

## Abstract

### **Monitoring the National Educational Plan: a proposal to improve Ideb and the panel of indicators**

*Leonardo Milhomem de Rezende and Paulo de Martino Jannuzzi*

In the last two decades there has been a growing interest on monitoring and evaluation indicators of governmental programs and also on broad social indicators, in and outside public agencies. On educational matters, more precisely, moved by the National Education Plan (PDE), it has been proposed the Ideb – Indicator of basic Education Development. This paper aims to analyze its main aspects, its uses and limitations and also propose other different measures to follow up the PDE's results and impacts. The paper is divided in five sections. In the first section it is discussed the role and application of indicators in the policy cycle, more precisely on program monitoring and evaluation. The next section is concerned on methodological matters of building composite indicators, its uses and weakness. Then, Ideb is presented and discussed as a tool to follow up the educational agenda. The last sections are dedicated to the presentation of Ideb+ and PIdeb+ panel, different indicators that can be used to evaluate PDE.

**Key words:** Educational Indicators, Ideb, National Education Plan.

### **Municipal Councils for Public Policies: an exploratory analysis**

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Management Councils are hybrid forums where popular participants get involved with the design of public policies, with negotiations of collective interests, with the elaboration of programs and social projects, and with the supervision of governmental actions. The meaning and dimension of Councils to participatory democracy are enormous, justifying the importance of this study, based on an exploratory analysis of 12 local Councils on the municipality of Viçosa (in Minas Gerais state, Brazil). The goal is to evaluate the performance of these Councils. The performance evaluation took into consideration the same dimensional parameters, to both collecting primary data and to secondary data. Primary data collection was through the application of semi-structured questionnaires, to Council presidents of the Councils under research. Program SPSS was used (version 15.0) to the statistical analyses of the multiple-choice questions, and the technique of content analyses was used to the open questions. After this phase, a workshop took place with the Council presidents, aiming at obtaining new data and information. The Municipal Councils researched showed results with little discrepancies between the theory applied to the issue and the effective practice in the public arena. However, research showed a not-homogeneous institutional development levels councils. That is, there are councils which are better than others. The independent and democratic choice of Council non-governmental members revealed its independence level from the Executive Branch. In spite of that, it is necessary to capacitate the counselors in order to avoid the disfiguration of the councils. As to governance, Viçosa highlighted the degree and forms of applicability observed in the management of several policies. Similarly, a level of governability was observed, which confers legitimacy to the policies implemented. It was in the end verified that the effectiveness of societal accountability has been used by Councils in the arena of several sector-specific policies. As for the secondary data of analyses, they were obtained through a synthesis of supervisory reports by the General Controlling Office, on the Minas Gerais State's municipalities. All records related to municipal councils were identified, in Minas Gerais state from the year 2003 to the year 2006. The main problems refer to the municipal councils on health and social assistance. Among the many faults appointed, the gravest problems are in the constitution and operational routines of councils, resulting on the non-function of these mechanisms in the supervised municipalities. The performance evaluation

of Viçosa local councils led to the conclusion that those mechanisms present a reasonable good performance for management and control of public policies in the municipality.

**Key words:** Management councils, governance, governability

### **Transforming bureaucracy to finance the poorest: the evolution of ‘Pronaf crédito grupo B’**

*Leticia Mendonça*

Banking institutions traditionally do not offer financial services, especially productive credit to the low-income groups of society. Considering the rigid structure of the financial system in working with the poor ones, this article describes the process of the creation and the implementation of a rural micro credit public policy in the National Program of Assistance to Family Farms (Pronaf). It also presents motivational aspects to help changing the structure of the credit line, as well as the normative ones, including sources and operational agents in each agricultural year to make it possible overcome the challenges presented by the bureaucratic National Rural Credit System – SNCR. This article shows the impact in number of contracts resulting from various changes taken during the process. Finally, it demonstrates a balance of the major lessons learnt as well as updated challenges of major micro credit qualification and integration to other public policies.

**Key words:** public policies; rural poverty; micro credit

### **Public Management and Operational Research: performance evaluation of Agencies of Social Security**

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This work utilizes DEA (Data Envelopment Analysis) methodology to evaluate the efficiency of the 22 Agencies of Social Security in Fortaleza-BRAZIL (APS-GEXFOR). DEA utilizes linear programming whose analytic structures nucleus is formed from the original model CCR (Charnes, Cooper, Rhodes). When applied to DMU (Decision Making Units), it defined inefficient and efficient units, drawing an Efficiency Border. In the application, the model DEA-CCR was used and it implemented by the software DEA-Solver©. The Social Security agency (INSS) has an indicator of performance. Some variables in the model implemented derive from these indicators. Others derive from information disposed by the Information Systems Corporation. DEA evaluation of efficiency of the APS-GEXFOR permitted: to identify the best practices, to measure the participation of each variable involved in the unit evaluation, and to project the inefficient units in the border of efficiency, identifying goals to be reached in order to become efficient among the units observed.

**Key words:** DEA(Data Envelopment Analysis), Efficiency, Results-Oriented Public Management, Agencies of the Social Security – INSS (National Institute of Social Security of the Brazil).

### **The State, transnationality and global policies**

*Alexandrina Sobreira de Moura*

Rethinking the modern State requires comprehension of the globalization process being carried out by transnational agents. In that aspect, it is important to discuss the form of integration between the State and the non-governmental sector, which – acting as pressure groups. creates global policies that gradually debilitate the centralization of the State and generate a crisis in the ability to govern. However, since the global policies are carried out in local instances, the “beyond the State” approach becomes vulnerable since the State is the agent, if not the defining agent then the implementing agent, of those policies. Therefore, a partnership between the State and the non-governmental sector becomes opportune to make possible a decentralizing and participation process which includes elements to redesigning the State.