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Efficiency of using financial resources and their impact on security in a local context

Jozef Kubás^{a,*}, Viktor Šoltés^a, Ján Mišík^a, Zuzana Štofková^b

^aUniversity of Zilina, Faculty of Security Engineering, Univerzitna 1, Zilina 010 26, Slovakia

^bUniversity of Zilina, Faculty of Operation and Economics of Transport and Communications, Univerzitna 1, Zilina 010 26, Slovakia

Abstract

Each city or municipality expends a certain amount of financial resources for creation of the most secure environment possible. Several methods exist for assessing the efficiency of using these resources. One of the methods for comparing efficiency is Data Envelope Analysis, or the DEA method. Using this method we determine to what measure the selected largest cities in the Slovak Republic utilize resources for security. An important task is to select suitable data, which will be the inputs and outputs for the given method. The amount of financial resources from a security program per resident and the amount of financing from the budget per resident were selected among the inputs. The number of residents per one violation was selected as the output. In the contribution the most current closed period in the final accounts of the cities are compared.

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1. Introduction

In Slovakia all cities try to use their financial resources as efficiently as possible. Security is one such program. For assessment of the efficient use of finances it is necessary to focus on a certain period. For assessing the use of finances,

^{*} Jozef Kubás. Tel.:+421-425-136-670 E-mail address: Jozef.Kubas@fbi.uniza.sk

it is desirable to select several cities which we can then compare; we thus determine to what extent they are efficiently using their financing in a security program. It is municipal police that have a major influence on security. Municipal police use a portion of the resources and help improve transportation in a city and do so, for example, via the following activities:

- · Operation of a multifunctional transportation playground
- Transportation education
- · Lectures for nursery schools, primary schools and secondary schools
- · Lectures for seniors and others who are interested
- Paying attention at pedestrian crossings, if necessary
- Control of the observing of traffic signage

Large cities could be an example for other cities. It is necessary that municipal police not be perceived as an encumbrance on the budget, but as a contribution in the creation of a secure environment.

2. Security of cities in Slovakia

Security may be considered to be a system of actions which are mutually linked and function together, and their characteristics work on the origin, advancement and social developments which negatively impact health, life and all other values in a specific case [1]. In terms of real assessment of security, we can define security as a state of the safety of situations, actions and processes which ensures favorable conditions for existence, endurance and fulfillment of required functions and the development of each reference object [1]. We include the following in particular among the reference objects: state authorities and organizations, units of territorial administration (higher territorial units, cities, municipalities), manufacturing enterprises, non-manufacturing enterprises offering services, additional organizations providing a service and volunteer for-profit and non-profit organizations. In all reference objects are many assets, and these may be threatened; therefore, it is necessary to protect them [2]. The law lists the obligations which administrative authorities should fulfill in relation to the security of citizens and the protection of property. In addition, the preventive function of a municipality is also anchored in the provisions of this regulation, namely that a municipality shapes and protects the health conditions and healthy way of life and work of municipal residents, protects the environment, and shapes the conditions for ensuring health care, education, culture and community activities, interesting artistic events, physical culture and sport, i.e., all the activities which help increase the security of citizens and their property in a municipality [3]. Security is one of the highest priorities of a city. For the creation of security as a basic value it is necessary that security become a part of a city's strategic plan. Cities further elaborate their set strategic aims into tactical plans for the most important areas of activities. This is in fact the subject of security management, which is defined as a system and methods for managing security. This is a systematic, repeating set of mutually linked activities whose aim is to ensure the security of all activities for achieving goals and likewise limiting security risks that may cause damage to health, property or the environmental or a loss of life.

Among the basic principles of management of security are:

- a) Commitment to the principles of preserving security
- b) Responsibility for security
- c) Security planning
- d) Setting security standards
- e) Managing security
- f) Achieving security
- g) Ensuring security
- h) Promotion of security [2]

Each city has certain finances available. It is necessary to use these finances efficiently and thus to aim at the financial health of a city while satisfying the needs of residents as best as possible [4].

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