COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF DEL-ALFOLD REGION, HUNGARY AND WEST REGION, ROMANIA

ANALIZA COMPARATIVĂ A REGIUNILOR DEL-ALFOLD, UNGARIA ŞI REGIUNEA VEST, ROMÂNIA

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Abstract: *In this paper we are doing an analysis of the situation from two neighboring regions from different countries, more exactly the Del-Alfold Region from Hungary and West Region from Romania. We decided for these two regions because we considered important to underline some aspects regarding agriculture from both regions on the background on almost similar geographical conditions.*

Key words: *region, border, agriculture, country*

INTRODUCTION

Through cross-border cooperation objectives we count also the elimination of disadvantages created by borders and the existent opportunities exploitation, more precisely through quality and common economy development promoting. To underline better the evolution of cooperation relations between Romania and Hungary we decided as a topic for a comparatively analysis West Region from Romania and the region Dél-Alföld from Hungary, close regions that are linked by old cooperation relations. The both regions can be remarked through the important role played by agriculture, first of all this fact being due to the

geographic position in the Hungarian Plain and also in the Carpathian region.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Doing an analysis to the agricultural potential of the counties from the West Region it shall be mentioned that Caraş-Severin and Hunedoara counties have predominantly a rocky relief so the agricultural potential in the West region is represented by the Timiş and Arad counties. Due to the geographic position and to the plain, the region Dél-Alföld offers to the three counties, Békéscsaba, Csongrád and Bács-Kiskun, the possibility to play an important role in the agriculture.

Due to the economic crisis that reaches all the Europe countries in a less or more measure, we stopped on 2007-2008 years being considered the least before crises.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The both regions are similar from the gross added value point of view by the fact that it is bigger than national average in both cases. In the both regions in the period 2005-2007 the percentage represented by agriculture to the forming Gross Domestic Product has registered the same decreasing tendency.

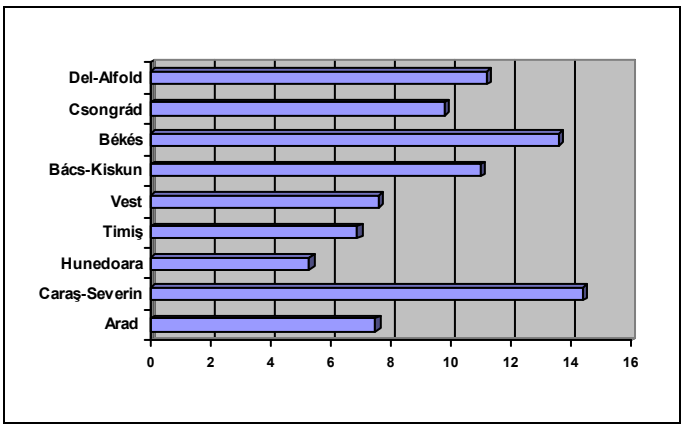


Figure 1 -Agriculture contribution to GDP forming

In 2007 the agriculture contribution to the Gross Domestic Product in the Hungarian region was 11% and in Romanian region only 7.6%.

If we refer to the national level, the first differences between the two regions appear in that concern the agricultural area. So the agricultural area from West Region is 58.9% from total area, value under the national average as presented in table 1. In the region Dél-Alföld, the agricultural area is about 72.3% from total area, value above the national average, table 2. If we express without referring to the national level we have to specify that West region has almost 1.9 millions hectares while the Hungarian region has only 1.3 millions hectares, more precisely 32% less that the Romanian region.

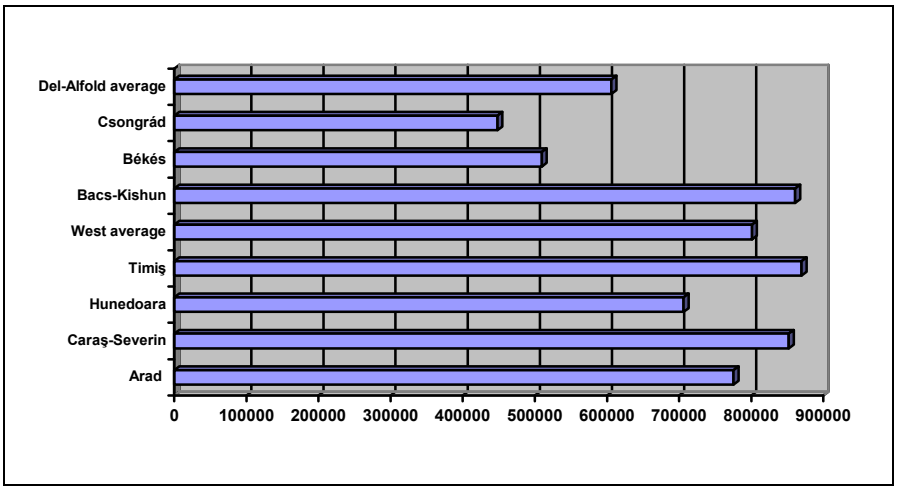


Figure 2 - Land

Between the two regions the geographic conditions impose considerable differences regarding the dimension of forest areas. A special importance is given to trees planting activity, activity that is supported with the help of European funds. West region faces serious problems regarding the illegal cuttings that correspond to a large percentage in all wood mass that is cut from the forest despite all authorities' efforts. Romanian region benefits from a 34% forest area while the Hungarian one has only 12.8% forest area.

Tabel 1

Land structure, hectares

Crt. no.	Specification	Arad	Caraş-Severin	Hunedoara	Timiş	West Region
1	**Land area, of which**	775409	851976	706267	869665	3203317
2	**Agricultural area**	510770	397303	280332	698024	1886429
3	**Forest**	211979	411276	365994	109116	1098365
4	**Other areas**	52660	43397	59941	62525	218523

Source: Anuarul Statistic al României, 2009; Hungary Central Statistic Office

Tabel 2

Land structure, hectares

Crt. no.	Specification	Bács-Kiskun	Békés	Csongrád	Del-Alfold Region
1	**Land area, of which**	860835	509553	447929	1818317
2	**Agricultural area**	551358	442410	321574	1315342
3	**Forest**	167903	17376	47294	232573
4	**Other areas**	10816	3695	6503	21014

Source: Anuarul Statistic al României, 2009; Hungary Central Statistic Office

Going further with our analysis, as shown in table 3, that means focusing on structure of cultivated areas we have to underline that the areas cultivated with orchards and vineyards from the both regions are almost equal as surface, 41 thousands hectares in the neighbor region and 36 thousands hectares in our region.

The counties Csongrád and Bács-Kiskun play an important influence at national level regarding the peaches and apricots production while Timiş and Caraş-Severin counties bring almost 10% of internal fruits production in our country. If we refer to grapes production, we have to mention the vineyards areas Hajós-Baja, Csongrád and Kunság from Hungary and Recaş, Buziaş and Arad Vineyard from România.

Tabel 3

Agricultural area by land-use categories in Dél-Alföld Region, hectares

Crt. no.	Specification	Bács-Kiskun		Békés		Csongrád		Dél-Alföld Region	
		ha	%	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%
1	**Arable land**	385644	69,9	397616	89,9	261595	81,3	1044855	79,4
2	**Orchards**	10158	1,8	934	0,2	4450	1,4	15542	1,2
3	**Vineyards**	22601	4,1	91	0,2	2371	1,4	25063	1,2
4	**Grassland**	132955	24,1	13769	9,9	53158	16,5	229882	17,5
5	**Total**	551358	100	442410	100	321574	100	1315342	100

Source: Anuarul Statistic al României, 2009; Hungary Central Statistic Office

Tabel 4

Agricultural area by land-use categories in West Region, hectares

Crt. no.	Specifi-cation	Arad		Caraş-Severin		Hunedoara		Timiş		West Region	
		ha	%	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%
1	**Arable land**	349579	68,4	127251	32	79629	28,4	526814	75,5	1083273	57,4
2	**Orchards**	5581	1,1	11689	2,9	915	0,3	9144	1,3	27329	1,4
3	**Vineyards**	3577	0,7	771	0,2	-	-	4301	0,6	8649	0,5
4	**Grassland**	152033	29,8	257592	64,8	199788	71,3	157765	22,6	767178	40,7
5	**Total**	510770	100	397303	100	280332	100	698024	100	1886429	100

Source: Anuarul Statistic al României, 2009; Hungary Central Statistic Office

CONCLUSIONS

A possibility for the development of the both region can be represented by design of some touristic roads linked to the vineyards from both countries. These wine roads can help to tourism development and also to a better knowledge of the technologies used on both sides of the border. But agriculture does not mean only vineyards so we dare to propose as a

output of the development of agriculture in the two region can be for by a regional mark that should be gathering traditional products.

In the both regions the revaluation of arable land is made almost through cereals production. An important crop in both regions is the wheat, more precisely 26% from crops in the two regions.

Dél-Alföld region has a plus in what concern the industrial crops, here the percentage being almost double from the Romanian region.

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