

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

A Measure for a Tourist Circuit of the Trilha Dos Inconfidentes – Minas Gerais, Brazil

Juan Warley Moreno de Souza

Simone de Faria Narciso Shiki

Patrícia Alves Rosado Pereira

Universidade Federal de São João Del-Rei- Brasil

This research analyses the development process of the municipalities belonging to the tourist circuit of the Trilha dos Inconfidentes. For this, a tourism development index (IDT), composed of five dimensions (income, education, childhood, housing and longevity) and was calculated for the years 1991, 2000 and 2010. The results showed different development trends for the region, with especially higher levels for childhood and housing dimensions, but with problematic low levels for income and education dimensions. The region offered precarious services for a tourist circuit which is part of its attractiveness. This precariousness can be associated with lower schooling level reflecting the low wages observed. Thus, the two dimensions are interrelated and should be the focus of a public policy for development of the region, especially in the case of tourism, which requires quality services. Moreover, the lack of policy learning and coordination structure weakens local actor initiatives towards a sustainable path of development of tourism, leading to high levels of social and environmental degradation. Therefore, in a track of such diversity and potential, a concrete, participatory, integrated and coordinated implementation of sustainable development policy is needed.

KEY WORDS: *tourism, sustainable development, index.*