

**Title:**

The social character of the production processes and the assessment of their impact on quality of life.

Sociological study on the example of the coal mining industry.

**Abstract:**

In the dissertation was taken the problem of assessing the impact of production processes on the quality of life in the social dimension of sustainable development, which is a pioneering proposal on the basis of the social sciences. The main inspiration were the assumptions of the concept of sustainable development, as well as developed within the framework of interdisciplinary research, the methods and techniques of the impact assessment, especially the Social Life Cycle Assessment (SLCA).

The adopted sociological perspective focuses attention on the importance of social perception of the economic phenomena by different social groups and the role of intermediate spheres in the process of creation of social economic awareness. Depicted also the consequences of the lack of consensus in the perception of the impact of production processes on quality of life and universality of values for determining the scope and manner of conducting the impact assessments, as well as for the functioning of the enterprises referring to the paradigm of the conflict.

The empirical part of the work was based on two-stage studies in the coal mining sector, which involved three groups of stakeholders of the mines (employees, local communities and suppliers) and the three selected mining companies. The obtained results allowed to indicate the social aspects relevant for the assessment of the impact of production processes on quality of life and the specification of subgroups of the key, complementary and particular features/social phenomena for the defining scope of the assessment. Diagnosed also the importance of the domain fields of observation of quality of life for defining the way of conducting evaluations. In addition, it were compared the activities of the three selected mining companies and was diagnosed their potential to improve, and also verified the prepared procedure for assessing the impact of production processes on the quality of life in the coal mining sector.

**Keywords:**

sustainable development, quality of life, economic awareness, webbyness strategic, stakeholder groups, impact assessment