

## **ABSTRACT**

PŘIBYLOVÁ, M. (2015): Impacts of the realization of investments in water infrastructure on the development of small municipalities. Master thesis. Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Science, Department of Social Geography and Regional Development, Prague, pp. 120.

This thesis deals with the disposal of waste water in small municipalities. The theses addresses the impacts that may be caused by investment in the construction of water infrastructure. This investment is very expensive for small municipalities and could lead them into debt. The question to be answered is whether the construction of facilities for wastewater treatment is really important for small municipalities (and their development) and if it should be done in compliance with the EU directive. The task of the study is to assess the current situation of the requirement to build a system of wastewater treatment in small municipalities in Czechia. The study is written from the perspective of a social geographer and in particular in an economic and developing point of view. The theses is also trying to suggest an alternative and cheaper solution. The impacts of these investments could be identified on the basis of the relevant review of the literature and thanks to the responses from the interviews which were conducted both with leading Czech experts and with the mayors of small municipalities. Information obtained through the interviews was then mutually compared both among themselves and also with elaborated literature. Then an overall assessment has been made. The work can be divided into several parts. The first part is focused on a literature research, explanation of important concepts and methodology. The second part is focused on the evaluation of the situation regarding the wastewater treatment in Czechia (finance, ways of wastewater management, water quality, possible solutions for wastewater disposal, comparison of the different options according to treatment efficiency and incurred finance). The third step was the assessment of the shortages of drinking water in the world and the evaluation of waste water issues in the international context. The most important step was to conduct interviews which were designed to clarify the facts in practice and to confirm the obtained information.

**Key words:** development of small municipalities, water management, wastewater treatment, investment, water infrastructure