

SOMKUAN POTISAN : SOCIAL EQUITY IN GARBAGE COLLECTION SERVICES
BY MUNICIPALITIES IN THAILAND. THESIS ADVISOR: ASSO. PROF. BIDHYA
BOWORNWATHANA, Ph.D. 88 PP.

The objectives of this study are to analyse the level of social equity in garbage collection services by municipalities in Thailand and to investigate significant factors which cause serious inequity.

Aggregated data analysis is applied in this study of 128 municipalities. Additional data is obtained through returned mailed questionnaire from municipal clerks. The mailed questionnaire return rate is 68.93%. The study utilizes Coulter's inequity index to measure levels of social equity in garbage collection services. Multiple regression technique is used to search for critical factors which contribute to the inequity.

The research results indicate that municipalities score high in terms of social equity in garbage collection services. Another interesting finding is that most municipalities have uneven distribution of garbage cans and allocated budgets vis a vis their population. Multiple regression finding reveal that administrative variables such as population and last year's budget allocation (t-1) have more explanatory power than other factors. In conclusion, the most important factors which produce inequity are: allocation of resources without serious consideration of local needs, and the bureaucratic routine work.