

Abstract

This diploma thesis deals with analysis of indicators of the social environment in small municipalities with up to 2 000 inhabitants based on various criteria for local use. The aim of the thesis is to propose an indicator set, which will best meet the requirements of such set in terms of applied criteria.

The research question is: *What indicators should be included in an indicator set for assessing the social environment of municipalities with up to 2 000 inhabitants to suit the differences and needs of these communities?* The research problem addressed in the thesis concerns the possibility of measuring social sustainability at the local level, focusing on small municipalities with up to 2 000 inhabitants in the Czech Republic. The thesis also focuses on the possibility of projecting SDGs into this set. It is a qualitative research that involves the use of methods of document analysis, comparison, description, non-participant observation and semi-structured interviews. Based on the first four methods and theoretical knowledge, a preliminary design of the indicator set was created. Within the framework of semi-structured interviews, this design was discussed with representatives of selected small municipalities and other stakeholders. The edited set represents the final indicator set of the social environment for small municipalities with up to 2 000 inhabitants.

The proposed indicator set could be the basis for evaluating the social pillar of sustainability in small municipalities. In the case of further research to make this design generally acceptable, it needs to be subject to feedback from its users.

Key words: indicators, social environment, sustainable development, small municipalities, social sustainability