

TERRITORIAL FEATURES OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE MICRO-REGION HAJDÚVÖLGY

A FOGLALKOZTATÁSI VISZONYOK TERÜLETI JELLEMZŐI A HAJDÚVÖLGY MIKROTÉRSÉGBEN

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This study is aiming to describe what steps the settlements of the micro-region Hajdúvölgy –Csanádapáca, Csorvás and Gerendás-, in the region Orosháza, Békés county have made to keep their population. This area of the Great Plain, which is famous for its economy of agrarian character, has had difficulties in managing challenges caused by the economical and political changes since the change of the political system. The altered agricultural ownership, decrease in the employment ability of this sector have induced significant changes in the living standards of the inhabitants of villages. These negative processes can be experienced in decrease of population, decrease in the number of the unemployed and in the strengthening of migration.

Regional development can be achieved by the establishment of new workplaces which cannot lack the active participation from the side of settlements. I am outlining one of its exemplary model through the cooperation of three settlements in Hajdúvölgy which share a common history, similar identity and similar social, political and economical culture. In consequence of the measurable decrease of income-producing force of this sector the population that lived on traditional cultivation of plants and livestock raising has partly lost its workplace, on the other hand it is forced to work far from its domicile; the young mobile population leaves its birthplace choosing the urban way of living, or commuting it becomes estranged towards its original environment. Municipal and civil organizations of the micro-region have joined their forces to stop, moderate migration, to strengthen the population-keeping force of their settlements, and finally to find a solution to their common problem together. Firstly, the micro-region Hajdúvölgy formed the AVOP Leader action-group in the hope of obtaining national and EU-sources; secondly they regard the change in agricultural production profile and village tourism as a solution to their problems. They obtained the cooperation of both civil organizations and private businesses for their aims. Only their realisation remained to be done.

The writer of this study strongly believes that village regions and thus the rural way of living have not disappeared yet for the society. There must be a solution to save villages even in the frame of the global world and integration. Cooperation, as several times in history, can bring such solutions that make rural areas more attractive again.

Keywords: to keep population, employment, regional development, migration, village tourism