

Pre-conference workshop

Title:

Human population patterns in sub-Saharan African cities: data and tools for urban health assessments

Date:

25 September 2017 | 2:00pm-06:00pm

Organisers:

Catherine Linard, Spatial Epidemiology Lab (SpELL), Université Libre de Bruxelles, Brussels, Belgium;
linard.catherine@gmail.com

Michal Shimoni, Signal and Image Centre (SIC-RMA), Belgian Royal Military Academy, Brussels, Belgium;
mshimoni@elec.rma.ac.be

Sabine Vanhuysse, Geospatial Analysis (ANAGEO), Université Libre de Bruxelles, Brussels, Belgium ;
svhuysse@ulb.ac.be

Jessica Steele, WorldPop, Geography & Environment, University of Southampton, Southampton, UK;
steele.jessica@gmail.com

Background:

The population of Africa is predicted to double over the next 40 years, driving exceptionally high urban expansion rates. These expected urban expansion rates will induce major changes in human population distribution, with important consequences on the environment, health and socio-economic development. The MAUPP project (Modelling and forecasting African Urban Population Patterns for vulnerability and health assessments; <http://maupp.ulb.ac.be/>) is a 4-year research project focusing on the development of data and methods for monitoring urban African settings and modelling population distribution. Satellite remote sensing offers an effective solution for mapping settlements, monitoring urbanization at different spatial and temporal scales and predict intra-urban variations in population density.

Objectives:

The quantity and quality of human population datasets available for sub-Saharan African cities remains very poor, and our objective is first to demonstrate the potentialities of newly developed data and methods in the field of urban population mapping and modelling for urban health decision making. Our broader objective is to meet potential users of our datasets in order to better design them to user needs and understand user learning requirements to inform our capacity building activities.

Brief description and format:

- Brief presentation of the MAUPP project (Catherine Linard)
- Presentation of the available datasets (Michal Shimoni & Eléonore Wolff)
- Best practices for using the datasets and example applications (Jessica Steele & Catherine Linard)
- Discussion with participants on (i) the utility of datasets in their own field of expertise, (ii) data limitations and (iii) specific requirements for urban health applications

Target audience:

Potential users of urban population datasets for sub-Saharan Africa, including policymakers, practitioners and researchers in public health, population health, urban planning etc.

Venue: Information will be sent to the registered participants by email.

Registration fee:

Free of charge. The registration to the International Conference on Urban Health is mandatory to be enabled to attend the pre-conference.

Sponsors:

This workshop is supported by funding from the Belgian Science Policy (SR/00/304).