

Participatory Urban Analytics for Inclusive Data Innovations: Enabling Transformative Public Policies

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**WORLD
CHANGING
GLASGOW**

AGILE PhD School 2024
Castelló de la Plana, Spain, 28 November 2024



Participatory urban analytics: resilient cities and communities with citizen science

UBDC: Funded by ESRC and the University of Glasgow since 2014 (£10M+): Research Centre and UK Data Service.

Themes: Housing, Transport, Labour Market/Education, Governance, **Urban Sustainability and Participation**

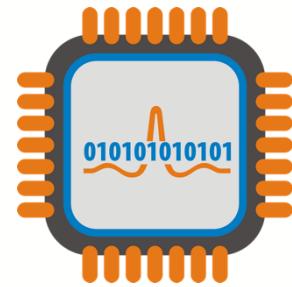
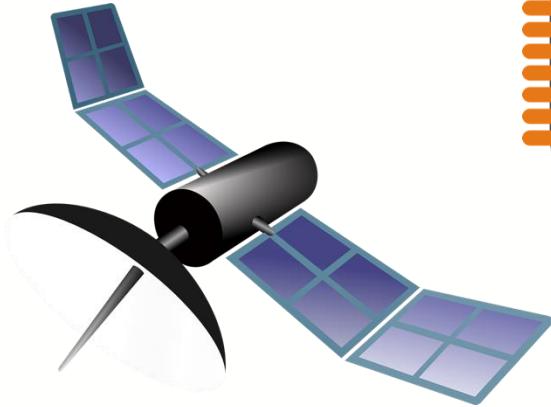
- **Flood resilience** in Brazil: "Waterproofing Data": (PI: €1m ESRC/GCRF/Belmont Forum/Norface grant) with FGV and Cemaden (National Centre for Disaster Monitoring and Early-Warning). Resilience and education: GRTA Waterproofing Data++ (PI: £370K UKRI GCRF): collaboration with FGV and Cemaden/Brazil
- Landslides and **community resilience** in Brazil and Colombia: "URBE Latam" (PI: £1m UKRI GCRF) : collaboration with BGS, Universidad de Antioquia, Colegio Mayor and UFRJ
- **Healthcare access** in slums in Bangladesh, Kenya, Pakistan, Nigeria: NIHR Global Health Unit on Improving Health in Slums (Co-I: £6m NIHR grant).
- Creating Interfaces: **Food-Water-Energy Nexus** in Poland, Romania and the US (Co-I, Belmont Forum/ESRC/AHRC JPI €1.35m overall budget).
- The role of Digital Footprint Data in **localisation of the Sustainable Development Goals** (Co-I: £2m UKRI ESRC - work package of the UBDC Digital Footprint Data Service): study of data innovations for SDG monitoring.
- CityCashTransfer: Evaluation of Urban Sustainability in Municipal **Cash Transfer Programs using Local Currency** (PI: £19.9K), collaboration with FGV, UFRN, e-Dinheiro, Niteroi and Maricá municipal governments.
- **IDEAMAPS: A participatory data-modelling ecosystem for deprived area map production in LMIC cities** (PI: \$1.6m, BMGF, Oct/2022-Sep/2025), collaboration with APHRC, Uni. of Lagos,, ITC/Uni. Twente, Uni. York, George-Washington Uni.



Urban analytics: What cities can we read out of data?



Sensors



Big Data || Digital Footprints || Smart Data

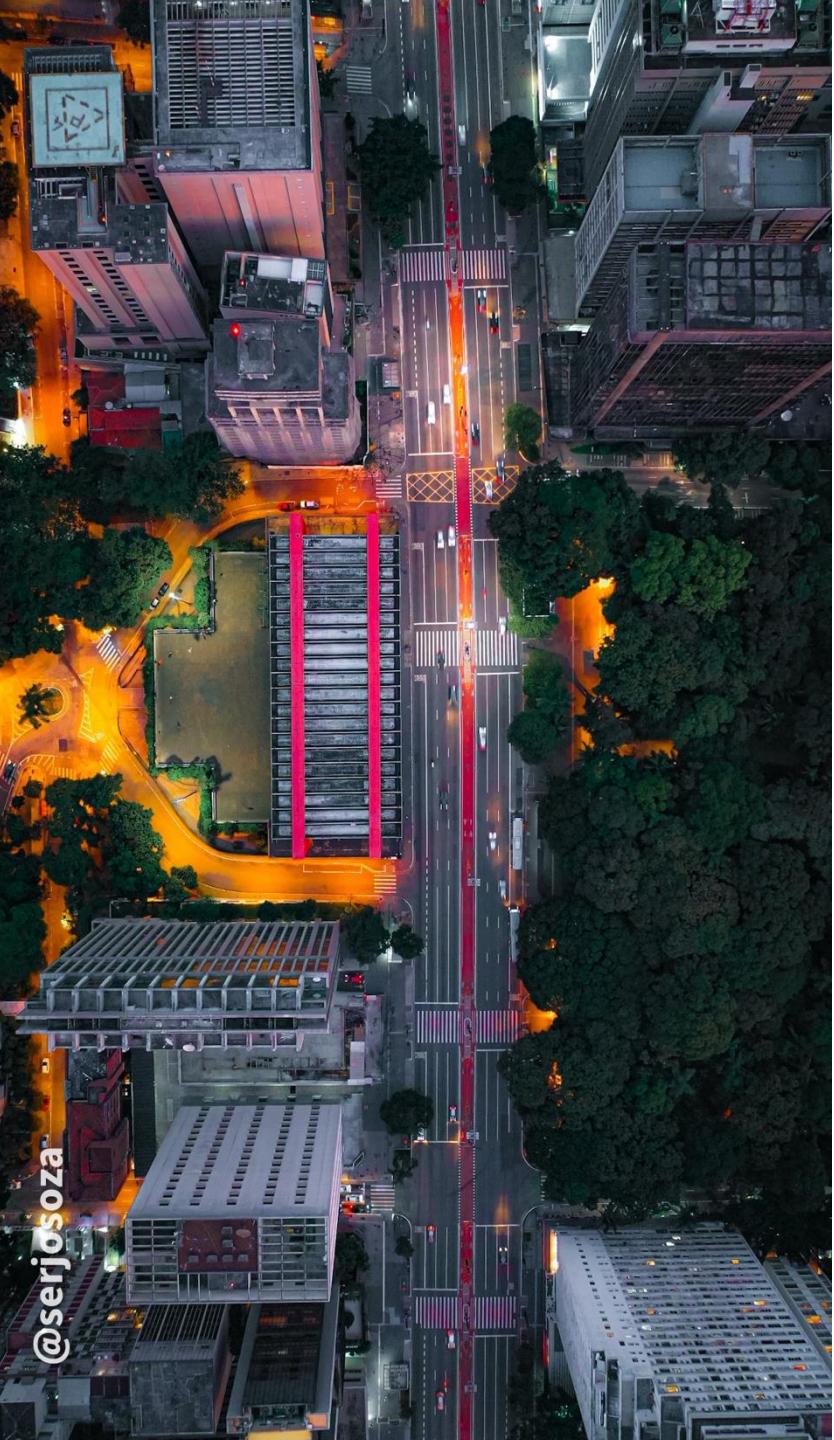


Online and administrative systems



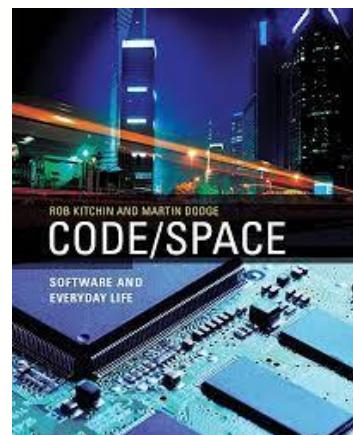
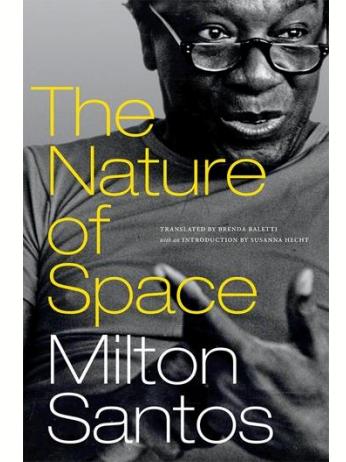
Citizen-generated data





As cities make data, data makes cities

“Science and technology, together with information, are the very foundation for the production, use and functioning of space”
(Santos, [1996] 2002, p. 238)



“Code/space is quite literally constituted through software-mediated practices, wherein code is essential to the form, function, and meaning of space”
(Kitchin and Dodge, 2014)

What cities are being made out of data?

Climate justice: cities and data in the context of a triple emergency

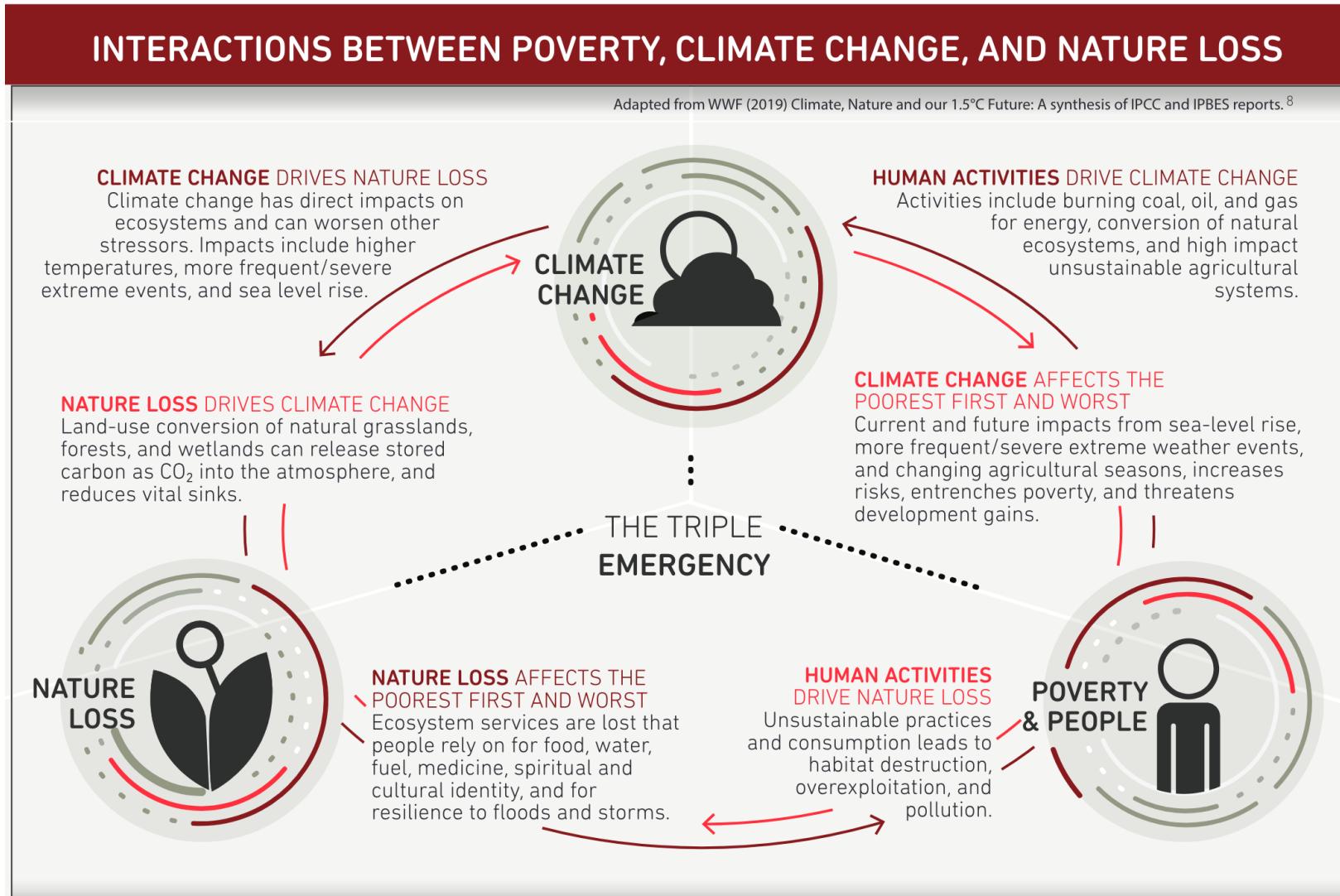




Photo: Tuca Vieira

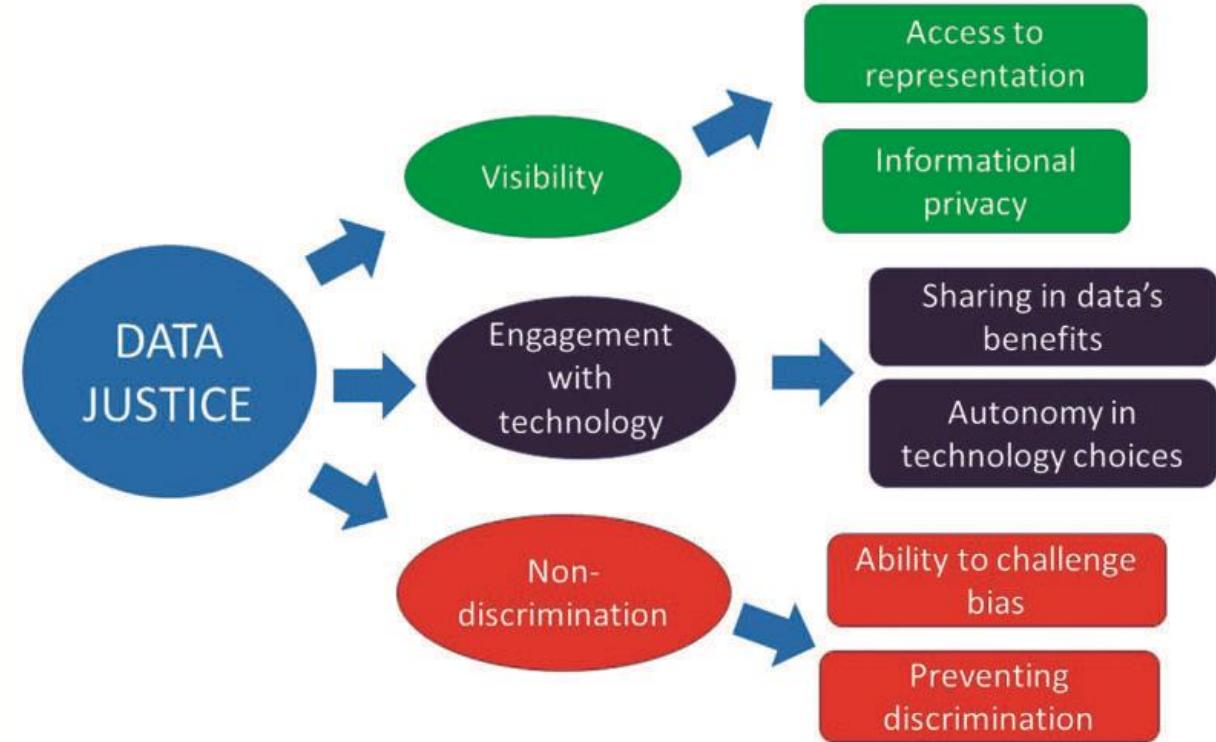
Urban inequalities: the city multiple

*“For indeed any city, however small, is in fact divided into two, **one the city of the poor, the other of the rich**; these are at war with one another; and in either there are many smaller divisions, and you would be altogether beside the mark if you treated them all as a single State.”*

Plato, *Republic*, 234a

Data inequalities and data justice

- **Data inequalities** (Cinnamon, 2000): access to data, control of data flows, representation
- **Data justice** (Taylor, 2017): visibility, engagement with technology, non-discrimination

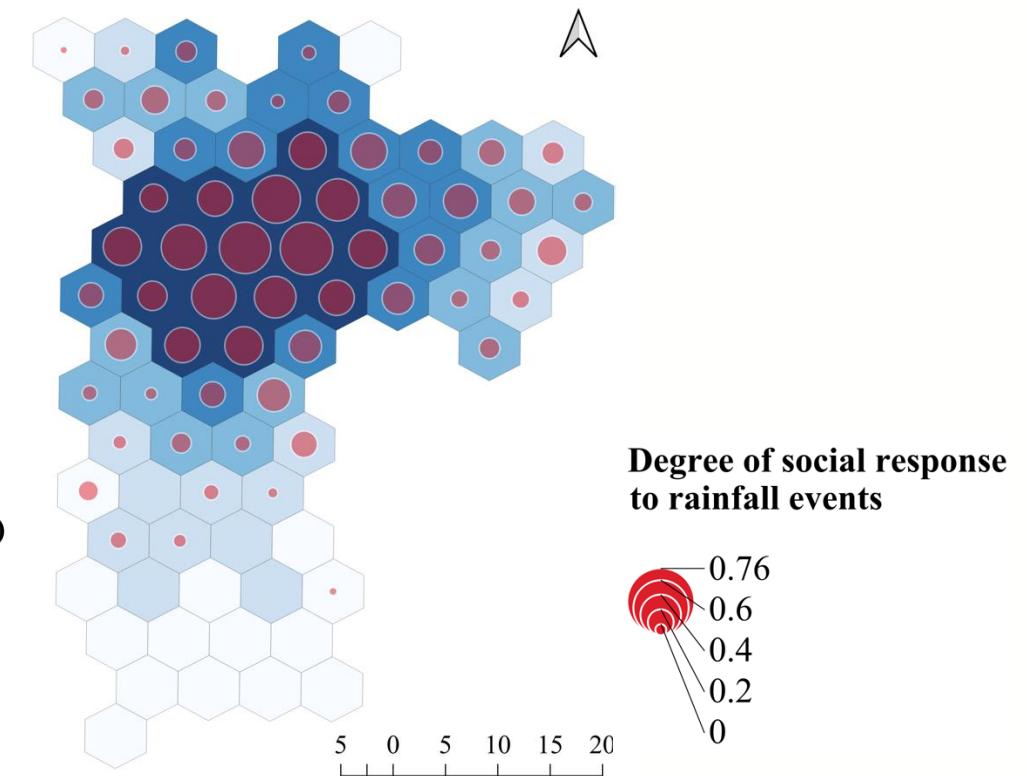


"An idea of justice is needed in order to establish the rule of law, an idea of data justice is necessary to determine ethical paths through a datafying world." (Taylor, 2017)



Urban socio-spatial inequalities are associated with data inequalities

Social media response to rainfall



Andrade, Albuquerque, et al. (2021): *The effect of intra-urban mobility flows on the spatial heterogeneity of social media activity: investigating the response to rainfall events*, International Journal of Geographical Information Science, <https://doi.org/10.1080/13658816.2021.1957898>

A spatio-temporal analysis investigating completeness and inequalities of global urban building data in OpenStreetMap

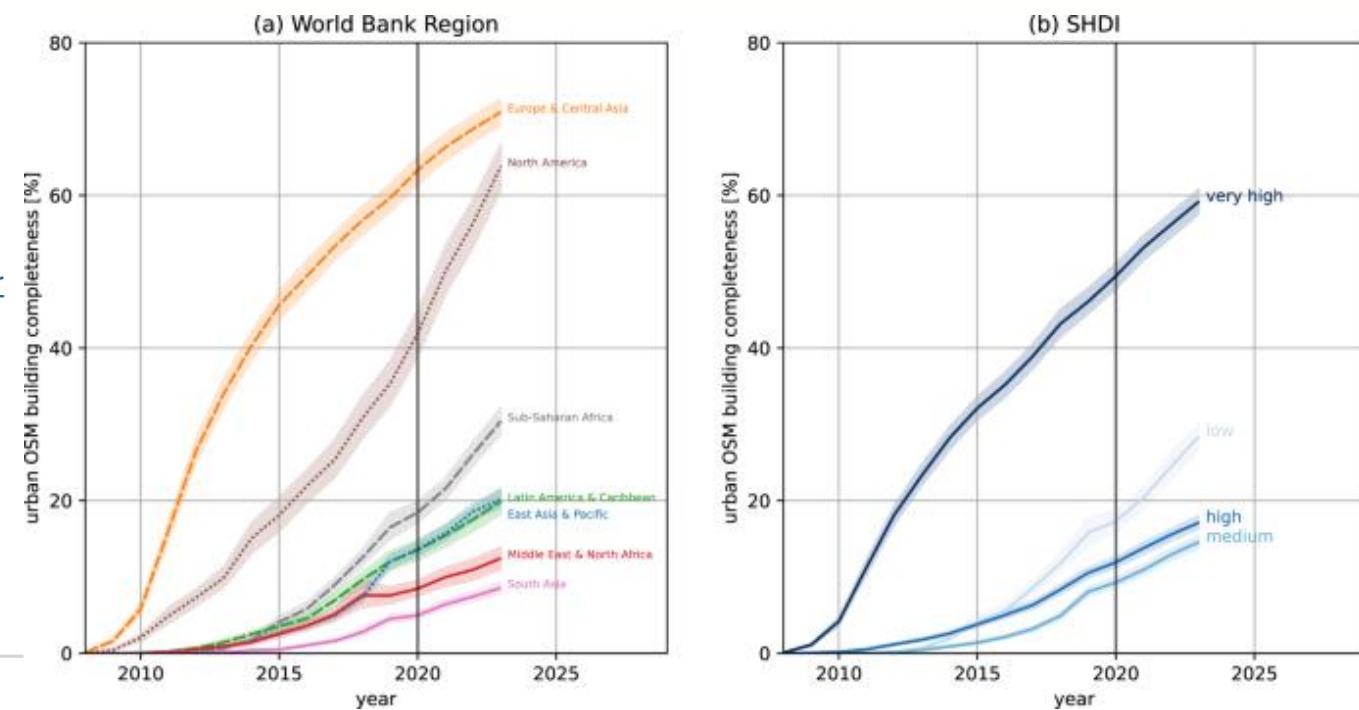
Benjamin Herfort  Sven Lautenbach, João Porto de Albuquerque, Jennings Anderson & Alexander Zipf

Nature Communications 14, Article number: 3985 (2023) | [Cite this article](#)

4 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

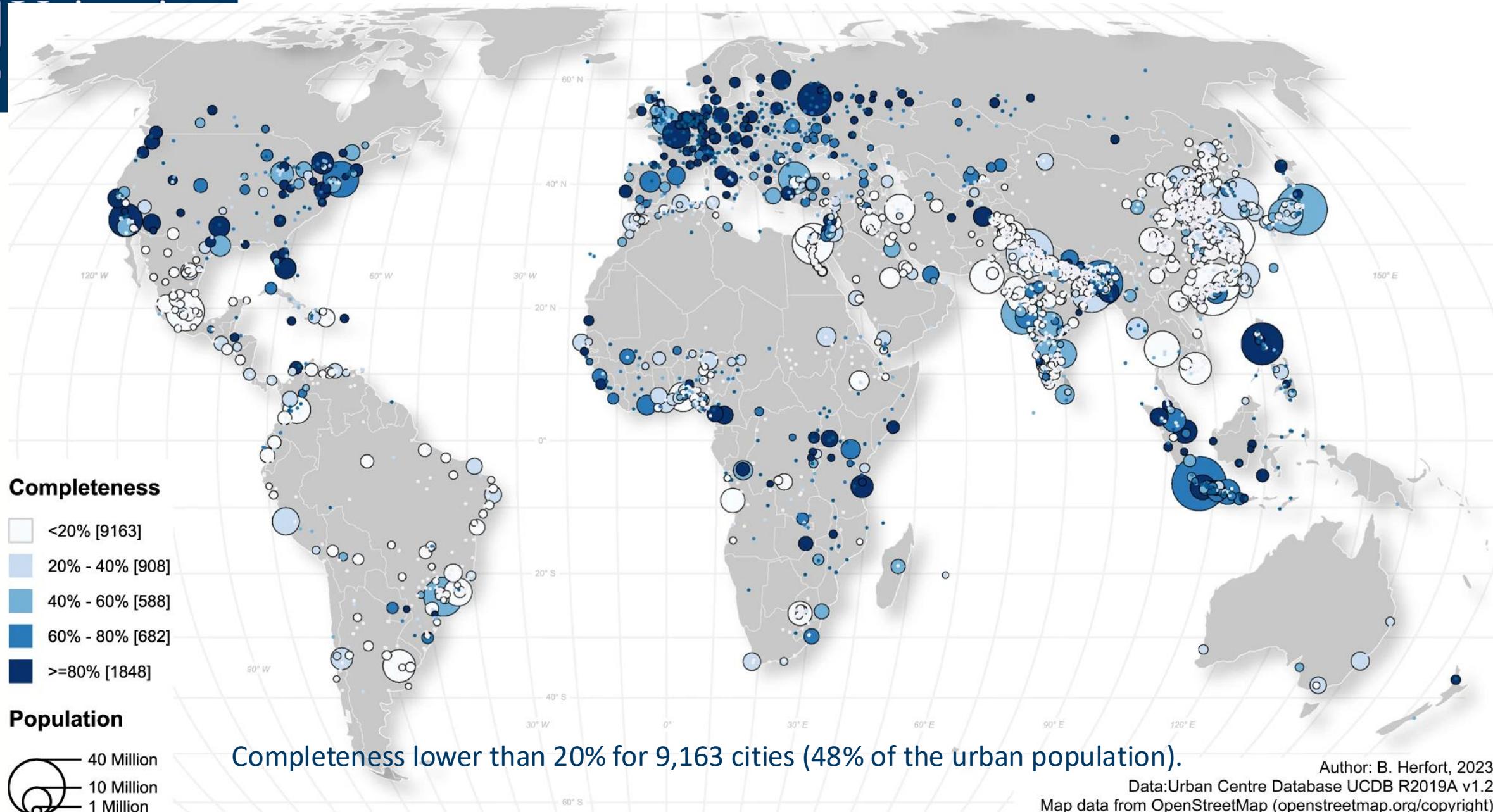
Abstract

OpenStreetMap (OSM) has evolved as a popular dataset for global urban analyses, such as assessing progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. However, many analyses do not account for the uneven spatial coverage of existing data. We employ a machine-learning model to infer the completeness of OSM building stock data for 13,189 urban agglomerations worldwide. For 1,848 urban centres (16% of the urban population),

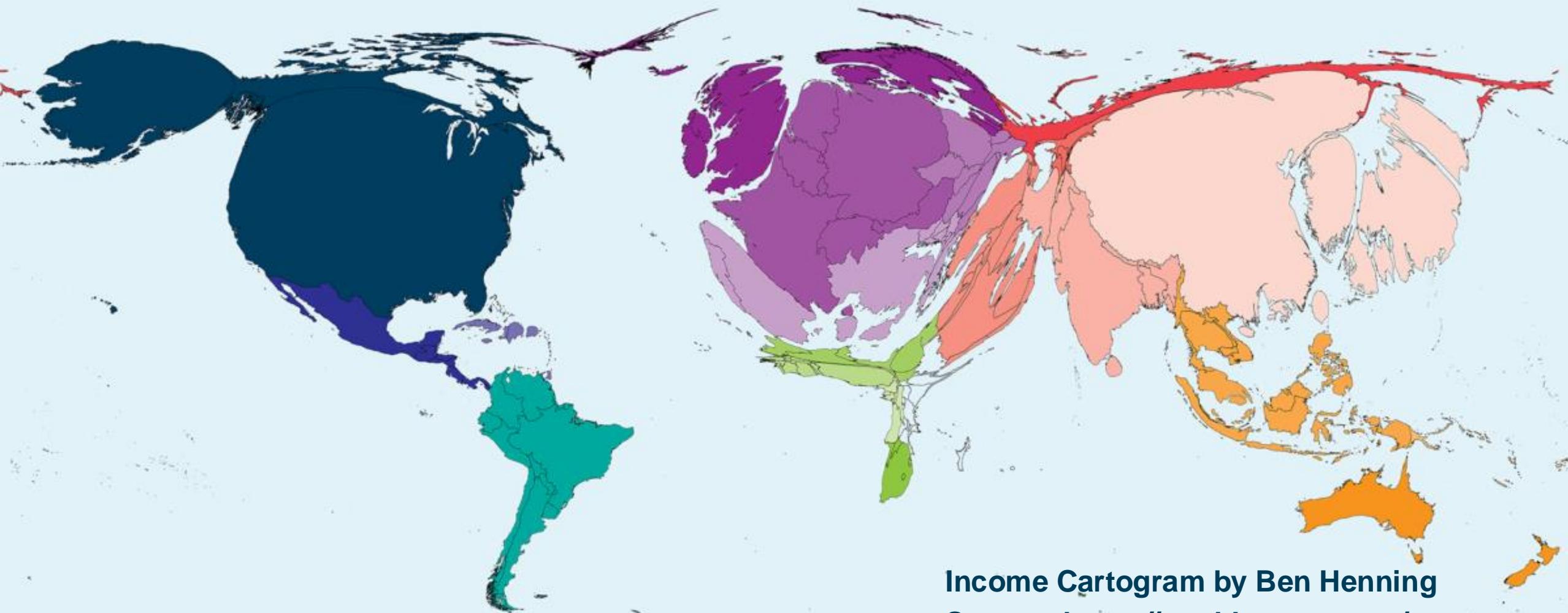


<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-023-39698-6>

OpenStreetMap Building Completeness in 13,189 Urban Centres



Does urban analytics challenge or exacerbate inequalities?



Income Cartogram by Ben Henning
Source: <https://worldmapper.org/>

How can we embed climate and data justice into urban analytics?



EXAMPLE 1: (RE)MAKING CITIES OUT OF DATA

Waterproofing Data: How to engage citizens in data-driven disaster risk reduction



Winner
Outstanding
Societal
Impact



EMERALD
AWARDS
2022/23
**REAL
IMPACT**



Waterproofing Data

Engaging stakeholders in sustainable flood risk governance for urban resilience

(Sep/2018-Jun/2022)

How to rethink flood data production and flow to enable transformations to build sustainable, flood resilient communities?

Project Partners:



UNIVERSITÄT
HEIDELBERG
ZUKUNFT
SEIT 1386



Funding Agencies:



Economic
and Social
Research Council



Federal Ministry
of Education
and Research



In coordination with:



Waterproofing Data

Engaging stakeholders in sustainable flood risk governance for urban resilience

Objectives

Develop three innovative interdisciplinary methods:

1. Make visible how stakeholders engage with data

Data diaries, spatial data analysis

2. Engage citizens to produce, circulate and embed data

Data gardening

3. Integrate citizen-generated data with other sources to support decision and policy making

Participatory mapping, participatory software design

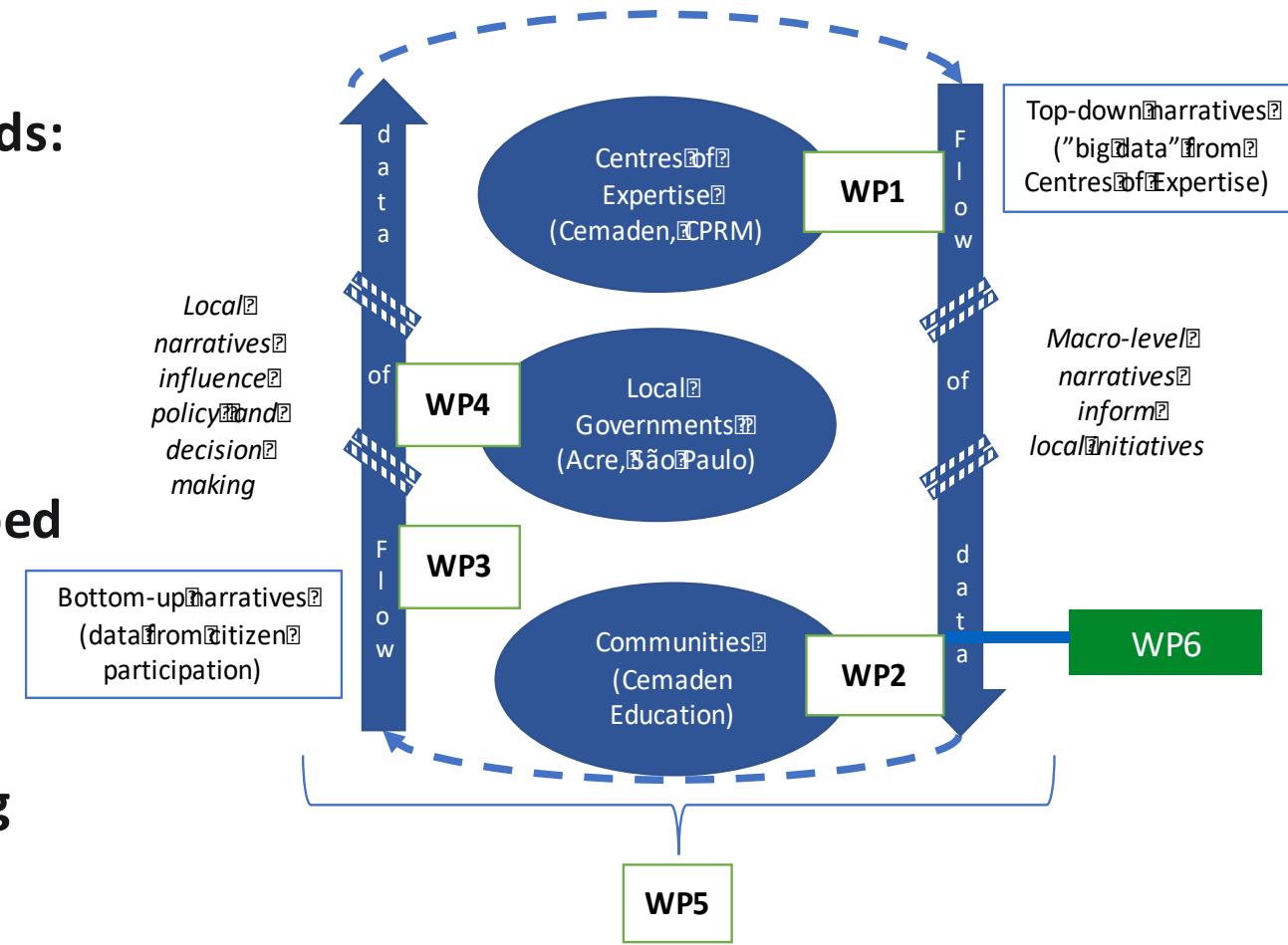
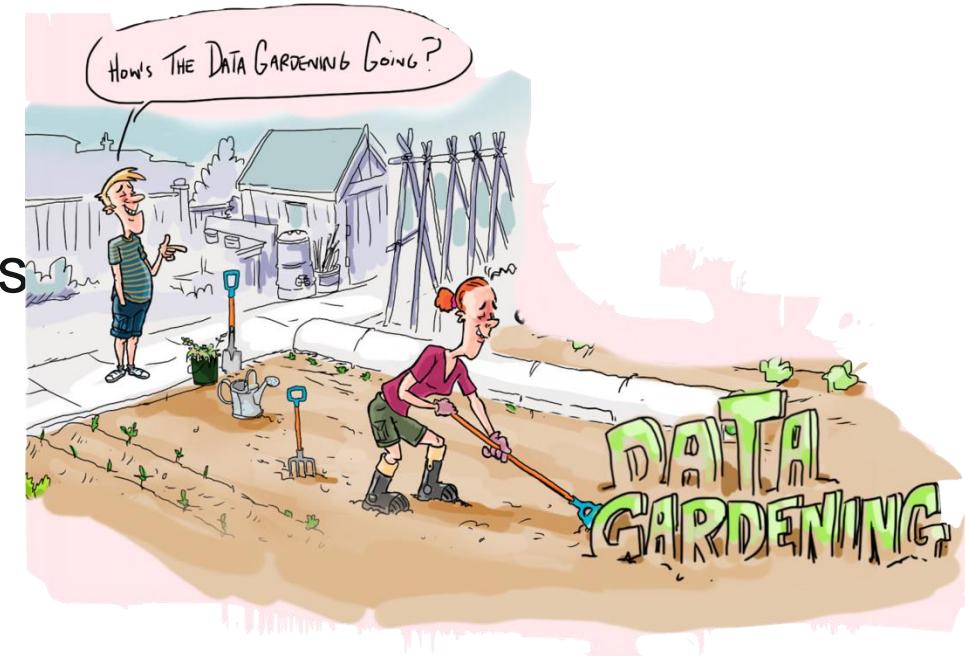


Figure 1. Scales and work packages of the project

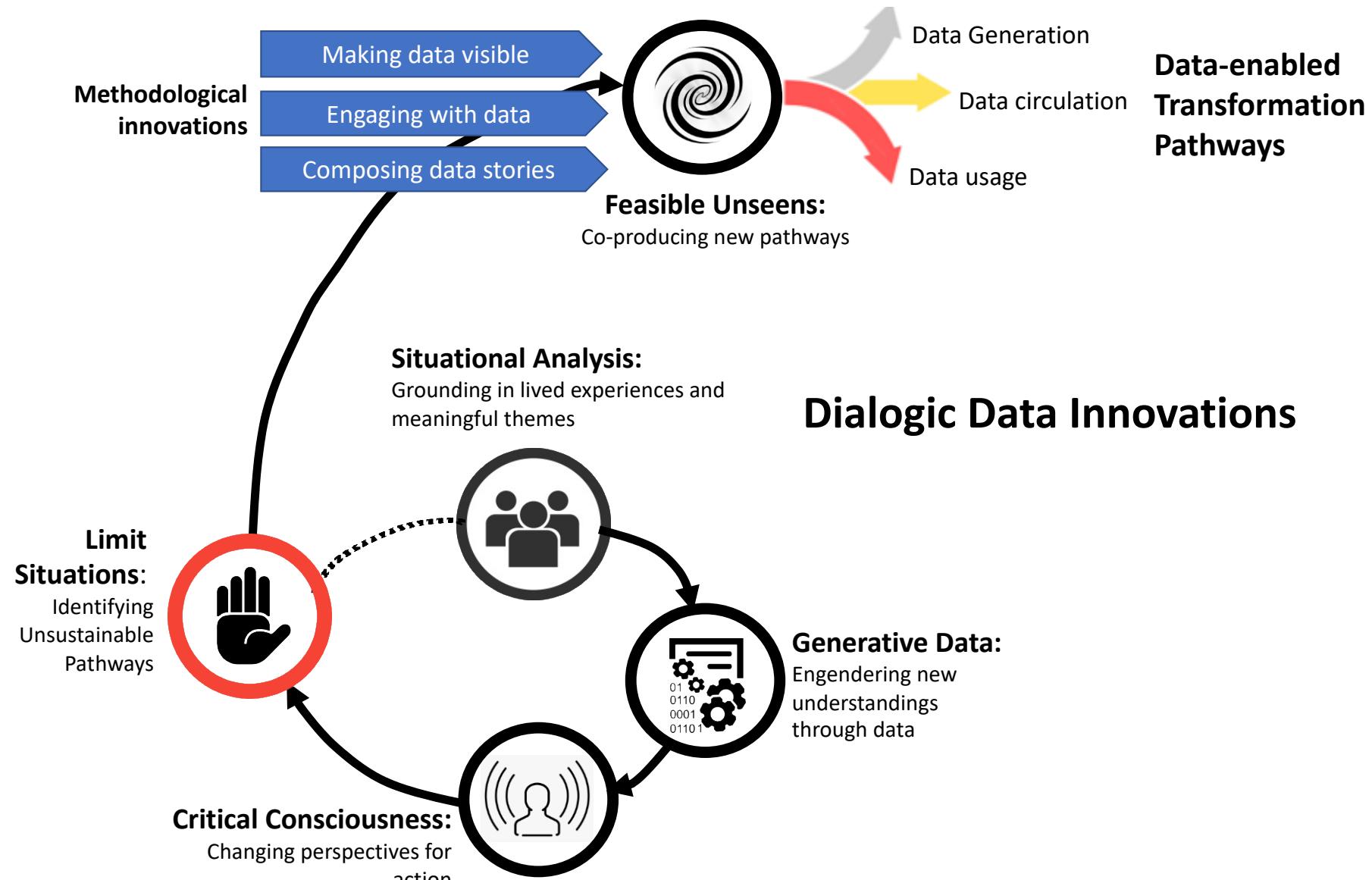
Outputs:: Waterproofing Data

Main results: methodological innovations

- 1. Data diaries and “conversaction” roundtables:**
from data practices to data praxis
- 2. Data gardening and pollination:** engaging communities, schools, civil protection to cultivate multiple forms of citizen-generated data
- 3. Dialogic data stories:** mobile app, data pipelines and dashboard
- 4. Dialogical-participatory mapping:** towards a transformative mapping praxis



Results:: A framework for data-enabled pathways to urban sustainable transformations

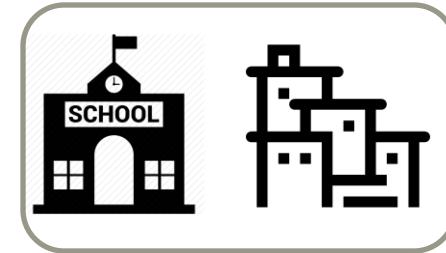


Dialogic data generation: from data gathering to ‘data gardening’



Data Gardening

Citizen
Science



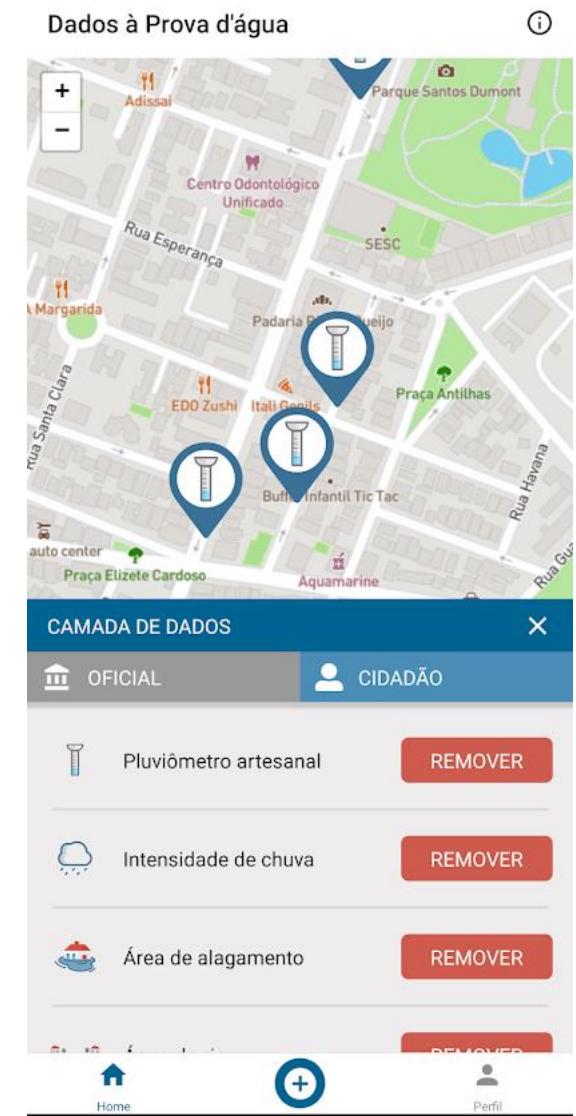
Participatory
Mapping in
OpenStreetMap

Artistic
Installations

Collaborativ
e Risk
Perception
Mapping

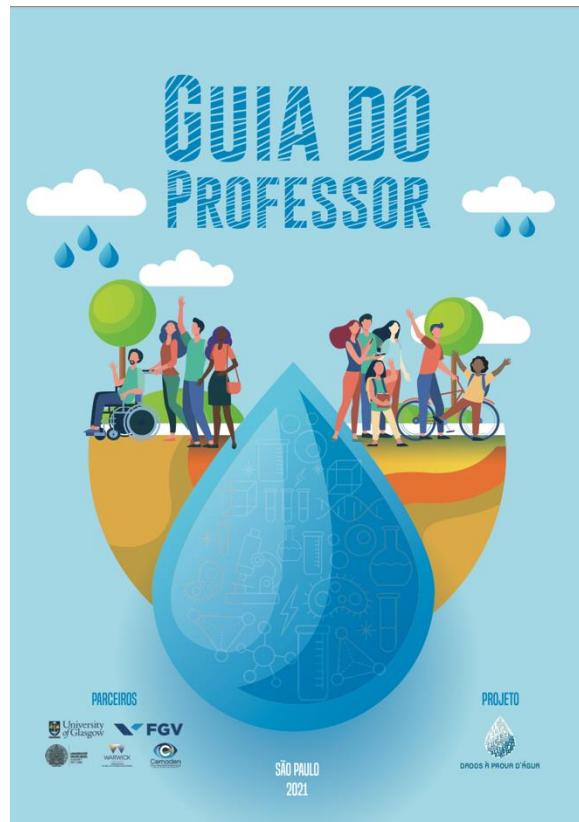


Co-creation of pedagogical resources: the Waterproofing Data mobile app and Teacher's guide



“Pollination”: spreading the seeds

Teacher's guide for a template course with activities/teaching plans on citizen science, disaster risk, floods, digital mapping



Data integration: Waterproofing Data Dashboard

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Waterproofing Data Dashboard. At the top, there are two sections: "WATERPROOFING DATA." on the left and "NATIONAL OVERVIEW." on the right, separated by a large grid of blue vertical bars. A "JOIN THE PROJECT" button is located in the top right corner, above a "LANGUAGE" switch set to "EN". Below these, the main title "Waterproofing Data." is displayed in large, bold, black font, with the subtitle "Connecting Brazilian Flood Data From Communities & Official Sources" underneath. A search bar with the placeholder "Search for a location ..." and a magnifying glass icon is centered below the title. Four data cards are shown in a row: "248 Registered Pluviometers", "290 Citizen Reporters", "24 Partner Schools", and "11 Civil Protection Agencies". Below these is a larger card with the number "7512 Rows of Citizen Generated Data". At the bottom, a section titled "What's Happening?" features the heading "National Flood Activity." in large, bold, black font.

WATERPROOFING DATA.

NATIONAL OVERVIEW.

JOIN THE PROJECT

LANGUAGE EN BR

Monitor Flood Data in Brazil

Waterproofing Data.

Connecting Brazilian Flood Data From Communities & Official Sources

Search for a location ...

248
Registered Pluviometers

290
Citizen Reporters

24
Partner Schools

11
Civil Protection Agencies

7512
Rows of Citizen Generated Data

What's Happening?

National Flood Activity.

<https://waterproofing-data.ubdc.ac.uk/>

Outcomes

**21 “Pollinators”
5 Brazilian states
9 cities**

AC: Rio Branco/ Cruzeiro do Sul

PE: Jaboatão dos Guararapes

MT: Cuiabá

SP: São José dos Campos/ São Paulo

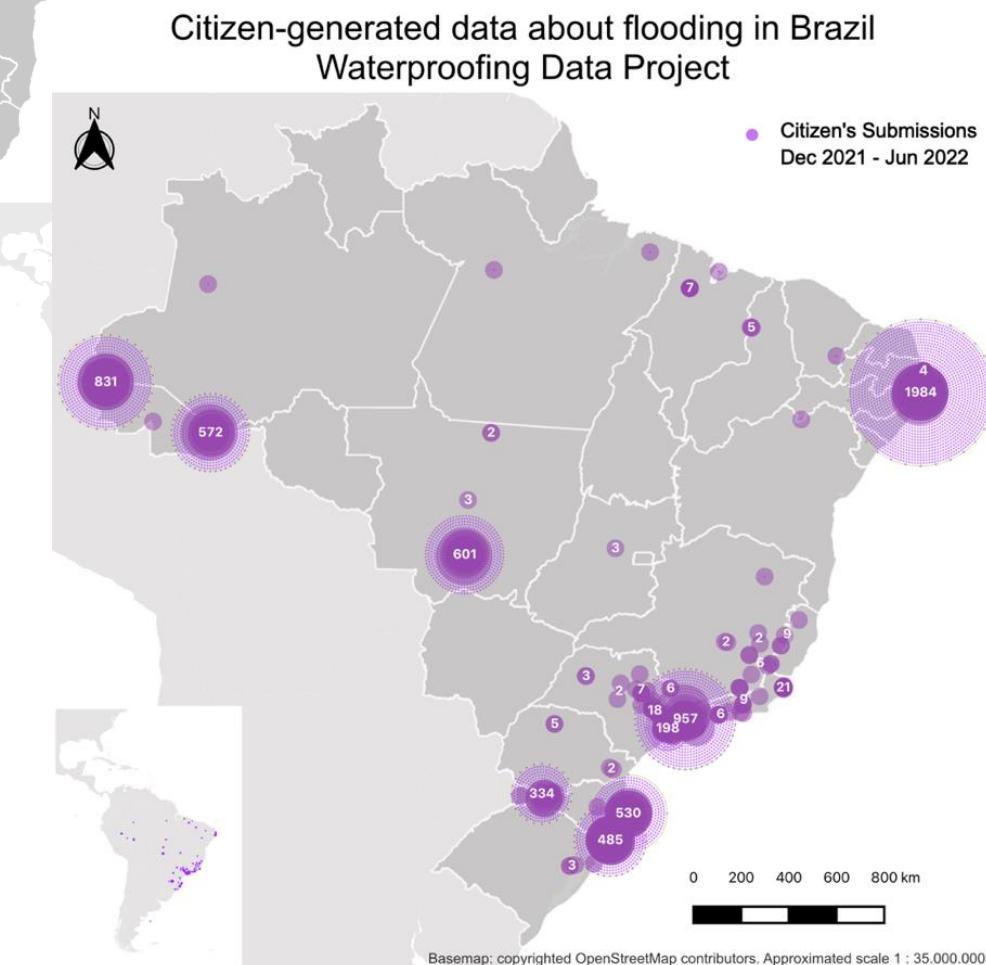
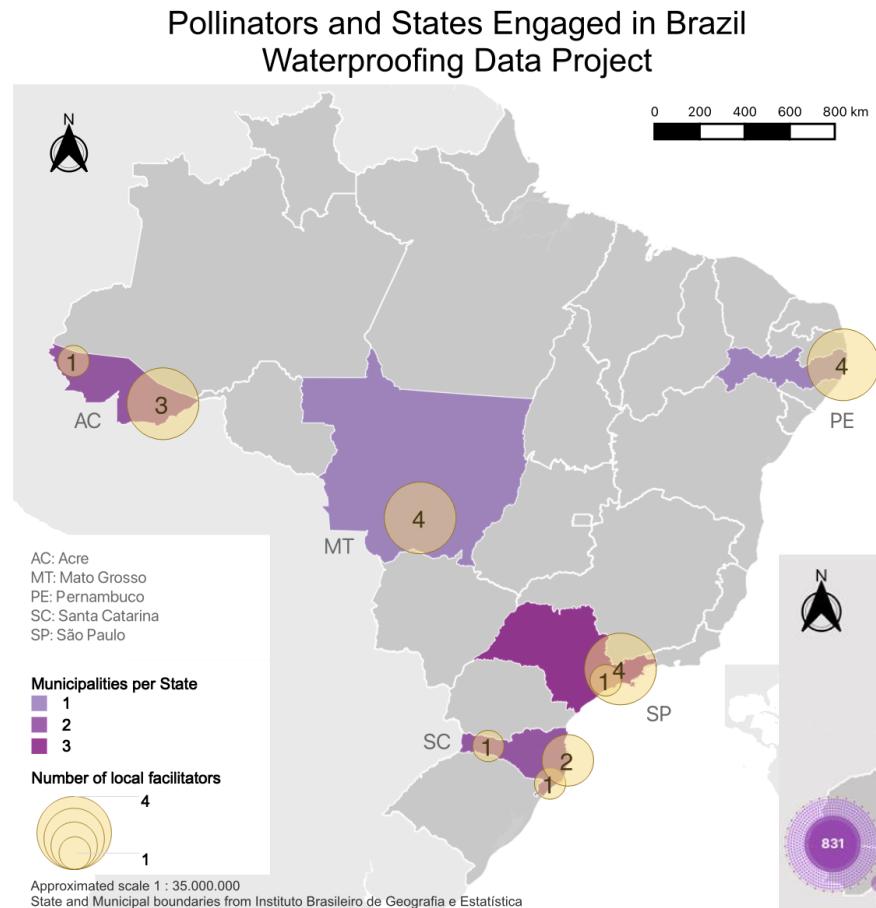
SC: Florianópolis/ Criciúma/ Xanxerê

In 2022:

+400 citizen scientists

+7500 reported records

+43 partner schools and civil protection agencies



Impacts: media coverage



- Waterproofing Data project has been featured in more than 180 media outlets, which emphasised that results can “change the way we deal with floods”.
- This media coverage include interviews and in-depth features of our approach and the results achieved by 5 national broadcast TV channels in Brazil (including a 5-minute feature in “[O Globo Jornal Nacional](#)”, the most widely watched TV news programme in Brazil), articles in 5 major Brazilian newspapers (including a whole-page article in “[Folha de São Paulo](#)”), an article in international specialised media (“[Smart Cities World](#)”), and many local TVs, radios and newspaper reports in all over Brazil (see a complete list [in this link](#)).

Case Study: Northeast Brazil Floods, May 2022

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At least 91 dead in Brazil floods and landslides with many more missing

Favelas in north-eastern cities of Recife and Jaboatao dos Guararapes have been worst hit by disasters many blame on climate change



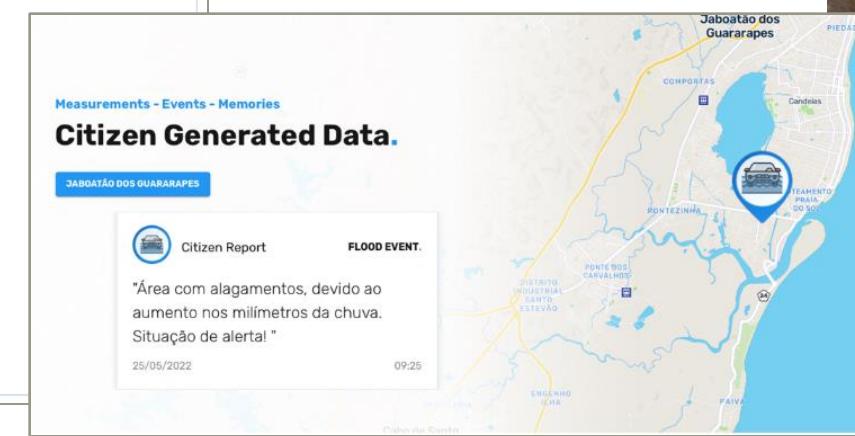
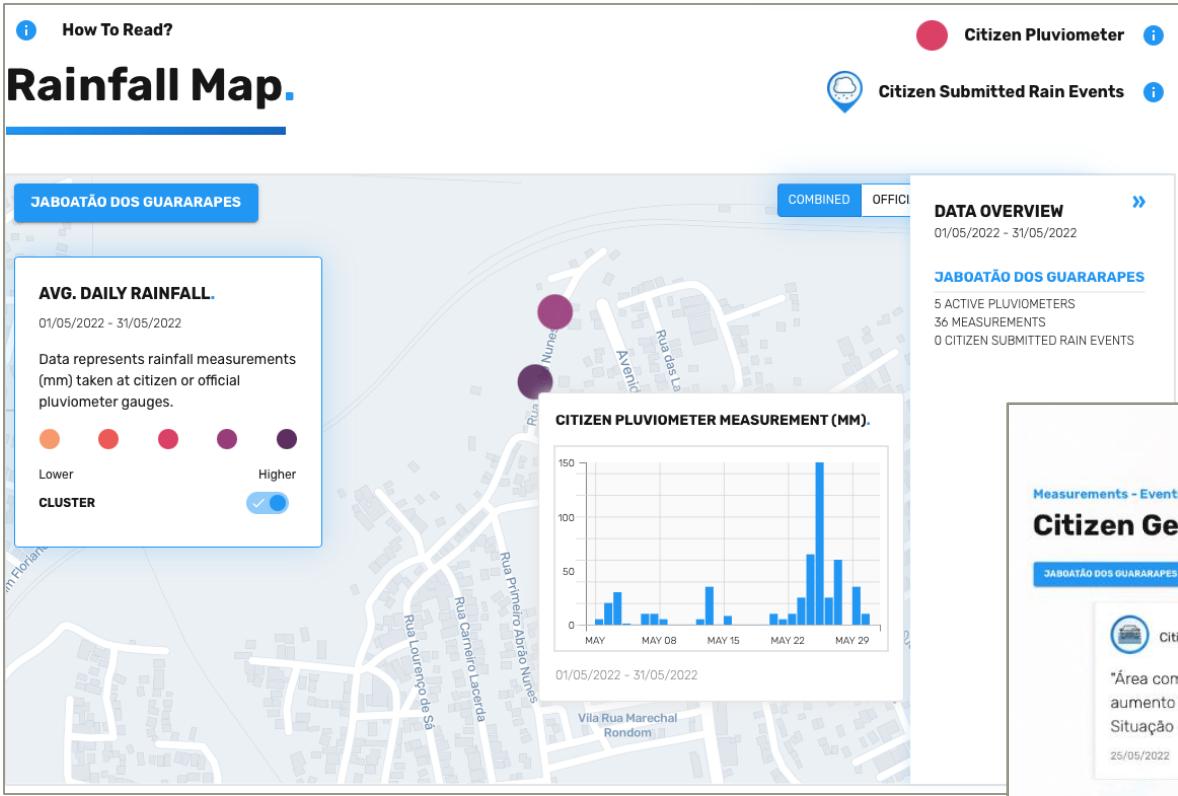
■ A landslide caused by heavy rains in Recife where at least 91 people have died in the city and surrounding area. Photograph: Reuters

Associated Press

Tue 31 May 2022 01.41 BST

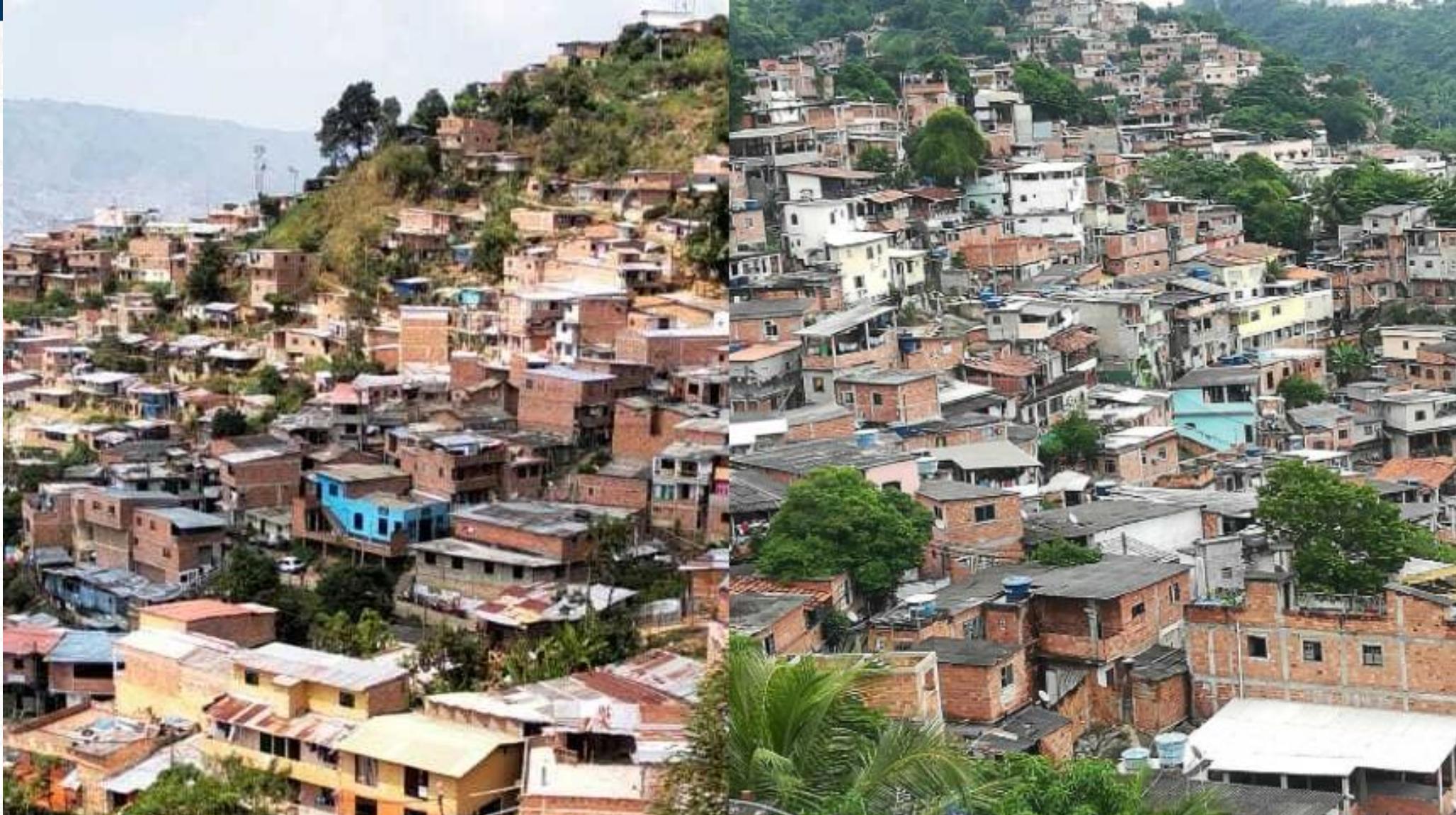
Impacts: critical data literacy in practice

Our mobile app has been used to record daily rainfall before intense rains in the Recife Metropolitan area (Pernambuco) in May 2022



We had damages and houses affected in the areas of the project, but we had no victims because people left their homes at the early warnings. But in other areas of the district, where we did not have our community work, people resisted leaving their homes early and were severely affected, including human losses. (Civil Defence Agent, June 2022)

Example 2: URBE Latam – data justice to advance climate justice



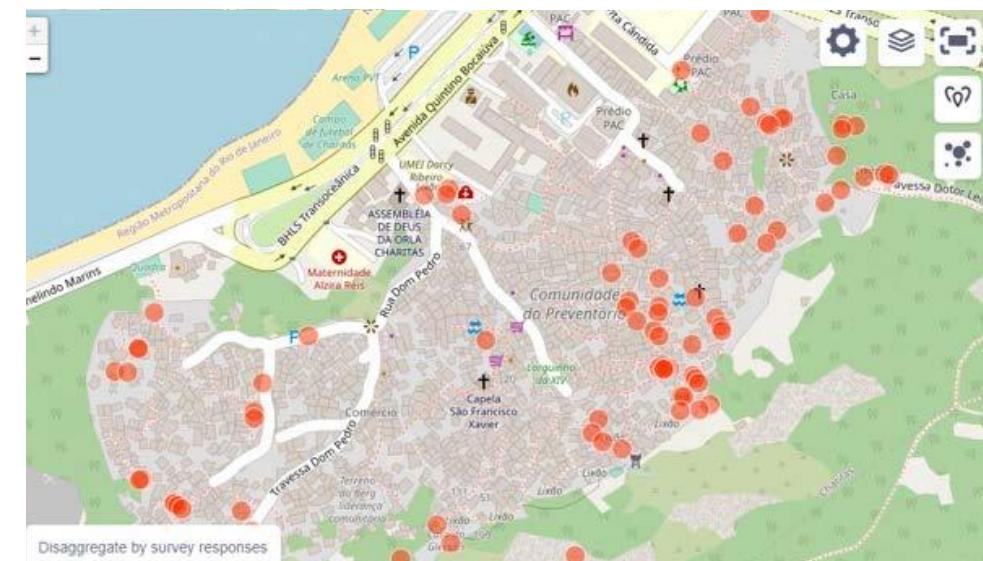
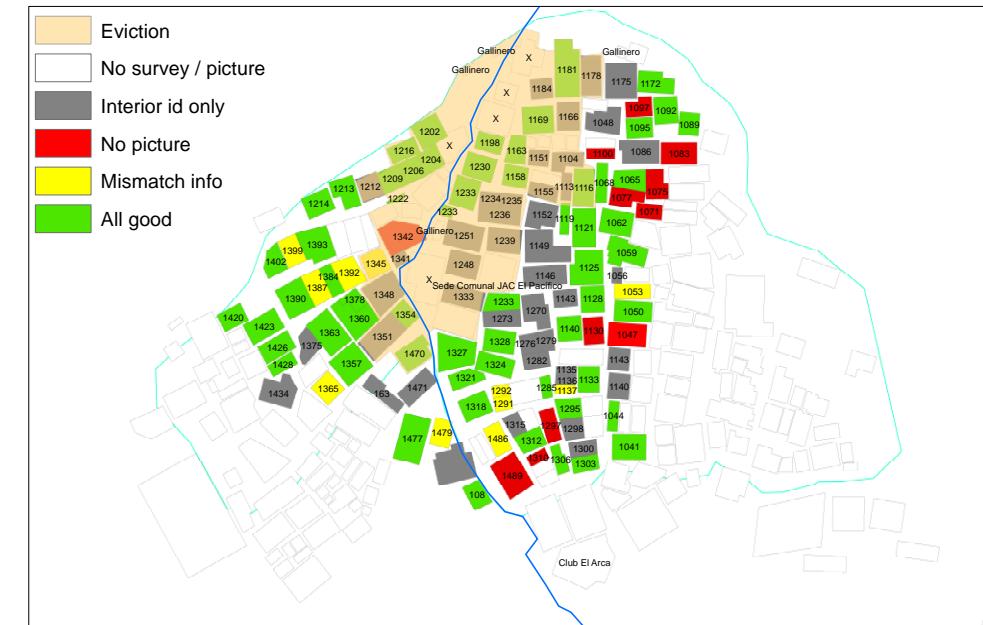
Participatory Mapping

- **Colombia:** detailed maps of El Pacífico, community engagement for gathering data about population and physical vulnerability, paper about data governance, documentary
- **Brazil:** detailed maps of Morro do Preventório, development of mobile app, community mapping methodology and training for other favelas, microcredit methodology

Rivera Flórez, L. A., Builes-Jaramillo, A., Gómez Miranda, I. N., Restrepo Estrada, C. E., Rodríguez Gaviria, E. M., & Porto de Albuquerque, J. (2024). Community mapping based on Milton Santos as a tool for disaster response and risk management in self-built communities: Case study of El Pacífico, Medellín, Colombia. *Cogent Social Sciences*, 10(1), 2307181.

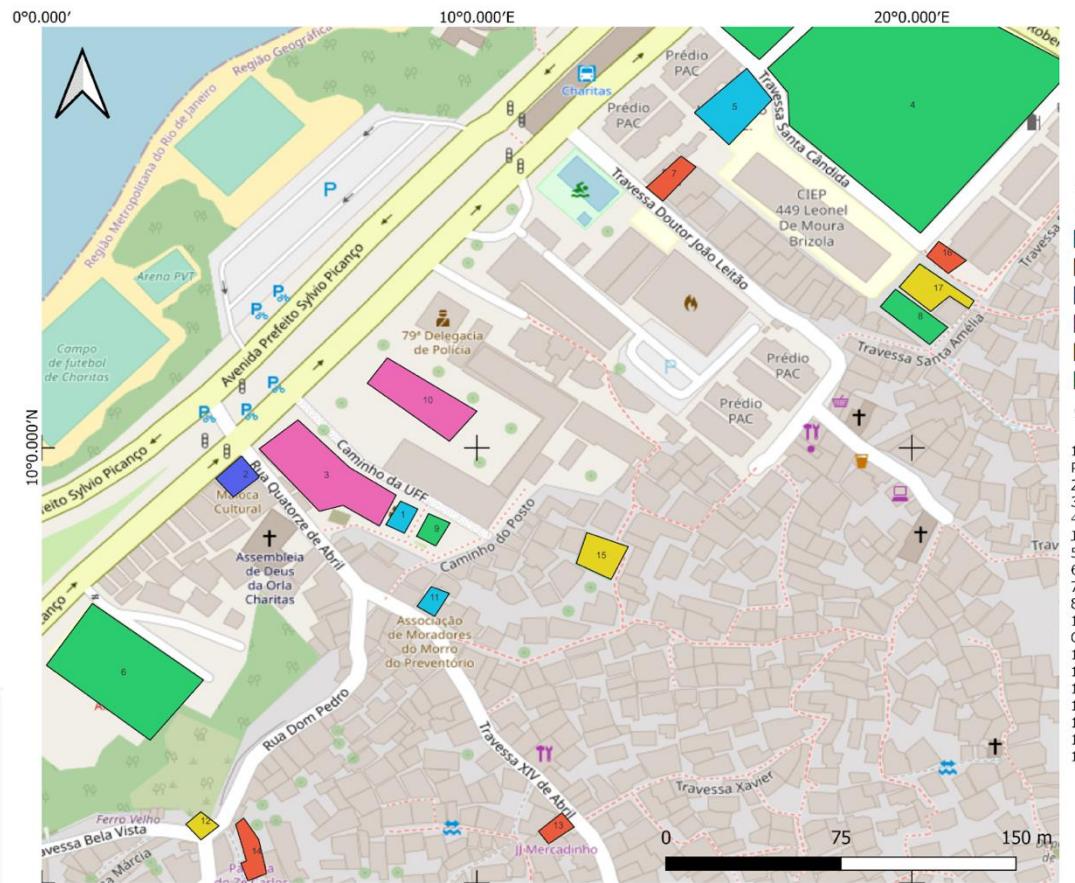
<https://doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2024.2307181>

Rodríguez-Gaviria, E. M., Rivera-Flórez, L. A., & Albuquerque, J. P. de. (2024). Enhancing equity of the post-disaster recovery governance through community data generation. *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, 111, 104700. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdrr.2024.104700>





Potentialities and Vulnerabilities



Mapa de lugares geradores no
Mapa Base do
Morro do
Preventório

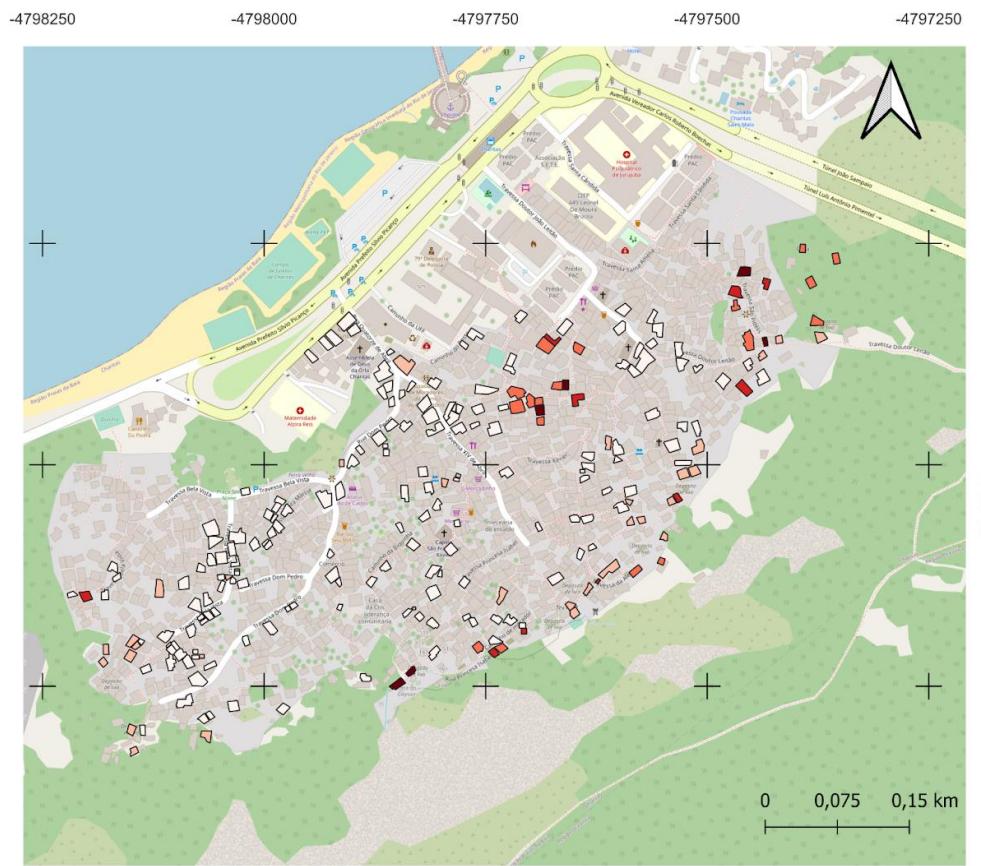
Legenda

- Associação Comunitária
- Comércio
- Cultura
- Educação
- Lazer
- Saúde

OSM

- Banco Comunitário do Preventório
- Maloca Cultural
- UMEI Darcy Ribeiro
- Hospital Psiquiátrico de Jurujuba
- Associação S.E.T.E
- Maternidade Alzira Reis
- Mercado Meu Cantinho
- Médico da família
- Colégio Estadual Brasil-China
- Associação de Moradores
- Mirante da Bela Vista
- JJ Mercadinho
- Padaria do Zé Carlos
- Quadrado de futebol
- Depósito Bebezão
- Parquinho

Escala: 1:1500



Mapa de Vulnerabilidade
Física
Modelo do projeto URBI
Latam

Legenda

Vulnerabilidade Física

- Deslizamento de terra
- | Risco | Área |
|-----------|----------|
| 0 - 0,2 | Amarelo |
| 0,2 - 0,4 | Laranja |
| 0,4 - 0,6 | Vermelho |
| 0,6 - 0,8 | Preto |
| 0,8 - 1 | Preto |

OpenStreetMap

CRS do Mapa: EPSG:3857
Escala: 1:5000
Feito entre: 2022-2023

-2624500





University
of Glasgow

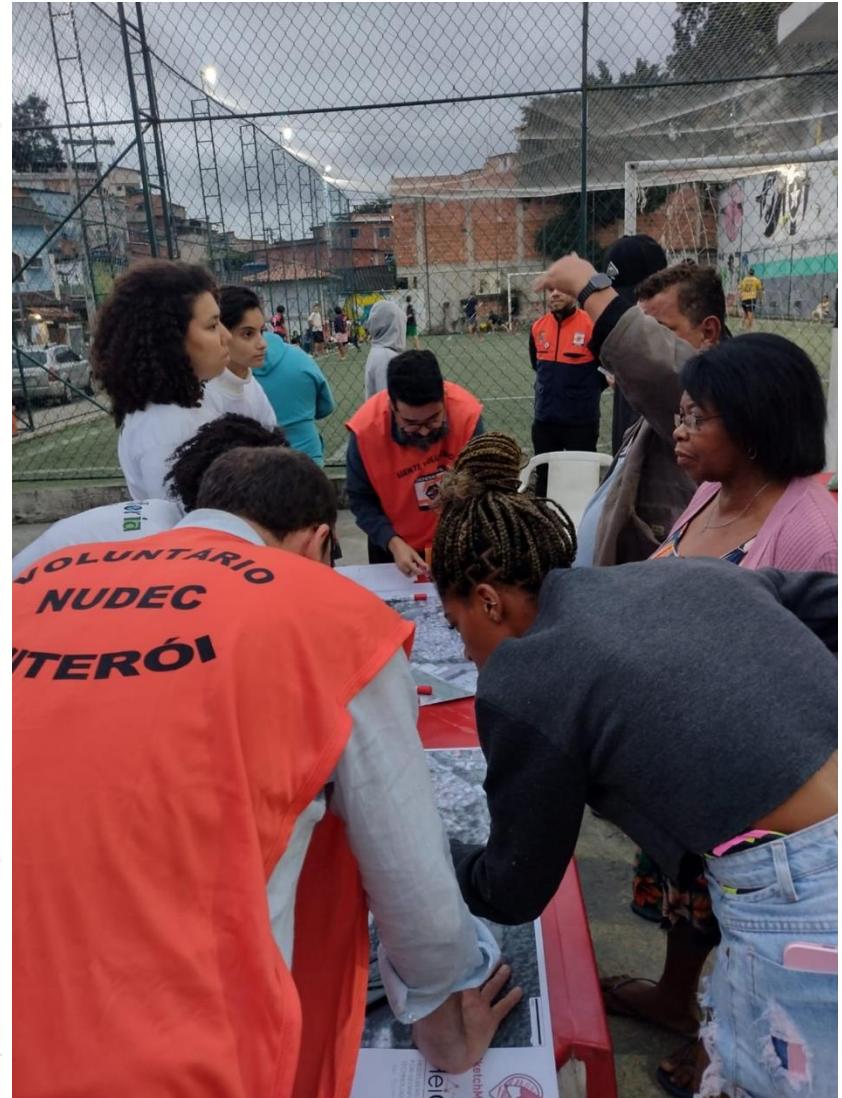
Results of participatory mapping and data- driven citizen science



Outreach: participatory mapping as public policy in Brazil

Federal Ministry for Cities

<https://mapadasperiferias.cidades.gov.br/>



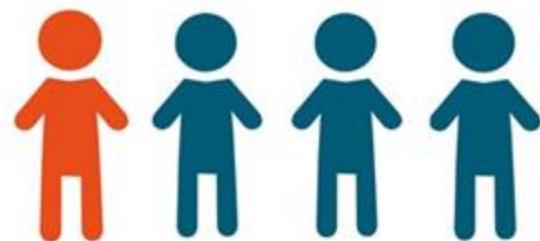
Example 3: IDEAMAPS Data Ecosystem

To co-create an integrated data ecosystem that enables **routine, accurate** mapping of slums, informal settlements, and other deprived areas across LMIC cities

Pilot cities: Lagos, Kano (Nigeria) and Nairobi (Kenya)

www.ideamapsnetwork.org

IDEAMAPS concept paper: <https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci9050080>



1 in 4
**African will live in
slums by 2030**

**Currently, 1 billion people are
estimated to live in slums and
informal settlements worldwide**

**Many of them are not visible in the
data used for policy and decision
making**

IDEAMAPS Data Ecosystem: A digital platform and process for validating urban data



IDEAMAPS Data Ecosystem v1.0.0 - BETA Release

NAIROBI | MORPHOLOGICAL INFORMALITY / 110463 Grid Cells

READ THE DOCS MAP Login

Morphological Informality Validation Original Data

VALIDATION MAP VIEW

Validation

VALIDATING OUR DATA

Validating grid cells improves our data. Double click once to agree. Then – keep double clicking to change the cell's classification

Validation interface showing a grid of 100m x 100m grid cells. A hand cursor is shown clicking on a cell. Below the grid is a legend for 'Your Validated Cells'.

How to validate:

- Find an area you know on the map
- Explore the grid data in the area
- Do you think the data is correct?
- Double click on grid cells to validate them with your opinion
- The first double click will bring up a tick - this means that you agree with the cell data
- Double click again to change the colour of the cells to match your opinion

WHAT IS VALIDATION?

Our data is not always correct. It represents a prediction about a type of urban deprivation in 100m x 100m grid cells.

Validating cells using local knowledge tells us where our predictions are correct and incorrect. We use this information to improve our data.

IDEAMAPS Data Ecosystem

This dataset represents the difference between planned and unplanned areas of the city as an indication of urban deprivation. Areas with higher levels of morphological informality are related to more deprived areas.

We have 3 classifications for Morphological Informality: Low, Medium, High

FEATURES OF MORPHOLOGICAL INFORMALITY

To create this dataset – we analysed a number of urban features including:

- Buildings
- Roads

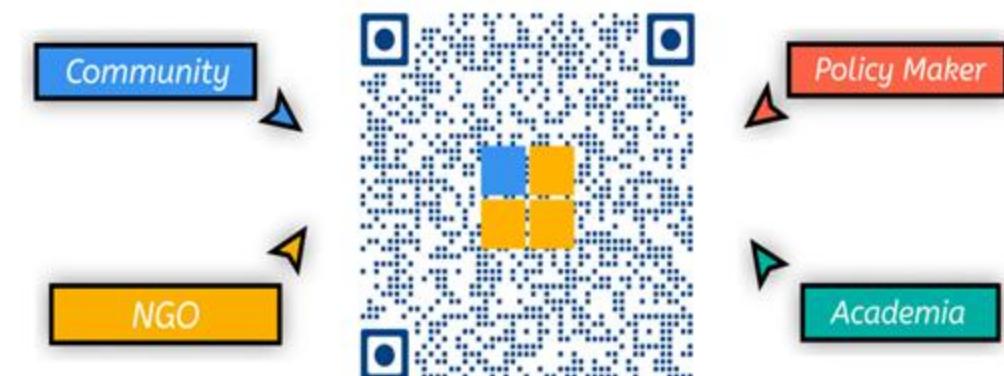
Read More about Morphological Informality

Map view showing Nairobi with a grid overlay. Labels include: korogocho, Ngomongo village, Baba Dogo Road, St. John Amphilatre, Vision Medical clinic and maternity, MAMA MAGARET UHURU HOSPITAL, DANDORA AREA I, DANDORA PHASE 5, KOROGOCHO, Kaimosi Rock Road, Dandora Train Station, Mkunga Hospital, Dandora Health Centre, Aga Khan Hospital Komarock, Gertrudes Childrens, Pheroze, Komarock, Kangemi Road, Mowlem, Pheroz Road, and Tel Aviv. A legend indicates Low (blue), Medium (yellow), and High (red) levels of morphological informality.

<https://ideamapsdataecosystem.org>

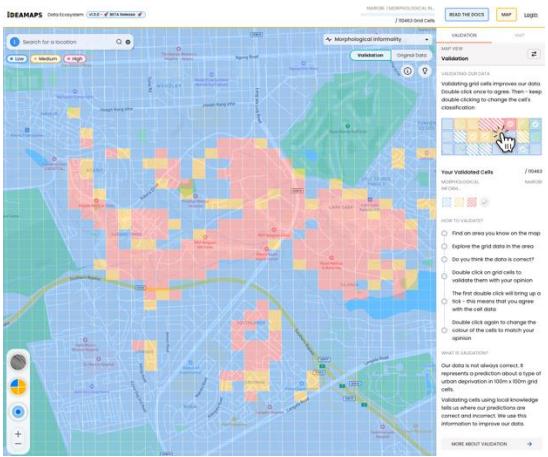
V.1.0.0 - Prototype Release

Explore & Validate
Datasets about Urban Deprivation & Assets



Learn More About IDEAMAPS Data Ecosystem

Our evolutionary participatory process



Urban model is co-designed with domain experts, local researchers and stakeholders. Model outputs are ingested into the IDEAMAPS Data Ecosystem platform



1. Codesign and Implementation



2. Validation



3. Improvement

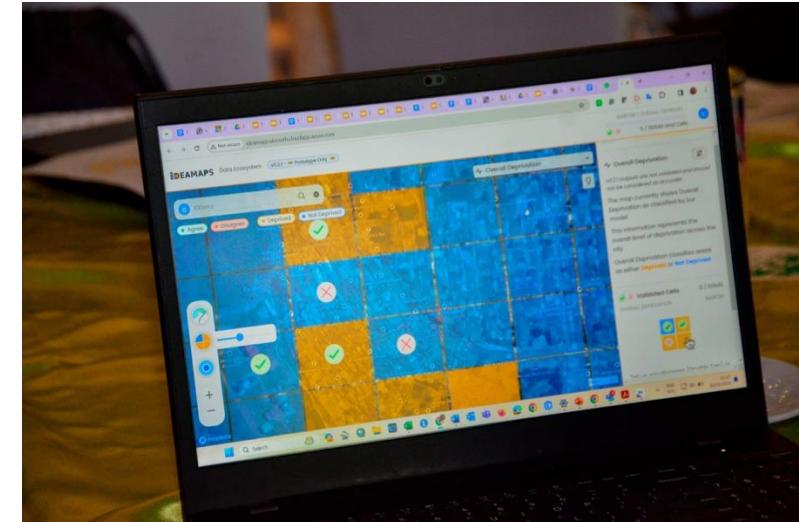
Quantitative data from user interactions in the platform are analysed together with qualitative feedback to determine improvements



Model outputs and model specifications are discussed and validated with community members, local government and international stakeholders



IDEAMAPS: urban analytics is only impactful within an ecosystem



Towards participatory urban analytics :: key messages

1. Addressing urban inequalities needs to be at the core of urban analytics methods and concerns
2. A transformative approach to participatory urban analytics needs to dialogue with structurally marginalised groups in the construction of knowledge and data
3. Embedding data and climate justice will enable us to unlock pathways to more equitable, just and sustainable cities



@serjossoza



Thank you
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Twitter: [j_p_albuquerque](#)

Researchgate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Joao_De_Albuquerque2



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