

Leica Geosystems' technology for the cadastre in Guatemala

Guatemala signed a comprehensive Peace Accord on 29 December 1996 to end thirty-six years of civil conflict. The Accord supports the establishment of democracy and the introduction of economic policies that will foster sustainable growth. The promise of peace has provided Guatemalan society with a point of convergence, opening spaces for the Government of Guatemala to pursue fiscal, institutional and legislative reforms to support its development agenda. Guatemala's greatest challenge is to reduce the poverty, which afflicts over 75% of the population, 86% of the rural population and 93% of the indigenous population.

The Accord's land-related commitments include establishing a cadastral-based land registry. Other commitments include establishing a Land Fund and land conflict resolution mechanisms. Since the return of civilian rule to Guatemala in 1985, progress towards negotiating lasting peace, establishing democracy and introducing economic policies that will foster sustainable growth

has been slow and uneven. The World Bank and other Development Banks have been instrumental in the implementation of Land Reform Projects of which several subprojects are now

in the execution phase. Leica Geosystems has been contracted by Guatemala to deliver equipment for field data acquisition and the development of the National Geodetic Network. Twenty-

five total stations and nineteen global positioning systems were acquired in 2002. The continuation of the Land Administration Project stipulates to modernise the Geographic Institute of Guatemala for which Leica has set the standards in the past. The projects are ongoing and will be supported by Leica's local representative, Precision S.A of Guatemala City, through continued local technical support and service.



Graduation and the issuance of a certificate is the last step before the trained specialists move to the field to perform their duties.



Together with the 25 Leica Total Stations and 19 Leica GPS Systems, Leica Geosystems also provided comprehensive training. Through the knowledge of area manager Leoncio Olvera and the office of Alfredo Bran from Precision SA, Leica Geosystems were able to complete practical training and continue to locally support the initiative.