

# Preface

The program „We won't give up on anybody”, announced in 2007, launched in 2008, planned in 2009 and realized in 2010, and still not yet finished, concerns 12 small regions out of the 28 in the Northern Hungarian region. More than the third of the 33 “most serious disadvantaged” small regions can be found in our region. These ratios are adequate in themselves to attract the attention of those who are concerned with the region and with the regional developments. The development plan of the Small Regions of Most Serious Disadvantage, however, is an exciting topic in the Hungarian regional development not only because of its quantitative parameters, but also because of its novelty and its focus on the integrated small regional programs.

The authors of this issue of the paper have been involved in the elaboration and realisation of the program to decrease regional drawbacks and to try new methods in the meantime. We think it can be useful if the opinion of these participants about the regions of most serious disadvantage and the programs is published. Besides the theoretical studies related to the program, we try to present the facts that highlight the background and the results, such as the summary of the strategies of all the small regions of most serious disadvantage of the region. Moreover, in our “Workshop” session, we present the results, similar to that of other small regions; that the planning and realisation of the program has reached so far. The session “Workshop” includes the summary of the events that happened in the cooperation of the University of Miskolc and the Szikszó small region in the framework of the partnership launched by the higher educational institutions and the small regions of most serious disadvantage. Moreover, it includes the summary of the exploratory work carried out by students.

We do not consider this topic to be finished. Experiences of the concerned small regions and regional organisations about the realisation of the program and its regional effects, as well as the opinions and proposals about the possibilities of the introduction of small regional programming are highly appreciated. We intend to report about the further works in the Szikszó small region as well.

Miskolc, December 2010.

Dr. G. Fekete Éva  
*editor in chief*

# Content

## Studies

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## Facts

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Summary of the development strategies of SR of MSD in Northern Hungary

Abaúj-Hegyköz small region (*Dernei, Balázs*)

Bátonyterenye small region (*Pintér-Kovács, Enikő*)

Bodroghöz small region (*Béres, László*)

Edelény small region (*Osgyáni, Gábor*)

Encs small region (*Gazsi, Péter*)

Heves small region (*Majorné Vén, Marianna*)

Mezőcsát small region (*Olberg, Károly*)

Ózd small region (*Dr. Oláh, Péter*)

Sárospatak small region (*Lunk, Tamás*)

Szerencs small region (*Sain, Mátvás*)

Szikszó small region (*Urbánné Pásztor, Edina*)

Tokaj small region (*Wächter, Balázs*)

## Workshop

*Osgyáni, Gábor:* Won't we give up on anybody either in the Edelény small region? Planning of the SR of MSD in the Edelény small region

*G.Fekete, Éva:* "The partnership program of the higher education and the small regions" – between the University of Miskolc and the Szikszó small region

SR of MSD Summer School in Irota (*Lipták, Katalin*)

SPACE-VALUE-DEVELOPMENT Conference (*G.Fekete, Éva – Lipták, Katalin*)

*Lipták, Katalin:* Public employment in the Szikszó small region – Alsóvadász

*Piskóti, Zsuzsa – Tribik, Szivya:* Tourism in the Szikszó small region and in its neighbourhood

*Szép, Tekla:* Utilisation of the renewable energy resources in the Szikszó small region – Homrogd

*Jéger, Gábor:* Transport position in the Szikszó small region

*Kispataki, Csaba:* Value inventory of the Szikszó small region

## Outlook

*G.Fekete, Éva:* Review of the studies "Small regions – big hopes? The renewing forms of social self construction"

## Summaries

# Summaries

**Ádám Kullmann – Frigyes Janza – Béla Herczeg: Attempt for pointed support in Small Regions (SR) of Most Serious Disadvantage (MSD) and first experiences in Northern Hungary** Peculiar attempt is performed in the SR of MSD aiming at - acc. to the authors - novel application of EU-supports taking the requirement of SR into account in higher degree than before. Authors, personally participating in control of MSD-program, survey the activity of regions of MSD in the previous developing programs and confirm the necessity of aspects coming across in distribution of development sources as well as of introduction of a new method of utilization. Furthermore they present the essence of distribution system based on SR-programming and the start of the program. As summing up an independent evaluation is cited „utilization of complex programs for area development beside regions of MSD are justified also in respect of all SR, since instead of competitions the development programs can be sustained more effectively.”

**Tamás Lunk – Balázs Wächter: Planning experiences in SR of MSD**

Authors - as team members participating in the program „Nobody is given up”-for assisting planning in the North-Hungarian region - summarize their own experiences in order to increase success and effectiveness of similar programs in the future. Objective indicates that authors agree with conception of planning based on source-distribution in SR. This method of sourcedistribution is studied with a view to practicability of most important projects for SR, to managing differences within SR, to complexity of planning, to effectiveness of co-operation of partners as well as to the success of cost-efficiency. Emphasis is laid on one of the significant drawbacks of the method currently applied for managing the symptoms of backwardness whereas it results in incalculable measures of ad hoc type. Self-governments compete for projects and therefore in most of the cases the sources are frittered away. Proposal is offered to correct shortcomings of this system and thus to create the conditions of source-distribution based on integrated planning in SR.

**Ottó Baráthi: Contributions to the evaluation of Nógrád County's economic-social trends after the transformation of the social regime**

Economic decline of the County began in the 1980s, from the 1990s it was „only” continued due to the low production output of the manufacturing sector. According to the main statistical index-numbers Nógrád has lost its previous average position. Economic structure made a spontaneous move towards the service sector, while its product structure was not modernized up to the expected extent. Transport infrastructure is not satisfactory, capability of attraction of capital and intention for entrepreneurship are of low level. Degree of supply of public utilities has improved, trade supply and education can be evaluated as good, tourism and catering show a good progress, the health Észak-magyarországi Stratégiai Füzetek VII.évf. 2010/2 sector is underfinanced, cultural life is event-based. Living conditions have not improved, unemployment proves to be lasting. Nógrád County will hardly get out of this situation unaided. Bridging the gap can be realised only in the long run even with governmental financial support to be spent more effectively than before, with modern methods of economic reconstruction and job creation (innovation, cooperation, clusters, etc.) and with the concentration of forces.

**György Margitics: Experiences on SR of MSD in Northern Hungary from the point of view of the regional agency**

Connecting to the first two studies of present copy of the journal, the author as member of North-Hungarian Regional Development Agency - with a view to regional programs aiming at development of the whole region - follows the realized planning and commenced development projects. Data reported indicate new information compared to those presented in the first studies furthermore the success-criteria differ from those previously applied. Author - partly influenced by his studies at the Miskolc University - evaluates the relevancy, feasibility of the programs and their projectlist, resp., the calls for tenders, the results achieved so far and the sustainability.

**Katalin Lipták: Six figures – six statements – situation of labour market in SR of MSD of Northern Hungary**

1. Out of the Hungarian counties, it is Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén county where unemployment data of SR show by far the highest rate, while Nógrád county belongs to that of mediocre, Heves county to that of more favourable conditions.
2. According to the labour market positions indicated by employment and unemployment indices of SR, the MSD areas do not produce any group characterized by homogeneous, unambiguously worst labour-power status.
3. On the other hand, the SR MSD in Northern Hungarian Plain and Northern Hungary stay unambiguously in the most disadvantageous set.
4. While on country-wide scale the unemployment has been on decline since 1994, the North-Hungarian SR of MSD were left out of this process. The SR in Heves county moves on a course different from the regional MSD-trends.

5. Within the Northern Hungarian region, the indices of employment are characteristically on decline except for the Ózd, Sárospatak, Bátorfyerénye and Heves small regions.

6. The low employment rate and high unemployment rate can be explained by the unfavourable human labour-source indicated by low HDI values of SR.

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