

Social enterprises in food and agriculture in Hungary

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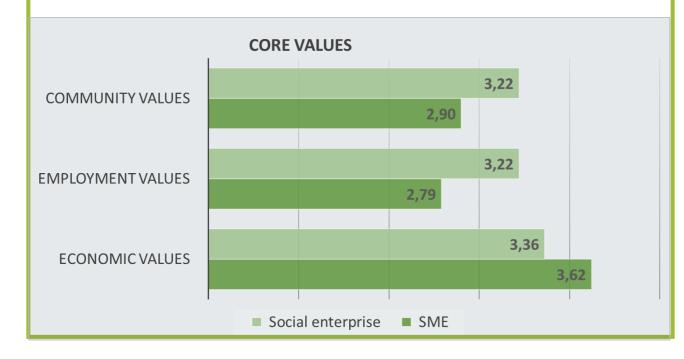
BACKGROUND

- The research was focused on the local effects of the Hungarian social economy organizations on the local economy, employment and society.
- Taking into account the possible foreclosure effect of the social enterprises in the food economy.
- Focusing on food/agriculture and rural areas.



HIGHLIGHTS

- 1-2% of the sector is social enterprise, employing approx. 1500 people,
- more likely to be active on **food processing** than agriculture,
- big diversity of organizations,
- smaller in size and income,
- 64% operates in less developed places,
- more connection to local producers, markets and community,
- innovation, more open to the development of new products,
- employment focus, the share of employment cost is six times higher than SMEs', lower work efficiency,
- more likely to employ workers from vulnerable groups (ex-unemployed, public workers),





QUESTIONS & METHODS

RESEARCH AREAS:

- features of social enterprises in food and agriculture, comparison with for-profit SME's,
- experiences of supporting schemes,
- local effects: employment, economy and community.

RESEARCH METHODS:

- data analysis,
- field research in 4 micro regions in Hungary,
- survey among for-profit and social economy enterprises,
- workshop.



LOCAL EFFECTS

- creating workplaces in jobless areas
- inclusion of vulnerable and unemployed
- developing skills,
- creating opportunity for a more active life and to gain more income,
- handmade, healthy products,
- strengthening local markets and local identity,

providing lacking services,





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