A TWO-STEPS PROCEDURE FOR SELECTING PROJECTS AT REGIONAL LEVEL

K. P. Anagnostopoulos[1], M. Giannopoulou[2], Y. Roukounis[3]
Dpt. of Civil Engineering, Democritus University of Thrace
Vassilissis Sofias 1, 671 00 Xanthi - Greece
kanagn@civil.duth.gr[1], mgian@civil.duth.gr[2], yrouk@civil.duth.gr[3]

A. Vavatsikos
Civil Engineer, Democritus University of Thrace
12 Apostolon 12, 671 00 Xanthi – Greece
avavat@otenet.gr

Abstract

This paper aims in determining the priorities of a large number of projects of the 3rd Community Support Framework in order to serve the development goals of the Eastern Macedonia and Thrace region, a bordering region in the Northeast end of Greece. These goals are in accordance with the land-planning policy of the 3rd Community Support Framework and the Regional Operational Program [Eastern Macedonia and Thrace Region (2000), Ministry of National Economy (2001)].

The model for the evaluation of the projects in the five Prefectures of the Eastern Macedonia and Thrace Region developed in this paper includes the structure of two hierarchies. The projects will be financed from the 3rd Community Support Framework by the Regional Operational Program (R.O.P.) and the decisions for the kind and the number of incorporating projects are taken by the region authorities.

The 1st hierarchy is used to determine the priorities of the prefectures according to their objective needs. This goal is achieved with the use of development indicators. The priority that acquires each one of the five prefectures multiplied with the total sum of the funds estimated by the R.O.P. for the entire region will determine the funds allocation between the five prefectures of the region.

Five sectors with granted financing have been shaped by the region authorities in order to finance projects. Each project is enlisted in one of these sectors according to the estimations of the decision makers. Then a second hierarchy, one for each prefecture, is shaped in order to rank the projects and enlist them to the R.O.P. financing according to the estimated from the 1st hierarchy funds. The criteria that are used to structure the hierarchy are the five sectors determined by the region authorities, as well as the cost of each project. This model allows to rank the projects separately for each one of the five prefectures.

The last twenty years multicriteria and quantitative methods have been extensively used in regional planning [NijKamp et al. (1992), Papadaskalopoulos Ath. (2000)]. Although many efforts have been made for regional development in Greece [Konsolas et al. (2002)], the use of solid procedures as support to decision making, in particular multicriteria analysis methods, is particularly limited. We attempt to develop comprehensive models for the Greek authorities, which are responsible for decision-making [Anagnostopoulos et al. (2001a), Anagnostopoulos et al. (2001b)]. The use of development indicators as parameters for the evaluation allows the enlargement of the hierarchies with all the necessary elements for the evaluation without surcharging the decision maker with an equivalent number of weights determinations for the members of the hierarchy. Finally, as a more general conclusion it should be noticed that applications of the Analytic Hierarchy Process with the use of development indicators are more comprehensible for the Greek authorities which have the responsibility for the projects selection.