Analysis of the Implementation of Multipurpose Cadastre in Colombia from an International Perspective

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SUMMARY

The Colombian government has proposed a new design for a multipurpose cadastre system within the peace process framework, with the objective being to improve information on property in order to prioritize public investment and guarantee property rights and regulation. For this reason, the objective of this paper is to analyse the implementation of this new cadastre system from an international perspective. The analysis looks to evaluate if the government proposal to be implemented adjusts to the current needs of Colombia, taking into account the experiences and successful practices of other countries, identifying strengths and weaknesses of the current proposal. Furthermore, the research embraces the lack of an evaluation framework for assessing the new multipurpose cadastre plan, which permits the generation of feedback on legal, economic, physical, and institutional aspects, while taking into account economic, social and environmental issues. The evaluation framework developed by Daniel Steudler on 2004, applied to this research, includes key indicators that allow the evaluation of the proposal and serve as a monitoring framework useful for government decision makers. Kaplan and Norton in 1996 said “You can’t improve what you can’t measure and if you cannot measure it, you cannot manage it” for that reason this research wants to demonstrate the importance of applying an evaluation framework to improve the new multipurpose cadastre implementation in Colombia, providing for the possibility of change, and to meet the varying requirements of the country through the years, because land matters are always dynamic and subject to change. If an evaluation framework is not taken into account, in a few years the multipurpose cadastre may be outdated and useless.

It is crucial now in Colombia to implement a policy that meets the needs of the country and can correct the flaws and inconsistencies that have arisen around the cadastre and land administration there. As a result, this paper will present the current Colombian situation in the first section, and a summary of the current government’s proposal in the second. The third section will employ an
evaluation framework analysis to evaluate the government's proposal; defining clear objectives, strategies, and monitorable indicators based on the major components of a land administration toolbox. Finally, conclusions and recommendations on future issues that are important when considering the usefulness of a multipurpose cadastre system in Colombia.