

Editorial Preface

The Northern Hungarian region is probably one of the most characteristic brownfield lands in the country that is in a very serious position. Since the 1980s, one has been forced to face with the problems of abandoned mineral and heavy industrial lands which became associated with agricultural and military empty fields some years later. The brownfields that used to be considered the by-products of the economic and political structural change have become the sources of severe social conflicts currently. For these fields, it is true that their existence have become cause a factor that hamper going forward, from previously being effect.

The current issue of our paper deals with this field. We discuss the question of reindustrialisation that can be raised generally and the related theoretical consideration; the background, the position and the possibilities of the revitalisation (environmental, economic and social renewal) of the mining areas in the region and of the brownfield lands in Miskolc. Moreover, we deal with the practices of the development of areas that started from a similar position that can be instructive for the Northern Hungarian region as well.

An interesting fact is that the authors of this issue almost without exception grew up and started their research career after the formation of brownfields. They can get to know the golden age and original position of the areas that used to deserve a better fate only from descriptions or narrations. In spite of this, one of the common points in their papers is their intension to understand the process and to reveal the deep hidden reasons and tat they all search the solution.

Another common point, which is quite challenging for the editor, is that the authors carry out their research in separate research groups that creates overlaps and repetitions. At the same time, the ideas in the different papers complement each other. The different interpretations from the point of view of the economist, the geographer, the sociologist, the anthropologist and the urban researcher of the same field provide an exciting experience for the Reader and launch a conversation among the authors. Hopefully this conversation is going to be realised since it can increase the chance to find a relevant, feasible and sustainable solution.

In case the Reader is also stimulated to think based on our papers, you are cordially invited to present the debate in our journal.

Éva G. Fekete
chief editor

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Summaries

Lux, Gábor: The prospects of reindustrialisation: Development cooperation on the periphery

Key words: industry, tertierisation, structural change, reindustrialisation, core-periphery
JEL-code: F21, J24, O14, O25, R58

The core–periphery relationship of the world economy carries wide implications for the development of different economic sectors in Central European economies. In the absence of large metropolitan spaces outside capital regions, economic differentiation is mainly tied to the unequal distribution of industrial production, particularly in the Visegrad countries. The consequences of post-socialism, as well as the current, “long” crisis both point towards a need for new reindustrialisation policies in non-capital regions. In order to satisfy both the requirements of Foreign Direct Investment and encourage the mobilisation of endogenous resources, the main subject of intervention should be the complex factor supply of the target (city) regions, implying an agenda for both economic and social policy. Resource concentration in the frame of cluster-building, and the regeneration of social, relational and knowledge capital should take precedence. In an environment of weak local institutions and persistent capital scarcity, the institutional solution for implementing an effective reindustrialisation should hinge on local, bottom-up development cooperation, where chambers of industry and commerce may serve as the lynchpin of concerted action to integrate and articulate a diverse set of economic interests.

Roncz, Judit – Tóthné Szita, Klára: Judgement of the revitalisation of brownfield lands based on meta-analysis, with special regard to the Northern Hungarian region

Kulcsszavak: brownfield, meta-analysis, revitalization
JEL-code: R11

In the last decades increasing attention has been paid to brownfield areas. After the structural change of industry the brownfield area became potential field of development. Therefore it is necessary to pay attention to risks stemming from the contamination of previous activities, to the issue of land evaluation and optimal or sustainable utilization. This study gives a global picture about the already known brownfield assessment methods by meta-analysis. We examine which factors (economic, environmental, and social) play the most important role in investment decisions. We discuss the North Hungarian brownfields revitalization and rehabilitation issues as well, and we examine how we could use the contingent valuation to determine the economic value of brownfield.

Siskáné Szilasi, Beáta – Szalontai, Lajos – Vágó, János: The way to utilise the abandoned mineral areas in Northern Hungary

Key words: former mineral areas, social geography, brownfield investment, renewable energy
JEL-code: Q42, R11

In the evolution and development of a settlement mining activity has always been/played an important role. The main changes can be measured through the number of inhabitants, in the number of residential buildings and also on the field of commercial infrastructure.

When a mine closure happened, then the settlement had to suit to/adapt the new situation. The quality of life of the inhabitants and the details of the settlement has changed thanks to a mine

shutdown. Due to these facts the former leader settlements have lost their leader position and the economical and human geographical configuration changed proportionally with them.

The most important changes are the following: weakening of the transportation connections, weakening of the spending power, decreasing and senescent population, increasing unemployment rate, migration of the young and qualified (labour) workforce and the change or pinch of the existing work opportunities.

In the future we would like to determinate a new complex index, namely the Factor of the Economically and Socially Disadvantaged Areas (FESDA).

On the whole, the basis of a touristic or any other (energy efficiency, renewable energy) development of these former mining areas/settlements are at our disposal, but a comprehensive developmental plan is required to reach that the settlements and their inhabitants could make profit of their resources.

Dobák, Judit: Chances of development concerning the brownfield of the Diósgyőr ironwork factory.

Key words: industry, industrial history, metallurgy, protection of industrial heritage, brownfield development, crisis management

JEL-code: L61, O14, R12, R39, R58, R59

The fate of the metallurgy in Diósgyőr has already been defined by the Trianon decision. The reasons for having a metallurgical factory ceased to exist, the continuous operation of the factory was threatened by the new geographical and geopolitical circumstances. The war and later on the Soviet era provided some opportunities for the metallurgy in Diósgyőr, but, by the end of these the crisis became unmanageable. The applied crisis management techniques were not in-time and sufficient, therefore an area of social and economic deprivation has formed. The 150 years of the metallurgy in Diósgyőr represents all the problems that are existent in today's development and crisis management. The article focuses on the processes that need to be changed in order to achieve positive development. It also argues that, by careful planning, the land waiting for re-cultivation can serve the needs of our times.

Dabasi Halász, Zsuzsanna: The analysis of the labour market depression of the brownfield in the area of the iron factory in Miskolc

Key words: labour market, employment relations, social condition, lagging area

JEL-code: R58, J42, J48.

Today, there is not any complex, new track setting strategy in our country which combines environment recultivation with social aspects. In Hungary, an increasing proportion of children live in disadvantaged families, residential communities, run-down areas, depressed and stress zones. One reason for the formation of these areas in Hungary is the absence of the revitalization after the degradation of the socialist heavy industry. For the rehabilitation of the North Hungarian Region complex environmental, economic and social strategy is essential in which the strengthening of civil society organizations, government intervention, targeted development concept, a new definition of the functions and the reindustrialization have a central task.

Feksz, Kinga: "In the wake of fleeting industry in Miskolc." Contribution to reveal the labour market problems of brownfield areas

Key words: brownfield, unemployment, desindustrialisation, migration, social problems

JEL-code: J60

The paper aims at contributing to reveal the labour market depression of the brownfields in Miskolc. I examine the economic and social situation after the end of communism in Diósgyőr

with a deep interview, with special regard to the effects of structural change line unemployment, migration and the deepening of social problems. Moreover, I deal with the deterioration of the industry in Diósgyőr.

Bánhalmi, Lilla – Biczó, Gábor: The relationship between brownfield revitalisation and heritage tourism: international experiences and the case of Digép (Diósgyőr Machine Factory)

Key words: brownfield revitalisation, tourism, applied social science view

JEL-code: L10

Recently a new type of development has appeared in regard to the revitalization of brownfield sites. This paper is a detailed study of the development strategy and policy emphasizing the sociocultural and economic advantages of touristic type revitalization. In the course of the last decades, Bethlehem, an environmentally seriously contaminated North-American city has become an outstanding example of successful brownfield rehabilitation. On the base of the most important conclusions of Bethlehem's story, we examine the possibilities of a similar complex development project for DIGÉP (Diósgyőr Machine Factory) in Miskolc, Hungary.

Hegy-Kéri, Ágnes: Cost-benefit analysis of brownfield developments

Key words: brownfield, regional development, cost-benefit analysis

JEL-code: O21, L78, H25

In Hungary the industrial structure has changed and depressed industrial areas have developed thanks to the lack of resources and the careless industrial policy. In 2000, the Hungarian legislators listed 6 subregions into this category based on the following indicators:

- in 1990 share of employment in the industry was more than one and a half times the national average,
- decline in industrial employment between 1990-1999
- and unemployment above the national average.

In 2004 Ballabás-Volter expanded the number of these subregions to 11 by adding the difference in migration to the indicators (instead of the unemployment rate). Setting up the above mentioned category they did not take into account the brownfield belts, the results of the changes in the industrial structure, which are most typical in Northern Hungary and Southern Transdanubia. The basic hypothesis of my investigation is that the revitalization of brownfield sites in Hungary did not emphasize enough job creation and putting these areas back on economic growth track. The legislators paid great attention on employment when they defined the depressed areas. The money spent on the revitalization of brownfield areas was not very effective due to insufficiently conceptualized revitalization as a concept. To support my hypothesis, I have done a cost-benefit analysis. The significance of this research topic was also pointed out by Tölle et al. (2009). The public sector (central government, local government, support decision-making authority) is obliged to do the economic-social cost-benefit analysis of brownfield revitalization projects.

A. Nagy, Júlia: The role of city promotion in the regeneration of Manchester

Keywords: city promotion, urban regeneration, branding, city region, Manchester

JEL-code: R11, L83

In the last two decades, it has been an increasing interest in using city promotion as a tool for creating city image in order to keep up with the competition for attracting investment to the cities. Therefore, the city promotion became a significant instrument and the increasing use of it has meaningful effects on regeneration. In the case of Manchester as a city region there is still a

question of territorial governance coherency which does play an important role in the construction of city brand and identity which could be promoted in the competition with other cities from UK, Europe or the world. Therefore, the aim of this study is to research about and examines those methods and attitudes which influence the process of city promotion and to explore the extent these contribute to the regeneration of Manchester as a city region.

Biczó, Gábor: The sociocultural background and importance of brownfield investments in North-America

Key words: brownfield, applied anthropology, communal-centered development, local community

JEL-code: R11, L78

As it is well known fact the sociocultural aspects are significance factors in the up-to-date brownfield developments. In those countries (US, Canada, Great Britain, Germany) where the culture of brownfield developments means a sophisticated and complex strategy of general improvements – including economical, ecological and sociocultural goals – is unimaginable that the local human background of brownfield investments wouldn't have been calculated at all. In the paper on the basis of literature there are some of the key aspects of sociocultural dimensions in the brownfield developments.

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