



SUMMARY

Strengthening territorial development and management mechanisms in Paraguay

Proposed by Investigación para el Desarrollo (ID), Asociación de Juntas Municipales (AJUMPA), Centro Latinoamericano para el Desarrollo Rural (RIMISP) and Grupo Acción y Desarrollo Territorial (ADETER)

INTRODUCTION

Trends in economic growth and processes of decentralization are forcing Paraguay's municipal and departmental governments to assume new roles and functions. These local governments, however, face limitations due to limited capacities in territorial development and management. There is thus a need to fill a knowledge gap about how to manage and promote effective development processes at the municipal level, so as to reconcile the dynamics of economic growth with environmental sustainability and better living conditions for citizens.

WHAT THEY WILL DO

This study aims to improve territorial development management in Paraguayan municipalities. This will be done by reviewing existing experiences of how territorial development and management mechanisms operate at the local and departmental levels to identify and promote new practices and policies. The most relevant strategies will be identified to enhance the effectiveness of administrative and political development and decentralization policies in the country.

HOW THEY WILL DO IT

The research will analyze how infrastructure creation, production development, land-use and environmental planning are promoted, managed, and coordinated with the central government. This analysis will be done through a systemic analysis of secondary information, interviews with key stakeholders, and surveys of the municipalities, in order to define a typology of municipalities based on territorial management models and best practices in territorial management.

EXPECTED RESULTS

This project will systematize a survey of best practices on territorial development and management in Paraguay, to ultimately improve local government capacities. The project further aims to create stronger territorial development and management practices through engaging municipalities and other stakeholders in capacity-building workshops and through sharing the research findings in knowledge products. Expected outputs include a diagnostic document, policy note, and publication of findings in scientific journal articles.