

Ibáñez, A. (2013). Does the analysis and evaluation of public policy serve? In: Roth, A. (Edit.). The analysis and evaluation of public policies in the era of participation. Theoretical reflections and case studies. Bogotá: National University of Colombia.

The objective is to address the issue of evaluating public policy and delve into the evaluation methodologies of these.

Addresses the meaning of public policy and the need to review, types and methodologies of evaluation; the evaluation of public policy in the case of Colombia; the characterization of the monitoring and evaluation systems; as well as the final considerations of the Colombian Synergy experience.

A greater decentralization gives a greater return of authority and responsibility to departments and municipalities, and this will imply that the allocation of public resources is under a scheme of greater governance that is based on a model of public policy.

The Colombian government has created two subsystems for citizen evaluation, monitoring and accountability: SIGOB and SIIF, which have the objective of monitoring both the actions of the government and the citizen. Thus, the behavior of government entities in executing the budget allocated for the implementation of public policies has managed to adapt to these systems, but what continues to prevail in the collective imagination is the non-satisfaction of basic needs.

The information provided by the subsystems is that the central government sectors execute all the resources that are allocated, the materialization of public goods and services implemented through public policies not only meet the goals proposed in the Development Plans, but that exceed the goals.

However, the collective imagination of unmet social demands is still evident in Colombia. The indicators of poverty, unemployment, insecurity, education, violation of human rights have increased and have a positive behavior. A system failure is the ability of the executors of the entities to change the established goal or the units of measure of the goal to be able to show the proposed results.

This is recognized as an institutional weakness, since the analysis of public policy loses objectivity and the aspects in which it has performed well and the aspects that still need to be reformulated are blurred. On the other hand, social demands continue to be unmet if there are no indicators showing that the policy objectives have not been met.

In this aspect, it is where the role of evaluation is relevant, but the low institutional capacity is linked to a structural problem when it comes to carrying out evaluations. Thus, the evaluations carried out by the systems that depend directly on the executive have the main objective of legitimizing the action of the state entities, but there is no real evaluation of the plans, programs and projects organized by these.