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PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN RURAL AREAS OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC – CASE

An evaluation of the development of public transport (PT) services in rural areas of the Czech Republic, and the analysis of PT supply level in the Jeseník rural region (NUTS4 – Jeseník District), as well as its dynamics, is the major objective of this paper. The Jeseník Region is one of the less developed Czech regions from many aspects, but an analysis of PT connections, frequencies and connection times in the region, has demonstrated a fairly positive situation during the evaluation of PT local service. The PT service is considered to be a key quality attribute to living in rural areas, mainly because some rural inhabitants, who are more likely to be socially excluded, benefit from the services.

Marián HALÁS, Petr KLADIVO, Petr ŠIMÁČEK, Tatiana MINTÁLOVÁ

DELIMITATION OF MICRO-REGIONS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC BY NODAL

Spatial interactions express mutual relations among geographical areas or regions at different hierarchical levels, and they are an important factor in the formation of the geographical organisation of space. This paper provides an empirical analysis of labour migration between municipalities and their impact on the formation of nodal regions at a lower regional level and at a local level. The final result of the study is a socio-economic regionalization map and the delimitation of micro-regional systems in the Czech Republic.

Paweł CHURSKI

PROBLEM AREAS IN POLISH REGIONAL POLICY

The notion of problem areas is strictly related to selecting (based on regional research) rich and poor, growing and stagnant, strong and weak as well as crisis-generating and expansive regions. The need for selecting these areas is directly associated with one of the principles of regional policy: the rule of concentration. Contents concentration (connected to the policy's goals) and spatial concentration (related to the selected areas). The change in the regional policy paradigm (which seems to be a foregone conclusion for years to come) consisting in the departure from the compensatory model in preference for the polarization-diffusion model justifies the change of the name of problem areas to strategic intervention areas which has become a reality in some OECD countries. The goal of this article is to analyze and evaluate the changes in Poland's regional policy in the area of selecting problem/strategic intervention areas in 2000–2009, followed by recommendations on the financial prospects for 2014–2020.

Anton MICHÁLEK, Peter PODOLÁK

SOCIO-ECONOMIC DISPARITIES AND MIGRATION IN SLOVAKIA

Despite well-known regional disparities, which have increased and in general represent relevant factors determining migration, the rate of interregional migration remains at a comparatively low level in Slovakia. In this paper, an attempt is made to observe the effects of unemployment and wages on the level of interregional migration in the years 1996–2007. The anticipated movement of population from economically weaker to economically stronger regions remains relatively restricted in Slovakia. Potential migration is limited by the action of other factors, which can be classified in the group of liquidity constraints.

Ondřej MARVÁNEK

PERIGLACIAL FEATURES IN THE KRUMGAMPEN VALLEY, ÖTZTAL ALPS, AUSTRIA

Different types of patterned ground are present in the Krumgampen Valley, Ötztal, Austria. The periglacial environment includes small to medium scale features. Small scale periglacial forms were mapped and some genetic cross-sections were made to study the environmental influence on its spatial distribution. Also the monitoring of ground temperatures during the autumn season revealed frequent freeze-thaw cycles. This thermal regime supports recent development of patterned ground features. The spatial distribution of patterned ground in the Krumgampen Valley is affected not only by the altitude. The topography in association with other factors related to the morphology of the valley floor determines the appearance of patterned ground mainly by the changes in the parent regolith properties and soil moisture.