Program

Legend: Cotonou, Benin · Ben Guerir, Marocco · Kumasi, Ghana · Only on site

Timezone: GMT+1

May 23, 2023

08:30 AM - 09:00 AM — **Welcome services**

09:00 AM - 09:30 AM — SESSION | **Opening Ceremony**

09:32 AM - 09:58 AM — SESSION | **Datafication: From Data to African Smart Cities**

The challenges related to the acceleration of digital transformation observed in Africa would find their solutions in the new ICTs developed over the last decades. Mobile phone networks, internet, social networks, mobility applications, mobile payment, online shopping, etc. Digital transformation of traditional services has led to the production and use of an infinite amount of data that will be useful in building Urban-centred smart cities.

Jérôme CHENAL – Director of the Centre of Excellence in Africa

Claude BORRA – Managing Director and Chief Innovation Officer at Sierra City Development Agency

09:55 AM - 09:50 AM — SESSION | **The African city of 2043 as imagined by African youth**

You are invited to take a twenty-year leap into the future with Rebecca, a 32-year-old learner in the TRIPPA programme initiated by Sierra City. Welcome to the year 2043 in Africa where digital networks, innovative mobility and fully digitalised services are flourishing in African cities at the service of a sustainable and inclusive living environment for citizens.

Rebecca – Learner in the TRIPPA program

09:30 AM - 10:15 AM — SESSION | **The politician and the architect**

Whereas the African city is in the process of transformation to address the urban challenges it faces, the public sector is giving more and more importance to collaborative work with the private sector. The relationship between public and private actors is being shaken up. This evolution of collaboration methods is stimulating, particularly with regard to the technological evolution that allows the city to be reconsidered in an innovative way.

José TONATO – Minister of Living Environment, Transport in charge of Sustainable Development of Benin

Romaric ATOKE – Architect, Global Arch Consult

10:15 AM - 10:45 AM — **Coffee break**

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM — SESSION | **Collective intelligence: youth, robots and the African city of tomorrow**

Second academic year students of Africa Design School, the first design school in Benin, will present the result of a Datascualization workshop on relationship between mobility data and data collected in the experimental zone city of Sème City, the first campus of the Sème City project.

Second academic year students of Africa Design School

12:00 AM - 02:00 PM — **Lunch break**

02:00 PM - 02:30 PM — MARCOSO | **Resilience and adaptation of African**

Climate change is a major challenge for African cities in Africa, including rapid urbanization, climate change, and economic disparities. The keynote will highlight the importance of building resilience in African cities to ensure that they can withstand and overcome these challenges and seize emerging opportunities for their residents. It will also discuss successful examples of resilience-building efforts in African cities and offer insights into how these efforts can be scaled up and replicated in other cities facing similar challenges. The keynote will emphasize the urgent need for a collaborative and coordinated approach to building resilient African cities that can thrive in the face of adversity.

Hassan RAOONE – Director of the School of Architecture, Urban Planning and Design (SAP + D) at the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University

02:15 PM - 03:00 PM — SESSION | **The professional and the opinion leader Digital technologies and infrastructures**

Innovation at the service of the city and its users is a key issue in addressing the urban challenges of the century and can raise economic, social and even ethical questions.

Join two key players in the construction of new models of cities in Africa who will analyze how NICTs work in the urban question.

Yenin DEGILA – Artificial intelligence engineer, content creator on Youtube and teacher

Caren KATARY – Director of Services for the State (Société des Infrastructures Numériques du Bénin)

02:15 PM - 04:00 PM — SESSION | **Workshop - Towards sustainable and healthy living environments in Africa: Public health and territorial planning policies connections**

02:30 PM - 03:00 PM — MARCOSO | **Urban geoinformation and its applications in African cities**

This keynote speech will delve into the critical role of geospatial data and technology in informing urban planning and development decisions in African cities. The speaker will discuss the various applications of geospatial data and technology in urban planning, such as land use planning, infrastructure development, and promote sustainability, and enhance resilience. It will also address the challenges faced by African cities in accessing and utilizing geospatial data and technology. Ultimately, the keynote will emphasize the need for collaborative efforts and public engagement approaches to leverage geoinformation to address urban challenges and support sustainable urban development in Africa.

Mesmine CHEBATA – Senior Lecturer in machine learning for Earth observation and Geomatics - Bordeaux INP

03:00 PM - 03:30 PM — MARCOSO | **The rural to the rescue of the urban**

This keynote speech will highlight the importance of building strong partnerships between rural and urban communities and showcase examples of successful collaborations that have resulted in sustainable and equitable urban development. The aim of this speech is to inspire new thinking and action and to promote greater awareness of the value of rural-urban linkages in shaping the future of cities.

Salma ZERHOUNI – Professor at the School of Architecture, Urban Planning and Design (SAP + D) at the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University

03:15 PM - 04:15 PM — SESSION | **Data protection in African cities of tomorrow**

Whereas the rashes of smart cities always the user at the centre of the city's activities, the alliance between digital technology and innovation will make it possible to improve the living and quality of life of the populations that are becoming more and more prosumers and consumers.

In this context, the migration of data in Africa will have to be established as an essential tool in the fight against all forms of acts that would affect the security and well-being of populations.

04:15 PM - 04:45 PM — SESSION | **Coffee break**

03:30 PM - 04:00 PM — MARCOSO | **Coffee break**

04:00 PM - 05:30 PM

MARCOSO | **Remote sensing and smart GIS**

This session will examine the latest developments in remote sensing and smart GIS, with a focus on technologies in the context of African urban environments. The session will feature papers that explore the use of remote sensing and smart GIS for urban planning, environmental monitoring, disaster management, and public health. The papers will cover case studies and theoretical frameworks, this session aims to provide a platform for researchers and practitioners to share their latest findings and innovative approaches to using remote sensing and GIS technologies to support sustainable urban development in Africa.

Viola AZMI – Researcher at the Center of Urban Systems (CUS) at Mohammed VI Polytechnic University

Mesmine CHEBATA – Senior Lecturer in machine learning for Earth observation and Geomatics - Bordeaux INP

MARCOSO | **Sustainable mobility for African cities**

This session will explore the latest advancements in sustainable mobility for African cities, with a focus on innovative technologies and strategies. This session will feature papers that explore the potential benefits of implementing smart mobility solutions in the region, including intelligent transportation systems, electric vehicles, shared mobility, and learning, and sustainable urban transport systems. The session aims to provide a platform for researchers and practitioners to share their latest findings and insights on how smart mobility solutions can contribute to more efficient, sustainable, and equitable transportation in African cities.

El Bachir DIOP - Researcher at the Center of Urban Systems (CUS) at Mohammed VI Polytechnic University

MARCOSO | **Data-driven methods for urban planning**

In this session, we will present papers that explore the use of machine learning, deep learning, and other data-driven techniques can be used to address the unique challenges facing African cities, such as rapid urbanization, limited infrastructure, inadequate infrastructure, and rapid urbanization. Topics will include the use of satellite imagery and geospatial data to inform urban planning and decisions, the application of social media data to better understand urban dynamics, and the use of machine learning to predict urban growth and growth. The papers will provide valuable insights for urban planners, policymakers, and researchers in Africa.

El Arbi Abaoui Abdellatif – Assistant Professor at University Moulay Ismail of Meknes

Stéphane TÉKOUAMBOU – Researcher at the Center of Urban System (CUS) of the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University

04:45 PM - 05:15 PM — SESSION | **Restitution workshop - Towards sustainable and healthy living environments in Africa: Public health and territorial planning policies connections**

May 24, 2023

08:30 AM - 09:00 AM — **Welcome services**

09:00 AM - 10:00 AM — SESSION | **Ouidah city transformation**

The development of the coastal city of Ouidah in Benin is a key challenge for the Beninese government, which is developing several projects, including the design and development of the Marina hotel complex and the Sème City campus, a 340 ha eco-city. Closeup on the construction of a smart city which will contribute to developing the tourist and economic attractiveness of Benin.

Christian HOUETCHENOU – Mayor of Ouidah

Halim ASSOUMA – Head of Management and Planning of City

Olayimika FALADE – Associate Architect Cabinet Architecture

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM — SESSION | **Coffee break**

09:00 AM - 09:45 AM — MARCOSO | **The use of spatial data analysis for risk management**

In this session, we will explore the crucial role of spatial data analysis in managing risks in African cities. Using real-world examples, we will examine the challenges and opportunities presented by this approach, and discuss the various techniques and tools that can be used to analyze and visualize spatial data. We will highlight how spatial data analysis can help decision-makers to better understand and mitigate risks such as natural disasters, crime, and disease outbreaks.

Hicham BAHI – Assistant Professor at Mohammed VI Polytechnic University

Willy Franck SOB – Founder of GeOsm Family

09:45 AM - 10:30 AM — MARCOSO | **Agadir Smart City: An intelligent environment for a sustainable and resilient city**

During this session, we will examine the key features and successes of the Agadir Smart City initiative, including the use of renewable energy, smart waste management, and digital services for citizens. Through several examples, we will explore the potential of Smart Cities to drive economic growth and address pressing urban challenges, while creating a more livable and sustainable community in Agadir.

Ismail EL OMARI – Architect, Agadir City Councilor, and member of the urban planning & smart city committee

09:00 AM - 10:30 AM — MARCOSO | **Women's entrepreneurship in the city**

This panel session will explore the challenges and opportunities faced by women entrepreneurs in African cities. We will discuss the unique barriers that women face in starting and growing their businesses, and how these challenges are influenced by the social and cultural norms and economic support networks. Drawing on a case study from an African city, we will examine the ways in which women-led businesses are driving economic growth, creating jobs, and contributing to the overall vitality of the city. The panel will also discuss ways in which women's entrepreneurship plays in building more inclusive and sustainable African cities.

Rachad AZMI – Academic researcher in the field of management

SESSION | **Session 1: The effects of port activities on transport, mobility, and urban form-case study cities: Accra, Lomé, Djibouti**

In port and maritime geography, ports play an important role in the economies of cities and act as catalysts and niche development in specific economic sectors and locations near ports or along corridors. This section discusses the port-city relationship of three port cities (Lea, Lomé, Djibouti, and Tema).

Augustus ABABIO-DONKOR – Transport Analyst, Lecturer & Research Coordinator, Regional Transport Research and Education Centre, Kumasi (TREDU), KNUST

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM — SESSION | **Unlocking Africa's Tourism Potential: The Power of social media Data-driven Strategies**

By building new cities modeled in Africa to improve the living environment of the population, urban actors are aiming at a significant objective: make African cities the most pleasant living places in the world.

The new tourism actors, agencies, influencers or tourism project owners are anticipating this long-term objective and are helping to discover Africa and its opportunities by using social networks as inexhaustible sources of data.

With these new players, discover how social network data is reinventing tourism in Africa.

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM — MARCOSO | **Coffee break**

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM — SESSION | **Coffee break**

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM — SESSION | **Collecting data to improve basic urban services in Africa Mobility - Health - Urban management**

By creating better management of services such as energy, urban mobility and waste management, ICTs play an important role in the development of African cities. The optimization of public services requires the mobilization of data produced by users in order to improve the living quality of populations on the continent.

Join the discussion between public actors, start-ups and entrepreneurs in Benin who are designing and using innovative digital solutions to improve the quality of life of users.

Roland HOUNGBADJI – Entrepreneur, Co-founder of the Pharmapi application

Gilles APOLOSSOU – General Manager of the Waste Management Company

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

MARCOSO | **Cloud computing for urban planning in Africa: the case of GIZE**

In this tutorial, we will explore the potential of cloud computing for urban planning in Africa, with a focus on the GIZE platform. The tutorial will study the ways in which the advantages of GIZE and its capabilities and demonstrate how it can be used to support urban planning and decision-making. We will also discuss the benefits and challenges of using cloud computing for urban planning, including cost savings, flexibility, scalability, security, and privacy. By the end of the tutorial, participants will have a comprehensive understanding of how to use cloud computing with the GIZE to improve urban planning outcomes in Africa.

Viola AZMI – Researcher at the Center of Urban Systems (CUS) at Mohammed VI Polytechnic University

MARCOSO | **Urban extension modeling with GUDS**

This tutorial will explore how GIS can be used to analyze urban growth patterns and predict future urban expansion. The tutorial will cover topics such as land use change modeling, suitability analysis, and spatial regression. We will also discuss the importance of incorporating these tools into urban planning and policy decision-making. By the end of the tutorial, participants will have a basic understanding of how to use GIS for urban extension modeling and be better equipped to apply these techniques in their own work.

Youssou LAHBOUB – Project manager at SAPHOTEP

MARCOSO | **Workshop session**

Workshop session on different areas of urban planning in Africa.

Stéphane TÉKOUAMBOU – Researcher at the Center of Urban System (CUS) of the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University

SPARK | **Session 2: Public transport system and public health risk**

Rapid population growth and urbanization are stimulating growth in African cities. The informal and inefficient public transport system in most African cities has resulted in vehicular traffic with its associated externalities. This section investigates the public transport systems and the major public health hazard of transport in Africa.

Augustus ABABIO-DONKOR – Transport Analyst, Lecturer & Research Coordinator, Regional Transport Research and Education Centre, Kumasi (TREDU), KNUST

12:30 PM - 02:30 PM — **Coffee break**

02:30 PM - 04:30 PM — SESSION | **African Cities Lab: A gamechanger that transforms African cities**

Presentation of the African Cities Lab project to institutions from Anglophone and Francophone Africa are collaborating to create an African digital education platform on urban development, offering quality MOOCs and online continuing education for professionals. It also serves as a forum for the exchange of digital educational resources and management and governance of African cities to promote sustainable urban development.

02:30 PM - 04:00 PM

MARCOSO | **Digital transformation and digital governance**

In this session, we will showcase recent research that explores the ways in which digital technologies can facilitate citizen participation, and governance in Africa, and the opportunities and challenges that arise from the use of these tools. The session will delve into digital platforms in promoting citizen engagement and accountability, the challenges of digital divide and the unequal distribution of access to digital technologies, and the implications of digital governance for democratic institutions and processes. The papers will provide important insights for policymakers, civic organizations, and those working at the intersection of digital technologies and urban governance in Africa.

El Bachir DIOP - Researcher at the Center of Urban Systems (CUS) at Mohammed VI Polytechnic University

Mesmine CHEBATA – Senior Lecturer in machine learning for Earth observation and Geomatics - Bordeaux INP

MARCOSO | **Architecture and urban development**

This session will examine the intersections of architecture and urbanism, with a focus on the ways in which architecture shapes urban landscapes and studies urban spaces in Africa. The session will feature papers that explore a range of issues, including the relationship between built and open spaces, heritage conservation, new city development, and community participation, and the role of architecture in shaping urban experiences. The aim of this session is to foster interdisciplinary dialogue and exchange of ideas among architects, urban planners, and other scholars, and to promote innovative approaches to architecture and urban development in the African context.

Hicham BAHI – Assistant Professor at Mohammed VI Polytechnic University

MARCOSO | **Socioeconomic challenges of African cities**

This session will address the complex and diverse issues that affect the social and economic well-being of African cities and communities. The session will feature papers that explore a range of topics, including poverty, the socioeconomic impacts of climate change, and the challenges of working with a focus on urban youth. The aim of this session is to provide a platform for researchers and practitioners to share their latest research findings and to propose innovative strategies and policies that can help to address the socioeconomic challenges facing African cities.

Kamal AZMI – Academic researcher in the field of management

04:00 PM - 05:00 PM — MARCOSO | **Coffee break/Posters**

Posters presentations on different areas of urban planning in Africa.

04:30 PM - 05:00 PM — SESSION | **Coffee break**

05:00 PM - 06:00 PM — SESSION | **Restitution of the Hackathon (Innovation Lab)**

Continuing driving water management in the new eco-city of Sème City. As part of the African Cities Lab - 2023 Summit, a hackathon was organized with 32 teams of 5 people. The objective is to find digital solutions to reuse the grey water of the future Sème City campus. The institution is an opportunity for the 5 finalist teams to present their solutions to a multidisciplinary jury.

05:00 PM - 05:30 PM — MARCOSO | **Closing remarks**

05:30 PM - 06:00 PM — MARCOSO | **Award ceremony**

06:00 PM - 06:15 PM — SESSION | **Key note - plenary session**

Rebecca – Learner in the TRIPPA program

06:30 PM - 07:30 PM — **Closing Cocktail**

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As seen by
African Cities Lab

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