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# NO AGRICULTURAL TRANSITION WITHOUT RURAL EXTENSION AND ADVISORY SERVICES

A mapping of laws, regulations, and federal policies carried out by Instituto Escolhas shows that the rural extension and advisory services are essential to implement several public policies for the transformation of the rural areas and economic activities such as agriculture, livestock farming, and forest management, among others.

This understanding already existed in the 1988 Constitution, which recognized the rural extension and advisory services as one of the structural elements of agricultural policy to be considered in its planning and implementation, along with rural credit, agricultural insurance, and incentives for research and technology. Despite this, the rural extension and advisory services are not being treated as a governmental priority and do not receive the same attention as rural credit, for instance.

The discrediting of the Rural Extension and Advisory Services policy is more concerning in a context of the worsening climate crisis and the need for a transition to more sustainable, regenerative, low-carbon production models that promote social justice.

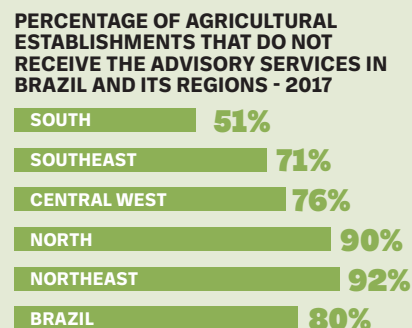


Instituto Escolhas mapped **92** current Brazilian laws, regulations and federal policies that mention the rural extension and advisory services as an implementation instrument<sup>1</sup>, besides those that specifically regulate advisory services as a public policy, such as the National Policy for Technical Assistance and Rural Extension for Family Farming and Agrarian Reform (PNATER, in its Portuguese acronym). There are over **30** public bodies and entities that need advisory services to implement their policies, plans, and programs. See a few examples below:

TOPICS	LAWS, REGULATIONS, AND FEDERAL POLICIES
<b>AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK FARMING</b>	National Program for Strengthening of Family Farming Technology Innovation Incentive Program in Agricultural Production
<b>SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>	National Policy on the Rights of Populations Affected by Dams Aquilomba Brasil Program National Program for Access to Technical Education and Employment
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>	Universalization Fund for Telecommunications Services
<b>REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	Sustainable Amazonia Plan, Constitutional Financing Funds for the North, Northeast, and Midwest Regions
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>	National Policy on Payment for Environmental Services National Policy for Integrated Fire Management

## THOSE WHO CAN AFFORD QUALITY ADVISORY SER- VICES ADVANCE. THOSE WHO CANNOT, GET LEFT BEHIND

Public policies and other initiatives offering free access to the rural extension and advisory services in Brazil presently have limited reach. Among the more than 5 million agricultural establishments in Brazil, **80%** reported not receiving advisory services in 2017\*. The situation is even more serious in the North and Northeast regions and among family farmers.



**82%** of family agriculture establishments do not receive advisory services. In other establishments, this percentage is 73%.\*

## DID YOU KNOW? ADVISORY SERVICES ARE ALSO ESSENTIAL TO RESPOND TO CLIMATE EMERGENCIES

The floods that swept the state of Rio Grande do Sul in May 2024, entailed dozens of deaths and thousands of homeless, while also impacting rural properties. According to [EMATER/RS](#), over 206,000 properties suffered losses in production, infrastructure, and quality of previously arable land. In one of the acts for provision [of extraordinary federal government credit](#) (resources reserved for urgent situations, such as public calamities) for the state, US\$1.93 million were directed to the Rural Extension and Advisory Services.

1. Instituto Escolhas. Mapeamento da ATER no marco legal federal brasileiro. Relatório. São Paulo: 2025  
\*Source: Agricultural Census 2017 (Censo Agropecuário 2017 - IBGE)

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