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Information Management

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MDS

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND
FIGHT AGAINST HUNGER

MINISTER´S OFFICE

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

SESAN
NATIONAL SECRETARIAT FOR FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

SNAS
NATIONAL SECRETARIAT FOR SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

SESEP
EXTRAORDINARY SECRETARIAT FOR THE ERADICATION OF EXTREME
POVERTY

SENARC
NATIONAL SECRETARIAT OF CITIZENSHIP INCOME

SAGI
NATIONAL SECRETARIAT FOR EVALUATION
AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT

SUPPORT

DEPARTMENT OF
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

DEPUTY SECRETARIAT

DEPARTMENT OF MONITORING

CABINET

DEPARTMENT OF EVALUATION

ADVISORY STAFF

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND DISSEMINATION

Secretaries

INTRODUCTION

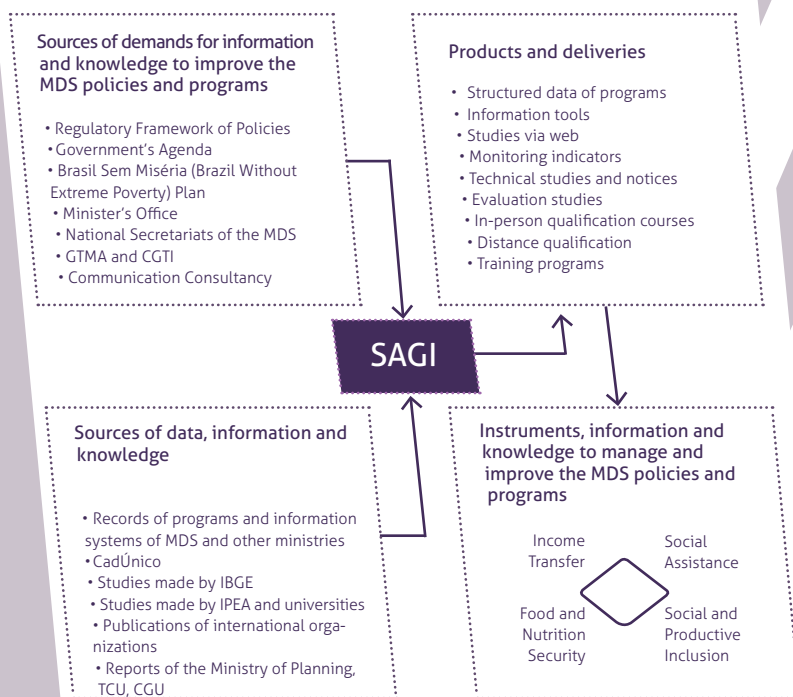
The Secretariat of Evaluation and Information Management (SAGI) is a technical and administrative unit of the Ministry of Social Development and Fight Against Hunger (MDS), responsible for actions of information management, monitoring, evaluation and qualification of the Ministry's policies and programs. The Secretariat develops activities that allow the MDS to better know the audience of its policies, the intervention logic of its programs, the problems and good practices of implementation for its actions and, naturally, the results and impacts of the governmental efforts in the area of Social Development. Some of the activities regularly developed by SAGI are: investigation of the effects of money transfers to the Bolsa Família (Family Allowance) Program or Benefício de Prestação Continuada (Continuous Cash Benefit), qualification of social assistance services provided to families, help design and monitor the actions of food and nutrition security and evaluate the productive inclusion.

More precisely, SAGI supports technicians and managers at the three governmental levels – federal government, states and municipalities –, involved in Social Development Policies, in daily management and improvement of the Ministry's programs and actions, developing information tools to organize and provide data on internet, panels of monitoring indicators, evaluation research and specific technical studies. To intensify the use of these instruments and disseminate the knowledge produced, SAGI also offers in-person and distance qualification courses and trainings, of short and long duration, and develops information products with contents addressing various themes of the Ministry, provided in printed and digital publications.

SAGI's agenda is defined – and regularly updated – according to the analysis of structure demands of the Policies of Social Development and Fight Against Hunger, the Main Agenda of the Government and Ministry – such as the Brasil Sem Miséria - Brazil Without Extreme Poverty –, more specific needs of the Minister's Office and the end secretariats and following the imperatives established in its institutional mission of comprehensive and innovative knowledge production for the management of policies, programs and actions of the Ministry. The Monitoring and Evaluation Workgroup (GTMA)

and the Managing Committee of Information Technology (CGTI), groups with representatives from all secretariats and agents under the Minister, are institutional channels that forward the demands to the Secretariat. Demands resulting from technical meetings involving the Secretariat's managers and technicians with their peers from other secretariats, debates in seminars of study and product result presentation, issues discussed in publications and forums of academic discussion and international agencies also contribute to the definition of SAGI's agenda.

INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCED BY SAGI



SOURCE: SAGI/MDS

In the development of its activities, SAGI uses data and information from several internal and external sources, such as management systems and records of programs from the MDS national secretariats, Cadastro Único para Programas Sociais (Unified Registry for Social Programs) or CadÚnico, censuses and studies conducted by the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), studies conducted by the National Institute of Studies and Research (INEP), administrative records and information systems of the Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Social Security. Also important for the elaboration of technical studies and didactical material of qualification and training provided at the Secretariat are the publications, reports of studies produced by the Ministries, the Institute of Applied Economic Research (IPEA), IBGE, INEP, postgraduate programs, research centers, international agencies and other public organizations, such as the Brazilian Court of Audit and the Office of Controller General.

To make its products and deliveries useful and adjusted to fulfill the needs of the Ministry's managers and technicians, SAGI develops its activities seeking intense interlocution and partnership with the other secretariats. The work at SAGI is based on the perspective that the production of knowledge and innovation in Social Development Policies is as important as ensuring that these products are relevant, adjusted and effectively applied by those who coordinate the Ministry's programs and actions and who know its context of operation difficulties and potentialities.

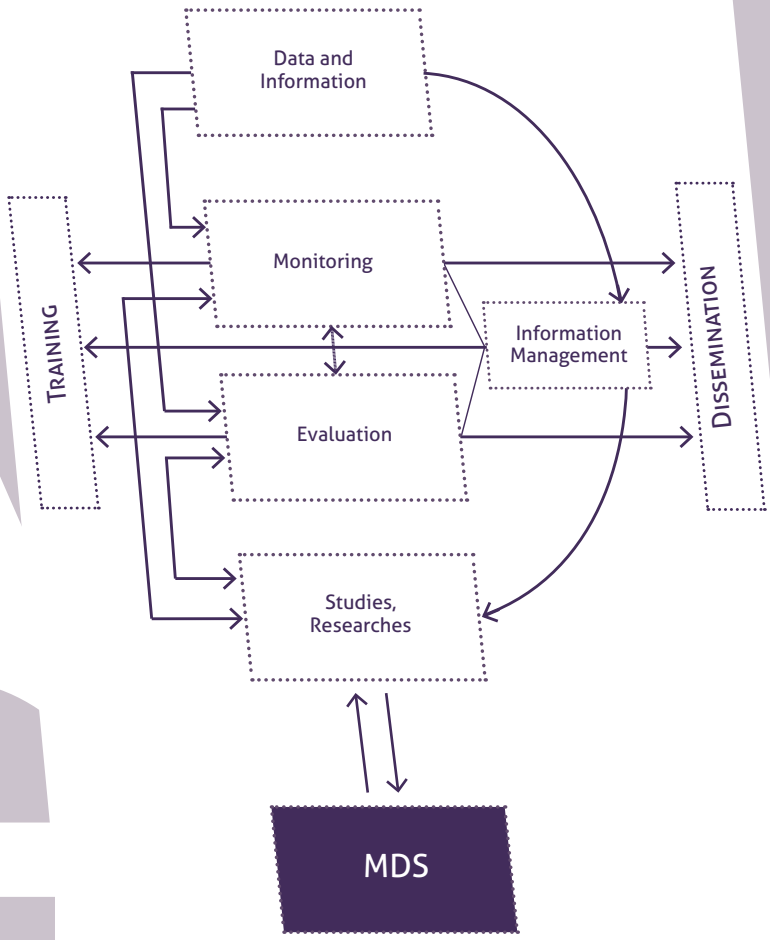
Besides the search for partnership and technical interlocution with the other secretariats, another principle that guides SAGI's operations in the development of its products is the multidisciplinary and complementarity of the methodological and technical focuses required for collecting, organizing and analyzing information for the Ministry. The development of information tools, information and indicator systems, research and evaluation studies and qualification courses and trainings requires a multimethod approach considering the complex context of the Ministry's actions, characterized by

the multidetermination of social problems faced, its varied audiences, based on policies with different disciplinary and regulatory matrices, running programs with different operating designs and in distinct development stages.

To perform these technical activities, in a Ministry with programs and actions that address different social problems, the staff of the Secretariat is necessarily multidisciplinary, with sociologists, economists, IT professionals, engineers, political scientists, statisticians, anthropologists, educators, as well as professionals from the areas of health and nutrition, communications and psychology. The team also has technicians with specialization courses, master's or doctor's degree and employees with experience in program management and consultants specialized in specific themes required by certain projects.

This technical team is organized into four departments, with distinct, but interconnected, mission and activities: Information Management Department, Monitoring Department, Evaluation Department and Training and Dissemination Department.

SAGI AND ITS DEPARTMENTS



SOURCE: SAGI/MDS

Information, knowledge and instruments for management and improvement of programs, proposition and reformulation of regulatory frameworks, qualification of technical teams are the products provided by SAGI to help the Ministry in its search for improved effectiveness for its Policies of Social Development and Fight Against Hunger.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

The Information Management Department (DGI) identifies the information needs and problems at the strategic and managerial level of the Ministry, proposing and developing solutions to help manage programs and the decision making process. The DGI organizes and manages the databases of MDS programs and actions and develops information tools to support the activities of monitoring and evaluation of end secretariats.

One of the main information collection systems used by this department is the Censo do Sistema Único da Assistência Social (SUAS Census), which has been performed annually on internet since 2007. SUAS Census allows a detailed picture of public and private tools for Social Assistance, the management capability of states and municipalities and structure of social control organizations. This system was recognized as a tool for social assistance management improvement, as it was listed as one of the 10 finalists of the Federal Public Management Innovation Award, annually promoted by the Brazilian National School of Public Administration (ENAP).

The Social Information Matrix (MI Social) is another product developed by this department, created to organize data from MDS programs and actions and report them to the public through interactive interfaces. Since it was created in 2006, MI Social has been part of a broad group of new variables and functionalities (automated information graphs, maps and reports). Based on the experience of integrating information, architecture and database of MI Social, new tools are developed and offered to the public at the Secretariat webpage (www.mds.gov.br/sagi). Some of these tools are: PAA Data (information viewer of the Food Acquisition Program), Data Social (multi-thematic portal of information) and SUAS Census and CadÚnico microdata tabulators.

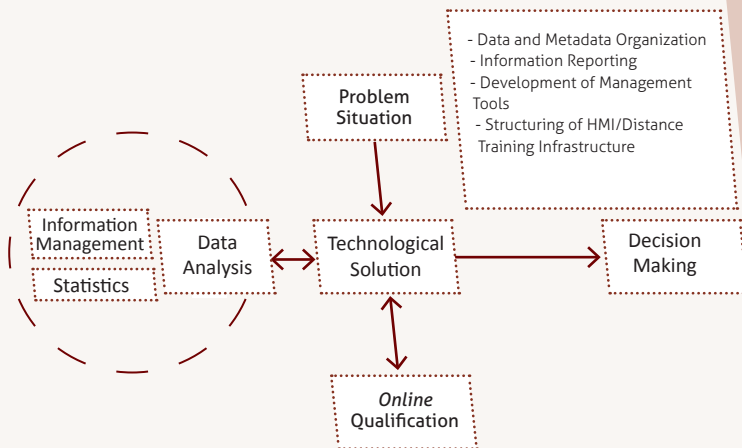
Two specific information tools have been developed for the Brasil Sem Miséria - Brazil Without Extreme Poverty: IDV (Identification of Vulnerable Homes) application and MOPS (Map of Opportunities and Public Services). IDV was created to build maps of poverty with data collected by the 2010 Census of IBGE, allowing to locate, size and characterize, at different

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levels (states, municipalities, census sectors) the population in extreme poverty and other situations of vulnerability. MOPS is a tool that integrates data and information about public tools and services offered by Brazilian municipalities in the areas of Social Assistance, Education, Health and Employment. It also offers information about job openings and work opportunities of productive inclusion in the municipalities.

Besides organization and integration tools for data collected at the municipal level, census and individual sector, from CadÚnico and several other sources of information, DGI also develops applications with textual information, from qualitative studies and documents of interest of the Ministry.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND INFORMATION PRODUCTS



Source: SAGI/MDS

MONITORING DEPARTMENT

Created in 2010, the Monitoring Department (DM) develops activities of information collection, organization and systematization in the form of indicators and technical studies for managerial and analytical monitoring of MDS policies and programs. For this purpose, the department maps processes and flows, designs logic models of programs, organizes monitoring panels of programs and elaborates analysis of such programs.

In all work processes of the department, the development of indicators is a recurrent activity. In this sense, the DM has improved the Data Social portal, introducing data and indicators for the elaboration of updated diagnoses and monitoring of MDS policies and programs, as well as information of social, demographic and economic context of municipalities and states. Data and indicators about the program management structure, sizing and characterization of audiences of policies, products, deliveries and results of programs, services and actions of the Ministry can be verified under the themes of the portal, available for technicians, managers and general population at the webpage of the Secretariat: Data SED (main data and indicators of the social, economic and demographic areas, from studies conducted by IBGE, INEP, DataSus, MTE and other sources), DataCad (data from Bolsa Família Family Allowance and CadÚnico), DataCon (data about Education and Health conditionality for the Bolsa Família (Family Allowance) beneficiaries), DataSan (data about the context and programs of Food and Nutrition Security), DataSuas (data about Social Assistance tools, human resources and services) and DataInc (data about Productive Inclusion data).

Three other tools for monitoring of MDS policies and programs are integrated to this portal, in process of regular update by the DM. One of these tools is the Panel of Social Panorama and Program Monitoring Indicators, which presents, in the form of indicators and graphs, a summary of the Ministry's efforts to fund programs, deliveries, benefits granted and services provided, as well as results and effects of policies. The Panel of Brasil Sem Miséria - Brazil Without Extreme Poverty - Monitoring Indicators is an application developed for the managerial and analytical supervision of the plan actions at national, state and municipal levels, with specific indicators of its deliveries and effects, based on the integration

The image features large, stylized, orange-colored letters 'D' and 'M' stacked vertically. The 'D' is on top and the 'M' is below it, both rendered in a bold, sans-serif font. The background is a light yellow with abstract, organic shapes in a darker yellow and white.

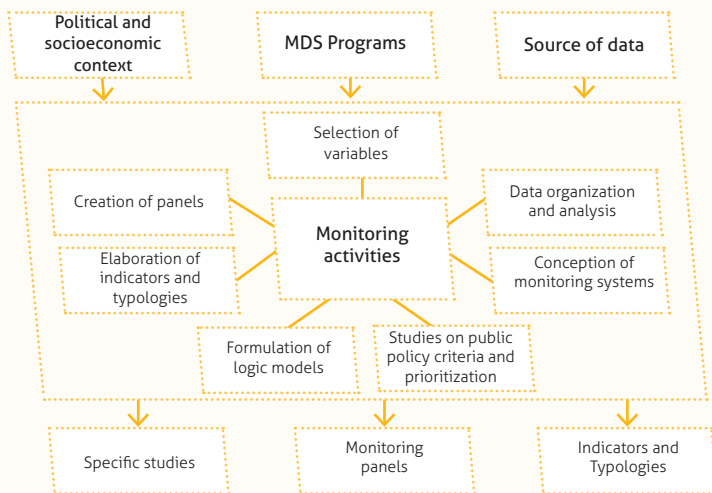
of data from CadÚnico and several other sources of statistical information and records of governmental programs.

To develop its products and studies, the department employs analytical exploration of several sources of data, such as CadÚnico, Annual Relation of Social Information, records of programs developed by the MDS and other Ministries, Demographic Censuses, issues of the National Survey by Home Sampling and other surveys of the National Statistical System.

The analysis of SUAS Census results – and the production of a specific publication – is another regular activity of the department, as well as the participation in the elaboration of logic models to MDS programs and specification of data collection tools to develop indicators.

The DM also fulfills the needs of macro-evaluation and transparency of the Ministry's policies through information platforms, such as MDS em Dados e BSM em Dados.

DATA INTEGRATION IN THE PRODUCTION OF TECHNICAL STUDIES, MONITORING PANELS AND INDICATORS



Source: SAGI/MDS

EVALUATION DEPARTMENT

The evaluation researches and studies to improve the MDS programs and actions are developed by the Evaluation Department (DA) of the Secretariat. With these tools, the MDS and its secretariats obtain information to elaborate deep diagnoses about the audiences of its policies, products for program design and redesign, knowledge about the implementation of actions and services in different contexts of the country and specific empirical evidences of results and impacts of its operations.

Considering the complexity of social issues addressed by the Ministry and the nature of operating designs of programs and the multiplicity of its audiences, the DA employs a multimethod approach in its evaluation researches. Depending on the issues to be investigated, deadlines and resources available, the department specifies the most suitable model of empirical investigation, using one or more techniques of social research – qualitative, quantitative, quasi-experimental designs –, with different subjects involved – beneficiaries of programs, specific audiences, general population, technicians and program managers –, in intentional or probabilistic samples of national representativeness or specific contexts. The techniques of research data analysis are also varied and adjusted to the nature of demands, involving more descriptive and exploratory approaches, statistical methods, impact assessment models and, more recently, structured analysis of texts in qualitative research.

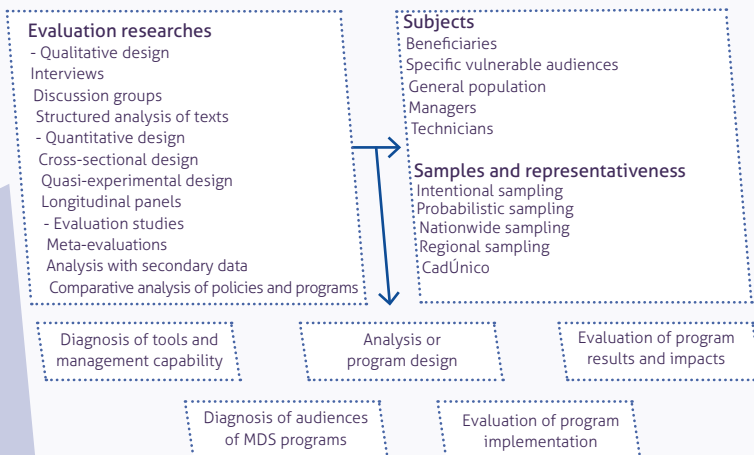
Besides research activities, the department also conducts evaluation studies that fulfill the demands through reviews of prior program evaluation researches (meta-evaluations), comparative analysis of Brazilian and worldwide policies and programs (to help in program design and redesign), as well as technical studies based on sources of documents and secondary databases.

These evaluation researches are performed by the technical team of the Secretariat and contractors from institutions, such as IBGE, research centers and research companies, selected by bidding processes, RFPs at the CNPq or by technical merit judgment based on international organizations. The program evaluation cycle involves several stages: definition of the evaluation study objective with the end or requesting secretariat at the Ministry, specification of the approach and its tools, preparation of field work to be performed by own team or contractors for services of data collection, team training and field activity supervision,



data analysis and discussion of results with the requesting party and public reporting of main findings and conclusions. SAGI webpage has a specific portal that shows the results of studies, and, for quantitative research, it also brings “de-identified” microdata, to enable a deeper analysis of evaluation researches by external users, at universities and research centers. The DA has conducted and planned a number of studies to monitor the MDS policies and programs and, naturally to support the Brasil Sem Miséria - Brazil Without Extreme Poverty. These studies include: the Social Development Action Monitoring Studies (PADS) is a national home sampling investigation that collects information on more general aspects of the Ministry’s actions and more specific aspects for the plan actions, such as those related to professional qualification, job hunting strategies and occupational mobility. The Semi-arid Nutritional Inquiry is a study that sizes the level of malnutrition and food security of the population living in the Semi-arid area in the Northeast Region of Brazil, as well as the access to public services and deliveries of the Ministry’s programs (benefits of Bolsa Família (Family Allowance), Cisterns, etc.). A similar investigation was conducted with the quilombo population and other socio-population segments. A quasi-experimental study was designed to measure the Bolsa Família (Family Allowance) impacts, with rounds in 2005 and 2009. It also conducts specific studies that evaluate the Food Acquisition Program (PAA) and services offered by public Social Assistance tools.

MULTIMETHOD APPROACH IN THE EVALUATION OF MDS PROGRAMS AND ACTIONS



SOURCE: SAGI/MDS

TRAINING AND DISSEMINATION DEPARTMENT

The Training and Dissemination Department (DFD) plans and develops, in partnership with other secretariats, in-person and distance training and qualification projects and programs to varied audiences and on different themes of the Ministry. It also plans and develops dissemination actions of evaluation and monitoring results and methods of public policies of social development and fight against hunger.

The training actions attempt to fulfill specific needs of the development of technical skills that contribute to improved management and social control of the MDS programs, services and actions, especially at the state and municipal levels. In agreement with the principles of integral and continuing qualification, the training initiatives join the concern about the development and the strengthening of attitudes focused on humanized services to beneficiaries of the MDS programs and policies.

When contributing to improved and intensified use of information management tools and monitoring and evaluation tools, the training and dissemination activities are essential for the structuring of the Monitoring and Evaluation System of the MDS policies, programs and actions. The qualification of management, implementation and social control of resulting policies, programs and actions has the purpose of providing qualification and consequent improvement of services offered to the population.

In this sense, the DFD has the challenge of structuring qualification programs of short duration and trainings of medium and long duration to technicians, managers, advisors and other agents involved in the implementation of policies for social development and fight against hunger and poverty, at the three levels of the government.

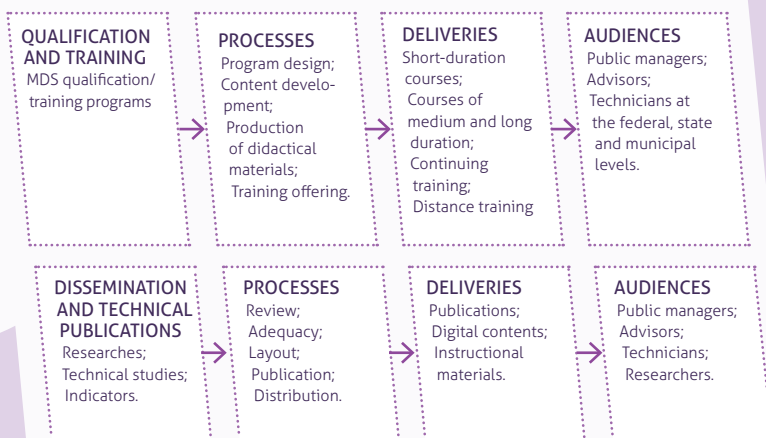
In turn, information dissemination acquires a strategic value in the promotion of public action transparency, in terms of investment and results of programs conducted by the MDS. It also supports the work of researchers and professionals from the media or control organizations. The dissemination has increasingly used new technologies, differentiated formats and specific languages to each group of interest to intensify the use of all information produced.

DFD

The DFD reports the results of SAGI studies and researches in summary sheets, executive summaries, books and articles published in the Cadernos de Estudos Journal to enhance the dissemination and application of results of studies and researches by managers and technicians at the state and municipal levels and ensure the transparent use of study contracting resources. The department also keeps, with the support of the Brazilian Network of Monitoring and Evaluation (RBMA), the Revista Brasileira de Monitoramento e Avaliação (Brazilian Magazine of Monitoring and Evaluation), which is an important channel for the publication of evaluation studies on social policies and programs in Brazil.

Most of the material already produced is found in digital format, available at the Digital Archives of Social Development Policies and Programs, at the SAGI website. These archives have studies, dissertations, theses and articles that address themes related to the MDS policies, and that can be used as references for researchers, public managers, advisors and MDS agents, for the elaboration of technical, academic and evaluation studies

ACTIVITIES, DELIVERIES AND AUDIENCES OF TRAINING AND DISSEMINATION ACTIONS



SOURCE: SAGI/MDS

INFORMATIONAL TOOLS

To learn about the tools developed by SAGI, visit the website www.mds.gov.br/sagi



SOCIAL DATA DATA, INDICATORS AND MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER

It allows an overview of the social panorama, the demographic structure and the economical profile of Brazilian cities and states. It also gives information about the actions and target audience of MDS programs.



SOCIAL MI SOCIAL INFORMATION MATRIX

It's a management monitoring system of the programs/actions/services implemented by MDS. It allows the visualization of physical and financial information and of social indicators in charts, graphics and maps.



MOPS MAP OF OPPORTUNITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES

It gathers and organizes information about opportunities of productive inclusion and availability and location of services, equipment and public programs identified in Brazil's municipalities.



IDV IDENTIFICATION OF VULNERABLE AREAS AND HOUSEHOLDS

It presents the indicators of the 2000 and 2010 Censuses and the indicators of the Unified Registry for Social Programmes until the census tract level, enabling the sizing and location of poor and/or vulnerable areas.



SOCIAL TAB SOCIAL MICRODATA TAB

It brings together a set of applications that allows the production of simple or cross tabulations of the main databases and research of MDS, such as the SUAS Census, the Unified Registry for Social Programs, SAGI's evaluation research and other surveys.



RI REPORTS OF SOCIAL INFORMATION

It summarizes in reports the data and the social indicators and those specific of programs, activities and services related to Social Development Policies in municipalities, states and the Federal District.



RESEARCH AND EVALUATION OF EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES

It allows searching, querying and retrieving datasheets, executive summaries and micro data related to evaluation inquiries and other studies conducted by the Secretariat of Evaluation and Information Management of MDS.



PUBLICATIONS, TECHNICAL STUDIES AND DIGITAL COLLECTION

It offers publications on Programs and Policies of MDS, such as technical studies, books with expert articles, reports and summaries on evaluation research, technical and scientific journals and other matters.



SECRETARIAT FOR EVALUATION AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (SAGI)

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SAGI PERFORMS RESEARCH, ORGANIZES INFORMATION, DEVELOPS STUDIES AND TOOLS TO ASSIST MANAGEMENT AND THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE ACTIONS AND PROGRAMS OF MDS. IT ALSO FORMULATES STRATEGIES FOR DISSEMINATION AND TRAINING OF PUBLIC AND SOCIAL AGENTS IN THE THREE AREAS OF GOVERNMENT, CONTRIBUTING TO ENHANCE THE EFFICIENCY, EFFICACY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FIGHT AGAINST HUNGER POLICIES.