

## **Abstract**

This work is targeted on analysis and description of population development between years 1992 and 2006 in the rural area of the Local Action Group Pošumaví. The aim is to create a future population estimate as well. In the beginning of the work, terms like urban area, periphery and microregion are defined and the area under study is described in terms of geographical and demographical characteristics. Detailed analysis of demographical reproduction and migration processes suggests that the long term population loss in the studied area was caused mainly by the natural reproduction. Since 2003, the migration compensated the natural decrease and caused slight increase in the number of inhabitants. Mortality conditions were improving during the whole studied period, natality reached its minimum in the year 1998 and it rises since then. Population prognosis created using cohort component method without considering migration expects, in its middle variant, a steady decline in the population during the whole prognosed period, till the year 2030.

**Keywords:** rural area, local action group, strategic plan LEADER, population prognosis, population projection.