

# Paz Rural

## Implementation of the Multipurpose Cadastre for Peacebuilding in Colombia

### Introduction

For over 50 years, access to and distribution of land have been central causes of violent conflicts in Colombia. The 2016 Peace Agreement between the Colombian government and the guerrilla FARC-EP envisions a comprehensive rural reform. This reform aims to transform rural areas structurally, bridge the gap between urban and rural regions, and create prosperity and quality of life for the rural population. A key part of this reform is implementing a cadastre in the areas most affected by the armed conflict. This serves as a starting point for other public policies. The goal is to evolve the cadastre from a purely fiscal tool into a multipurpose one. This means that collecting legal, fiscal, and economic information about parcels will not only serve fiscal purposes but also form the basis for public policies in areas such as environmental protection and economic development.

Citizen participation is central to the Multipurpose Cadastre policy. However, low trust in state institutions and the social fabric fractured by decades of violence present significant challenges. The previous project supporting the Multipurpose Cadastre ("World Bank Trust Fund for the Multipurpose Cadastre in Colombia") was successfully implemented under the leadership of the Agustín Codazzi Geographic Institute (IGAC) and with support from the Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE). It institutionalized a format for developing and strengthening community capacities for the preoperative phase of cadastral operations, called "Escuela Intercultural de Geografía para la Vida". This was an important step towards creating better conditions for citizen participation in the implementation of the Multipurpose Cadastre in Colombia. More information can be found here: <https://escuelaintercurtural.igac.gov.co>

The next challenge is now to ensure the participation of peasant, indigenous, black, Afro-Colombian, Palenquero, and Raizal communities in all phases of the cadastral operation. This involves considering the specific needs and expectations of women, youth,

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and people with diverse gender identities and sexual orientations. Additionally, promoting the use of cadastral information collected through participatory methods by fostering cooperation between civil society and territorial as well as national governments is a task that needs to be addressed.

The pilot activities of the previous project showed that participatory cadastral processes have the potential to create better relationships and living conditions in the territories. This, along with the mention of the cadastre in the final Peace Agreement between the Colombian government and the former FARC-EP, suggests that implementing the Multipurpose Cadastre can make a significant contribution to peacebuilding. This potential should be strengthened and made visible.

### Objective

Governmental and non-governmental actors can contribute to peacebuilding in Colombia through the implementation of the Multipurpose Cadastre.



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*Promoting peace through an optimized and participative cadastre*

## Our approach

The project will strengthen interinstitutional cooperation systems at both national and territorial levels, such as the Territorial Administration System. These systems will promote the use of collected and updated cadastral information as a basis for decision-making and the formulation of public policies **(Output 1)**.

Similarly, the project will contribute to the development and strengthening of capacities in ethnic and peasant communities through the “Escuela Intercultural de Geografía para la Vida”, enabling them to actively participate in cadastral operations **(Output 2)**.

The goal of strengthening capacities in government agencies and civil society is to ensure that the advised cases of implementing the Multipurpose Cadastre are highly participatory and collaborative experiences that highlight the cadastre's potential for peacebuilding **(Output 3)**.

Thanks to the partnership with the World Bank, the developed methodologies, lessons learned, and best practices will be transferred to other rural municipalities benefiting from multilateral bank credits thus they can continue and expand the cadastral system independently **(Output 4)**.

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