Advancing Territorial Modernization through Good Practice Handbooks: Insights for Professional Education and more

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SUMMARY

The Colombian case stands out as a significant example of good practices in the modernization of land administration policies. Over a decade, a strategic alliance between BSF-SwissPhoto (Switzerland) and INCIGE S.A. (Colombia), financed by Swiss government, enabled the design, implementation, and documentation of a comprehensive Land Administration System (LAS). This long-term collaborative effort culminated in the publication of two Good Practice Handbooks, which serve not only as repositories of institutional memory at both national and territorial levels, but also as methodological instruments for evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency of public policy in the field of land governance. The process successfully aligned the mandates and expectations of diverse stakeholders, including citizens, government agencies, the private sector, academia, professional associations, and international cooperation agencies. The Colombian model contributes to international discourse on land administration education and evaluation, providing actionable insights for countries aligning with ISO standards and SDG objectives.

Through a sustained focus on innovation in knowledge management, institutional learning, and human capital development, the country has advanced towards a more integrated and citizen-centered approach to land administration, aligning with global agendas for sustainability, resilience, digital transformation, and equitable growth beyond 2030. The documented practices are the outcome of continuous training processes and a national education strategy that institutionalized sustainable capacity-building initiatives. These emphasize technological innovation, interoperable platforms, institutional coordination, and participatory governance as essential drivers of modernization. The emphasis on innovation has enabled the incorporation of integrated cadastral systems, standardized geospatial data, and governance models that promote transparency, accountability, and efficiency in land administration.

These achievements highlight the significance of this experience as a transferable framework for other Latin American nations, where land administration reforms often remain fragmented and under-resourced. By analyzing the trajectory through a methodological evaluation of public policy, policymakers, researchers, and educators in the region can identify a more precise and evidence-based roadmap for advancing land administration education. This approach ensures that future reforms are not only technically sound and context-sensitive, but also strategically aligned with international standards and designed to sustain long-term institutional resilience and territorial governance reform.