

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN OF A GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION SOLUTION FOR THE RURAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTY LEVEL

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From the orientations and normative of the Rural Sustainable Development (DRS) Act and its dispositions regarding organization, generation and diffusion of information, valuable opportunities are presented for the information and knowledge platform design which incorporates innovative solutions with which one can characterize, compare, diagnose, inform and plan the DRS at the county level.

Therefore, these opportunities are sustained by experiences, processes and new approaches about the local rural development; specially regarding the increasingly adoption in public policies and programs of an “enlarged agriculture”¹ vision, and of a territorial approach which reevaluates the potential of counties in the conduction of local strategies of the DRS.

The above is in agreement with the several favorable tendencies for county strengthening and of the local agents, in order to assume an overweighed role in the regional development.

At the same time, the development of Geographic and Geomatic Information Sciences provides a conceptual and knowledge framework which supports de design of Geo-spatial information solutions approaching the problems that converge and interlace in a given territory and looking for an articulation of new visions and forms of action by the involved actors.

This framework provides useful tools for:

- Indorse the evolution of the county agenda regarding the DRS;
- Contribute to the process of articulation in the county level with the scale of public policies, programs and rules of the three different government levels;
- And encourage the assumption, by local agents, of relevant information for the conduction of development strategies.

Considering these main elements and attending their attributions, the SIAP has planned to have, in a first phase, the design of a geospatial information solution in the county level, based in a framework that contemplates the mentioned elements, and which its ultimate goal would be support the increasing tasks and legal responsibilities in the conduction of the local rural sustainable development strategy.

This project is expressed in three great purposes:

¹ Term originally used by FAO to synthesize a proposal to change the rural development strategy, a series of nodal elements of this proposal is included in the Rural Sustainable Development Act, and in the present administration’s strategy.

- i. Concrete the potential that the legislation offers in the conduction of the rural sustainable development strategy in the county level (DRS).
- ii. Benefit from the new DRS approaches and the Geomatic potential to outline and encourage and effective local territorial management.
- iii. Contribute and create synergy among the different efforts in progress from the estate governments, oriented to the strengthening of counties, its public agenda and its role in the conduction of the local DRS strategy.

These general purposes are concrete in the design of the **geospatial county information solution**, in specific goals:

- *Document and present, in an approachable way, the conceptual framework and the rural sustainable strategy, and the favorable tendencies to an increasing participation of counties in the conduction of the DRS.*
- *Offer to the local agents, mainly the counties, a whole scale of geospatial information, basic and documental indicators at the county level.*
- *Built, parting from an interaction between the county, local agents and the DDR, a tool “in extent” of geospatial information that supports the gradual process of greater involvement of the county in the conduction of the local DRS strategy.*

In order for the involved actors in the DRS to achieve an articulation of new visions and forms of action, the geospatial information solution proposed, more than a merely data collection, is seeking to support the processes that converged in a given territory across different ways of organizing qualitative and quantitative information, capacities for its use, ways and means for its display, which will help the relevant actors to perceive their territory and design action alternatives that allow a better development of this space.