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OF THE CENTRE FOR REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY

**Regional Disparities and Regional Development:  
From Scientific Research to Policy Recommendations**

The paper presents the results of the cross border cooperation project "Maramures-Transcarpathia Info Tour", implemented during June 2012 – March 2014 and was financed within The Cross Border Cooperation Programme Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine 2007-2013. Within the action activities of tourism prospective research of the project region were conducted, which led to the completion of a tourist guide book and four tourist maps for the region of Historical Maramures. The project also resulted in the establishment of four cross border tourist information centers in the localities: Sighetu Marmăției, Săpânța, Botiza, from Romania and Solotvino from Ukraine. The marking of eight tourist tracks, the rural tourism development courses and the consolidation of local identity by implementing traditional workshops in some of the Maramures villages also fall among the results achieved in the project. The project activities and results have a strong geographic side being implemented by geographers and specific methodology of this discipline in order to strengthen cooperation in the domain of cross border tourism within the project region.

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**CHANGE OF HUNGARIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE [SCHIMBAREA PRACTICILOR DE DEZVOLTARE  
ECONOMICĂ APLICATE DE ADMINISTRAȚIA LOCALĂ DIN UNGARIA]**

The study shows the change of the Hungarian local governments' involvement in local economic development from the change of the regime (1989) till nowadays. According to the empirical studies\* forming the background of the research a shift in the development activity of local governments can be detected. The study covers the tracking of effects of EU and national support policy, the regulation of local governments and the change in their power resulting from this control as well as regional development institutions and tools.

The Hungarian local governments have faced with the necessity of local development since the beginning of the 1990s as the local inhabitants expected community intervention in the areas which do not belong to the competence of local government (i.e. the establishment of telephone lines.) The settlement development can be considered as the local government's voluntary task, though it has never received direct public settlement development funds. Thus the developments were financed on the local level by the local governments' own resources or by open tender. While the former is scarcely available, the latter has forced the local improvements to take other path resulting mass-produced or unsustainable investments (spas, sport facilities etc.), unused public buildings, industrial investments built next to settlements based on tourist potentials. The effectiveness of the grants used can be questioned and the Hungarian self-governmental system has been indebted significantly. The local government reform after 2011 tried to respond to these problems. Whilst the scope of the local governments has significantly narrowed, the local development needs remain and in fact the development built on endogenous resources has increasingly appreciated. One thing is certain: new approaches and solutions, new tools and local development trends better exploiting the opportunities in partnerships should be built in the Hungarian development practice.

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**TAXONOMY OF THE GEO-TOURIST UNITS FROM THE SUBCARPATHIANS OF  
IALOMIȚA [TAXONOMIA UNITĂȚILOR GEOTURISTICE DIN REGIUNEA  
SUBCARPAȚILOR IALOMIȚEI]**

The tourist region under analysis is remarkable for its large number of tourist sites, its high-quality boarding facilities for tourists, its variety of the leisure and restaurant structures, to which one