

STUDY ON QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE SUBURBS OF DROBETA TURNU SEVERIN

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Abstract: Romania ranks first in EU in terms of the relative poverty rate, with a rate of 25.4%, according to officials of the National Institute of Statistics (INS). Within the national strategy on social inclusion and poverty reduction (2014-2020) 1 of 5 Romanian states face relative poverty, 75% of the poor being placed in this situation at least the last 2 or 3 years. Despite relatively low unemployment, poverty among working people is very high, more than twice the EU27 average (9%). The following analysis was performed on one of the suburbs Drobeta, namely Schela Cladovei district. The study aims generally materialization opportunity to develop individual potential of young people and children in this community, identification of necessary conditions for full participation of young people and children, in economic, social and cultural life of the Romanian society, and identify ways in which people older may participate in all aspects of life as active citizens.

JEL classification: J11, R11

Key words: quality of life, poverty, development, community, work

1. INTRODUCTION

Community which was the subject of this research, Schela Cladovei is a suburb of Drobeta Turnu Severin. The neighborhood has a number of 5389 inhabitants and represents 5.9% of the total population in the West is positioned approximately 5 km from the center. The quality of life of the people of this district need to be known in order to determine development opportunities both locally and their integration at city level

2. OBJECTIVES

The study aims to analyze the quality of life in the neighborhood Schela Cladovei to establish identification and realization of opportunities for development of individual potential of children and young people, identify the prerequisites for full participation of young people and children, in economic, social and cultural life of the Romanian society, but and identifying ways in which older people can participate in all aspects of life as active citizens.

The main objectives of the analysis are:

1. Investigation of groups at risk of poverty and social exclusion in terms of employment status, education level, skills, housing, access to public utilities and community relations in Schela Cladovei, Drobeta Turnu Severin;

2. Establish needs analysis marginalized communities and identifying community problems by using participatory research methods.
3. Evaluation of viable solutions and identify opportunities for development of the area marginalization: Schela Cladovei, Drobeta Turnu Severin.

3. METHODOLOGY

To increase the efficiency and effectiveness of decision-making and planning activities and methodology for implementation of local development strategies requires that approach at Community level to be integrated and focused on community needs. Given the statistical information collected from the Regional Directorate of Statistics as well as data from specialized services of the municipality, it was found need for a study that combines qualitative and quantitative methods in depth analysis of Schela Cladovei area of Drobeta. So, making the analysis of the community has combined both specific qualitative research methods: structured interview, focus group and observation and quantitative methods: structured questionnaire administered by an interviewer.

In analyzing community Schela Cladovei, marginalized communities within Drobeta Turnu Severin, we opted for applying multiple methods and techniques of sociological, to establish the status quo, to identify whether the community has a low living standard to be classified as disadvantaged community needs and identify solutions and actions adequate for community residents. The assay was carried out from two points of view:

- first, a quantitative approach, form using digital in sociological research analysis method of social documents - consisting in analyzing census data, statistical data, data from reports of public institutions and methods of sociological inquiry made through a structured questionnaire administered by operators interview - questionnaire was applied to a probability sample chosen by selection ally simple questionnaire measuring 130 variables that covered 8 categories (housing, infrastructure, employment and income generation, education, property, health and issues social);

- secondly, through a qualitative approach, participatory identification of community needs, consisting in the use of participant observation method, the method of interview and focus group method's.

4. DESCRIPTION OF AREA ANALYZED

In order to analyze the quality of life and to establish development opportunities in the community Schela Cladovei was done an analysis of the macro-economic and socio-economic development of the whole municipality which aims to identify and correlate opportunities citywide those identified locally Schela Cladovei through field research. Thus, according to the City Development Strategy for the 2014-2020 period Drobeta main issues facing the municipality are [1]:

- insufficient jobs, 48.7% of the population indicating that the main problem;
- innovative activity nonexistent for 75.6% of companies in Turnu Severin;
- low and very low quality of medical services, indicated by 67.6% of the population of Turnu Severin;
- high and very high degree of necessity in the local community in terms of health services for the elderly, indicated by 83.7% of those interviewed.

The main resource in the community that aims to guide the development of Drobeta Turnu Severin is considered 72.7% of Severin as tourism. In assessing the economic environment and its potential, 73.3% of population of Turnu Severin found

that the industry is one of the priority areas, while business representatives found a rate of 20.6% that the industry sector is the most great potential for economic development of the municipality, and 15.9% indicated the services sector.

Mehedinti county in 2010 was nearly the last county in the country with the lowest incomes, the last being Covasna county. Between Region counties is noted that Mehedinti County has the lowest GDP throughout the period analyzed, namely 2000-2011. Mehedinti county's economy is supported in most of the production of electricity in hydroelectric power plant on the Danube; this type of energy production will endure, efficient use of renewable energy is a major objective of sustainable development and toward which Romania. Other major industries: manufacturing of ships, metal works, manufacture of wagons, heavy water, textile and food industries. Tourism is underdeveloped although exploiting tourism potential linked to the Danube has a long history. Agriculture is an economic sector underperforming, practicing subsistence agriculture with outdated and inefficient technologies and equipment. Mehedinti County vineyard is a sector with the potential Drincea areas, Vânju Mare and Corcova areas are in the process of refurbishment and have a recognized name in the field.

Agriculture and trade-services work are prevalent in the occupational structure of the population. Specifics Mehedinti county's economy is industrial agriculture, industry's contribution to the turnover achieved in the major district and majority population is employed in agriculture to total employment.

Based on issues identified Development Strategy aims were defined four strategic objectives:

- Increasing the number of jobs and salary levels by supporting local economic activities;
- Increasing the attractiveness of the municipality in order to develop tourism and attract investors;
- Improving living conditions through rehabilitation and development of natural and anthropogenic capital city;
- Improvement and development of interaction between public institutions and citizens to streamline and modernize public services.

4. ANALYSIS OF SURVEY RESULTS

Regarding the respondents' age it was between 17 and 74 years with most respondents having 45 years and over 79% are under the age of 50 years. Average age was 42 years with a standard deviation of 10 years which indicates a population sampled between 32 and 52 years.

Analyzing questionnaires result that, 11% of respondents are Rroma ethnicity. Noting a significant 8.3% who refused to answer the question. The vast majority of people surveyed mention that he has no problem with identity documents (94%), 4 person refusing to answer this question.

Cee needles in the documents of ownership housing, the research showed that 23.3% of those surveyed did not possess title deeds of the house, so a large number of people who have a low degree of safety locative. More than half, 55% of those who do not possess title deeds live without any papers, 25% pay rent to a landlord while 20% paid rent at city hall / council.

Schela Cladovei homes in the neighborhood are mostly made of concrete blocks, 79.4% of the sample and to the edges of the district can find a significant number of houses made of brick (12.8%) and adobe (5.6 %). Most tenants declare that

their homes are damaged and would require consolidation, 84.4%, 0.6% stated that it could at any time to tear down and only 14.4% of all respondents say their homes are resistant. These data are added direct observations during visits to the neighborhood:

- Blocks of flats and most of the houses are in an advanced state of decay;
- Directly visited individual homes are in an advanced state of degradation both in terms of structure (walls visibly damaged) and in terms of housing conditions (lack of equipment, unsanitary conditions);
- Blocks in the area have serious problems of sewerage system which, in all the buildings visited, not properly take in waste. This lead to flooding of the subsoil blocks with household waste;
- Many homes have front doors were functional and broken windows;

In terms of equipment housing stands out that 12.2% of households have no toilet in the house (some blocks have common bathroom) and 20.6% of homes have a kitchen.

Given that there is no central neighborhood most residents are heated using wood (68.1%) and electricity (30.2). The percentage of people who are forced to heat using wood or coal and correlates with the degree of degradation of housing due chimneys leading to the accumulation of debris on the exterior and interior surfaces of the housing. Also, home heating put increased pressure on family budgets of residents of Schela who are forced to make additional investments to equip and maintain heating appliances.

So of all people surveyed in the research said that only 31.1% can afford adequate home insurance while 66.1% of families can not afford this expense in your monthly budget.

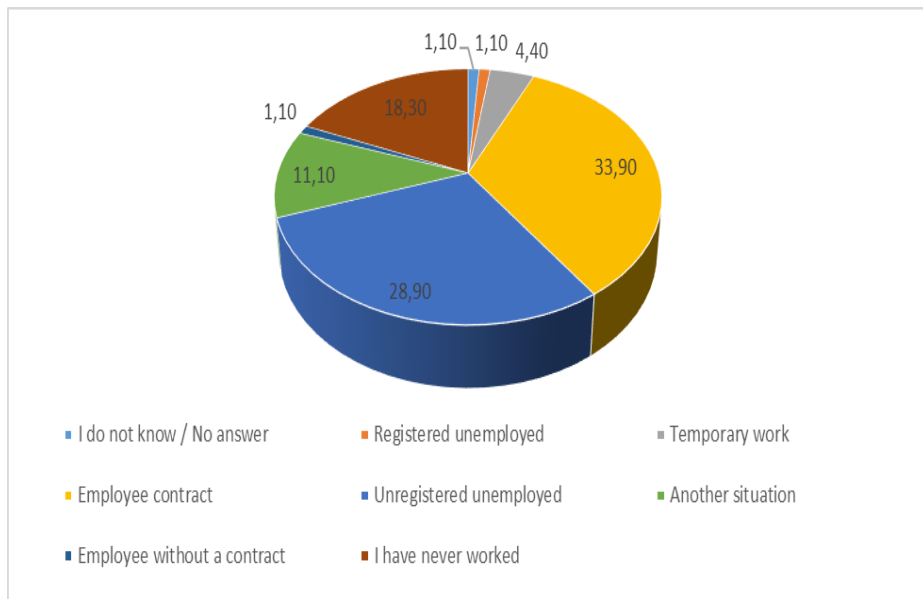
A significant number of people have no access to running water in the home 12.2%, which is available only inside the court while 3.9% of the population must provide the necessary water from public sources around the house.

In terms of access to electricity for only 4.4% of respondents live in a home that has no a source of electricity.

Most respondents are connected to the public sewer system or 86.7%, to a small extent, they have their own system of sewage (1.7%). Only 1.1% of respondents live in households that are not connected to a sewerage system.

From the research results can be seen as a significant proportion of dwellings (12.8%) are in danger of being flooded and they have had an incident in the last 5 years (12.2%).

Research also stands as a percentage of 13.9% of households are located in the vicinity of the pit / garbage dump which shows an environmental risk for these additional.



Source: Personal research

Figure no. 1 Labor market status of respondents

Regarding the labor market status in the community investigated only a third (33.9%) of residents are employed in the formal labor market to which it adds a percentage of 1.1% working but do not have a labor contract or working as day laborers (4.4%). Overall observe a community occupancy of extremely low population where most people are unemployed long no longer receive unemployment benefits (28.9) or who have never worked (18.3%). It should be noted that the interview-based survey is a method that presents a significant risk of under-reporting the number of people working illegally because of fears people to report illegal work of an interviewer. So, in reality, there is a high probability that some number of those who said they are working with labor contracts to work without a contract.

When asked about why not find work most of the respondents believe that the main reason the lack of skills and / or qualifications. 7.8% of respondents are skilled in a profession that is no longer relevant in the labor market is another significant part of the respondents consider that the area where I live is lacking employment opportunities. These data, in conjunction with low education about, shows a very poor training of human resources to meet current labor market but also increased availability of people to participate in training. This is supported and answers the question "What do you need to have an occupation?" Where the majority (50.4%) of respondents indicated that their main need is to engage to participate in training courses. A proportion of 21.2% responded that they need skills related to personal development such as communication, self-confidence and how to better represent themselves in a resume and interview.

Table no. 1 By what means looking for a job?

Category	Percent
Known persons	43%
Magazines / newspapers with job offers	14%
Sites on the Internet	5,8%
Recruiters work force	3,5%
County Agency for Employment (CEA)	31,4%
Anothers	3,4%
Total	100.0

Source: personal research

Most of those who are looking for a job is based on knowledge to inform about potential employment opportunities. Another significant percentage of 31.4% indicated CEA as a potential place to inform. These responses indicate a high potential effectiveness of information campaigns and awareness-type door-to-door because Schela Cladovei residents are based on a high percentage communications from one person to another.

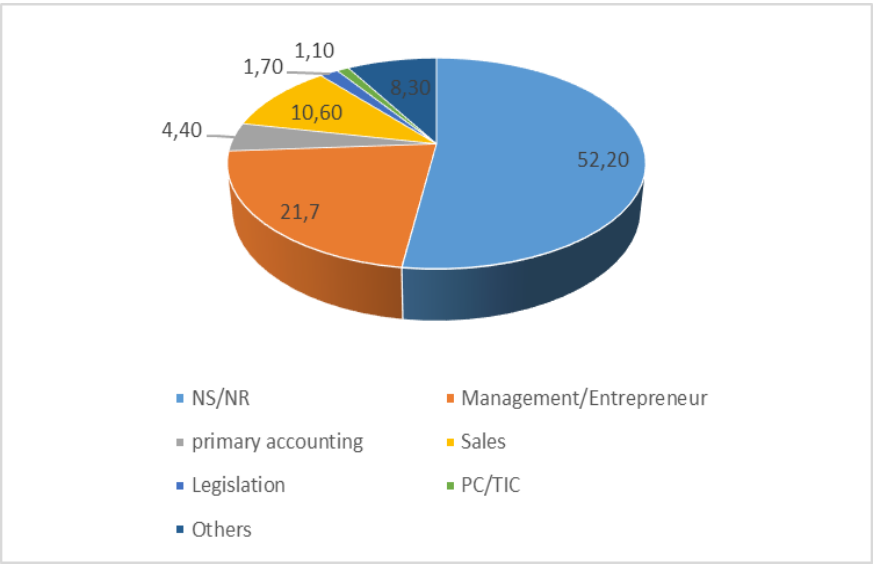
A very high percentage of respondents, 69.44% responded that labor market developments do not know and do not have the information needed to make informed decisions on career. Of these, more than half would be willing to consult a specialist to help them identify what training needs they have and how they can capitalize on better labor market skills and competencies already held.

When asked about what he would consider to help find a job 42% of respondents identified the need for professional qualifications while a significant percentage, 31.11% said they do not know what might help. These percentages correlate with responses to the question about holding of information on the labor market showing that a significant number of people have little information about what opportunities they have to engage and self-identified their main need is the professional qualification. It is however noted that the number of 12.22% consider starting a business as the best chance to find a job.

When asked directly about their willingness to engage in a business a fairly large proportion of respondents would consider this option. 52.22% of those who do not wish to have their own business most indicated that the main obstacle lack of money and lack of information or knowledge about how start or run a business.

When asked "what competences do you think will be necessary for a deal?" aimed at self-identification of training needs, the data collected, it appears again that the main problem the lack of information implies entrepreneurial activity given that half of the respondents, 52.2%, they chose not know / no answer to this question.

Of those who indicated training needs in terms of entrepreneurship they mentioned most often need training in business management, 21.7%, and, to a lesser extent, the need for expertise in sales / marketing. Note that a percentage of 8.3% of people have not found the option list, considering that none of the options in terms of predefined skills does not match their needs.

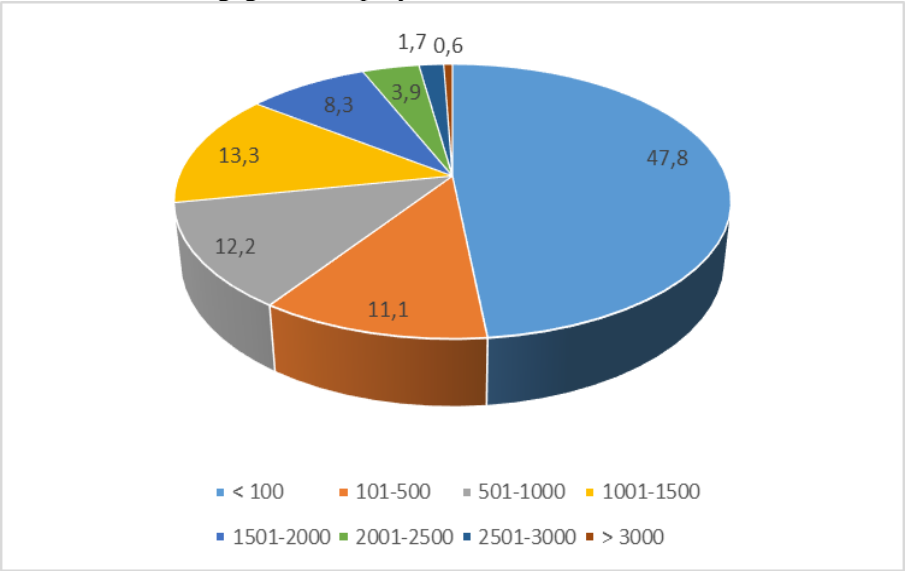


Source: personal research

Figure no. 2. What competences will be necessary for a deal

To identify the intensity of activity in the households sampled participants were asked to indicate the total number of months that adults in the household (18-59) have worked in the last 12 months. Results indicate a percentage of employment per household extremely low given that 60% of people say they, together, all adults in the household worked in the last 12 months 0 months. Only 15.6% of respondents had an occupancy per household of 12 months of 12.

In a best situation is only 5.2% of households in the sample where they worked over 12 months last year, the result can be explained by the fact that households are more of an adult who is engaged in employment.



Source: personal research

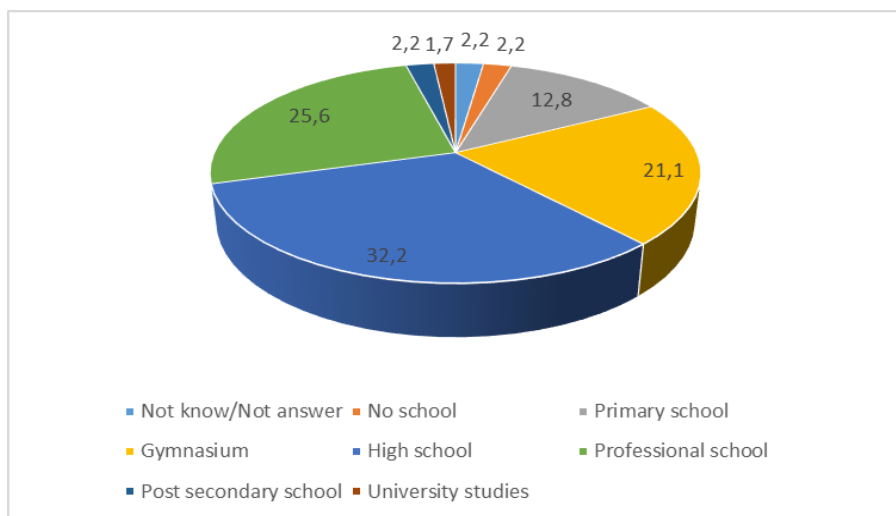
Figure no. 3 Total family income

Very low level of activity per household is reflected in the total income of the family. Almost half of the households, 47.8% have an income below 100 lei per month, a result indicating extreme poverty for many of the families of scaffolding. It will consider however that some of the population has Schela adula of activities that do not have a permanent character (ex. a day laborer) or not employed in the formal labor market (illegal work) which may affect the income declared.

The largest part of respondents declare that household income is not sufficient, which confirms the answers to the above questions. Only 15.6% of households have enough income for basic needs and a very small percentage of 4.4% can afford a decent life.

To identify the percentage of people experiencing severe material deprivation each person was asked if faced with certain situations which fall into this category. From the research results shows that 45.6% of people can not afford to pay utility bills or rent, 66% of people can not afford to adequately heat their home (although it is remarkable that a large percentage of people who can not adequate warm housing only 3.9% of them get aid for heating). The largest part of respondents can not afford to eat meat, fish or a protein equivalent every day, can not afford a week's holiday away from home or 94.4% can not afford to face unexpected expenses, 91 %. These results support other results on the extremely poor material condition of the community Schela Cladovei where a huge number of people experiencing severe material deprivation mainly due to (confirm statistically significant correlations between results) households with extremely low intensity activity.

Although the community shows a very high degree of poverty seen from the survey results that only a small part of the population accessed social benefits. It is observed that the highest percentage of beneficiaries is where the minimum guaranteed income, 22% of respondents but other forms of social benefits a small number of beneficiaries in the community. This correlated with the number of people who are not employed and low income per household, indicate that people in the community are informed about the social benefits they can get and they need legal help in accessing them.



Source: personal research

Figure no. 4 Education level

The education level in the community is also a fairly low given the fact that 36.1% of the population have 8 years or less, 32% have attended high school and upper secondary 25.6%. Only 1.7% of people in the community have university studies. Educational situation of the community correlates statistically significantly with the situation of employment and total income family which confirms the hypothesis that higher levels of education will, in the long term, an increase in occupancy in the community and will alleviate poverty in family.

Urban character of the community gives them advantages in terms of access to public utilities such as lighting, shops and services of lifting the garbage where major deficiencies not recorded. In terms of access to public facilities district has a wide coverage in terms of public lighting with 91.1% of respondents indicating that benefit from this utility. 67% of the population has no problems in accessing public transport, 85.6% say they have access to shops and 65.6% have access to lift and transport the garbage. There are still problems with access to other public utility services especially in terms of access to school where more than half of the sample, 52.8% say they have no access. Also nearly half of them, 48% do not have access to any kindergarten which indicates structural deficiencies in the provision of education services to the community.

It also notes that a significant proportion of people without access to a pharmacy and a dispensary, 32.8% and 36.7% of the population. Given the poor health and high number of people suffering from chronic illnesses and / or disabilities in the community these percentages indicate the need to improve access to health services.

5. HEALTH

It notes that there is still a high percentage of people who are not yet registered with a family doctor - 20% of the people trapped in the sample. Given that a large proportion of the community has no access to a clinic (36.7%) or a pharmacy that indicate an increased risk of damage to public health in the district Schela Cladovei.

From the data research results that 8.9% of people suffer directly from a disability, chronic illness or other conditions that limit their daily activities and 7.8% have at least one maintenance person with such problems. The total number of people in the community rising to 16.7%.

In the community there is a very low level of information and knowledge about reproduction health / family planning. 74.4% of people say they have no such knowledge or information. International research has shown that there is a positive correlation between strong increase in family planning education and poverty reduction in disadvantaged communities (Allen RH, 2007) [2].

6. SOCIAL ASPECTS

66.7% of respondents do not recognize the existence of an informal community leader while 26.7% of respondents indicate the presence of such leadership. The result seems to indicate a weak presence of structures of influence and informal community leadership in the community Schela Cladovei. The discussions in the focus group sites achieved the result that such informal leaders are no more block-level but with little influence in the community.

When asked about the degree of isolation that people feel they have a large proportion reporting that they do not feel isolated (72.2%) but opinions are polarized in terms of how respondents consider it regarded community by people from outside the

neighborhood. 55% of respondents believe that the evaded the town's other residents while 42.2% believe that the area is not inevitable.

Opinions are also divided almost half in terms of the level of safety in the community. It notes that most people believe that there are no problems in terms of preventing and fighting crime, but at the same time, the majority believes there are problems in terms of security and public order.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Are necessary housing consolidation in Schela Cladovei. Most tenants declare that their homes are damaged and would require consolidation, 84.4%, 0.6% stated that it could at any time to tear down.

These data are added direct observations during visits to the neighborhood:

- block and most of the houses are in an advanced state of decay
- directly visited individual homes are in an advanced state of degradation both in terms of structure (walls visibly damaged) and in terms of housing conditions (lack of equipment, unsanitary conditions)
- residential blocks have serious problems in the area of the sewer which, in all the buildings visited, not properly take in waste. This lead to flooding of the subsoil blocks with household waste
- many homes have not functional front doors and have broken windows

There are a significant number of homes that do not have a bathroom or kitchen inside the house: 12.2% of households have no toilet in the house (some blocks have common bathroom) and 20.6% of homes have a kitchen.

The data on the environmental risks they are exposed to the citizens of Schela Cladovei emerge as a main problem of flood risk and ownership of a landfill. 12.8% is in danger of being flooded and they have had an incident in the last 5 years (12.2%). 13.9% of households are located in the vicinity of the pit / garbage dump which shows an environmental risk for these additional.

Regarding employment, overall, the data reveals a community occupancy of extremely low population where most people are unemployed long no longer receive unemployment benefits (28.9) or who have never worked (18.3%). Results indicate a percentage of employment per household extremely low given that 60% of people say they, together, all adults in the household worked in the last 12 months 0 months.

Only 7.8% of respondents are skilled in a profession that is no longer relevant in the labor market is another significant part of the respondents consider that the area where they lives is lacking employment opportunities. These data, in conjunction with low education about, shows a very poor training of human resources to meet current labor market but also increased availability of people to participate in training.

Data on employment and human capital development needs of the community for showing that a significant number of people have little information about what opportunities they have to engage and self-identified their main need is the professional qualification.

A pretty big sentence of respondents (36.11%) would consider entrepreneurship as an option for self-employment if they received advice and training in business management.

Very low level of activity per household is reflected in the total income of the family. Almost half of the households, 47.8% have an income below 100 lei per month, a result indicating extreme poverty for many of the families of scaffolding. The data also shows that most people experiencing severe material deprivation. These results support other results on the extremely poor material condition of the community Schela where a huge number of people experiencing severe material depravity mainly due to (confirm statistically significant correlations between results) households with extremely low intensity activity.

Although the community shows a very high degree of poverty seen from the survey results that only a small part of the population accessed social benefits. This correlated with the number of people who are not employed and low income per household, indicate that people in the community are informed about the social benefits they can get and they need help in accessing their legal.

The level of education in the community is also a fairly low given the fact that 36.1% of the population have 8 years or less, 32% have attended high school and upper secondary 25.6%. Educational situation of the community correlates statistically significantly with the situation of employment and total income family which confirms the hypothesis that higher levels of education will, in the long term, an increase in occupancy in the community and will alleviate poverty in family.

There are problems regarding access to public utility services especially in terms of access to school where more than half of the sample, 52.8% say they have no access. Also nearly half of them, 48% do not have access to any kindergarten which indicates structural deficiencies in the provision of education services to the community.

It notes that a significant proportion of people without access to a pharmacy and a dispensary, 32.8% and 36.7% of the population. Given the poor health and high number of people suffering from chronic illnesses and / or disabilities in the community these percentages indicate the need to improve access to health services.

From the resulting research data that 8.9% of people suffer directly from a disability, chronic illness or other conditions that limit their daily activities and 7.8% have at least one maintenance person with such problems. The total number of people in the community rising to 16.7%.

In the community there is a very low level of information and knowledge about reproduction health/family planning. 74.4% of people say they have no such knowledge or information. International research has shown that there is a positive correlation between strong increase in family planning education and poverty reduction in disadvantaged communities.

When asked about the degree of isolation that people feel they have a large proportion reporting that they do not feel isolated (72.2%) but over half of respondents believe that Schela Cladovei is inevitable that the other inhabitants city.

It notes that most people believe that there are no problems in terms of preventing and fighting crime, but at the same time, the majority believes there are problems in terms of security and public order.

The entire research indicates that the population of the district Schela Cladovei face a low life standard, material deprivation severely reduced access to health services and social assistance, for which fast actions is required to improve this situation, in raising life conditions in the area.

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