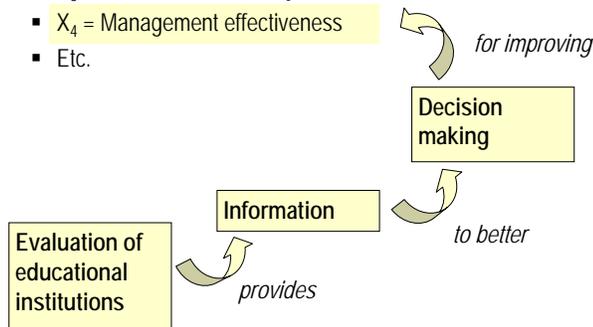


$$\text{Educational quality} = f(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n)$$

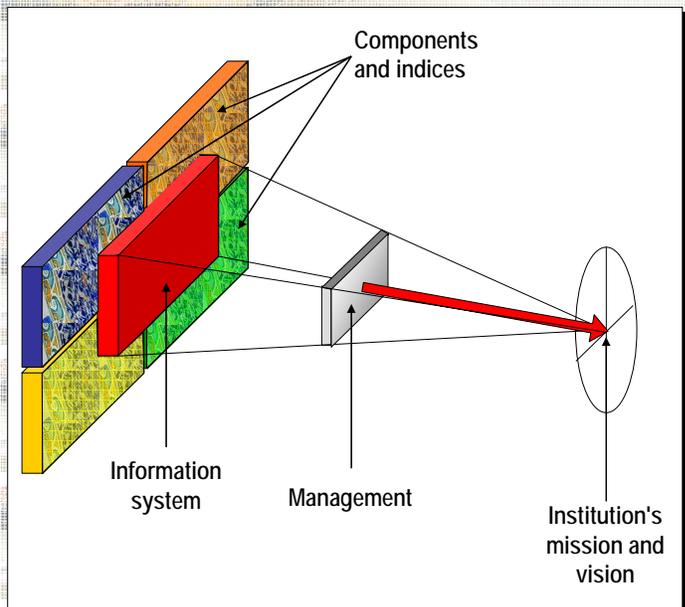
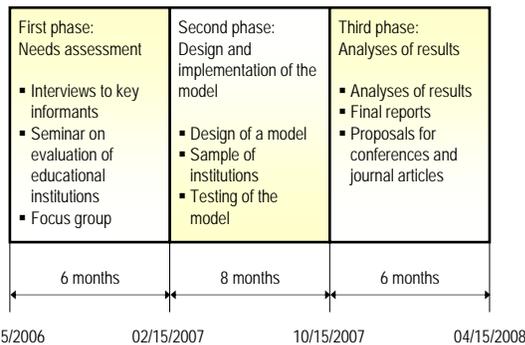
- x_1 = Instruction quality
- x_2 = Innovations in teaching
- x_3 = Resources availability
- x_4 = Management effectiveness
- Etc.



Abstract

A research study was carried out to empirically test an evaluation model of higher education institutions, which in turn could improve the effectiveness of management and, ultimately, educational quality. The study took place in the State of Guanajuato (Mexico). It began in August 2006 and will end in April 2008. After a needs assessment, the researchers proposed a model composed by 10 components and 54 indices, each one of them linked to a set of goals and strategies to accomplish them. To test the model, six public institutions of three major cities in the State of Guanajuato participated in this study.

Method



Results

The evaluation model of higher education institutions is composed by 10 components and 54 indices.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Quality of teaching and learning | The educational process oriented to students' development in all their dimensions (physical, psychological, sociocultural, ecological, and professional), in order to ensure that graduates from an educational program meet the standards defined by the program curricula. |
| 2. Human capital | Personnel's potential to add value to the institution through its level of qualifications, experience, and expertise. |
| 3. Social capital | Internal and external networks potential to add value to the institution through its capacity to make alliances and establish projects of collaboration. |
| 4. Research | The process which contributes to the generation of scientific knowledge for the benefit of society. |
| 5. Consulting services | The process by which school experts contributes to innovative solutions to problems of the productive sector of society. |
| 6. Social service | The contribution that the school offers to its social community through the work of its students. |
| 7. Promotion of culture | The preservation, dissemination, creation, and recreation of the cultural values and the various kinds of arts inherent to a social community and to mankind in general. |
| 8. Physical assets | The set of resources that enables the school to fulfil its duties for the present and future generations. |
| 9. Social prestige | The recognition that society gives to the school for the service it provides in the education of students, as well as in its social impact on society. |
| 10. Economic sustainability | School policies and practices that ensure that an educational institution can operate to maintain a balance between its revenues and its expenditures. |

