

The Efficiency of the Public Services A Classic Approach on the Education System

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Abstract: The global economic reality is marked by a series of developments that will certainly be amplified during the years to come and will generate reactions determined by the permanent wish of the human society to improve the life standards. In this context, among other important areas of human activity, public services will transform our lifestyle.

According to the Larousse dictionary, the notion of "efficacy" refers to the characteristic of an economical good to produce the expected effect or of an activity to reach useful results. At the same time, through "efficiency" we understand the characteristic of a thing to reach good results. Philosophically speaking, the notion of "efficient cause" means that cause that produces an effect which represents the base of a thing. From the analysis of these two definitions we achieved the classical vision over efficiency.

The main objective for the paper is represented by the analysis of the efficiency for the education system, one of the most important part of the public services area. The author presents a specific classic vision, according to which the efficiency evaluation stresses on the registered effects without taking into consideration the efforts.

This way to approach the efficiency is met especially in the social-cultural area, where the man is both the subject and the object of the respective activity. In order to better understand this concept, let us take into consideration the example of a medicine we tell about it is efficient. Therefore, we are more interested in the effects we obtain by using that medicine (a better health) than in the efforts made by the society and individual in order to obtain that medicine. Therefore the classic vision assumes the evaluation of an activity based on the effects registered by it alone.

The main entity of the higher education is the higher education institute, presented as a system made of more subsystems (didactic, logistic, administrative, organizational etc.) that interact among them and whose main purpose is to raise the society's cultural and civilization level. The author presents the main objectives for the educational system in order to stress the role of education for both individual and society : the individual's progress; the individual's socialization; the insurance of some basic knowledge about other cultures; the insurance of some habitudes in different areas; the insurance of some basic competences and of some different professional abilities.

Other important aspects presented in the paper are represented by the typology of the educational effects (cognitive or affective, quantifiable or non-quantifiable, economical or social), the evaluation modality etc.

The author emphasizes the role of education in the productivity improvement, which, in the end, determines greater incomes. There are also presented some extra-educational factors that influence the incomes level : a) the conjuncture on the labour market (that can influence the incomes earned by different persons, no matter their level of education); b) the graduate's future job; c) discrimination or subjectivism, which does not allow the productivity to reflect in the high incomes; d) other factors that influence the incomes (health, motivation, ability, social status, intelligence etc.)