

ISBN 978-88-7654-112-7

Proceedings
International Conference
On
Sustainable Development
ICSD 2013, Tirana, Albania
Book of Abstracts


European Center of
Sustainable Development
Rome 2013

Book of Abstracts

Proceedings International Conference On Sustainable Development

ICSD 2013, Tirana, Albania

Book of Abstracts

Editing: Pierangelo Magnini
Scientific Coordinator: Gihan Diab
Editorial Assistant: Diamantina Allushaj
Editorial Managing: Matteo Boiardo

ISBN 978-88-7654-112-7 (print)

Publisher: European Center of Sustainable Development

© 2013 by ECSDEV All rights reserved. This work may not be translated or copied in whole or in part without the written permission of the publisher (ECSDEV, Via dei Fiori, 34, 00172 Rome, Italy), except for brief excerpts in connection with reviews or scholarly analysis. Use in connection with any form of information storage and retrieval, electronic adaptation, computer software, or by similar or dissimilar methodology now known or hereafter developed is forbidden.

The use in this publication of trade names, trademarks, service marks and similar terms, even if they are not identified as such, is not to be taken as an expression of opinion as to whether or not they are subject to proprietary rights.

This issue is printed by Gruppo Atena.net Srl Via del Lavoro, 22, 36040, Grisignano VI, Italy
Tel: 0039/0444613696 Web: <http://www.atenanet>

Contents

Contents	3
Introduction	7
Conference Program	9
Model Driven development: A sustainable approach for developing complex environmental information systems <i>Prof. Dr. Petraq Papajorgji</i>	11
Seven Pillars of Survivability: Appropriate Technology with a Human Face <i>Corinthias Pamatang Morgana Sianipar, Kiyoshi Dowaki, Gatot Yudoko, Akbar Adhiutama</i>	12
Sustainability Comparison Between Organic and Conventional Systems at Farm and Field Scale: A Case Study in Olive Production Systems in Apulia Region <i>Xhevaire Dulja, Jenny Calabrese, Cesare Pacini, Concetta Vazzana, Mariana Nikolla</i>	13
Enhancing the Transition Capability of Danish Biomass Technology By Applying a Futures Study Backcasting Methodology on the Biogas Sector. <i>Rikke Lybæk, Thomas Budde Christensen, Tyge Kjær</i>	14
On Determination of Pollution in Urban Junction, Caused by Vehicles <i>Asllan Hajderi, Shkelqim Gjevori</i>	15
Energy Efficiency in Industrial Areas: Application of Best Practices for Energy Efficiency In Mediterranean Industrial Areas <i>Maria-Anna Segreto, Marcello Artioli, Rovena Preka, Mario Tarantini</i>	16
Mirroring Tirana Reflections on Tirana's Urban Context and Perspectives <i>Dorina Pllumbi</i>	17
Exploring the Applications of Bio-Eco Architecture for Sustainable Design and Construction process <i>M. M. Naguib, M. A. M. Hanafi</i>	18
Building Sustainable Industrial Areas: Experience and Perspectives from the Mediterranean and Western Balkan Countries <i>R. Preka, M. Tarantini, A. Dominici Loprieno, M. Litido, M. Segreto</i>	19

Evaluating the Performance of Albanian Savings and Credit (ASC) Union <i>Jonida Bou Dib (Lekocaj), Eralda Shore, Mariana Nikolla</i>	20
How Albanian Private Universities can use Game Theory for Optimization of Scholarship Offers. <i>Llambirini Sota, Fejzi Kolaneci</i>	21
Impact Of Firm Specific Factors On Capital Structure Decision: An Empirical Study Of Albanian Firms. <i>Anila Çekrezi</i>	22
Analysis of Causes and Effects of Applying IAS And IFRS in Case of Mergers and Acquisitions of Banks in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina <i>Meliha Bašić, Haris Jahić, Lejla Jahić</i>	23
Promotion Influence in Sales Advance and in Increasing the Image to the SMEs in Kosova <i>Rajan Arapi</i>	24
Relationship Between the Police Educational Formation System and Public Security <i>Artur Beu, Ariana Nepravishita</i>	25
Planning and Restoration of Environmental Values in Nigeria Dysfunctional Societies <i>Basorun, J. O. Ayeni, D.A</i>	26
Extractive industry a burden or an opportunity for sustainable development? <i>Aurela SHTIZA</i>	27
Analyzing Primary Social Studies Curriculum of Turkey in Terms of UNESCO Educational for Sustainable Development Theme <i>Elvan YALÇINKAYA</i>	28
Education For Sustainable Development <i>Engjellushe Zenelaj</i>	29
The Role of Faculties of Education in Increasing Sustainable Environmental Awareness of Society <i>Abdullah KARATAŞ</i>	30
Real Estate Taxes in Albania <i>Luciana Koprencka, Edmira Cakrani, Migena Petani</i>	31
Regional Sustainable Development – Czech Region Ranking Using Multi-criteria Decision Analysis <i>Lenka Hudrlíkova, Ludmila Petkovova</i>	32
Effects of Remittances on Poverty among Rural Households in Nigeria <i>O. W. Olowa, T. T Awoyemi, M. A. Shittu, O.A.Olowa</i>	33

Challenges Towards Sustainable Tourism for Regional Development of Vlore Region <i>Aleks Prifti, Engjellushe Zenelaj</i>	34
The Effects of the Price Change, on the Demand of Agricultural Products During Summer Time. <i>Assoc. Prof. Dudi SULL, Gjergji Xhabija</i>	35
Government Spending and Real Exchange Rate Case of Albania <i>Edmira Cakrani, Pranvera Resulaj, Luciana Koprencka(Kabello)</i>	36
Testing the Fair Game Hypothesis for US Dollar/Albanian Lekë Exchange Rate Over the Period January 1994- December 2012 <i>Llambriini Sota, Fejzi Kolaneci</i>	37
What can be the Role of Public-Private Partnerships and the role of the Collective Action in Ensuring Sustainable Smallholder Participation in High Value Fruit and Vegetable Supply Chains in Albania? <i>Dudi SULL, Florjan BOMBAJ, Hergys SULL, Gjergji XHABIJA</i>	38
Neuro-psycho-education-existential group program: Evidence based Professional Practice at persons with psychiatric and intellectual disabilities. <i>Suela Ndoja</i>	39
Communication of Tourism Product; The case of Himara. <i>Dudi SULL, Ina ÇANI, Hergys SULL</i>	40
Economic Efficiency in Edgeworth Box Market the Case of Two Goods <i>Dudi SULL, Eriona DEDA, Hergys SULL</i>	41
Local Governments as Nodes for Greenhouse Gas Abatement: Climate Change Governance in Multi-Level Frameworks <i>Magnus Franzén</i>	42
Tourism Demand in Albania <i>Irisi Kasapi, Macit Koc</i>	43
Demographic Dynamics and Higher Education in Albania <i>Aranit Shkurti, Gihan Diab</i>	44
The Impact of Foreign Direct Investment and the influence of European Integration on Economic Growth: the case of Albania <i>Evisi Kopliku</i>	45
Albania form Illiteracy to the (un)Sustainable Development of Higher Education. <i>Sokol PACUKAJ</i>	46

Book of Abstracts

Loan lending process on the Albania banking System during 2007-2012 <i>Anilda Bozdo, Mimoza Koka</i>	47
Should Albania allow the construction of nuclear power plants for electricity production? <i>Aleks Palnikaj</i>	48
Financial Crises Or Natural Resource Crises How do they Relate to Each Other? What are the Solutions? <i>Prof. Sazan Guri</i>	49
Financial Statements and The Identification of Financial Risk . <i>M.Sc. Lorenc KOÇIU, Asocc.Prof. Dudi SULLI</i>	50

Introduction

The *ICSD 2013* is held at the Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana Campus in collaboration with the European Center of Sustainable Development, at the Zayed Center, Tirana, Albania from:

Friday 19 April to Saturday 20 April, 2013.

ICSD2013 will be an excellent opportunity to present your projects and discuss the latest results in the field of Sustainability Science. The general aim of the conference is to promote international collaboration in Sustainability Science and related disciplines.

The Conference theme is *Creating a unified foundation for the Sustainable Development: research, practice and education*. This theme emphasizes the strong foundation that is provided by using research to inform our everyday practices, policies, and research approaches. The 2013 Conference will once again provide a forum for the sharing of ideas, presentation of research findings, and discussion of professional issues relevant to Sustainability Science.

On behalf of the Scientific Program Committee, I have great pleasure in inviting you to this important event of the Scientific Community.

The Conference topics are distributed in the range of the following streams within the ICSD2013 program:

1. Economic Sustainability:

Financial Sustainability, SME, MicroFinance, Emerging Countries, International Trade,

2. Environmental Sustainability:

Water and Soil conservation, Healthcare, Renewable Energies,

3. Socio-Cultural Sustainability:

Sustainable Urbanism, Education, Human Development, Psychology, Sociology

All abstracts are reviewed by members of the ICSD2013 Steering Committee for rating of abstract quality and presentation content.

Selected papers are also published at the European Journal of Sustainable Development.

Further details in accordance with the instructions of the ICSD2013 are provided on the Call for Papers page at: www.ecsdev.org

I would like to thank you in advance for your scientific contribution to the International Conference on Sustainable Development and look forward to having the opportunity to showcase and disseminate your research.

Yours sincerely

Professor Gian Paolo Caselli Chair, ICSD2013 Steering Committee

International Steering Committee:

Gian Paolo Caselli, Chair
University of Modena and Reggio Emilia
Aranit Shkurti
CIT, Tirana, Albania.
Roberto Bianchini,
CIRPS, Sapienza University of Rome.
Habib Hamam,
Munckton University, Canada.
Petraq Papajorgji,
CIT, Tirana, Albania.
Vladimiro Pellicciardi
Econdynamics, University of Siena.
Filippo Pericoli
Sapienza, University of Rome.
Rohit Goyal
MNIT, Jaipur, India.
Gihan Diab
Sapienza University of Rome.
Andrea Olson
Globe University, Minneapolis, USA

Conference Program

Book of Abstracts

Model Driven development: a sustainable approach for developing complex environmental information systems

Prof. Dr. Petraq Papajorgji, Dr. Visho Ajazi

ABSTRACT

The software industry is going through a constant change of technology: every 5-7 years there is a new technology that makes obsolete the existing ones. Thus corporations are facing the daunting challenge to adjust their information systems constantly. This is a very expensive problem to solve and software engineers are looking for other ways to address this problem of constant change.

One way of addressing this problem is the model driven development that uses as first hand artefacts the models and generates most of the needed code from compiling the models. The code is a product and not the starting point in this new approach. As agriculture and environment occur in time and space modeling agricultural and environmental systems have some characteristics that are not seen in the industry sector. Modeling tools have to be conceptually and technically adjusted to the needs of information systems in agriculture and environment. This paper presents the state of the art of the modelling techniques used in agriculture and environment with the goal of developing sustainable information systems.

Key Words: Model-driven development, environmental, modeling, information systems

Prof. Dr. Petraq Papajorgji is the Dean of Engineering, Canadian Institute of Technology, Tirana, Albania.

Editor in Chief: International Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Information Systems (IJAEIS)

Associate Editor of Journal of Biomedical Data Mining

Associate Editor of Iberoamerican Journal of Applied Computing

Advisory Board Member of Caspian Journal of Mathematics

Visho Ajazi has a long career as public administrator, academic, software engineer and recently IT manager, in the field of diplomacy and intelligence combined with an enthusiastic, highly motivated, ambitious and dynamic temperament, with an excellent mathematical background and extensive experience in IT programming is an added value created from long intensive working years.

Seven Pillars of Survivability: Appropriate Technology with a Human Face

Corinthias Pamatang Morgana Sianipar, Kiyoshi Dowaki,
Gatot Yudoko, Akbar Adhiutama

ABSTRACT:

Some evidences have provided inappropriateness of three pillars of sustainability when engineers attempted to construct appropriate technology for underdeveloped communities. Engineers from developed countries tended to do technological adaptation by treating communities as objects than engage them as subjects of development. As objects, communities could not decide what they want to be, and even forced down to be entangled into systematic development which more likely to give benefits for developed countries. However, as subjects, communities will determine their own sustainability and reaching survivability. Here, seven pillars of survivability are revealed: technical, economical, environmental, social, cultural, justicial, and political. The first three are tangible aspects, and the last three are intangible ones. Social becomes the intermediate aspect as a bridge to emerge technological appropriateness. Tangible aspects can be measured in numerical way while intangible not. Tangible and intermediate aspects are what engineers must reach, and intermediate as well as intangible ones are what they must do to diffuse appropriate technology into local daily routines. Tiers of technological appropriateness are also provided to understand where the position of a designed appropriate technology in survivability levels. Holistic approach by including those pillars into account will empower communities to reach self-survivability beyond sustainability.

Keywords: Survivability, seven pillars, appropriate technology, underdeveloped communities, tangible aspects, intangible aspects, intermediate aspect

Dr. Corinthias Pamatang Morgana First Sianipar is a research fellow at the

Department of Industrial Administration, Tokyo University of Science, Japan

Professor Kiyoshi Dowaki is senior research at the Dowaki Laboratory, Department of Industrial Administration, Tokyo University of Science, Japan

Associate Professor Gatot Yudoko is a Senior Lecturer at the School of Business and Management, Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia

Assistant Professor Akbar Adhiutama is Head of OPM Interest Group

School of Business and Management, Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia

Sustainability Comparison Between Organic and Conventional Systems at Farm and Field Scale: A Case Study in Olive Production Systems in Apulia Region

Xhevaire Dulja, Jenny Calabrese, Cesare Pacini,
Concetta Vazzana and Mariana Nikolla

ABSTRACT:

Dependence of conventional agricultural systems on chemical fertilizers and pesticides makes agricultural systems less stable and important drift pollutants influencing to the regional and global sustainability. This problem made human being think about the alternative systems: agricultural systems that mimic natural systems and are friendly to the environment; those have higher economical efficiency concerning production level and costs. The objective of the present study was sustainability assessment and comparison of organic and conventional system with special focus environmental and economical performance. The case study consisted of two organic and conventional olive producing farms in the South of Italy. The method used for sustainability assessment was Environmental Accounting Information System (EAIS) that integrates together environmental (soil organic matter, soil erosion, genetic and landscape biodiversity, EPRIP, etc) and economical indicators (gross margin). Data used for assessment of EAIS indicators values were mainly collected from: farm economic-accounting systems, interviews, farm maps, area public organizations, bibliographical sources, farm nutrient accounting systems, observations and field assessments and chemical soil analyses. The indicator values measured into two farms were compared to theoretical or reference indicator values. Based on indicator assessment it was concluded that organic olive growing farm had better performance than conventional farm.

Key words: Environmental accounting information system, sustainability, organic, agriculture, conventional.

Dr. Xhevahire Dulja is a Lecturer at the Agricultural University of Tirana , Economy and Agribusiness Faculty, Rural Tourism Management Department, Tirana- ALBANIA;

Dr. Jenny Calabrese is a Lecturer at the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari, Bari-ITALY;

Dr. Cesare Pacini and Dr. Concetta Vazzana are Lecturers at the University of Florence, Department of Plant Production, Soil and Agroforestral Environment Sciences, Florence-ITALY.

Dr. Mariana Nikolla is a Lecturer at the Agricultural University of Tirana , Economy and Agribusiness Faculty, Rural Tourism Management Department, Tirana- ALBANIA;

Enhancing the Transition Capability of Danish Biomass Technology By Applying a Futures Study Backcasting Methodology on the Biogas Sector.

Rikke Lybæk, Thomas Budde Christensen and Tyge Kjær

ABSTRACT

This paper discusses how the Danish biogas sector can achieve the political goals set out by the Danish government, in order to turn around the currently weak implementation of the technology. Biogas technology provides many environmental and energy related benefits, but the transition capability of the technology has so far not been supported by a stable policy pushing the sector in the right direction. The paper argues that a more holistic and consistent support for the biogas sector must be developed, enhancing its independence from shifting Danish policy regimes. This could be achieved by applying a backcasting methodology in combination with future research activities which are identified by means of energy chain analysis. The paper stresses that future Danish biogas research should be applied all along the sector's energy chain, and not just in parts of it, looking at enhancement of the transition capability within 'Resources', 'Technology/Conversion' and 'Distribution/End-use'. The future research activities, proposed in this paper are interconnected and thought backwards with the goal of creating reachable aims for achieving the political targets set forth before the year 2020 and 2050.

Keywords : Renewable energy, transition technology, biogas, manure, backcasting, energy chain.

Associate Prof Rikke Lybæk is a Lecturer at the Department of Environmental, Social and Spatial Change (ENSPAC) University of Roskilde, Denmark.

His primary research work (PhD & Post Doc) was done in Thailand. The main focus of his work is on technical, political and participatory related research, addressing a transition to renewable energy away from fossil fuel utilization.

Associate Prof. PhD Thomas Budde Christensen is a Lecturer at the Department of Environmental, Social and Spatial Change (ENSPAC) University of Roskilde, Denmark.

Associate Prof. Tyge Kjær is a Lecturer at the Department of Environmental, Social and Spatial Change (ENSPAC) University of Roskilde, Denmark.

On Determination of Pollution in Urban Junction, Caused by Vehicles

Prof. As. Dr. Asllan Hajderi , Dr. Ing. Shkelqim Gjevori

ABSTRACT

In this study, given the determination of the pollution quantity from vehicles in an urban junction in order to reduce the pollution level and fuel. The pollution caused by vehicles, it is taken based on production years within the EC directives. Types of vehicles circulating are determined based on vehicles state, divided by production years and the type of engine.

For urban junction with roundabout "Zogu Zi", they are performed measurements of vehicles number, that move in an hour, describing way with slowly and relevant time. For this junction it is calculated vehicle speed at the junction and pollution quantity is converted to g/min and then it is determined the pollution quantity per hour for existing state of vehicles divided into 5 groups, according to pollution level. For practical application, only vehicles manufactured after 2000 in circulation, it results that can be achieved a pollution reduction at the junction up to 3 times. To realize this, it is proposed the removal of customs duty for vehicles manufactured after 2001 and establishment of additional environmental tax, proportional to the pollution degree for vehicles in circulation.

Keywords: vehicle, urban junction, pollution reduction

Prof. As. Dr. Asllan Hajderi is a Lecturer is a Lecturer at the Department of Transports and Mechanics "Aleksandër Moisiu" University, Durres, Albania. He graduated in Mechanical Engineering from the Politechnical University of Tirana, where he had also his PhD and served as a Lecturer.

Dr. Ing. Shkelqim Gjevori is a deputy-director at the Transport Department, The Transport Institute of Albania. He graduated in Mechanical Engineering from the Politechnical University of Tirana.

Energy Efficiency in Industrial Areas: Application of Best Practices for Energy Efficiency In Mediterranean Industrial Areas

Maria-Anna Segreto, Marcello Artioli,
Rovena Preka Mario Tarantini

ABSTRACT:

The results presented in this paper originate from an EU research project that is near to its completion. The goal was to build a model that can be applied to all industrial sites in the Mediterranean area. The approach followed to achieve the objectives was to study all the new technologies and systems that, if applied globally, can make the whole area sustainable both energetically and environmentally. The application of the model allows the design and implementation of self-sufficient green areas in terms of energy which also brings to the reduction of the emissions into the atmosphere. An aim of the project was also to identify possible sources of funding or incentives. The main beneficiaries of the results are SMEs that through a more responsible approach to the environment could get greater market competitiveness and reduce energy costs of their enterprises. Other beneficiaries are the people who obtain advantages from a clearer and less polluted surrounding environment. The paper presents the results obtained from the application of the model in some pilot cases.

Key words: industrial areas, industrial Buildings, energy efficiency, energy audit, Mediterranean areas.

Eng Maria-Anna Segreto is a researcher at ENEA and Head of LAERTE Laboratory, UTEE-GED, Bologna, Italy.

Dr. Mario Tarantini is Senior Research Director at the Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA)

Dr. Rovena Preka is a researcher at the Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA).

Eng. Marcello Artioli is a researcher at ENEA, the Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development, recently in force at the LAERTE laboratory (<http://www.laerte.enea.it/>) that supports and promotes energy efficiency, renewable energy, safety and sustainability of buildings and plants. His research interests are in the areas of the Diagnosis of Electrical System, Symbolic Analysis and Signal Processing.

Mirroring Tirana Reflections on Tirana's Urban Context and Perspectives

Dorina Pllumbi, *PhD candidate*

ABSTRACT:

The crisis of the city is long been recognized worldwide, and the discussion about finding a form of sustainable urban development continues among professionals. Despite efforts to make simplistic classifications the difficulty to provide prescriptions is directly related to the complexity of each different reality, where the creation and development history, the climate and terrain characteristics, the economic situation, and in particular the culture and the way of living makes it impossible to create prototypes.

The paper reviews current debates on principles of the theoretical urban forms proposed to achieve sustainability of a city. Related to the Albanian context in general and the metropolitan area of Tirana in particular, it analyses the problems and trends of the recent territorial development of this city and the potentialities to apply certain forms of sustainable urban development that may be acceptable and feasible in the local context. Concluding, it's given a new approach to achieving an urban sustainability, arguing that the efforts to this purpose are connected not only to its urban form. Instead, perceiving the city in terms of process gives much more prospect in attaining the goal of a sustainable city.

Keywords: urban transforming process, urbanism theory, sustainability

MSc Dorina Pllumbi, PhD Candidate is an architect, lecturer and a researcher at the Polytechnic University of Tirana, where she teaches courses and makes research on architecture and urban design oriented on sustainable urbanism. She graduated in architecture at the Polytechnic University of Tirana, completed a master of second level at Faculty of Architecture at Sapienza, University of Rome and now is in process of getting the PhD degree in Environmental Design at the same Sapienza/ Faculty of Architecture/ Dipartimento Design Tecnologia dell'Architettura Territorio e Ambiente.

Exploring the Applications of Bio-Eco Architecture for Sustainable Design and Construction process

M. M. Naguib, M. A. M. Hanafi,

ABSTRACT:

It has been commonly noted that the main perception of nature influenced forms is basically aesthetic while little concern is given to the importance of inspiring from nature in the construction and structural performance of buildings as well as in the natural ecological architectural solutions, thus, this paper will focus on bio-inspired architecture approach which embraces the eco-friendly practices of sustainable construction, the use of natural materials and the energy conservation by mimicking the natural life.

A number of bio-inspired architectural designs will be illustrated presenting a comprehensive analysis of bio-inspired role to be played in developing the concept of ecological sustainable design and construction in contemporary architecture.

Building must teach the society with new ecological moral, thus, a better understanding of biological morphogenesis can usefully inspire architectural design to resolve challenges that have already been resolved by nature that will not only help in creating a healthy environment but will also produce positive environmental impacts.

Bio-Eco Architecture harnesses and replicates the principles found in nature in order to create built environment which benefit people and other living creatures as well as safe-guarding the biodiversity; thus, Biomimetics in architecture will help develop a culture of active environmental design.

Keywords: ecological design, natural environment, Energy

Arch. Mona Naguib is a full time teaching assistant at the Pharos university, Faculty of Engineering, Architecture department Teaching: Basic design; Architectural drawings; Architecture design level 1- level 2-level 3; Auto-cad 3d; Graduation project part1 & part2; Design details 2; Colors in built environment.

Prof. Dr. Mohamed Mahmoud Assem Hanafi is a Professor of Architecture Architectural Department, University of Alexandria, Faculty of Engineering, Egypt.

Building Sustainable Industrial Areas: Experience and Perspectives from the Mediterranean and Western Balkan Countries

R. Preka, M. Tarantini, A. Dominici Loprieno,
M. Litido, M. Segreto

ABSTRACT:

An EU research project (Mediterranean Eco-Industrial Development, (MEID)) which involves different actors from Mediterranean and Western Balkans region, is currently in progress. Its general objective is to provide innovative management figures and a decision support tool (model) to plan, build and manage more competitive Sustainable Industrial Areas (SIA) in the involved region. In order to correspond to a coherent solution, an accurate research has been performed. The methodology implemented to detect the main issues under survey has been a SWOT analysis of several target IAs.

Following its results, there have been defined the most relevant aspects aiming at sustainability of IAs in the area. The model introduces or encourages the continuous improvement of environmental performances of the Mediterranean industrial areas in the following fields: integrating production and dismissal of solid wastes, energy saving and use of renewable energies, reducing water consumption, better viability and avoid the deposit of dangerous material. Thanks to this "green approach", SMEs will be the final beneficiaries, fostered to eco-innovation, competitiveness and transnational cooperation.

This paper presents the general context and results of the MEID project.

Keywords: Sustainable industrial areas, continuous environmental improvement, green economy, SME competitiveness, eco-innovation

Dr. Rovena Preka is a researcher at the Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA).

Dr. Mario Tarantini is Senior Research Director at the Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA)

Eng. Arianna Dominici Loprieno is a researcher at ENEA at the Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and Ecodesign Laboratory of the Technical Unit for Environmental Assessment Models, Methods and Technologies (UTVALAMB).

Dr. Maria Litido is Research Director at ENEA. She is the Scientific Responsible for Environmental LECOP Research.

Eng Maria-Anna Segreto is a researcher at ENEA and Head of LAERTE Laboratory, UTEE-GED, Bologna, Italy.

Evaluating the Performance of Albanian Savings and Credit (ASC) Union

Jonida Bou Dib (Lekocaj), Eralda Shore and Mariana Nikolla

ABSTRACT:

This research paper aimed to evaluate the role of ASC Union through three main poles: its performance in relation to outreach, its financial sustainability, and its welfare impact. It was based mainly on a descriptive study and focused on an accurate event, trying to answer questions such as: what, where, how, who and when, through the use of different information and already existing theories. Moreover, a triangulated methodology combining interviews, questionnaires and observations was applied in order to analyze the microcredit impacts. From the outreach angle, it was found that ASC Union's outreach has shown an increment over the period of study with different rates of growth from 2003 to 2010 on average by 14.7%. On the other hand, the operational sustainability measured by return on assets and return on equity showed instability over the period of the study, making the ASC Union financial sustainability doubtful. In summary, the members confirmed that ASC Union helped them to improve their activities and income, where 87 out of 100 farmers confirmed that their income increased in the last 3 years, while 31 farmers out of 100, respectively 8, 9 and 10 year-old-members, proclaimed that using the micro-loan helped them to expand their activities, while 56 farmers confirmed that microcredit helped them not only in improving their income and activity, but also their production increment and activity expansion.

Key words: Microfinance, Outreach, Financial Sustainability, Impact, Albania

M.Sc. Jonida Bou Dib (Lekocaj) is a Lecturer of Macroeconomics and Researcher at the Department of Economics and Agricultural Policies, Agricultural University of Tirana. She had a Master of Science degree in Business Economics and Management Department in the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania (MAICh), Greece.

M.Sc. Eralda Shore is a PhD Candidate at the Department of Economy and Agricultural Policies in the Agricultural University of Tirana. Since October 2012 she is an Economist/Procurement Specialist near Idea Tel L.t.d Telecommunication Company in a variety of operation domains.

Dr. Doc. Mariana Nikolla is a lecturer of Mathematics in the Agricultural University of Tirana, Albania. She is the editor of the book of Mathematics for the Faculty of Agriculture and Environment and author of 10 scientific papers published in international journals in Europe.

How Albanian Private Universities can use Game Theory for Optimization of Scholarship Offers.

Dr. Llambrini Sota, Prof. Dr. Fejzi Kolaneci,

ABSTRACT:

There are 46 private universities in Albania. We believe that the tuition fee and scholarship for high GPA students are two important components of the competition between private universities. This study is a first attempt in applying Game Theory for optimization of scholarship offers by Albanian private universities during academic years. There is a conflict between the utility functions of shareholders to maximize their profits and the utility functions of the students enrolled in private universities to minimize their expenses. The best solution of the conflict is a Nash equilibrium or Bayes-Nash-Harsanyi equilibrium, respectively. We prove the existence of these equilibria. However, there exist many equilibria, depending of private information. We interpret the Boyes-Nash-Harsanyi equilibrium solution as the set of possible rational concessions made by all players.

Keywords: private universities, scholarship, optimization, game theory, Nash equilibrium.

Dr. Llambrini Sota is a Lecturer of Mathematics, Department of the Applied Sciences, University "Pavaresia", Vlora, Albania. In 2007 - 2010 she had the scientific degree of «Doctor» at Polytechnic University of Tirana (UPT), Albania.

Prof.Dr. Fejzi Kolaneci is Head of the Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences University of New York, Tirane, Albania. During:
He has served as Scientific Secretary for Natural and Technical Sciences, Academy of Sciences, Tirana, Albania. (1993-1997)
- Head of the Chair of Differential Equations, University of Tirana. (1989-1993)
- Head of Department of Mathematics, University of Tirana, Korca Branch, Albania. (1978-198)
- Lecturer of Mathematics, Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Tirana. (1966-1978)

Impact Of Firm Specific Factors On Capital Structure Decision: An Empirical Study Of Albanian Firms.

Anila Çekrezi

ABSTRACT:

This paper attempts to explore the impact of firm specific factors on capital structure decision for a sample of 65 non- listed firms, which operate in Albania, over the period 2008-2011. In this paper are used three capital structure measures ; short -term debt to total assets (STDA), long- term debt to total assets (LTDA) and total debt to total assets (TDTA) as dependent variables and four independent variables: tangibility(TANG), liquidity (LIQ), profitability(ROA=return on assets) and size (SIZE). The investigation uses panel data procedure and the data are taken from balance sheets and include only accounting measures on the firm's leverage. This study found that tangibility (the ratio of fixed assets to total assets), liquidity (the ratio of current assets to current liabilities) profitability (the ratio of earnings after taxes to total assets) and size (natural logarithm of total assets) have a significant impact on leverage. Also empirical evidence reveals a significant negative relation of ROA to leverage and a significant positive relation of SIZE to leverage. And the second objective of this study is to identify the impact of industry classification on firm's leverage, using a dummy variable for the trade sector. So one of the hypothesis tested is if financial leverage is independent of industry classification. Results reveal that long term debt to total assets and total debt to total assets ratios are significantly different across Albanian industries.

Keywords: Albania, Capital structure; Firm's Specific Factors, Leverage.

Dr. Anila Çekrezi is a Lecturer at the Department of Finance and Accounting, University "A.Xhuvani" Elbasan, Albania

Analysis of Causes and Effects of Applying IAS And IFRS in Case of Mergers and Acquisitions of Banks in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Meliha Bašić, Haris Jahić, Lejla Jahić

ABSTRACT:

One of the effect of the “stabilization and accession” process, i.e. of fulfilling requirements for entry of the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina into the European Union, over the past few years, has been the privatization and concentration of banks’ capital, primarily through the process of their mergers. The paper is primarily aimed at analyzing the way, causes and effects of applying IAS and IFRS in mergers and acquisitions of banks in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The presented analysis revealed the discrepancy between regulations by the Banking Agency of Federation Bosnia and Herzegovina, as the supervisory body for banking in this part of BH and IAS and IFRS, particularly with respect to the framework for financial reporting for banks, a lack of detailed disclosure prescribed by IAS and IFRS, as well as of instructions and methodology related to the processes that must be conducted. It directly resulted in unrealistic, unobjective and, naturally, insufficiently comprehensible, and insufficiently controllable and comparable financial statements by given banks, before and after mergers and acquisitions. In the same time, it made it more difficult to do business, conduct internal and external control and auditing, particularly by a regulatory body, and resulted in a series of objections by foreign controllers (IMF, IBRD). The conducted research points to problems present in practice with respect to mergers and acquisitions of banks in the Federation B-H, and provides guidelines for their possible solution.

Key words: mergers, acquisitions, bank, IAS, IFRS, European Union

Dr. Meliha Basic is an associate professor at The School of Economics and Business in Sarajevo, where she gained a master's degree and doctor of economic sciences in the field of Accounting.

Dr. Haris Jahic is an assistant professor at The School of Economics and Business in Sarajevo. He graduated in Economics in Mostar University. Master's degree in Economics earned in 2007 and two years later acquired PhD in economics.

Mr. Lejla Jahić is an assistant at The School of Economics and Business in Sarajevo. University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Promotion Influence in Sales Advance and in Increasing the Image to the SMEs in Kosova

Rajan Arapi - PhD (c)

ABSTRACT:

The promotion as an important element of marketing mix plays a key role in marketing management regard, in every enterprise, and also for SMEs. The SMEs in Kosova are giving more and more importance to the promotion, and this factor, beside the sales advance for their products, is important to increase their image. What is the impact of the promotion in SMEs longevity; respectively what are the advantages and disadvantages of promotion application compared with the other traditional advertisement forms? What are the promotion models used by the advance companies to increase their sales level and improve the service level ? These are some of the research questions that follow this paper. On the other side the increasing promotion application in front of traditional forms of Marketing have made SMEs to save from their budget dedicated to Marketing, always taking into consideration the advanced models that today provides this communication form. The research on hand will reflect the new advanced promotion models which are practiced by some SMEs in Kosova, these case studies will argue the company's sustainability achieved by the promotion. The budgeting as an integral part of promotion realization, in this research will prove the possibility to save from the budget by avoiding the classical – traditional forms of advertisement. This aspect also will be argued by case studies of SMEs in Kosova. The mass media, in this case, the communication with the public, in way to transmit the promotion message, request a profound analyze when it comes to select the mediums, rating and audience measurement, etc. The research will contribute not only to SMEs but also to consumers and public in general. The research will have its conclusions and recommendations which will enforce each of elements that require a different treatment from the one that is applied in reality.

Key Words: SME, Promotion, Product, Marketing, Consumer.

M.Sc. Rajan Arapi is PH.D Candidate in the European University of Tirana, Economic Faculty, Department of Management. The author is a lecturer in the Public University "Haxhi Zeka" in Peja / Kosova.

Relationship Between the Police Educational Formation System and Public Security

Msc. Artur Beu, Doc. Ariana Nepravishta,

ABSTRACT:

The harmonization between the Albanian police education system and the European Framework and in particular with the Bologna System is a must of nowadays and for the police organization itself. In this context, the police organization needs to be upgrade especially in the upper level but it can't be understood without an adequate educational system. Currently, the challenges of the police education system face some obstacles of formation type which lead to a lack in the police education to achieve university levels. This will return into a boomerang for the forthcoming generations which are being prepared to be police staff, due to the lack of relevant university education. Based on the current education model, a police officer recruit has the opportunity to joint police organization after the high school (18 years old), and his education level is destined to be not upgraded in any way in order to reach university levels. It seems that Albania has so much need to an escalation process when it comes to the police education system that it can accept a missing formation which could lead to real problems in the near future. This type of model could function in the basic operational level but it is destined to malfunction in the upper level of leadership. In this contexts it is needed a parallel university education level associated to the police education formation in order to upgrade the police leadership. Currently, there is no experience of cooperation between universities and police formation institution in this regard. In Europe and other countries of the Region the main goal is the unification of curricula in order to have some common core curricula and in this manner to improve the mutual exchange of students and cadets from one to another institution and from one to another country. This is absolutely achievable also in police education and formation framework. A more effective cooperation and exchange process of students among police academies and formation centers in Europe and region will enable a more effective fight against crime and will lead to the so desirable product of enhancement of public trust towards police and an increase of the perception of security.

Key words: Common curricula, education system, leadership, public security.

Msc. Artur Beu is a Lecturer at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Tirana, Albania
Doc. Ariana Nepravishta is a Lecturer at the English Language Department, Agriculture University of Tirana, Albania

Planning and Restoration of Environmental Values in Nigeria Dysfunctional Societies

Basorun, J. O. and Ayeni, D.A

ABSTRACT:

Urban centers in Nigeria are becoming dysfunctional – a situation that threatens our environmental values. This study, examines the pattern, process and problems of these societies which experience rapid urban development pressure on account of high population growth and decentralization of governance in the form of states and local government creations. The study adopts extensive review of literature and findings reveal that Nigeria records very high level of urbanization and pollution, lacks effective cultural and physical planning policies, mismanages its urban open spaces, without adequate personnel to plan and organize the urban environments. Recommendations were made on ways of restoring these environmental values through effective planning of urban centers in Nigeria.

Keywords: Environment, Nigeria, Planning, Urban centre, values

Dr. Joseph Omoniyi BASORUN, holds Ph.D in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Technology, Akure, Nigeria. He is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, School of Environmental Technology of the University and currently the Associate Director of the University Advanced Basic Science Program. He is a member, Nigerian Institute of Town Planner; a registered Town Planner with the Town Planning Registration Council of Nigeria and a corporate member of the Nigerian Institute of Management.

Dr Dorcas A. Ayeni is a Lecturer at the Department of Architecture Federal University of Technology, Akure, Nigeria

Extractive industry a burden or an opportunity for sustainable development?

Dr. Aurela SHTIZA

ABSTRACT:

The shortage of raw materials in global markets and the sky rocketing of commodity prices, have induced European authorities to take initiatives to improve innovation in Europe by creating the European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials (2012) and make inventory of the existing European raw materials. Albania is a rich country in natural raw materials, such as chromium, copper, ferronickel, coal, bitumen as well as crude oil which might supply primary and secondary raw materials for some of the European needs. This literature review discusses the role of the Albanian institutions, the natural resources industry, potential investors and stakeholders in order to provide a set of indicators and platforms that can help to develop the extractive industry in Albania and monitor amelioration within sustainable development principles. A map with the potential prospects of the natural resources will be a first step in identifying the further potential for exploitation. Mineral resource policies and governance, sustainable processing and supply chain as well as environmental management information system (EMIS) are some of the crucial tools identified, which will help to set up the indicators and quantify the achievements in environmental management in Albania. Moreover, the integration of practices that will support institutional capacity building; follow-up practices; the mainstreaming of global environment into planning; and the compliance monitoring process will additionally improve the environmental situation in Albania. Aligning business strategy with environmental policy, socio-economic analysis, environmental auditing are decisive tools in order to provide the Albanian authorities with a clear overview of the economic costs and the social benefits for sustainable development of the extractive sector in Albania.

Key words: Environmental Management Information System (EMIS); sustainable development; natural resources; economy; industry; waste; environment;

Dr. Aurela Shtiza obtained her PhD degree in Environmental Geology on chromium speciation in contaminated sites in Albania at the Katholieke Universiteit of Leuven (Belgium). From 2010-2011 she worked in the implementation of REACH and CLP within the sustainability team of Glencore International. From 2011 she is responsible within IMA-Europe for environment and industrial affairs. Her main expertise includes environmental affairs, innovation and representation in European forums on behalf of member companies.

Analyzing Primary Social Studies Curriculum of Turkey in Terms of UNESCO Educational for Sustainable Development Theme

Elvan YALÇINKAYA

ABSTRACT:

These three terms have been used at website of UNESCO: Sustainable development (SD), education for sustainable development (ESD) and the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD). In this website, it is mentioned that the three terms have the same goal; creating a better world for this generation and future generations of all living things on planet Earth. The aim of this study is to analyze Primary Social Studies Curriculum of Turkey in terms of UNESCO ESD Theme. Data was obtained from Social Studies Curriculum. In this study, Social Studies Curriculum of Turkey was discussed in terms of three perspectives which are stated in UNESCO's Framework for the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development International Implementation Scheme (DESD). These three perspectives are; socio-cultural, environmental and economic perspectives. As a result, in this study, it is concluded that Social Studies Curriculum should be improved in terms of ESD. It is suggested that authorities, academics, program developers, teachers should consider the multidisciplinary feature of both Social Studies Curriculum, and education for sustainable development.

Keywords: Sustainable development, Education for sustainable development, Social studies education, Turkish social studies curriculum.

Assist. Prof. Dr. Elvan Yalçinkaya is a Lecturer at the Niğde University, Faculty of Education, Primary Education Department.

He graduated from Gazi University, Faculty of Education, Social Studies Education in 2000. Master's degree at Gazi University, Social Studies Education in 2004. PhD degree at Atatürk University, Social Studies Education in 2009. He was a social studies teacher at Primary School between 2000 and 2011. He had teaching experience at primary school for 10-14 years old students. He has given social studies education and environmental education course for pre-service teachers.

Education For Sustainable Development

Engjellushe Zenelaj (Doctoral Student)

ABSTRACT:

The practical definition of sustainable development remains "balance between the social, economic and natural resources". To build a system for sustainable development in progress is very difficult; it should be noted that to talk about the three elements at the same time. Finding balance, adds more difficult, because, "the preservation of the ecosystem", includes in itself, human capital, making peoples an integral part of the ecosystem that we are trying to save. Mostly, sustainable development requires major and radical changes, in particular to human behaviors and habits, connected to nature and the economy. The aim of this article is to identify the role of education in sustainable development. The development of education in the context of sustainable development, promotes the correct answer of science, but a way of engaging with different perspectives on the world we live in, and share together every moment of our lives.

Key words: education, sustainable development, education for sustainable development.

Engjellushe Zenelaj PhD.Candidate, is student at Doctoral School of Geography at Tirana University. She is new scientific research and has been part of different projects as Junior Research and Junior Project Manager, in field of tourism and environmental projects, financed from governmental institutions of Albania, European institutions, and foreign organizations. Actually is Lecturer at Ismail Qemali University of Vlora.

The Role of Faculties of Education in Increasing Sustainable Environmental Awareness of Society

Abdullah KARATAŞ

ABSTRACT

Environmental problems show their negative effects globally today. Increasing pollution and changing climatic conditions reveal this situation clearly. Environmental problems, affecting the future of all living things, are connected with the incorrect relations between man and nature. People have become alienated from nature seeing it as an endless source and as a result nature has become a tool for achieving anthropocentric objectives. It can be said that such an anthropocentric view is the real cause of environmental problems, but human and nature harmony should be structured immediately because environmental problems have reached to serious position. Consequently, human being is a living creature and he needs healthy and reliable environment to live like all other creatures. Unless changing anthropocentric view of people towards nature, law and fines will also be helpless. At this point, education plays a very important mission. Because it is possible to change people's behavior and perspectives positively through education. For the creation of awareness about the importance of protecting environment in society, faculties of education as teacher training institutions are of great importance. Teachers, preparing generations for future and so shaping the future of a society, receive their professional qualification and requirements for becoming a teacher from faculties of education, so teacher candidates should be educated very well. Teacher candidates from all disciplines, educated with environmental consciousness, will be able to transfer this consciousness to their students when they graduate. Generations, given the love of nature at an early age by their teachers, can be eco-friendly individuals in the future and shed light on environmental problems. *This theoretical study* aims to put forward the role of faculties of education in increasing sustainable environmental awareness of society.

Key Words: Sustainable Environmental Awareness, Faculties of Education, Society.

Abdullah KARATAŞ PhD(c) is a Lecturer at the Foreign Language Department, Niğde University. He graduated from Istanbul University, Faculty of Education, English Language Education in 1994. He had a master's degree at Niğde University, Management and Organization in 2008. He started PhD at Ankara University, Social Environmental Sciences Education in 2010.

Real Estate Taxes in Albania

Luciana Koprencka Phd, Edmira Cakrani Phd(c), Migena Petani

ABSTRACT:

The construction sector is one of the main sectors of the Albanian economy, which, during the last 20 years, has experienced the greatest economic growth. In 1991 this sector has contributed by 2.5% to the GDP, in 2006 by 4.9%, while in 2008, this sector has contributed by 14.9% to the national GDP. The relevant legislation has played an important role in the development of this sector. The applied laws have tried to maintain at low levels the real estate prices and to transform such a problematic sector, with reference to fiscal evasion and informality, into an easily controllable sector. The taxes applied in the construction sector are the same as in other economic sectors, although the taxation management in the construction sector, except for those common principles that regulate the tax management in general, is based on some specific rules related to the characteristics of this sector. Increase the level of taxation on the transfer of ownership to the extent of 10%, paralyzed the housing market by reducing the number of sales, especially of real estate old, previously this was 0.3-5% of sales value.

JEL Classification: H21

Keywords: Construction sector, Value Added Tax, Profit tax, Real Estate Transfer Tax, Construction Cost, Real Estate Registration.

Luciana Koprencka Phd she is a professor at the University of Vlora, Finance department. Earlier she have worked as an economist in different commercial organizations.

She had a PHD in Real Estates. This is a relatively new field because during the communist period Real Estate in Albania were owned by the state.

Edmira Cakrani PHD student is a Lecturer at the Department of Economics, University "Ismail Qemali" Vlore, Albania.

Migena Petani PHD student is a Lecturer at the Department of Finance, University "Ismail Qemali" Vlore, Albania.

Regional Sustainable Development - Czech Region Ranking Using Multi-criteria Decision Analysis

Lenka Hudrlikova, Ludmila Petkovova

ABSTRACT:

The aim of the paper is to provide a ranking of the Czech NUTS 3 regions based on sustainable development indicators. The original list of indicators was published by the Czech Statistical Office in 2008 and reviewed in 2010. In the analysis the same set of indicators with the latest data was used. The indicators in each pillar are merged by means of linear aggregation with weights derived from the principal component analysis. Because three pillars of sustainable development (environmental, economic and social) are assumed to be non-compensable, the multiple-criteria decision analysis is applied on a pillar level in the final composite indicator. Both two main approaches - Borda and Condorcet were considered. Since the Borda approach leads to the compensability of the indicators, the Condorcet approach was in the spotlight. Advanced rules and adjustment for Condorcet approach were employed. Advantages and disadvantages of the methods are provided. As a result more final rankings exist. The deep discussion about the results is provided. The special attention is paid to the capital city Prague, border regions, and industrial regions. In addition, the correlation between final ranking and other indicators is tested.

Keywords: sustainable development, multiple-criteria decision analysis, Czech NUTS 3 regions

Eng. Ludmila Petkovova is currently PhD student at the University of Economics in Prague (Dept. of Economic Statistics). The topic of her dissertation thesis is the indicators of sustainable development and their measurement. She is focused especially on regional level of sustainable development in the Czech republic. Advanced statistical methods are used in her work because of her background. Her main study field is a statistics.

Eng. Lenka Hudrlikova is a PhD student at the Department of Economic Statistics, University of Economics, Prague, Czech Republic.

Effects of Remittances on Poverty among Rural Households in Nigeria

Olowa Olatomide Waheed; Awoyemi, Taiwo Timothy; Shittu, Musediku Adebayo and Olowa, Omowumi Ayodele

ABSTRACT:

Poverty in Nigeria is more prevalent in the rural sector due to dwindling and inequitable distribution of real income. Remittances (money and goods sent by migrants to relatives back home) can be poverty reducing. However, the extent to which remittances affect poverty and income inequality has not been adequately documented in Nigeria. This paper uses a large, nationally-representative household survey to analyze the impact of domestic remittances (from Nigeria) and foreign remittances (from African and other countries) on poverty in rural Nigeria. The socioeconomic characteristics showed that on the average, households that received foreign remittances had older heads (61.7 ± 19.7 years), smaller household size (4.0 ± 2.5), bigger land size (18.53 ± 26.5 ha), higher literacy rate (0.50 ± 0.5) and non-poor (0.08 ± 0.3) with higher annual per capita expenditure ($\text{₦}111,768 \pm \text{₦}179,868$). Poverty analysis showed that both types of remittances reduce the level, depth and severity of poverty in rural Nigeria. However, the size of the poverty reduction depends on how poverty is being measured. The paper finds that poverty is reduced more when domestic, as opposed to foreign remittances are included in household income, and when poverty is measured by the more sensitive poverty measures: poverty gap and squared poverty gap. At a poverty line of $\text{₦}23,733$ per annum, a 10% increase in domestic remittances decreased Poverty Incidence (PI), Poverty Gap (PG) and Squared Poverty Gap (SPG) by 1.80%, 1.60% and 1.60% while 10% rise in foreign remittances reduced poverty incidence (PI), Poverty gap (PG) and Squared poverty gap (SPG) by 0.86%, 0.62% and 0.62% respectively in rural Nigeria. Across GPZs, While 10% increase in foreign remittances reduced PI (-0.88%) in North-Central (NC) it had no effect in NE (0.00%). Same increase in domestic remittances reduced PI, PG, SPG most in the SS (-0.29%, -1.85% and -0.75%) and least in NE (-0.09%, -0.82% and -0.22%).

Key words: Remittances, rural Nigeria, poverty reduction

Dr. Olatomide Olowa is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Agricultural Education, Federal College of Education (Tech.) Akoka, Lagos, Nigeria.

Dr. Taiwo Timothy Awoyemi is a Lecturer at the Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Ibadan, Nigeria.

Dr. Musediku Adebayo Shittu, is a Lecturer at the Department of Agricultural Economics and Farm Management, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta Nigeria.

Dr. Omowumi Ayodele Olowa is a Lecturer at the Department of Agricultural Education, Federal College of Education (Technical) Akoka, Lagos, Nigeria.

Challenges Towards Sustainable Tourism for Regional Development of Vlore Region

Aleks Prifti¹ PhD(c), Engjellushe Zenelaj¹ PhD(c)

ABSTRACT:

Vlora has great potential for regional development. Tourism can be as a catalyst for the economic growth but still have many challenges for sustainable tourism regional development. Regional development is one of the most important dimensions and key of EU policy, which is designed to: ensure convergence between the different member states and regions; ensure regional competitiveness and employment; ensure territorial cooperation. Vlora has all the potential to be an attractive tourism destination. Resources that it can use to create its distinctive image for tourists are numerous. Across geography, which has spread Vlora region, there are monuments, archaeological item and rare natural monuments, natural sites and attractions centuries. Way to understand these apparently already clarified is joining with the tourism environment. Return tourism potential in real estate assets for the rapid development and prosperity of the region, is one of the objectives with which to measure the role of state institutions, businesses, investitures and policies that support, promote, stimulate and develop the sector oh tourism. Tourism development is facing many challenges related to development and the control urbanity, decentralization process, the geographical distribution of tourism, exploitation of all resources and tourist potential, the protection of natural and cultural heritage.

Key words: sustainable regional development, sustainable tourism development, decentralization process,

Aleks Prifti, PhD candidate, is doctoral student at University of Tirana, Faculty of Law. Actually is Lecturer at Ismail Qemali University of Vlora.

Engjellushe Zenelaj PhD.Candidate, is student at Doctoral School of Geography at Tirana University. She is new scientific research and has been part of different projects as Junior Research and Junior Project Manager, in field of tourism and environmental projects, financed from governmental institutions of Albania, European institutions, and foreign organizations. Actually is Lecturer at Ismail Qemali University of Vlora.

The Effects of the Price Change, on the Demand of Agricultural Products During Summer Time.

Assoc. Prof. Dudi SULI, Msc. Gjergji Xhabija

ABSTRACT:

A fall in the price of a good has two effects. First, consumers enjoy an increase in real purchasing power, they are better off because they can buy the same amount of the good for less money, and thus have money left over for additional purchases. They will tend to consume more of the good that has become cheaper and less of those goods that are now relatively more expensive. Both effects happen simultaneously, but it will be useful to distinguish between them in our analysis. The Demand Function and Slutsky Equation during the summer time in our products, tomato and cucumber confirms the economic theory of chain effect in the agricultural products. Our research is based on the face-to-face questions about the prices that consumers receive, and on the theoretical approach to identify these effects. The demand function for this product gives us the solution of how individual's utility-maximizing choices respond to changes in income and in the prices of tomatoes and cucumbers.

Keywords: Slutsky Equation, Income Effects, Substitution, Total Effects, Normal Good

Assoc. Prof. Dudi SULI is Lecture and Scientific Researcher at the Department of Agricultural Political Economy, Agricultural University of Tirana.

He graduated in Economics from the University of Tirana. Since 1988 he has been teaching at Agricultural University of Tirana. During this time he has been trained in Italy, Germany, the USA etc. He teaches a variety of subjects from micro economy to macro economy. He is the author and co-author of a great variety of textbooks; as well as published many papers, and conducted many research studies in the field of economy.

MSc Gjergji XHABIJA is a graduate student at the Department of Finance and Accounting Agricultural University of Tirana, Tirana, Albania.

Government Spending and Real Exchange Rate Case of Albania

Edmira Cakrani, Pranvera Resulaj, Luciana Koprencka(Kabello)

ABSTRACT:

Various studies have found that government spending can lead to overestimation or underestimation of the real exchange rate, depending on the composition of these expenditures. The purpose of this paper is to assess the impact of government spending on real exchange rate in Albania. In this paper is used a log liner model with quarterly data. Other explanatory variables in this model are: foreign direct investment, remittances, real GDP per capita, openness. Variables are tested for unit root and cointegration. The results indicate that government spending is associated with overvaluation of real exchange rate in Albania.

JEL Classification: E62; F31.

Keywords: Government spending, real exchange rate, unit root, cointegration.

Edmira Cakrani PHD student is a Lecturer at the Department of Economics, University "Ismail Qemali" Vlore, Albania. She has a scientific master degree. Main area of interest is Open Macroeconomics.

Pranvera Resulaj student is a Lecturer at the Department of Business Administration, University "Ismail Qemali" Vlore, Albania

Luciana Koprencka Phd she is a professor at the University of Vlora, Finance department. Earlier she have worked as an economist in different commercial organizations.

She had a PHD in Real Estates. This is a relatively new field because during the communist period Real Estate in Albania were owned by the state.

Testing the Fair Game Hypothesis for US Dollar/Albanian Lekë Exchange Rate Over the Period January 1994-December 2012

Llambrini Sota , Fejzi Kolaneci

ABSTRACT:

The purpose of the paper is to test the fair game hypothesis for exchange rate process US Dollar / Albanian Lekë over the period January 1994 - December 2012.

The results of this study include: The fair game hypothesis is rejected for mean monthly exchange rate US Dollar/Albanian Lekë over the period January 1994 - December 2012 at 99.99% level of confidence. Day - to -day fluctuations of the nominal exchange rate US Dollar/ Albanian Lekë during the period 1 January 2008 - 31 December 2008 follow an unfair game process at 99.99% level of confidence. The fair game hypothesis is rejected for mean monthly exchange rate over the period January 2008 - December 2012 at 95% level of confidence. Day - to-day fluctuations of nominal exchange rate US Dollar/Albanian Lekë during the period 1 January 2004 - 31 December 2012 follow an unfair game at 99.99% level of confidence. A similar result holds for relative first differences of the daily exchange rate US Dollar/Albanian Lekë at 99.99% level of confidence. These findings are noteworthy because it has long been thought of that the movements in the US dollar / Albanian lekë nominal exchange rate must be a fair game.

Key Words: exchange rates, fair game, Kolmogorov - Smirnov- Lilliefors Test, Shapiro - Wilk Test.

Dr. Llambrini Sota is a Lecturer of Mathematics, Department of the Applied Sciences, University "Pavaresia", Vlora, Albania. In 2007 - 2010 she had the scientific degree of «Doctor» at Polytechnic University of Tirana (UPT), Albania.

Prof.Dr. Fejzi Kolaneci is Head of the Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences University of New York, Tirane, Albania. During:
He has served as Scientific Secretary for Natural and Technical Sciences, Academy of Sciences, Tirana, Albania. (1993-1997)
- Head of the Chair of Differential Equations, University of Tirana. (1989-1993)
- Head of Department of Mathematics, University of Tirana, Korca Branch, Albania. (1978-198)
- Lecturer of Mathematics, Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Tirana. (1966-1978)

What can be the Role of Public-Private Partnerships and the role of the Collective Action in Ensuring Sustainable Smallholder Participation in High Value Fruit and Vegetable Supply Chains in Albania?

Prof. Asc. Dudi SULI, MSc. Florjan BOMBAJ, MSc. Hergys SULI
MSc. Gjergj XHABIJA

ABSTRACT:

Albania is a Mediterranean country where fruits and vegetables occupy an important place in the cropping systems practiced by the Albanian farms but also in the food consumption of the population. Today, the fruits and vegetables growers in Albania have low production capacity and difficulties in selling their products on national and regional market. These poor producers face problems of how to produce safe food (World Bank 2007), be recognized as producing safe food, identify cost-effective technologies for reducing risk, and be competitive with larger producers with advantage of economies of scale in compliance with food safety requirements. In enabling the smallholders to remain competitive in such a system, new institutional arrangements are required. The new and emerging food system (dominated by domestic urban market and export markets, regional competitiveness, globalization, etc.) with high demands for compliance with food safety and traceability disfavor the smallholders due to high coordination costs. The problem is exacerbated by geographic dispersion, low education, and poor access to capital and information (Poulton 2005; Humphrey 2005; Rich and Narrod 2005). The main idea of this paper is that the public-private partnerships can play a key role in creating farm to fork linkages that can satisfy the market demands for food safety while retaining smallholders in the supply chain. Our big question is "how this can be possible in Albania and which are the right policies to forward this idea?"

Keywords: Sustainable Development; Added Value; Collective Action.

Assoc. Prof Dudi SULI is Lecture and Scientific Researcher at the Department of Agricultural Political Economy, Agricultural University of Tirana.

MSc. Gjergj XHABIJA and Msc. Florjan Bombaj are graduate students at the Department of Finance and Accounting. Agricultural University of Tirana, Albania.

Msc. Hergys SULI is Acc. Manager, Sales Department, Plus Communication Tirana, Albania

Neuro-psycho-education-existential group program: *Evidence based Professional Practice at persons with psychiatric and intellectual disabilities.*

Suela Ndoja, MSc, PhD Cand.

ABSTRACT:

Aim: to describe the impact of neuro-psycho-education-existential group program on personal formation and its possible application for mental health, health and social professions in different contexts by taking into consideration the current practice with psychiatric and intellectual disability persons.

Framework: the theoretical foundations of clinically based in combination of perspectives as neuropsychology, psycho education and existentialism are reviewed and the common positive elements of practice are identified.

Practical application: examples of well-defined ten weekly neuro-psycho-education-existential interventions in group developed in public spaces are presented that meet criteria for empirically supported psychological interventions at persons with psychiatric and intellectual disabilities.

Outcomes: in conclusion, the specific application of neuro-psycho-education-existential group program for health care, mental health and social practice at both the clinical and community disability level is discussed.

Implications: the need for further evaluation and design research is considered for a better implementation into practice.

Keyword: neuro-psycho-education-existential group program, persons with psychiatric and intellectual disabilities, Evidence based Professional Practice.

PhD Cand/MSc Suela Ndoja is a Clinical Psychologist at the Italian Albanian Association "Progetto Speranza" and a Lecturer at the Faculty of Education, Luigj Gurakuqi University, Shkoder, Albania. She has also lectured at Universitary Colleges "Medicom", Shkoder. She holds a Bachelor Degree in Psychology and a Master Degree in Clinical, Development and Relationship Psychology. Her interests belong to coming into aid to persons in need, in risk and who suffer from mental illness.

Communication of Tourism Product; The case of Himara

Prof. Assoc. Dudi SULI, Msc Ina ÇANI, Hergys SULI

ABSTRACT:

Tourism has and will be generally recognized as the world's largest industry. Its growth is creating rapid social, economic and environmental changes which expect detailed understanding and measures to be managed.

The market values of tourism can generally be realized by tourism products. This study aims to explore the potential and communication of tourism product; by studying the case of Himara, a city in south Albania – the study investigates how communication tourism product works in a real environment. Nowadays, communication has become a major driver of tourism. Communication in tourism is another form of promoting tourism by involving not only linguistic means. Some people traveled specifically in order to gain a deeper understanding of the culture or heritage of a destination by what they have heard and read. In order to satisfy tourists' needs and expectations, tourism products typically attract consumers by the communication attributes. People hold a variety of misconceptions about communication of tourism product. The most common one is its confusion with marketing and promotion. In general terms, tourism is commonly considered as a priority sector by Albanian Central and Local Government. Himara is a small city in southwest, holding high potential for tourism. It is widely considered an attractive destination of Albanian Riviera; and the overall objective of this study is to identify the issues and challenges in tourism promotion facing Himara.

Key words: tourism product, domestic tourism, life cycle, impacts, sustainable, inbound.

Assoc. Prof Dudi SULI is Lecture and Scientific Researcher at the Department of Agricultural Political Economy, Agricultural University of Tirana.

Msc Ina ÇANI is a Lecturer in the Department of: Foreign Languages Agricultural University of Tirana, Tirana, Albania

Msc Hergys SULI is Acc. Manager, Sales Department, Plus Communication Tirana, Albania

Economic Efficiency in Edgeworth Box Market the Case of Two Goods

Prof. As. Dudi SULI, MSc Eriona DEDA, MSc Hergys SULI

ABSTRACT:

Is very important for our markets, an appreciation for some of benefits of trade and understanding to how prices get established in simple markets. The Edgeworth box serves to orient the markets scientifically and at the same time can be used by decision makers in the planning resources process to meet customer demand. Using a production Edgeworth box, shows that efficiency in production has similar properties to efficiency in distribution. From the optimal choices inside the Edgeworth box, we derive a production possibilities frontier that describes all the efficient combinations of two goods to maximize the benefit of both consumers. The Edgeworth box serves to orient the markets scientifically and at the same time can be used by decision makers in the planning resources process to meet customer demand. To analyze efficiency in production we use Edgeworth box. In the Edgeworth box, we analyze how the market achieves a competitive equilibrium.

Keywords: Edgeworth box, the efficient production set, competitive equilibrium, efficiency.

Assoc. Prof Dudi SULI is Lecture and Scientific Researcher at the Department of Agricultural Political Economy, Agricultural University of Tirana.

MSc. Eriona Deda is a Lecturer at the Department of Economics and Agribusiness of Tirana. Agricultural University of Tirana, Albania

Msc Hergys SULI is Acc. Manager, Sales Department, Plus Communication Tirana, Albania

Local Governments as Nodes for Greenhouse Gas Abatement: Climate Change Governance in Multi-Level Frameworks

Magnus Franzén

ABSTRACT:

This research concentrates on the governance aspects of sustainability, and more particularly how local governments can work as nodes in a wider system of governance. The question at the center of the study is: how do cities address climate change mitigation and how do their actions relate to other levels of governance? The study takes a mixed qualitative-quantitative approach based on a multi-level theoretical framework to address the issue. The study concentrates on a small number of cases and the material used is found in official documents and semi-structured interviews with key individuals in the local governments. The results of the study show that the cities investigated do take action to mitigate climate change; however, their actions are heavily dependent on other levels of governance, i.e. regional or national, or other actors. This dependence, nonetheless, seems to be reciprocal. Thus, cities can constitute nodes or hubs in the governance of climate change mitigation, working simultaneously as actors of implementation and channelizing local knowledge and input.

Keywords: Climate Change, Governance, Multi-Level, Sustainability, Local Governments

Mr. Magnus Paul Alexander Franzén is a Research Fellow at the Department of Economic History, Stockholm University / MFRC and Aumentare AB, Sweden. He is Preparing for doctoral studies in the area of international cooperation, concerning adaptation to climate change. Principal areas of interest are cooperation and complex transnational issues, adaptation to climate change, multi-level governance, the relationship local-national-global, forest policy, the Amazon, international diplomacy, foreign policy, and international environmental negotiations.

Tourism Demand in Albania

Irisi Kasapi, Macit Koc

Abstract

Purpose of the article Exploring the nature of tourism behavior has traditionally been very complex. Adding to it the fast pace changing environment, the study becomes even more complicated. The purpose of this research is to shed light on the relationship between factors affecting tourist behavior and tourism demand in Albania.

Methodology/methods To accomplish these objective, an online survey questionnaire was developed and administered across the population of Tirana and Durres, the largest cities in Albania, which also represented the population (N) upon which the sample size was drawn. Tourism demand has traditionally been measured in terms of 'number of people entering and exiting the borders of a country'. In order to ensure the feasibility of this study, 'tourism demand' is measured in terms of 'frequency of travels'. **Scientific aim** Scientifically, the research aims at testing the relationship between the sample's *monthly income levels*, denoted as the independent variable and 'frequency of travel', denoted as the dependent variable. **Findings** The results of the research show that there is a significant association between these two constructs. That is, with $\chi^2(1, N = 133) = 102,581, p = .000 < 0.01$, the *Null Hypothesis is rejected*, and the *Alternative Hypothesis is accepted*. **Conclusions** From the study it is concluded that the higher the Monthly Income levels of the Albanian tourists, the higher the frequency of travels. Nevertheless, like in every other study there are also limitations involved with this particular study, as well. The lack of reliable quantitative data concerning the Albanian domestic tourism is one among the most crucial ones.

Keywords: Tourist Behavior, Tourism Demand, Determinants of Tourism Demand, Frequency of Travel.

JEL Classification: M30, M39

Irisi Kasapi: *MBA (Marketing Concentration), University of New York in Tirana in collaboration with Institut Universitaire Kurt Böschi/Switzerland, Tirana, Albania; B.S in Finance, University of New York in Tirana in collaboration with SUNY Empire State College, Tirana, Albania. She has lectured a short session of a course titled "Consumer Behavior in Albania" at undergraduate level at University of New York, Tirana. She is currently a lecturer of Management at the University 'Aleksander Moisiu', Durres, Albania.*

Macit Koc: *Ph.D. cand. (ABD) in Management & Economics, Faculty of Management and Economics, Tomas Bata University, Czech Republic; MBA, Webster University, Missouri, USA; B.S. in Business Administration, University of Missouri - Saint Louis, USA. Mr. Koc is an experienced Lecturer, who taught in universities in Turkey, Sultanate of Oman and Kyrgyzstan. He also taught as Erasmus Exchange Scholar in Lithuania and Czech Republic. Mr. Koc is a professional international sales consultant and possesses considerable experience in the fields of international trade and marketing, which includes traveling to over 50 countries. Currently he is a Lecturer at the CIT, Tirana, Albania.*

Demographic Dynamics and Higher Education in Albania

Dr. Aranit Shkurti, Dr. Gihan Diab

ABSTRACT:

The education market is having a period of expansion in Albania, specially the private higher education, performing a very complex and controversial situation. Public and private universities, were enrolling, in the past years, a growing number of students. The proportion of undergraduate and graduate students to the total population is converging to the normal ratio of the industrialized countries. The article analysis the factors of this growth, considering not only socio-economic trends and life styles, but also demographic constraints. The aim of the research is the forecast of the cohorts of high school students in the next 20 years and the equilibrium in the higher education market. The demographic aspects of this market will have important consequences across the policies and the performance of the entire system. Another question arising from this analysis is the trade-off between massive higher education, as indicator of development, and the quality oriented education, as indicator of sustainability.

Keywords: Demographic constraints, cohorts, higher education, quality oriented, indicators private education, equilibrium

Dr. Aranit Shkurti is a Lecturer of Econometrics at the Canadian Institute of Technology. He had a PhD from the Sapienza University of Rome in Energy Policy and scenario modeling.

Dr. Gihan Diab is a Fellow Research at the Sapienza University of Rome and a Lecturer at the Helwan University of Cairo. She had a PhD from the Sapienza University of Rome.

The Impact of Foreign Direct Investment and the influence of European Integration on Economic Growth: the case of Albania

Evisi Kopliku

ABSTRACT :

The research analyzes the impact of FDI on economic growth in Albania by studying European integration as an important element, that is expected to have a positive influence. The purpose of this paper is to analyze the impact of foreign direct investment (FDI) on the economic growth of Albania, and the role that the European integration of Albania plays in FDI development, and consequently on growth. FDI is a crucial component in the path towards market economy, economic integration, and globalization. Meanwhile, Albania is at an important stage of negotiations about a potential candidateship in the European Union. Furthermore, the EU is one of Albania's major investing partners. In this paper, a simple growth regression model will be run by using quarterly time series data for the period 1990-2009. Empirical studies show that European integration is one of the determinants of FDI. However, European integration will not be incorporated in the model. Rather, descriptive analysis will be used to analyze the importance of European integration based on evidence that it is one of the major investing partners of Albania and the highest FDI flows come from EU member states. The results of the econometric analysis are expected to show a positive impact of FDI on the growth of Albania, thus suggesting that European integration plays an important role. This research is expected to give some insight on FDI, on whether there is a need to reform the FDI regime, and other issues related to FDI. The paper though does not exhaust the issues related to the above mentioned phenomenon and is expected to be elaborated further in the near future.

Key Words : Foreign Direct Investment, European integration, Economic Growth

M.Sc. Evisi Kopliku is a Lecturer and Research Fellow Department of Banking and Finance; Socio-economic unit of Albanian Institute for Public Affairs University "Marin Barleti", Albanian Institute for Public Affairs. She holds a bachelor and a Master degree in Banking and Finance from Eastern Mediterranean University (Northern Cyprus), and a Master degree in European Economic studies from the College of Europe (Bruges, Belgium). I have been working as a teaching and research assistant at Eastern Mediterranean University, as a lecturer at University of New York Tirana, and is currently a research fellow at Albanian Institute of Public Affairs.

Albania form Illiteracy to the (un)Sustainable Development of Higher Education.

Dr. Sokol Pacukaj

ABSTRACT

After the Second World War in Albania about 85% of people were illiterate. After the establishment of the communist regime in 1944, one of the main goals was the reduction or elimination of illiteracy. Undertaken reforms succeeded to “virtually” eliminate the illiteracy in 1980 and the school system was consolidated and oriented to a Soviet-system. During the communist regime in Albania were present only 6 public institution of higher education: university of Tirana (1957), agricultural university of Kamza (1951), university of Korce (1971), university of Elbasan (1971), university of Gjirokaster (1968) and university of Shkoder (1957). Because of the centralized communist government, there were no private schools or universities. Nowadays in Albania, after the fall of the communism and especially after 2000, a high number of universities was established in all the country and now there are more than 50 private and public universities in Albania. The total of population in Albania according to the last census of 2012 was only 2.800.000 people. The aim of this paper is to analyze the development of the higher education in Albania after the 1990, and the impact that could have to the economy and society of the country in the next years. The study is based to the statistical data taken from the Institute of Statistics (INSTAT) and Ministry of Education, elaborated through SPSS. An important element which will be analyzed is the lack of attention that it pays to the technical institutes that may be very important to the economic development of the country. Also a structured questionnaire were submitted to a sample of 200 people in the region of Tirana, Durres, Shkoder and Elbasan about their opinion to the private and public universities and the government politics about the liberalization and public financing to the private higher education.

Key words: higher education, Albania, development, government funds, universities.

Dr. Sokol PACUKAJ is a Lecturer at the Alexander Moisiu University of Durres, Head of the Department of Psychology. He graduated in 2006 in the faculty of communication sciences and sociology at the university of Rome la Sapienza. In the same university he completed the master degree in “Innovation and development” in 2008 and the PhD studies in History of Europe in 2011.

Loan lending process on the Albania banking System during 2007-2012

Dr. Anilda Bozdo, Dr. Mimoza Koka

ABSTRACT:

The deteriorating reasons of banking portfolio loans and some necessary measures for the improvement of this situation will be main topics of this article. The corruption in the banking system, is a phenomenon that has passed unobserved, but for our opinion is very often. Non professional loan officers, who lack the essential knowledge of identifying the clients, are common among the Banks of Albania; The new banking system, appears with the old problems of expansion of loan portfolio during 2005-2007, without the bank capacity to manage them and that for sure will be accompanied with influx of many clients with problems. The objective reason is also economic situation of our country and our region that for sure will reflect in quality of loans portfolio;

The measures that are important to take are: a reform in banking system for what it concerned structure management in charge of loans giving. The loan officers reward should be connected with quality of portfolio management. Bank of Albania should enforce banks to spend more for training the loan officer. It may organize itself the training courses by raising a training center. It should control on-site banks more frequently. Should pay attention on giving new loans, which will improve gradually the quality of loan portfolio. Despite the situation must not restraint the loan process in bank.

Keywords : Nonperforming loans, loan officer; corruptions;

Dr. Anilda Bozdo is a Lecturer at the Financial Department, Economic Faculty of the European University of Tirana (UET). She Graduated at the Economic Faculty, Agricultural University of Tirana on 1979, and had a Doctoral degree in Economic Sciences. She has several specializations including : Nebraska-Lincoln University, USA, - Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, USA, - Iowa State University, Ames, USA, - Center for economic research of Charles University, Prague, Czech republic; - World bank, European Bank and FMN at Vienna, Austria; - Studienzentrum, Gerzensee, Switzerland; - FED, New York, Washington.

Dr. Mimoza Koka Graduated in Economics, Faculty of Economics, University of Tirana. She had a Doctoral degree on "The phenomenon of brain drain in Albania and Motivational Factors."; Master in Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Tirana in cooperation with the University of Nebraska, USA.

Lecturer in Macroeconomics, Management-Administration, Banking Supervision, Financial Economic Analysis, Socio-Economic Analysis.

Should Albania allow the construction of nuclear power plants for electricity production

Aleks Palnikaj PhD (c)

ABSTRACT

The development of the energy sector is one of the main factors, that affect the economic development of a country. In this context, it is one of the most important factors that influence, in the foreign investment in the country.

During these years, Albania has faced with problems in energy sector, because of our energy resources are provided by 98% of water resources. So we are a country entirely dependent on rainfall. Recent changes: global climate; increasing fuel prices; rapid growth of demand for electricity consumption; technological changes and the rising cost of electricity requires the development of new policies in the energy sector.

This study aims to identify these factors that affect the production of electricity in our country, opportunities that our country has in this area and the efficiency of their use. Building a nuclear power plant in Albania is seen as a new opportunity for the sustainable development of the energy sector.

Keywords : Energy sector, nuclear power plant, economic development in Albania

Aleks Palnikaj PhD (c) studied economic sciences at Economic Faculty of Trana University and graduated in 2003. He had a Master Degree in Business Management, Economic Faculty of Tirana University in 2009. He works at Albania Power Corporation, Economic Department, since 2003. Started PhD studies in Economics and Sustainable Development at the European University of Tirana in 2011 and now he is in the middle of his researches. His research interest is focused in electricity sector, finding new ways of sustainable generation from new renewable energy resources.

Financial Crises Or Natural Resource Crises

How do they Relate to Each Other?

What are the Solutions?

By

Prof. Sazan Guri

ABSTRACT

It is known that the world in general and Europe in particular, faces what many calls it economic crisis or financial crisis, which at first glance seemed to be passing quickly, while the consequences are likely to last for even a greater degree than those of the 29'-33' of last century. Because then the world was beginning to use natural resources while today is in barbaric way exploiting them. In our eyes, the economic crisis is like iceberg, where is often discussed for what we see at first glance we look at the financial crisis, while little is talked about the natural resources crisis, just mentioned.

It is the fact that the planet today is used by 40% more or with a 1.4 planet coefficient, indicating the degree of human intervention in natural resources of the planet. The fact that in 30 years, oil barrels drawn with \$3 now are drawn with \$100 for barrels, so the chromium, coal, the forests, shows that the crisis is related to the scarcity of natural resource and the values and high costs that they should be issued today.

Key words: Financial crisis, oil, coal, forests, natural rehabilitation

Prof. Sazan Guri is a well-known Geologist and Environmental Expert. He is the founder of the Association "For Development of Environment Policies - G & G group"

Financial Statements and The Identification of Financial Risk .

M.Sc. Lorenc KOÇIU, Assoc. Prof. Dudi SULI

ABSTRACT.

The idea for this work came as a result of the identification of a lack of competence and experience for the identification and control of financial risk in Albanian entities, especially Albanian SMEs. For this reason, in the analysis are taken financial statements, as a source extremely important in providing appropriate information and abundant.

Financial statements are available and useful for the economic unit and for third parties, because through them provide relevant information for effective decision-making. The objective of financial statements is to give a true and fair view of the financial position, financial performance, cash flows and changes of the state of the equity.

In relation to financial risk is not a unified definition of literature. But this is not a problem, the problem is actually the definition of overall risk. In theory, there are two concepts associated with risk; (1) first describes the concept of risk from a negative perspective, viewing it as a threat to the loss, and (2) according to the second concept, risk is treated as a neutral concept, that he is not only a threat but also an opportunity.

In this paper , we will try to give a more accurate view of how entities have an opportunity to identify financial risks and how to control it. This is achieved through analysis of financial statements of entities, especially in the region of Gjirokastra.

Keywords : financial statements , financial risk , financial reports , capital structure .

MSc. Lorenc Koçiu is a Lecturer at the “Eqrem Çabej” University, Gjirokastra, Albania.

Assoc. Prof Dudi SULI is Lecture and Scientific Researcher at the Department of Agricultural Political Economy, Agricultural University of Tirana.

Book of Abstracts