Development Strategy of District of the OLOMOUC REGION

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Olomouc Region
Dear readers,
This publication contains selected basic characteristic features of the Olomouc region and correlates them with the Development Strategy of District of the Olomouc Region, affording an interesting view of the priorities duly set by the Assembly of the Olomouc region in relation to regional development. Given that the Development Strategy of District of the Olomouc Region comprises a variety of activities, this publication sheds light on the wide-ranging characteristic features of the Olomouc region. Additionally, it also serves those who want to know something more about this beautiful region. The Development Strategy of District of the Olomouc Region is a strategic document specifying the needs and activities of the Olomouc region as a self-administered entity. The document is prepared pursuant to Act No. 248/2000 Coll., on Regional Development Support, follows the Strategy of Regional Development of the Czech Republic, and unfolds the themes most relevant to the region. I believe that, thanks to this publication, you will familiarise yourselves in an interesting way with the priorities of the Olomouc region and will learn something new about the region.

(Vice-President Šoltys)
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The following data sources were used in the preparation of this publication:

NCA CR – Nature Conservation Agency of the Czech Republic
ArcCR – map source distributed by ARCDATA PRAHA, s.r.o.
CHI – Czech Hydrometeorology Institute
CSSA – Czech Social Security Administration
CZSO – Czech Statistical Office
IROP – Integrated Regional Operational Programme
MLSA – Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Czech Republic
NICCC – National Information and Consulting Centre for Culture
Olomouc region – Olomouc region's own database and findings
RWE GasNet, s.r.o.
Town of Olomouc
IHIS – Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the Czech Republic

Our sincere gratitude to the Regional Administration of CZSO in Olomouc for its cooperation in the preparation of this publication.
This publication was developed based on various sources; in particular, with the use of information from the statistical yearbook issued by the Czech Statistical Office (CZSO). By reason of comparability of the data, the 2015 data, being the time when the Development Strategy of District came into force, was applied the most. The Olomouc region occupies an area of 5,267 km², accounting for 6.7% of the area of the Czech Republic. As of 31 December 2015, about 635 thousand inhabitants reside in the region, i.e. approximately 6% of the Czech Republic’s population, giving it an “average” status among the regions.

In the north, the Olomouc region has a 104-km long border with Poland. The region’s territory continues to the south and stretches up to Central Moravia. It is naturally divided into a northern mountainous area and a southern, more flat area. Although the two highest Moravian mountain ranges (Hrubý Jeseník and Kralícký Sněžník) intervene in the Olomouc region, their peaks lie beyond its borders. The border to the Moravian Silesian region passes near the peak of the Praděd (1,492 m), marking also the highest point of the Olomouc region.

A landmark in the southern part of the region is the river Moravia and its tributaries. Near Kojetín, where the river Moravia leaves the Olomouc region, there is the lowest point of the region with altitude dropping to approximately 190 meters. The river Odra, which is significant from the European perspective, rises in the Olomouc region. Odra gains strength in the Moravian Silesian region and Poland and, in Štětín, it empties into the Baltic Sea.

The regional capital is Olomouc with approximately 100,000 inhabitants. From the administrative perspective, the region is divided into 13 administrative districts of municipalities with extended powers (ECPs) as shown in the map. The Olomouc region is much differentiated and offers diverse living conditions, which makes it difficult to prepare a single development strategy for the whole region and to accommodate all differences. The Development Strategy of District of the Olomouc Region sets six long-term priorities documenting the situation in the region.

A. Development of Human Resources
B. Living Conditions for Inhabitants
C. Economy & Innovations
D. Traffic Availability & Services
E. Sustainable Development
F. Efficient Territorial Administration
The vision of the Strategy focuses on improving the living conditions and on creating additional opportunities for entrepreneurs. Hence, the first priority is devoted to the development of human resources. The Olomouc region faces the same problems as the rest of the country - aging population, civilization diseases, etc. The Olomouc region also demonstrates certain specifics, the most important of which is the decline in the number of inhabitants. This can be attributed almost equally to natural decrease in the number of inhabitants and migration out of the region, most apparent in the northern part. Migration concerns mainly the younger generation, which further adds to the aging population statistics. Aging of the population is expressed through the so-called age index, i.e. the number of people at the age of 65 and above against the number of children less than 15 years. As of 31 December 2015, the age index of the Czech Republic was 1.19, meaning that there were 119 seniors for each 100 children. The age index of the Olomouc region was approximately 1.24. The map below shows the situation in individual ECPs.

More detailed information can be obtained from the graph of age division of inhabitants of the Olomouc region. This graph, called the age pyramid pursuant to its shape, regularly indicates the highest number of children. These values are then decreased by occurrence of death down to zero. The regular course may be disrupted by population waves or, conversely, catastrophes. The data captured in the age pyramid of the Olomouc region is, however, not favourable. People less than 20 years of age significantly fall behind people between 20 and 69 years of age. Speaking about crammed kindergartens nowadays, there were even more children 20 years ago.

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A. DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Change in Number of Inhabitants between 2011 and 2015
Map Source: CZSO, 2016

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A. DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

One of the important aspects in the development of human potential is education. Quality education provides people with better opportunities to apply themselves on the labour market, orientate better in the more and more globalized world and avail modern technologies better. Hence, education is one of the principal priorities of the Development Strategy of District of the Olomouc Region.

The availability of pre-school and elementary education is given by the directions of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport of the Czech Republic. The Olomouc region, as a whole, achieves average values when it comes to the number of classes or the number of pupils per teacher. At the lowest education grades, the number of children in schools depends on the number of children in the given territory. The only example of unsatisfactory availability of kindergartens and elementary schools is the ECP Konice.

Secondary school students are expected to commute and, therefore, the differences are more noticeable. Secondary schools are concentrated in bigger, more industrialized centres and places. The map below also shows the significant number of commuters from the ECPs Litovel and Šternberk, in particular, to Olomouc.

Higher education ignores the situation in the region. University students are expected to commute or, possibly, to temporarily stay at school grounds or nearby. The most significant university in Olomouc is the Palacký University where more than 21,000 students study at eight faculties. In the region, there are also two private universities: University of Logistics (approximately 700 students) and Moravian University (approximately 500 students). By reason of demand for technical study fields not taught by the local universities, a branch of the Mining University Ostrava was introduced in Šumperk. The Development Strategy of District of the Olomouc Region expects adapting education in the region to the changing number of children, the employers’ needs, and modernization of teaching.
The labour force in the Olomouc region is formed by approximately 307 thousand economically active persons. Other priorities are availability of jobs and the fight against unemployment. According to the findings of CZSO in 2015, only approximately 4% were employed in agriculture and forestry at an average gross wage of CZK 21600, 40% employed in production and industry at an average gross wage of CZK 23400, and approximately 53% were employed in the service sector at an average gross wage of CZK 21800. However, the service sector includes a wide range of professions from banking or information technologies with gross wage at around CZK 30000 a month, to accommodation and catering where the gross monthly wage stood at more than CZK 11400.

The average gross wage in the Olomouc region was approximately CZK 22200, which was the third lowest wage among the regions in the Czech Republic. Wages were strongly influenced by the level of education and the entrusted responsibilities. The division of employees based on qualification is listed in the table.

Despite low wages and given the education level of its inhabitants, the Olomouc region belongs among regions with the highest unemployment. The efforts towards improving this situation focus on adapting the study fields to employers’ requirements and on the cooperation with companies intending to create new jobs. An interesting thing can be noticed in the ECP Konice, which, despite adverse conditions, has one of the lowest unemployment in the region due to the significant factor of willingness to commute to work. The local inhabitants are used to commuting since elementary school.

**A.DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES**

Unemployment in the Olomouc Region as of 31 December 2015

Map source: MLSA, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Share</th>
<th>Gross Wage in CZK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Managers</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professionals</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technicians and associate professionals</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerical support workers</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service and sales workers</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craft and related trades workers</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant and machine operators, and assemblers</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary occupations</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CZSO

Jobs as per CZ-ISCO Typology in 2015

**Development Strategy of District of the Olomouc Region** 7
Alongside education and employment, leisure, cohabitation, tradition and history have their own significance. These aspects increase the attractiveness of the Olomouc region for its inhabitants, entrepreneurs and visitors. The most attractive city in terms of sights and culture is Olomouc, which is the second largest heritage reservation in the Czech Republic. The city also offers a rich cultural programme. The map contains an overview of the important sights and cultural facilities in the Olomouc region.

The facilities in the region are frequently availed by tourists and by the local residents - such as the Zoo or the Aqua Park. The Olomouc region supports both permanent facilities and one-time cultural events. The most significant cultural events comprise the Blues Alive Šumperk festival, Flora Theatre Festival, Jeseník Music Summer, International Folklore Festival C. I. O. V Šumperk, Academia film Olomouc, Šternberk Cultural Summer Under the Stars, the Haná Year in Bystřice, the Golden Days in the Zlaté Hory, and many more.

It is also necessary to pay attention to sporting activities. In the Olomouc region, there are several sports clubs devoted to professional football, hockey, tennis, basketball, handball and other sports. What is more essential is that there are also conditions for the general population to engage in sports (playgrounds, gyms, biking paths, tourist paths, etc.).

Quality cohabitation also includes families. In 2011, 43% of the population in the Olomouc region were married. In 2015, more than 2,800 marriages were entered into in the region. In contrast, there were more than 1,500 divorces. It is interesting that almost a half of the divorced marriages had been cohabitating for 15 or more years.

The unemployment is higher among women. The average wage of women in the Olomouc region is 80% of the average wage of men. Hence, the Olomouc region has the 5th smallest difference between the wages of men and women among the regions in the Czech Republic. The equal position of men and women in the region is good, but could still be better.
The second, long-term priority is aimed at services important for healthy and balanced life; in particular, healthcare.

In 2015, healthcare in the region was provided by more than 3,000 physicians. Hence, in the Olomouc region, there were approximately 210 inhabitants per physician, i.e. the fourth best value among the regions. In the region, there were 9 hospitals with more than 3,000 beds. More than CZK 1.1 billion was paid as sickness benefits. It concerned, in particular, the compensatory wage in the period of sickness and pregnancy. In 2015, more than 74,000 new cases of incapacity to work were reported. The average length of these cases was more than 47 days, i.e. the third longest in the Czech Republic. There were more than 15 days of incapability to work per employee on average in the region per year.

Some people need the help of others without suffering acute illness or injury. It most often concerns the need for long-term care. This is dealt with through social services. The Olomouc region coordinates the provision of social services on its territory. An overview of the facilities providing social services is depicted in the map.

The Development Strategy of District of the Olomouc Region mentions the ‘deinstitutionalization’ of social services. It is a process during which social care is transferred from large social services facilities to as close to normal life as possible.
Social help is associated with financial contributions imparted to citizens by the state (for their accommodation, when they are without means of subsistence, and suchlike). In the Olomouc region in 2015, more than CZK 2 billion was paid for the purposes of social benefits, of which almost 2/3 was reimbursed in the form of parental benefits.

The need for social help often relates to certain people who have problems finding a job, do the shopping, meeting friends, going to the cinema or just engaging in regular life. In these cases, we speak about socially excluded people. The Strategy supports the activities intended for facilitating inclusion of the socially excluded in regular life. If more socially excluded persons are concentrated at a single place, their problems cumulate and affect those around them. In such case, it concerns the so-called socially excluded locality. The map shows the municipalities on the territory of which there are socially excluded localities.

From the long-term perspective, it is important to try to prevent social exclusion. For this reason, precautionary measures aimed at groups of potentially socially excluded persons are implemented. The largest group at risk are the seniors. In the Olomouc region, there are approximately 150 thousand people receiving old-age, widow’s or widower’s benefits. It is assumed that this group of population will continue to grow slightly with regard to the longer life expectancy and taking into account the number of pre-retirement age inhabitants. In December 2015, the average old-age pension benefits were CZK 11,000, which were the lowest average pension benefits among regions in the Czech Republic.

Another group jeopardized by social exclusion are the handicapped. In the Olomouc region in 2015, there were 23 thousand people suffering from various degrees of invalidity.

The social groups at risk are also, for example, those who are long-term unemployed, women on maternity leave, children without parents, indebted persons, etc. A significant group endangered by social exclusion are the minority ethnic groups, in particular, the Roma.
The Olomouc region belongs to the poorer regions in the Czech Republic. In 2015, the gross domestic product (GDP) was CZK 339,556 per region inhabitant, which was the fourth lowest value among the regions. A lower GDP could be found only in the Karlovy Vary, the Ústí nad Labem, and the Liberec regions. The GDP in Prague showed twice or three times higher GDP per inhabitant than the rest of the republic. For this reason, data ‘exclusive of Prague’ is often used. In comparison to other regions (without Prague), the GDP of the Olomouc region was approximately 91% of the GDPs of other regions, which, concurrently, corresponded to approximately 69% of the GDP in the EU.

The CzechInvest agency is a state-controlled organization whose task is to find investors and mediate state subsidies for such investors. The graph depicts the amount of investment mediated by the agency in 2015 and the number of jobs created by means of such investment. The Olomouc region belongs to the below-average category. The most significant investment supported by CzechInvest was for ALW Industry s.r.o. (CZK 679 million). The Czech National Bank separately records direct foreign investments, i.e. how many investments from abroad have been used for establishing, buying or developing companies in the Czech Republic. The CNB keeps region-based statistics. The Capital of Prague deviates again in this respect. In the Olomouc region in 2015, direct investments were almost CZK 44.5 billion, which was the third lowest figure after the Karlovy Vary and the Pardubice regions. However, should direct investments be applied to the number of inhabitants, the Olomouc would end up worst, even from the long-term perspective as can be seen in the graph.

The condition for investments is sufficient room for expanding entrepreneurial activities or establishing new ones. The Olomouc region tries to map significant free premises or establishing new ones. The Olomouc region belongs to the below-average category. The most significant brownfields are summarized in the map.
Alongside the endeavour to find new entrepreneurs, it is necessary to pay attention to the already existing ones. In the Olomouc region, there were 139,097 registered businesses at the end of 2015. The Czech Statistical Office also monitors whether the given businesses have pursued economic activity, for example, whether they have filed tax returns and are not just ‘sleeping’ firms. In 2015, there were 70,182 active businesses, of which ¾ were natural persons-entrepreneurs.

One hundred and forty nine industrial businesses with 100 and more employees had their registered addresses in the Olomouc region. In 2015, businesses devoted to the production of electric equipment earned approximately CZK 25 billion, of which more than a half was achieved by two companies – HELLA AUTOTECHNIK and Miele technika. Other significant segments in the region comprise mechanical engineering, food industry, metal processing industry, and the production of transport means.

According to the data of CZSO, 2/3 of sales are exports. The average gross wage in the industry was CZK 25,798 and it was the third lowest among the regions in the Czech Republic. The highest average wage of CZK 30 thousand a month was achieved in mechanical engineering.

Among entrepreneurial activities include also their further development and introduction of new technologies. In 2015, there were almost 2,000 researchers in the Olomouc region. Investment in research was CZK 3 billion, i.e. more than CZK 4,700 per region inhabitant, which was the 8th highest expense among the regions. The Olomouc region had higher expenses for research in the field of universities compared to expenses in entrepreneurial sector, which evidenced the exceptional position of the Palacký University in the region.
Even the development of tourism is one of the priorities of the Olomouc region. It is one of the few segments for which the best prerequisites are there in the more distant parts of the region. The strengths of Jeseníky are its natural scenery, clean air, geological diversity and history. The highest Moravian mountain range, the nearby Golden Mountains or the massif Kralický Sněžník offer opportunities for tourist trips in the summer and skiing in the winter. The combination of mountains and less indented foothills is suitable for both adrenaline and family biking trips. Tourists interested in technology may visit the Gold Ore Mills, the Handmade Paper Mill, the Pumped-Storage Hydro Power Station or the Museum of Roads. Jeseník and the nearby Lipová-lázně have the status of climatic spas with unique water therapy procedures. In the foothills, there are mineral springs on the use of which the spas in Velké Losiny and Bludov rely. In the southern part of the region, the spa municipalities are also Teplice nad Bečvou and Slatínice.

The southern part of the region is associated with a much more cultivated countryside with long-term agricultural tradition. The less indented landscape is suitable for biking trips. The target may be one of the well-known historical or some smaller castles to which castle parks are usually adjoined. An interesting visit is also to the bottomland forest in Litovelské Pomoraví. All bigger towns have their historical centres, although Olomouc is unique in this respect. In Olomouc, there are many interesting places to visit, including the only regional sight entered in the UNESCO List of Heritage Sites – the Holy Trinity Column. Olomouc offers other interesting points, such as the ZOO or the set of municipal parks where various exhibitions and social events are held. It is also the development of the so-called congress tourism that is supported. In particular, the good traffic availability of Olomouc and Přerov is made use of, while, the beauty of the Jeseník region attracts film makers.

In 2015, approximately 550,000 tourists were accommodated in collective accommodation facilities in the Olomouc region. They were usually Czech visitors who stayed for 3.2 nights on average. There were more than 115 thousand foreign tourists who stayed 2 nights on average.

Longer stays of domestic tourists are associated, for example, with the developed spa industry. Most foreign tourists were from Slovakia, Germany, Poland and Russia.
In 2015, there were 127 kilometres of motorways and speedways and 350 kilometres of 1st class roads maintained directly by the state in the Olomouc region. The completion of the missing sections of the D1 motorway close to Přerov is already at a highly advanced stage. The D1 motorway is supposed to be completed prior to the expiration of the document, i.e. by 2020. The Olomouc region also pushes forward the construction of bypasses, in particular, for the big towns (Olomouc, Prostějov, Šumperk). One of the priorities is also the modernization of the road I/44, which is vital to the Jeseníky district.

The Olomouc region administers more than 3 thousand kilometres of 2nd and 3rd class roads. It gradually tries to maintain these roads in the best condition possible, which is very difficult with regard to their bad technical condition in the long term and the region's limited budget.

At the end of 2015, 267 857 cars and vans were registered in the Olomouc region. It meant 42 cars per 100 inhabitants, which was the second lowest number among the regions after the Moravian Silesian region. However, based on the number of trucks against the number of inhabitants, the region is in third place after Prague and the Central Bohemian region.

The Olomouc region plays a significant role in traffic services. Through its contributory organization, it coordinates commuter connections within the region. In 2015, more than 8 thousand connections, on which buses, trains and trams ran almost 34 million kilometres, were involved in the Integrated Traffic System of the Olomouc region. The Olomouc region contributed to the funding of the traffic system with more than CZK 800 million. The overall network and the number of active lines gradually rise.

Railway transport is not only part of the Integrated Traffic System of the Olomouc Region but also serves, in particular, for long-haul and freight transportations. The important corridor Prague-Ostrava passes through the Olomouc region. The corridor Ostrava-Brno is planned to be constructed in the near future and should also intervene in the region's territory. Regional-level railways are also important.

Among the priorities is the development of non-motor transportation, i.e. support of the establishment of biking paths, pedestrian zones, etc. These should serve as alternative transportation for short distances and during free time.
As already mentioned above, a number of interesting places can be found in the Olomouc region – places that need to be preserved for the next generations. The most valuable localities are included in the national and European systems of protection. In 2015, there were 2 protected landscape areas in the Olomouc region (Jeseníky and Litovelské Pomoraví) and 166 more small protected areas. Hence, the protected area formed approximately 634 km², i.e. 12 % of the region area. Almost CZK 5 billion was spent in the Olomouc region on protection of nature.

Sustainable development is also associated with care for the regular countryside and with economical management. In the southern part of the region, the countryside is highly cultivated, with intense agriculture. The agricultural land in the region takes up almost 53 % of the region’s total area. Practically, except the ECPs Olomouc and Šumperk, most land is used for agriculture. An exception to this is the ECP Olomouc, in particular, due to Libavá military training area.

It can be said that most of the region is cared for by farmers. In the region in 2015, there were 2,324 agricultural holdings with production totalling approximately CZK 9 billion. Approximately 40 % of the vegetable production constituted animal fodder. Even thanks to the ‘fertile Hana’, the Olomouc region achieved one of the highest hectare yields within the Czech Republic. Still, it had the third highest consumption of mineral fertilizers per hectare. The most frequent areas are grain fields, covering nearly 58 % of the sowing area in the region, with production of more than 630 thousand tonnes of grain. The highest yields were achieved by sugar beet for industrial use. More than 670 thousand tonnes of sugar beet was harvested in the Olomouc region, which was the second highest value after the Central Bohemian region. In terms of the size of animal farming, the Olomouc region ranks in the below-average category within the Czech Republic and significantly falls behind, in particular, when it comes to poultry breeding. The region breeds almost 90 thousand pieces of cattle and 90 thousand pigs. In 2015, 35.6 thousand tonnes of meat and 200 million litres of milk were utilized from animals reared in the region.
Air Pollution – exceeding the pollutant limit for dust aerosol PM10 on five year’s average 2011 – 2015

Map source: CHI, 2016

**E. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Similar to the low share of agricultural land, there is the highest share of forests in the ECPs Jeseník and Šumperk. In the Olomouc region, the forest forms more than 35 % of the region’s area, which is an above-average value within the Czech Republic. However, the condition of these forests is not good. In 2015, 2 million m3 of woods was gained in the region, of which approximately 40 % in relation to natural disasters (bark beetle, gales and storms). It was the absolutely highest volume of woods gained in relation to natural disasters among regions in the Czech Republic. The decline in the share of spruces in the newly planted covers (to approximately 43 %) continued, probably in relation to the bark beetle calamity in 2015. The other most commonly planted trees were beech and oak. Forests improve the quality of air, which is dissatisfactory, in particular, in the southern part of the region. The air is polluted, in particular, due to industrial activities and traffic and, in the winter, due to local heating of poor quality. The obsolete heating tradition should be resolved within the ‘boiler subsidies’. Although Jeseník keeps the status of climatic spa with clean air, the Olomouc region has, overall, the third worst air among the regions. In the region, there is a single official meteorological station, which is located in Olomouc. In 2015, the highest temperature of 36.6 °C was measured on 7 August. The lowest temperature of -10.1 °C was measured on 7 January. The average temperature was 10.8 °C. Precipitation was 376.4 mm, which corresponded only to 2/3 of the long-term standard. Almost 1,819 hours of sunshine was measured in 2015. The long sunshine period is good for energy utilization. The region supports the utilization of renewable sources; however, no significant expansion of renewable sources in the region can be expected. The stations for water sources are practically depleted. The wind mills face territorial limitations, inhabitants’ displeasure, and distribution network limitations. Solar stations take up arable land. It is more suitable to situate them on buildings. The combustion of biomass is directly dependent on the regular supply of fuel. The construction of other major energy source is improbable. The Olomouc region will continue to be significantly dependent on imported energy (in particular, electricity). The consumption of fuels is depicted in the map.
The utilization of sources other than natural should also be sustainable. Production of waste and its disposal must be dealt with from the long-term perspective. In 2015, according to the regional database, more than 2 million tonnes of waste was produced in the Olomouc region, of which 80 tonnes was hazardous waste. To have an idea, the waste would fill up the Plumlov Dam in 5 years term.

Most waste is formed by inert material such as soil gained in the construction of motorways, waste from demolitions, etc. This waste forms more than 2/3 of the total waste. Approximately 10% of waste includes ash from heating stations, the cement plant and other large incinerators. Ash and construction waste is re-used in the construction, for example, for ground modifications.

Approximately 11% of all waste is formed by community waste. This category provides the largest room for interventions in the Olomouc region. The thing is that community waste is formed by a mixture of everything thrown away by households and small operators. Unlike industrial waste, it is difficult to determine the method of its handling. Community waste “belongs” to the municipalities where it has been produced. The Olomouc region tries to motivate municipalities and inhabitants to sort waste. The map shows the level of sorting in ECPs’ individual administrative districts. In 2015, approximately 30% of community waste was sorted in total in the Olomouc region. A part of the material is materially utilized (e.g. composting). Less than 1% of community waste is disposed by combustion and for energy purposes. The remaining 60% of community waste is stored.

In total, the Olomouc region produced 414 kg of community waste per inhabitant. Upon sorting, 291 kg per inhabitant remained on average. The most community waste was produced in the ECP Olomouc, being 450 kg per inhabitant. However, thanks to the high level of sorting, Olomouc achieved average values of unsorted waste. Conversely, the ECP Konice had one of the lowest sorting rates in the region and, concurrently, the lowest production of waste. The highest sorting rate was in ECP Jeseník.

A separate chapter is the waste water in sewers. In the Olomouc region, more than 82% of inhabitants are connected to the sewer system. Almost 32 million m³ of waste water, i.e. more than 60 m³ per connected inhabitant, was released to the sewer system. Almost 95% of the waste water was treated.

Looking into the water supplies, more than 91% of region’s inhabitants were connected to the public water pipeline. Supplies of approximately 25.2 million m³ of potable water were billed, of which 69% was supplied directly to households, which corresponded to approximately 30 m³ per connected inhabitant.
Efficient Territorial Administration

Local Action Groups in the Olomouc Region

Territories not falling under any Local Action Group (LAG)

Map source: Olomouc region, 2015

As the last priority, the Development Strategy of District of the Olomouc Region is devoted to administration of the territory and its improvement and to higher transparency. The basic territorial administration is ensured by municipalities. In 2015, there were 399 municipalities in the Olomouc region (3 more municipalities were established on 1 January 2016 by separation from Libava military training area). The municipalities maintain their local roads, public areas, common water pipelines, sewers, municipal schools and kindergartens, registers of inhabitants, etc. For easier implementation of certain activities, the municipalities associate in voluntary associations of municipalities, the so-called micro-regions. Some micro-regions are completely purposeful (e.g. shared water pipeline), others are more generally based and tackle various problems the individual municipalities themselves would only resolve with difficulties. There were 34 micro-regions in the region in 2015.

The new types of cooperation used in the region in the manner of the EU are the local action groups (LAGs). LAGs are associations of not only municipalities but also entrepreneurs and non-profit organizations on the given territory. LAGs should deal with a wider group of issues than the micro-regions handle. Still, they do not amount to purely administrative units pursuant to the Czech laws. LAGs are also intended, in particular, for the rural environment and cannot include municipalities with more than 25,000 inhabitants. The LAG’s activity is subsidized from EU funds.

Another division that wants to deal with the territory’s needs in broader context with the support of EU funds is the Olomouc agglomeration the goal of which is, unlike LAG, to deal with a situation from the perspective of the towns and their backgrounds.

Important articles in the public administration are the so-called extended competency municipalities. They are towns performing extra administrative activities for the municipalities in their territory. These towns’ authorities are visited for identity cards, driving licences, car registrations, busi-
ness registrations, etc.

The last regional administrative level is represented by the Olomouc region and by the Regional Authority where, in particular, matters relating to municipalities and the environment and appeals against municipalities’ decisions are dealt with.

To ensure their activities, municipalities obtain funds, in particular, from taxes, subsidies and, to certain extent, from their own activities (e.g. rentals). They use the money to administer their territories and develop their municipalities – the so-called capital expenses. The municipalities’ capital expenses are spent, in particular, on community services, water management, roads, sports and interest activities, education, and housing.

Most municipalities succeeded in achieving a surplus in their management in 2015.

An important part of the public administration is its openness towards the public expressed through informing the public about public administrations’ decisions (e.g. public sessions of the Councils, making of important documents public on official boards, etc.).

Another option is to reflect inhabitants’ proposals in the municipalities’ decision-making. In small municipalities, it is sufficient if active inhabitants meet the mayor, but, in bigger municipalities and micro-regions, this is more difficult. Strategic documents are processed, in which the self-administration shows what it wants to place emphasis on in the future. The citizens are given the opportunity to react to the given priorities or, possibly, come up with their own stimuli. One such document is the Development Strategy of District of the Olomouc Region. Of the bigger towns in the region, it is only Litovel that does not have any such strategy, while that of Šternberk is outdated. No similar strategies are necessary in small municipalities or they are highly simplified. In many cases, the existence of such strategy is the condition for obtaining subsidies.