

## Summary

### Sustainable Economy and Entrepreneurship

This habilitation thesis presents a synthesis of the main scientific results obtained after finishing my doctoral research period.

The evolution of my scientific, professional and academic career is the result of my teaching and research activity that entails a multidisciplinary approach, materialised in my undergraduate and postgraduate studies PhD, postdoctoral studies, research studies and articles in the field of economics. All these stand for the originality and relevance of my academic, scientific and professional contributions to the field.

The first part of my habilitation thesis comprises the main research directions as well as my teaching activity, focused on three major streams: *sustainable economy* (at the European, regional and local levels), *entrepreneurship* (possibilities of entrepreneurial development through various sustainability policies) and *sustainable development of tourism and economic implications* at the regional and local levels.

My economic research direction has focused on sustainable economy, entrepreneurial development, with multiple case studies at the micro level in particular industries, namely tourism. Starting from my PhD research entitled „Means of rationalizing the strategic position of firms in the competitive environment” (2005), my interests in the economics field have further included sustainable economy and entrepreneurial development. This analysis has been carried on by the „Co-operation strategies enhancing the innovation in nature-based tourism service” research scholarship program (2010), held at the BOKU University, Wien, Austria. Also, within my post-doctoral research program, ”Post-doctoral studies in Economics: continuous training program of elite researchers” (SPODE), held at the Romanian Academy, the research topic was ”Entrepreneurial dynamics and research-development policy” (2013).

The research themes of my habilitation thesis have been structured in two main chapters, each comprising other three subchapters.

*Chapter 1* analyses the current state of affairs of scientific research in the field of economics, through the study of entrepreneurial behaviour, which has been of constant interest for specialists from various domains of economics. Thus, the theories elaborated have tried to

explain the way in which entrepreneurs act in an external environment continuously changing. This environment is characterized by growing risk and uncertainty factors, increasing percentage of unrivalled market structures, change in the competition market as well as its acceleration, particularly at the international level, intensity variation of government intervention based on its economic policies.

Another subchapter of my habilitation thesis is represented by the topic of entrepreneurship contribution to economic performance growth and sustainable development, which approaches the domain of sustainable economy in the European, regional and local contexts. This is a relatively new research field, which has facilitated a good cooperation with foreign partners. Thus, the studies and articles elaborated are interdisciplinary and the originality element of my research is given by the role of community initiatives in developing a sustainable economy. In this subchapter, I have emphasized the demonstrative aspect of my research results as well as the strong social component. The business support in communities' initiatives brings together players from the private, public and community sectors to develop and deliver innovative solutions to local sustainability challenges.

A thematic direction of research is tourism, as a branch of economic activity with an importance impact, one of the areas that has seen significant development in the last half century, causing a variety of beneficial effects on the economy.

Another research direction chosen comprises entrepreneurial creativity and innovation, which has taken into account research projects successfully implemented during this period and curricular projects developed at the university and faculty levels, as well as those in partnership with other domestic or foreign universities. My research work has adopted a non-linear and double-determined model of innovation (social context and community initiatives).

*Chapter 2* presents entrepreneurship development and further possibilities of entrepreneurial development through various sustainability policies. Also, it describes EU and national policies for entrepreneurship support and research-development as well as the European context of entrepreneurial education. Creating an innovative environment, stimulating start-ups through access to finance and providing advice, information and expertise, represent fertile local grounds for business ideas and better performance of regional economies.

The research results can be synthesized as follows:

- contextualization of factor system analysis, which determines sustainable economy and entrepreneurial dynamics, on the example of tourism economy;
- importance of development policy research to support sustainable economic and entrepreneurial dynamics.

The synthesis of individual results comprises: 5 articles in economic journals in Thomson ISI, with nonzero factor of impact, 12 books and specialization manuals, from which 4 unique author, published in national prestigious houses Editura Economică Bucharest, Editura Pan Europe Iași, Editura Universității „Ștefan cel Mare” Suceava, Editura Performantica Iași, Editura Sedcom Libris Iași, and Editura Didactică și Pedagogică Bucharest, 3 books published in international houses, 9 guides for students (1 in English), 27 papers/articles published in BDI and recognized by MCI articles indexed in international data based EconPapers <http://econpapers.repec.org>, Social Science Research Network, [www.ssrn.com](http://www.ssrn.com) etc., 183 citations, more than 60 articles presented at international conferences organized in Romania or in different other countries, 29 projects, and project manager in 7 international grants.

The second part of my habilitation thesis includes my own academic, scientific, and professional career plan as well as my future research directions. My teaching activity (Microeconomy, Macroeconomy, Economic Development, Business Administration, Project Management courses and seminars at the undergrad and grad levels), and my research work beautifully converge in a same direction.

To conclude, my teaching as well as my research side of my academic career have been analyzed in a complex way, from results to future development directions.

I would like to thank my family - my parents, my husband, and especially my children who have given me energy and an incredible desire to follow the path I have chosen, being convinced that I should support the Romanian education system. Also, I'd like to thank the colleagues from my department as well as the bigger FSEAP/USV community for their constant support. Last but not least, I'd like to thank my dear friends and my co-authors for their unconditional encouragement and assistance.