



INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL  
AND FOOD ECONOMICS  
NATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

# The conditions of the development of human capital in agriculture and in rural areas

*Edited by:*

*prof. dr hab. Alina Sikorska*

*Authors:*

*dr inż. Paweł Chmieliński*

*mgr Michał Dudek*

*dr inż. Bożena Karwat-Woźniak*

*dr inż. Agnieszka Wrzochalska*



COMPETITIVENESS OF THE POLISH FOOD  
ECONOMY UNDER THE CONDITIONS OF  
GLOBALIZATION AND EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

**Warsaw 2011**

## Contents

<b>Introduction</b> .....	7
<b>Chapter I. The importance of human capital – theoretical remarks</b> (Michał Dudek, Paweł Chmieliński).....	11
1.1. Human capital theory.....	11
1.1.1. Microeconomic approach.....	13
1.1.2. Macroeconomic approach.....	18
1.2. Methods of measuring human capital.....	25
1.3. Criticism of the human capital theory.....	28
1.4. The essence of human capital .....	31
1.5. Social capital in relation to human capital.....	38
1.6. Human capital in rural areas and agriculture.....	43
1.7. The place of the Polish society considering the quality of human capital in comparison to the residents of selected European countries.....	51
<b>Chapter II. Selected determinants of human capital in rural areas in Poland</b> (Agnieszka Wrzochalska).....	60
2.1. The level of education of the rural population.....	60
2.1.1. The rural population.....	60
2.1.2. Education centres.....	62
2.1.3. Spatial access to educational centres in rural areas.....	64
2.1.4. Education level.....	67
2.2. Pre-school care.....	69
2.3. The educational activeness of the rural population.....	72
2.4. Selected aspects of cultural life in rural.....	76
2.4.2 Libraries.....	79
2.4.3. Cinemas and television.....	80
2.5. The civilisational competences of the rural population.....	81
2.5.1. Equipment in households – computers and the internet.....	81
2.5.2. The use of computers and the internet.....	84
2.5.3. Command of foreign languages.....	87
2.5.4. Driver’s licence.....	89

<b>Chapter III. The social and demographic structure and vocational active-</b>	
<b>ness of populations from holdings with various competitive abilities</b>	
(Bożena Karwat-Woźniak).....	92
3.1. The prevalence of semi-subsistence and large-scale commercial farms.....	93
3.2. The family situation and demographic profile of the semi-subsistence	
holdings' population.....	95
3.2.1. The size of families.....	95
3.2.2. The demographic structure of the population.....	96
3.3. The education level of the population.....	97
3.4. The demographic structure and level of gross enrolment of people	
working in agricultural activity.....	99
3.5. The demographic profile and scholastic level of holdings managers.....	102
3.6. The vocational activeness of the population.....	104
3.6.1. Labour in private agricultural holdings.....	105
3.6.2. The professional activities of the population	
from the non-agricultural labour market.....	107
3.7. The vocational activity of farm managers.....	109
3.8. The sources of the means of support for families running	
semi-subsistence farms.....	111
<b>Summary</b> .....	116
<b>References</b> .....	119