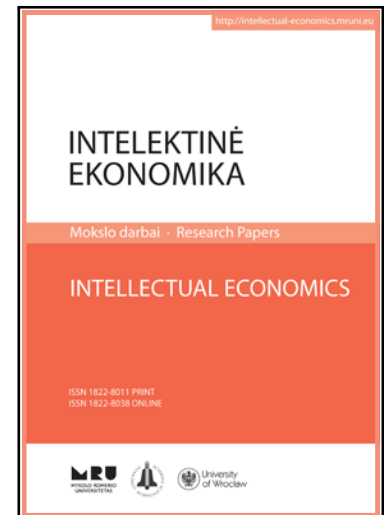


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The challenge of innovative method of culture more sustainable on the social aspect of rural areas: Empirical evidence from Mediterranean countries

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ABSTRACT

This aim of the paper is to estimate a bioeconomic model for analyzing, the impact of technological innovation on social sustainability of rural middle in 21 Mediterranean countries by using a bioeconomic model during the period 2000-2011. Our empirical results show that the technological innovation has a positive impact on social sustainability.

Keywords: bioeconomic model, technological innovation, social sustainability, Mediterranean countries.

JEL Classification: C23, O1, O3, Q01.

1. Introduction

The challenge of technological innovation on social sustainability of rural areas has been a subject of many academic researchers in recent decades. The research diversity has emerged to seek the causes of the different socioeconomic and environmental problems that can prevent the development of agriculture.

Internal causes that are related to bad functioning of the production system and distribution circuits: recurrent oppositions that led to supply disruptions, but also the political evolution and governance conflicts, natural disasters (droughts, floods, hurricanes) which affects negatively the crops. As well as specific difficulties in these countries such as bad natural conditions, imperfect storage conditions, ..., form limits of the production and agricultural productivity development.

Since 1970, the agricultural conditions in southern countries have begun to deteriorate under the impact of the agrarian revolution, the green revolution and trade liberalization. This deterioration occurred in two levels:

- in general level, where there is a marginalization of Southern countries on agricultural scene;
- in internal level, where greater social diversification among the peasantry and an increase the poverty in rural world related to the urban spaces emerged.

All these events push the IMF and the World Bank to create a new instrument that is the structural adjustment program (SAP). This period marked by a return to monetary orthodoxy and liberal solutions where under development is studied as the result of a resource misallocation that leads to imbalance in the price system and strong government intervention.

The purpose of this paper is to fill the void in the literature and make an in-depth analysis of agricultural sector in the Mediterranean countries in order to identify their main factors that can improve the social situation of the rural population.

To better understand the impact of technological innovation on social sustainability in rural areas. The reach of our study covered 21 Mediterranean countries during the 2000-2011 periods. We employed two different econometric methodologies. Firstly, we use a static panel data analysis under fixed and random effects specifications and Dual least squares (2LS).

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