

Master's Thesis Supervisor's Expert Opinion

Student: Frank Osei Kuffour
 Student Number: E16743
 Title of Bachelor's Thesis: Application of Sustainability Concept in Selected Countries
 Aim of the Thesis: to examine sustainability measures and development strategies being applied in Latvia, Hungary and Finland in the context of spatial development concepts
 Thesis Supervisor: prof. ing. Jaroslav Macháček, CSc.
 Study Programme: RDG
 Academic Year: 2018/2019

Difficulty of the Topic

	Excellent	Very good	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Cannot be evaluated
Theoretical knowledge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Input data and their processing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Methods used	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Thesis Evaluation Criteria

	Excellent	Very good	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Cannot be evaluated
Degree of achievement of the aim of the thesis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Original attitude to the topic processing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adequacy of the methods used	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Depth of analysis (relative to topic)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Logical structure of the thesis and scope	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Working with Czech and foreign literature including citations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Formal arrangement of the thesis (text, charts, tables)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Language level (style, grammar, terminology)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Applicability of the Results of the Thesis

	High	Medium	Low	Cannot be evaluated
For theory	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
For practice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other Comments on the Thesis

Assessment and comparisons of steps to support sustainable development taken in different countries brings valuable findings which means that the theme selected for thesis is very update.

The author had set up as the main, comprehensive aim “.....to examine sustainability measures and development strategies being applied in Latvia, Hungary and Finland in the context of spatial development concepts.....”. He has adapted the structure as well as the methodology to this orientation. Regarding the assignment of thesis, the above mentioned goal has been accomplished.

The focal section and also principal asset of the work consists in comparison and evaluation of measures implemented in observed countries - presented mainly in chapter 4, rather unusually titled “Tabular Discussion...”.

Considering the purpose of the study, theoretical line of reasoning, making up first chapter and based on “three pillars of sustainability”, is rather confined and sometimes inadequate. Also the selection of methods and procedures should have been supported by comparison and appraisal of more various approaches to the issues in question. Author does not explain, either, the selection of the observed countries. Assuming he has close study relations to Latvia, he intended to make use of acquired knowledge on this country. But how he arrived at two remaining countries in his selection is not clear.

Chapter 3 promises the analysis of strategies, but in fact brings mainly information on the countries and on some measures in the examined area instead of explicit assessment of strategies embodied by appropriate documents referred to. Summary of this chapter has been conceived, however, as the accenting of major provisions which is useful, even though the characterization is mostly general and sometimes simplifying.

It is meritorious, anyhow, that author tries to formulate number of recommendations in Conclusion. Some of them, however, have “matter of course” nature (e.g. when “.....Latvia has one of the lowest recycling rates.....the study recommends to pay more attention to increase its recycling rate”, p.64). Nonetheless, in Conclusion, author provides – on the level of appraisal that he applies – view and sorting of the measures in terms of their importance.

Comments on the Outputs from the Theses System

There is no similarity in terms of the outputs from the Theses system in IS Stag, resulting degree of similarity being 0%. The thesis has been classified as “...of no plagiarism.”

Questions and Suggestions for Defence

Discuss major aspects of the relation between economic growth and sustainable development with focus on the structure of economic growth and its resources.

Do you consider “Global citizenship education” to be well-founded part of social criteria of sustainability? If so, what is your reasoning?

Finland is missing in sub-chapter 4.1 Economic sustainability. Why is it so and how this kind of sustainability should be assessed in case of Finland?

Final Evaluation

I **recommend** the thesis for the defence.

I propose to grade this Master’s thesis as follows: **D**

In Pardubice 29.4.2019

Signature