

**UNIVERSITY OF RUSE „ANGEL KANCHEV”**

**OPINION**

**Given by:**

Prof., DSc, Eng. Krasimir Ivanov Enimanev

Professor, Doctor of Science

in 3.7. Administration and Management

Head of Department „ECONOMICS”

**pursuant to Order 268/28.04.2022**

of the Rector of D. A. Tsenov Academy of Economics - Svishtov

**Subject:** a dissertation paper for the award of educational and scientific degree ‘**Doctor**’

**Doctoral programme:**

“Organisation and management beyond the sphere of material production”  
(Public Administration)

**Author of the dissertation paper:**

**Dimitrina Lyubenova Prodanova**

**TITLE OF THE DISSERTATION PAPER**

“Stimulating the economic development of rural areas through activation of local communities”

**I. General characteristics of the dissertation paper.**

1.1. **The subject of research** are the problems and ways to promote the economic development of rural areas using the “bottom-up” approach to activate local communities.

1.2. **Volume** – The paper is of total volume 268 pages, including 224 pages main text and 44 pages appendices.

**1.3. Structure**

The paper consists of:

- An introduction – 10 pages
- An exposition, in three chapters – 193 pages
- A conclusion - 6 pages

**1.4. Bibliography**

- a list of references

- 125 sources, including 49 in Bulgarian.

### **1.5. Appendices**

8 (eight) appendices.

The dissertation paper is illustrated by 52 figures and 41 tables.

## **II. Assessment of the format and the contents of the dissertation.**

### **2.1. Assessment of the relevance and the degree to which the researched in the dissertation problem has been analysed.**

The relevance is related to the true and correct measurement of the results of the implementation of the LEADER approach in Bulgaria and the justification of its employment for the mobilization of local communities in rural areas.

Within the limits of the formulated constraints, the problem has been fully and systematically analysed.

### **2.2. Opinion on the language, volume and the research instruments used in the dissertation paper.**

The language of the scientific literature in the field of local economic development of the regions is properly used in the paper.

The methods of comparative analysis, statistical methods of analysis, survey method and graphical method are properly used and applied.

### **2.3. Opinion on the extent to which the abstract accurately and sufficiently reflects the content of the dissertation paper.**

In a volume of 45 pages, the dissertation paper has been accurately presented, in conformity with all legislative requirements.

## **III. Scientific and applied contributions of the dissertation paper.**

I accept as existing the six claimed contributions of the dissertation paper, which can be characterised as further development of extant research in a novel way and will contribute to the elaboration of the decision-making process of the public administration.

## **IV. Questions on the dissertation paper.**

4.1. Is there a classification of good practices in the activities of the LAGs in Bulgaria that implement the researched approach?

4.2. Has the researched method been implemented in the Green Deal and the development of rural areas?

**V. Summary assessment of the dissertation and conclusion.**

All above provides me with the grounds to give a **POSSITIVE ASSESSMENT** of the submitted dissertation paper and to propose to the scientific panel to confer to Dimitrina Lyubenova Prodanova the educational and scientific degree of „**DOCTOR**” in the doctoral programme: “Organisation and management beyond the sphere of material production” (Public Administration)

Signed by: .....

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**Prof., DSc, Eng. Krasimir Ivanov Enimanev**

04 May, 2022, Ruse