

apoyo urbano

*participatory urban planning
and land management*

ANALYSIS AND PARTICIPATORY LAND MANAGEMENT: TOOLS FOR LOCAL DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT

A methodology to accompany consensual public decisions, sustainable spatial projects and the strengthening of local competencies.

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With the support of:

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Photos of Central America courtesy of Dr. Silvia Rosales-Montano



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PREFACE

Managing urban growth and sustainable land use zoning in Europe as well as in Latin America is one of the main challenges in contemporary public policy. These challenges cannot be faced without a wide participatory process that responds to the most urgent short-term needs and to the collective building of future land.

Within this context, the Office of Global Economy and Development Strategies of the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs supports the extensive circulation of this innovative methodological document. The approaches used by the Franco-Latin American organization Apoyo Urbano allow for a permanent dialogue between all actors implicated in the building of local, regional and national “territories.” Through the analyses and local practices tackled in the book, one finds the European Charter of Cooperation’s general principles as they relate to fostering local governance. This is something that France has especially supported.

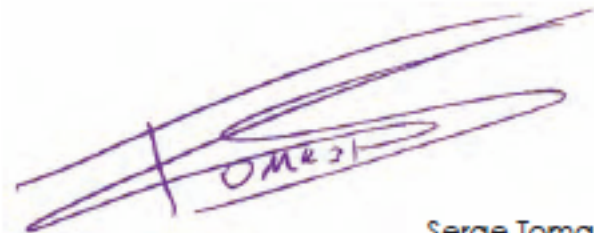
The contributions found in this document have the following objectives: to allow for the social and political building of a coherent and prospective territorial focus in local development, to reinforce local capacities, and to create and consolidate a continual learning process and a dynamic exchange of experiences.

These focuses are favorable to local governance and to creating a real sense of responsibility for public management among citizens and local authorities.

The proposed methodology in this document contributes to the strengthening of local democratic governments. On one hand, it consolidates the legitimacy of local authorities in the management of communal goods, and on the other, it supports the active participation of civil society in the process of democratic building of spaces for living and working. All this requires a growing involvement from residents and other local actors in the creation and evaluation of public policies and spatial projects.

It is interesting to note that the contents of this document are guided by a *social* focus; the same can be said about the fight against poverty and socio-economic/spatial inequalities.

For all this, we wish for the widest circulation of this document so that it can foster democratic governance, a key factor in sustainable human development.



Serge Tomasi

Director
Office of Global Economy and Development Strategies
French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

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