

# **Beyond the Land Administration System. Let's Talk about Land Management!**

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## **SUMMARY**

Land management is one of the paradigms that has dictated the guidelines for modernizing cadastral processes including tenure relations, value, use, and development over the last few decades. In the case of Colombia, in 2017, the multipurpose cadaster public policy proposed a roadmap to modernize cadaster management, property registration, and processes related to formalization in order to comply with the peace agreements, including the adoption of the LADM - ISO 19152 standard. However, in 2020, Colombia added a systemic vision policy, and rather than calling it a "Land Administration System," it was called a "Territory Administration System."

Land and territory have different dimensions and implications. While land is usually associated with soil as a right of access, territory implies aspects of governance in decision-making, in terms of soil as a resource, land as a legal relation, and space-time as a context in which different stakeholders participate. In addition, modernizing the territory means going beyond simply managing information. In addition to incorporating more technological solutions, it also involves streamlining the processes and procedures through which citizens access public services.

Colombia's Territory Administration System (SAT) model is based on Ian Williamson's proposal, "Land Administration System for Development," published between 2007 and 2010. The model aims to characterize land administration as an integrated system that processes information inputs as part of a Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI), fulfilling four main functions: Value, Tenure, Use, and Development. This system, which IS NOT SOFTWARE, must initially comply with some main functions of land administration: Value, Tenure, Use, and Development. Additionally, as part of a land policy adapted to the country context, it should provide information services as a reliable knowledge base for planning a country or region's sustainable

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development.

Colombia's Territory Administration System (SAT) aspires to be a policy that integrates the different modernization efforts related to territory management. This was adopted through the public policy CONPES 4007, which establishes a gradual transformation commitment involving multiple actions grouped into four major macro-processes: information management, institutional interoperability, on-demand services, and improvement in decision-making about territories. Decision-making about territories is possibly the most significant variant between Colombia's land vision and the territory vision model, characterizing the current "as-is" version, which diagnoses the existing ecosystem problems and offers a "to-be" proposal for the ideal operating model.

This article presents the vision, processes, and progress to date of what Colombia calls the Territory Administration System (SAT). In addition, it presents the potential opportunities and advantages found when Colombia views territory management with a systemic vision in which modernization not only aims to improve information or adopt more technology, but also improve processes and procedures that impact citizen services.

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