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Efficiency of Slovenian Public General Libraries:

A Data Envelopment Analysis Approach

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Abstract

In the article we study financing and efficiency of Slovenian Public General Libraries. We employ a rich dataset of CEZAR – Centre for Development of Libraries for the years 2002-2015 for 58 libraries and use data envelopment analysis and regression methods to study the efficiency of libraries over the years. Our main results show that the problems for the libraries in this period did not lie in the low/lowered efficiency but more likely in other system requirements. We provide also a grouping of libraries following clustering analysis and show it had significant effects on the performance of the libraries.

**Keywords:** public general libraries, Slovenia, financing, efficiency, data envelopment analysis

**Panel topic:** Local self-government and local public services