

uncertainty in given action situation for the players than harmonious institutions, such as cartel. For continuous renewal of the institutional system, however – the coordination mechanisms function properly too – an extensive and continuous relevant players' innovation is required. The necessary institutional innovations, however, likely only the greater competition can create. Thus, participants of the competition must take in uncertainty increasing in order to be able to decrease the all uncertainty of players by the renewal of the institutional system.

*Keywords:* institution, uncertainty, competition, scarcity, innovation

## **Why has Technological Development Slowed Down in Europe?**

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At the end of 20th century, the information and communication technologies launched a new techno-economic paradigm shift. The skill and knowledge-based innovation could create opportunities for income inequalities moderation, but at the same time technological gap become larger between USA and European countries. In the field of R&D&I and institutions, there are special European characteristics.

This paper compares EU countries and USA concerning differences in the relevant areas of technological progress. In the United States, research and development concentrated mainly in enterprises, as well as there is effective cooperation between actors who are interested in innovation. European countries try to become successful in the field of R&D with government support, while knowledge transfer is not so effective between the actors of innovation system. In Europe the practical application of results of R&D is moderate, which cause the slowdown of technological progress.

*Keywords:* technological environment, research and development, innovation, intellectual property rights

## **Modern Methods in Innovation-targeted Research Organisation in the Food Industry**

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The trends of new product development in the food industry shows towards more and more complex food items. Indication of this can be seen in the growing offering of the functional and "novel" food items. These innovative food products support the

restoration of the consumers' health; assist in overcoming a number of "popular" health issues, such as obesity, and help strengthening the human immune system. This orientation of development in the Food Industry's system of "vertical" links demands a course towards the Health Industry. At the same time, a complete review of the current organisational practice in the local R+D is warranted. Change should be implemented in the areas of research projects, in the financing background, in the targeted concentration of human resources, and in the co-operation with the International Scientific bodies.

*Keywords:* new product development (NPD), functional foods, novel foods, health industry, R&D, international research cooperation

## **Surveying the Clustering Opportunities of SMEs in the Hungarian-Romanian Cross-border Region**

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As cluster-mapping – identifying potential and existing clusters in a region's economy – has found its place in the scientific literature, several attempts have been made in the developing countries to reveal the economic structure of the country, a specific region or county, and to find their highpoints.

Despite the fact that an effective regional or local development process with the rational use of the resources at hand ideally needs the outputs of a thorough study revealing the true drivers of the economy, in practice the toolkit of cluster-mapping is often ignored. The reason is the difficult and problematic adaptation of the tools developed for developed countries: statistical databases have their shortcomings, primer data collection is rather costly.

The aim of this paper is to carry out an inquiry into the southern part of the Hungarian-Romanian cross-border region on the basis of this toolkit, however. Besides the awareness of deficiencies and difficulties, this study gives results based on exact data. These results may also form the starting point of further studies. The economic structure of the cross-border region is analysed from different aspects, which together lead to certain consequences and also to the identification of the potential "Human resource", Construction and various processing industry clusters of the region.

*Keywords:* cluster mapping, cross-boarder, processing industries, innovation