

Functional Classification of Terms: Stability as a State and Level of Quality

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Abstract: Interpretation of key terms' meaning is understood as the basis of the suitability of chosen research direction. A type-based differentiation of terms is offered, which serves for enrichment of semantic essence and definition of their function. The existing and original interpretation of the variety of the *stability* concept aspects is provided. An example of stadiality at application of several methodical approaches is represented, which approaches were used by the author as well as methods of studying the stability of rural territories by stage-by-stage study of the level of stability within several periods. Simultaneously with approbation of the suggested methods, the applicability of hierarchy at selection of territorial objects of the research at sequential study of large, medium and small territories by parameters, which characterize the network and the system of inhabited localities of the explored region.

Key words: Concept % Category % Classification % Function % State % Development % Phenomenon % Rural territory % System % Network of rural inhabited localities

INTRODUCTION

This publication is an effort to represent the definite and rather significant importance of the transition from initial understanding of the sense of used terms with further comprehension of their deep-seated essence. Research work is always based on statistic and other facts. However, when carrying out this work, the researcher is sure to face the necessity to understand the required abstract theorems, with concepts playing the central role. A well-developed conceptual construct, which characterizes the phenomena and processes being studied, is very important. However, as the life of the society changes significantly as the time passes, the contents and the semantic essence of the concepts can also change considerably during such changes. This is caused by the development of both the real life itself and the science.

An interesting fact is that concepts acquire specific important meanings during studying the prospects of the situation improvement, which is always desirable, thus acquiring the status of categories. At scientific researches, the most well-known and used one is the set of philosophic categories, however, other sciences, including economics, also form and enrich permanently their categorial construct.

In some cases, this process is so evident, that during the work, the targeted factual empiric study is reasonably accompanied with a large-scale theoretical background, which finally acquires an independent meaning, thus creating grounds for the research to shift to theoretical and methodological level.

Moreover, the formation of the categorial level causes such a strong resonance, incentive and development of exploratory ideas, that it brings the research to a higher qualification level.

For example, one of doctoral theses, submitted to the author of this article for formal opponency at its defense (at the Thesis Board of the Perm University in June of 2013) is based on the use of such formulated by the author of the thesis concept as *social self-organizing of population*: 365 text pages, 5 chapters, 430 sources. Of course, the thesis included many other important concepts, but the above-mentioned concept is the key one, which determined the interpretation of a huge information unit. On the one hand, *social self-organizing* means adaptation of individuals and territorial communities of people to the occurring conditions and that is why traditional analysis of the real situation and tendencies represents this process even without using the *self-organizing* term. However, on the other hand, the *self-*

organizing concept discloses a new aspect of spontaneous self-management and, therefore, its use is reasonable and makes sense.

The terminological certainty with characterizing the meaning of the concept is especially important in researches of interdisciplinary character as well as during scientific communication of scientists from different schools, scientific traditions; representatives of different socioeconomic formations; followers of certain models of social development. The market, as a mechanism of the modern economic environment formation and a type of production relations used in real life, is an inspiration factor of creation of concepts, which can facilitate the assessment of positive and negative aspects of the current processes, which are studied by scientists. Political writers are also involved in the describing of the results of such assessment and the defining of the social development prospects, thus bringing some nuances in the rendering of the used concepts. From this point of view, the books by Ayn Rand are intervallic, such as, for example, *Capitalism. The Unknown Ideal* [1].

The economic problematics, which stimulates the study of certain aspects of the reality, represents a new vision of prospects of use of certain resources, which is accompanied with formation of new conceptual expressions, used as the topical basis of completed researches, the results of which are also published [2, 3, 4]. The nuances of the contents when using the main concept and other concepts that supplement its meaning are capable to stimulate the vision of a new aspect of an explored phenomenon or a process. Thus, shades of meaning of such expressions as *rural area*, *rural territory* and *rural region* have been characterized in the publications of F.Z. Michurina, which were dedicated to exploring the rural component of regions, for example in [5].

State of Knowledge and Statement of the Problem: From theoretical point of view, the classification aspect of the conceptual construct is very interesting, which is known to be also useful for empiric study. In order to ensure better understanding of the application objective of the concepts used in economic analysis, we believe it to be reasonable to represent the division of concepts into three types: 1 - those representing certain phenomena, 2 - processes and 3 - development directions. Table 1 shows an example of a classification scheme by differentiation of some known and used concepts divided into these three types.

The role of new concepts is obviously very important. The formation of a new concept often means establishment of a new direction in science. However, it is important to form, use and characterize not only new concepts. Some concepts largely used for describing phenomena and processes, which are, figuratively saying, in the limelight, are used for achievement of multiple research goals that conform to the present demand in acquiring new knowledge and its application for the development of the science itself as well as in program documents and administrative practice. They are included in the formulation of scientific conferences' agenda, names of scientific publications and reports and in the names of taught disciplines.

Use of such concepts is often connected with the necessity of scientific disputes based on distinct understanding of their meaning. And the more combinations of this concept with other concepts indicating, for example, subjective and objective belonging of the explored phenomenon or meant for characterization of the most important property, occur, the more opinions on its contents and semantic essence are formed.

A classic key to appropriate interpretation and right use of concepts is their encyclopedic interpretation adapted to the target of consideration and the subjective and objective belonging of the explored phenomenon.

Paying attention to appropriate interpretation of the concept is important for the reason that it is the understanding of a concept that the selected direction of study, set of indicators, which can be used in assessment of a phenomenon and finally, the scope and correctness of the findings at the completion of a research work or some of its stages depend on.

If we try to consider the essence of such a widely used concept as *stability*, first of all, we will have to agree to the fact that it is really widely used. We consider financial and economic stability of primary economic objects. If we proceed to territorial and scaled study of a large spread of such subjects, we will determine the stability of a taxon selected for analysis - a region of a certain square and status. As for the application of the term in the process of education, it is used for these purposes, too. For example, the study schedule of masters who study economics in Russian higher educational institutions includes such discipline as *Regional Economy and Stable Development of Rural Areas*. The *stability* term in this name is used reasonably.

Table 1: Types of concepts representing state, tendencies and selected development directions of explored objects

Phenomena			
Explored objects	State, qualitative level	Processes	Prospective directions of regulation
Territories, branches, primary economical subjects, associations, international organizations	Hierarchy, split level property, multi multi-functionality, stability, competitiveness, interactivity, dispersion, informational support	Integration, concentration, enlargement, centralization, differentiation, internationalization, urbanization, globalization	Investment attractiveness, investment support, innovative strategy, innovative technology, structural optimization

Often, in programs of conferences, speeches on the stable development of studied territories take place. There are also publications on stability. Nevertheless, the essence of this concept has not been disclosed completely. Therefore, any work, whether it is a qualification or an applied research, must pay due attention to disclosing the understood and accepted essence of the semantic meaning of this concept.

For example, if we characterize and assess the essence of the *stability* concept at least from a few sides, it is reasonable to consider the stability of the system, the stability of the balance, the stability of the motion and other useful for understanding combinations with the *stability* concept [6, c.1385].

Interpretation of the meaning of each of them brings a certain aspect and a new meaning of the *stability* concept. Thus, the interpretation of the *system stability* expression highlights the capability of the system to recover to initial state under influence of special regulatory measures taken by some integral or interrelated establishment. The *motion stability*, as one of modifications of expressions used with the *stability* concept highlights the importance of understanding of the moment, which determines the ability of a system moving under influence of applied force *not to deviate* from this motion due to occasional affects.

The *balance stability* expression enriches the concept of stability by showing the ability of a system to *return* to balanced position after slight deviations caused by application of certain force. This is a very important moment, which characterizes stability as a state of an explored phenomenon.

Generalizing interpretations of the meaning, we reveal the aspects of the term essence understanding, which characterize the abilities of the system, which is under consideration, not only to have a balanced state, but also to return to the state after deviations. Besides, at such anatomization of the concept, the importance of assessment of existing conditions for achievement of such balance becomes obvious as well as mechanisms of their formation, determination of

stability criteria, which are very important both for assessment and for achievement of stable state of the explored object.

Another important finding is that at analysis of the state of any system, whether isolated or territorial, it is necessary to distinguish the functioning stability and the development stability. The first one is the state of a system, which is characterized by certain stability, where the second one is the direction, the vector and continuation of the motion direction.

If applied to the research object, even based on this ground, it is possible to form a system of indicators applicable for stability assessment.

For rural areas, such a set of indicators can be very large and can characterize both the economy and the society. Such approach is quite applicable for studying the stability of rural areas and has been used in a number of publications. They include the *Economy and the Society of Regional Agrarian Business: Processes, Problems, Development Prospects* monograph [7]. At that, different territorial levels (Subjects of the Federation, municipal districts and inhabited localities) determine the extent of generalization, i.e. consolidation, both at the stage of analysis and at the stage of summarizing. Researches of different levels always characterize such dependence. As an example of exploring subjects of different territorial levels, we can provide their results published in monographs [8, 9].

We are convinced that the role of interpretation of the explored phenomenon and determination of the deep-seated essence of its meaning is very important for achieving good results both during the research work and after its completion.

This publication provides extracts of split-level (in terms of territory scale) research of rural areas by parameters, which characterize systems of inhabited localities from the stability and viability point of view. A special place and importance at such study belongs to the issues of saving a balanced network of rural inhabited localities based on the determination of its stability and the stability of each specific inhabited locality.

Research of Rural Areas Stability: Inhabited localities being places of residence are the skeleton of development of any territory, the properties of which are determined by its size, performed functions and tendency to development or degradation.

Stability of a network of localities can be measured by the proportion of the presently existing number of large and small villages and those, which have been abandoned during the explored period. At that, the comparison of indicators for the given period, which characterize the change of properties and relations of the established urbanized regions, considerably facilitate the assessment of the character of their stability. As for individual localities, their stability is conditioned by growth or stability of population.

The stability of networks, displacement systems and their individual elements can be treated as typological attributes of geographical demarcation by conditions, which characterize real possibility of those changes in displacement of population, which are believed to be reasonable.

When exploring stability, the most topical issue is to determine the size of a rural inhabited locality, which has prospect of development in a specific area with historically formed and still dynamic displacement of population. In fact, it is a search of the limit of population, upon reaching which the inhabited locality becomes resistant to degradation, stabilizes or enlarges. Analysis of modern development makes it possible to determine the optimum, which is conditioned by real changes.

At searching for optimal size of a rural inhabited locality, the main statistic base is the change of population of every existing settlement of the predicted system (and discontinuation of some of them within a considerable period of 10-20 and even more years). Such information allows to divide inhabited localities into the developing, stable with respect to the population (with deviations to both directions not exceeding 5%) and degrading ones, as well as to divide them by the extent of the process (growing rapidly or losing more than 50% of population).

Dynamic groups determined inside every structural (by size) group of settlements allow to build a *dynamics – population* matrix, calculated in absolute terms (number of settlements, population). In order to achieve better comparison of data, it is reasonable to convert the absolute values into percentage of the total number of inhabited places of the explored system and then, again to estimate the share of growing, stable and degrading settlements in every population group. Thus, we achieve

independence of values of dynamics of the total number of inhabited localities in certain structural groups at simultaneous determination of influence on the dynamics of the value of each individual element of the system reached by the time of analysis.

The matrix transformations received with the help of the mentioned calculations provide relative values - ratios of growth, stabilization and degradation (Table 2).

Table 1 provides calculation of the mentioned ratios, which characterize changes for the 30-year period between the first postwar census in Russia and the census carried out before the change of production relations in the country (the last year before Perestroika).

In the Ural region being the object of the study two key territories were selected: Perm Region, as the representative of the northern part of Ural and Chelyabinsk Region, as its southern part. Their location conditions significant difference in the nature of displacement.

The higher the value of the first two ratios shown in Table 2 is the more exposed to positive changes, growth or stable functioning the given group is. The degradation ratio shows a reverse process. At that, a more detailed subdivision of structural and dynamic groups allows to receive a more differentiated answer to the question of the lower margin of settlement elements' stability.

Similar analysis is also reasonable for dividing the settlements into functional groups (Table 3), as the value of, for example, a central and a common locality are different not only at the present time, but will be also different in future. The task is generally solved with simple calculations; however, detailed mass information is used for that. Processing the data related to each inhabited locality for a number of years can be much easier to carry out if a card register is available.

Determination of the size of a rural settlement, upon reaching which it will become prospective in terms of its existence and further development, is, at the same time, a solution of one of the tasks related to the required and comprehensive search of an optimum standard (taking into account, first of all, the state and the changes in production sphere). Forecasting of further development of a system using standards of its capability of such development accompanied with real dynamics data means that forecast methods, which have different bases, come closer to each other. On the one hand, it is extrapolation and on the other hand, standards of demands and capabilities of the whole system and its individual elements to transform and rearrange.

Table 2: Rates of population dynamics at rural inhabited localities in structural groups (1959 -1989)

Key Territories of Ural	Rates of								
	Growth			Stabilization			Degradation		
	of inhabited localities with population of, persons								
	less than 100	100-500	more than 500	less than 100	100-500	more than 500	less than 100	100-500	more than 500
Perm Region	0.71	1.54	2.28	0.86	1.39	1.41	1.12	0.74	0.47
Chelyabinsk Region	0.16	1.01	1.29	0.54	1.48	0.92	1.94	0.89	0.73

Table 3: Rates of population dynamics at rural inhabited localities, which have different functions, in structural groups (the Perm Region, 1959-1989)

	Rate of growth (Rg), stabilization (Rs), degradation (Rd) of population	Rates of dynamics of population in structural groups					
		Less than 50 persons	50-100 persons	100-200 persons	200-500 persons	500-1000 persons	more than 1000 persons
Local centers (farms, village councils)	Rg	-	0.65	0.95	0.85	1.15	1.2
	Rs	-	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2
	Rd	-	1.7	1.3	1.05	0.65	0.55
Settlements of work teams and divisions	Rg	0.3	0.85	1.0	1.6	1.85	-
	Rs	0.4	0.9	1.0	1.4	1.5	-
	Rd	1.4	1.05	1.05	0.7	0.8	-
By-farm localities	Rg	0.35	1.0	1.2	1.55	0.3	-
	Rs	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.8	0.2	-
	Rd	1.25	1.05	0.95	0.7	-	-
Other agrarian localities	Rg	0.55	1.5	2.4	4.5	-	-
	Rs	0.6	1.7	2.2	3.0	-	-
	Rd	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	-	-
Non-agrarian localities	Rg	0.65	0.65	1.1	1.45	1.6	1.6
	Rs	1.3	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.7	0.7
	Rd	1.0	0.65	0.95	0.7	-	-

As an ideographic illustration of the above-said, we use the discovered selection criteria, *standards* of the size of rural localities, which have development prospects, for two key Ural areas (Table 2), which represent the northern non-black earth part of the region and the southern one. In the northern part of Ural, rural settlements with population of 50 persons normally are already resistant to degradation (provided no extreme conditions are present, including construction of any large agricultural or industrial complex, which attract people from nearby rural localities). As the population reaches 100 persons, they have good prospects of growth.

For the southern part of Ural, larger rural settlements acquire stability and can preserve their population, with at least 100 persons inhabiting them; and they receive relative prospects of growth as the population reaches 200 persons. Villages with 500 and more people have the best prospects.

This shows the difference in prospects of development of a settlement network between the non-black earth and the southern areas of Ural. The defined standards make it possible to substantiate the necessary and, at the same time, possible extent of rearrangement of population displacement.

Calculation of dynamics ratios at the rearrangement by not only size-based structural groups, but also by functional groups (Table 3) allows to forecast not only the total number of rural localities, but also the functional structure of the future regional displacement system. Standards discovered inside the extrapolation have brought closer the grounds of the two methods of prosthetic care.

Assessment of stability carried out on the ground of a detailed information basis is applicable in discovering the development prospects as shown in the text, which determines the importance of such assessment.

Studying of the stability of rural territories through common indicators of changes in displacement of population within a considerable period is useful at discovering the scopes of discontinuation of rural inhabited localities and changes in the balance between urban and rural population. Such analysis has been carried out for the Perm Region based on the detailed array of statistic data on each rural inhabited locality [10].

Within the considerable yet observable, if compared to a human life, 50-year period, the skeleton of territorial organization of rural area of the region has decreased more than twice in terms of the number of inhabited

localities. The statistic evidence of the first postwar census and the latest one is a sufficient confirmation of that. The Perm Region had 8733 rural inhabited localities in 1959 and by 2010, their number decreased to 3644.

However, the proportions with respect to the extent of development and inhabitation of the territory of the Kama region remained unchanged: only its southwestern half is developed and inhabited, whereas its northern and northwestern parts are semi-desert and unsettled spaces. The severe temperature conditions and swampiness of the soil caused weak inhabitation of the northern part. The mountainous relief of the eastern part combined with rather severe climate is one of the reasons of almost absolute absence of settlements here. The uniqueness of water relationships is one of the conditions of the formation of the heavily populated western and southeastern parts of the Region and a large desolate territory in its center (to the south of Perm).

Economic factors have influenced the inhabitation only due to territorial remoteness from main traffic arteries: the farther from them the territory is the less population inhabits the area. The activity related to development of natural wealth of remote territories (forest resources of the northern part, Vishera diamonds, mineral wealth of the Ural Mountains) has predetermined the establishment of at least a sparse network of settlements, most part of which are not agricultural.

The Perm Region is one of the territories, which are most common for our country, where the general vector of rural displacement dynamics is determined by rarefaction of the inhabited localities network along with decrease of rural population and of its share in the total population (Table 4). The rural population of the region has been continuously decreasing for decades. And the balance between the urban and the rural population permanently shifts to the urban one.

The process of discontinuation of smaller localities is observed, which is determined by multiple causes. It concerns, first of all, inhabited localities with less than 25 inhabitants in each of them. As the population increases, the number of discontinuing localities becomes less. At that, villages with more than 500 inhabitants do not suffer degradation and discontinuation, generally.

Another important fact is that the process of discontinuation of inhabited localities in the Perm Region is a fading one. Thus, between 1959 and 1970, on the average, 203 rural inhabited localities discontinued every year whereas during the subsequent 10 years (1970-1979) their number was 177 and between 1979 and 1989 - only

Table 4: Dynamics of the Perm Region population (within contemporary boundaries)

Years	Population, thousands of people			Share of rural population, %
	Total	Urban	Rural	
1913	1777	232	1545	86.9
1917	1809	233	1576	87.2
1926	1738	317	1421	81.8
1939	2087	828	1259	60.3
1959	2993	1765	1228	41.1
1970	3023	2030	992	32.8
1979	3008	2223	787	26.1
1989	3083	2395	704	22.8
2002	2819	2121	698	24.9
2010	2336	1976	660	25.0

80 localities, which is almost 2 times less than in the precedent period. During subsequent years (since the time of the last census in 1989 as assessed by 01.01.1996) - only 10 settlements a year discontinued.

During the analysis of functions of the settlements, it was revealed that centers of localities and farms usually exist stably and retain their population.

It is to be noted that presently the discontinuation of small villages has changed for an opposite phenomenon – the by-farm displacement of population, appearance of agricultural isolated farmsteads as well as secondary inhabitation of villages, which have previously been abandoned. The number of large and small villages increased by 245 between 1989 and 2002. However, if we consider the 40-year period, the process of discontinuation of inhabited localities prevails.

A stable positive trend (of population growth or its stabilization after deviations not exceeding 5%) was fixed for 439 large and small villages, in which the population increased during both analyzed decades (1 – 1979 to 1989 and 2 – 1989 to 2002); population of 314 inhabited localities stopped decreasing and showed positive population growth trend. 2010 census showed continuation of this trend.

Natural and historical factors as well as the real tendency of changes with stability of main proportions of rural skeleton displacement and demonstration of certain territorial stability of the developed and inhabited part of the territory evidence the importance of making best efforts by sectorial administrative institutions of the region for agriculture development, which is the principium of rural area functioning, despite it becomes more and more multifunctional. Nowadays, the recreational function develops, which establishes temporarily inhabited summer communities. Foreign and

domestic tourism is a certain alternative for the traditionally industrial character of both urban and rural population employment.

Saving rural area as a comprehensive life environment is necessary due to a number of reasons. An important one of these is the provision of employment for the one-fourth part of the regional population, saving the potential for formation of genetically healthy community of the population and due to other reasons.

When substantiating measures on saving the network of localities within large space of rural territories, it is important to study the dynamics of the population in the functional types of localities: local centers, by-farm settlements and agricultural. We have completed such study of the Perm Region based on the analysis of the change of every inhabited locality population with identification of three types of dynamics - growing, stable and degrading inhabited localities and correlation dependence of population and functional hierarchy of the displacement systems. The results were published in the *Vestnik* newspaper of the Moscow University. This article has been also translated by the American Geographical Society *Soviet Geography: Review and translation+ periodical [11]. Such experience is useful for forecasts and elaboration of program documents related to socioeconomic development of rural territories and that is why it has interested our American counterparts.

Certain attention is paid to the problems of social systems dynamics and the extent of their stability in theoretical insights, including up-to-date publications, for example, the article by M.D. Sharygin [12]. Another interesting aspect is treating the import and export prospects of the primary subjects of economy, which are located within rural territories, as very promising, which has been mentioned in the publication by E.V. Rozhentseva [13].

When expanding the analysis of rural territories stability, it is reasonable to analyze smaller sized taxons and use it for determining the causes of the degradation phenomenon: decrease of population in inhabited localities and complete discontinuation of many of them, which results in less stability of the displacement system.

Micro territorial analysis has been approbated on one of municipal districts in the Perm Region - the Dobryansky District, which is peculiar for attracting rural inhabitants to industrial construction of a heating station. In this district, small-sized locality displacement type prevails with average size of a rural area locality slightly above 100 people and the total number of localities equal to 149. Along with the district center, there are two urban-type settlements (Polazna and Divya), which are the main

centers of rural employable population attraction. The indicators of the settlement and population density are insignificantly different.

The common feature for all internal displacement systems in the district is the presence of small-sized villages with population below 10 people, or just several people, or even 1 person, as well as villages, which have residential places, but do not have any population by now. About 72% of all villages in the district are those, which have less than 50 inhabitants (107 of 149 settlements), including 43% with less than 10 inhabitants (66 villages). Especially large number of small villages with less than 10 inhabitants (26 totally) is in the Kosvinsky establishment – half of the population of this establishment live in larger villages with population over 500.

Analysis of functional structure of internal systems has shown prevailing of large and small villages in them, which have non-agricultural functions - 46.2% of rural population of the district live in such villages, as well as a group of *other agricultural non-specialized settlements*. Every primary system has a set of agricultural, industrial (related to transport and forests), recreational, bedroom villages (whose inhabitants work in nearby settlements), villages where senior citizens live and abandoned villages with remained buildings.

Central farms of establishments, centers of rural councils, settlements of mixed type (with population engaged in industry and agriculture) and inhabited localities providing services for railway transport function most stably, keeping their their population.

Villages located in picturesque places on river banks or near railway or motor roads carry out recreational function presently. In such villages, houses are used as summer houses for urban citizens. Another special type is settlements without population, which still have haylands, pastures, unprocessed tillable lands and are quite accessible. If a farm is established, they can be inhabited again.

The above said shows the fact that the best population growth is typical for localities, which combine agricultural and industrial functions. The combining of a rural council and a farm center functions in one locality also produces additional motive for development of such inhabited localities.

Stabilization of population just in eleven rural settlements and population growth in nine of 125 settlements, which have inhabitants presently, cannot be treated as a good prospect of development of the district system of displacement. Such inhabited localities are only 13.5% of the settlements with inhabitants and 16% of all

rural settlements of the district. The total population of the large and small villages with good tendency of development, or which at least exist stably, is equal to 30.3%. However, this promising figure evidences that only one-third part of the district population rather intends to reside in the Dobryansky District in future. Along with other indicators of the state and trends of the situation in this district, this evidences problems with saving labor potential in the rural area.

The other side of the issue of degradation of most rural settlements in the district gives rise to concerns about the future of the district displacement system, as an interrelated complex of individual settlements (elements), which provides development and usage of the considerable part of the regional territory, where each small or large village played a role of an integrating agent in the development and usage of a greater part of agricultural land. Therefore, degradation of the greater part of the skeleton, which organizes the usage of the territory, must be treated as a very negative phenomenon. The nature of this phenomenon is identified when its causes are considered, which are versatile both by the content and by the scopes of appearance.

The first group of these reasons is related to functioning of agricultural production: insufficiently productive; mostly profitless; incapable of keeping high level of wages and salaries, creating a sound social infrastructure, providing versatile and attractive for youth workplaces.

The second group of reasons is related to actual powerlessness of village councils, which are hardly able to influence the process of degradation of large and small villages, for example, by changing something in the situation with improvement of streets, roads, public buildings in inhabited localities, which have unattractive untended appearance.

The third group of reasons is determined by the development of industrial production, which attracts labor forces from rural areas by standard labor, better guarantees of payment, suitable dwelling, childcare centers and better developed city infrastructure (Perm State District Power Plant and other facilities).

The fourth group of reasons includes decrease of forested areas as a consequence of their devastation and, as a result, decrease of the raw material base of logging companies, which used to concentrate in their settlements a great part of rural inhabitants.

In the result of the total affect of these reasons, many rural inhabitants have started believing rural area to be

deficient in many aspects: insufficiency of household commodities and cultural goods, deficient education and upbringing of children, limited possibilities of intellectual, skill and career development.

A practical guidance for saving and improving of district system of displacement is total inspiration of development of most part of existing villages and partial renewal of those, which still have buildings, rather good transport accessibility and are surrounded with farmlands.

Based on the study of dynamic processes, it is possible to forecast further considerable decrease of the number of large and small villages within the next few years. Gentle discontinuation of many villages, in which senior people reside, is inevitable. However, some of them are still possible to be saved, if not as production areas, then at least as recreational settlements. In some villages located in picturesque and transport accessible places, even presently part of buildings are used as summer houses.

Many large and small villages, which fulfill not only the function of residential places, but also some other functions, for example, production and recreational, industrial and agricultural, have quite definite and undoubted development prospects. Actually, the following rural settlements have the said prospects: 1 - agricultural objects, whose inhabitants occupy workplaces; 2 - industrial objects (and functions); 3 - combination of agricultural and industrial functions; 4 - functions of social agricultural production (collective farms, Soviet farms, part-time farms of industrial enterprises, partnerships), for example, the part-time farm of Permavtodor in the Shemeti village of Kama village council; 5 - combination of the agricultural and recreational functions, for example, 47 summer houses in the Lyabovo village of Senkinsky village council.

Also, those villages have good survival prospects, which have lost any production functions, but have the longstanding or newly acquired recreational function.

And, finally, those villages have prospects of renewal, which are surrounded by agricultural lands suitable for usage, have good transport accessibility and can attract new inhabitants who intend to run individual households, farms, rented farms or households of other types.

In this view, the development prospect of each internal system of displacement, which has a certain combination of inhabited localities of various functional types, becomes quite definite and distinct from average optimum.

CONCLUSION

The classification aspect represented in this publication has defined the place of the key term, which has been used in the research. Stability, as a very comprehensive concept, has served as the basis for the selection of methodological approach, formation of system of methods and interpretation of the results of the study of population displacement in rural territories. The phenomenon of stability is differentiated by territories depending on its intensity. Along with that, it inspires identification of the necessity and possibility of targeted management of occurring processes, choosing a prospective direction through it.

In this connection, a certain theoretical importance of not only the differentiation of concepts by phenomena, processes and prospective directions of management can be highlighted (Table 1), but also the existence of certain notable connections between these types of concepts. The remarkable fact is that such a conclusion is achieved through a time-consuming research, extracts of which have been represented in this publication.

Summary: A combination of stability and dynamics is representative for the reality in all respects. The objects of the study - rural territories - can be characterized in many aspects and from many positions, as related to the perspective of determination of the extent of stability: for example, in production and economic aspect, social and demographical aspect and natural and economical aspect. The position selected and briefly represented in this publication, which includes assessment of stability of rural displacement of population, generally unites the mentioned aspects, because displacement is territorial organization of the society, whose vital activities are represented by all of the said aspects. Therefore, when studying the stability of displacement, which is the central chain link of a well-known triad: production - population - resources, which is accompanied with infrastructure of various types, it is to some extent possible to identify the real situation related to each component of this triad.

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