



2024 Master internship at University of Gdańsk



TITLE: The impact of a COVID-19 pandemic on local government investments

LAB & PEOPLE

- Name of the hosting lab: Department of Investment and Real Estate
- General activities of the lab:
Department of Investments and Real Estate is formed by academic and research staff members, whose main goal is to carry out research and share knowledge in the following areas:
 - preparation and assessment of investment projects' profitability,
 - capital and money market,
 - financial investments
 - financing of investments,
 - investment in real estate markets,
 - investment in non-material values,
 - investment strategies of enterprises,
 - real estate management,
 - the commercialisation of real estate,
 - valuation of real estate and enterprises,
 - real estate trade agencies,
 - real estate market analysis,
 - risk management,
 - innovation investment,
 - city development.
- Website: <https://wzr.ug.edu.pl/inwestycje/>
- Number of staff / Ph.D.: 9/7
- Supervisor name and contact: Assoc. Prof. Anna Wojewnik-Filipkowska Anna anna.wojewnik-filipkowska@ug.edu.pl, Ph.D. Aleksandra Koszarek-Cyra aleksandra.koszarek-cyra@ug.edu.pl

TOPIC OF THE INTERNSHIP

Scientific context of the internship (max 20 lines):

Investments impact the functioning of every organization, including local government units in two dimensions – development prospects and financial condition. In particular, different types of real estate, infrastructure but also intangible investments determine local development, therefore it is so important to strive for their implementation at the highest possible level in terms of quality, quantity, and timing according to demands, needs, and proper socio-economic forecasts with respect to sustainable development rules. On the other hand, the basis for the implementation of the investment is the provision/planning of funds in the budgets of

municipalities and the allocation of the municipality's revenues for the investment purpose. Most of the investments are capital-intensive which results in an infrastructure gap in terms of the above-mentioned quality, quantity, and here - financing gap. Moreover, recent years have been difficult for municipal authorities in terms of investment decision-making and their financing. There were two «black-swans» that could not be predicted – the Covid-19 pandemic and the military conflict in Ukraine. The reduction in revenues has forced flexibility and the necessity to make changes in the allocation of expenditures entered in local budgets. Based on the above-mentioned, the aim of the research is to verify how the mentioned «back-swans» influenced planned and realized investment spending in selected local governments.

Keywords: local government, public investment, financing, budgeting, decision-making

Bibliography (selected) :

- Abrardi, L., & Sabatino, L. (2023). Ultra-broadband investment and economic resilience: Evidence from the Covid-19 pandemic. *Telecommunications Policy*, 47(2), 102480, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.telpol.2022.102480>
- Jackson, J. K., Weiss, M. A., Schwarzenberg, A. B., Nelson, R. M., Sutter, K. M., & Sutherland, M. D. (2020). Global economic effects of COVID-19.
- Klaus R. Kunzmann (2020) Smart Cities After Covid-19: Ten Narratives, *disP - The Planning Review*, 56:2, 20-31, <https://doi.org/10.1080/02513625.2020.1794120>
- Nemeč, J. and Špaček, D. (2020), "The Covid-19 pandemic and local government finance: Czechia and Slovakia", *Journal of Public Budgeting, Accounting & Financial Management*, Vol. 32 No. 5, pp. 837-846. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JPBAFM-07-2020-0109>
- Ofiarska, M. (2021). Government fund for local investments–legal aspects of financial support for local government investment projects during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Białostockie Studia Prawnicze*, 4(26), 139-162, <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5311-0201>
- Saurav, A., Kusek, P., Kuo, R., & Viney, B. (2020). *The Impact of COVID-19 on Foreign Investors: Evidence from the Quarterly Global MNE Pulse Survey for the Third Quarter of 2020*. Washington, DC: World Bank Group.
- Wray, A., Fleming, J., and Gilliland, J. (2020), *The public realm during public health emergencies: exploring local level responses to the COVID-19 pandemic*, *Cities & Health*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/23748834.2020.1790260>

- Tasks and duties entrusted to the student:

The intern's task will be to gather the primary data reflecting planned and realized investment in terms of investment type and required financing. Based on the literature on the subject, available documents, and public information, the student will prepare a preliminary analysis of the effects of Covid-19 pandemic on planned and realized investment spending in selected local governments.

- Skills to be acquired or developed:
 - analytical and research skills
 - written and oral communication

- the critical approach to the subject of study
- ability to plan, organise and prioritise work
- paying attention to detail
- quantitative skills will be an advantage

PROFILE OF THE DESIRED STUDENT

- Minimum level of study required: Master 1
- Field(s) of study: Social sciences, management, finance
- Scientific skills: writing and analysis skills, scientific curiosity for the subject matter
- Language skills required: English level B2

THE INTERNSHIP ASSIGNMENT:

Desired duration of the internship (in months): 2 months

Desired Starting date of the mission: January/April 2024

Indicative weekly schedule: *20 h / week*

The Intern can apply for Erasmus grant from home university

Remuneration: 0 €/month

Internship agreement: *an internship agreement will be signed.*

To SEA-EU students:

*If you're interested please send your CV and letter of motivation to the scientist in charge, email:
anna.wojewnik-filipkowska@ug.edu.pl or aleksandra.koszarek-cyra@ug.edu.pl before
30/11/2023*