

Examination of the efficiency of villages

Author: Zsár, Virág – Csité, András – Czaller, László

The HÉTFA Research Institute conducted a study about the efficiency of Hungarian villages commissioned by the Association of Hungarian Villages.

The study identified four aspects of efficiency in case of municipalities: representation of interests, smart utilization of resources, securing public services, and finally, ensuring the future of the settlements. The research explains the present situation and potential problems focusing on these four approaches. It lists some good practices, both domestic and foreign, and formulates policy recommendations aiming at increasing efficiency. Results show that further steps are needed to achieve self-sustaining development and to provide high quality public services. Beyond these factors, communal solidarity and cohesion are also indispensable for viable, developed villages. It is very important to enhance dialogue and institutionalize communication among central, county and local decision-makers to facilitate the realization of grass-root initiatives.

The study is contributes to the results of a project submitted in the framework of Hungarian – Norwegian Municipality Partnership (MANORKA).