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# THE TERRITORIAL DYNAMICS OF THE FORMAL AND INFORMAL ACTORS IN BOGOTÁ

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Abstract: The interest in exploring the processes that associate formal and informal commerce in the city of Bogotá, especially the one that takes place in the west of this capital city, is linked to the fact that the globalizing phenomenon has exacerbated the presence of capital, which has affected the relations that have been redefined between both sectors since 1990. The location of economic activities contributes to structuring the organization of space and this can be explained from the classical location theory in accordance with the reality of each historical moment based, among other things, on economic, social and territorial formality. However, to this we must add that there are actors, so important in the process of organizing urban space, related to the informal sector of the economy that, in general, are located in peri-urban or peripheral areas of a city. These processes are explained from the classic localization theory. However, commercial informality does not necessarily respond to a location on the periphery. Thus, as part of the development of the research entitled "Trends in the Formal and Informal Location of the West of Bogotá. 1990-2020", this spatial synergy in the city of Bogotá, particularly in the west, which since 1990 shows an accelerated process of territorial occupation involving formal and informal actors, from the areas of influence of large commercial surfaces to demonstrate are not exclusive to peri-urban or peripheral areas, but that today it is integrated into the current economic framework, which allows it to be present in the free circulation of capital, in addition to the provision of services to all people of the city.

**Keywords**: Urban space, economic activities, large commercial surfaces.

# **HOW IT WAS MADE?**

The territory has not been immune to the effects of globalization, generating interactions

that, according to (Boisier, 2005) It is presented in two ways: from globalization as an action that devalues the territory or as an action that values it.

If globalization is "the process of totally free movement of goods, capital and factors production between the countries the world" (Kalmanovich, 2003),The transformation of the geographic space is detailed in the materialization of the economic dimension in the spatial one, based on demands and conditions imposed by the system of actions in the words of Milton Santos, being the market and capital "dimensions of social life that possess its own temporality, a rhythm and specific laws of change" (Raven, 1999).

Does everything obey the formal model? In principle, yes, but the territorial dynamics and the current economic models show the presence of actors in not necessarily formal activities that, from the classical theory, are located in the peripheries given their socioeconomic conditions. What was done?

# **PROBLEM AND GEOHISTORY**

The problem question was raised: Why,"the urban dynamics of Bogotá accelerated from 1990 due to the construction of large commercial surfaces, especially in the west of the city?, denoting interest in the study area since 1990. (See Image Number: 1).

# **THE BEFORE 1990**

A descriptive analysis prior to 1990 was carried out as part of the justification for the time space of the study. Thus, as a first moment, it dates from 1538 with the foundation of Bogotá, without ignoring the importance of those who inhabited the region, evidencing that influence of the Spanish grid as the beginning of urban growth.

Image Number: 2 is the oldest representation of what is now the Bogotá

Savannah and its surroundings, to which I added the interpretation of the location of the Magdalena and Bogotá rivers, as well as the geographic north. (See Image Number: 2 and 3).

The second period corresponds to the founding of Bogotá in 1538 based on image Number: 3, the date of its founding and the 17th century, which represents the period of consolidation of the Spanish colonialist action by Gonzalo Jiménez de Quesada who, after his journey, reaches the Sabana de Bogotá, finding a place dominated by Muiscas that he called Bogotaes.

The third period is due to the Republican Era from the 17th to the 19th century, where the urban sprawl was not limited to the existence of the San Francisco and San Agustín rivers, but rather to the occupation of new spaces to the north and south of the city. Image Number: 4 expresses the urban expansion with some data that I include such as the orientation and the names of the rivers, being the map of Bogotá in 1832 drawn up by Colonel José María Lans. (See Image Number: 4 and 5).

The fourth period is part of the modern city dating from the 20th century. This transition from a republican to a pre-modern city requires regional connectivity through the railway with the west to go out to the Magdalena River and to the north to connect with Boyacá.

By 1938, Image Number: 5, with the inclusion of the sense of growth, shows the expansion that housed 333,312 inhabitants, a time of power struggle between liberals and conservatives, resulting in the Bogotazo with the assassination of liberal leader Jorge Eliecer Gaitán, unleashing a wave of violence, devastating the center of the city.

The fifth corresponds to the addition of five neighboring municipalities to Bogotá from 1954 to 1990. The area of interest of

the investigation, that is, the west of Bogotá, is evidenced as large extensions of rural land with some towns and new strategies for the recovery of the center of the city and the vision of urban expansion with the visit of Le Corbusier, Pilot Plan of Le Corbusier for Bogotá, 1950. "(O'Byrne, 2010)" (See Image Number: 6 and 7).

In 1960, see Image Number: 6, the urban layout is seen as a reference to the Spanish grid and the occupation to the north and south, as well as various patterns that change that homogeneous morphology, a marked trend towards the west, what is now Puente Aranda. With the addition in 1954 by means of an Ordinance of the old neighboring municipalities that bordered on the west, such as Bosa, Fontibón, Engativá and Suba, which belong to the study area, Usaquén in the north and Usme in the south, the extension of the city increased.

The sixth geohistorical moment corresponds to the year 1987 in which a first approximation of orthophotomosaic produced by the Agustín Codazzi Geographical Institute is evidenced, showing that consolidated urban city, but demanding geographic space for its urban expansion according to the current urban perimeters, and the layout of the future Avenida Ciudad de Cali, road infrastructure work to be built from 1997. (See image No 7).

# FROM 1990 TO 2020

For this period, five subzones were identified, which, as a denominator, are crossed by the layout of Avenida Ciudad de Cali, being a road infrastructure work intended to supply the mobility of public and private transport for the projected urban development of western Bogotá, turning the interest for investment in urban and commercial projects. (See image Number:8).

Applying photo-interpretation techniques, coverage and use were obtained in the same

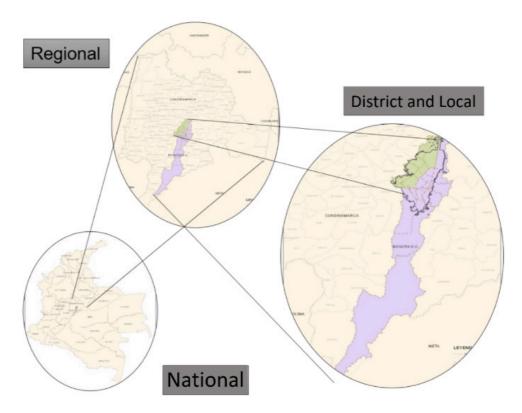


Image 1. National, regional and district context of the Study Area. (Source: self made).

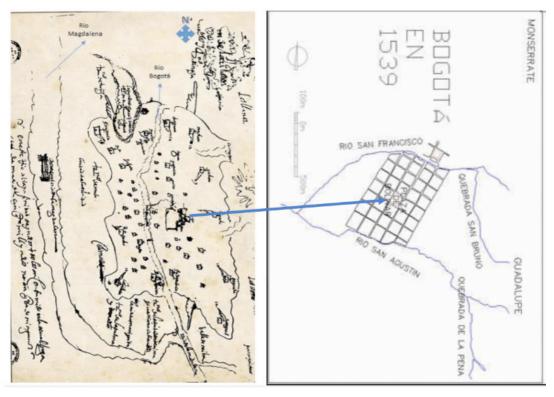


Image 2. Representation of the Savannah of 1584 made by Diego Torres y Moyachoque<sup>2</sup>.

Image 3. Map of 1539 with the location of the urban conglomerate of Bacatá<sup>3</sup>.



Image4. Plan of Bogotá in 1832<sup>4</sup>.

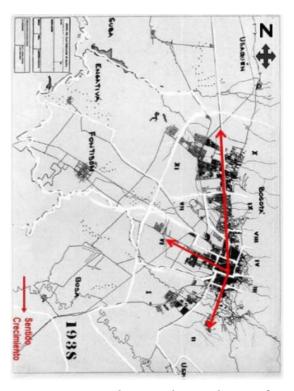


Image 5. Base plan, Regulatory Plan 1938<sup>5</sup> office.

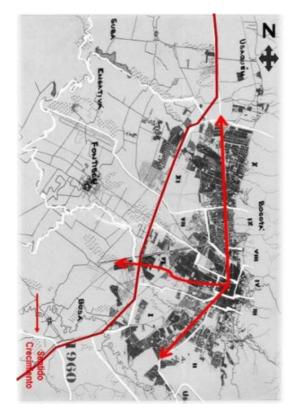


Image Number: 6. Statistical Yearbook of the Special District of Bogotá, 1964<sup>2</sup>.

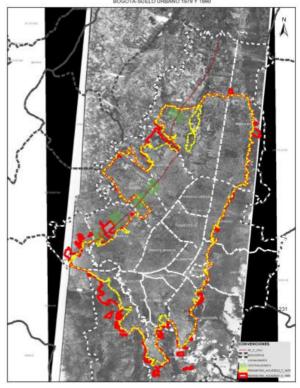


Image No 7. Location Study Area Own elaboration.

years, yielding very telling results of the pressure and demand to occupy rural and border land and transform it into urban spaces densified by road infrastructure works, large commercial areas and urban projects in each of the five throwing zones:

a. Zone 1 with Plaza Imperial Shopping Center at the intersection of Avenida Ciudad de Cali and Avenida Suba. Town of Suba. (See Illustration 1-2-3 and 4).

b. Zone 2 with the Dorado Plaza Shopping Center at the intersection of Avenida Ciudad de Cali and Avenida El Dorado. Limit between the towns of Engativá and Fontibón. (See Illustration 5-6-7 and 8).

c. Zone 3 with the inclusion of the Hayuelos Shopping Center at the intersection of Avenida del Ferrocarril and Avenida Ciudad de Cali. Town of Fontibón. (See Illustration 9-10-11 and 12).

d. Zone 4 and the Tintal Plaza Shopping Center at the intersection of Avenida Ciudad de Cali and Avenida de las Américas. Kennedy town. (See Illustration 13-14-15 and 16).

and. Zone 5 with the Milenio Plaza Shopping Center in the Patio Bonito neighborhood Calle 42 Sur with Avenida Ciudad de Cali. Town of Kennedy and Transmilenio Portal of the Americas. (See Illustration 17-18-19 and 20).

The foregoing is framed from the formal from the actions that capital is demanding and the State as regulator; however, there are other actors (informal ones) who are located and act in the same micro-territories. Thus, we proceeded to survey and primary and secondary information related to the actors of informality.

# **COUNT OF INFORMAL ACTORS**

The population under study corresponds to people who develop their economic activity outside the line of formality, that is, due to lack of job opportunities they must meet their needs through the supply of goods and services in the public space, counting and location surrounding Large Commercial Supermarkets registered in an individual counting matrix.

The process is summarized in: verification of the five centralities and identification of the Large Commercial Supermarkets; tour of each of the road fronts; identification, numbering and location of individuals; the means or "Element" that allows you to offer your services and the possible franchise or "commercial reference" was identified; the products offered and the individual's sexual orientation were identified; and, finally, verification if the individual is included in the census and has permission to carry out the commercial activity (See Table No 1).

Each tour allowed access to the Large Commercial Areas to count commercial premises in the year of construction, if it has an anchor store (Éxito, Carrefour, Jumbo, Falabella...) and the offer of services. (See table Number: 2).

# CROSSING OF PRIMARY INFORMATION AND SECONDARY INFORMATION

First, each of the centralities 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 was identified according to image Number: 8. Next, the point geometry level was produced in the ArcGIS 10.2 software, to locate each of the points; maps were then generated to show the location of individuals, resulting in the pattern of grouping and occupation as follows:

Centrality 1. Plaza Imperial to the northwest of Bogotá See Illustration Number: 21. The location pattern of the informal actors (blue dots) is noticeable in front of the Éxito surface in yellow on the western side of Avenida Ciudad de Cali, being the centrality that more evidence population in informal economic activities. (See Illustration Number: 21).

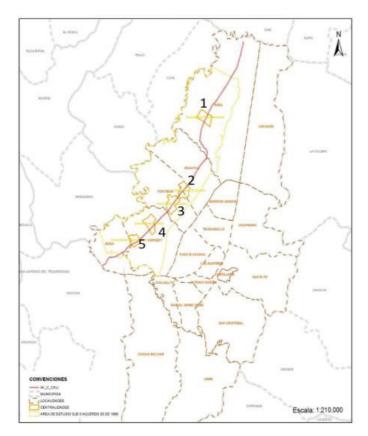


Image No 8. Location of the five centralities or micro-territories.

Own elaboration



Illustration 1-2 Comparative 1987 - 2017 of change from rural and border land to urban land and 3-4 Comparative of land uses 1987 and 2017. Micro territory Plaza Imperial Shopping Center 1987 and 2017. Source. (Own elaboration).



Illustration 5-6 Comparative 1987 - 2017 of change from rural and border land to urban land and 7-8 Comparative land use 1987 and 2017. El Dorado micro-territory 1987 and 2017. (Source. Own elaboration).



Illustration 9-10 Comparative 1987 - 2017 of change from rural and border land to urban land and 11-12 Comparative land use 1987 and 2017. Hayuelos micro-territory 1987 and 2017. Source. (Own elaboration).



Illustration 13-14 Comparative 1987 - 2017 of change from rural and border land to urban land and 15-16 Comparative land use 1987 and 2017. El Tintal micro-territory 1987 and 2017. Source. (Own elaboration).



Illustration 17-18 Comparative 1987 - 2017 of change from rural and border land to urban land and 19-20 Comparative of land uses 1987 and 2017. Micro territory Milenio Plaza 1987 and 2017. Source. (Own elaboration).

P	Date	Location	Side stand	Element	Franchise	Service	Sex	Census	Permission
1	09/20/2015	Carrera 86 with Calle 22	East of Carrera 86	Trolley	NA	sale of orange juice	F	Nope	Nope
2	09/20/2015	Carrera 86 with Calle 22	East of Carrera 87	Trolley	LIVE 100	Sale of energy drink	F	Nope	Nope
3	09/20/2015	Carrera 86 with Calle 22	East of Carrera 88	kiosk cart	NA	Sale of packaged food and sweets	M	Nope	Nope
4	09/20/2015	Carrera 86 with Calle 20	East of Carrera 89	kiosk cart	NA	Sale of packaged food, sweets and soda	F	Nope	Nope
5	09/20/2015	Carrera 86 with Calle 20	East of Carrera 90	Rickshaw	NA	Sale of packaged food, sweets and soda	F	Nope	Nope
6	09/20/2015	Carrera 86 with Calle 21	East of Carrera 86 pedestrian bridge	show	NA	Sale of movies, videos and music	М	Nope	Nope
7	09/20/2015	Carrera 86 with Calle 22	East of Carrera 86	bike kiosk	NA	Sale of packaged groceries and sweets	М	Nope	Nope
8	09/20/2015	Carrera 86 with Calle 22	West of Carrera 86	bike kiosk	NA	Fast foods such as empanadas, soda and hot drinks	М	Nope	Nope
9	09/20/2015	Carrera 86 with Calle 22	West of Carrera 86	Cart	NA	Sale of fruit juice and splash	М	Nope	Nope
10	09/20/2015	Carrera 86 with Calle 22	West of Carrera 86	Mobile	NA	Religious	F	Nope	Nope
11	09/20/2015	Carrera 86 with Calle 21	West of Carrera 86	Trolley	NA	Sale of packaged groceries and sweets	М	Nope	Nope
12	09/20/2015	Carrera 86 with Calle 22	West of Carrera 86 and north side of Calle 22	kiosk cart	NA	Sale of packaged groceries, sweets and cold drinks	F	Nope	Nope

TABLE 1. EXAMPLE OF THE COUNT OF INFORMAL SELLERS CENTRALITY OF THE HAYUELOS SHOPPING CENTER.

Source: Own elaboration based on information collected in the field.

Nope.	Name	Ruilder Vear		local number:	Date	anchor warehouses	What do they offer?	
1	Plaza Imperial Shopping Center	Construction company Colpatria and Ospina	2005	287	01/10/2015	Jumbo, Falabella and HomeCenter	Clothing store, Meals, Home Line, Entertainment, Department Stores, Technology, Services and others	
1	Warehouse Success				01/10/2015		Chain store offering household products. ATM offer.	
1	Home Center				01/10/2015		Chain store offering household products. ATM offer.	
2	Dorado Plaza Business Center			100	09/27/2015		Banks, Atento Colombia, travel agencies, cargo agencies, logistics companies, insurance companies and others.	
2	Home Center				09/27/2015		Chain store offering household products. ATM offer.	
2	Meter				09/27/2015		Chain store offering household products. ATM offer.	
3	Hayuelos Shopping Center		2008	300	09/20/2015	Jumbo and Falabella	Restaurants, Fun and entertainment, Clothing and accessories, Services and other stores.	
3	Jumbo				09/20/2015		Chain store offering household products. ATM offer.	
4	Tintan Plaza Shopping Center	Ospina	2005	250	09/13/2015	Success	Banking services, footwear, entertainment, restaurants, clothing, technology, department stores and others.	
5	Millennium Plaza Shopping Center			160	08/09/2015	Meter	Footwear, Home, Children's fashion, Accessories and varieties, optics, Technology and communications, Beauty and health, Drugstore, Sporting goods and others.	

TABLE 2. COUNT OF COMMERCIAL PREMISES BY COMMERCIAL AREA IN THE FIVE CENTRALITIES OR MICRO-TERRITORIES

Source: Own elaboration based on information collected in the field.

The centrality 2 Dorado Plaza, is characterized by a concentration of informal actors in the dispersed public space(orange dots)because El Dorado Avenue is a barrier between the Dorado Plaza Shopping Center on the south and the commercial areas such as the HomeCenter (purple) and Metro (blue) on the north side (See Illustration Number: 22).

The centrality 3 Hayuelos Shopping Center presents the lowest concentration and distribution of informal actors in the public space (green dots), see Illustration Number: 23. Apparently, the commercial surfaces have been articulated with the public force and the control entities to avoid the occupation of public space, a policy of the District Administration that seeks the relocation of informal actors. (See Illustration Number: 23).

The centrality 4 Tintal Plaza. It is characterized by having a low concentration density of street vendors in public spaces (yellow dots). (See Illustration Number: 24).

In the centrality 5 Milenio Plaza to the southwest of the city, there is evidence of a large concentration of informal actors (red dots). In this area, formality and informality are combined from three scenarios: formal occupation, informal occupation with an occupation permit, and informal occupation itself. (See Illustration Number: 25).

Interesting data is obtained from the count of formal and informal actors in the five centralities:

The formal actors associated with large food and beverage companies, although they comply with the rules required by the State, benefit from the informality for the marketing of their products. Of this, 19 brands offered in the public space are identified.

The five shopping centers add up to 1,097 commercial premises offering multiple products and services, which are also related

to the supply of products by the anchor stores or chain supermarkets and hypermarkets.

Of the 247 individuals counted, 134 are men, being 54%, indicating that it is not an exclusive activity given the participation of the woman, surely head of the family in 46%.

Applying the index of 2.9 people per household from the 2018 Population Census for Bogotá, approximately 718 people depend on informal activities carried out in public spaces. (See Table Number: 3).

Informal actors were scheduled to be interviewed to establish the home-workplace relationship and to demonstrate whether, due to home location, informal activities are exclusive to the peripheries according to location and urban economy theories or, on the contrary, it may occur. in the population that, due to their working conditions and opportunities, see in the informality scenario the way to have income for their subsistence, a phenomenon that can occur spontaneously in any part of the city, however, due to the policies and actions of the administration district, in 2018 areas of public space were recovered, generating conflict between the public force and informal actors, without a process of negotiation and offer of job opportunities by the State, which surely led to the relocation of said informal activities to another part of the city, losing track of said identified actors. (See Illustration Number: 25 and 26).

According to DADEP figures, 70,000 square meters of public space were recovered in May 2018 for the use and enjoyment of the more than 150,000 pedestrians who circulate daily through this pedestrian corridor.

Using information from the 2017 Multipurpose Survey as an instrument that captures statistics on social, economic and urban environment aspects for households and inhabitants of Bogotá, of the 221,809 respondents and filtering by "Economic Activity" only 95 individuals expressed that

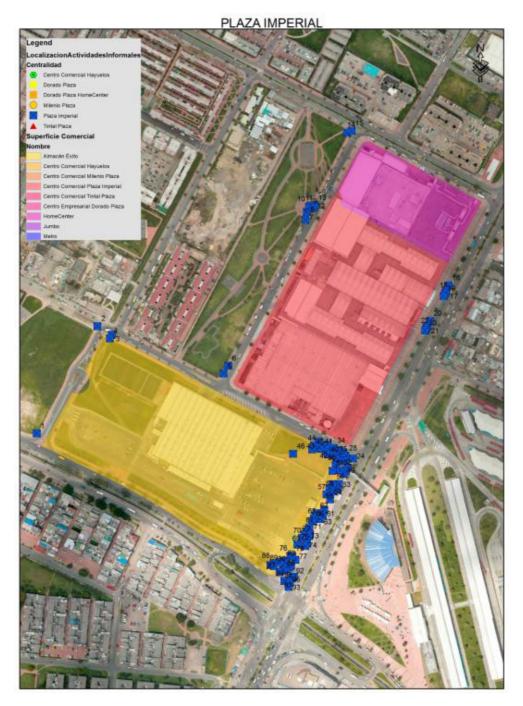


Illustration 21. Location of informal actors in centrality 1: Plaza Imperial. (Own elaboration).

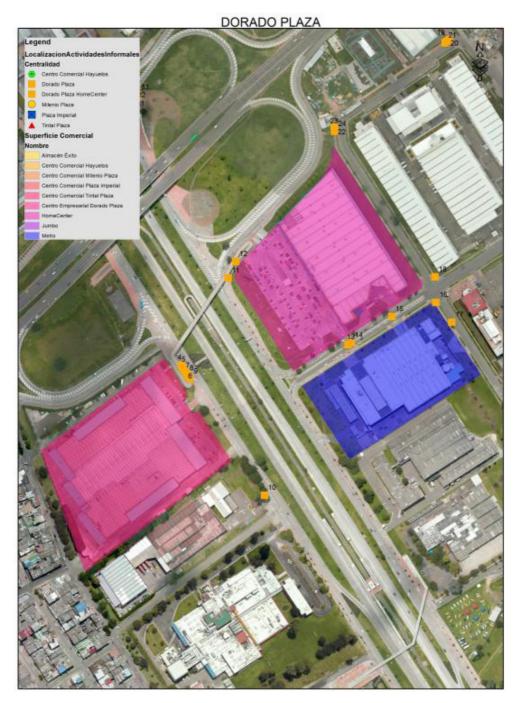


Illustration 22: Location of informal actors in centrality 2: Dorado Plaza. (Own elaboration)

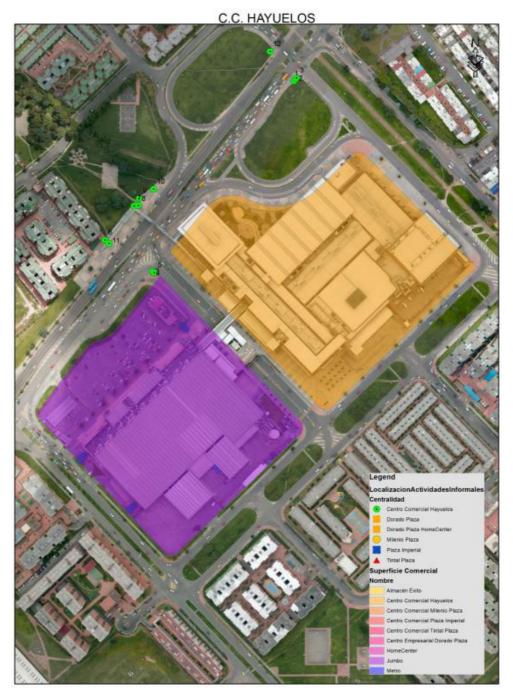


Illustration23. Location of informal actors in centrality 3: Hayuelos. (Own elaboration)

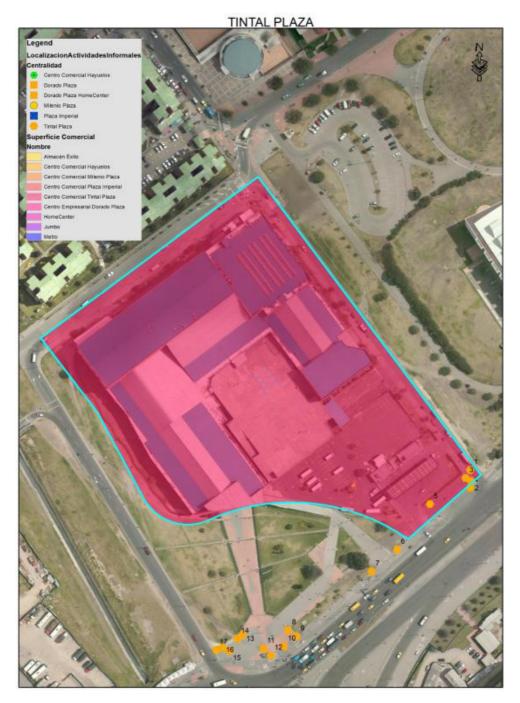


Illustration24. Location of informal actors in centrality 4: Tintal Plaza. (Own elaboration).



Illustration25. Location of the points in the centrality 5: Milenio Plaza. (Own elaboration)

Nope	Centrality	Total, reported business them	Local Number:	Nope. Warehouse Anchor	Totals	No woman	No man	Total	Franchise Number:
1	imperial square	96	287	4	387	45	51	96	10
2	gold square	33	100	2	135	20	13	33	1
3	CC Hayuelos	12	300	1	313	6	6	12	1
4	Tintal Square	17	250	1	268	6	15	21	3
5	millennium square	59	160	1	220	36	49	85	4
		217	1097	9	1323	113	134	247	19

TABLE NO 3. SUMMARY OF INDICATORS OF THE COUNT OF INFORMAL AND FORMAL ACTORS.

Source: Own elaboration based on information collected in the field.





Illustration 25<sup>7</sup> and 26<sup>8</sup>. Left, situation of occupation of the public space parallel to Avenida Ciudad de Cali in front of the CenterImperial Plaza shopping. Town of Suba Year 2016. Right, is the evidence of the recovery of public space according to the District Administrative Department of the Ombudsman for Public Space-DADEP same area Year 2019.

their activity is independent as a street vendor, informal vendor and others, which shows that people do not respond, or declare themselves independent for various reasons: they do not share their economic condition, they feel sorry or they do not want the State to know where their money comes from. income. (See Image Number: 9).

Image Number: 9 shows the location and distribution of the informal actors related to large commercial areas in the urban area of the city and the location of residence of the 95 independent actors related as informal actors.

With the information reported by the 95 individuals, an origin matrix (where they live) - destination (10 nearest large commercial surfaces) was generated, results that are shown below: (See Image Number: 10). (See Illustration Number: 27).

Of the 95 individuals, it was possible to generate the origin route (where they live) - destination (where they work occupying public space) of seven who responded directly, results that are shown below with the distance traveled: (See TABLE Number: 4). (See Image Number: 11).

# Location of informal actors and Large commercial surfaces Urban Zone - Bogota D.C.

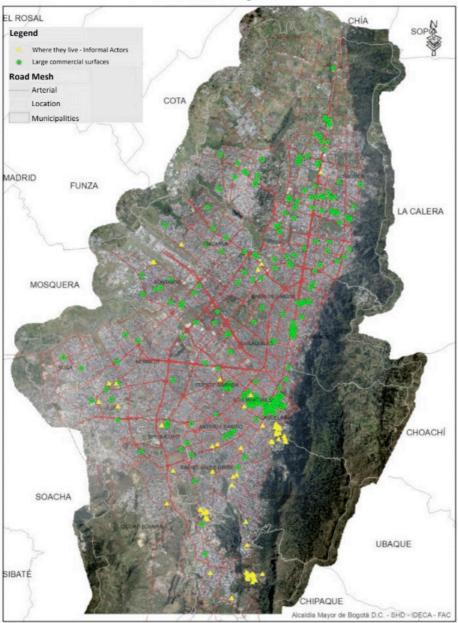


Image  $N^{\circ}$  9. Location of informal actors and commercial areas. Own elaboration.

# Location of informal actors and Large commercial surfaces Urban Zone - Bogota D.C.

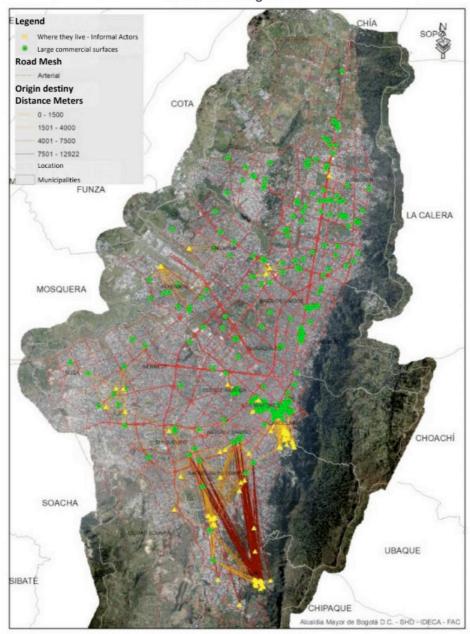


Image Number: 10. Origin-destination matrix. Own elaboration.

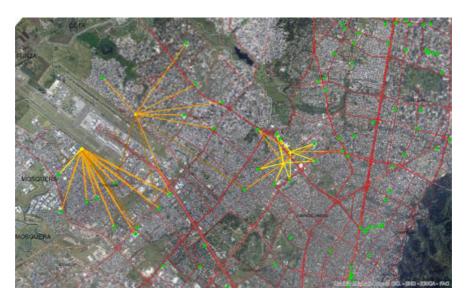


Illustration N° 27. Visualization in detail origin-destination. Own elaboration.

Route number	CHIP	INDCVD1A_ACTIVIDAD	Distance (meters)	Distance (kilometers)
	1 AAA 0006NFYX	Pedagogical university street vendor	19443,74	19,44
	2 AAA 0006OHYN	Street vendor in a the seat of the victory town of San	6492,58	6,49
	AAA0006OJDE	Street vendor in the CenterCristobal	13545,63	13,55
	4 AAA 0176YULW	Independent glass cleaner at 127th street and 19th avenue		0,00
	5 AAA0176YULW	Independent glass cleaner at 127th street and 19th avenue	25326,44	25, 33
	AAA 0006OEBR	Street vendor in front of a school	25326,44	25,33
	7 AAA 0006OCKL	Street vendor in front of Las Violetas school	14815,56	14,82

TABLE NO 4. ROUTES AND DISTANCES TRAVELED BY THE 7 INDIVIDUALS.

Own elaboration.

# Route and Distance Real Origin - Destination Informal Actors Urban Zone - Bogota D.C.

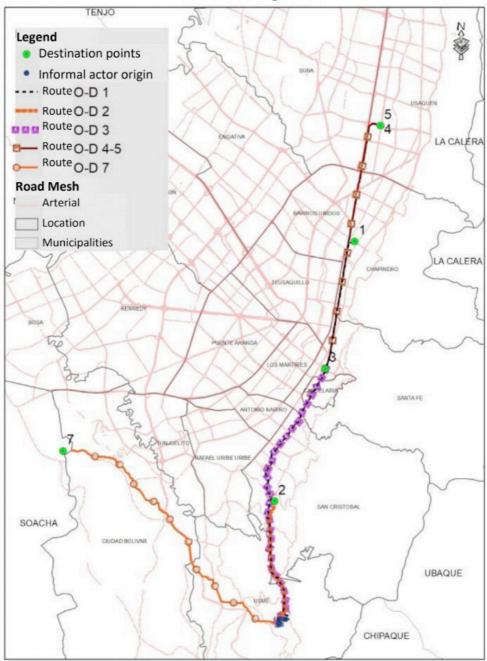


Image No 11. Routes Origin - Destination.

# **CONCLUSIONS**

Definitively, Geographic Science has in the technique an important ally for the generation of models and starting from new technologies and geo-spatial analysis. Thus, the GIS tools and the technique help explain and understand the territorial dynamics, in that system of objects and actions that defines the geographic space by Milton Santos.

The collection of primary information from informal actors is becoming increasingly complicated due to the problems with the State due to public policies for the recovery of public space. For some, responding or providing information even for this type of investigation is giving the State arguments so that, through the public force, a "persecution" can take place

or the public space can be recovered.

There is still a way to go to finish the investigation; however, it is evident that the global health emergency due to the coronavirus disease (COVID19) caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus declared in Colombia since March 12, 2020 considerably affected the actors of informal activities in the generation and search income for their subsistence.

It is necessary in this type of research to take into account geohistory as a justification framework for the proposed space-time context. Knowing the before and its operation gives guidelines to understand the current situation and the territorial prospective.

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