

## Angol nyelvű összefoglalók / Summaries

**György Kocziszky:**

### **Contributions to the Methodology of the Impact Study of Regional Development Projects: Why Do We Not Measure What Can Be Measured?**

Uneven regional development can be perceived and shown to exist in all the countries of the worlds (irrespective of the level of development). The literature on regional development dealing with the relevant issues represents basically a uniform standpoint on the causes resulting in the development of regional disparities as well as on the questions of the role to be played by the state (the budget) for the purpose of their moderation; it is, however, less uniform in judging the impact and efficiency of the interventions.

Beyond the different approaches of economic policy, this definitely involves the fact that for a long time relatively little attention has been paid to demonstrating the socio-economic usefulness and benefits of the development interventions and their impacts on regional convergences (in terms of the points of views of the distribution of resources). Perhaps the fact the pace of regional convergences has lagged behind expectations in most countries may be attributed to this.

The efficiency of using the available resources (beyond the standards of the projects) depends to a considerable extent on how the domestic planning practices changes, i.e.:

a) Does the decision maker intend to demonstrate the impacts? Does the extent of the impact shown by the experts play a role in the allocation of resources; do the social benefits of the project and the extent of their regional impact have an influence on the decision makers in drawing up their financial plans or do the decision makers eliminate them?

b) Are the experts involved in regional planning familiar with the methods of impact studies?

c) Are the data supplied by the Hungarian regional statistics system sufficient for demonstrating the regional impacts?

d) Is it possible to demonstrate the extent of the impact or the support if it is below the threshold level, i.e. the consequences cannot be quantified; in lack of resources concentration the principle of 'all those involved should receive a little' prevails.

e) What accountability can be expected, will there be any consequences if the usefulness of the support does not come up to what has been predicted in the ex ante analysis?

The policy makers in Hungarian regional policy (following the change in model after 1989) have not really made use of the opportunities of accountability. The decision makers have not intended (or have not dared) to face the low efficiency of the utilisation of the resources or its failure, the virtual creation of jobs financed from public money, etc. (It cannot be a coincidence that e.g. in the county of Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén there was no ex-post impact study prepared in terms of the regional development supports used in the period of 1995-2004, while a series of studies are involved in praising the support provided to the region!)

It seems that politics has chosen a more convenient and safer method; it has developed 'soft' methods of evaluation that are suitable to wrap into the appearance of objectivity the subjective intentions (that are selfish and greedy in several cases) underlying the decisions. The planning process designed to provide the foundations for the next period of planning of the EU (2007-2013) may hold out some promise of confidence (and perhaps of greater transparency as regards the use of public money and of curbing the corruption present in regional development in

Hungary). (If that were ‘the only returns’ of Hungary having become a member of the EU, it would have been worth it, I think.)

In addition to covering the methodology of the cost-benefit analysis of regional development programs and projects, the paper discusses the econometric model developed at the Department of Regional Economics of the University of Miskolc suitable for analysing regional impacts.

**Tibor Gajda:**

**The anticipated position of the Hungarian budget and the elements of uncertainty of the financial period of 2004-06.**

The main aim of the essay is to fulfill the script-analysis of financial transfers on macro level related to Hungarian accession within the formulated interest - like the subvention of democratic transition, the recruitment of relationship with transborder Hungarians, the possibilities of the widening of national clout.

Obviously that one of the most important parts of the Hungarian integration interests is the financial possibility derives from the Structural and Cohesion Policy of the EU and the Hungarian-EU Treaty on Accession.

Beside the basic financial data of the Treaty there are some factors that (may) correct the EU – Hungarian budgetary balance. This essay intends to collect the possible positive (VAT and other taxation impacts of the applications) and negative (customs duty, Schengen-compatible borderguards, CAP co financing, financial participation in the EU institutions, costs of the new institutions in Hungary and abroad etc.) budgetary effects and to build models of scenarios (successful or less successful outcomes) in the 2004-2006 financial period.

According to the results of the survey in conformity with the two model-calculations the Hungarian macro level net budget balance considering the pre-accession funds of the available tender source at 20%, leaving out of consideration the pre-accession funds of the available tender source at 30% consumption rate the balance can be seen as positive.

**János Zsúgyel:**

**Texture or Patchwork: Which kind of regional policy should we prefer?**

There is two different ways to improve the economic performance of a region or a country. The one way is to enhance the solidarity and the other way is to further the competitiveness. The development based on solidarity is a texture-like the development based on the competitiveness is a patchwork-like regional policy. The paper investigates the consequences is called a patchwork-like regional development among the European countries. The simulation of the regional development shows that the patchwork-like development is more effective than the texture-like development measured with the average and the standard deviation of the GDP per capita. The simulation is made with the data of the EU-25 countries from 2000 and 2003 in the period of ten years.