ABSTRACT

Geo-Web Tools for Participatory Community Planning

The use of the Geo Web by non-GIS expert communities, as a tool for their written papers and records of territory planning projects, has not been explored in Colombia under the Law 388 of 1997 (Organic Law for Land Use and Planning). In turn, this research focuses on measuring the level of performance of the Geo Web, its general acceptance, as well as its importance for the municipal government. The research has been conducted by a voluntary and non-expert community in the use of GIS.

This investigation ran based on a pilot workshop with non-GIS experts' volunteers joined from the community leaders of the Town of Puente Nacional, Santander, Colombia. A web application was configured on the top of Web AppBuilder for ArcGIS (ESRI), and published through the web service of www.lamapoteca.com.co and www.mappingdataservices.com. This research's main objective was to prove the usability of the Geo Web application developed and how it allows the community to question, analyze and edit spatial information related to the POT (Land Use Planning Plan in Spanish). The usability results coming out from these tests were positive, considering that participants do not have experience in managing a GIS.

Additionally, it was found that the work done by voluntary base communities (Volunteered Geographic Information -VGI), is reliable enough for local governments to take this into account in their official documents.

In short, this research showed that base communities are capable to work with Geo Web technologies in order to exceed their participation aimed to perform municipal POT statements.

KEYWORD: Geoweb, PPGIS, VGI, Usability.

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