Reviewer’s report

Title: Sustainable development and public health: rating European countries

Version: 1 Date: 13 December 2012

Reviewer: Mitra B Drakulovic

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Minor Essential Revisions

Methods, fourth paragraph: The authors have stated some examples when the ranking of specific marks is done in a way that can seriously affect the process (sport competitions, UN participations, Universities ranking, etc.). These states should be referenced with actual papers and some previous research.

Methods, seventh paragraph: The first sentence of the paragraph is not satisfactorily clear. With an aim to be more precise, the authors are proposed to make the revision and adequate correction of the paragraph.

Minor issues not for publication

Abstract, Results, first paragraph: According to the results, Norway and Iceland are the two topmost European countries regarding the sustainable development in the area of public health.

Abstract, Conclusions, first paragraph: Moreover, public health represents a precondition for sustainable development and, based on the results of the survey in this paper, should be continuously invested in and improved.

Background, fourth paragraph: More specifically, in this paper we shall evaluate we have evaluated sustainable development by implementing many public health variables and create created one, synthesized, indicator.

Methods, fifth paragraph: In his work, many socio-economic development indicators were considered and the problem was how to use all of them in order to calculate a single synthetic indicator, which will thereafter represent the rank [9].

Methods, sixth paragraph: The explanation of I-Distance formula should be checked and possibly corrected.

Methods, the last sentence: The ranking of entities I in the set is there based on the calculated distance from the referent entity [19].

Results and discussion, second paragraph: This outcome could be explained with a typical Mediterranean diet, [20] and a way of life.

Conclusions, first paragraph: The EU sustainable development strategy brings together the many strands of economic, social and environmental policy under one overarching objective - to continually improve the quality of life and well-being on Earth for present and future generations.

Table 1-Public health sustainable development dndicators indicators (EU
Table 3- The correlation between I2 I2distance and input variables

Discretionary Revisions
Background, first paragraph: At the end of the paragraph, one supplementary reference could be added in order to illuminate the link between environmental, social and economic factors.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interest’s below.