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### FAMILY HOMESTATE SETTLEMENTS – A PROMISING DIRECTION OF SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT

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**Problem statement.** The village has always been the cradle, bearer and custodian of Ukrainian culture, its traditions and customs. But bearing the burden of change in Ukraine, the village began to decline. At the beginning of 1990 there were 28,804 rural settlements in Ukraine, and at the end of 2021 there were 28,369 villages left. During the period of 1990–2021, the number of rural settlements decreased by 435 units, which is 15 villages per year. The process of extinction of villages has accelerated almost tenfold. The number of large rural settlements is decreasing. 11% of villages were emptied, 714 thousand village yards have no owners. Since 2011, the number of deaths has exceeded the number of births by 80,000. The development of the social sphere of the village has practically stopped. As we can see, during the years of independence, about 400 settlements in rural areas have been removed from the map of Ukraine. Besides, 230 settlements have no population, but documents on their removal from the map of Ukraine aren't prepared according to the established procedure. The state notes that the inventory of agricultural land should identify arable land located on the slopes with an inclination of 3 degrees or more (strongly and moderately eroded); unproductive lands (sandy, strongly acidic saline, saline, flooded, stony, etc.) on which it is economically impractical to grow crops, plowed lands of the hydrographic fund (lands near ponds, reservoirs, streams, rivers). According to the All-Ukrainian Section for the Protection and Rational Use of Lands UkrTOP, there are about 12–13 million hectares of such lands. About 9 million hectares have been allocated, in terms of areas, for the adoption of appropriate soil protection measures. The process of depopulation of unpromising villages, collapse of the rural settlement network, active outflow of young people due to the lack of prospects of living in rural areas, reducing the level of protection of the rural population and maintaining the social infrastructure of the village is accelerating. The number of rural residents is now 14.7 million. Between 1990 and 2020, it decreased by 2.5 million people, including for 2000–2020 – by 1.6 million people. The number of school-age children in rural areas decreased by a third to 1.3 million. According to 2005 statistics, in one in five

Ukrainian villages there were no 6-year-old children. Mortality in rural areas is 37 % higher than in urban settlements. 15.5 % of the total number of peasants are below the poverty line.

**Purpose of the study.** The aim of the research is to find and substantiate the mechanisms of forming affluent communities.

**Main results.** With the development of market relations and the influence of other factors in the countryside there was a negative trend of declining rural population, and thus the degradation of rural areas. The decline in rural employment is due to the reduction of jobs in livestock and increased labour productivity through the introduction of modern production technologies in crop production, lack of motivational incentives for entrepreneurs in the rural population, as well as job cuts in the existing network of social infrastructure. Extrapolation over time of the factors shaping the situation of rural population decline indicates that this trend will continue in the future. As a result of such a demographic crisis and migration from rural to urban areas, in cities, the burden on the social infrastructure of villages is growing, the surplus of labor, which is recorded, in particular, by employment services (though not completely) in the form of queues for specific jobs. Accordingly, the state is forced to spend huge sums on unemployment benefits and other items of expenditure related to solving the problem of employment.

Concentration of large numbers of unemployed able-bodied people, especially young people, in cities leads to violations of moral principles and laws, often to crimes against society and the state. Drug addiction, alcoholism and other immoral phenomena are the result of unemployment. The steady increase in urban population requires a number of issues related to people's livelihoods. Housing, infrastructure and other issues require constant adjustments to improve quality and increase volumes. It is almost impossible to optimize these processes for a number of subjective and objective reasons. The most acute problems remain the lack of economic interest in living and working in rural areas, unemployment, labor migration, poverty and the destruction of social infrastructure. The villages are gradually becoming depopulated and cease to function. The depopulation of villages has a corresponding effect on the rural settlement network. According to demographic forecasts, the continuation of this situation until 2020 will lead to an increase in the part of rural areas of acute demographic crisis over 50 % of their total number, compared with a third in 2008. In rural areas, the construction of paved roads, engineering facilities, housing, utilities and socio-cultural facilities has been almost completely suspended. Between 1990 and 2008, the number of rural shops decreased by 45.4 thousand (75 %), catering establishments – by 10.8 thousand (59 %), children's preschools – by 3.6 thousand (29 %), secondary schools – by 1.3 thousand (8.6 %), cultural institutions – by 4.4 thousand (21%), medical and obstetric points – by 1.3 thousand (8 %).

However, and this cannot but rejoice, in society there is a movement of people to the ground. People are realizing their intentions to own ground areas as best they can. The motivation of people to move to the earth is different, but the fact remains that people go to the earth, settle down despite of all the problems associated with it. At present, these settlers and emerging settlements are ironic for many, but their numbers are growing and they show that this process deserves serious state attention. If not stimulated by anyone and nothing (for example), the settlers of the village of Buda (Cherkasy region) show growth rates: in 6 years, 23 estates have been developed. In the Zhytomyr region 7 years ago, 1 tribal settlement was established, and today there are 12 in 7 districts. The same examples can be made in other areas. The bulk of these people dream of building a family homestate on this land, which will then be inherited by descendants. It is obvious that on the one hand the state has categories of land that create a problem for it, and on the other hand there are people who want to take land to build a family homestate. Problem categories of land require significant

budget investments from the state and constant control and support (which are also costly). Analysis of the process of creating new settlements in rural areas on the basis of the principles set out in the draft concept of "Family Homestate", conducted by specialists of the Ministry of Agrarian Policy of Ukraine and the National Academy of Agrarian Sciences of Ukraine in March 2013 by order of the management for the arrangement of one ancestral estate, for 10 years, and filling it with everything necessary for life of full value, it is required financial investment in the amount of approximately – 300 thousand hryvnias, or 30 thousand hryvnias for a year.

**Conclusion.** The innovative nature of investments of individuals in the development of rural areas through the implementation of the idea of "Family Homestate" is that these investments will not be necessary to return. They are expected to be in the life tenure of the genus, inherited from generation to generation. It is easy to calculate that UAH 75 million, or UAH 7.5 million annually, will be invested in the territory of 250 hectares (250 family homestates) in 10 years. If we take into account only the revival of 600 settlements that disappeared from the map of Ukraine during the years of independence and 600 settlements in which there are, according to the certification, from 1 to 10 houses with the elderly, we have the following picture. Thus, the circulation of the peasant households 1200 districts (600 of which got lost and the ones 600 which are on the brink of extinction). The quantity of the 1 hr in 1 200 households comes to the amount of the 300 000 households. Taxation on the salary which follows into the budget on the salary 3 bln hryvnias come to 1 bln hryvnias.

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