

BACHELOR THESIS REVIEW

Type of review: *Opponent*

Author: Subin Han

Title: Understanding the Challenges of Waste Management in Vientiane.

Supervisor: Mirna Jusić, M.A., Ph.D.

Reviewer: Aysha Farhana Chakkampully

Please explain the reasons for your evaluation (especially reservations and criticisms) according to the criteria listed below.

1. Is the aim of the thesis (research question) clearly stated, and do the conclusions correspond to it? Is the thesis appropriately structured?

Comments:

The thesis aims to understand waste management challenges in Vientiane, Laos. The research questions are stated well. The conclusions summarize the findings, but they are not elaborated on. The thesis is fairly structured and has a logical progression, but it should focus on the formatting of the essay and the overall coherence of the arguments.

2. Is the thesis based on relevant research and literature, and does it accurately summarize and integrate the information?

Comments:

The thesis draws from various sources related to waste management, governance, and stakeholder participation. The integration and summarization of research demonstrate a clear understanding of the topic; however, the overall contribution of the mentioned text on the topic has to be elaborated in the literature review of the thesis.

3. What is the quality of the data or the other sources? Are the sample method, data collection, and data analysis appropriate?

Comments:

Data collection techniques, such as online interviews, are appropriate for the research objectives outlined in the thesis. However, the research design lacks comprehensive information about the interview participants, participant recruitment, and the sample selection method. The standard data analysis procedure is outlined in the thesis, and the overall quality of the methodology can be improved.

4. Are the findings relevant to the research question? Are the conclusions of the thesis based on strong arguments?

Comments:

The study's findings address its objectives. The arguments are fairly supported, but they could benefit from linking findings to the broader context of waste management practices and policies. The conclusions are based on evidence gathered through online interviews and survey forms; nevertheless, the thesis mentions fewer data regarding them.

5. Are the author's thoughts distinguished unambiguously from the borrowed ideas?

Comments:

The author distinguishes their thoughts from borrowed ideas, providing citations and attributions in the thesis. The author must annotate interview anecdotes separately in the text. For example, on page 36, under 4.3.2, it is unclear whether the given list is anecdotes from the interview or a general list for analysis.

6. What is the quality of style and other formal requirements?

Comments:

The overall quality of style can be improved. The writing is fairly clear, concise, and academic, making ideas accessible. The thesis adheres to formal requirements but has scope for improvement in a few areas, such as formatting, citation styles, and structured layout. The language used aids the overall readability of the document.

7. Are there any other strengths and weaknesses of the thesis that were not included in the previous questions? Please list them, if any.

Strengths: The thesis's interdisciplinary approach, combining sociological and environmental perspectives, adds depth to the analysis. Including stakeholder perspectives provides a practical dimension to the theoretical framework, which is important for a case-specific analysis.

Weaknesses: The thesis could benefit from a more detailed discussion of the study's results, limitations, and potential areas for further research. A comparative analysis of waste management practices in similar cities could provide more context and enrich the findings.

8. What topic do you suggest for the discussion in the thesis defense?

I suggest discussing the role of policy interventions in enhancing waste management practices and behavioral changes in Vientiane. Specifically, how can local governments and international organizations collaborate more effectively to implement sustainable waste management solutions? Additionally, exploring the impact of cultural factors on waste management behaviors and practices in Vientiane could provide valuable insights for the defense discussion.

9. I declare that I have checked the result of the originality check of the thesis:
[] Theses [] Turnitin [] Ouriginal (Urkund)

Comment on the result of the check:

Overall evaluation of the thesis:

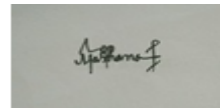
(Please state clearly whether the thesis is or is not recommended for a defense and write the main reasons for the recommendation).

The thesis is recommended for defense, has room for improvement, and can benefit from the changes mentioned in the review. The overall structure of the thesis can be improved.

Proposed grade: *(A – F)*: C

Date: 10.06.2024

Signature:

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink.