

Report on Bachelor Thesis

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague

Student:	Tarekegn Mamo Legamo
Advisor:	Milan Ščasný, PhD.
Title of the thesis:	Determinants of Residential Water Demand in Hawassa, Ethiopia

OVERALL ASSESSMENT (provided in English, Czech, or Slovak):

The master thesis examines water consumption of households in Hawassa city, Ethiopia. The strength of this thesis presents a performance of empirical research that is based on own survey carried out in 169 Ethiopian households. Despite the fact that the presented estimations are based on decent econometric models of demand, Tarekegn's thesis presents very good contribution to economics of environment and development, and to empirical research on water demand in low-income countries in particular.

The thesis follows clear and logical structure. It begins with description of the problem, water demand and institutions. Chapter 2 reviews relevant empirical literature. Next chapter described the study and the survey, while next chapter describes data. Chapter 5 provides the estimation results and last chapter provide policy recommendations, although some of the policy recommendations are not tight to the performed research and results. The only one minor critical point I have is related to formal quality of the thesis; better proof-reading of English might improve readability and comprehension of written text. Some of the variables might be also better described (for instance, *normal*).

The survey aims at water consumption of households that are connected to water system in their homes or their yard. Households that are using additional water sources and/or are not connected to water supply system were excluded from the final sample. Restricting the sample in this way determines interpretation of the results and given policy recommendations. This fact might be better highlighted in thesis's conclusions.

Suggested question for the defence:

- What is the share of households that are connected to (tap) water supply system (i.e. that corresponds to your sample) in Hawassa region and in Ethiopia? I guess this segment of population might systematically differ –with respect to socio-demographic variables– from the target population on which the study sample is based.

In the case of successful defence, I recommend „výborně“ (excellent).

SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED (for details, see below):

CATEGORY	POINTS
Literature (max. 20 points)	20
Methods (max. 30 points)	26
Contribution (max. 30 points)	30
Manuscript Form (max. 20 points)	12
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	88
GRADE (1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	1

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Milan Ščasný
DATE OF EVALUATION: June 20h, 2014

Referee Signature

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:

LITERATURE REVIEW: *The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and command of recent literature. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way.*

Strong	Average	Weak
20	10	0

METHODS: *The tools used are relevant to the research question being investigated, and adequate to the author's level of studies. The thesis topic is comprehensively analyzed.*

Strong	Average	Weak
30	15	0

CONTRIBUTION: *The author presents original ideas on the topic demonstrating critical thinking and ability to draw conclusions based on the knowledge of relevant theory and empirics. There is a distinct value added of the thesis.*

Strong	Average	Weak
30	15	0

MANUSCRIPT FORM: *The thesis is well structured. The student uses appropriate language and style, including academic format for graphs and tables. The text effectively refers to graphs and tables and disposes with a complete bibliography.*

Strong	Average	Weak
20	10	0

Overall grading:

TOTAL POINTS	GRADE		
81 – 100	1	= excellent	= výborně
61 – 80	2	= good	= velmi dobře
41 – 60	3	= satisfactory	= dobře
0 – 40	4	= fail	= nedoporučuji k obhajobě