

## Towards a legal basis for Fit-For-Purpose land administration in Colombia

A group of renowned lawyers of the Universidad Externado of Colombia has started their analyses of the legal basis for the Fit-For-Purpose Land Administration (FFPLA) approach. The goal? To propose legal alternatives to speed up titling procedures.

After successful pilots with the Instituto Geográfico Agustín Codazzi (IGAC) and the National Land Agency (ANT), FFPLA is applauded for its advanced technological and participatory approach. However, the legal base can be improved. The Universidad Externado, who will work together with Colombia's Land Agency, will now come up with legal alternatives to accommodate FFPLA.

Last year, the steering committee of the LAND-at-scale project, chaired by the Dutch ambassador in Colombia, included this activity. The LAND-at-scale project is financed by the Netherlands' Enterprise Agency and executed by Kadaster, ICCO and Tropenbos Colombia. The aim of the project is to fine-tune a FFPLA approach with and for indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities. Giving specific attention to opportunities for income generation and natural resource conservation.

| Mathilde Molendijk



## Small Talk

### Digitisation in Albania

"Technical design and quality control for property data digitisation and data improvement" is a new project in Albania. Together with our Hungarian partner AAM Consulting, we will support the Albanese State Cadastre Agency with the digitisation of their land registry and cadastral map. The activities of Kadaster specifically focus on standards for data quality and quality control, based on our experiences with digitisation of cadastral records.

### Big year for FIG

The International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) is looking forward to more face-to-face meetings in 2022. This includes the hybrid XXVII Congress in Warsaw, Poland (11-15 September), the Commission 7 Annual Meeting (details pending), and the upcoming LADM2022 workshop in Dubrovnik, Croatia (March 31-April 2).

Kadaster will be present at these events. We are also supporting the current Chair of Commission 8 Spatial Planning and Development (Marije Louwsma), and the incoming Chair of Commission 7 Cadastre and Land Management (Rohan Bennett).

FIG2022



LADM2022



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## Strengthening land administration in Rwanda

In Rwanda, Kadaster is supporting the National Land Authority (NLA) as part of the LAND-at-scale programme of the Netherlands' Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Together with the International Development Law Organisation (IDLO) from Italy, we aim for better integration of land administration, land use planning, and local justice. We asked two of our local counterparts at NLA about the importance of the project.

### Easy access to land information is key

Esperance Mukamana, general director and chief registrar: "A sustainable Rwandan land administration system is important for different reasons: guaranteeing land rights, accessing land information and the growing land market. Citizens, investors and the government need to access land information easily and for different purposes. For example, for ensuring valid transactions, for counterchecking the authenticity of land titles, for valuation and taxation purposes, and for monitoring land use management. This linked information should be made available to both citizens and other government agencies, via system interoperability. Citizens should be able to easily access information on their mobile phone."

### Biggest challenge is maintenance

"Rwanda wants to build on the transparency, accuracy and low cost of its existing land administration system", says Grace Nishimwe, head of the land administration department. "After having implemented a successful land tenure regularisation system, the bigger challenge now is to maintain it. Citizens may be willing to use the system and to update landownership information,



but if registering transactions is expensive, no one will use it. So in building a sustainable land administration system, we need to consider the capacity of citizens to use it. The cost should be accessible to every landowner, and services should be nearby. Long distances to access services will increase costs and discourage citizens from registering changes."

| Martien Tomberg

Editorial

## Looking back with Kees de Zeeuw:

“Our work is a combination of practice, knowledge and networking”

After 11 years leading Kadaster International, in December 2021, Kees de Zeeuw announced plans to move on. Paula Dijkstra, interim director, sat down with Kees to reflect on his work in the international domain of land administration.

### What motivated you most in your job?

“In the last 10 years, land rights became increasingly important on the international agenda because of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The enhanced understanding that sustainable development is related to government transparency, good governance and people-to-land relations helped us to actively contribute to that agenda. This motivated us to develop the frameworks, techniques and tools for further understanding and improving land rights security.”

### What do you see as the strength of Kadaster International?

“Our work is a combination of practice, knowledge and networking. We can work with partners to develop practical approaches and then use that knowledge for further innovations in the field. You cannot execute projects and invest in knowledge development if you are not part of a network. Within the team, we attempt to do all of this at the same time.”

### Kadaster is a governmental organisation. What is the added value of being a governmental partner in this field?

“Within our work, we are always aiming for impact—be it at local, national, or international level. In doing so, you need an organisation like Kadaster behind you. Since Kadaster is responsible for land administration in the Netherlands, there is ample practical experience on how to run a cadastral organisation and to build the systems that support it. We use that background if we work with partners in other countries. We know what it means to run a national mapping and cadastre agency. And that shows in our knowledge, our infrastructure, and in the networking that we do. That makes us such a powerful partner.”

### What are your recommendations for the future?

“Continuously adapt your vision to what the world asks for. Don't stick to ideas we have today, but stay open to ideas for tomorrow. Listen to people who have different views and ideas. Inspire each other wherever you go.”

| Paula Dijkstra

## NSDI development support in Saint Lucia

Since the island is vulnerable to a range of natural hazards, the availability of reliable geospatial information in St. Lucia is very important to policy development and implementation. A national spatial data infrastructure (NSDI) is therefore an essential part of effective governance and decision-making.

Following up on the first NSDI development project in St. Lucia in 2019, the World Bank has awarded the extension of this project to Kadaster and KU Leuven.

We will help implement NSDI, focusing on 5 areas:

1. organisational reform by operationalising a dedicated GIS or NSDI unit and building capacity;
2. developing the IT architecture and setting up an IT team;
3. making national datasets, including metadata, available on the geoportal;
4. drafting the NSDI policy for decision makers; and finally
5. creating showcases to develop strong interaction with stakeholders and users.

| Haico van der Vegt



## Secondment sign-off with UN-GGIM



Eva-Maria Unger works as a senior land administration advisor at Kadaster. For a year, she was virtually seconded to UN-GGIM, the committee of experts on Global Geospatial Information Management of the United Nations. UN-GGIM aims to address global challenges regarding the use of geospatial information, and to serve as a body for global policymaking in geospatial information management.

During the secondment, Eva-Maria continued her work on the Framework for Effective Land Administration (FELA) and the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF). With FELA she translated the guiding concepts into practical guidance. For IGIF, she supported the review and refinement of the IGIF Implementation Guide and transition to an online resource. These frameworks aim to support equality in land tenure in an effective and sustainable way.

| Peter Stolk

## Sustainable land registration system in Beira



Over the past 2,5 years, Kadaster, VNG International and Beira Municipality worked on a more sustainable land registration system, named CADDIG. It started with the digitisation of the existing archive. With the additional functionality, it is possible to maintain and update license or title information and information on buildings and building permits. Next to this administrative information, the system includes a cadastral map with the boundaries of the parcels.

The system-building was done by programmers from the municipality, with help from Kadaster staff. In the future, more functionality will be provided and the data quality will be upgraded. Charging land-use taxes will support the system to become more financially sustainable.

| Piet van der Krieke

## SPATIAL II in Serbia and North Macedonia

In December 2021, we visited our sister organisations, the Republic Geodetic Authority (RGA) in Belgrade, Serbia and the Agency for Real Estate Cadastre (AREC) in Skopje, North Macedonia, for the SPATIAL II project.

With RGA, we discussed our support in implementing Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) and Business Intelligence (BI) procedures. Other priority topics are RGA's digital transformation and the update of their IT strategy.

Together with AREC, we looked back on last year's activities, the online workshops and webinars. Our key priorities for 2022 are the institutional development of AREC, digital transformation, the integration and availability of e-services, and the production of NATO topographic maps.

| Haico van der Vegt



## 2021 Most popular content on social media

Looking back on 2021, it's pretty clear that the Dutch housing market was booming again: we processed a very high number of transactions while keeping up the quality of our services. We showed the contribution we make with our data to societal challenges like the housing market, energy transition, or the spatial pressures on land. But, the most popular content on our social media corporate channel was.. maps!



In 'Topotijdreis' (Topo time travel), you can see what the Netherlands looked like 50, 100 or even 200 years ago. New features include new aerial photos and the option to compare and share maps.



We updated datasets in the '3D Basic Facilities' for the Netherlands and made these available as open data via PDOK, a central distribution platform used for deploying geo datasets. All products were updated based on the aerial photos from 2020, data from the Key Register of Large-Scale Topography (BGT) and the buildings from the Key Register of Addresses and Buildings (BAG) of 1 January 2021.



The map viewer 'Maps of the Netherlands' was launched together with the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations. With this application, you can measure on the map or create your own map using the official basic registers of the Netherlands.

