

The impact of the service-learning activities on the community partners

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INTRODUCTION

This paper presents the research project of the dissertation work which focuses on the impact of service-learning activities on the community partners. The aim of dissertation work is to identify, analyse and evaluate the potential of the service-learning as the effective strategy of the fulfilling of the third mission of the university in Slovak context, which means by reacting on the actual problems in the communities in which the university works.

THE MAIN GOAL OF THE RESEARCH

-To identify, analyse and evaluate the potential and the limits of the service-learning activities for the community partners involved in application of the service-learning strategy at the MBU in Banská Bystrica.

THE RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What are the results of the implemented service learning projects in terms to the partners in the community and to the target groups?
2. How the partners in the community understand the service learning as the process?
3. Which benefits perceive the partners in the community from the implemented service learning projects?
4. Which benefits have the service learning projects for the target groups?
5. Which limits and negative aspects of the implementation of the service learning projects identify the target groups and the partners in the community?
6. Which factors play the role in the perception of the benefits and the negatives aspects of the service learning?

THE RESEARCH SAMPLE

- Intentional choice of the research sample
- Participants in the community- representative in the organisations and the target groups in the communities in which the SL project were implemented (interviews, questionnaires)
- Student reports from the implemented SL projects (content analyse)



METHODOLOGY

Combined research:

- Qualitative methodology: half-structured interview, content analyse of the documents
- Quantitative methodology: questionnaire

Research plan: 2020-2021

RESULT APPLICATION

The service-learning area and the area of the third mission of the universities are not very famous in Slovakia. The results of the dissertation work will be useful for the schools and universities which will implement the service learning strategy to the teaching syllabus and also for those who will be interested in. The respondents and the participants of the research can be informed about the research results if they will be interested.

We also suppose this work will be the next step to the promotion and to the raising of the public awareness of the service learning in Slovakia in the academic environment, in the social area and also in the volunteer.

Thank you! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. 😊