27-29 May 2015

Urbanization in Europe and the world workshop
Workshop Goals

- bring together planners, from international and national practice, from academia, and policy working or interested in remote sensing or other new mapping technologies.

- discuss how new mapping tools can inform spatial planning

- promote best practice in territorial and regional policy-making using new mapping tools and methods

- promote discourses bridging across traditional dichotomies of 'urban' and 'rural' settlements
Important Urbanization Processes:
What participants think

1. Urban expansion (globally consistent data, understanding peri-urban)
2. Inequality (social, within urban areas, formal vs informal settlements)
3. Sustainability (environmental, green infrastructures, biodiversity, climate change)
4. Migration (need for measurement, urban to urban migration, managing flows)
5. Policy (scenarios and models for, contextualizing, governance, international cooperation)
6. Accessibility (connectivity, population mobility, transportation)
7. Quality of life (public health, affordability, wealth distribution, income inequality, socio-economic aspects, decent living conditions)
Quantitative information from automatic extraction
What participants think:

• Sustainability (poverty, hazards, sprawl) (6)
• information on population (3)
• urban change/expansion (3)
• geometries of the built-up environment (2)
The information participants need now:

- ++high resolution urban **height** data / building **volume**
- **global** population data at fine resolution/disaggregated **population** based on transparent functional characterization / subcity detail in socio-demographic data
- user friendly database of models’ outputs to experiment with baselines and scenarios.
- accurate, more detailed, complete **data** (low-income, NUTS2 for EU member)
- urban **pattern** typologies
- integrated **time** series (urban geometries and demographic information)
- Urban **poverty** (sub-city, and city-specific)
Conclusions

Multiple definitions of city: political/administrative, grid-based, physical/socio-economical, time-based (seasonal, daily, etc)

Flexible settlement classifications instead of dichotomies urban/rural

Focus shifting from megacities to medium and low size settlements (both due to demographic evidence, technical capacity, as well as policy considerations)

Interaction between policy, planning (information users) and data producers (RS experts) is desired and useful.
Building bridges between information producers (RS urban mappers) and information users (planners and policy-makers in the territorial dimension)

Participatory processes: SANSA example and ISOCARPP Kavala example

Open data policies: GHSL, Atlas of urban extent, GPW, etc and Smart Cities (see city platform and others)

Public/Open Space: ESM mapping unbuilt space, and Global Public Space Toolkit
Global <-> Local dimension (tension?)

How to value/enhance local knowledge, local identities, local specificities, local capacity,

While we produce and use global definitions, data and methods
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While we produce and use global definitions, data and methods

How to preserve genius loci?
What now?

- Abstracts
- Presentations online
- Set-up of a community?
- Have another workshop in two years?
- How to proceed towards SDGs?
Urbanization in Europe and the World

Steering Committee

Dijkstra, Lewis (EC, REGIO)
Ehrlich, Daniele (EC, JRC)
Garau, Pietro (INU, Italy)
Halkia, Matina
   (chair/contact person, EC, JRC)
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Kemper, Thomas (EC, JRC)
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Pesaresi, Martino (EC, JRC)
Sliuzas, Richard (ITC, The Netherlands)
Soille, Pierre (EC, JRC)
Szolgayova, Elena (Slovak Republic)

In collaboration with Paola Deda,
Housing and Land Management Committee of
the UN Economic Council for Europe (UNECE)

1 June 2015
THANK YOU!