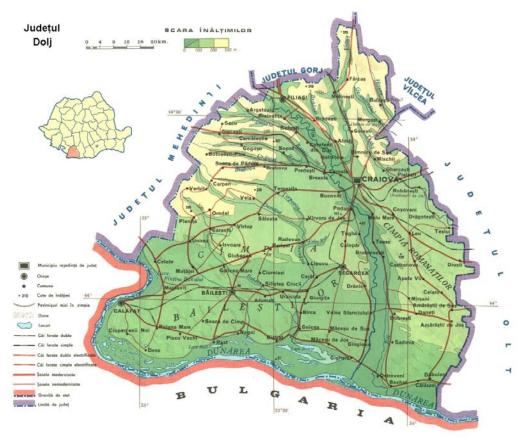
# DOLJ COUNTY, SOUTH WEST OLTENIA REGION, ECONOMY

Oltenia Region, with an area of 29,212 km², is situated in the South West part of Romania, comprises five counties: Dolj, Gorj, Mehedinti, Olt, Valcea and coincides largely with the old historical region of Oltenia. The Carpathian Mountains and the Danube form the north, respectively south natural boundaries of region Oltenia. The Danube is an important regional resource and follows the border with Bulgaria and Serbia over a distance of 417 km.

The landscape has a relatively balanced distribution, including mountains, plains, hills and plateaus. In northern Oltenia the relief is mountainous and hilly (The Carpathians and the Sub Carpathian area), predominantly forests and grasslands. The plains are one of the most fertile in Central Europe. Hydrological network, composed mainly of the Danube, Olt and Jiu rivers, gives Oltenia region, the main energetic role in Romania (71.57% of total hydropower production).

The soil of the region is rich in coal, construction materials (marble, granite and other ornamental rocks), ferrous and non-ferrous minerals. The localities network comprises 40 cities, of which 11 municipalities, 408 communes and 2066 villages. The most important cities are Craiova, Ramnicu-Valcea, Turnu Severin, Targu-Jiu and Slatina.

On 1 January 2012, the total population of South - West Oltenia was 1,446,319 inhabitants, the weight of urban population being 53.16% and 46.84% rural.



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#### 1. AGRICULTURE

In the region's economy, the agriculture plays an important role, given that the natural potential is varied. South West Oltenia fully enjoys a favorable climate performing the activity in agriculture, in the south - for field crops in Mehedinti, Dolj and Olt (wheat, corn, sunflower, soybean, canola, etc.) but also in other counties - viticulture in Valcea county, and animal husbandry in Gorj county..

Agriculture represents one of the main occupations of the inhabitants, followed by industry, construction, trade and social services.

#### 2. INDUSTRY

Industry has a significant share in the region's economy, providing about 30% of regional GDP. The main existing industries in the region are: ferrous metallurgy (production of aluminum), electrical industry, automotive industry and agricultural tractors, chemical industry, light industry (textiles and footwear), building materials (precast, tiles, cement) industry food.

Due to the highly diversified in natural wealth landscape and to the legacies generated by forced industrialization in the decades 5 and 6 of the last century, prevailing industrial subsectors in the region are: mining and quarrying, manufacturing and electricity industry, gas and water.

Thermal power resources concentrated in the Motru - Rovinari, Turceniin the Gorjcounty and in the Isalnitaarea (locality belonging to the Metropolitan Area Craiova), have made more than half of total national thermal power production to be achieved in the region.

Manufacturing industry in terms of employment, provided, in 2010, 72.79% of the total employed in industry region. On an upward trend since 2000, manufacturing continues, with slight annual declines, to be one of the most competitive industries in the Region.

South West region is also well represented in the industry of food (Dolj), textile (Dolj and Olt), metallurgy (Olt), pulp, paper and paperboard (Mehedinti), manufacture of chemicals and chemical products (Mehedinti and Valcea), automotive industry (Dolj), shipbuilding (Mehedinti).

# 2.1. Enterprise and Business Infrastructure

In the South - West Oltenia there are over 100 large companies, of which 47 are in Dolj county; major industrial products come from companies that are ranked first by turnover and number of employees: distribution and marketing electricity (CEZ Distribution SA), car manufacturing (Ford Romania SA - which acquired the majority of shares of SC Automobile Craiova fee of 57 million euros and went to extensive refurbishment), electricity production (Energetic ComplexCraiovaSA), the production of electric motors, generators and transformers (Electroputere SA and AVK NewAgeSA), production of steam generators (Termoserv Craiova SA).

Other major companies belonging to the industry that covers a wide range of machinery and equipment (for metallurgy, food processing, beverages and tobacco products, agriculture and forestry, lifting and handling equipment):PopeciUtilajGreuSA, HELCO Ltd, MAT SA.

#### 2.2. Electronics and Electrics

Electrical equipment sector has a large share in the turnover of the county through active units in areas that concern the manufacture of electric motors, generators and transformers, manufacture distribution and power-control of electricity and electric equipment. These are: Cummins Generator Technologies SA, Linex Wolf Ltd, Celule Electrice SA, INDA SA, MotoareElectrice Ltd, Technoind Electric Ltd, INDAELTRAC Ltd.

We have a ITC Cluster and a Urban Mobility Cluster.

## 2.3. Chemicals

It is a developed industry, mainly activating the county economic units producing chemicals and chemical products, rubber and plastic products. Approximately 7% of economic units from chemical industry are producing: industrial gases, glues, paints, varnishes, inks, soaps, detergents.

Representative companies in this category, in the county Dolj are: QFort Ltd, Moviplast Ltd, Win Impex Ltd, Dolplast Ltd.

## 3. CONSTRUCTION

The construction sector has an important role in sustaining economic growth with a weight above the national average, hovering around 6.5% of regional GDP. At this growth, contribute through their work in civil and industrial production and prefabricated construction materials, building integrated works, such as electrical systems, heating and air conditioning, plumbing and security systems, companies like: Elpreco SA, Mitlliv Exim Ltd, Polystart Ltd, Recon SA.

We have a Cluster in this field.

## 4. ENERGY

Natural economic potential andhydropower resources wealth givesthe region energetic specialization. In Romania, in 2011, 80% of the national hydropower and over 50% of the national thermoelectric production was produced here.

Energy sector in South West region is a strategic infrastructure of the national economy, fundamental to its development. Given the capital role owned by South West Oltenia in this sector, increasing competitiveness of the energy sector is a key objective of the regional economy.

# 4.1. Potential energy production from renewable sources

Harnessing Renewable Energy Sources (RES) has become an important component of national energy policy. The general objectives of the Strategy for renewable energy sources are:

- integration of renewable energy in the structure of national energy system;
- promoting private investment and creating conditions to facilitate access to foreign capital renewable energy market;
- creation of conditions for participation of Romania in the European market of "green certificates" for renewable energy

## 5. RESEARCH - DEVELOPMENT - INNOVATION

Regionally, Dolj is ranked first, and the representative units performing research - development - innovation in the county are:

- ICMET Craiova;
- IPA-CIFAT Craiova;
- National Institute for Systems Analysis INAS SA;
- University of Craiova Research in Higher Education.
- 4 Institutes involved in Agriculture, Horticulture field.
- More innovatives companies is research and development departments

The research activity conducted at the University of Craiova is developed in eight research centers accredited by the National Council of Scientific Research in Higher Education and in many other centers recognized at University level. Also, the University of Craiova has two platforms and two interdisciplinary research centers of excellence.

IPA CIFATT is the first private innovatives Centres in Romania that developed a Business and Technology Transfer Incubator.

Besides the activities undertaken in the research - development, there are situations in which some companies hire their own research activities, especially in new product development and innovation (eg. Popeci Utilaj Greu Craiova, Softronic Craiova, and so on).

# 6. TOURISM

The landscape of the region is one of the most valuable in the country due to alternating mountain areas with hilly and plain, allowing the development of different forms of tourism.

As a result of accessing numerous grant programs of the European Union, have paved the way for the development of rural tourism, even starting to develop new resorts but also to develop SPA resorts.

An important structure in the region supporting the development of tourism is "Oltenia Tourism Association" - ATO.

Starting from the analysis of the county tourism potential and current situation of the tourism sector for targeted border region is expected the focus on the following types of tourism: cruises on the Danube, rural tourism - development of thematic routes (eg. Wine Journey / Oltenia's Monasteries) and promoting festivals, hydrophatictourism, business tourism and events.

We have two Clusters in this field.

# 6.1. Business Tourism and Events

For business tourism, a crucial investment objective is the platform Craiova Industrial Park developed on the platform of Airplane factory in Craiova on a total of 10.4 Ha. Also to be mentioned, the economic exhibitions organized annually who enjoy national and international participation (fairs: DOLJCONSTRUCT, ELECTROUTIL, AGRALIMENT, AGROTEX).

## 7. IT&C SECTOR

Current policy for the development of IT&C sector and Information Society: creating the institutional framework, the regulatory framework of IT&C active presence of international cooperation development, creating incentives for IT&C development.

Moreover resources and highly qualified human potential are recognized internationally (general and specific knowledge, creativity, knowledge of foreign languages). Investors in this sector enjoy support from the authorities.

The word wide investors have developeded companies in Craiova: USA, Netherlands, Germany,

We have a Cluster in the ITC field.

We have too a Cluster in the field of mobility, urban logistics base on ITC support.

## 8. International support

The word wide investors have developeded companies in Craiova: USA, Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Turkey, and some internationales companies lyke Ford, Hella, Eti, etc

# 8.1 Craiova Airport

Located at a 7 km distance from the center of Craiova, along the Craiova – Bucuresti route, the airport serves the whole region of Oltenia, being the closest highway for the 5 districts: Dolj, Gorj, Mehedinti, Olt and Valcea, and in same time, more and more clients from Bulgaria and Serbia.

The main goal of Craiova Airport is the constant increase in the quality of the services that are carried out at the airport, the conditions provided at departures, arrivals, and during the ground operation or the parking of the aircrafts that have domestic and international flights. At the same



time, it offers airport services for the transit of persons, goods, postal services and those that target the public national interest, also aiming at the natural resources of the environment.

# Regular Flight

• England: London

Italy: Bologna, Milan, RomeSpain: Barcelona, Valencia

Charter Flight - Antalya

























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