

SMUS Conference Brazil 2022 Report

2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the 1st RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil” in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods”



SMUS
BRAZIL

September 8th-10th, 2022
Online – University of São Paulo

Hosted by University of São Paulo (USP)
and organized by the
Global Center for Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability (SMUS),
Research Committee on Logic and Methodology in Sociology (RC33)
of the International Sociology Association (ISA) in cooperation with the
Research Network “Quantitative Methods” (RN21)
of the European Sociology Association (ESA)



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List of Contents

Introduction.....	2
1. Roles in the SMUS Conference Brazil Organizing Team.....	9
2. Communication Strategy.....	11
3. Conference Activities.....	14
4. Participants' Profiles.....	16
5. Activity Attendance.....	25
6. Annexes (I-X).....	32

Annex I: Abstracts Booklet

Annex II: SMUS Conference Brazil Musicians

Annex III: Concept + Agenda - Evaluation + Reporting Workshop

Annex IV: List of Participants – Evaluation + Reporting Workshop

Annex V: Duo Answers to the SMUS Brazil Evaluation Survey

Annex VI: Individual Answers to the SMUS Brazil Evaluation Survey

Annex VII: The Secretary’s Answers to the SMUS Brazil Survey

Annex VIII: Institutional Affiliations at the SMUS Conference Brazil

Annex IX: Ranking of Conference Activity Attendance

Annex X: Quantitative Indicators + Statistics of Success

Introduction

Conceived by me with the aid of the SMUS Conference Brazil 2022 Management Team, this report aims to offer the SMUS community from all over the world a synthetic overview of the 2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability (“SMUS Conference”), which took place online at the University of São Paulo (USP) from Thursday September 8th, to Saturday 10th, 2022, and was simultaneously the 1st RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil” in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods”. With this purpose, the report addresses the three-day Conference dynamics as such, going hand in hand with the SMUS Conference Abstracts Booklet (Annex I), which was published online at the Conference onset. The Booklet introduces the Conference audience to the event’s technical requirements, its procedures as well as the Conference agenda, the program, and the abstracts of the papers presented during the three days. Differently, this report addresses the roles of the SMUS Conference Brazil Organizing Team (Section 1) and the Conference communication strategy (Section 2) alongside the event’s activities (Section 3), the respective audience profile (Section 4) and the attendance flow regarding the various Conference activities (Section 5). Ten attached annexes round off the report (Annexes).

The Conference has been made possible by funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) via the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). It was therefore a great honour for us to welcome Ms. Martina Hackelberg, the German Consul General in São Paulo, and Ms. Fabíola Gerbase, Deputy Director of the DAAD Brazil at the Conference Opening Ceremony.

In conceptual and logistic terms the event was brought about by the joint institutional engagement of the SMUS teams both at USP and at Technische Universität (TU) Berlin alongside the USP departments of Sociology and of Architectural Project, which are based respectively at the USP Faculty of Philosophy, Languages and Human Sciences and the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism.

This institutional architecture became evident in the Opening Ceremony. There we welcomed, on the one hand, my colleague from TU Berlin Nina Baur, who is the SMUS Director alongside Prof. Dr. Angela Million, from the TU Department of Architecture and

Urban Planning; on the other hand, Prof. Dr. Leopoldo Waizbort as Dean of the USP Department of Sociology, and Prof. Dr. Rubens Beçak as representative of the USP Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Maria Arminda do Nascimento Arruda, who was unfortunately not unable to join us at that occasion.

The SMUS Conference Brazil 2022 is one outcome of the five Strategic Actions that have been implemented by the Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability (acronym: precisely “SMUS”), which is funded precisely by the DAAD. To be more precise, SMUS is sponsored by the DAAD program “Higher Education Excellence in Development Cooperation – exceed” from 2020 to 2024. Based at the TU Berlin, the Center connects 48 institutional partners from 47 countries and 8 world regions.

By focusing especially on the Sustainable Development Goal #11 of the United Nations Agenda 2030 – “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable” –, SMUS aims

- (i) to further the global academic and scientific exchange on social-scientific methods of empirical research,
- (ii) to offer global trainings in advanced methods, and
- (iii) to *develop* transdisciplinary spatial methods to improve the academic education both in the *spatial* disciplines (e.g., architecture, geography, landscape planning, sociology, traffic planning, urban planning) and in the *planning practice* via evidence-based and low-impact urban development.

To achieve these goals, SMUS is organized as a peer-learning process of North-South and South-South exchanges. It has been implementing several strategic Actions since 2020, such as combined teaching-research-courses, Ph.D. and post-doctoral research projects, practical-empirical implementations, workshops, and international conferences such as the SMUS Conference Brazil 2022. To implement these Actions particularly at USP, this University and TU Berlin signed a five-year cooperation agreement in 2020. The SMUS lead partner institution at USP is the Faculty of Philosophy, Languages and Human Sciences, and more specifically its Department of Sociology.

And hence we are back at the SMUS Conference Brazil 2022. The still ongoing global uncertainties brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic have forced us to keep on the

online format employed at the SMUS Conference Botswana, which convened more than one year ago at the University of Botswana in Gaborone. Well conscious of the challenges to academic sociability implicit in this choice after three pandemic years, we did our best to circumvent the essentially inhospitable nature of online academic conferences. The keynotes, sessions, roundtables and Advanced Method courses comprised by the SMUS Conference Brazil 2022 were ‘musically’ entangled with one another (Annex II). Various talented young musicians from USP offered us seven self-composed (video) soundtracks of instrumental music to enrich in artistic terms the Conference breaks and the breaks prior respectively to the Opening Ceremony, Opening Lecture and to the Closing Lecture.

Inspired by this musical setting, the SMUS Conference Brazil 2022 intended to further the global dialogue on methods by scholars and researchers from all over the world and all social and spatial sciences (e. g. anthropology, area studies, architecture, communication studies, computational sciences, digital humanities, educational sciences, geography, historical sciences, humanities, landscape planning, philosophy, psychology, sociology, urban design, urban planning, traffic planning and environmental planning) by focusing especially on the following ten issues, which were addressed in the framework of twenty sessions:

- spatial and temporal research
 - Session 01. Ethnography as Spatial-Temporal Method
 - Session 02. Historical Methods in Grappling with the Global South Challenges in the 21st Century
 - Session 03. Political Ecology of the ‘Urban’: Historical and Situated Perspectives
- decolonizing (social-scientific) knowledge
 - Session 04. Decolonizing Social Science Methodology
 - Session 05. Co-Production (of Knowledge) as Pathway to Decolonization of Knowledge in the Global South
 - Session 06. From Living Labs to Sites of Unity: Decolonizing Urban Experiments with Planetary Futures
- mapping
 - Session 07. Hybrid Mapping and Critical Cartography as Research Methodologies for Cities
- informatics
 - Session 08. Sense-making with (Unconventional) Large Digital Datasets in Social and Cultural Research – Methodological Challenges and Approaches

- spatial/cognitive crossroads
 - Session 09. Migration, Mobilities, and Displacement in the ‘Global South’
 - Session 10. Mobile Methods and Sociospatial Inequalities
 - Session 11. Spatial Methods in Transdisciplinarity and Interdisciplinarity for Urban Sustainability
 - Session 12. Collaborative Research and Mutual Learning in Urban Sustainability Projects
- intersections in urban planning
 - Session 13. Studying Urban Planning and Governance Through Qualitative Approaches: Perspectives from Various Spatial Contexts
 - Session 14. Urban Planning and Design Contribution to Understanding the Socio-Spatial Dynamic of Place and Memory
- housing
 - Session 15. Methodological Weaknesses in Approaching Affordable Housing in the Global South – Need for Context-Responsive Approaches
 - Session 16. Dialogues on Social Housing
 - Session 17. Applying Spatial Methods in Homelessness Studies: Methodological and Ethical Challenges
- violence
 - Session 18. Spatial Dynamics of Violence: Qualitative Methodologies and Discussions
- healthcare
 - Session 19. Spatial Methods in Healthcare Research
- food
 - Session 20. Methods in Food Studies Research

Besides the sessions, the issues were tackled by six keynotes, two roundtables and twelve Advanced Methods courses, which made up the SMUS Conference Brazil 2022.

Three weeks after the Conference ending, the SMUS Conference Brazil 2022 Organization Team came together for a day-retreat Conference Evaluation and Reporting Workshop (including coffee break and dinner). Based on a four-step discussion agenda under my coordination (Annex III), the event aimed to accomplish a simultaneously joint and focused critical evaluation of the SMUS Conference Brazil 2022 by each Conference Organization Team member directly involved in making the event happen, as testified by the corresponding List of Participants (Annex IV). Hence, the Workshop was attended by me, by the Conference manager, the Conference secretary and the twelve graduate student assistants hired by SMUS altogether with one very committed undergraduate student assistant from the USP Department of Sociology. The

Workshop presentations and debates were subsidized by one survey developed by me and complemented by Dr. Thando Tilmann, from the SMUS Berlin Team. The survey answers respectively by one Team duo (Annex V), by the Team individuals (Annex VI) and by the Conference secretary (Annex VII) are included in this report according to a first-name alphabetic order.

In the light of these accounts and of the data conveyed in the following pages, my overall impression is that the SMUS Conference Brazil 2022 was especially successful in disseminating on a global scale a wide range of spatially and temporally rooted knowledge about the possibilities and dilemmas of spatial methods and its training in current Latin America. Hence, unexpected North-South and South-South connexions could emerge. On the one hand, international academics and practitioners interested in social-scientific methods and/or in spatial analysis got a glimpse into the diversity and creativity of the methodological approaches forged amidst the historically complex sociospatial reality that characterizes Latin America at the time being. On the other hand, researchers and practitioners based in Latin America were encouraged to focus on methodological problems regarding their own and third parties' work in the framework of a big international conference specifically devoted to this kind of issue.

Indeed, the SMUS Conference Brazil 2022 has been the first scientific event of this kind in the Latin America. May it be the first of many others to come!



Prof. Dr. Fraya Frehse
SMUS Conference Brazil Coordinator
SMUS Lead Partner, Steering Committee Member, and Action Speaker
Department of Sociology, University of São Paulo

1. Roles in the SMUS Conference Brazil Organizing Team

The organization of the SMUS Conference Brazil 2022 was a joint initiative of professors, (ex-)students and members of the administration staff of both the USP Faculty of Philosophy, Languages and Human Sciences and the USP School of Architecture and Urbanism. Moreover, it was enriched by collaborations from the SMUS Berlin team and from one SMUS partner at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul:

- *Coordinator, SMUS Lead Partner in Latin America + SMUS Action Speaker*
Prof. Dr. Fraya Frehse (Department of Sociology, University of São Paulo)
- *Management Team*
Camilo Flamarion (Síntese Eventos)
Ana Maria Machado (Síntese Eventos)
- *Organization Team*
Amanda Freitas Carnaiba – MA Student
(Graduate Program in Political Science, University of São Paulo)
Gabriela de Biaggi – MA Student
(Graduate Program in Human Geography, University of São Paulo)
Anne Caroline de Freitas – PhD Student
(Graduate Program in Science Education, University of São Paulo)
Paula Costa Nunes de Carvalho – PhD Student
(Graduate Program in Sociology, University of São Paulo)
Mateus Alves de Mendonça – MA Student
(Graduate Program in Sociology, University of São Paulo)
Yasmin Anefalos de Oliveira – PhD Student
(Graduate Program in Architecture and Urbanism, University of São Paulo)
Martha Hitner dos Santos – MA Student
(Graduate Program in Sociology, University of São Paulo)
Beatriz dos Santos Alves Ventura Fernandes – MA Student
(Graduate Program in Architecture and Urbanism, University of São Paulo)
Henrique Assi Hernandes – Undergraduate Student
(Social Sciences, University of São Paulo)
Lucca Ignacio Morais Luiz – MA Student
(Graduate Program in Education, University of São Paulo)
Simone dos Santos Pereira – PhD Student
(Graduate Program in Social Anthropology, University of São Paulo)

Dante Chiavareto Pezzin – PhD Student
(Graduate Program in Human Geography, University of São Paulo)

André Marega Pinhel – PhD Student
(Graduate Program in Sociology, University of São Paulo)

- *Steering Committee*

Prof. Dr. Marcos César Alvarez
(Department of Sociology, University of São Paulo)

Prof. Dr. Fraya Frehse
(Department of Sociology, University of São Paulo)

Prof. Dr. Bianca Freire-Medeiros
(Department of Sociology, University of São Paulo)

Prof. Dr. Fábio Mariz Gonçalves
(Department of Landscape Architecture, University of São Paulo)

Prof. Dr. Inês Martina Lersch
(Department of Architecture, Urban and Regional Planning, State University of
Rio Grande do Sul)

Prof. Dr. Márcia Lima
(Department of Sociology, University of São Paulo)

Prof. Dr. Paula Marcelino
(Department of Sociology, University of São Paulo)

Prof. Dr. André Vereta Nahoum
(Department of Sociology, University of São Paulo)

Prof. Dr. Marcelo Batista Nery
(Center for the Study of Violence, University of São Paulo)

Prof. Dr. Eugenio Queiroga
(Department of Landscape Architecture, University of São Paulo)

2. Communication Strategy

Between November 2020 and December 2021, one preliminary phase of experience exchange between the SMUS Brazil Steering Committee, the SMUS Berlin Team, the SMUS Botswana Conference Coordinator, and the SMUS Brazil Management Team took place. This first reflective moment was crucial for the joint tailoring of a specific communication strategy, which was mobilized particularly between February and September 2022. This strategy was based on a particular role dynamic within the Conference Organization Team under supervision of the Conference Coordinator:

- *Conference management* by Camilo Flamarion;
- *SMUS Coordination Secretary service* by Ana Maria Machado;
- *Coordination and Secretary support and Conference Q&A via email* by Martha dos Santos + Dante Pezzin;
- *Production/edition/administration of content in social media (Twitter, Instagram and Facebook)* by Paula de Carvalho and Yasmin de Oliveira;
- *Production/edition/administration of content on the Conference website* by Beatriz Fernandes, Sasha Cruz (February + March 2022), and Amanda Carnaiba (May-September 2022);
- *Content dissemination at and via the USP websites, emails and social media* by Henrique Hernandes;
- *Q&A and technical support in Zoom rooms during Conference* by Gabriela de Biaggi, Anne de Freitas, Matheus de Mendonça, Lucca Luiz, André Pinhel, and Simone Pereira.

The starting dissemination medium of each and any Conference information was the [SMUS Brazil website](#), whose management was taken over by the SMUS Brazil Team in February 2022. Although ‘starring’, as it were, on the website, the information almost instantaneously became available – also in English – in the SMUS social media, respectively on [Twitter](#), on [Instagram](#), and on [Facebook](#).

Emails, in turn, were used mainly for academic communication with participants, interested non-participants, and academic institutions. These were contacted throughout the globe to help spread the word about the Conference, its calls, and major activities.

Although the most usual language mobilized in all these media was English, it should be stressed that the Team also mobilized Portuguese and Spanish depending on the public. We were aware that there is an overall communication difficulty with English as foreign language in Latin America.

The SMUS Brazil Twitter as such was fully created by the Brazilian team. It became an important key to spread the Conference calls and the program by means of the session organizers' social networks.

On Instagram, in turn, the SMUS Brazil Team made use of the already existing SMUS account. But it created a specific visual identity for the SMUS Conference Brazil posts. More than 90 posts were posted in the feed. The event's keynotes, sessions, roundtables, and Advanced Methods (AM) courses featured on the platform alongside tags containing the names of all the Conference presenters who had preliminarily authorized these mentions for the dissemination purposes. The same applied to photos posted by the SMUS Conference Brazil Team.

The number of SMUS followers on Instagram increased 30% between July and September 2022. If we take into consideration that the SMUS Conference Brazil started to be publicized on Instagram in February 2022, the overall number of SMUS followers doubled in the meantime.

The SMUS Brazil Team faced two difficulties when trying to expand the dissemination reach of the SMUS information through Instagram. First, the Team soon recognized that, although in Brazil Instagram is a usual platform for publicizing scientific events, this does not apply to other SMUS partner countries. Moreover, the SMUS account on Instagram had not been very active prior to the Brazil Team starting to make use of it; hence, the dissemination momentum took some time to effectively kick in.

Based on the SMUS Brazil Team experience with the account in the framework of the Conference, we have an overall suggestion to the SMUS Berlin Team. We consider it advisable to keep on a posting policy of 2 or 3 SMUS posts per week, to keep the audience flow we achieved in September 2022, or even to expand it.

The SMUS Brazil Instagram posts were also shared via the SMUS Facebook account.

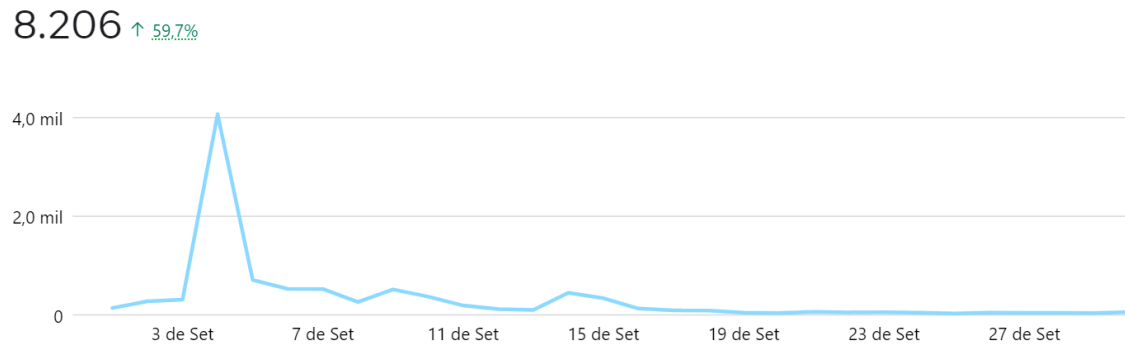


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**2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods
for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
2nd RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
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Currently, this account hosts 241 followers. Its September postings, however, reached more than 8,200 people. This can be seen in the following chart:

Chart 1: SMUS Facebook account visualization dynamics during the SMUS Conference Brazil



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The chart indicates the amount of Facebook visitors who have seen any contents of the SMUS page, whether publications, stories, ads, etc. Although estimated, the metric suggests that the visualization of content increased 59,7% from August to September 2022.

As to the SMUS Brazil Team email activity, it should be stressed that the Team conceived a mailing list with more than 300 email addresses from institutions mainly located in the Global South. The Team's purpose was to make the list useful for SMUS far beyond the SMUS Conference Brazil. The list hopes to contribute to the global dissemination of any future SMUS events and activities.

The joint engagement of the SMUS Brazil Team alongside the quality of the keynotes, sessions, roundtables, and courses were directly responsible for disseminating and consolidating the SMUS Conference Brazil on a global scale.

3. Conference Activities

In practical terms, the SMUS Brazil started on the day after the deadline of the “Call for Sessions Organizers”, which took place on 31 March 2022. The Call’s outcome was a set of 42 session proposals, of which 32 were approved to launch the “Call for Abstracts”, whose deadline was 13 June 2022. The total amount of 124 selected abstracts ended making up 20 thematic sessions, which gathered professors, graduate students, early career researchers, advanced researchers, and practitioners from various disciplines and different countries.

These sessions went hand in hand with the forementioned quantity of 6 keynotes, 2 roundtables, and 12 Advanced Methods (AM) courses (half of which comprising six hours each, while the other six courses encompassed two hours each). All these activities took place within a ritual frame that in temporal terms set in by means of the Opening Ceremony (Fig. 1):

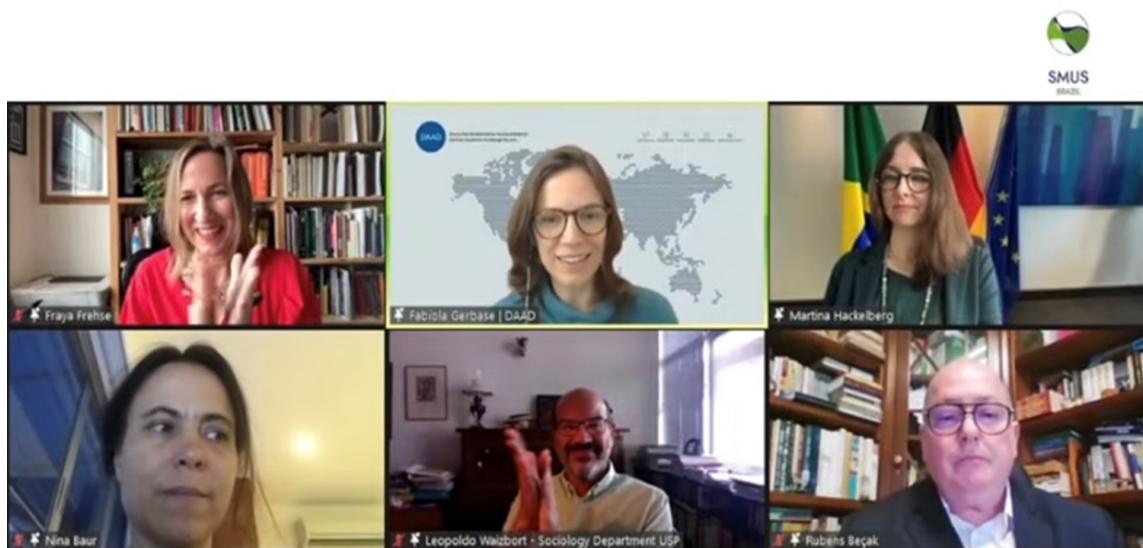


Figure 1: Screenshot of the SMUS Conference Brazil Opening Ceremony on YouTube, September 8th, 2022
(© SMUS Brazil Management Team, September 2022)

The event found its end in the wake of a closing lecture by the Prof. Dr. Angela Million and Prof. Dr. Gaurav Raheja, two other SMUS lead partners (Fig. 2):

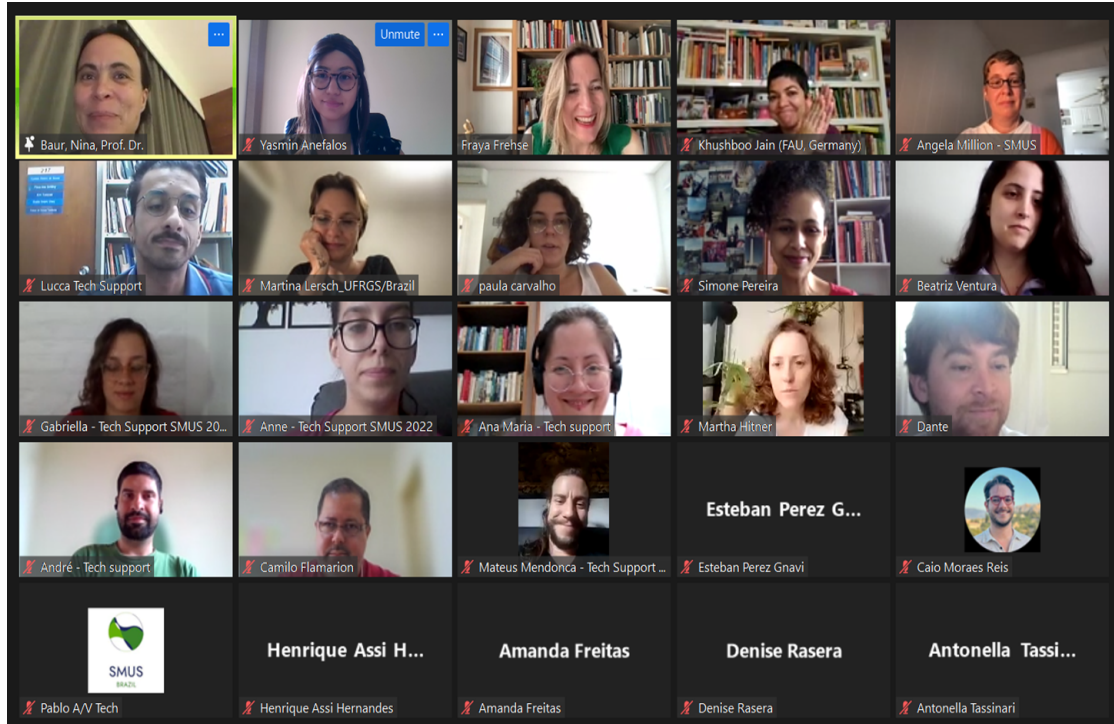


Figure 2: Screenshot of the SMUS Conference Brazil Closing Ceremony on YouTube, September 10th, 2022
(© SMUS Brazil Management Team, September 2022)

4. Participants' Profiles

For the SMUS Community to get a more precise idea of the SMUS Conference Brazil achievements within the overall SMUS dynamic regarding the implementation of annual conferences on (spatial) methods, this section offers a comparative overview about the audience profiles who registered online both to the Brazil and Botswana conferences. While the SMUS Brazil data stem from the Conference online registration forms, the Botswana data used here are encompassed in the “SMUS Botswana Quantitative Indicators/statistics 27.11.2021” file, which was delivered to the SMUS Berlin Team after the SMUS Conference Botswana ending.

The total amount of people who registered for the SMUS Conference Brazil was 1028. This figure is almost twice higher than the number of registered participants for the SMUS Botswana Conference: this event encompassed 639 enrolled participants.

For the purposes of this report, we – the SMUS Conference Brazil Coordinator and Management Team – have turned these totals into our quantitative parameters for the following brief comparative exercise. We will address five specific indicators regarding the SMUS Conference Brazil participants' profiles: (i) gender, (ii) professional background, (iii) disciplinary fields, (iv) stakeholder groups/institutions, and (v) countries of origin.

4.1. Gender

The following table offers a comparative overview of the gender proportions within the audience that registered for the SMUS conferences in Brazil and in Botswana:

Table 1: Gender distribution at the SMUS conferences Brazil and Botswana (SMUS Brazil and SMUS Botswana):

Gender	SMUS Brazil		SMUS Botswana	
	Participants #	%	Participants #	%
Female	635	62	383	60
Male	356	35	251	39
Other	14	1	-	0
Undisclosed	23	2	-	1
Total	1028	100	639	100

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By taking into consideration the gender indicator, we have noticed a relative increase in the number of women that attended the Brazil Conference, while the number of men

14

decreased in comparison with the Botswana figures. The gender contrast within the conferences, in turn, became higher. Finally, it should be emphasized that the Brazil registration form included the possibility that people indicated “Other” as to gender. This became the way in which 1% of the Conference participants self-identified themselves.

4.2. Professional background

When it comes to the professional background of the registered participants, our data allow us to argue that the SMUS Conference Brazil was attended essentially by junior researchers. Among the Botswana data, in turn, what especially stands out is the number of participating practitioners:

Table 2: Professional backgrounds at SMUS Brazil + SMUS Botswana

Professional Background	SMUS Brazil		SMUS Botswana	
	Participants #	%	Participants #	%
Undergraduates	274	26,6	105	16,4
Junior Researchers	420	40,9	143	22,4
Lecturers and Professors	201	19,6	170	26,6
Non-Academics	102	9,9	221	34,6
Undisclosed	31	3	-	-
Total	1028	100	639	100

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The reasons for this difference in professional background profiles would of course need to be refined for analytical purposes, considering the characteristics of each country and even the target audience mobilized by each event. Anyway, we would argue that one of the reasons for the difference may well lie in the relatively longstanding existence of a post-graduation system in Brazil. Its structure has expanded increasingly since the 1970s and become quite capillary in the country. Even when unevenly, the system nowadays covers the entire Brazilian territory.

4.3. Disciplinary fields

Unfortunately, the SMUS Conference Brazil registration form did not foresee this kind of information. Hence, the number of useful data regarding the participants' disciplinary background is very limited. It comprises less than 10% of the available amount or registration forms:

Table 3: Disciplines at SMUS Brazil + SMUS Botswana

Disciplines	SMUS Brazil		SMUS Botswana	
	Participants #	%	Participants #	%
Social Sciences and Humanities	26	2,5	232	36,3
Architecture, Planning & Design	29	2,8	98	15,3
Engineering and Computer Science	5	0,5	-	-
Food and Health Sciences	29	2,8	-	-
Other	9	0,9	309	48,4
Undisclosed	930	90,5	-	-
Total	1028	100	639	100

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4.4. Stakeholder groups and/or institutional frameworks

What can be surely stated is that various disciplinary fields were attached to specific stakeholder groups or institutional frameworks:

Table 4: Stakeholder groups and/or institutional frameworks at SMUS Brazil + SMUS Botswana

Stakeholder Groups/ Institutions	SMUS Brazil		SMUS Botswana	
	Participants #	%	Participants #	%
Academic	923	89,8	46	7,2
Government	33	3,2	487	76,2
NGO	14	1,4	47	7,4
Civil Society	38	3,7	59	9,2
Undisclosed	20	1,9	-	-
Total	1028	100	639	100

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In comparative terms, this table suggests that the SMUS Conference Brazil was an essentially academic event. Botswana, in turn, was mainly attended by government officials.

The following data concern particularly the SMUS Conference Brazil. The audience that registered for the event indicated their attachment to 362 different institutions (Annex VIII). Within this amount, the 10 most frequently mentioned names (with their respective countries) were:

Table 5: The ten mostly represented institutions at the SMUS Conference Brazil

Institution Name	Country	Participants #	% of Participants Total (N= 1028)
1. University of São Paulo (USP)	Brazil	198	19,3
2. Federal University of Bahia (UFBA)	Brazil	30	2,9
3. Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ)	Brazil	29	2,8
4. Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS)	Brazil	27	2,6
5. University of Botswana	Botswana	22	2,1
6. Technische Universität (TU) Berlin	Germany	21	2,0
7. Pontifical Catholic University Minas Gerais (PUC Minas)	Brazil	18	1,8
7. Federal University of São Carlos (UFSCAR)	Brazil	18	1,8
8. Federal University of Pernambuco (UFPE)	Brazil	17	1,7
9. Rio de Janeiro State University (UERJ)	Brazil	16	1,6
10. Campinas State University (UNICAMP)	Brazil	14	1,4
10. Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG)	Brazil	14	1,4
Total		424	41,2

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As might be expected, except for TU Berlin and the University of Botswana, all the other institutions are based in Brazil. Among the Brazilian institutions represented at the Conference, it is worth noting their broad regional range. However, the Conference host institution USP remains widely on top: 198 of its members joined the event.



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**2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods
for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
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4.5. Countries of origin

The following maps indicate that the SMUS Conference Brazil has achieved an important SMUS goal. Compared to Botswana, the event registered a remarkable increase of audience participation from the Global South:



Figure 3: Countries represented at the SMUS Conference Brazil (© SMUS Brazil Management Team, September 2022)



Figure 4: Countries represented at the SMUS Conference Botswana (© SMUS Brazil Management Team, September 2022)

Indeed, the amount of Non-DAC (Development Assistance Committee) countries represented at the SMUS conferences became significantly higher between the first and the second SMUS annual events:

Table 6: The DAC-distribution of the participants' countries in SMUS Brazil and SMUS Botswana

DAC-Country Classification	SMUS Brazil		SMUS Botswana	
	Participants #	%	Participants #	%
DAC Country	106	10,3	179	28
Non-DAC Country	922	89,7	460	72
Total	1028	100	639	100

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To be more precise, we may comparatively dwell on the participants' geographic origins. First, there is a specific regional distribution among them:

Table 7: Participants' regional backgrounds at SMUS Brazil and SMUS Botswana

World Regions	SMUS Brazil		SMUS Botswana	
	Participants #	%	Participants #	%
South America	777	75,6	38	5,9
North & Central America & Caribbean	14	1,4	66	10
Europe	86	8,4	150	24
North Africa	1	0,1	9	1,4
Sub-Saharan Africa	81	7,9	314	49
Central & Southern Asia	27	2,6%	24	3,8
East & South-East Asia & Pacific	38	3,7%	31	4,9
West Asia	4	0,4	7	1,1
Total	1028	100	639	100

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The figures indicate a clear shift in the geographical focus of the SMUS conferences: it 'moved' from Africa to South America. To elucidate which countries 'lost' and which 'gained' participants from one conference to the other, we might even be more specific. The following threefold table addresses this issue explicitly:



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**2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods
for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
2nd RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
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Table 8 (Part I: America + Europe) - Participants' world regions and countries

World Region	SMUS Brazil		SMUS Botswana		Country	SMUS Brazil		SMUS Botswana	
	Participants #	%	Participants #	%		Participants #	%	Participants #	%
South America	780	76	38	5,9	Argentina	7	0,7	3	0,5
					Brazil	751	73,1	26	4,1
					Chile	4	0,4	3	0,5
					Colombia	10	1,0	2	0,3
					Ecuador	1	0,1	-	-
					Peru	2	0,2	1	0,2
					Uruguay	2	0,2	2	0,3
North & Central America & Caribbean	14	1,4	66	10	Canada	1	0,1	1	0,2
					Costa Rica	1	0,1	1	0,2
					Jamaica	-	-	1	0,2
					Mexico	2	0,2	-	-
					Trinidad & Tobago	2	0,2	-	-
					USA	8	0,8	-	-
Europe	86	8,4	150	24	Austria	1	0,1	5	0,8
					Belgium	-	-	2	0,3
					Bulgaria	-	-	1	0,2
					Czech Republic	-	-	2	0,3
					Denmark	1	0,1	-	-
					Finland	-	-	2	0,3
					France	1	0,1	7	1,1
					Germany	61	5,9	100	15,6
					Italy	2	0,2	2	0,3
					Lithuania	1	0,1	-	-
					Macedonia	1	0,1	-	-
					Poland	2	0,2	1	0,2
					Portugal	6	0,6	5	0,8
					Romania	-	-	2	0,3
					Russia	-	-	1	0,2
					Serbia	1	0,1	3	0,5
					Slovakia	-	-	2	0,3
					Spain	-	-	4	0,6
					Sweden	1	0,1	21	3,3
					Switzerland	-	-	47	7,4
					Netherlands	-	-	11	1,7
					UK	6	0,6	7	1,1
					Ukraine	2	0,2	-	-



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in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods**

**Table 8 (Part II: Africa) - Participants' world regions and countries at
SMUS Brazil and SMUS Botswana**

World Region	SMUS Brazil		SMUS Botswana		Country	SMUS Brazil		SMUS Botswana	
	Participants #	%	Participants #	%		Participants #	%	Participants #	%
North Africa	1	0,1	9	1,4	Algeria	-	-	1	0,2
					Egypt	-	-	5	0,8
					Morocco	-	-	1	0,2
					Togo	1	0,1	-	-
					Tunisia	-	-	2	0,3
Sub-Saharan Africa	81	7,9	314	49,1	Angola	1	0,1	-	-
					Benin	-	-	1	0,2
					Botswana	26	2,5	199	31,1
					Burkina Faso	-	-	1	0,2
					Cameroon	1	0,1	-	-
					Chad	2	0,2	1	0,2
					Eswatini	-	-	2	0,3
					Ethiopia	3	0,3	-	-
					Ghana	2	0,2	16	2,5
					Kenya	-	-	19	3,0
					Ivory Coast	1	0,1	-	-
					Lesotho	1	0,1	4	0,6
					Liberia	-	-	1	0,2
					Malawi	-	-	5	0,8
					Mozambique	-	-	2	0,3
					Namibia	3	0,3	2	0,3
					Nigeria	17	1,7	26	4,1
					Rwanda	-	-	1	0,2
					Senegal	-	-	1	0,2
					Sierra Leone	-	-	1	0,2
					Somalia/ Somaliland	2	0,2	1	0,2
					South Africa	17	1,7	17	2,7
					Sudan	-	-	1	0,2
					Tanzania	-	-	3	0,5
					Zambia	2	0,2	4	0,6
					Zimbabwe	3	0,3	6	0,9



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2nd RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods**

**Table 8 (Part III: Asia) - Participants' world regions and countries at
SMUS Brazil and SMUS Botswana**

World Region	SMUS Brazil		SMUS Botswana		Country	SMUS Brazil		SMUS Botswana	
	Participants #	%	Participants #	%		Participants #	%	Participants #	%
Central & Southern Asia	27	2,6	24	3,8	Bangladesh	-	-	1	0,2
					Brunei	1	0,1	-	-
					India	21	2,0	21	3,3
					Kazakhstan	2	0,2	-	-
					Nepal	1	0,1	-	-
					Pakistan	2	0,2	1	0,2
					Sri Lanka	-	-	1	0,2
East & South-East Asia & Pacific	38	3,7	31	4,9	China	1	0,1	3	0,5
					Hong Kong	-	-	1	0,2
					Japan	4	0,4	-	-
					Laos	-	-	1	0,2
					Malaysia	-	-	1	0,2
					Mongolia	-	-	3	0,5
					Myanmar	-	-	3	0,5
					Philippines	3	0,3	3	0,5
					Singapore	-	-	1	0,2
					South Korea	2	0,2	-	-
					Taiwan	-	-	2	0,3
					Vietnam	24	2,3	4	0,6
					Australia	2	0,2	2	0,3
					Indonesia	2	0,2	7	1,1
West Asia	4	0,4	7	0,7	Armenia	-	-	-	-
					Iran	2	0,2	-	-
					Palestine	-	-	-	-
					Turkey	2	0,2	-	-
					UAE	-	-	-	-
Total	1028	100	639	100	Total	1028	100	639	100

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The table makes evident that, despite the comparatively higher presence of Global South countries at the SMUS Brazil Conference, this event was attended by less countries than the Botswana one. In fact, the immense majority of the SMUS Conference Brazil participants are based in Brazil:

Table 9: Country participation in the SMUS Conference Brazil

Country	SMUS Brazil		Country	SMUS Brazil		Country	SMUS Brazil	
	Participants #	%		Participants #	%		Participants #	%
1. Brazil	751	73,1	19. Australia	2	0,2	37. Angola	1	0,1
2. Germany	61	5,9	20. Chad	2	0,2	38. Austria	1	0,1
3. Botswana	26	2,5	21. Ghana	2	0,2	39. Brunei	1	0,1
4. Vietnam	24	2,3	22. Indonesia	2	0,2	40. Cameroon	1	0,1
5. India	21	2	23. Iran	2	0,2	41. Canada	1	0,1
6. Nigeria	17	1,7	24. Italy	2	0,2	42. China	1	0,1
7. South Africa	17	1,7	25. Kazakhstan	2	0,2	43. Costa Rica	1	0,1
8. Colombia	10	1	26. Korea South	2	0,2	44. Denmark	1	0,1
9. USA	8	0,8	27. Mexico	2	0,2	45. Ecuador	1	0,1
10. Argentina	7	0,7	28. Pakistan	2	0,2	46. France	1	0,1
11. Portugal	6	0,6	29. Peru	2	0,2	47. Ivory Coast	1	0,1
12. UK	6	0,6	30. Poland	2	0,2	48. Lesotho	1	0,1
13. Chile	4	0,4	31. Somalia	2	0,2	49. Lithuania	1	0,1
14. Japan	4	0,4	32. Trinidad & Tobago	2	0,2	50. Macedonia	1	0,1
15. Ethiopia	3	0,3	33. Turkey	2	0,2	51. Nepal	1	0,1
16. Namibia	3	0,3	34. Ukraine	2	0,2	52. Serbia	1	0,1
17. Philippines	3	0,3	35. Uruguay	2	0,2	53. Sweden	1	0,1
18. Zimbabwe	3	0,3	36. Zambia	2	0,2	54. Togo	1	0,1
Total: 54 countries, 1028 participants								

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This table discloses a comparatively huger participation of countries in which the SMUS lead partners are based. This comes as no surprise. The lead partners have been directly involved in the organization of SMUS conferences (Botswana, Brazil, India, and Germany).

Hence, the data end up highlighting the political-institutional relevance of these countries and regions in hosting the SMUS conferences. The countries have the potential to become hubs for expanding both the SMUS networks and the range the SMUS project and its related initiatives on a global scale.

5. Activity Attendance

In this last section we address audience figures regarding the four major sets of activities which took place during the SMUS Conference Brazil: (i) the Conference in general; (ii) the keynotes; (iii) the sessions; (iv) the roundtables; (v) the Advanced Methods (AM) courses; and (vi) the Conference website.

5.1. Daily Conference participation

There were two possibilities for the interested public to access the Conference activities. Previously registered participants were allowed into specific virtual rooms by means of the Zoom application. A second alternative was to follow the activities via the [SMUS YouTube channel](#).

Most of the public accessed the Conference activities via Zoom. This was due to a deliberate action of the SMUS Brazil Organization Team. It kept the Zoom links related to each activity available in the open-access areas of the event's website. This helped offering the audience direct access to the virtual rooms.

The following figures indicate daily online accesses to the Conference program:

- *On Conference Day 1 (Thursday 08.09.2022):* 531 accesses (442 via Zoom + 89 via YouTube)
- *On Conference Day 2 (Friday 09.09.2022):* 396 accesses (312 via Zoom + 84 via YouTube)
- *On Conference Day 3 (Saturday 10.09.2022):* 177 accesses (106 via Zoom + 71 via YouTube)

Based on these data we may from now on address the attendance flow to the seven Conference activities. Our parameter for highlighting this dynamic is a lengthy inventory of the overall attendance figures regarding all the Conference activities (Annex IX).

5.2. Keynotes

The following table elucidates the ranking of keynote attendance, i.e., the number of people gathered in the various Zoom rooms and at the SMUS YouTube channel to attend one or more of the six Conference keynotes:

24

Table 10: Attendance ranking of keynotes at SMUS Brazil (N = 1028)

Day	Title	Time (BRT)	Stream **	Attendees #*
08.09.2022	Keynote 01 – Women Anthropologists in the Field with Indigenous Peoples in Brazil: Past and Present	9:30 - 10:45	Auditorium	96
09.09.2022	Keynote 02 – The Age of Big Earth Observation Data: Challenges and Possibilities	8:00 - 9:15	Auditorium	74
10.09.2022	Keynote 06 – Operationalizing and Comparing Racial/Ethnic Classifications and Methods of Measurement in Latin America	11:30 - 12:45	Auditorium	64
09.09.2022	Keynote 03 – How to Rethink the Urban: Perspectives from Decoloniality	11:30 - 12:30	Auditorium	53
10.09.2022	Keynote 05 – Dwell and Build: Methodological Notes on the Production of Everyday Space in Latin America	08:00 - 09:15	Auditorium	33
09.09.2022	Keynote 04 – The Concept of Socio-Political Matrix and the Relations Between Sociology and History in Latin America	12:30 - 13:45	Auditorium	30
Total				350

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5.3. Sessions

Inspired by the SMUS Conference Botswana digital stream organization logics, the SMUS Conference Brazil Coordinator arranged the event's 20 thematic sessions into four thematic streams, for the purposes of the Conference agenda (Annex I, pp. 10-19). The aim was twofold: (i) to avoid thematic overlapping among the sessions, and (ii) to help the Conference participants keep in mind their activities of interest throughout the three Conference days.

The following table elucidates the ranking of session attendance, i.e., the number of people gathered *particularly in the various Zoom rooms* in the framework of the Conference 20 sessions:



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for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
2nd RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
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Table 11: Attendance ranking of sessions at SMUS Brazil (N = 1028)

Day	Title	Time (BRT)	Stream **	Attendees #*
08.09.2022	Session 04 – Decolonizing Social Science Methodology	10:45 - 12:45	STREAM A: Decolonization + Space-Time	40
08.09.2022	Session 01 – Ethnography as Spatial-Temporal Method	13:00 - 14:30	STREAM A: Decolonization + Space-Time	26
08.09.2022	Session 08 (sub-session 2) – Sense-making with (Unconventional) Large Digital Datasets in Social and Cultural Research – Methodological Challenges and Approaches	13:00 - 14:30	STREAM D: Informatics	26
08.09.2022	Session 10 – Mobile Methods and Sociospatial Inequalities	15:15 - 17:15	STREAM B: Spatial/Cognitive Crossroads	26
08.09.2022	Session 07 (sub-session 1) – Hybrid Mapping and Critical Cartography as Research Methodologies for Cities	13:00 - 15:00	STREAM E: Mapping + Violence	21
09.09.2022	Session 14 – Urban Planning and Design Contribution to Understanding the Socio-Spatial Dynamic of Place and Memory	09:15 - 11:15	STREAM C: Housing + Urban Planning	21
10.09.2022	Session 11 – Spatial Methods in Transdisciplinarity and Interdisciplinarity for Urban Sustainability	09:15 - 11:15	STREAM B: Spatial/Cognitive Crossroads	20
09.09.2022	Session 07 (sub-session 2) – Hybrid Mapping and Critical Cartography as Research Methodologies for Cities	13:45 - 15:45	STREAM E: Mapping + Violence	19
09.09.2022	Session 03 – Political Ecology of the ‘Urban’: Historical and Situated Perspectives - S1	09:15 - 10:45	STREAM A: Decolonization + Space-Time	18
08.09.2022	Session 16 – Dialogues on Social Housing	13:00 - 14:30	STREAM C: Housing + Urban Planning	16
09.09.2022	Session 18 – Spatial Dynamics of Violence: Qualitative Methodologies and Discussions	09:15 - 11:15	STREAM E: Mapping + Violence	16
08.09.2022	Session 08 (sub-session 1) – Sense-making with (Unconventional) Large Digital Datasets in Social and Cultural Research – Methodological Challenges and Approaches	10:45 - 12:45	STREAM D: Informatics	15
08.09.2022	Session 12 – Collaborative Research and Mutual Learning in Urban Sustainability Projects	10:45 - 12:45	STREAM B: Spatial/Cognitive Crossroads	15
08.09.2022	Session 15 – Methodological Weaknesses in Approaching Affordable Housing in the Global South – Need for Context-Responsive Approaches	10:45 - 12:15	STREAM C: Housing + Urban Planning	14
08.09.2022	Session 13 – Studying Urban Planning and Governance Through Qualitative Approaches: Perspectives from Various Spatial Contexts	15:15 - 16:45	STREAM C: Housing + Urban Planning	14



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for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
2nd RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods**

09.09.2022	Session 17 – Applying Spatial Methods in Homelessness Studies: Methodological and Ethical Challenges	16:00 - 17:30	STREAM C: Housing + Urban Planning	14
08.09.2022	Session 06 – From Living Labs to Sites of Unity: Decolonizing Urban Experiments with Planetary Futures	13:00 - 14:30	STREAM B: Spatial/Cognitive Crossroads	13
09.09.2022	Session 02 – Historical Methods in Grappling with the Global South Challenges in the 21st Century	13:45 - 15:45	STREAM A: Decolonization + Space-Time	13
10.09.2022	Session 03 (sub-session 2) – Political Ecology of the ‘Urban’: Historical and Situated Perspectives	12:45 - 14:45	STREAM A: Decolonization + Space-Time	13
10.09.2022	Session 07 (sub-session 3) – Hybrid Mapping and Critical Cartography as Research Methodologies for Cities	12:45 - 14:45	STREAM E: Mapping + Violence	13
08.09.2022	Session 19 – Spatial Methods in Healthcare Research	10:45 - 12:15	STREAM F: Healthcare + Food	11
09.09.2022	Session 09 – Migration, Mobilities, and Displacement in the ‘Global South’	16:00 - 17:30	STREAM B: Spatial/Cognitive Crossroads	11
10.09.2022	Session 05 – Co-Production (of Knowledge) as Pathway to Decolonization of Knowledge in the Global South	09:15 - 11:15	STREAM A: Decolonization + Space-Time	11
09.09.2022	Session 20 – Methods in Food Studies Research	13:45 - 15:15	STREAM F: Healthcare + Food	7
09.09.2022	Session 08 (sub-session 3) – Sense-making with (Unconventional) Large Digital Datasets in Social and Cultural Research – Methodological Challenges and Approaches	13:45 - 15:15	STREAM D: Informatics	6
Total				419

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5.4. Roundtables

As in the previous sub-sections, the table below elucidates the ranking of roundtable attendance:

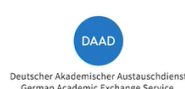
Table 13: Attendance ranking of roundtables at SMUS Brazil (N = 1028)

Day	Title	Time (BRT)	Stream **	Attendees #*
09.09.2022	Roundtable 01 – Academics and Current Research Funding in Botswana, Brazil, Germany, and India: Limits and Possibilities	09:15 - 10:15	STREAM F: Roundtables on Global Research Funding	27
10.09.2022	Roundtable 02 – Research Funding in a Global Context: Trends and Perspectives for Joint Research	09:15 - 10:15	STREAM F: Roundtables on Global Research Funding	20
Total				47

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5.5. AM courses

27



The Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability is funded by DAAD with funds from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation (BMZ).

The AM courses attracted more than 30% of the Conference participants. Among the 1028 registered participants, 327 people enrolled for the courses. While 142 participants aimed at long courses (comprising 2 sessions à 3 hours each, and whose classification in the Conference program ranges from AM01 to AM06), 187 people attended short courses (comprising 1 session à 2 hours, i.e., the courses ranging from AM07 to AM12):

Table 14: Enrolment for long and short AM courses (N = 1028)

AM Course Title	Attendees #	%
AM01 (two sessions) – Methodological Challenges for Research with Children (from Indigenous and Traditional Peoples)	12	3,7
AM02 (two sessions) – Below the Radar: Investigating Far-Right Groups on Telegram with ElasticSearch + Kibana	24	7,3
AM03 (two sessions) – Spatializing Violence Data in Brazil: Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches	25	7,6
AM04 (two sessions) – Measuring Poverty and Inequality in Contemporary Brazil: Concepts, Methods, and Data	27	8,3
AM05 (two sessions) – Addressing Spatial Methods for Homelessness Research	25	7,6
AM06 (two sessions) – Methodologies for Landscape Research in Urban Public Spaces in Brazil	29	8,9
AM07 (one session) – Weaving Territories Through Mobile Methods	38	11,6
AM08 (one session) – Insurgent Methodologies in Convivial-Unequal Contexts	32	9,8
AM09 (one session) – Methodological Challenges to Research on Care Work for Older People in Brazil	18	5,5
AM10 (one session) – An Indigenous Approach to Memory: Linking the Individual Past to Collective Futures	21	6,4
AM11 (one session) – Bodygraphy as Method	31	9,5
AM12 (one session) – Methodological Challenges for Race Research in Brazil	45	13,8
Total	327	100

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Mostly taught in Portuguese at the end of each Conference Day within Brazil's time zone, it comes as no surprise that the courses mainly attracted a Brazil-based audience.

Table 15: Proportion of participants based in Brazil or other countries

AM Course Title	Attendees # based in Brazil	%	Attendees # based in other countries	%
AM01 (two sessions). Methodological Challenges for Research with Children (from Indigenous and Traditional Peoples)	9	2,8	3	0,9
AM02 (two sessions). Below the Radar: Investigating Far-Right Groups on Telegram with ElasticSearch + Kibana	22	6,7	2	0,6
AM03 (two sessions). Spatializing Violence Data in Brazil: Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches	24	7,3	1	0,3
AM04 (two sessions). Measuring Poverty and Inequality in Contemporary Brazil: Concepts, Methods, and Data	21	6,4	6	1,8
AM05 (two sessions). Addressing Spatial Methods for Homelessness Research	20	6,1	5	1,5
AM06 (two sessions). Methodologies for Landscape Research in Urban Public Spaces in Brazil	27	8,3	2	0,6
AM07 (one session). Weaving Territories Through Mobile Methods	31	9,5	7	2,1
AM08 (one session). Insurgent Methodologies in Convivial-Unequal Contexts	32	9,8	0	0
AM09 (one session). Methodological Challenges to Research on Care Work for Older People in Brazil	17	5,2	1	0,3
AM10 (one session). An Indigenous Approach to Memory: Linking the Individual Past to Collective Futures	17	5,2	4	1,2
AM11 (one session). Bodygraphy as Method	21	6,4	10	3,1
AM12 (one session). Methodological Challenges for Race Research in Brazil	44	13,5	1	0,3
Total	285	87,2	42	12,8

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Based on all these data, we have realized that the sessions of Stream A (“Decolonizing + Space-Time”) managed to comparatively attract more participants than all the other Conference activities. The following table addresses this issue with the aid of the seven activities with the largest digital attendance figures on Zoom and YouTube (i.e., ‘people in the meeting’):

Table 12: The seven top-Conference activities regarding audience attendance

Day	Stream	Title	Time (BRT)	People in the meeting
08.09.2022	STREAM A: Decolonization + Space-Time	Session04. Decolonizing Social Science Methodology	10:45 - 12:45	40
09.09.2022	STREAM F: Roundtables on Global Research Funding	Roundtable 01: Academics and Current Research Funding in Botswana, Brazil, Germany and India: Limits and Possibilities	09:15 - 10:15	27
08.09.2022	STREAM A: Decolonization + Space-Time	Session01. Ethnography as Spatial-Temporal Method	13:00 - 14:30	26
08.09.2022	STREAM D: Informatics	Session08. Sense-making with (Unconventional) Large Digital Datasets in Social and Cultural Research – Methodological Challenges and Approaches - S2	13:00 - 14:30	26
08.09.2022	STREAM B: Spatial/Cognitive Crossroads	Session10. Mobile Methods and Sociospatial Inequalities	15:15 - 17:15	26
08.09.2022		AM Course 06. Methodologies for Landscape Research in Urban Public Spaces in Brazil - S1	17:30 - 20:30	25
09.09.2022	STREAM A: Mobilities	AM Course 07. Weaving Territories Through Mobile Methods	18:15 - 21:15	22

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

5.6. Daily Conference website access

Prior to Conference start, the SMUS Conference Brazil website had already become the major source of gathered information about the event. Moreover, it became the Conference ‘digital registration office’. In turn, during the three Conference we were able to register accesses by 816 users. This figure concerns the number of different digital devices from which each user browsed the website.

This visit flow generated a total amount of 8,027 website-page impressions. This number refers to the total number of times at which specific website pages were visited.

The following table presents a ranking of the ten most represented cities of origin of the 816 website visitors, based on the respective number and percentage of website accesses (columns 2 and 3). However, 40 of these accesses remain undisclosed (‘not set’):

Table 16: Website access ranking by city of access (Google Analytics, Sept. 8th-10th, 2022)

1. Sao Paulo	207		23,66%
2. Rio de Janeiro	43		4,91%
3. (not set)	40		4,57%
4. Gaborone	25		2,86%
5. Berlin	19		2,17%
6. Brasilia	18		2,06%
7. Belo Horizonte	17		1,94%
8. Porto Alegre	17		1,94%
9. Campinas	17		1,94%
10. Recife	16		1,83%

© Google screenshot, September 20th-27th, 2022

Roughly replicating the general participation data, 7 of the 9 cities in focus are Brazilian. Based on all the forementioned data, it comes as no surprise that the other two mostly represented cities are, respectively, the capital cities of Botswana and Germany, which host the SMUS lead partner University of Botswana and the TU Berlin.

By hoping that these data may be of use for all the future SMUS activities, some final statistics related to quantitative indicators of success are also attached (Annex X).



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2nd RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
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Annexes (I-X)