

# PROBLEMS OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF MUNICIPALITIES AMID THE CRISIS

Zalivanskiy B.V.<sup>1</sup>, Samokhvalova E.V.<sup>2</sup> (Russian Federation)

Email: Zalivanskiy535@scientifictext.ru

<sup>1</sup>Zalivanskiy Boris Vasilevich – PhD in Sociology, Director,  
MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL TECHNOLOGIES INSTITUTE;

<sup>2</sup>Samokhvalova Elena Vladislavovna - PhD in Sociology, associate professor,  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL TECHNOLOGIES,  
BELGOROD STATE UNIVERSITY, BELGOROD

**Abstract:** the article analyzes modern state of the social sector in the municipalities of the Russian Federation. Noted the negative impact of unstable economic situation on the prospects of social development of municipalities. In contrast to the western local governance, a serious problem of Russian municipalities is the mismatch of competences with the available financial resources. The authors offers directions of activities of local governments for sustainable social development in the context of the current crisis.

**Keywords:** social development, municipalities, crisis.

## ПРОБЛЕМЫ СОЦИАЛЬНОГО РАЗВИТИЯ МУНИЦИПАЛЬНЫХ ОБРАЗОВАНИЙ В УСЛОВИЯХ СОВРЕМЕННОГО КРИЗИСА Заливанский Б.В.<sup>1</sup>, Самохвалова Е.В.<sup>2</sup> (Российская Федерация)

<sup>1</sup>Заливанский Борис Васильевич – кандидат социологических наук, директор,  
Институт муниципального развития и социальных технологий;

<sup>2</sup>Самохвалова Елена Владиславовна - кандидат социологических наук, доцент,  
кафедра социальных технологий,  
Белгородский государственный университет,  
г. Белгород

**Аннотация:** в статье анализируется современное состояние социальной сферы в муниципальных образованиях Российской Федерации. Отмечается негативное влияние нестабильной экономической ситуации на перспективы социального развития муниципалитетов. В отличие от западных, острой проблемой российских муниципалитетов выступает несоответствие объема полномочий с имеющимися в распоряжении финансовыми ресурсами. Авторами предлагаются приоритетные направления деятельности органов местного самоуправления по обеспечению устойчивого социального развития в условиях современного кризиса.

**Ключевые слова:** социальное развитие, муниципалитеты, кризис.

In a crisis situation managing the development of municipal territories as basic elements of socio-economic systems acquires the status of a mandatory element in the system of the national structure. The need to modernize the state structure and its particular territories necessitates optimal spatial organization of the economic and social fields through reformation of the systems governing them. However, successful transformation of municipal administrative systems and their transfer into qualitatively new ones are impossible without the commitment of government activities to the future perspectives.

Nowadays the activities of the governing bodies of municipalities are characterized in many respects by formalism and excessive bureaucracy at the expense of social orientation, lack of conditions and mechanisms of providing support, as well as poor involvement of all parties interested in innovative activities [1, 4].

There is a crisis in the policy of alignment of development levels in different territories including municipalities that confirms the need for optimization of governance tools used in the socio-economic sphere of municipalities. Therefore, improving the governance of this field is an urgent issue in both theoretical and practical aspects.

On the basis of the analysis of some foreign and domestic studies it is possible to determine the governance of socio-economic development of a municipality as an activity aimed at achieving strategic objectives in a volatile and competitive environment that involves the analysis of socio-economic status of a municipality, the determination of the factors of governing influences, the consideration of the influence of specific territorial factors, as well as monitoring the results achieved.

Governance of the municipality development is supposed to be directed at achieving positive changes in various life spheres including the guarantee of the necessary level of social and economic spheres development. Furthermore, the main result of the process of governance of the municipality development is meant to be limited to the formation of favorable living standards in economic dimension (acceptable wages, low

unemployment rate), as well as in relation to social infrastructure development (creating conditions for the replenishment of the labor resources through the creation of comfortable conditions for people activities).

At the same time managing social sector resources at the municipal level has specific functions. After all, being a priority in the process of improvement of the life quality and successful solution of social tasks the issues of resource provision to exercise the powers and to effectively organize the work of local self-government bodies require consideration and significant improvement. Without a deep understanding of the role of social structure it is impossible to ensure a high life quality [2, 75].

Existing models of local self-governing demonstrate the absence of a standard scheme of the territorial organization. The development and implementation of the model of the supervised self-governing or the model of autonomous local self-governing are used to determine the most effective organizational structure of local authorities and framework of municipalities' economic independence. Nowadays we can observe how the distinctions between various models of local self-government are disappearing and combined forms of resource provision for socio-economic development of municipalities are developing.

In contrast to the Western countries municipalities the major problem of the Russian ones is the discrepancy between the scope of authorities and available financial resources. The lack of the resources provided is a serious issue and one of the main factors preventing the municipal bodies from performing their social functions in full. Moreover, municipalities depend on various factors violating the resource system: deficit, poor conditions of peculiar resources, excessive governmental regulations or changes in macroeconomic situation [3, 137]. The system of priorities and mechanisms of reasonable use of the resources earmarked for social purposes need to be properly structured and subject to strict control as being promising aspects of work in the social sphere of municipalities.

Today it is necessary to search for new ways of resource provision to implement the municipalities' powers in the social sphere. For these purposes private business is actively involved in finding solutions of social problems of municipalities. Moreover, the powers of local self-government authorities regarding their participation in entrepreneurial activities are being extended. There is no single model of local taxation in the area of resource provision for municipalities' activities [4, 123].

Thus, managing the development of territories of municipalities amid the crisis requires paying special attention to the social sphere because without a deep understanding of the role of social structure it is impossible to provide an acceptable quality of life, which is a necessary condition for the replenishment and rational use of labor resources. Strategic objectives of local self-government authorities regarding social development amid the crisis should be the following:

- identification of the sources of municipalities' resource potential;
- determination of the content of municipal social policy;
- involvement of public institutions into the process of management.

Social policy implemented at the local level is supposed to be defined as being aimed at the development of the social sphere of the society, improvement of life quality and living conditions of the population who are residents in the area of the municipality. The criterion of efficiency of municipal social policy is the increase in positive social indicators such as increased life expectancy, health condition, educational characteristics of the population and others. While developing the social sphere it is necessary to take into account not only the main priorities of the national social policy but also the real needs and characteristics of the development of a particular municipality. The foundation for the implemented municipal social policy is supposed to be the material embodiment of the results of all governing subjects' activities – social infrastructure.

#### ***References / Список литературы***

1. *Brezhnev D.A., Levin A.I.* Problemy i opyt razvitiya social'noj sfery municipal'nyh obrazovaniy [Problems and experience of development of social sphere of municipalities] // *Municipal'naya sluzhba: pravovye voprosy* [Municipal service: legal issues], 2014. № 4. P. 26-28 [in Russian].
2. *Boronnikova G.A.* Social'no-kul'turnye processy v regione i ih regulirovanie [Socio-cultural processes in the region and their regulation]. Perm', 2009. P. 179 [in Russian].
3. *Hasueva A.SH., Dudaev M.N.* Usloviya social'no-ehkonomicheskogo razvitiya municipal'nogo obrazovaniya [Conditions of socio-economic development of the municipality] // *Napravleniya modernizacii sovremennogo innovacionnogo obshchestva: ehkonomika, sociologiya, filosofiya, politika, pravo: materialy Mezhdunarodnoj nauchno-prakticheskoy konferencii* [Directions of modernization of modern innovative society: Economics, sociology, philosophy, politics, law: materials of International scientific-practical conference]. EHangels: Akademiya upravleniya, 2015 [in Russian].
4. *Savenkova O.YU., Morozova N.S.* Problemy social'nogo razvitiya sel'skih territorij v kontekste obespecheniya ustojchivogo razvitiya regionov Rossii [Problems of social development of rural areas in the context of sustainable development of Russian regions] // *Strategiya ustojchivogo razvitiya regionov Rossii* [The strategy of sustainable development of Russian regions], 2011. № 7. P. 123 [in Russian].