

International Workshop

22st November 2016

UCL-CORE, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium

How can Regional Policy Benefit from Big Data?

Key issues in today's regional policy are smart specialization, social inclusion policies at local level for disadvantaged sections of the population, as well as measures to facilitate the setting-up of micro-businesses or small enterprises and to create an environment which is more "self-employment friendly" and the impact of migrants and refugees on cities and regions. Tackling these problems by means of adequate policy measures require data and methods to analyze the problem at hand on a detailed spatial scale and to monitor the effects of policy measures. Traditional statistical information is not always sufficient for this purpose, because of lack of detail on the spatial scale and the timely availability of these data. The aim of this workshop is how various types of Big Data can be used in a creative way to fill this gap. Can we use big data in a creative way to measure smart specialization, cross-border interactions, social inclusion, forecast trends, locational behavior of migrants, etc. etc. almost real time and at a detailed spatial scale and are appropriate statistical methods available for analyzing this type of data?

Preliminary Programme (update 24/10/2016)

Moderator: Jouke van Dijk, ERSA President, University of Groningen

8.45-9.15 **Registration** and Welcome coffee / tea

9.15-9.30 **Welcome & Introduction Speeches**

- Isabelle Thomas, CORE Research Director
- Jouke van Dijk, ERSA President, University of Groningen
- Lewis Dijkstra, Deputy Head of the Economic Analysis Unit, DG REGIO

9.30-11.15 **Introduction – Setting the scene**

- **Paul Longley**, University College London, UK
Big Data and regional development
- **Isabelle Thomas**, CORE, Belgium
On the uses and illusions of ICT data for urban modellers. The example of Brussels.
- **Lewis Dijkstra**, DG REGIO, Brussels
How can regional and urban policy use big data?
- Questions & answers

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11.15-11.30 *Coffee / tea*

11.30-13.00 **Theme: Population dynamics and big data**

- **Catherine Linard**, University of Namur, Belgium
Dynamic population mapping using mobile phone data
- **Filipe Batista e Silva**, European Commission - Joint Research Centre, Ispra
Spatiotemporal population mapping in Europe
- Questions & answers

13.00-14.00 *Lunch*

14.00-15.30 **Theme : Transport analysis and big data**

- **Hugo Poelman**, European Commission – DG REGIO, Brussels
Rail accessibility in European cities and border areas
- **Nicolas Ibañez**, European Commission - Joint Research Centre, Sevilla
Road accessibility in European cities and border areas
- Questions & answers

15.30-15.45 *Coffee / tea*

15:45-16:30 **Discussion Panel: Risks and Opportunities of big data**

- Isabelle Thomas
- Catherine Linard (tbc)
- Paul Longley
- Lewis Dijkstra

16:30 **Conclusions and closure**

16.45 *Farewell Drink*