIAL BASE ON THE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Abstract. In the Republic of Moldova, the socio-economic efficiency of Spa Facilities and Sport Facilities should ensure the main goal of physical culture – namely increasing the number of students and improving working conditions. If in the past the operational efficiency of Spa Facilities and Sport Facilities was hampered by the total disinterest of their work teams (due to the existing economic mechanism) in improving work, now it is the complete opposite: unlimited freedom means that Spa Facilities and Sport Facilities do not work at all, or are rented or that there is a strong increase in prices for services. This research emphasises a realistic perspective of the sport culture development in the Republic of Moldova based on the observation and practices.

Keywords: competitiveness, sport facilities, sport culture, normative-legal basis, social standards.

State policy is a system of training priorities and measures aimed at creating conditions and opportunities for effective socialization and self-realization of youth in order to develop its potential in the interests of the Republic of Moldova and, therefore, the socio-economic development of the country, to ensure its competitiveness and strengthening national security. In this context, one of the essential factors for the self-improvement of the young generation is physical culture and sports.

The technical-material basis of Physical Education and Sports includes Spa Facilities (services) (SpaF) and Sports Facilities (SportF), enterprises producing
sporting goods, equipment and other sporting commodities owned by economic organizations, trade unions, individual citizens. The SpaF and SportF network is a system comprising three main subsystems (Fig.1):

![Diagram of SpaF and SportF network]

**Fig. 1. System of SpaF and SportF**

It consists of structures that are significantly different from each other. So, sports fields and other fields, sports halls and swimming pools differ from each other dozens of times in terms of cost, area, capacity of reception. Also, the departmental subordination of objects is different. The development of the SpaF and SportF network over the last four decades is characterized by the data presented below. A brief look at them allows us to conclude that, amid a general increase in the number of SpaF and SportF, the growth rates of the network for the years 2010-2020 have decreased significantly.

Most of the indices of physical and sports culture development in the Republic of Moldova have decreased of late years. Among the causes can be mentioned:

– the lack of attention from the state bodies towards the development of physical culture and sports in the Republic of Moldova, as an efficient means of education, training and sanitation of the population;
– the considerable reduction of the investments in sports, the worsening of the technical-material assurance both of the training process of the athletes, as well as of the physical culture of sanitation and of the sport for all;

– the inexistence of a systematic approach in the development of some priority directions in the development of the physical culture and sports system of the Republic of Moldova, of the optimal content and of some rational forms of its organization;

– the non-correspondence of the normative-legal basis of the physical culture and sports in the Republic of Moldova with the reality of the contemporary society;

– the lack of attention paid to adaptive sports, as a factor of social integration of people with disabilities and of invalids;

– the low level of methodological-scientific and technical-material assurance of the training of the athletes from the national teams of the Republic of Moldova;

– the inefficient support for the development of physical culture and sports, as well as poor social protection of athletes from the business community;

– the insufficient coverage of events, performances and issues of physical culture and sports in the media;

– the lack of recovery of the potential of physical culture and sports in the prophylaxis of negative social manifestations, especially of the young generation;

– the imperfect system of organization and development of mass physical culture and sports actions;

– the inexistence of the legal and organizational bases of the development of the professional sport;

– the passivity of the representatives of Moldova regarding the consolidation of the positions of the Moldovan sport within the international sports organizations.

Therefore, the development of physical culture and sports in the Republic of Moldova is possible only by solving global problems and achieving the objectives formulated based on modern approaches.

The network of Spa Facilities and Sports Facilities that has been formed in Moldova is characterized by an insufficient quantity: in some cases, many of them
do not meet the technical and sanitary requirements, at the same time they are distributed unequally and discriminatory in relation to consumers at the national level.

It has been found that the vast majority of Moldovans avoid regular physical activity and sports in general, and do not lead a healthy lifestyle. For example, about 70% of the citizens of the Republic of Moldova (of which 80% children, teenagers and young people) occasionally practice physical culture and sports.

According to the latest data provided by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), in 2019 there were sports buildings as follows:

- stadiums with grandstands, for 500 seats and more - 56;
- plan sports constructions (fields and sites) - 2231;
- sports holls - 1149;
- swimming pools - 25;

- Additionally built rooms, adapted for the practice of Physical Culture and Sports - 358;

So, at national level, we have sports constructions of different types in number of 3819 units. It is imperative to mention that these statistical data are incomplete, because the information presented in this study does not include data from the districts on the left bank of the Dniester and the municipality of Bender.[1]

Following the quantitative analysis, we witness a dramatic decrease in sports buildings from 1995 till now. At the same time it is necessary to draw attention to the period 2001-2010, during these years a stagnation of the degradation process is visible but not for long. It is unfortunate that after 2010 till now the degradation of Physical Education and Sports in the Republic of Moldova is catastrophic, according to the same statistics in 1995 we could enjoy 6486 constructions with sports profile, and in 2019 we already had 3819, a decrease of over 40%.

We mention that these buildings, for the most part, do not comply with the current hygienic-sanitary requirements, most of the technical-material bases of physical and sports institutions at national level and specialized ones, high schools with sports profile, Olympic reserve schools, sports clubs are in a generally deplorable state.
It should also be mentioned that in 2010, out of the total number of population (3559.5 thousand inhabitants), only 156.5 thousand children attended various sections, groups and sports schools, which is 4.4%, a very low index compared to that of highly developed countries.[2]

At the same time, in assessing the supply of the population with construction objects, the authors did not consider a sports facility (previously this term was used to designate sports facilities and assumed their observance only with certain rules of «sports technology»), but the place of physical activities, including after the introduction of the new terminology - (classification) were spa facilities and sports facilities (that is health trails in parks, non-residential areas adapted to go in for sports and phisical culture, etc.).

The level of development of sport for children and youth is low; the degree of preparation of sports reserves, as an essential factor in the development of sports skills, is insufficient; there are a number of difficulties in the athlete selection system.

In the organization of sports for children and youth and in the preparation of sports reserves, there are issues regarding the completion and execution of normative-legal acts, technical-material, scientific-methodical and staffing, as well as organizational-administrative and financial ones.

All these negative factors create difficulties both in the development of the sports system for children and youth and the preparation of sports reserves, as well as of the professional sports.

*The transition of Moldovan sports to an innovative development* involves:

– increasing the number of citizens of the Republic of Moldova (at the time of transition to innovative development) who systematically practice physical culture and sports, in order to successfully participate the country’s teams in international sports competitions, using the potential of science, education and modern technologies;

– crating an adequate infrastructure and modern technologies for physical culture in general, and for mass, performance and professional sports, in particular;
– effective use of the possibilities of science, education and mass media in order to improve the development of physical culture and sports in the Republic of Moldova.[3]

Only 50% of rural schools are equipped with gyms, there are practically no pools to teach preschoolers and primary school children to swim. It should be noted that many of the existing sports facilities are in unsatisfactory technical condition. The situation is exacerbated by market economy conditions:

– What sports field will survive in difficult market conditions, if the walls are kept only with «words» and there is no necessary equipment in locker rooms and halls, some rooms are in an anti-sanitary condition.

– For many SpaF and SportF in the process of building basic objects (halls, arenas, swimming pools) there have been «forgotten» (and are still «forgotten») the needs of a sufficient number of locker rooms, wardrobes, recreation places for those who practice sports, as well as for auxiliary staff.

As a result, the reception capacity of the facility is limited. Thus, for the development of the SpaF and SportF network it is necessary to improve the regulatory framework, the reconstruction of SpaF and SportF, their technical feature and the subsequent construction. The solution to these problems will take many years and is associated with special efforts both nationally (development of technical equipment for SpaF and SportF - from ice makers to special training equipment, special productions - manufacture of prefabricated plastic blocks for pools), and of the district organizations and administration. This approach must be reflected in the general principles of legal regulation of relations in the field of SpaF and SportF network development which provide:

From the bodies of state and power administration:

– setting requirements for sports facilities in terms of codes and regulations in construction, sanitary norms, as well as the protection of the life and health of the persons in sports facilities (updated);

– direct financing of SpaF and SportF of national interest;

– creating a unified system for providing state information;
– control over the implementation of the legislative and normative acts of the Republic of Moldova, including for the SpaF and SportF administrations;

*From the districts of the Republic of Moldova, the city of Chisinau*, as well as local administrations - independent and full implementation of all necessary functions:

– creating conditions for the physical culture of the population at the place of residence and in leisure places in accordance with state funding standards;

– including for people with disabilities;

– construction and use of SpaF and SportF;

– the provision of preferential physical education and sports services.

The spheres of influence of all levels of management on the development of the SpaF and SportF network are well defined. There are many issues.

Not all SpaF and SportF go directly into the «state hand» and serve the direct services of Physical Education and Sport. Those under the jurisdiction of educational, preschool, medical, sanatorium-spa, tourist institutions and a number of other recreational facilities, are used to solve the inherent problems of the relevant industry.

In the educational programs, physical education is the same subject as any other. Therefore, for a school, university, vocational school or technical school, the gym is as necessary as specially equipped classrooms and halls.

The same can be said about SpaF and SportF of kindergartens, polyclinics, medical and sports clinics, dispensaries, rest homes. This has been mentioned, that is the SpaF and SportF network is divided into open and closed (or more correctly - into SpaF and SportF groups of general and limited use).

Therefore, district administration is so essential when determining the indicators of the direction of its socio-economic development, in order to take into account that the SpaF and SportF network is designed not to serve a specific demographic, professional or other specific group, but to the entire population. In this regard, it is necessary to use the previously proposed settlement system for a reliable assessment of the supply of the population with SpaF of the SportF, the
formation and implementation of an effective investment policy. This will allow administrations to develop the following standards when developing social norms and standards, including the unique capacity of social networks per 10 thousand people (Fig.2.):

![Diagram of social standards]

**Fig. 2. The development of social standards must provide**

When assigning allocations to regions, in our opinion, the should be fundamental (since the 100% security standard has been calculated on the basis of these principles) the presence:

- in educational institutions (including pre-school institutions) of the conditions necessary to satisfy the mode of education and extended to the requirements of the monitored regime of students;
- within enterprises and institutions;
- the most common SpaF and SportF, which allow the provision of courses in the day’s work time;
– SpaF and SportF at the place of residence in the amount that offers the possibility to carry out individual (independent) occupations of the population and outdoor games, primarily for children.

When developing a target resource program for the development of the district financial network and the regional network, administrations should also calculate the optimization task - sharing existing and planned plans for building the sports base, regardless of the organizational and legal form of financial institutions. In other words, a general plan for SpaF and SportF should be developed.

As mentioned above, the development of the SpaF and SportF network requires the complex organization of the entire Technical-Material Base of Physical Education and Sports, taking into account the district specificity of physical culture and sports activities, local traditions (people’s preferences for a particular sport) and specific natural climate conditions. Solving these problems is possible not only in the generally accepted stages of urban planning (feasibility study, master plan, detailed planning project): for large cities it is necessary to develop promising schemes for the development of Physical Education and Sports by defining a SpaF and SportF network in districts, cities or regions due to which this document will become a basis in the main construction activity of district and urban sports committees. This will be an integrated approach to the planning of the Technical-Material Base of Physical Education and Sports. In addition, it will allow to determine the construction sequence, the mandatory nomenclature SpaF and SportF, the types of projects. In practice, however, such a simplified approach to building a SpaF and SportF network is not always real, as the existing complex network of SpaF and SportF does not allow everything to be put within the streamlining and design system at the same time.

Instead of the practical design of an appropriate urban planning model, the designer will be forced to make a design «in pieces». Therefore, before developing a common SpaF and SportF development network, it is necessary to certify the existing SpaF and SportF network, develop appropriate forms and process lots of information, build urban models, conduct technical and economic assessments of network development options, design, as well as projects of individual structures.
Currently, most of the completed projects are morally outdated (practically, that institution has been canceled) not only in terms of spatial planning decisions, but especially due to the equipment, products and materials recommended for use.

Perhaps in the current socio-economic conditions this is correct, but we consider that it is necessary in the current conditions to ensure the development of sports and technological norms, taking into account some constructive solutions and technical equipment of the best solutions of the old standard projects that allow us to flexibly and quickly meet the demands of certain areas, situations, solving architectural and design problems, taking into account regional features and traditions.

The socio-economic efficiency of SpaF and SportF should ensure the main goal of physical culture – namely increasing the number of students and improving working conditions. If in the past the operational efficiency of SpaF and SportF was hampered by the total disinterest of their work teams (due to the existing economic mechanism) in improving work, now it is the complete opposite: unlimited freedom means that SpaF and SportF do not work at all, or are rented or that there is a strong increase in prices for services. On the one hand, this circumstance can be explained: «economic reform» puts everyone on an equal footing - survive as you can, on the other hand - objective circumstances: after all, almost all SpaF- SportF have no benefit: even in terms of taxation, utilities (water, heat, electricity, etc.). Therefore, only the interest of the state in the person of the heads of administration in developing a healthy lifestyle of the population can stimulate the SpaF and SportF communities to use them effectively. How should it manifest? In fact, the most important function of price should be: the price is a regulator of social justice. In other words, mandatory and compensated orders should be approved from central and local authorities by coordination, in some cases, for all legal entities in the field of sports services in order to create special facilities for children, people with disabilities, students, soldiers, participants and people with disabilities of various armed conflicts, large families. The state should find different ways to stimulate economic agents, different companies and individuals to participate in the development of networks of sports facilities involving private and mixed capital.
To this end, an appropriate regulatory framework for economic activity is needed to implement the unity of methodological approaches to regulation (that is the basis of social contract), namely: duration and operation of SpaF and SportF, staff training, calculation of rental etc. It should be noted that the social order should be placed, as a rule, in competitive conditions.

Incentives in this case can be the price of social services, certain tax exemptions, preferential credit conditions and logistics, etc.

At the same time, the heads of central and local administrations, by competence, must clearly establish the requirements and standards for safety, health hygiene, safety sports activities, etc. and closely monitor their compliance.

Finally, staff trained in sports facilities must have access to continuous training, a system is needed to improve their qualifications and retraining, especially for technically complex objects, such as sports palaces with artificial ice, swimming pools, stadiums, running tracks, etc.

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