

**Victor Javier Saavedra Mercado**  
**Deputy Minister of Housing**  
**Ministry of Housing, City and Territory**  
**Republic of Colombia**

### **Biography**

Mr. Saavedra is Deputy Minister of Housing and Urban Development at the Ministry of Housing, City and Urban Development of Colombia. He is in charge of formulating and executing policies, programs and regulations on housing and urban development. He holds a B.A. and a M.A. in Economics from Universidad de los Andes and an MPP from Harvard University.

Mr. Saavedra has extensive experience in educational policy, housing policy, economic legislation and implementation of public policies.

As Deputy Minister of Education, he coordinated the K-12 education in Colombia including the relationship with subnational governments, education infrastructure and education quality policy. He has been consultant for the social and public sector at McKinsey & Company, head of planning and finance at the Ministry of Education of Colombia, Researcher at the Foundation for Higher Education and Development (Fedesarrollo) -the leading think tank in Colombia-, advisor to the office of the General Directorate of the National Service of Learning (SENA), Research Assistant at the Center for Latin American Studies David Rockefeller (DCRLAS) at Harvard University and advisor to the Senate of Colombia. Mr. Saavedra has been a seminar teacher and book writer in education, political economy and microeconomics.