

QUALITY AND SAFETY OF ITALIAN SCHOOL BUILDINGS: TOWARDS A GOVERNANCE INDICATOR

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Abstract

This study is the beginning of a project regarding the correlation between school governance and the quality of education. The conceptual framework is designed in line with the tools for assessment shown by Hocking, Stolton, and Dudley (2000) and with the key principles for the World Bank's WWF Alliance for Terrestrial Protected Areas (Stolton, Hockings, Dudley, MacKinnon, & Whitten, 2003). The scorecard model is composed of several performance areas including school governing body state, staff employment, parents and community roles. School improvement and development, mission strategy and the principles of good school governance are also managed. The other areas measure security and school finance management. Based upon the scorecard model, the purpose of the project is to measure key performance areas that contribute to good governance in terms of goals and indicators. A scorecard measuring of the quality and management in the public sector already exists and it is partially used also in the Italian school system (Baldacci, Brocca, Frabboni, & Salatin, 2015). However, this approach is limited so as it focuses on economic rather than learning outcomes. It is therefore necessary to identify specific indicators that summarize the characteristics of the Italian school system (among others see Eurydice website¹) (OECD, 2012, 2020). The Italian legislation also

¹ <http://www.indire.it/progetto/eurydice/>

addresses the problem of securing school buildings. This study attempts to create a governance indicator based on the quality of the school structures and the safety of the buildings. The analysis is carried out here at the nomenclature of territorial units for statistics (NUTS) level by using ISTAT², EUROSTAT³ and MIUR⁴ datasets. Following Bezzina, Paletta, and Alimehmeti (2018) the next stages of this research will be a survey open to all Italian schools. The results of this research could be used to improve the quality of public schooling around the country.

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² <http://www.istat.it>

³ <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/pages/portal/eurostat/home=services>

⁴ <https://dati.istruzione.it>