

Guatemala's Municipal AI Facial-Recognition Camera Boom — a Decade of No-Tender Contracts and No Data-Protection Law

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · Guatemala

Quality score: 20/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Guatemalan municipalities, led by Guatemala City, awarded at least Q69.9M (\$9.1M) across 122 AI video-surveillance contracts since 2022 — 91% with no competitive tender — atop a facial-recognition camera network tied to the national ID registry since 2014.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	1/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	0/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability beyond pilot	1/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	0/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-14

[Municipalidad de Guatemala \(C4 Monitoring Center\) / Ministerio de Gobernación](#) — accessed 2026-09-14

[Agencia Ocote — procurement-records investigation](#) — accessed 2026-09-14

[Diálogo Américas — 2014 system and RENAP link](#) — accessed 2026-09-14

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