Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability
Prof. Gabriel Faimau

GCSMUS Lead Partner, Steering Committee Member, and Action Speaker
University of Botswana | Department of Sociology

Abstracts Booklet

SMUS
BOTSWANA

"1st International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability" (1st SMUS-Conference)
and
"1st RC33 Regional Conference – Africa: Botswana"

September, 23rd – 25th, 2021

Hosted by the University of Botswana
and organized by the
"Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability" (GCS-MUS),
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)

Welcome Remarks

I would like to welcome each one of you to the "1st International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability" (SMUS Conference) hosted by the University of Boswana in Gaborone, Botswana. This conference is the first conference organized by the Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability (GCSMUS) based in TU Berlin, Germany in cooperation with the University of Botswana through the Department of Sociology. SMUS Conference Botswana provides a platform for scholars to interact with methodologists from various disciplines around the world and to deepen discussions with researchers from diverse methodological perspectives. Given the current challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic, the conference will convene entirely online. This will be three exciting days of networking, knowledge building and sharing and as such I urge everyone to actively participate in all the activities and discussions throughout the conference.

Wishing everyone a successful, safe, and fruitful conference.

My personal respect and thanks to all of you

Professor Gabriel Faimau
GCSMUS Lead Partner, Steering Committee Member, and Action Speaker
University of Botswana, Department of Sociology

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Thursday, 23.09.2021 (Day 1)

08.00 – 09.30	**Opening Ceremony** https://zoom.us/j/98531240617?pwd=OEpkYUd2L2dCbGRlKzVtclZvUUtNQT09			
10.00 – 11.30	Opening Lectures **Gabriel Faimau & Nina Baur:** **Decolonizing Social Science Methodology & Cross-Cultural Research** **Gaurav Raheja & Angela Million:** **Transdisciplinary Research and Design-Based Methods** https://zoom.us/j/98531240617?pwd=OEpkYUd2L2dCbGRlKzVtclZvUUtNQT09			
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12.00 – 13.00	**Keynote** **Bagele Chilisa:** **Indigenous Research Methods and Spatial Methods in Africa** https://zoom.us/j/93795859304?pwd=am9vczdVL1pIYjdYM2xpcUhwZllzZz09			
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List of Papers

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Stream A: Decolonizing Cross-Cultural Research

Zoom Link

https://zoom.us/j/99816248386?pwd=UlQ3QU54b0xJN0tPcGdsMjFXZ0tTdz09

Meeting ID: 998 1624 8386

Passcode: 662171

Session 1:
Decolonizing Social Science Methodology – Towards African Epistemologies

Date and Time

Thursday, 23.09.2021, 16.30 – 18.30

Zoom Link

https://zoom.us/j/99816248386?pwd=UlQ3QU54b0xJN0tPcGdsMjFXZ0tTdz09

Meeting ID: 998 1624 8386

Passcode: 662171

Session organizers

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Colonialism was a direct political control of people of a given territory by a foreign power. Usually, if not always, colonialism was accompanied by permanent settlements, or occupation, by people from the colonizing power, such as the British, French, or Germans. The colonized people were mainly in the continents of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. At the experiential level, colonialism was really the political control of one race by another, with the colonial settlers invariably being 'Western', 'European', and 'White', and the colonized being the 'Other'. But colonialism was also, simultaneously, about the production of ideological justifications of such control, which justifications involved the creation of a perception in the 'Other' of the superiority of the colonizer, hence the asymmetrical power relations that characterized the relationship between the two agents'. This condescension encompassed all aspects of the 'Other's' systems (i.e., the economic, cultural, political, legal, etc. systems), including the epistemologies and methodologies on which such systems were predicated. All these aspects required total eradication and a root and branch replacement with a Western European world view. The result was a systematic marginalization and undervaluation, if not total eradication, of the 'Other's' worldview (Chilisa, 2012). The impartation of this worldview constituted the 'process of civilization', a process that necessarily involved a unidirectional transfer of information, skills, understanding and civilization from the European to the 'Other' (Serpell, 1993). This is how the Western European colonial epistemologies and methodologies came to inform and shape the development and trajectory of the social sciences and are today regarded as the essential ingredients in the process of production of knowledge. The main objective of the proposed session is to call for the emancipation of the social sciences from Western, European epistemologies and methodologies in the production of knowledge. It is a modest attempt to reinsert African epistemologies and methodologies in the discourses of the social sciences, with a view to making the social sciences more relevant to the African context.

This would constitute an exercise in decolonization of social sciences knowledge production and curation.

1. Unpacking the Methodological and Epistemogical Paradox in the Social Sciences: Towards African Epistemologies

Boniface Nevanji Bwanyire; boniface.n.bwanyire@campus.tu-berlin.de (Technical University of Berlin, Germany)

It has become clear in the social sciences that the existing and dominant methodological approaches are falling short in addressing the methodological needs of diverse scholars and cultural regions across the globe. This is, in part, a result of the fact that these dominant methodologies were developed from particular loci of enunciations that were geographically and culturally located, but were albeit, presented as universal, and sacrosanct. It is against this backdrop, that this paper argues that the methodological paradox that is currently bedevilling the social sciences is fundamentally epistemological in nature, and that any efforts to address this problem must commence from an epistemological foundation. There is growing consensus amongst sociologists that systems of thought invariably influence how we make decisions about what constitutes knowledge and how this knowledge can be attained. In other words, how we think influences how we act, thus, our understanding of what can be known or must be known, influences how we attempt to attain this knowledge. Part of the problem therefore is that the existing and dominant methodologies are based on a particular episteme about what can or must be known, and this consequently creates blind spots and undermines their adequacy in addressing certain types of research questions, especially in contexts with competing systems of thought, cultures, and beliefs. Using the arguments from decolonial theory, this paper seeks to unpack the epistemological roots of this ensuing methodological paradox and explore avenues for the inculcation of African epistemologies in developing methodologies that are appropriate and sufficient for answering research questions in the African context. The ultimate aim of the paper is to contribute towards current discussions on the decolonization of social science methodologies, by highlighting the potentialities of bringing to the fore hitherto suppressed African epistemologies in contemporary methodological discussions.

2. Africanizing Social Work Research and Practice: Perspectives from Fieldwork Experience in Nigeria

Kenechukwu Anugwom; kenechukwu.anugwom@unn.edu.ng (University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria)

There is no gainsaying the fact that Western or Euro-American approaches are the orthodox approaches in social work practice globally. This is not surprising given that social work has a largely western history or origin. The above notwithstanding, experience has shown that these approaches often appear insufficient when it comes to capturing the peculiar realities and nuances of fieldwork practice in a typical African society like Nigeria. In other words, the social

worker may become incapacitated in responding to client needs or social situations in spite of the mastery of these orientations. In effect, social work is primarily a social science and thus its practice and even relevance is determined or affected by the social context in which it is practiced. In view of the foregoing, this paper attempts to highlight some typical realities in a typical African situation that are inured to these approaches. Thus, it highlights some obvious incapacities of these western approaches in dealing with social situations in Nigeria using actual experiences from field practice. Given the social scientific nature of social work, its values are influenced by the socio-cultural context in which it is practiced. Therefore, the methodological challenge of social work in Nigeria and by implication in Africa would be on how to tailor or indigenize social work approaches to capture extant realities of African experiences especially from a socio-cultural perspective. The paper aims to make a modest contribution to the above challenge by focusing on how social work research and practice can be tailored to match the social context in Africa.

3. Decoloniality-decolonisation debate: convergent or divergent frameworks?

Chadzimula Molebatsi; molebaco@ub.ac.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)

This paper is an exploratory attempt at contributing to the decoloniality-decolonisation debate. The paper muses over the question 'as traditions of thought, is decoloniality the same as decolonisation? From the burgeoning literature on decolonisation, it is evident that myriad of terms – anti-colonial, decoloniality, Southern theory, post coloniality are often used interchangeably. We consider the question of whether 'decoloniality is the same as decolonisation' important in charting pathways towards embracing other knowledges, cosmovision and more importantly, formulating options in the formulation of transformational agendas. The paper embraces the position championed by decolonial scholars and maintains that decoloniality means much more than decolonisation. Using examples drawn from urban planning in the global South the paper argues that although the two schools of thought are united by their dissatisfaction with hegemonic western approaches to knowledge and knowledge production, the options offered lead to different urban futures.

4. Decolonizing Procurement: Overcoming systemic barriers to equity

Rita S. Fierro; fierro.evaluation@gmail.com (Fierro consulting, LLC, USA)

In the context of development projects, it's easy to see inequity in the oppositional dynamics between the haves and have-nots: Global North vs the Global South, urban centers vs rural villages, formal education vs. indigenous wisdom. Analyses of inequity often focus the unequal distribution of resources among the former who are advantaged over the latter. After years working in Africa as a researcher and an evaluator with a background in inequity, several projects not only revealed existing inequities, but perpetuated them through systemic mechanisms: bureaucratic procurement processes above all. While procurement processes claim to favour attaining the best quality product at the best price, many hidden mechanisms are at play that maintain old colonial structures. I will highlight three systemic mechanisms that used procurement processes use to

ensure the perpetuation of neo-colonial structures suppressing local authority, knowledge, and prosperity: the eligibility criteria of different firms for different projects, the structure of consultant pay, and the complex role of expectations and contract conditions. For each mechanism, I will highlight specific case studies from projects conducted in West African and East Africa between 2011-2015. Based on these cases, I will also propose how procurement policies may change to support community power-building and equitable results. I will also highlight how early lessons in participatory grant-making in the United States may help inform transforming procurement processes.

5.   The African Inspection

Nyakallo Lekuta; nyakallolekuta@gmail.com (University of Botswana, Botswana)

In order to facilitate the thriving of African societies adaptation has been an ever-occurring mechanism that has allowed this geography to facilitate imported structures of economic and societal function. A conundrum that has presented itself is that academia, a fruitful institution gaining ever increasing significance in modern African nation building, has yet to be subjected to a rubric it must satisfy. This paper aims to problematize John Scott's Quality Control criteria and introduce criteria with a similar mandate that is better tailored for Africa. This project is inspired by the need to address the methodological problem of the social sciences seeking to achieve decoloniality within colonial structure, which, Dr. Lwazi Siyabonga Lushaba attests is complex but still possible. The new criteria "can be constructed and reconstructed" as necessary (Maxwell, 2012), allowing appropriate accessing, handling, and processing of indigenous African knowledge within the Social Sciences and wider academia. The proposed criteria is that academic practices be subject to assessment as to whether they meet the standard of firstly being ethical for African societies, secondly, essential for postcolonial African renaissance/revival mandates and thirdly, encouraging of the trust of indigenous epistemologies. As African Indigenous approaches are designed based on the cultural and contextual elements of the continent, they inherently situate African history as told by itself. This paper suggests a tool for academic praxis to tangibly be made adaptable to African culture using the mentioned criteria as a set standard for academia to satisfy. Enforcing these criteria will remove the underestimation of what it means to conduct the colonial import of academia in geographies needing substantial postcolonial and decolonial engagement. This will spur deeper interrogation of the prevalent patriarchies and capitalisms Africa facilitates in the varies structures with close relation to academia, which has until present been an engagement of Africanness having to open itself up to the new. This paper seeks to explore how academia can going forward, in response open itself up to African needs, norms and culture.

6.   Decoloniality and the production of space: what does it really mean?

Seabo Morobolo; seabo.morobolo@strath.ac.uk (University of Strathclyde, United Kingdom)

Culture and space connection has for many decades been a subject of interest within the built environment disciplines to try and proposed culturally sensitive environments. However, the disciplinary boundaries that exist have often confined it to particular aspects based on their frames of reference and methodological approaches. Quite often the dominant approaches have also been plagued by constructing the researched and their environments as 'the other', thus viewing them as subjects to be studied and observed. Drawing from the Latin American school of modernity/coloniality/decoloniality project, I explore how a decolonial approach that shifts the geography of reasoning to other knowledges could offer an avenue to understand this relationship and the transformation in Botswana's urban villages. Drawing from the decolonial theoretical framework, I examine the transformation of culture and organisation of space as a consequence of interaction between two knowledges. Critical of western structures of knowledge and their dominant narratives which tend to suppress other knowledges, the decolonial framework advocates for a shift in theorising to understand how coloniality has operated to suppress other ways of being, knowing and doing; as well as questioning the 'objectivity of modernist knowledge'. In following this argument, I present decoloniality as an option that allows us to question how knowledge about this subject has been produced, the relevance and challenges of disciplinary boundaries and implications for adopting such an approach to study transformation of space. Through a historicised account of the transformation, I then present preliminary findings of an analysis of the physical environment of three Tswana urban villages as part of an ongoing decolonial inquiry into culture and space transformation. Using concepts of border-thinking, coloniality of knowledge and coloniality, I further show how the new (modernist) knowledge became codified and institutionalised to control space organisation thus paving the way for a new physical environment.

Session 2:
Decolonizing Social Science Methodology – Overcoming Positivism and Constructivism

Date and Time

Thursday, 23.09.2021, 14.00 – 16.00

Zoom Link

https://zoom.us/j/99816248386?pwd=UlQ3QU54b0xJN0tPcGdsMjFXZ0tTdz09

Meeting ID: 998 1624 8386

Passcode: 662171

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Epistemological approaches in the tradition of e.g., constructivism, relativism, postmodernism or postcolonialism stress that empirical findings are strongly influenced both by the researcher's social position and positioning in the world system and by the social organization of doing science. Sociology of science has provided strong empirical evidence for this position. This means that, if researchers find (dis)similarities between different social contexts, it is not clear at all, if these (dis)similarities result from actual substantial differences or rather e.g., from diverging theoretical perspectives, research styles, ways of doing methods or different reactions of the field to social science research. At the same time, approaches in the tradition of e.g., positivism or critical radicalism stress that it is important that science upholds the ideals of searching for truth, intersubjectivity and empirical evidence and that relativism itself is also a fallacy because – if you take this seriously – what is the difference between "fake news" and "alternative facts" and scientific knowledge? Moreover, many research questions in the social sciences require to be sure about (dis)similarities between contexts, e.g., in social inequality research. So far, suggestions to overcome these contrasting demands on social science methodology have mostly focussed on methods, e.g., by mixing methods or applying cross-cultural survey methods. In contrast, the session aims at addressing the underlying deeper epistemological and methodological issues which remain mainly unresolved: Papers should ask how to overcome the divide between positivism and constructivism and to truly decolonize social science methodology.

1. Analytical frameworks as epistemological and methodological interfaces for a decolonized social science methodology

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Nelson C. Zavale; nelson.casimiro.zavale@gmail.com (University Eduardo Mondlane, Mozambique)

What are the implications of overcoming the divide between positivism and constructivism? According to the sociology of science, social sciences are defined as normative cognitive and corresponding social organizations. Accordingly, constructivism and positivism seem larger than life identity politics based on formal and informal organizations of specific social sciences methodologies and its theoretical foundations. Given such gnoses and epistemes, for example Mudimbe (1988) would suggest that the spatial and cultural specificities are only useful to characterize an unequal cohabitation of scientific and ideological discourses on social entities, and its cultures and people. Concisely, the answer would be that both positivism and constructivism both carry colonialism's mission civilisatrice, which suggests that the divide cannot be overcome. As an alternative, we suggest that analytical frameworks are interfaces for a decolonized social science methodology and researching diverse ecologies of knowledge. This methodological approach defines analytical frameworks as interfaces for epistemic discourse between different gnoses of social scientific research. Inspired by Santos' (2014) pluralistic idea of an epistemology of seeing, we use the example of an analytical framework for studying formal and informal organizing of academics' societal engagement (also known as academic outreach and knowledge and technology transfer) to systematically approach (dis)similarities between contexts. Reflecting ecologies of knowledge in Sub-Sahara Africa, the analytical framework is composed of three analytic units of actors, knowledges, and actions of academics' societal engagement. In the analytical framework, the analytic units present distinct categories for guiding empirical research, independent whether qualitative, quantitative, or mixed methods are applied for studying (dis)similarities of a social phenomenon between spatial contexts and/or over time. In the contribution, we would discuss how analytical frameworks contribute to analytically framing a social phenomenon by categorizing key analytical characteristics of a social phenomenon, its spatial and temporal (dis)similarities for comparison across contexts.

2. How to decolonize sociological research? Lessons from Ecuadorian Sociology

Philipp Altmann; philippaltmann@gmx.de (Central University of Ecuador, Ecuador)

The social sciences of the Global South have always had one central problem: theories and empirical studies that were presented as universalistic were, indeed, universalization from local experiences in the Global North. Therefore, it was and is impossible to simply reproduce in the Global South what the great classics did in the Global North. Even the most Eurocentric Southern thinkers had no alternative to attempt a local adaptation. This presentation will argue that central elements of a decolonial sociological research can be found in those attempts of local adaptation.

Sociology in Ecuador did develop until the 1950s in a -at that time, largely imaginary- panorama of Spencerian positivism. A short-lived attempt to modernize in the context of the newly created School for Sociology in the 1960s gave way to a Marxist re-reading of Ecuadorian social thought and history since the 1970s. In each of those phases, some interesting proposals on how to do sociology outside of Europe came up. This presentation will revisit important moments of sociological self-reflection in Ecuador and establish some principles of a possible way to decolonize sociological research contained within them, sometimes openly, others, hidden. In this, it will become visible that the engagement even with highly problematic theories, such as Spencer or Gumplowicz, can help to establish ways to break with the inherent Eurocentrism of sociology. Those principles will be: 1. to take into account the institution that defines social acts ("It's the institution, stupid!"), 2. the need to focus on the local reality instead of a problematic general history ("Localize it!"), and 3. the obligation for sociologists to engage with the social reality that surrounds them ("Talk to people, please!").

3. 'A group of transformation': Structural Anthropology as a Decolonial Political Epistemology

Heike Delitz; heike.delitz@uni-bamberg.de (University Bamberg, Germany)

'Truly decolonizing the social sciences' methodology': Following structural anthropology (Descola, Viveiros de Castro), this means (as I want to argue) taking the other's and one's own epistemology, methodology and ontology as symmetrical. A 'truly' decolonized methodology has to take the various modes of knowledge as equally being instances within 'a group of transformation' (Lévi-Strauss), or as 'variants of variants' (Descola). From this view, 'constructivism' (as well as positivism) is based on a 'naturalist' or 'multiculturalist' ontology – if 'constructivism' is understood as a view according to which "substantial differences" (or similarities) underlie "diverging perspectives" (as the call argues). To decolonize sociology – its methodology or epistemology – then means to contrast this ontology with other ontologies, seeing them "in rigid continuity" (Viveiros de Castro). Or it means to introduce an "ontological turn" into anthropology and sociology. This turn not only aims to come to a symmetrical view on one's own and other ontologies, epistemologies, and social theories. It recognizes indigenous collectives as subjects of the anthropologist's or sociologist's theories; and aims to 'experiment with' Western thought. Far away from 'intellectualism', structural anthropology is epistemological politics – criticizing 'New' anthropology for sharing a constructivist and narcistic view, taking 'other' cultures as Western 'invention'. Only interested in globalist encounters, anthropology and sociology ignore the "extra-moderns". Hereby, structuralism goes beyond constructivism and positivism, unfolding a third epistemology according to which there is no 'substance' which underlies the different perspectives. Rather, there are meaning systems which constitute particular societies, collectives, nature and culture, and subjects. The talk wants to present this social theory, methodology and epistemology – (re-)introducing the structuralist option within sociological thought as a decolonial view. Secondly, the talk sketches a research project, comparing 'architectural modes of collective existence' – symmetrising urban architectural cultures with extra-urban ones in view of the respective constitution of 'society'; and analysing societal transformations through urbanization.

4. Thinking Sideways across Webbed Connectivities: Decolonizing Imperial Spatialities and Temporalities

Vrushali Patil; vrushali.patil@gmail.com (Florida International University, United States)

While histories of the colonial have engendered a dense web of entanglements across the globe, the categorical logics of modernity often elide these linkages. Here, I introduce my theoretical framework of webbed connectivities and method of thinking sideways as an approach for challenging imperial spatialities and temporalities in social science. Webbed connectivities are first historical formations—cross-border networks of relations forged within proto-colonial and colonial processes. As historical formations, they form the basis of a historically situated theoretical framework for analysing cross-border relations which connect seemingly distinct regimes. By beginning with webbed connectivities, the goal is to move the starting point for analysis from an assumption of nation-states as ahistorical containers to nation-states as historically consolidated sites within cross-border networks of relations. Rather than focusing on a priori sites, then, webbed connectivities encourages tracing relations, networks, and connections that cross sites, with the methodological tactic of thinking sideways. Thinking sideways begins with imperial and other agents/agencies which have historically crossed borders. It insists on following the movements of these agents across received borders, and tracing their productions, circulations and impacts as these, too, move across borders. One entry point into these processes is secondary sources which deal with seemingly disconnected materials, which however, in light of a sideways sensibility can be brought into productive relation with each other. Reading across materials not intended to be brought together in this way opens up new avenues for exploration. Ultimately, given that so much of our knowledge production is organized by an a priori (colonial-modern) delineation of sites, thinking sideways across webbed connectivities can enable us to challenge the colonial modern disciplining of knowledge. It can help us read across seemingly closed boundaries of knowledge, power, and struggle, opening up possibilities for making not just the political but also the ontological case for solidarity.

5. Decolonizing scholars' methodological stances based upon Second Wave of Southern Perspectives

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Built upon alternative epistemologies and going beyond straight-jacket methodologies, this study juxtaposes four cases across geopolitical time spaces with the intent to (i) discuss trans methodological framings, and through these (ii) unpack the role that boundaries and liminality play in the constitution of what is glossed as human and collective language and identity. We argue that a researcher's mobile gaze is highly relevant in making visible and troubling processes that con-

tribute to the re-enforcing naturalization of archaic conceptualizations pertaining to not only language, identity, nation-spaces, but also nationalism. Applying a SWaSP, Second Wave of Southern Perspective framing, the paper troubles mainstream methodologies and epistemologies and engages with peoples mobilities (including the scholars mobile gaze) and the processes of boundary creations across time and the global-North/South by including the South in the North and the North in the South. We gaze analytically at (i) Sápmi across northern Scandinavia and Russia; (ii) Nagalim in the tri-junction area of the eastern parts of India, Myanmar, and China; (iii) massive displacements that ensued during the violent emergence of the nation-spaces of India and (West) Pakistan through the creation of the Radcliffe Line in 1947; and (iv) the urban to rural Pandemic induced exodus across the internal boundaries of the nation-spaces of India in post-March 2020. Conceptualizations that build upon the materiality of and the boundary-marked nature of language, identity, and nation-spaces (and their populations), salient features across these four cases, are also – we argue – etched in mainstream scholarship despite having been challenged through historical, philosophical, and empirical explorations. SWaSP's reflexive tenets call attention to the cost of disruptions, the counter-flows related to colonially marked mobilities in disentangling analytical engagement as a trans methodological stance. This builds on the scholar's mobile gaze at the entanglements of time-spaces, vocabularies, epistemology-methodology and positionalities.

6. Grounded Theory and Reflexivity as Decolonial Methodologies

Janet Arnado; mary.janet.arnado@dlsu.edu.ph (De La Salle University, Philippines)

There may not be a truly decolonial methodology because both the theoretical and methodological foundations of sociology have western origin, in the same way that many writers of decolonial or postcolonial theory have western connections. Additionally, there is no going around English in international knowledge production. With a less ambitious goal, this paper explores existing qualitative approaches that are consistent with a decolonial social science methodology, particularly in localizing the knowledge context, giving voice to the subaltern, addressing power relations, respecting cultures, and encouraging community participation. It focuses on the theoretical framing (grounded theory) and the framer (reflexivity). Grounded theory begins with the local knowledge and experience in building categories and concepts and sets aside the grand western paradigms. At the heart of this decolonial methodology is the researchers' reflexivity or heightened awareness of their position and positioning in the various structures of power, e.g., in relation to the researched and the peer review publication process. Reflexivity paves the way towards giving voice to the usually silenced categories and accurately representing that voice through community participation and data validation. The paper elaborates how grounded theory and reflexivity contribute towards a decolonized methodology.

Session 3:
Decolonizing Methodologies and Epistemologies: Discourse Analysis and Sociology of Knowledge

Date and Time

Friday, 24.09.2021, 16.30 – 18.30

Zoom Link

https://zoom.us/j/99816248386?pwd=UlQ3QU54b0xJN0tPcGdsMjFXZ0tTdz09

Meeting ID: 998 1624 8386

Passcode: 662171

Session organizers

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In the mid-1990s, Stuart Hall proposed to analyse discourses as knowledge processes: "Discourses are ways of referring to or constructing knowledge about a particular topic of practice: a cluster (or formation) of ideas, images, and practices, which provide ways of talking about, forms of knowledge and conduct associated with, a particular topic, social activity or institutional site in society" (Hall 1997a: 4). A few years later, in her influential work on "Decolonizing methods", Linda Tuhiwai Smith pointed out that in the context of a necessary "decolonization of methods", the question of knowledge becomes of central importance. She argued that we should focus on questions "about the roles that knowledge, knowledge production, knowledge hierarchies and knowledge institutions play in social transformation" (Smith 2012: XII), and that we should look for methodologies suited to that purpose. Taking Hall's and Smith's arguments together, discourse research integrating "discourse", "knowledge" and "power/knowledge" seems to provide research with a concept that allows for such inquiries. The planned session therefore asks about the suitability of discourse-related as well as sociology of knowledge-related perspectives for the tasks of a contemporary and future decolonized social research that focuses on knowledge in social relations and the politics of knowledge – in Foucault's words: the power/knowledge regimes – in the North/South relationship. In particular, the potentials of the Sociology of Knowledge Approach to Discourse (SKAD) and other (related) perspectives in discourse research will be explored. Submitted proposals should therefore discuss from a methodological perspective the pos-

sibilities, pitfalls, limits, and extensions of such approaches with regard to core questions of de-colonization of methods. This might include discussing the need for and challenge of hermeneutic procedures, interpretation, and translation of data. It might also include examinations of the (current state of the) conceptual apparatus that has been developed primarily based on 'northern hemisphere' views on the discursive construction of reality in and between rather diverse social arenas and more or less 'public' spheres. Proposals may also address questions of the challenges and limits of the concepts of knowledge or discourse that arise from the post- and decolonial condition. The session welcomes papers on conceptual and methodological questions as well as presentations from empirical work relating to its purpose.

1. Application of Triangulation in Discourse Analysis (Case Study: Sustainable Development in Iran Development Plans)

Samaneh Niazkhani; samane.niazkhani@gmail.com (University of Tehran, Iran)

One of the challenges of qualitative research versus quantitative research is proving its validity and reliability. Discourse analysis should be considered as a complete package, i.e., a set of theoretical and methodological foundations that have been seriously discussed during the transition from positivist to post-positivist approaches. The founders of this method suggest that a combination of different discourse perspectives and non-discourse should be used and their proposal to formulate this integrated framework is to use a single approach to discourse analysis and use other discourse or non-discourse approaches to compensate for theoretical shortcomings in analysing the phenomenon. To achieve this, it is necessary to use various methods, theories, and comparisons. This is the use of the technique known as triangulation. In fact, the basic principle of triangulation is the application of appropriate strategies and various methods to find dominant discourse in a particular field, with the aim of confirming the findings by converging different perspectives. Accordingly, this article seeks to introduce the specific application of the concept of triangulation in the sustainable development discourse analysis approach in Iran's development programs. Thus, the research documents and data, which include the texts of materials and notes of the fifth and sixth development plans, by purposeful sampling method, following the views of environmental discourse and analysis from the non-discourse perspective of Scott Campbell, along with meta-analysis results of similar research, were analysed. A review of the contents of these plans confirm that the conservation and environmentalism of discourses dominated by the Fifth Development Plan and again the conservation and Law enforcement discourses dominated by the Sixth Development Plan; And an eclectic nature has overtaken to the discourse of sustainable development country's development plans.

2. Using methodologies to forge new visions of interculturality

Emilian Franco; emilian.franco@unibw.de (Bundeswehr University Munich, Germany)

Dominic Busch; dominic.busch@unibw.de (Bundeswehr University Munich, Germany)

Elisabeth Fessler; elisabeth.fessler@unibw.de (Bundeswehr University Munich, Germany)

Avoiding epistemic violence in the research process leads to a completely new and different understanding of research in general. This paper illustrates such a transformation of an entire discipline at the example of research on intercultural communication and interculturality. What Calafell (2020) calls the critical performative turn in this field had been prepared even before this for over a quarter of a century: According to Calafell, discourse-based methods have failed in overcoming epistemic violence, which is why they should now be replaced by performatively oriented methods. Studies on interculturality and intercultural communication have contributed to this orientation over that past couple of years by testing methods from the fields of post-qualitative research, autoethnographic approaches, participatory approaches, and arts-based approaches. This paper introduces to central and exemplary works from these paradigms on interculturality. A critical review of their epistemological, ontological, and axiological assumptions shows that majority of the studies found tie their empirical results back to existing cultural theories, searching for, finding, and interpreting them against their background. Thus, an interplay of theories and methods becomes visible, which has always been inherent to interpretative research, yet. But how can research produce something new under these premises of circularity? This analysis shows that theories and methods here are brought together in a way that primarily allows for the identification of visions about socially desirable ideal forms of interculturality. With the aim of avoiding epistemic violence, research on interculturality is thus transformed into a showcase for visions of intercultural coexistence.

3. With Digital Discourses to Decolonial Analyses? Critical Reflections on a Discourse Analysis of the 'Benin Bronzes' in Newspapers from Nigeria, Great Britain and Germany

Isabel Eiser; IsabelEiser@gmx.de (University Hamburg, Deutschland)

In this session at the SMUS conference I will present a critical reflection of the research process of my PhD project entitled "Becoming an Emblem. From Colonial Propaganda to Decolonial Movement. A Discourse Analysis the 'Benin Bronzes'". The so-called 'Benin bronzes' were not only a tool of colonial oppression and expression of power and hegemony, but they also became an emblem for decolonial and pan-African movements and the restitution debate. On basis of a presentation of a structural analysis of the Nigerian and British newspaper discourse and an analysis of the accessible knowledge stocks in Nigeria and Great Britain, I intend to illustrate how the methodological approach of a digital discourse analysis with newspapers as material basis can lead to a 'decolonial' approach that produces knowledge that goes beyond a reproduction of a merely European discourse. The concept of decoloniality and the appropriation of decolonial concepts by European scholars will be critically reflected upon, too. The Corona pandemic and the limited access to archival records – especially when it comes to records from the African Continent – once again emphasizes the need for digital and open access to certain knowledge stocks. Consequently, this paper will also discuss the possibilities and limits of digital data and tools of Digital Humanities to emphasize this methodological decolonization. The incomplete material basis for the analysis due to uneven accessibility to knowledge stocks from Europe and Africa un-

veils new challenges in methodological practice due to the lack of comparable data. These limitations, challenges, and chances of these methodological practices as well as the experiences gained with analogue and digital newspaper archives with focus on the (non-) accessibility of archival records from Nigeria, Great Britain, and Germany as well as the production of knowledge on basis of the access to these archival records will be presented in this paper.

4. Sponsored or agential 'autogestants'? A critical discourse analysis of urban informal settlements in Zimbabwe

Langtone Maunganidze; lmaunganidze@gmail.com (Midlands State University)

Globally urban spaces have historically been centres of struggles and transformation. Although studies on the historical dialectic between the social and spatial are not new, there has not been much similar attention paid to the Zimbabwean context particularly in the post-colonial period. Drawing from Henry Lefebvre's (1991) autogestion thesis, I examine the extent to which urban architecture and spaces have been capitalized by individuals and groups as a survival 'resource' for coping with the urban poly-crises. The multi-dimensional and multi-scalar model of sociospatial transformation processes of the urban environment and the plasticity of the actors call for a combination of research methodologies that incorporate an exploration of agency and new possibilities. Guided by a critical anthropologist perspective, I use critical discourse analysis, to consider how the 'anarchistic' politics engulfing the emergence of urban and peri-urban informal settlements have become a mediating agent for both political and capital accumulation. Notwithstanding the ethical and methodological challenges associated with investigating potentially hidden populations such as informal settlers, their 'sponsors' and collaborators, overall, the paper argues that over the years the production and appropriation of alternative urban spaces in Zimbabwean cities in general and in particular the capital city, Harare, has been symptomatic of a sponsored autogestion rather than an agential response to the housing crisis.

5. Modern Times? Or entangled spaces of modernity. Discourses of modernization and self-perceptions of Kenyan middle-class members

Jochen Kibel; jochen.kibel@tu-berlin.de (TU Berlin, Germany)

Eva Korte; eva.korte@posteo.de (TU Berlin, Germany)

Eurocentric discourses of modernization have been criticized by post-colonial scholars for more than three decades (Hall 1996, Chakrabarty 2000, Boatcă 2013, Castro Varela/Dhawan/Randeria 2016, Patel 2018). Against this backdrop it seems irritating to follow current debates on the rise of the so called global middle class(es) (OECD, Kharas 2010). To a large extent these discourses affirm the (outdated) notions of western modernization theory. Expectations of democratization, liberalization, and urbanization as well as the preoccupations with ecological threads that might come with an assumed consumerism follow a linear thinking of social development, in which the older middle classes of the global north are seen as a blueprint for societal change in the global

south (Massey 2005). These vast assumptions are not only grounded on weak empirical fundaments but also criticized by scholars that critically engage with the myths and realities of global middle classes (Melber 2016). Instead of analysing whether these assumptions are justified or not, with this paper we want to argue for a different way of thinking about the global middle classes as they emerge in Kenya. As James Ferguson showed in the context of the Zambian Copperbelt region, although "expectations of modernity" have obviously been proven wrong, nevertheless "Modernization Theory had become a local tongue." (Ferguson 1999: 84). Therefore, we want to raise the question, whether and how global discourses of modernization become meaningful within the individual self-perceptions of middle-class members in Nairobi. We engage with the method of Interpretative Subjectivation Analysis (Bosančić 2019) to ask for different modes of subjectivation in the realm of societal change. By following the spatial relations of Kenyan middle-class members, we are emphasizing their global entanglements between Berlin (Germany) and Nairobi (Kenya) in order to avoid methodological nationalism (Patel 2018) and to overcome temporal evolutionism. The twofold concern we are pursuing with this is (1st) to draw a link between Interpretative Subjectivation Analysis and sociology of space (Löw 2008) and (2nd) to loosen the link between timely descriptions (such as development, modernization, progress) of societal change. Societal change can be profitably thought of and described in spatial terms that sensitize for the complex entanglements between places of identity and the spaces of everyday life. Global mobility and middle-class housing appear then as distinct sets of spatial entanglements rather than imagined temporal sequences of "development", "modernization", "progress".

6. Political Struggles, Contested Narratives and Knowledge Production about the Eritrean State

Biniam Misgun; misgunb@ukzn.ac.za (University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa)

Narratives about Eritrea has been so dramatically polarised, with radically opposing discourses firmly held by multiple actors and stakeholders. "Experts" and scholarship on Eritrea are not different in this regard. Even data, including ones generated by international bodies, about the country are points of contention. These data sets are heavily politicized and contested. Multiple competing data sets do exist, further complicating the competing narratives about the social, economic, and political situations in Eritrea. While those opposing the government paint an entirely bleak picture of the country, the claims from inside the country, and segment of Eritrean diaspora, completely contradicts these. This paper seeks to interrogate these through the prism of struggle over the control of production and distribution of discourse in political struggle. Though it is tempting to frame these as dialectics of Afro-pessimism and Afro-optimism, these conflicts and contestations represent power struggle over control over narratives production and circulation both at the national and global level. The findings suggest the following: One, the Eritrean state is actively engaged in a struggle with international organisation considered to be data banks of the world over the control of discourses about it; and this is positioned as a struggle for decoloniality, self-definition and to navigate perceived or real hostile geopolitical currents in the Horn of Africa. Two, Eritrean political actors engage in a production of single narrative; and these have to be presented in black and white, which otherwise would dilute their political expediency. Three, "experts'

knowledge" about the country is very much politicised and enmeshed in the political struggle for the Eritrean body politics. Finally, the whole encounter in Eritrean case forces us to question what are conventionally treated as apolitical data and knowledge produced, legitimated, and circulated by multilateral institutions, which are deemed as conduits of global data.

Session 5:

Critical Conversations on Bagele Chilisa's Indigeneous Research Methodologies

Date and Time

Friday, 24.09.2021, 14.00 – 16.00

Zoom Link

https://zoom.us/j/99816248386?pwd=UlQ3QU54b0xJN0tPcGdsMjFXZ0tTdz09

Meeting ID: 998 1624 8386

Passcode: 662171

Session organizers

Sethunya Tshepho Mosime; mosimest@mopipi.ub.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)
Esther Nkhukhu-Orland; Nkhukhu.Orlando@mopipi.ub.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)
To celebrate this leading African scholar from Botswana and critically engage with her world-renowned book, 'Indigenous Research Methodologies', this session will use this book by Bagele Chilisa as a starting point to engage with the practical and theoretical implications of indigenising methodologies, specifically for Africa. Critically drawing from the work of Chilisa, papers are invited to engage with her work around but not limited to. Topics that could be covered are: Indigenizing methodologies or Ghettoization of African research? The meaning of 'indigenous' methodologies and implications for doing research that celebrates diversity and inclusivity, prospects and challenges in indigenizing methodologies, differences and similarities between decolonizing methodologies and indigenizing methodologies.

1. **Critical Conversations on Bagele Chilisa's Indigenous Research Methodologies**

Sethunya Tshepho Mosime; mosimest@ub.ac.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)

Esther Nkhukhu-Orlando; Orlandoe@UB.AC.BW (University of Botswana, Botswana)

To celebrate this leading African scholar from Botswana and critically engage with her world-renowned book, 'Indigenous Research Methodologies', this session will use this book by Bagele Chilisa as a starting point to engage with the practical and theoretical implications of indigenising methodologies, specifically for Africa. Critically drawing from the work of Chilisa, papers are invited to engage with her work around but not limited to. Topics that could be covered are: Indigenizing methodologies or Ghettoization of African research? The meaning of 'indigenous'

methodologies and implications for doing research that celebrates diversity and inclusivity, prospects and challenges in indigenizing methodologies, differences and similarities between decolonizing methodologies and indigenizing methodologies.

2. Participatory Approaches to address Social Cohesion in Sustainability Research

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Katharina Löhr; katharina.loehr@zalf.de (Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF) e.V., Germany)

Social cohesion is generally seen as a desirable feature of society and widely used as a policy objective. The UNDP specifically have recognized the importance of social cohesion for peacebuilding and sustainable development. Despite its importance, definitions of the concept as well as ways to measure it vary widely, leaving its contours unclear and open for debate. There seems to be a consensus, however, that different levels are important in understanding social cohesion: from individual attitudes to community relations up to connections at the country level. At the same time, as the conceptions and measurements of social cohesion originated in Western traditions of thought, they may be viewed very differently from the Global South. If the concept is to be applied in a meaningful way in the global discourse and research on sustainable development, it needs further clarification through the integration of diverse perspectives at various levels of society. The paper discusses tools and methods for community and stakeholder involvement in the Global South in order to understand the concept and its impact at the local level, resulting in context-specific conceptions of social cohesion. From a Citizen Science perspective, this amounts to the task of co-creating or co-designing conceptual definitions and measurement indicators for tapping local knowledge and involving the views of non-scientists in the process. This will enable the design of policy interventions to build social cohesion on the local level, the development of community specific indicators to evaluate policy interventions locally, as well as the comparison of social cohesion levels across countries.

3. Relational perspectives and history: Understanding polycentric networks in the Sonoran Desert and the African Great Lakes

Axel Utz; trigo@toast.net (Independent scholar, USA)

In various regions around the world, such as the Sonoran Desert and the African Great Lakes, small cultures and polities persisted in the face of larger, expanding polities over considerable time periods. Elsewhere, small cultures and polities entirely succumbed to the centralizing forces of larger, hierarchically organized neighbours. I interpret the persistence of small cultures and polities as success rather than failure. Their resilience is testimony to their sophistication. Their knowledge and experience can significantly enhance our understanding of society. Small cultures and polities that persisted in the neighbourhood of larger ones over long periods did not make it on their own. They relied on sophisticated webs of cultural, spiritual, economic, and political exchange systems that connected them to close neighbours and geographically distant partners.

We still know little about these polycentric networks because, until quite recently, no scholarly discipline put much effort into researching them (Kusimba and Kusimba 2003, Nelson and Strawhacker 2011). As a historian who studies the connectedness of small cultures in the Sonoran Desert and the African Great Lakes, I rely on evidence from written sources. Many of these were produced by colonialists and are heavily biased. To make this information pertinent to my research, I rely on interpretative concepts derived from other sources ranging from archaeological site reports and ethnographic information to oral histories and upstreaming. Relational epistemologies and research methods as outlined by Bagele Chilisa are ingenious and supportive of my work because they can significantly improve the quality of research, including concepts we use to interpret information contained in textual sources produced by outsiders. In my presentation, I will contribute examples from my research on the historical connectedness of small cultures and polities in both the Sonoran Desert and African Great Lakes from the late seventeenth to the late nineteenth century.

4. Doing Indigenist Methodology among Indigenous Peoples

Delfo Canceran; delfocanceran@gmail.com (De La Salle University, Philippines)

In doing research to indigenous peoples, scholars who are trained in western scholarship have only used their foreign methodological frameworks and applied their methods on the indigenous peoples in their communities. Instead of helping the indigenous peoples recover their knowledge, they inadvertently reinforce their alienation from their lifeworld, no longer on the conquest of their territorial domains but on the colonization of their cognitive worldviews. In this paper, we shall articulate a methodology sensitive to the situation of the indigenous peoples in their communities. Indigenous scholars who know their communities and worldviews have developed a decolonial methodology and applied it to their research among their peoples. This methodology is skewed on border epistemology appropriate for the indigenous peoples who have been muted and hidden by history. This epistemology gathers or collect knowledge from oral history such as storytelling in their community through attentive and careful listening to their questions in life. Decolonial methodology does not dislodge the western methodology but interfaces them together but prioritizes the indigenous knowledge in research. We call it indigenist methodology because it takes its starting point from the indigenous peoples' knowledge. This indigenist methodology is a political struggle linked with the self-determination and self-representation of the indigenous peoples of their worldviews. Since colonization has deprived them of their self-representation, indigenous methodology would reclaim that right by articulating and asserting their worldviews. To construct that indigenous knowledge, indigenist methodology uses interdisciplinary approaches that advance the decolonization process that prioritizes the indigenous knowledge and in effect, critiques western knowledge. Moreover, this methodology also proposes teamwork research composed of leaders from their People's Organizations (POs), representatives from their Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and scholars from the academe for collaborative production of knowledge. In this teamwork, the indigenous knowledge is the privileged resource for research. As the indigenous communities reclaim their rights to self-representation, scholars are challenged to engage

with self-reflexivity learning from the indigenous peoples. Scholars should recruit and train pro-spective indigenous researchers in doing field research so that they would appreciate their own knowledge and flourish their cultural heritage. They need to heed the indigenous peoples and critique each other in knowledge production. They should work together to rescue the indigenous worldview and promote the indigenous knowledge.

5. Lessons on Indigeneity from Teaching and Learning

Caitlin Mapitsa; caitlin.mapitsa@wits.ac.za (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa)

Indigenous Research Methodologies has formed an important part of the curriculum in four courses on evaluation and research methodologies that I have taught over the last 3 years. Each student cohort, to a global group of 400 evaluation professionals, to a group of 35 South African civil servants, have grappled with different components of understanding and applying the lessons of Indigenous Research Methodologies in these diverse contexts. This paper will explore some of the common tensions, areas of consensus and contextual variations in how the teachings have been received and understood by students.

Session 6:
Socio-Spatial Research in Post-colonial States:
Urban and Political Economy Perspectives

Date and Time

Saturday, 25.09.2021, 14.30 – 16.30

Zoom Link

https://zoom.us/j/99816248386?pwd=UlQ3QU54b0xJN0tPcGdsMjFXZ0tTdz09

Meeting ID: 998 1624 8386

Passcode: 662171

Session organizers

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Urban policy and politics strongly configure spatial development outcomes, particularly in terms of sustainability, climate change, physical infrastructure, public health, safety etc. This session invites submissions which examine the implications of urban policy and politics for various facets of spatial development. Specifically, papers should employ concepts in policy analysis and/or political economy to investigate the urban spatial, socio-political, or ecological forms. Possible matters of investigation include how policy or political economic choices shape sustainable urbanism. Moreover, the intermeshing of public policy and political economy in configuring climate change mitigation measures by local authorities can be investigated. Also, the implications of strategic policy and political interventions for infrastructural development, public health, safety etc. could be explored. Papers can also examine how the nature of spatial development in turn shapes the policy and political economic choices available to municipalities. Accepted submissions should employ relevant methodological approaches and demonstrate how these techniques enrich the discourse on policy analysis and/or political economy.

1. Space, community, and identity in Botswana

Ikanyeng Stonto Malila; malila@ub.ac.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)

Botswana likes to present itself a state wherein national identity and national priorities trump local identities and needs. In terms of the Tribal Land Act every citizen is entitled to apply for land outside their community of origin. Yet at local level whether it be at the level of family, ward, village or tribal community, land use and claims to right of use are strongly anchored in identity and community and are far removed from bureaucratic notions of land use and ownership. There has

been growth in litigation over or following attempts by the state to engineer mergers of identity and /or land use in name of development pitting community against community even where the villages/communities belong to the same tribal community. This paper discusses the place of community and identity in the control of and contestation over the use of space in the context of a state-driven development agenda.

2. Pulsing Grounds: A collaborative research project tackling Beirut's emerging actor constellations and power relations through a data driven approach to knowledge co-production

Balsam Madi; studio@balsammadi.com (B.M. Studio, Lebanon)

Joanne Hayek; joannehayek@gmail.com (An Open Studio. Adjunct faculty at DIDI. Senior lecturer at AUB., Lebanon)

Lebanon's fragmented territories, continuous political deadlocks due to its power sharing governance model as well as its deteriorating economic situation have triggered a revolution starting in October 2019. This research's methodological problem is that now more than ever, planning tools that can respond to the urgency of change happening in the urban realm are needed for sustainable land management and development. Due to the lack of state led administrative systemization several collectives and initiatives emerged in order to help archive and utilize the emerging responses. Emergebeirut.com was one of these platforms, it is an open source publicly accessible platform that allows users to upload real time interventions. The platform also easily transfers data in different formats from other archiving agencies in order to overlay all the information and assess the gaps and needs. The research methodology builds on previous mappings of the actors and their interactions through a governance analysis to link between data driven knowledge co-production and urban policy making. In analysing narratives and spatial mappings at the different scales through a result model the researchers aim to deduce findings and recommendations that can help answer the following questions: (1) Can positive responses be replicated, scaled, rippled, and matured into long term systemic change that are adaptable to global movements? (2) Since the spatial and narrative mappings are generated by a code, is it also possible to code a smart / AI policy generating algorithm that would respond to the real time urgent need for change? (3) How can this digital platform act as a central and neutral data information ecosystem that links between grassroots movements and top-down planning. In terms of literature the paper intends to explore Foucault's concepts of power and knowledge production linking power to the grassroot movements generated knowledge and the proliferation of online information ecosystems having fair and open data. The role of technology in decentralizing the hegemony of power across sectors will thus be explored in relation to an increase in democracy, active citizenship, and participatory planning.

3. Tracing policies and politics behind the spatial development of the tea landscapes of Assam: A perspective from North-east India

Barsha Amarendra; ruchi.barsha@gmail.com (Independent Researcher, India)

When the British East India Company brought tea cultivation to Assam, apart from the economic interests, it was largely based upon the potential to initiate a predominantly colonial enterprise in the region, manned by white British Planters, under whom brown natives would work as subordinates. The company's first tea garden in 1833, marked the start of a spatial and visual transformation of the region's natural landscape; the pattern of this transformation being largely dependent on the company's policies for development, but also the politics of power play. While it is commonplace to have academic discussions on the policies and politics that are responsible for the development of the tea landscapes, the spatial implications on the landscape as a result of them are largely left undiscussed, as can be witnessed from a large number of available academic writings on the topic. This paper intends to create a methodology for a landscape-based cross-layering approach that would enable research to parallel the policies and politics behind developmental initiatives with the spatial transformations occurring on the ground. Being set in the colonial time period beginning in the 1830s, the methodology would base its focus on extracting from archival sources such as manuscripts and government reports, the policies that have a landscape implication and cross-reference this by tracing the development patterns through the study of historic topographic maps and archival photographs. The development patterns to be studied through this methodology include topographical alterations, irrigation developments, settlement growth and infrastructural development. In doing so, it would be significant in enabling researchers to visually illustrate to concerned stakeholders how their policies materialise in profoundly changing regional landscapes. The potential that the methodology provides for creating overlaps between sociological and spatial aspects would empower researchers and designers to better understand the biography of the landscape to be worked with.

4. Qualitative Methods for Street Naming Research in a Postcolonial African Context

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The political economy of street naming is enmeshed in the historical tapestry of the society within which this occurs. Towards understanding these temporal dynamics, it is important to adopt relevant qualitative approaches which provide biographical trajectories of the social, political, and other actors around which these toponymic inscriptions revolve. Based on a case study of Windhoek (in Namibia), this paper argues that within the sub-Saharan African context, primary methods such as interviews, field observations and photography are crucial for capturing the history of postcolonial African states as evinced through street naming. These approaches help to decipher residents' perceptions and insights of urban planners regarding socio-political temporal developments. Moreover, they underscore the implications of toponyms for place identity and culture. The aforementioned primary data sources must be combined with secondary methods such

as document or discourse analyses to provide a more holistic picture of the historical evolution of a society.

5. Women and political representation in Botswana: 55 years after independence and beyond

Tshephang Dipogiso; dipogiso187tshephang@gmail.com (Thuto Khumo Foundation, Botswana)

Women all over the world face significant social, cultural, political, and economic barriers that prevent them from obtaining leadership positions. Botswana is no exception. But one of the most fascinating developments in African politics has been the increase in women's participation since the mid 1990's. Women are becoming more engaged in leadership positions of institutions from local government to legislatures and even the executive. Today, Africa is a leader in women parliamentary representation globally with a Global Average of 22.5 percent. For instance, Rwanda has the highest number of women in parliament in the world with 63.8% of women in lower house (UN, 2016). Despite this remarkable increase of women representation in parliament, Botswana remains behind in the number of women in parliament. The country is yet to sign SADC Gender Protocol that requires 30% quota of positions reserved for women in leadership. Botswana has been recording low participation of women in both elective and appointive political positions in particular parliament. For instance, out of the 18 recently confirmed ministerial appointments made by President Khama's administration, only three (3) are women, translating to 16.7%. In the National Assembly there are only five women out of 57 constituencies which constitute a paltry 8.8%. This has been a growing concern because for democratic governments to deliver to their constituents, they must be truly representative hence women must be equal partners in the process of democratic development. However, one divergent fact is that the performance and determination of women in leadership roles in parastatals and private sector supersede that of their male counterparts. The question therefore remains why women participation in politics is low. The literature on this subject is fairly emerging but commonly points to cultural stereotypes especially the patriarchal nature of Botswana's society (Maundeni, 2002; Ntseane 2005; Ntseane & Sentsho, 2005, Geisler, 2004). Using the Afro barometer perception survey data, this paper presents descriptive statistics and regression analysis of selected variables that explain low participation of women. In the data, the dependent variable is measured by a question: Men make better political leaders than women and should be elected rather than women. The paper analyses responses of those who agree with the statement using location, age, sex, interest in public affairs, and education. The research provides a baseline for the implementation of the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), Agenda 2063: a pledge for Gender Equality and Women Empowerment, Southern African Development Community (SADC) Protocol on Gender and Development and Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. The significance of this study's conclusions and recommendations is to further stimulate women of Botswana to stand up and challenge their male counterparts in contesting for, party positions, parliamentary seats during general elections and present themselves for executive appointments. Also, the study has policy implications in the sense that it will improve evidence-based planning and programming involving women in decision making.

6. Decolonizing "Work": Prioritizing Life

Melanie E. L. Bush; bush@adelphi.edu (Adelphi University, UNISA Research Fellow, United States)

The era of coloniality and racial capitalism is in great upheaval; we have entered a period of intensifying crises of new proportions. Economic institutions, social relations, and political structures are being contested all over the globe. Whether formulated as abolitionism, eco-socialism, communism, or through frames such as "a world in which many worlds fit", the very foundation of the social world is in flux. This past year, 170 million people had COVID 19 worldwide; over 3.5 million died. Five men now own as much wealth as half the world's population combined. In the United States, this has been devastating for those already challenged and means that food, and shelter are increasingly inaccessible to many. Among adults, 27% have trouble paying expenses; for Black households, 42% and for Latinos, 36%. At times of heightened insecurity, communities seek the means for survival through many strategies. Some are grounded in political power such as the Zapatistas or Rojava. Others include cooperatives e.g., Mondragon (Spain) and the Seikatsu Club (Japan). Still others are evident in dual power networks of mutual aid, time banks, and urban gardens. Some are raising awareness about and interest in understanding the structural context for the difficulties faced. This presentation draws upon ethnographies with two projects in the United States and research more broadly. In the analysis, I assert that a decolonizing transformation is occurring globally in economic and social relations. There is an expanded emphasis on the building of new structures and cultivating new ideologies in addition to protesting and critiquing the current system. This shift signifies that the future of work, especially with the development of technology "for the people", will be one framed in values of community, reciprocity, wellness, justice, and care rather than constrained by competition and profit. For the future of work may not be work at all.

Session 11:

Between the Structural and the Everyday: Bridging Macro- and Micro-Perspectives in Comparative Urban Research

Date and Time

Saturday, 25.09.2021, 08.00 – 09.30

Zoom Link

https://zoom.us/j/99816248386?pwd=UlQ3QU54b0xJN0tPcGdsMjFXZ0tTdz09

Meeting ID: 998 1624 8386

Passcode: 662171

Session organizers

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For informed decision-making, cities can gain from understanding their position within a larger network of cities. For a long time, however, comparison in urban studies (such as the world city hypothesis or the global city discussion) focused on comparison of global economic performance and failed to include a large number of cities as subjects of comparison, that did not comply with the limited scope of comparative criteria. These limited scopes of comparative criteria have been criticized, yet it still remains somewhat unclear, how they can be overcome methodologically and made inclusive to the full global scope of cities and themes of comparison. This is mostly due to the fact, that different approaches exist in urban research that are often framed as opposed to each other or even mutually exclusive. One is the approach to study cities from a macro-perspective, to examine the broader structures, be the economic forces, technological innovations, or social changes as explanatory factors for the evolution of cities and regions. This approach lends itself for comparative research as it identifies broader trends that might have similar impacts in different places. Another approach to understanding cities is to study them from the bottom-up, focusing on everyday experiences and practices of actors in shaping urban life and form. Related methods lend themselves to understand the particular, place-specific characteristics that make every city unique. We consider cities as complex relational entities that are shaped by an interplay between broader structural configurations and dynamics and local practices and activities (cf. Kihato 2013). We therefore argue that approaches with a focus on structural dynamics and everyday practices, can not only be combined, but they should also be combined for a better understanding of cities. However, this combination of perspectives poses methodological challenges,

particularly in terms of research comparing cities, as the description of the internal interplay needs to be abstracted, without losing the specificities. Our aim for this panel is to accept this challenge and to discuss methods that bridge the divide between approaches focusing on the "structural" on the one hand and the "everyday" on the other, while being able to place the individual urban accounts within the larger realm of city-systems.

We invite contributions focusing on one or more of the following questions:

(1) Which particular methods, sets of methods and research designs lend themselves to understand cities through everyday practices as well as structural forces?

(2) Which methods allow comparative urban research that pays attention to the common trends as well as to the particularities of cities?

(3) What are suggestions for expanding criteria of urban comparison and proposals for heterodox descriptions of city-networks?

1. Responding to the Indifference of Infrastructure: Comparative Research in Johannesburg and Maputo

Alexandra Parker; alexandra.parker@gcro.ac.za (Gauteng City-Region Observatory, South Africa)

Lindsay Howe; howe@arch.ethz.ch (ETH Zurich, Switzerland)

Governments in South Africa and Mozambique have made significant investments in transport infrastructure over the last decade, but this has not always resulted in changes to transit patterns in the metropolitan areas of Johannesburg and Maputo. To understand how transport infrastructure is used by residents in these cities, this research examines the nuances of household mobility, access, and decision-making in selected sites in the Gauteng City-Region (GCR) and the Maputo Metropolitan Area (MMA) and locates these every day and lived experiences relative to government transport plans and policies in each location. The study examines micro-dynamics of mobility at the household level in three neighbourhoods from each city-region and their relationship to the state invested macro infrastructure. At the household level, the mobility patterns of approximately 60 participants (10 in each neighbourhood) were tracked using a smartphone application. Participants were also interviewed and engaged through WhatsApp, a communication platform that allowed participants to share messages, audio recordings, photos, and videos. The research contrasts these findings with an analysis of macro-processes, based on transport and planning policy reviews as well as interviews with key officials in transport and urban planning. Drawing on Lemanski's (2019) concept of infrastructural citizenship, which focuses on the intersection of public infrastructure and human relations, the research shows how transportation planning comes into conflict with the ordinary spatial practices of people as they go about the routine activities of their everyday lives. By juxtaposing the differences between the micro-dynamics and

macro-processes of transport, the study contributes to further understanding the paradox of infrastructure (Howe et al. 2016) by elaborating on an infrastructure of indifference and the mobility and immobilities it shapes.

2. Everyday particularities within structural similarities: A comparative case study on the Ruhr Agglomeration in Germany and the La Paz metropolitan area in Bolivia

Fabio Bayro Kaiser; bayrokaiser@staedtebau.rwth-aachen.de (RWTH Aachen University, Deutschland)

There has been an unprecedented, worldwide trend of urbanisation in the last decades as most cities have grown in terms of population and the surface area they cover. Although the patterns of growth vary regionally, structural similarities can be observed. First, urban structures have loosened up and become intertwined with its surrounding landscape. Second, cities have outgrown administrative boarders time and time again and have grown into larger city agglomerations. This new urban form is characterized by low density developments and a polycentric structure. A closer look, however, unfolds a variegated urban fabric that is influenced by global as well as local dynamics, which is in constant change. Thus, structural similarities do not fully grasp the complexity of urbanisation processes nor do everyday particularities but rather a combination of both seems reasonable. This poses a methodological problem. Understanding structural features requires up-to-date, historical, and multi-scalar data and unfolding city complexity requires engagement at various levels at the local scale. Nowadays, innovations in GIS technologies allow monitoring spatial change at a planetary scale but how practical they are for local governments or civil society organisations to deal with urbanisation processes remains an open question. The paper proposes a combination of perspectives and a comparative case study to address this issue. It proposes a methodological approach that combines remote sensing methods with participatory observation in the Ruhr agglomeration in Germany and the La Paz metropolitan region in Bolivia. In doing so, it describes structural similarities while analysing satellite imagery up to 40 years back in time and uncovers everyday particularities through photographic documentation, semi-structured interviews, and participation in transdisciplinary workshops. The paper argues that both scales of observation complement each other and that finding particularities within similarities could be more informative and practical for urbanisation efforts.

3. Socio-Spatial Relationships in Vertical Housing during COVID times: A Study in Urban Indian Neighbourhood Context

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Amit Hajela; arhajela@gmail.com (Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, India)

This study focuses on shared insights into mapping socio-spatial dimensions of human wellbeing in vertical neighbourhoods of urban Indian context during COVID times. Understanding is based on an appropriate literature review of the various aspects of socio-spatial urban wellbeing, vertical housing, human interactions in vertical neighbourhoods, and the overall impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The two intertwined steps of this research involve the study of spatial and social patterns primarily using visual mapping, interviewing, and social media studies. The first step focuses on the spatial usage patterns in open, semi-open, and indoor spaces. The spatial characterisation includes open spaces like parking, etc., semi-open spaces like shared lift lobby spaces, staircases, etc., and indoor areas of home environments. The second step focuses on human interactions in the various spaces concerning social distancing, usage of furniture, nature of activities, and experiences as shared by the people. This involves the study of the impacts on groups defined by gender and age – women, children, adults, and elderly, with their perspectives and our observations. The study thematically elaborates upon changing human preferences of spatial usage, concerns of functional roles in home transformations, and a new social format of living in given contexts. It also highlights the emerging concerns in typical design approaches of housing and vertical neighbourhoods. In conclusion, the study brings out important discoveries of socio-cultural behaviours of diverse resident groups during COVID times, the challenges in the usage of housing spaces, and reflections on open spaces amidst high-density living. It analyses a first-hand view of the context to further evolve design and development. The paper brings out learnings of social response in the spatial context of vertical housing spaces which can further inform housing design paradigms. It uniquely presents a perspective into an urban context of a multicultural and diverse social mix.

4. A documentary film Ways of Moving: everyday experiences traversing a fragmented cityscape

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Thabang Nkwanyana; thabang@1955.co.za (1955 Creative Collaboration, South Africa)

In "Private Moments, Private Wastelands", V.S. Naipaul describes contemporary African navigation of cultural worlds, 'South Africa with its many groups, its many passions, its biding tensions…[with] political realities so overwhelming that they have to be taken into account'. Johannesburg, he articulates as layers of differing values and ideologies, seemingly disparate individuals. Disparaging Soweto, the southern Black township, he leaves unresolved as to what holds her together, offering only flagging hopes hung on the images of Mandela. Enter, Soweto as protagonist. Mandela increasingly inaudible. Amapiano throbbing in the air. The deteriorated/cannibalized Metrorail as both metaphor and reality, aperture negotiating city and township/CBD mass transit link. Drone imagery unmasquing (dis)connection, exploring subversion in the reciprocal human experiences of urban (un)boundaries of sound, fear, distance, disregard, clash, insurgency. How does boundary, visible and invisible, inform ideologies and values, and thus the socio-spatial constructs of our own and shared realities of the city?

Session 12:
Methodologies for the Investigation Spatial Transformation Processes

Date and Time

Saturday, 25.09.2021, 10.00 – 12.00

Zoom Link

https://zoom.us/j/99816248386?pwd=UlQ3QU54b0xJN0tPcGdsMjFXZ0tTdz09

Meeting ID: 998 1624 8386

Passcode: 662171

Session organizer

Gabriela Christmann: gabriela.christmann@leibniz-irs.de (Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space and Technical University of Berlin, Germany)

In spatial research, the insight has become a matter of course that spaces (like cities, neighbourhoods, or urban places) must be conceived as a "social construct", i.e., as a socio-spatial fabric. So far, however, insufficient attention has been paid to the fact that socio-spatial fabrics are not static but rather in a process of constant transformation, or in other words: that they are permanently "reconstructed" by social actors. In this context, it is a question by which methodological tools socio-spatial transformation or reconstruction processes can be investigated empirically. Spatial transformation may happen by urban actors who develop a new perspective on some aspects of a particular place and discuss the place in a new way. This may come along with changing patterns of space-related practices, whereas existing social and material arrangements initially remain unchanged. As a consequence of a changing perspective and a different public communication about the place, however, after a period of time some responsible urban actors may decide to redevelop selected run-down buildings, to tear down others or to build new ones, all of which will gradually change even the built structure. This is, of course, only one possibility of spatial transformation. In the session we will focus on the question of how such spatial transformation processes can be explored, or to be more concrete, how the social reconstruction of spaces can be methodologically investigated. We invite papers that – by the example of sustainable urban development processes or other spatial transformations – suggest qualitative, quantitative or mixed-methods approaches, be it in terms of long-term statistical analysis, discourse analyses, participant observation, visual methods, other methods, or a combination of different methodological tools.

1. Understanding transformation processes through spatial comparison

Ralph Richter; ralph.richter@leibniz-irs.de (Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space, Germany)

Cities around the world expedite a mobility turnaround (Canzler 2020) towards a more environment friendly and just distribution of scarce traffic space among transport users. The space consuming and emission intense private car traffic is restrained to the benefit of sustainable mobility alternatives such as bike riding, public transport, walking, car sharing or intermodal e-mobility. This aspect of the social-ecological transformation (Brand/Wissen 2017) has the potential to radically change the appearance of the cities and improve the quality of life of their residents. An established methodology to grasp transformation processes are long-term investigations. In contrast to these asynchronous approaches, this presentation will put up for discussion a comparative spatial analysis (Ragin 1989; Long/Robertson 2017) as an inroad to a more space sensitive understanding of transformation processes. Given that spatial entities such as cities, urban districts or towns follow the mobility turnaround movement to varying degrees, a comparison between these spatial entities and the identification and explanation of differences helps to draw a more comprehensive picture of the overall transformation process. The presentation is based on comparative research of two places, an urban district in Berlin/Germany and a town nearby Berlin. Comparative data have been collected by means of two representative quantitative household surveys and additional qualitative expert interviews and media analysis. The investigation uncovers mobility-related attitudes and behavioural patterns that systematically differ between the urban and the suburban place. It reveals that principles of the mobility turnaround such as the renunciation of car use and car-fixed planning are much more accepted in the urban district than in the suburban place. The comparative spatial analysis enhances the understanding of transformation processes from a one-sided urban view to a more comprehensive perspective and a higher sensitivity for the spatial non-simultaneity of these processes. It suggests considering different socio-spatial realities that require tailored conceptions towards environment friendly traffic solutions in urban, suburban, and rural subspaces.

2. Detroit and Spatial Productions of Two-ness

Nicole Trujillo-Pagan; bb3729@wayne.edu (Wayne State University, United States)

We generally consider space as something that is, rather than an ongoing production. This paper treats conventional assumptions as abstractions that occlude how space is produced through human and non-human action over time. It draws on the case of Detroit (Michigan) to elucidate the ways space is reified as a problem. In the years leading up to and following the Global Recession, federal and state agencies as well as philanthropic organizations engaged in bordering practices that included mapping and surveying land and property in the city. These practices were ostensibly about revitalization and redevelopment, but these groups used the data they collected to engage in a series of border crossings. I define border crossings as a different type of spatial production that involves practices benefitting greater control over property. In the case of Detroit,

these border crossing practices included new financial experiments in the city, the largest bankruptcy in U.S. municipal history and what many consider the largest clearance project in the world. I draw from this data to explain how dominant methodological approaches to measuring space produce abstract space that not only obscures difference, but also promotes unequal control over spatial production. In contrast, analysis of bordering and crossing practices identifies the relational practices that produce space. This analysis treats lived experience and labor as superior to the abstract principle of property. An analysis that treats space as a social relationship also identifies the significance of epistemology in the production of space. Detroit always demonstrated a twoness that was evident with its birth and racial segregation in housing. Media commentators have also observed "two Detroits" in their references to development and decay. My analysis of bordering and crossing practices reveals that twoness is a relation to property and production shaped in and through the spatial productions of racial difference.

3. A Space of Disappearance: Colombia's rubble heap

Ludmila Ferrari; ludferra@umich.edu (University of Michigan, USA)

Since 2001 Medellín has been using architecture to transform its reputation from a violent city into one of Latin America's "architectural capitals." A fast-growing metropolis where towers of residential units rise rapidly, and city-parks emerge on the grounds of razed slums, a building hubris that produces unending amounts of rubble. Tonnes of construction debris are hurled to a site known as "La escombrera," a rubble heap located on the outskirts of the Comuna 13. In the margins of the margins, "La escombrera" extends for 100 hectares and is over 50 meters deep, and under its incalculable weight lay the bodies of 300 people. The Escombrera is Colombia's largest mass grave. The victims disappeared between 1998 and 2005 during the "pacification" of the Comuna 13 by the State in collaboration with the paramilitaries. Since 2008 the mothers of the victims demand an excavation of the site, but political corruption and technical limitations have made its forensic excavation impossible. Meanwhile, demolition trucks keep dumping rubble. This paper explores a set of inquiries that emerged from my research and fieldwork in Comuna 13 since 2016. At the heart of my research is the methodological question: what categories and conceptual frameworks help us understand a space of active disappearance like The Escombrera? How can we account for the spatial economy between the growing city and its growing mass grave? What is the methodology to study its conflagration of construction and human remains? And, in what ways The Escombrera defies our notions of the polis? My methodological approach combines community-based research, political philosophy, and forensic studies. Through these multifaceted lenses, I seek to shed light on the relationships between space, law, violence, and narco-accumulation. Furthermore, I've incorporated artistic methods (video and photomontage) to explore the relationship between violence and language.

4. Spatial mapping of interactional narratives and socio-semiotic environment (sociolinguistics)

William Kelleher; kelleherw@gmail.com (University of Pretoria, South Africa)

This paper concerns the field of sociolinguistics and seeks to understand postcolonial states from the perspective of language and spatiality, particularly with respect to the historiographies of contemporary movements of people from peri-urban areas to urban areas. The language use it is concerned with is narrative activity in the context of interactional conversation. The methodological problem the paper addresses is how to take account of participant variation in interactional positioning that is spatially sensitive. This is to say that as participants move through the racially, socio-economically, and socio-historically marked landscapes of postcolonial states (in this case Johannesburg, in South Africa) their narrative activity takes account of this movement and can be studied for spatially-dependant variation that is relevant to understanding both individual biographic trajectory and broader societal processes and discourses. Narrative activity consists of stories told in the context of interactional speech or mediated exchanges between people. There are several layers of analysis that are applicable to narrative. At the micro level participants employ marked lexical, prosodic, and syntactic forms. At the meso level the story is interactionally achieved with marked structural forms to achieve story entry, delivery, and exit. The meso level refers, additionally, to the manner in which participants iteratively produce roles, plots and embedded figures or scenes. At the macro level participants align, misalign, or omit societal processes and discourses. All three of these levels, the micro, the meso and the macro, can adapt and adjust to movement through space. Spatiality can be analysed from several different points of departure. Its sensorial materiality gives rise to analyses that concern the interactional order, the haptic and the affective attachment to place. Material circulations of discourses through space also imprint themselves on bodies. Socio-historic processes of exclusion, inclusion and border maintenance take place through the artefacts and semiotic ensembles that participate in spatial regimes. Spatial frames dispose participants, allowing or disallowing different participation configurations. In sociolinguistics, a particularly fruitful avenue for investigation of spatiality in urban and peri-urban areas concerns the semiotic landscape and the textual/visual artefacts that construct discursive and linguistic regimes. The methodological contribution that this paper will present to the problem of spatially sensitive interactional narrative positioning is the GIS-facilitated mapping of participant location, artefacts of the semiotic landscape and audio recordings of participant interactions. This gives rise to a multi-layered cartographic reading of personal, social, material, and discursive space.

5. Social Sustainability in Urban Neighbourhoods. Investigating Spatial Transformation Processes in Berlin-Moabit and Hamburg-Wilhelmsburg in Germany by an Ethnographic Discourse Analysis

Gabriela Christmann; gabriela.christmann@leibniz-irs.de (Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space, Germany)

The presentation will focus on the question of how spatial transformation processes or, more concretely, how the social reconstruction of socially disadvantaged neighbourhoods for more social sustainability, which takes place over time, can be methodically investigated. The methodological problem is how to study socio-spatial micro-processes in time. On the basis of a micro-perspective, it will be argued that it is new forms of communicative action of local actors that play

a crucial role in spatial transformation processes. The contribution will start with theoretical considerations on the communicative reconstruction of spaces. It will then outline the research question of a project that, by the example of 'urban pioneers', investigated bottom-up initiatives aiming to achieve more quality of life in the disadvantaged neighbourhoods. First of all, the significant properties of the selected neighbourhoods of Berlin-Moabit and Hamburg-Wilhelmsburg (Germany) as well as characteristics of the urban actors under analysis are outlined. Next, the methodological approach of the study will be described, which we have called ethnographic discourse analysis. The author will explain the way in which (focused) ethnography and (the sociology of knowledge approach to) discourse analysis was combined, and how the methods involved were applied. The contribution concludes with a discussion on how far the methodological proceeding proves to be adequate in order to investigate spatial transformation processes on a "microscopic level".

6. Spatial Transformation Processes as Sustained Multi-level and Cross-scalar Processes of Social Innovation: An appeal for Linking Discourses and Dispositifs in Investigations of Local Development

Sune Stoustrup; sune.stoustrup@leibniz-irs.de (Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space e.V. (IRS), Germany)

In the recent reframing of local spatial development within 'social innovation' terminology, especially highlighted is the need for new forms of attitudes, behaviours, or perceptions to develop and establish new perspectives on spatial transformation and local development possibilities. These are discursive processes, and to investigate them, we need to ask how they (re-)construct and bind together new ideas, local and regional territorial identities, social innovation ecosystems and infrastructures, tangible as well as non-tangible spaces. The paper furthermore argues that we need to approach local development processes in their situatedness within local and multi-level governance structures and cross-scalar arrangements and as long-term processes spanning more than the singular transformative projects. The need for this type of research question is illustrated with an example of transformative change in the face of territorial decline from a local community in rural Austria. Here the local perception of crisis, for example, initiated the (re-)construction of local ideas about responsibility, redevelopment of physical infrastructure and partnerships locally and with external actors. Within a discourse-theoretical approach, the paper argues that we need to connect 1)' discourses', i.e., systems of common or social meanings and the related social practices, with 2) 'dispositifs', i.e., the material, institutional and ideational infrastructure, e.g., as they are constructed by social actors, institutions and collectivities to solve a particular situation, in the presented example, rural decline. The paper proposes we need a processual-concerned multi-method approach to investigate spatial transformations. Methodologically this would entail reconstructing these processes by combining, e.g., interviews and document with social sequence analysis or more recent developments in mapping approaches.

Session 33: Feminist Methodologies

Session organizer

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Women and gender studies is extremely diverse in terms of objects, theories, and methods. None-theless, a frequent starting point for feminist research is the critical examination of, mainstream science. This is done with reference to blind spots and non-redeemable claims to objectivity. For this reason, it is advocated disclosing one's own research position. However, this diagnosis of a multi-perspective feminist standpoint is followed by questions regarding feminist methodology: What methodological implications does such research have and how can it be methodologically fulfilled? What is the relationship between feminist theory and methods? How can standpoints and perspectives be localized? Which references can be made to other current methodological concepts?

1. Interpreting Gender Inclusion in Urban Public Space Paradigms in India

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Gaurav Raheja; gr.iitroorkee@gmail.com (Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, India)

This paper explores urban public spaces and their inclusiveness for women in an Indian context through literature reviews. It also discusses the tools and methods being used to conduct studies on gendered public spaces. It is a general perception that public spaces are gender-neutral and designed to be used by all, however studies have revealed that these spaces are highly gendered in nature. The two goals, "Gender Equality" and "Sustainable Cities and Communities" (Goals 5 and 11 respectively) from the Sustainable Development Goals, also focus on achieving gender equity and inclusion in public spaces. The review was conducted after going through exhaustive literature related to gender inclusion in public spaces. "Spatial" and "Social" were identified as two broad indicators to assess the qualities of gender inclusiveness of any space. Case Studies re-lated to Gender Inclusive urban public spaces worldwide were studied to be adapted for the Indian context. Several tools were identified from the literature and case studies to be further categorized

under three broad types – Observational, Participatory and Technology-Enabled Tools. In conclusion, the review reveals that Gender Inclusiveness of any space is primarily influenced by the indicators of accessibility, mixed-use activities, provision of public amenities and perceived sense of safety. After careful evaluation of the strengths and limitations of the tools available, it was found that to study Gender Inclusiveness of any space; a mixed-method approach is required to gather both quantitative and qualitative data from users and spaces. The paper shares contextual perspectives of various methodologies that could be employed in gender sensitive studies in Indian and Global South context.

2. Gender relations and (suburban) space in the 21st century – investigating the implicit impact of feminist planning critique

Henriette Bertram; henriette.bertram@asl.uni-kassel.de (Kassel University, Germany)

During the past 40 years, feminist researchers and practitioners have criticized spatial planning for its orientation towards the spatial patterns of the male breadwinner commuting from his home in the suburbs to his workplace in the city. Few childcare facilities, inadequate public transport, and little employment in or near the "dormitory towns", however, made it impossible for most women to be economically active. Nowadays, women all over the world pursue professional training and take their participation in the labour market as a given. Men do household chores and take paternity leave, even though still significantly less than women. There is an increasing awareness of the social contractedness of the category gender and a growing acceptance for non-binary identities. As a result, gender-sensitive planning was introduced in many municipalities. Its intention is the "reconciliation of 'work and home'" and to create "enabling time-space patterns" for all (Tummers, Denèfle, and Wankiewicz 2019, 88). In my current research project called "Gender relations in Suburbia – a subject for spatial planning?" I ask whether and in which ways the feminist and gender-related critique of suburban spaces is nowadays incorporated into newly planned suburban districts in Germany, using Hamburg-Oberbillwerder as a case study. The methodological problem I would like to discuss in my contribution is the fact that "gender" as a category does not feature anywhere in the masterplan or other relevant planning documents. Some of the demands of feminist and gender-sensitive researchers and practitioners, however, seem to have found their way into the project. I will show how a variation of the qualitative content analysis according to Mayring that combines inductive and deductive elements, the analysis of planning documents and expert interviews can help to carve out gender relations and the reconciliation of work and home as an implicit category in the planning process.

3. Methodologies in a postcolonial world – between accuse and excuse. Affirmative Sabotage as a tool for more responsibility in postcolonial-feminist research

Sandra Altenberger; altenberger@posteo.at (Institute of Educational Science University of Innsbruck, Austria)

Following a postcolonial-feminist and deconstructivistic informed discursive analysis of how gender itself and gendered subjects are constructed and named in the UNESCO concept of Global Citizenship Education, a structural analysis (Jäger 2015), an intense coding procedure and a detailed analysis relied on analytical concepts (interpretative schemes or frames (Deutungsmuster), 'phenomenal structure' (Phänomenstruktur) and 'narrative structure') of Sociology of Knowledge Approach to Discourse (SKAD) presents the methodological core of my study. Trying to contribute to a decolonization of methodologies, the central question is: How to follow the difficult task of decolonization of knowledge production in discourse analysis, whereas upholding euro-centered methodological concepts and traditions (like SKAD – Keller 2005)? Is it enough to be critical in a postcolonial way and reflect the entanglements of the methodological traditions and take into account post- and decolonial literature? What does decentering of euro centered knowledge production really mean for our 'research-practice' – does it need a more fundamental and more responsible questioning and reconceptualization of the humanities, as Spivak suggests? How do we deal with the difficult task of decolonization and the contradictions of our responsibility? Maybe an affirmative sabotage (Spivak) could be an adequate strategy to solve this tension and contribute to a decolonization of (discursive) methods? In this sense euro centered, imperialistic informed methodology and research itself, must be sabotaged in an affirmative way. This would mean to take a close look in the writings of enlightenment (and recurring ideals in literature, methods, research) to turn them around in a critical and questioning way. "Spivak supplements the term sabotage with the adjective ,affirmative ', devising a strategy in which the instruments of colonialism are turned around into tools for transgression, poison turned into medicine." (Dhawan 2014: 71). Therefore, it could be useful to ask more questions like: how to deal with the privileged function of critique in our methodological practice in a postcolonial world? My contribution to this conference will focus on the strategy of affirmative sabotage as a possibility to find a way between accusing and excusing the colonial entanglements of my methodological procedure.

Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability
Prof. Gabriel Faimau

GCSMUS Lead Partner, Steering Committee Member, and Action Speaker
University of Botswana | Department of Sociology

Stream B: Transdisciplinary Research and Design-Based Methods

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81944477024?pwd=L3BRTUhrVlY2c2didXFmRjJqaTY0Zz09

Meeting ID: 819 4447 7024

Passcode: 335338

Session 14:
Methods of Architectural Research

Date and Time

Friday, 24.09.2021, 10.00 – 11.30

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81944477024?pwd=L3BRTUhrVlY2c2didXFmRjJqaTY0Zz09

Meeting ID: 819 4447 7024

Passcode: 335338

Session organizer

Silke Steets; silke.steets@fau.de (Friedrich–Alexander University Erlangen–Nürnberg, Germany)

Each building, once erected, spatially structures certain parts of the world for us, and we can either adopt this structure, or reject it. For example, a building directs our gaze through lines of sight, or through pictorial or graphic elements, e.g., in a museum. Moreover, semiotic as well as spatial cues help us to understand the social situation, we happen to be part of: A restaurant's dining room, for instance, is different from its kitchen, which is why waiters (who understand the cues) behave differently, depending on whether they are in the dining room or the kitchen. Buildings also convey the way in which we can relate to each other communicatively, e.g., a lecture hall is spatially different from a seminar room (so are the discussions), and they pre-figure courses of action, for instance when we're shopping in a supermarket. Rather in terms of their materiality, buildings create atmospheres that affect us (for example in a stadium or a church building) or they simply get in our way of which prisons are good examples. The panel is intended to explore whether social and cultural science perspectives on architecture can help to inspire interdisciplinary spatial research. In terms of social theory, it seems to be most fruitful to understand buildings not only as passive expressions of the social in the non-social world of objects, but as material products of human social actions that act back on them. This opens up a wide range of empirical questions that form the background for addressing the methodological problems this session is actually aimed at. With regard to processes of planning and erecting a building empirical project might ask: How do architects intervene in a place with their design? How do administrative regulations and the building industry pre-structure design work? Once a building is erected and 'there', empirical projects look at what it 'does' by standing where it stands and ask: How does it direct gazes and movements? What meaning do people ascribe to a building, both through using it practically and through talking, discussing, or fighting about it? Has it become a symbol of something? And, finally, with regard to its use, empirical projects ask: How is a building actually used? By whom? For what? Is it being used according to its original idea? Or is it being reused or even alienated? If yes, what happens to the original idea? What levels of meaning are attributed to the

building with a possible new use? While these questions could provide some empirical background for the debate, the focus of the session will be on the reflection of methodological problems associated with architectural research and on methods that could help to better understand the social significance of buildings.

I therefore invite papers that present and discuss – the connection between the theoretical conceptualization of architecture and methodological questions associated with this – methods that help to capture the materiality and/or spatiality of architectural objects – arts- and design-based methods that explore buildings (or aspects of them) – spatial methods that help to understand floor plans and the arrangement of rooms – methods for analysing visual and textual discourses about the meaning of buildings – methods for analysing the (sometimes conflicting) (re-)uses of buildings – methods that help to capture the atmospheric qualities of buildings – methods that help to understand the semiotic elements of buildings.

1. Methods of Architectural Research

Silke Steets; silke.steets@fau.de (Friedrich–Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany)

Each building, once erected, spatially structures certain parts of the world for us, and we can either adopt this structure, or reject it. For example, a building directs our gaze through lines of sight, or through pictorial or graphic elements, e.g., in a museum. Moreover, semiotic as well as spatial cues help us to understand the social situation, we happen to be part of: A restaurant's dining room, for instance, is different from its kitchen, which is why waiters (who understand the cues) behave differently, depending on whether they are in the dining room or the kitchen. Buildings also convey the way in which we can relate to each other communicatively, e.g., a lecture hall is spatially different from a seminar room (so are the discussions), and they pre-figure courses of action, for instance when we're shopping in a supermarket. Rather in terms of their materiality, buildings create atmospheres that affect us (for example in a stadium or a church building) or they simply get in our way of which prisons are good examples. The panel is intended to explore whether social and cultural science perspectives on architecture can help to inspire interdisciplinary spatial research. In terms of social theory, it seems to be most fruitful to understand buildings not only as passive expressions of the social in the non-social world of objects, but as material products of human social actions that act back on them. This opens up a wide range of empirical questions that form the background for addressing the methodological problems this session is actually aimed at. With regard to processes of planning and erecting a building empirical project might ask: How do architects intervene in a place with their design? How do administrative regulations and the building industry pre-structure design work? Once a building is erected and 'there', empirical projects look at what it 'does' by standing where it stands and ask: How does it direct gazes and movements? What meaning do people ascribe to a building, both through using it practically and through talking, discussing, or fighting about it? Has it become a symbol of something? And, finally, with regard to its use, empirical projects ask: How is a building actually used? By whom? For what? Is it being used according to its original idea? Or is it being reused or even alienated? If yes, what happens to the original idea? What levels of meaning are attributed to the

building with a possible new use? While these questions could provide some empirical background for the debate, the focus of the session will be on the reflection of methodological problems associated with architectural research and on methods that could help to better understand the social significance of buildings.

2. Visual Methods of Spatial Research (Photography, Drawing, Mapping, Video): A Comparison

Séverine Marguin; herz@architektur.uni-siegen.de (University of Siegen, Germany)

In this talk I would like to provide a reflection on visuality and methods for the research on architecture by reviewing four different methods: photography, drawing, mapping, and video – and by describing though examples what specific insights they can productively generate about space (Löw & Marguin 2021; Heinrich et al. 2021). Which method brings which advantages for empirically grasping the spatialisation of social phenomena and in particular the physical materiality of buildings as well as the atmospheres in interaction with social actions (Baxter et al. 2021; Marguin et al. 2021)? In the comparison of the different visual forms, common challenges of visual procedures for the empirical research of architecture will be systematically elaborated (Rose 2014; Mélix & Singh 2021).

3. Situated Order: Ways of a Practice-Theoretical, Pragmatist based Architectural Research

Christine Neubert; christine.neubert@uni-hamburg.de (Universität Hamburg, Germany)

My proposal draws on a strong concept of the social as practice and contextualizes architecture as a singular building and object in relation to a specific context of practice. This impulse of a practice-theoretical, pragmatist sociology of architecture ties in with a qualitative research practice that preferably implements an ethnographic research style. I discuss the extent to which ethnography, with its object of social practices, is suited (or is not suited) to take architecture – at second, not first glance – seriously in terms of social theory and to highlight spaces of social practices. The basis of my argument is my study on the meaning of built environment in everyday work. To this end, I visited various work environments and studied the work practices (including machine work in a factory, visitor service in an art museum, artistic work in studios) on site. Architecture as the built environment of social practices creates both spaces for their unfolding and situations of obstruction or disturbance. The proposed ethnographic architectural research takes this epistemological interest into account. In the bodily presence of the researching person, it becomes possible, on the one hand, to observe and experience how practices can unfold (both the observed activity and one's own research activity), and on the other hand, there is attention to experienced, contextualized moments of failing and disruption in relation to the order of a practice. The guiding motive of the participant observations, the workplace conversations as well as the interviews and photographs are to draw and understand architectural experiences engaged through the practices, such as working on the machines in the factory or doing rounds in the

museum. This makes visible how architecture has an effect in everyday life and what potential, e.g., for questions of sociology of work, results from a practice-theoretical, pragmatist architectural research.

4. The mosque in the gas station: the overlay as well as the change of spaces and meanings or in short: "This is (not) a mosque"

Kathrin Herz; herz@architektur.uni-siegen.de (University of Siegen, Germany)

The proposed contribution aims to show how change in buildings can be examined. This is done in a differentiated manner and sticking close to the material. The subject are Muslim community centers in converted buildings which was founded by so-called guest workers in Germany. It became clear that the analysed places are spaces of change and overlay. Both implicates a variety of different meanings for various people. The buildings examined reflect especially the specific dynamic which architecture underlies. But this dynamic is not reflected in the established systems of order or theoretical concepts in architecture since only states and not processes are considered.

Session 15:
Art and Design Based-Research, Cross-Disciplinary Approaches for Material Knowledge Production

Date and Time

Thursday, 23.09.2021, 14.00 – 16.00

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81944477024?pwd=L3BRTUhrVlY2c2didXFmRjJqaTY0Zz09

Meeting ID: 819 4447 7024

Passcode: 335338

Session organizers

Ilana Boltvinik; iboltvinik@uv.mx (University of the Cloister of Sor Juana, Mexico)

Nora Morales; nmorales@correo.cua.uam.mx (Metropolitan Autonomous University, Mexico)

Design and arts-based research has received much attention in the last years as it has extended research possibilities to more intuitive and material-centered epistemology. It is also able to disrupt the foundations of hegemonic forms of knowledge production, resulting in a more inclusive, intersubjective, and social construction. Inherently, it is cross-disciplinary and ground-based in such a way that it encourages citizen science as a solving problem strategy, as well as visual literacy as a way to examine and analyse space. For this session, we propose to address methodological dilemmas such as cross-disciplinary communication and relation-building, deconstruction of worldviews, the role of uncertainty in the implementation of participatory and action research methods centered on the process and not necessarily the outcome. Some formats of qualitative based research methods to explore are participatory mapping, installations, books, and other multi-format products. We welcome all types of experimental papers and case studies, as well as theoretical and methodological perspectives that approach any of these dilemmas.

1. Art and Design Based-Research, Cross-Disciplinary Approaches for Material Knowledge Production

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2. Mapping urban imaginaries. Place and belonging in Windhoek

Stephanie Roland; stephanie.roland@rmit.edu.au (RMIT, Australia)

Namibia's capital, Windhoek, underwent decades of forceful re-organisation and social engineering, embodying political ideologies of racial segregation in the cities' spatial structure, urban planning, policies, and regulatory bodies. The continuous displacement of non-white populations within the settlement was a tactic deliberately used to unhome and control; exclusion from, and destruction of, meaningful places were tools to undermine any sense of belonging non-white residents felt to the city. While this practice began under German colonial rule, it was systematised and officially racialised under apartheid, under the neutral guise of modernist town planning. Much of this legacy remains embedded not only in the city's urban landscape, but in the way that this is conceived and reproduced. This paper examines Windhoek residents' notions of place and belonging, using the embodied 'multi-sensuality' of space to understand space as both materially and socially constructed. The paper presents a research methodology combining mental maps, sketches, visual, verbal, and spatially analytical methods, designed to draw out urban imaginaries and elicit rich descriptions of spatial perceptions. It explores mapping as an approach that can lend itself to a personal and imaginary appropriation of place, a polymorphous engagement with urban space that might reveal multiple truths and challenge colonially inherited normative principles and imaginaries of the city. Windhoek's residents are mostly not native English speakers, and they have a variety of cultural and linguistic affiliations, levels of formal education, and social backgrounds that can inhibit articulation of perceptions. The methodology attempts to deal with the challenges around eliciting spatial perceptions in order to gain a better understanding of the everyday experiences of ordinary Windhoek residents.

3. Mapping Urban Borders: A methodological approach from an "interdesign" perspective to the landscape units in metropolitan cities. The case of Buenos Aires and its agglomeration in Argentina

Mitchell de Sousa; mdesousa-@fi.uba.ar (University of Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Nicolás Groppa; nicolasgroppa.952a@fadu.uba.ar (University of Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Analía Fernández; analia.fernandez@fadu.uba.ar (University of Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Guillermo Tella; guillermotella@gmail.com (University of Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Susana Toroski; sgtdgg@yahoo.com.ar (University of Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Historically, cities, especially those that are still thriving today, have developed on the natural elements that have been their economic engine. In some cases, cities exhaust their initial productive cycles and move on to others that end up relegating the first ones. These in turn cease to be the main environment, the landscape of the productive model, and become urban edges. Other urban edges are formed through infrastructures that precisely seek to connect certain points of the city to a given population but end up excluding others. In the enclosures where the edges physically limit urban spaces, intricate territories are found with diverse identities but with complexities that limit them to those and other spaces. The objective of this work, which has an interdisciplinary research team within the design careers of the University of Buenos Aires, is to present the progress of our research in perceptual mapping methodologies for the analysis of urban edges by studying what we call landscape units in order to detect territories at smaller scales for the generation of planning units, and thus analyse the connections that exist between them, to enhance the possibilities of urban interventions in small areas of the territory without interfering with the whole network of the city. In the course of the last two UBACYT projects, one completed and the other in progress, we have worked on crafting the methodology of analysis, case studies, and intervention proposals. The methodology consists of the analysis of the landscape units in the territory, followed by an ethnographic and semi-structured approach with the actors living in the territory. Perceptual maps, inspired by Kevin Lynch's model, but with original variables that contrast with our object of research, are made to identify these urban spaces.

4. The art of Kent Monkman and the fluidity of difference: A methodological proposition

Renate Dohmen; renate.dohmen@open.ac.uk (Open University, UK)

Discussions about pluriversal epistemologies and questions of methodology are central to the decolonial project and address the fraught relationship between research, the academy, and indigenous knowledges. Centuries of oppression, and exploitative, monocultural and arrogant notions of knowledge production have belittled indigenous peoples, turning them into objects of study while extracting and appropriating their knowledges for monetary and other gain. Decolonial approaches seek to break this pattern and proclaim a new dynamic that references indigenous epistemologies as a source and sign of greater inclusiveness. Yet as tomes are written, careers are built, book series are inaugurated and professorships at top-ranking American universities are created, and while undoubtedly important insights have been gained, one can but wonder what has changed as the decolonial turn has become a new attribution de rigeur. This leads to the further, and as I would like to argue, centrally important question concerning the extent to which the modus operandi of the decolonial project and the manner of its referencing of indigeneity echoes the colonial logic of extractivism, despite purported aims and best intentions. Or,

asked differently, can there be a decolonial logic of difference without a shift in method? In response to this question, I would like to suggest that arts-based methodologies have an important contribution to make to the decolonisation of the decolonial project. More specifically, I want to propose that the work of the Cree artist Kent Monkman defies the pervasive grooves of a coloniality of method, and not only deconstructs worldviews but generates new ones by means of a creative re-envisioning and acts of re-existence. His work offers, as will be explored, a fluid, third way between the binaries that constitute coloniality to which, as I propose, the project of decoloniality can but remain tethered unless it is unmoored from its prevalent methodological habitus; a possibility that I argue is opened up in Monkman's work.

5. Alternatives in the creation of art within an academic perspective: smoke as an in-between space

Darío Meléndez; dmelendez@uv.mx (University of Veracruz, Mexico)

Yosi Anaya (University of Veracruz, Mexico)

Sergio Domínguez (University of Veracruz, Mexico)

Xavier Cózar (University of Veracruz, Mexico)

Our academic working group is comprised of four members in different art disciplines. How to synthesize a project between graphic design, printmaking, drawing and textiles? We have opted for a hybrid territory, which we denominate Alternatives in Art, where each one of us can express his own contribution. While this can be a fertile ground for reinvention, it nonetheless has its limitations as each one is tied to his own discipline and often may not push those boundaries to combine with divergent proposals. This presentation explores the nuances of collective work in order to carry out a collaborative project in which the boundaries of the various disciplines are crossed on the basis of a common axis: the ephemeral materiality of smoke. We will approach individual and collective pieces based on fumage, a procedure little explored in contemporary art due to its ephemeral qualities, but which precisely places tension on the relations between objectuality and its absence, as it fixes an image based on a very subtle material that can hardly be stabilized. It is precisely in this intermediate state, material and symbolic, that we seek to situate in such a fragile matter. With the aim of broadening the original practices and ideas of the authors, this paper presents four collective pieces in which each of the participants takes on the work of another colleague as his own. Through erasures and rewritings, a situated and intersubjective swallowing and absorption is carried out. The concept of ephemeral materiality is thus assumed as an axis based on how it functions in the work of the collaborators.

6. A more inclusive art market by mistake, the social relevance of fluid art to global art material market

Pablo Angel Lugo; pablo@glocalartmarkets.com (Glocal Art markets Consultants Ltd, United Kingdom)

The hashtags #Fluidart, #fluidartwork #fluidartist are together more than 4.6 million posts on Instagram, the top ten videos on YouTube add more than 108.5 million views all those videos were upload in the last year, the oldest video tutorial on YouTube is from 2017. In the past five years we can see a big rise on the social media about the artistic technic known as fluid art. Technically this is a very easy way to paint, the use of colours and densities is the basic thing to understand. Practically this represents a lot of effort, practice, and money to get the proper skills to manage and understand the accident that represent this practice. Moreover, the relevance of this practice is that it represents a new way to paint, it is specially practical and it gets a low room for mistakes, that has brought a lot of people to this practice, and you can see the different levels of practice and skills of the artists. This is exactly the reason why is very popular these days. The changes into the markets that this practice has bring is huge, the development of new materials by different art material suppliers, has been taken by the most competitive artistic brands, and the profits are raising every year. That is one reason about how companies are investing in some research and taking information from artists to improve and develop new products. This is quite important because this "amateur" markets looks to be bigger that the fine arts market. We will present some data to support this statement.

Session 16:
The Contribution of Urban Design to the Qualitative Methodology Discourse

Date and Time

Thursday, 23.09.2021, 16.30 – 18.30

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81944477024?pwd=L3BRTUhrVlY2c2didXFmRjJqaTY0Zz09

Meeting ID: 819 4447 7024

Passcode: 335338

Session organizers

Shamin Golrokh; Sh.golrokh@ut.ac.ir (University of Tehran, Iran)

To understand, explain and promote the quality of the urban environment, the discipline of urban design remains subject to knowledge and analysis from other disciplines that consider the social nature of space. Recently, the number of research in the field of urban design that focus on the lived experiences of people by applying qualitative methodologies, e.g., ethnography, phenomenology, grounded theory etc. are growing. Emphasizing the contextual attributes of people experience, the qualitative research has empowered urban design to consider more cultural and local differentiations. However, these methodologies are primarily rooted and developed within other human sciences such as psychology, sociology, anthropology, nursing, etc. Despite the relatively large body of literature about qualitative research methodologies especially the text-based data analysis methods, Urban Design is still borrowing from other disciplines and did not develop actively compatible and identical methods. Emphasizing the methodological knowledge within the urban design discipline, this session invites theoretical as well as empirical and self-reflexive papers considering the following questions: What is urban design contribution in the qualitative methodology discourse, within and beyond its disciplinary boundaries? What are the disciplinary obstacles, limitations, and potentials within Urban Design in developing relevant qualitative methods? What are educational, institutional, and local challenges for developing and conducting qualitative research in urban design? If and how other disciplines benefit from qualitative urban design studies? How methodological knowledge of urban design – e.g., spatial analysis, visual language, observation, etc. – can contribute to the qualitative methodology discourse? How and if qualitative methods in urban design facilitate understanding of the materiality of social space?

1. Hermeneutics – Interaction – Social Structure

Kai-Olaf Maiwald; kai-olaf.maiwald@uni-osnabrueck.de (Osnabrück University, Germany)

In the last decades, the concept of "social structure" has been often addressed within the frames of "micro/macro" or "subjectivism/objectivism". Predominant in these approaches is the idea of a tension between "individual actions" and "structure". "Structure" is conceived as a macro-phenomenon which needs to be theoretically mediated in terms of "aggregation" of more or less rational individual actions (Coleman), "habitus" (Bourdieu) or "structuration" (Giddens). Even in systems theory, with its distinction of interaction, organization, and society as three different levels of social structure (Luhmann), there is a notion of some macro-aspects residing "above" interaction. This session attempts to address the concept of "social structure" in a more methodological way. Several major approaches in qualitative sociology operate under the premise that the primary sociological data are interactional data (e.g., interaction transcripts, interviews, visual recordings of interactions). What if we turn this into a theoretical perspective and state that "society" basically operates in interactions and communications (Maiwald/Suerig 2020)? Is it thus possible to identify social structure in properties of interactions? Even if we assume that certain aspects of social structure, like institutions, norms, or roles, are not, in a strict sense, socially constructed in interactions, but analytically precede each specific interaction, one could still argue that it is in interaction only that they "happen" (being reproduced or transformed, refreshed, or rejected). How, then, is structure formation on the interaction level conceived? What are relevant dimensions of structure in this respect? Are there limits to this interactionist approach? What about, e.g., typical macro-structures like social inequality?

2. The Contribution of Urban Design to the Qualitative Methodology Discourse

Shamin Golrokh; Sh.golrokh@ut.ac.ir (University of Tehran, Iran)

To understand, explain and promote the quality of the urban environment, the discipline of urban design remains subject to knowledge and analysis from other disciplines that consider the social nature of space. Recently, the number of research in the field of urban design that focus on the lived experiences of people by applying qualitative methodologies, e.g., ethnography, phenomenology, grounded theory etc. are growing. Emphasizing the contextual attributes of people experience, the qualitative research has empowered urban design to consider more cultural and local differentiations. However, these methodologies are primarily rooted and developed within other human sciences such as psychology, sociology, anthropology, nursing, etc. Despite the relatively large body of literature about qualitative research methodologies especially the text-based data analysis methods, Urban Design is still borrowing from other disciplines and did not develop actively compatible and identical methods. Emphasizing the methodological knowledge within the urban design discipline, this session invites theoretical as well as empirical and self-reflexive papers considering the following questions: What is urban design contribution in the qualitative methodology discourse, within and beyond its disciplinary boundaries? What are the disciplinary obstacles, limitations, and potentials within Urban Design in developing relevant qualitative methods? What are educational, institutional, and local challenges for developing and conducting qualitative research in urban design? If and how other disciplines benefit from qualitative urban design studies? How methodological knowledge of urban design – e.g., spatial analysis, visual language,

observation, etc. – can contribute to the qualitative methodology discourse? How and if qualitative methods in urban design facilitate understanding of the materiality of social space?

3. Stories are not told in a vacuum; The contribution of urban design to spatializing narrative inquiry

Maryam Saedi; maryam.saedi@ut.ac.ir (University of Tehran, Iran)

The role of narrative research in urban design has been more or less discussed. Based on this perspective, the city, as a medium for human narratives, is read by urban designers. They play a role in telling and retelling the story of a city in their own way as well. The importance of such a perspective on the relationship between urban design and narrative inquiry is including multiple and sometimes conflicting stories in urban design and hearing silent voices. However, in my presentation, I am going to talk about the other side of this relationship which is the contribution of urban design to spatializing narrative inquiry. In general, one of the fundamental propositions in narrative inquiry is that "narrative is individual expression but collective production and reproduction of a sequence of events occurring in time ". What we can add to this fundamental proposition is that "narrative is not formed in a vacuum but has a spatial anchor and connect itself to the physical world". Thus, narratives have three characteristics of collectivity, temporality, and spatiality. However, with reference to the mental stories of individuals, narrative research focuses mainly on the "temporal sequence of events" and neglects their spatial-physical aspects. From this perspective, the contribution of urban design to narrative studies is to viewing the spatial-physical aspects of human experiences and their fundamental role in the construction of narratives. The inclusion of this perspective in narrative inquiry at the epistemological level causes a reconsideration of the researcher's relationship with actors and the field of research. It also expands the tools of collecting and analysing narratives at the methodological level by re-explaining the application and combination of methods, and at the method level by introducing physical-spatial methods and techniques. Such a process can finally enrich descriptions of narratives in the temporal-spatial context.

4. Postcolonial and Territorialized Perspectives for contextualized planning practices in the thematic Global South(s): A cultural-sensitive approach

Janek Becker; janek.becker@tu-dortmund.de (University of Dortmund, Germany)

Fauster Agbenyo; agbenyo@uds.edu.gh (University for Development Studies (Tamale), Ghana)

The so-called Global South is not a homogenous mass of spaces on neither national nor local scales. That's why we distinguish the geographic Global South, defined by the location in northern or southern hemisphere and the thematic Global South(s) as a differentiated approach that recognizes postcolonial-al and territorialized perspectives regardless of their positioning on the globe. Consequently, we are focusing on the thematic approach, that recognizes thematic similarities of the challenges, and considering the socio-historical backgrounds. Therefore, we want

to show the possibility for a global approach to the analysis of urban spaces at the local in the Global South(s). However, in the literature available, there is no clear-cut methodological approach that is able to juxtapose the contextualized thematic-based case studies to investigate both development challenges in spatial production and the specific approaches adopted in planning to resolve these challenges in the geographic global south, which are unified by the commonalities from the perspective of thematic Global South(s). As Researchers from Ghana and Germany we want to emphasise that "cultural" barriers and preconceived ideas related to planning practices in the Global South(s) can produce similar planning outcomes from a thematic Global South(s) perspective. We are, therefore, taking a stand for a contextualized approach to the investigation of neighbourhood revitalization interventions in the thematic Global South(s) in two selected case studies; one from Brazil and the other from Ghana to show how our approach can be used in the analysis of spatial production and planning practices that produces similar but context-specific planning outcomes.

5. Innovative analytical approach to urban space: syntactic reading of the city of Sétif in Algeria

Wiem Zerouati; wiemzerouati@gmail.com (University of Setif 1, Algeria)

At the end of the 1970s, architects and urban morphologists Bill Hillier and Julienne Hanson initiated the theory of space syntax. The theory, as a method of spatial analysis, was based on the assumption that societies use and configure space and that social structure is expressed spatially. The techniques of spatial syntax have been developed primarily for architects and urban planners as a decision support tool to improve the design of buildings and urban spaces and to simulate the social effect of forms before their realization. The interest in this subject was determined by the absence of in-depth analytical studies undertaken in Algeria on the question of the urban configuration in relation to the inhabitants' social practices, using Space syntax and its tools. The majority of studies carried out were descriptive of the evolution and extension of the city through urban policies initiated by decision-makers using qualitative sociological tools, mainly the survey. This research attempts to fill this gap by providing a quantitative and qualitative analytical reading of the urban space and enriches existing scientific knowledge. This research is based on an urban analysis of the city of Setif located in eastern Algeria. The study explores through the spatial structure of the city, how the road structure is used for movement, commercial activity and the interaction between people and the implications this has on the future development of the city. Space Syntax was used by establishing a segment map of Setif to analyse the spatial configuration of the city and their public spaces. How can we highlight certain places, based on their spatial characteristics, by exploiting the strengths and remedying the weaknesses? The present study attempts to answer this question in order to understand in a concrete way, through syntactic mapping, the urban evolution of the city of Setif.

6. A retrospective of the outdoor spaces in a renewed residential community in Nanjing before renewal

Kexin Cheng; kexincheng95@gmail.com (Southeast University, China)

When studying transformations in outdoor space before and after the renewal of a residential community, it is more difficult to obtain information about the area before the renewal than it is to collect spatial information after the renewal process. There are two possible approaches, including Situative Mapping and Analysing Pictures, that can be used to understand how the community was before the renewal process. Situative Mapping is a memory mapping method that provides both a social and physical view of the outdoor environment. Firstly, long-staying respondents are sought in the community and asked to explain what the outdoor environment used to be like, who lived where and what outdoor activities they participated in, and then these actions are recorded, including notes of conversations with these people, and the locations are marked on a map with different legends. Analysing Pictures can provide a wealth of information about what the environment looks like and what activities have taken place in the past. The pictures to be analysed were taken during the fieldwork before the start of the regeneration process and contain information about the space and the actions on site. These photos can be obtained from the planning and design team's photo database and pre-survey documents. Interviews with the original planners and designers can also be used as supplementary resource. This study uses a combination of these methods to depict the condition of outdoor space before renewal in a residential community in Nanjing, China, as a methodological exploration and to provide a basis for comparing outdoor space-action relationships before and after renewal. The community under study belongs to a historical residential area formed before 1949, with the main building type being low-density courtyard housing, one of the most typical types of old communities in East China.

Session 19:

The role of interactions between researchers and stakeholders in creating rigorous and relevant research for urban sustainability

Date and Time

Saturday, 25.09.2021, 10.00 – 12.00

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81944477024?pwd=L3BRTUhrVlY2c2didXFmRjJqaTY0Zz09

Meeting ID: 819 4447 7024

Passcode: 335338

Session organizers

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Research is increasingly expected to be rigorous as well as relevant to policy and practice, especially for social and spatial disciplines that are meant to contribute towards urban sustainability through evidence-based policy and practice. Yet, to what extent is current research both rigorous and relevant to policy and practice, and what are the factors that appear to contribute towards research being both rigorous and relevant? The field of research evaluation proposes various models to help explain research relevance, particularly in terms of utilisation and social impact. The interaction model, for example, suggests that relevance is largely influenced by various interactions between researchers and stakeholders throughout the research process. Such interactions are termed 'productive' if they lead to research having some form of social impact. The focus of this session is to present examples of research from social and spatial disciplines that proved to be both (1) rigorous i.e., the research has been accepted by peers, typically through publications, and (2) relevant, i.e., the research has had some form of social impact beyond academia and policy, particularly in terms of helping to bring about tangible examples of sustainable or low-impact urban development. Presentations should focus on the various factors that have possibly contributed towards rigour and relevance, especially through 'productive interactions' that took place between researchers and stakeholders during the research process. For example, what role did the following factors play: the context of the research (different organisational needs and interests), the processes followed (linkages between researchers and stakeholders), the methods used (quantitative, qualitative, or participatory), and the dissemination strategies? The

idea is to facilitate a dialogue around and a more nuanced understanding of the role of productive interactions between researchers and stakeholders in creating research that proved to be both rigorous and relevant for urban sustainability.

1. Productive interactions mapping as a method for evaluating the social impact of planning research

Amy Pieterse; apieterse@csir.co.za (University of Pretoria & Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, South Africa)

Jacques du Toit; jacques.dutoit@up.ac.za (University of Pretoria, South Africa)

Historically, the dominant school of thought on evidence-based planning was rooted in positivism. Over the last decade, however, there is an emerging body of literature that recognises that real-world planning and policymaking happens in a complex system of interactive relationships between different actors within research and practice. These actors fulfil multiple roles, hold different values, and need to navigate dynamic power relations. The relationship between researchers and stakeholders during the research process occurs along a spectrum of interactions with varied degrees of engagement that may influence the extent to which research is taken up. Research is more likely to be used when there is close collaboration between researchers and stakeholders, such as planning practitioners, in both the formulation and the execution of the research. The relationship between researchers and practitioners as the users, are circular and complex, and research, its use, and potential impacts should be identified by analysing the process and the interactions that may result in impact. The types of interactions may overlap, occur simultaneously, and involve multiple actors, fulfilling multiple roles. This presentation will explore 'productive interactions mapping' as a method to illustrate and describe the aim and context of interactions between different agents in the planning research process. The purpose of 'productive interactions mapping' as a research method will be to make sense of the patterns of interactions between agents in research and practice, throughout the knowledge production or research process in the field of planning and planning support. Methodological suggestions are made for dealing with the challenge of complex interactions and causal relationships. In this presentation, the authors argue that the application of 'productive interactions mapping' as a method, can lead to the understanding and development of a more considered and nuanced planning research process that may involve better facilitated research uptake.

2. Looking for Democracy in Open Space Planning: An analysis of the transformation of Park am Gleisdreieck in Germany's capital Berlin

Flavia Mameli; flavia.mameli@googlemail.com (University of Kassel, Germany)

These abstract addresses landscape architecture in urban areas of contemporary Germany, criticizing institutionalized modes of participation as inadequate to guarantee a productive cooperation between planning professionals and civil society. Looking at the transformation of a very

specific territory in the inner-city of Germany's capital Berlin, the Park am Gleisdreieck, I point out why even projects with a supposedly successful integration of civil society might lack truly democratic decision making. The debate about the design and planning of the park serves as a case study for the analysis of the balance of power between civil society, landscape architecture and administration. My presentation focusses on results derived from my doctoral research concerned with the influence of civic activism on the planning initiated by the Berlin municipality and the design of today's Gleisdreieck Park carried out by landscape architects. Within a detailed analysis of the events inspired by the discourse analysis toolbox (Foucault, 1966; Keller, 2011) and additional narrative interviews (Schütze, 1977) with relevant stakeholders, I analyse how those involved negotiated this central new open space for Berlin. I will portray which participation tools where used, whose voices where heard and how specific claims materialized in space. Based on my detailed analysis, statements can be deducted about the limits and the potential chances of democratic planning practices. Although this green open space would not exist without civil activism and although the planning and realization of the park was framed by a multi-layered and lengthy civil participation process, the question of democratic planning practice cannot be answered easily, when taking a closer look at the debate.

3. Beyond community representation by including vulnerable groups in housing research

Ulrike Fettke; ulrike.fettke@tum.de (Technical University of Munich, Germany)

There is hardly a country in Europe whereas many people live in rented accommodations as in Germany. In the last years and especially in agglomerations like Munich, the rents increased about 36%. Nevertheless, there are studies that show significant vacancies even when there is a high demand of rented accommodations. The project Wohnungsleerstand wandeln, i.e., transform housing vacancies, aims to identify, and discuss possibilities for improving the housing supply besides building houses and land designation. Since owner behaviour causes a lot of vacancies in agglomerations (Schmidt et. al. 2017: 20), municipalities of a district in the region of Munich and a research group of the Technical University of Munich work together to study causes and motivations around housing vacancies and underutilized potential living spaces in a participatory action research design that aims to identify customized solutions to the coexistence of housing needs and vacancies. With the democratic participation of mayors and community administration personnel we suppose to ensure that research results are practice-oriented and fit to community norms (vgl. von Unger 2007). To include the perspectives of marginalized community members like migrants, single parents, big families, and those with lower incomes who are especially vulnerable regarding housing questions (Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy 2018) is a challenge to the research design. For most cases, Bavarian mayors do not come from vulnerable groups. Although the problem of community definition and representation is well known to participatory researchers (Israel et al. 1998: 185), there is no standard way to balance theoretical knowledge and analysis with cultural and local perspectives and social desirability. We do not think that it is the right way to confront municipal research partners with what may be prejudices about limited perspectives. Therefore, we try to approach the problem by taking local theory into

account (Israel et al. 1998: 177) and stimulating local reflection (Fricke et al. 2014: 214 f.) about marginalization.

4. Mobile Autoethnography: Reframing Interdisciplinary Methodological Toolkit of Urban Design

Mohammad Nazarpoor; mohammad_nazarpoor@modares.ac.ir (Tarbiat Modares University, Iran)

Lived experiences of the city and its aspects are at the center of attention of urban design. The qualitative methodology provides various methods and tools to understand these lived dimensions. However, the researchers have neglected a substantial part of the lifeworld of participants due to ignorance of the spatial dimensions in using the mentioned methods. On the other side, the "place experience" has been transformed profoundly due to extensive changes on the local and global scales. In this regard, "mobility" plays a vital role in changing lived experiences of places. The new methods, used to understand these mobile lived experiences, on the one hand, should be able methodologically, epistemologically, and ontologically to understand the profound layers of meaning-making processes of mobile participants through their lived experiences. On the other hand, they should redefine the researcher's role in a new research setting, which is based upon a fluid, complex, and mobile characteristic. Therefore, urban design requires a methodological interdisciplinary toolbox to grasp the mobile lived experiences. My presentation will discuss this methodological gap by introducing "mobile autoethnography", which borrows "cultural context" from "ethnography", "spatial dimensions" from "urban design", "mobile experiences" from "new mobility paradigm", and "research reflexivity" from "reflective turn". Mobile autoethnography aims to understand the lived meanings of mobility (influenced by mobility turn in social sciences) in everyday life environments which construct the cultural identities (influenced by cultural turn in urban studies) through spatial social experience (influenced by spatial turn in social sciences) in which the lived narratives (influenced by narrative turn in humanities) of participants and researcher in the research setting (influenced by reflective turn in qualitative methodology) play a vital role.

Session 20:
Knowledge Creation in Informal Settlements:
The Process, Ethics and Outputs of Co-Productive and Community-Led Research Methods

Date and Time

Saturday, 25.09.2021, 14.30 – 16.30

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81944477024?pwd=L3BRTUhrVlY2c2didXFmRjJqaTY0Zz09

Meeting ID: 819 4447 7024

Passcode: 335338

Session organizers

Jakub Galuszka; jakub.galuszka@tu-berlin.de (Technical University of Berlin. Germany)

Aditya Kumar; adi@dag.org.za (Development Action Group, Cape Town, South Africa)

The methodological debate has increasingly recognized the relevance of conducting research 'with' communities rather than 'on' them. Particularly within the context of informal settlements in Southern cities, this means progressing from conventional research methods to participatory and co-productive approaches. Those encompass solutions in which communities actively co-gather data with a researcher (for instance through participatory urban appraisal methods) or produce data by themselves. The latter includes examples of community-based mapping and enumeration, which are utilized by communities in their efforts to gain full citizenship rights and wider access to services. On one hand, these methods reduce power-dependencies in the researcher-community relationship, promote engaged academia and stimulate embedded research generating real social impacts. On the other hand, the close relationship between community groups and researchers may be tainted by the loss of objectivity in the research process, refocusing attention on already 'empowered' communities as well as limited critique concerning the methodological and practical aspect of the approach. This session invites papers which critically investigate these issues and discuss the prospects of co-productive and community-based methods on research process, policy debate and urban development practice. Papers concentrating on the practical impacts, ethical issues and methodological considerations are equally welcomed in the session.

1. **Knowledge Creation in Informal Settlements: The Process, Ethics and Outputs of Co-Productive and Community-Led Research Methods**

Jakub Galuszka; jakub.galuszka@tu-berlin.de (Technical University of Berlin. Germany)

Aditya Kumar; adi@dag.org.za (Development Action Group, Cape Town, South Africa)

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2. Co-production for co-optation or transformative urban agendas?

Chadzimula Molebatsi; molebaco@ub.ac.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)

This paper reflects on the upsurge in interest on co-production processes in urban and regional planning and related disciplines. In general, co-production seeks to bring together actors who otherwise act independently of each other despite the fact that the outcome points to the need for sustained dialogue between the actors. The disjuncture between everyday urbanisms and state-crafted urban policies which characterises human settlements in the global South gives relevance to coproduction in the creation and claiming of urban spaces. It includes a wide range of participatory and community-engagement methodologies. The argument advanced in this paper is that although largely used for co-optation and maintenance of the status quo purposes, co-production has the potential for radicalisation and subsequent utilisation for transformative and just urban futures. Such radicalisation is possible whereby co-production is understood to mean the bringing together dialogue among different ways of knowing, being and acting. Understood as such coproduction requires acknowledgement of the existence of many and non-hierarchized knowledges (ways of knowing, being and acting) that speak to others in the search for co-existence. The paper sifts through urban development planning efforts and picks traces and opportunities for the radicalisation of existing co-production initiatives in Botswana.

3. Culture and space transformation in Botswana's urban villages – a decolonial approach

Seabo Morobolo; seabo.morobolo@strath.ac.uk (University of Strathclyde, United Kingdom)

The relationship between culture and space is a widely studied phenomenon. The main thrust for these studies has been changing theorisations of concepts and their implications. The built environment has not been exempted due to its attendant focus on manipulation of space. Since the 1960s authors have sought to understand the relationship between culture and the built environment and processes of its transformation. In Botswana, despite the richness and uniqueness of Tswana 'endogenous' settlements, the connection between culture and space transformation remains unexplored. Variously referred to as 'major villages' 'agro-towns' and more recently, 'urban villages', this genre of urban centres consists of 'traditional' settlements that have over the years transformed in terms of size, form and economic structure. This has ushered in shifts in spatial models, forms and knowledges resulting in their transformation. The general form, architectural mix and policy interventions in these urban villages display existence of different 'knowledges' – modernist-derived and indigenous-based space organisation principles and concepts. At issue is how are conflicting modernist and indigenous concepts and principles affecting the culture-space connection within urban villages. Drawing from the decolonial theoretical framework, this research aims to examine culture and space transformation in Botswana's urban villages to propose culturally responsive design concepts and principles for these villages. Methodologically, I draw from indigenous methodologies and qualitative sources to analyse and deconstruct this transformation. I present indigenous and decolonised methodologies as alternative approaches to understanding the culture-space relationship and transformation from the perspective of the researched. This study aims contribute to practice and academia through design and culture theories based on indigenous knowledge by understanding Tswana knowledge and culture as an approach towards creating inclusive human settlements.

4. Decolonizing Methods and Actionable Whanau: The intersection of theoretical, epistemological, and citizen participation constructs that gets us to co-crated aroha

John Gaber; jgaber@clemson.edu (Clemson University, USA)

We are at a critical mass with the convergence of theoretical, epistemological, and citizen participation literatures and now are seeing several paths to the development of co-created solutions. One example in the creation of multiple decolonizing co-created paths is in New Zealand and the application of the kauppa Māori research approach (among others) that are applied by the Māori people via whakawhanaungatanga (whanau) relationships. The focus of this paper is to provide the conceptual journey on the intersections of three literatures that make whanau relationships methodologically operational across the world. The three literatures are: a.) theoretical, co-creation of knowledge, b.) epistemological, mixed method research design, and c.) citizen participation, Arnstein's Ladder of Citizen Participation. It is through the rich theoretical grounding of empirical community data that places it on equal footing with western constructed data. For Pike (1967) it is emic observations; John Dewey (1969) it comes in the form of experiri, and Stewart Hall (1997) it is in the formation of knowledge. Innovations in mixed method research approaches over the last 30 years provides the methodological framework that allows for the co-production of knowledge that integrates qualitative community methods with western quantitative methods.

Sherry Arnstein's Ladder of Citizen Participation captures the multiple levels of unequal power relationships between government and disenfranchised communities. Recent archival research revealed that Arnstein had proposed a new approach to breaking government's colonizing relationship with politically under-powered communities; the creation of a third agency based in the community that includes government participants (Gaber 2019) to allow for the development of co-created solutions. Here, whanau relationships are established that allows for disenfranchised communities to cultivate community data and co-develop new knowledge with government agencies. It is by understanding the conceptual framework in the three converging literatures and analysing how they intersect with each other that allows us to better understand, calibrate, and innovate the different paths to decolonizing research methods and their applications.

5. An examination of participatory communication approaches in disaster risk reduction programmes in Malawi

Aubrey John Chirwa; aubreychirwa04@gmail.com (University of East Anglia, UK)

The paper intends to analyse participatory communication methods used in disaster risk reduction programmes in Malawi. The study will be designed as a case study on participatory programmes being implemented by the Red Cross Society of Malawi. This will be analysed in relation to government's policy on resettlement of households living in disaster prone areas. The purpose of the study is to examine the level of participation by communities in these programmes through the prism of various theoretical frameworks such as behaviour change communication vs participatory communication, mediatisation, ladder of participation theory and the power cube. The study will first of all analyse the overarching National Communication Strategy on Disasters in Malawi which guides all disaster activities in that country and how the resettlement policy was formulated. The study will then examine the Red Cross disaster advocacy programmes and compare how they align with the Strategy, which will be underpinned by the theoretical frameworks.

6. The Liveable Life in Slums

Neele Eicker; neele.eicker@gmail.com (Hafen City University of Hamburg, Germany)

More than 1 billion people of the world's urban population live in slums. (1) One in eight people. The locus of global poverty moves to cities, with the majority in the developing world. Low incomes, poor infrastructure and rising exclusion are just minor stimulators that contribute to a poor quality of life. Long since nations, governments and local administrations recognized the need for higher living standards for each and every citizen. The focus on creating worldwide sustainable livelihoods peaked in 2015, with the international acceptance of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), followed by the New Urban Agenda (NUA) in 2016. Liveable areas became a priority, and the concept of liveability evoked a new sense for sustainable improvements of human life. Still, liveability remains a complex concept that includes a variety of elements and can be measured through a set of sub-dimensions (2) and encompasses objective indicators (3), as well as subjective indicators. (4) Problematic is the fact that in most cases liveability indicators are

measured and quantified for whole regions, rather than individual neighborhoods, "you can live in a city that ranks high in terms of quality of living and still suffer from a low quality of life because of unfortunate personal circumstances […]" (5) The extent of disparity in perceptions of a liveable life is mostly limited to formal settlements, whereas in countries, as India a large proportion of the population lives in informal settlements. Transferring liveable life perceptions to the guidance of slum upgrading, mainly emphasizes the interplay between top-down and bottom-up approaches. Lack of studies for informal settlements often lead to the assumption that upgrading tasks, such as house improvements, basic service provision or access to water automatically lead to improved local living conditions; but a lack of local comprehension, along with upgrading assumptions are deeply intertwined; this paper argues, so are their solutions. Lining the trend of raising global liveability to the papers' informal settlement context, the liveable life at the urban slum level is investigated. Liveability is mainly calculated to take a quantitative approach, rarely differentiating between social classes, or focusing on individual perceptions. (6) The concept of a liveable life goes one step further and focuses mainly on perceptions at a defined community level. The aim of this paper is to provide an overview of identified liveable life indicators within the framework of a fieldwork study in slums of Bhubaneswar (Odisha, India). The identification of indicators aims to act as a lever within participative slum upgrading. It hypothesizes that community perceptions of a liveable life are the most influential indicators, and they perform weakest in slum upgrading. The area of research is Bhubaneswar, the capital of the Indian state Odisha and center of pilot projects of "Odisha's Liveable Habitat Mission". The method developed includes Focus Group Discussions in slums of Bhubaneswar to identify liveable life indicators.

Session 30:
Transdisciplinary or Collaborative?
Lab Approaches and their Influence on Participatory and Action Research Methods

Date and Time

Saturday, 25.09.2021, 08.00 – 09.30

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81944477024?pwd=L3BRTUhrVlY2c2didXFmRjJqaTY0Zz09

Meeting ID: 819 4447 7024

Passcode: 335338

Session organizers

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After the "experimental turn" (Overdevest et al. 2010) in the social sciences, a growing body of literature on inter- and transdisciplinary research methods with laboratory character evolved. Urban Transition Labs (Nevens et al. 2013), Urban Living Labs (Marvin et al. 2018) or Real-world Laboratories (Wanner et al. 2018) use interventions and experimental approaches as core research modes. Their aim is to produce transformative knowledge to initiate social change, trough co-design and co-production of knowledge between academia, civil society actors and local political or administrative authorities. The lab approaches have a lot in common with participatory and action research methods, especially due to their focus on normative change through collaborative production of knowledge. This Session wants to address the question how transdisciplinary research methods and in particular interventions and experiments can help to further develop participatory and action research methods? We welcome theoretical and empirical papers, which connect participatory and action research with transdisciplinary research methods, in particular lab approaches like Urban Transition Labs, Real-world Laboratories or Urban Living Labs.

1. Transdisciplinary or Collaborative? Lab Approaches and their Influence on Participatory and Action Research Methods

Robert Barbarino; robert.barbarino@tu-dortmund.de (Technical University of Dortmund, Germany)

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2. Participatory evaluation of Real-world Laboratories: Findings from a Literature Review

Teresa Kampfmann; teresa.kampfmann@leuphana.de (Leuphana University Lüneburg, Germany)

With the ongoing discussions about definition and methods of Real-world Laboratories (short: RwLs), the need to evaluate these is repeatedly pointed out (Rose et al. 2019). Even though evaluation seems crucial in terms of scaling-up and amplifying the tested sustainability solution, the actual implementation of an evaluative approach is considered to be difficult (Schaepke et al. 2017). This could be partly due to the complex and interconnected structure of a RwL as common definitions suggests (Schneidewind 2014). A RwL is a social context where experiments in the sense of interventions take place. Several times interventions are described as crucial components of experiments in a RwL (Schaepke et al. 2017, Canigila 2017). Following these explanations, a RwL consists of three different levels: Lab, Experiment, and Intervention. When evaluating a RwL, the existence of the different levels is worth considering. Depending on the focus of the evaluation, the emphasis may be on (only) one particular level. Accordingly, an evaluation can be designed in a variety of ways. We give an overview how these different levels have been evaluated in practice so far. Therefore, we present the results of a (yet unpublished) literature review. We have analysed and systemized studies, in which Interventions, Experiments or Labs in real-world settings have been evaluated empirically. One focus is directed to what extent participants of the specific Lab, Experiment or Intervention are involved in the evaluation process. This way, we show how evaluations differ in practice according to the different levels of Intervention, Experiment, and Lab. The identified types of evaluation studies might be helpful for evaluating (aspects of) a RwL.

3. Laboratories as co-production dispositive for housing and urban practice: lessons from Latin America and the Caribbean.

Hector Becerril; hector.miranda.09@alumni.ucl.ac.uk (National Council of Science and Technology, Mexico)

Anthony Boanada-Fuchs; anthony.boanada-fuchs@unisg.ch (St. Gallen Institute of Management in Latin America, Colombia)

In the past years, lab approaches based on co-production processes of knowledge between state actors, civil society, and academia have gained relevance in urban research. They have also gained importance as method among non-academic actors for building alliances and collaboration and generating common urban and planning knowledge and guidance for action. However, there is little understanding and systematization of how lab approach has been deployed outside academia, i.e., outside research projects. Aiming to address this gap, the paper explores the experience of Housing Laboratories called LAVs of the Urban Housing Practitioners Hub, a cross-sectoral coalition of practitioners, academics, NGOs, multi-lateral institutions, private sector actors, and local and national governments, aiming to improve the quality of housing practice in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) (Seidel et al., 2020). The LAVs were regularly organized since 2017 as multi-scalar and multi-actor dispositive of coproduction of knowledge. In more than 50 LAVs, various housing-related issues have been discussed, including housing and finance, migration, urban policies, and informal settlements and their upgrading. Based on the success, the LAV concept was more recently expanded to other world regions by initiating a UTC series on discussing common challenges in slum upgrading and specific approaches in Africa and Asia. Based on this experience, the paper analyses the conditions and implication of co-production processes between state and non-state actors (Mitlin & Bartlett, 2018; Ostrom, 1996; Watson, 2014), as well as the conditions and implication for intertwining different practices including, science and policy (Jasonoff, 2004; Latour, 2012) exploring the linkages and lessons for participatory methods. While the LAVs can be conceptualized as a research-setting laboratory, the authors would be highly interested in discussing how they might differ (and how not) to laboratories as research devices.

4. Local collaborative design-projects as catalyst and research-instrument of urban transformations

Hendrik Weiner; hw@raumdialog.com (Raumdialog, Germany)

Collaborative design-projects implement interventions and local processes as co-designs of space and community, without or with references to the local authorities. This practice, generated from an architecture and design-approach, opens up ways of direct collaborations and local developments. As a 'research through design' (Jonas 2007) respectively 'project-based research' (Finedli 2008) this practice as well has a big potential for a collaborative and trans-disciplinary research of spatial transformations. The approach of collaborative design-projects is developed

as a spatial designing project work with children and youth and in cooperation with local institutions. The approach is based on the Scandinavian Participatory Design (PD) (Ehn, Nilsson, Topgaard 2014) and refers to Participatory Action Research (PAR) (Kindon, Pain, Kesby 2010). The input discusses the challenges and potentials to act and design with children and youth in urban space 'on eye level' with examples of real projects (Sitzskulptur Tenever, Bremen; RaumTeiler, Berlin). It asks for working methods and settings, for possibilities to use collaborative design-projects in urban development processes and as starting points of local co-productions. It questions the role of initiators, designers, institutions, and administrations. It names designerly, artistic and manual methods of operations, shows results and makes ways of anchoring research into the local – with local actors as co-researchers – a subject of discussion.

Session 31:
Towards Co-producing Knowledge and Teaching Methodologies in Applied Urban Settings 1

Date and Time

Friday, 24.09.2021, 14.00 – 16.00

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81944477024?pwd=L3BRTUhrVlY2c2didXFmRjJqaTY0Zz09

Meeting ID: 819 4447 7024

Passcode: 335338

Session organizers

Astrid Ley; astrid.ley@si.uni-stuttgart.de (University of Stuttgart, Germany)

Mohamed Salheen; mohamed_salheen@eng.asu.edu.eg (Ain Shams University, Egypt)

Josefine Fokdal; josefine.fokdal@si.uni-stuttgart.de (University of Stuttgart, Germany)

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The decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2004-2014) advocated for Higher Educational Institutions (HEI) to enforce a focus on skills, knowledge and competences needed for the grand societal transformation (UNESCO 2014). As the world is increasingly becoming urban, disciplines educating the future generation shaping the urban have specifically been addressed to educate „change agents" and to develop tools for sustainable solutions (e.g., UN HABITAT). The New Urban Agenda and the SDGs have reemphasized the urgency of change. HEI across the world, however, have been reluctant to integrate aspects of sustainability into their urban curricula (Bina et al. 2016). Internationally there are a number of urban-focused master programs with a developmental focus. More recent programs follow the didactical aim to facilitate shared learning experiences and to co-produce knowledge in the urban realm in order to develop collaborative research methods for sustainable solutions. "Co-Design "and "Co-Production" in science are meant to bridge the gap between science and practice to solve social and environmental problems. It is based on the perception, that feasible solutions for our complex urban reality can only be developed in partnership and requires knowledge that is co-produced by various actors (e.g., UN-Habitat & GLTN, 2010). Furthermore, as planning is a normative terrain co-production deals with the need to negotiate contested solutions as well as to ensure legitimacy of any research conducted (Polk, 2014). Our session addresses co-production of knowledge that incorporates the ability to work in a multi-actor environment. This includes the integration of knowledge from different disciplines, but moreover the inclusion of values, knowledge, and know-how from

non-academic sources such as the private sector as well as civil society – individuals and asso-ciations (Klein et al. 2010, Polk 2014). The session also takes a critical look and questions the reliability and applicability of the knowledge being co-produced, as scholars have criticized the researcher-driven project initiation and ownership, highlighted the problems of communication and the time and resource consuming process as well as the often-raised expectations (Polk 2014, Winkler 2013, Bénit-Gbaffou 2011).

For this session we are inviting papers that focus on modes of co-production of knowledge in research and teaching. We welcome both papers from practice, as well as theoretical contribu-tions. We are especially looking for empirical examples of co-production of knowledge in the con-text of real-life settings.

Among other themes, papers could address the following topics:

- theoretical conception(s) of collaborative research and teaching, its normativity, and its impli-cation for urbanity

- research on actor constellations and power relations in and through collaborative research and teaching

- examples of conflictual or non-conflictual co-production of knowledge in different urban set-tings

- presentation of teaching methodologies and practices that promote collaborative research and co-production of knowledge in urban settings

1. Towards co-producing knowledge and teaching methodologies in applied urban settings

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2. The in: takt-project – A bottom-up teaching-project towards a transdisciplinary, transformative and collaborative design-approach

Hendrik Weiner; hw@raumdialog.com (Raumdialog, Germany)

The in: takt project is a teaching-project as well a bottom-up urban co-creation-space in the inner city of Magdeburg. It takes the approach of 'research through design' (Jonas 2007) to create an open co-creation setting and an urban lab-situation. The project is based on a seminar at the Otto-von-Guericke-University Magdeburg and uses an empty store in Magdeburg's city center as an interim use. Open to students of all courses of study, it offers a space for self-organization, experimentation, and development. Furthermore, it opens its rooms to all interested people and initiatives of the city: it invites citizens to collaborate. In this way, the project interferes directly in the urban discourse. Main topics are the quality of urban live, sustainability, transformation, and the democratic discourse. Per semester, own subprojects are developed and implemented, step by step collaborations are established, initiatives are networked. The project is made possible by a cross-sectoral cooperation between university, local administration, and local economy (local housing company (WOBAU). In the sense of a current work report, this proposal aims to illustrate and discuss the following aspects of the project: (1) Challenges and chances of the approach. (2) Conditions and problems of cross-sectoral cooperation as setting for a wished co-production. (3) Topics and formats: developed subprojects and events. (4) Dynamics of self-organization and own space. (5) Cooperations and collaborations with the civic society. (6) Insecurities, precarity of actors and political confrontations (6) Teaching approach 'teaching through design' = live projects + theory input. The project is situated in real live, dealing with real problems but at the same

time it has its own space of creating and testing with self-organization and theoretical inputs. This educational approach has the potential to bring disciplines together, to involve people, to work at local problems together and to create possible futures.

3. To Hear the City's Voice: Enacting Collective Memory in the University Journalism Training

Olena Semenets; olenasemenets@gmail.com (Kyiv National University of Trade and Economics, Ukraine)

During my work at the faculty of journalism, Zaporizhzhia National University (2012–2018) I actualized a large-scale educational project 'Native City in Terms of Social Communications'. I suggest students take part in it while studying the discipline 'Theory and History of Social Communications', the core course in high-school teaching of journalists in modern Ukrainian universities. In this discipline, social communications are considered as a factor of cohesion and sustainable development of society. Now, I develop such an approach at Kyiv National University of Trade and Economics. During teaching this course I apply the methodology of creative research student projects. Following the discursive approach, the cityscape is seen as a discourse, a carrier of collective memory involved in the process of communication. Components of the urban landscape (architecture, monuments, streets, and squares, etc.) serve constituents of the total communication environment. Students combine field research with the study of information resources of libraries, archives, the Internet; sensory analysis, and participatory observation – with creative solutions when preparing media projects. The best students' creative and research achievements are presented on the website of the virtual learning lab «Media Culture in the Modern City, MCMC» in the section «Discourse of the City» (http://mcmc.tilda.ws/misto). Within the framework of enacted cognition, such educational students' experience promotes the development of their multimodal perception of the native city, their ability 'to read' messages of the urban landscape, to hear voices of the city, and to take its smells and touch it emotionally. Alive cognition is the essential element of the professional competence of modern journalists. Due to such students' cognitive activity, synergism between cognitive agents and their environment is reached and future professionals' cognitive abilities gain self-improvement.

4. European universities on African soil? Methodological challenges in the ecolonisation of the curriculum of African universities

France Maphosa; maphosaf@ub.ac.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)

Colonialism had a profound effect on the various institutions of African countries including the political, educational, legal, economic, and educational institutions. It created institutions that were decontextualised from the lived realities, practices, and thoughts of the people in the colonized countries. Decolonization therefore transcends political independence and seeks to transform these institutions. This entails, among other things, transforming the way in which the economy is organized, producing knowledge about Africans by Africans, developing Afrocentric principles

of management and Africanising the legal system. Decolonization involves adapting African institutions to the realities and conditions of African countries. Education is crucial for any type of society. It preserves lives and maintains the social structure and under certain circumstances, it also promotes social change. While the debate on the decolonization of African universities has been going on for many years, what is lacking in the debate are the methodologies for decolonizing African universities. This paper seeks to contribute to the discussion on how the curriculum at the University of Botswana has been decolonised.

Session 31:

Towards Co-producing Knowledge and Teaching Methodologies in Applied Urban Settings 2

Date and Time

Friday, 24.09.2021, 16.30 – 18.30

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81944477024?pwd=L3BRTUhrVlY2c2didXFmRjJqaTY0Zz09

Meeting ID: 819 4447 7024

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- examples of conflictual or non-conflictual co-production of knowledge in different urban settings

- presentation of teaching methodologies and practices that promote collaborative research and co-production of knowledge in urban settings

1. **Mapping urban morphology on OSM for the purpose of Urban analysis teaching. Towards a teaching-learning experiment of Architecture master Students at the University of Biskra, Algeria**

Youcef Mokrane; y.mokrane@univ-biskra.dz (University of Biskra, Algeria)

Saïd Mazouz; s_mazouz_dz@yahoo.fr (University of Oum Elboughi, Algeria)

This paper presents a teaching experiment with master students of Architecture at the university of Biskra (Algeria) during the academic year 2020-2021. It consists of using OpenStreetMap platform to map local urban forms in several cities and rural areas in Algeria for the purpose of an "urban analysis" exercise. Through a defined course outline and Intended Learning Outcomes, the main objectives of this experiment are to engage students in using integrated platforms of urban data in the analysis process of an architectural project design as well as engaging them in more understanding objective and sensible links between architectural building projects and environment values. The literature review focuses on using OSM as a pedagogical tool in Architecture school as well as a tool of mapping urban morphology. It discusses whether integrating web GIS could be used in urban analysis methods. The methodology is based on a statistical analysis of student assignment reports. It focuses on a comparison between three data groups; the course outline and assignment data, the environmental data provided by students and the OSM mapped

geometries and attributes. Preliminary results show that due to the environmental urban or rural context and the nature of mapped objects themselves, a differential attention on some forms and data than others are observed. Buildings and roads are more precisely mapped than land use areas, open spaces, and punctual objects. Attributes of morphological aspects are also more documented than use and functions data. A lack of mapping sensible data such as landscapes, heritage and place particularities are also observed. This first experiment shows the importance of engaging Architecture pedagogy in a reliable process of integrated urban data for the decision-making process towards the architectural design. It shows otherwise the necessity to integrate more sensible and local data in webGIS platforms.

2. PPM-ESPRESSO – Project Learning and Transformation through Students´ Projects in a Real-World Lab

Ulrich Holzbaur; ulrich.holzbaur@hs-aalen.de (Aalen University, Germany)

Annika Beifuss; annika.beifuss@hs-aalen.de (Aalen University, Germany)

Experiential orientation in Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) can provide innovative methods to foster sustainable development through formal and informal education. Sustainable Development could be taught as an academic subject without real life impact. However, the orientation towards the future and the shaping of competences needs and deserve a real-world impact- And for that, we need innovative methods of teaching and learning. In order to achieve these goals and to ease students´ learning, we developed the ESPRESSO method – Experience Science and Practical Relevance and learn Sustainably via Sustainability Projects. Project learning is more than just doing a project in the course of lectured material. To be successful, project learning needs to be planned in two aspects: The project must succeed with regard to the project result (output, outcome, impact) and the learning outcome as a result of the didactical project including preparation and evaluation. For this, we developed the PPP Method of Prepared Projects. Projects are well-defined tasks to achieve the project goal by a dedicated team within a well-defined time and with limited resources. In education and training, they can help to acquire knowledge and skills in an action-oriented setting. To apply projects successfully, there must be good preparation and a balance between theory and practice. In the context of the PPM method and the ESPRESSO projects, we concentrate on those projects that give students from the first year up to Master´s degree a valuable insight into real world projects, a chance to impact their community and their own personal development. This is an example for transdisciplinary research in a real-world lab and furthermore contributes to (education for) sustainable development outside the university.

3. Assessing a teaching methodology to reduce university students' ecological footprint

Claire Wagner; claire.wagner@up.ac.za (University of Pretoria, South Africa)

Jeremy Gibberd; itshose@gmail.com (CSIR, South Africa)

One of the outcomes of the coronavirus pandemic has been a call for us to reflect on our relationship with the natural world as well as the sustainability of our current lifestyles. A way of measuring the impact of our lifestyles on natural resources is termed "ecological footprint" (EF). While there is some literature on reducing the EFs of university students, requiring them to develop, implement, assess, and reflect on their own intervention seems to be less well studied. This paper will discuss a teaching methodology used to reduce university students' EF as part of a master's course on environmental psychology. The students were required to calculate their EF, develop an intervention to reduce their EF, measure the effectiveness of the intervention and to reflect on their experiences of the process in the form of a diary. This methodology created experiential activities and a curriculum that allowed students to co-create their own solutions with the purpose of building sustainable identities. Furthermore, as potential future workers in the field of environmental psychology, engaging in this process may give the master's students some insight into the mechanisms of developing, implementing, and measuring interventions to address people's relationship with nature, specifically reducing people's EFs in this case.

Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability
Prof. Gabriel Faimau

GCSMUS Lead Partner, Steering Committee Member, and Action Speaker
University of Botswana | Department of Sociology

Stream C: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82987169154?pwd=TDk5c2xUVXRoWG9mS0w2OVkveHRzQT09

Meeting ID: 829 8716 9154

Passcode: 462600

Session 9:
Interpretative and Multi-Method Approaches to Global-South-Migration

Date and Time

Saturday, 25.09.2021, 14.30 – 16.30

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82987169154?pwd=TDk5c2xUVXRoWG9mS0w2OVkveHRzQT09

Meeting ID: 829 8716 9154

Passcode: 462600

Session Organizers

Arne Worm; arne.worm@sowi.uni-goettingen.de (University of Göttingen, Germany)

Steve Tonah; stonah@ug.edu.gh (University of Ghana, Ghana)

This session aims to discuss potentials and challenges of, as well as innovative approaches to interpretative research on migration and mobility in the context of the Global South. Migration research – especially in societies of the "Global North" – tends to have a narrow and state-centered view on migration (e.g., focusing predominantly on economic "worth" of migration, bordering or on questions of "assimilation" or "integration"). It oftentimes neglects the complex and changing social realities of migration and mobility towards, within, and more specifically, outside of the "Global North". Interpretative methodologies seek to understand social phenomena by giving priority to the level of everyday life, meaning of experiences, (life-)histories and (inter-)actions of 'individuals' and collectives, and the relations or figurations between them. Furthermore, an important principle of interpretative methodology is to be sensitive, open, and adaptive towards the nature of the phenomena under research. In the context of migration and mobility, this means dealing with very dynamic processes connected to social changes on different levels. We welcome contributions, which are empirically based on qualitative-interpretative research and discuss how interpretative methods and their combination contribute to a better understanding of migration and mobility within and between societies of the Global South and Global North.

1. Interpretative and Multi-Method Approaches to Global-South-Migration

Arne Worm; arne.worm@sowi.uni-goettingen.de (University of Göttingen, Germany)

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2. Using Multi-Site Ethnography for Return Migration Studies during the Pandemic Covid-19, The Case of Lampung Province, Indonesia

Helmia Adita Fitra; helmia@pwk.itera.ac.id (Institut Teknologi Sumatera; Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, Indonesia)

The spread of the Covid-19 virus in late 2019 appears to be a watershed moment for migration scholars and related development actors. While the pandemics has clearly and significantly altered migration patterns, there is hardly any robust data on these effects, i.e., on the nature and extent of "covid-induced" migration. This has led both scientific and practitioners alike to rethink how they can obtain data from migrants during a pandemic situation for research purposes. In migration studies, multi-site ethnography is a widely established research strategy. It allows the researcher to observe the migrants within a specific period. However, the pandemic situation has caused people to isolate or at least maintain social distance. This makes it difficult to collect data from them – not only in quantitative studies but also when applying qualitative research strategies. Most people currently rely on the internet to support their activity. A particular type of migration seems to have become rather salient in the pandemic situation: return migration. Many migrants return to their place of origin for several reasons. However, it is very difficult to study remigration because most of the migrant's place of origin (to where they return) do not have internet access. At this point, this paper discusses the viability of multi-site ethnography for migration research in general and return migration in the current pandemic situation in particular. The study case is return migration emanating from Lampung Province, Indonesia. The paper will illustrate and substantiate the methodological approach chosen in the case study as well as highlight what kind of insights it will (hopefully) deliver.

3. Guangzhou: A Jungle for African diaspora and for Knowledge Production

Liang Chen; liang.chen1@anu.edu.au (Australian National University, China)

The destinations of African diasporas during the slave trade and in the second half of the 20th century used to be European countries and the Americas. However, since the new millennium, African business people and students gravitating to China (and other Asian countries) have caught much scholarly attention. Such a new wave of diaspora does not only entail a change of migratory routes but has complicated the dichotomy of the South and the North. While the US and Europe remain attractive destinations for many Africans, China and some Asian countries serve as alternative options or at least transitional places. For instance, Guangzhou city is reputed as having abundant opportunities for achieving wealth and success for African business people. Nevertheless, the city is also the source of dismay and prolonged suffering, thanks to its strict immigration policies and local discrimination to the extent that Africans regard it as a "jungle" of dangers and uncertainties. Besides, many students chose to study in Guangzhou just because they do not have access to Europe or the US. Therefore, the interim or "limbo" nature of the new migratory experience to China, together with the city's Janus-faced conditions, open up new research themes and renovative research methodologies. How can we grapple with migratory experiences, not only the spatial movements but the temporalities, of the migrants? How are certain places associated with significances of the past, of the present, and the future? Furthermore, would researchers from China, the US/Europe and Africa be subject to their cultural premises, language capacity, and topical preferences? This paper argues that the self-knowledge of Africans in Guangzhou and the knowledge production are equally a confusion of tongues because of Guangzhou's interim spatial and temporal features.

4. **Researching current migration: A case for theoretical and methodological eclecticism**

Felix Chilumpha; (University of Botswana, Botswana)

France Maphosa; maphosaf@ub.ac.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)

Abednico Kabelo Maphuru; obdolezar@gmail.com (University of Botswana, Botswana)

Migration has been changing over the years in terms of its causes, scale, dynamics, and consequences. This presents challenges for both its research and theorizing. Traditionally, migration was conceptualised as a unidirectional process involving people changing places of residence – moving from place of origin to place of destination, permanently or semi-permanently. Economic factors were given prominence as "pull" factors and "push" factors. People were seen to be pulled to places of destination by better economic prospects in those areas than in places of origin. In the same vein, people were viewed as being pushed from their place origin by the harsh socio-economic and political factors. Once in their places of destination, the interest of migration theorists and researchers was largely the integration of migrants into their new environments. Contemporary trends in migration such as transnationalism, irregular migration, feminization, child migration and its non-linearity call for eclecticism in both its theorizing and research. This paper looks at how the transnationalisation of migration requires a multi-paradigmatic and multi-method approach in order to capture the lived experiences of migrants. Transnationalism presents partic-

ular challenges to the traditional conceptualisation, operationalization and measurement migration as researchers try to understand transnational experiences such as multiple involvements and multiple exclusions, cultural hybridization, and identity formation.

5. Methodological challenges to the understanding of the relationship between climate change and migration in Africa

France Maphosa; maphosaf@ub.ac.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)

While evidence of climate change is increasing, its consequences on migration are not clear. This is because migration is an outcome of many other factors which make establishing a causal relationship between climate change and the decision to leave difficult. The relationship between climate change and migration is therefore complex and requires the adoption of different methodologies in migration research with more emphasis on qualitative methods. Furthermore, most of the literature on African migration is by writers from the West. There is need for the Africanisation of the study of African migration.

6. A multi-dimensional and multi-data approach for understanding socio-spatial inequality shaping and reshaping urban-rural transitional zones

Ava Lynam; a.lynam@tu-berlin.de (Technical University of Berlin, Germany)

Huang Huang; huanghuang25@tongji.edu.cn (Tongji University Shanghai, China)

Fengqing Li; fengqing@shu.edu.cn (Shanghai University, China)

Utzig Lukas; l.utzig@tu-berlin.de (Technical University of Berlin, Germany)

Gaoli Xiao; gaoli.xiao@outlook.com (Technical University of Berlin,)

The scale and pace of global urban expansion is resulting in conflicting and uneven socio-spatial development between city and countryside. Urban-rural interfaces have become operational landscapes of trans-local transformation, characterised by polarising socio-economic disparities and unequal resource distributions. Already two decades ago, urbanist Neil Brenner highlighted multi-scalar methodologies as crucial in understanding the social production of space within such planetary urbanisation. Despite this, multi-dimensional socio-spatial methodologies for studying inequality lack sufficient elaboration. While factors generating social inequality are more clearly outlined, spatial inequality remains comparatively fuzzy in definition and scope – yet holds great potential in revealing the production and reproduction of segregation. In rapidly transitioning 'Global South' contexts – in which space is not fixed, but fluid, shaped by layers of social activity – traditional methodologies may not capture all dimensions of inequality in hybrid and fragmented hinterlands. Our original methodological approach thus proposes a more comprehensive view of this entangled socio-spatial relationship, exploring what combinations of quantitative and qualitative methods – multi-scalar/data/dimensional/directional – reveal how social inequalities are reflected in spatial structure during rural-urban transformation, based on three interacting levels. At

macro-scale (municipality), Big Data (Location Based Services) and computational spatial analysis (Space Syntax) identify patterns, trends, and flows in the spatial structure in terms of accessibility and distribution of urban-rural functions. At an identified meso-scale (neighbourhood) node, stakeholder analysis reveals negotiations and power relations that shape and reshape space. Finally, identified typologies of inequality at micro-scale (architecture) are described through detailed ethnographic and architectural mapping, analysing everyday meanings and experiences behind larger-scale networks and patterns. To test this methodological assemblage, an inductive pilot study – at Huangyan-Taizhou within the Yangtze River Delta, whose urban-rural interface is at the centre of globalised industrial upgrading processes – reveals interlinking drivers and factors of socio-spatial inequality, through generating a multi-scalar empirical visualisation of (im)mobilities, socio-economic networks, segregation patterns, and their impact on spatial form. Embodying a typical planetary urbanisation trajectory, the study at Huangyan can be scaled-up as a multi-data framework for interpreting socio-spatial inequality in other transitional global contexts, supporting the relocation of theory production.

Session 22:
Survey Data Quality in Interviewer-Administered Surveys in LMIC Contexts

Date and Time

Friday, 24.09.2021, 16.30 – 18.30

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82987169154?pwd=TDk5c2xUVXRoWG9mS0w2OVkveHRzQT09

Meeting ID: 829 8716 9154

Passcode: 462600

Session organizers

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In low- and middle-income (LMIC) countries both within and outside Africa, interviewer-administered, face-to-face (F2F) surveys are and will remain the main data collection tool for the foreseeable future. In fact, previous research has shown that 85% of surveys in LMIC countries published in renowned social science journals between January 2010 and October 2015 were conducted in a face-to-face context. While high penetration of smartphones and internet usage facilitates the transition to often less costly self-administered mobile and web surveys in high-income countries, their absence underlies the continued reliance on face-to-face surveys in countries with fewer resources. Considerably few people in these countries, particularly in rural areas, are connected to the internet or have reliable telephone connections. Varying levels of literacy in such contexts also presents a challenge to collecting data in modes other than F2F. Therefore, telephone and web surveys for a general population survey are difficult to implement. In this setting in which both survey implementers and respondents are highly dependent on interviewers, the role of the interviewer and assessment of data quality vulnerable to error introduced by interviewers is particularly critical. However, there has been limited research in the translation of relevant quality assessment approaches to LMIC contexts. The objective of this session is to explore approaches to quality assurance and quality control relating to F2F surveys in LMIC countries. Papers will focus on how survey researchers and practitioners, particularly across Africa, consider quality in those components of the total survey error framework where interviewers are likely to introduce error. This session welcomes research on practical approaches to minimizing and assessing interviewer-related error in these contexts as well as on implementation of innovative approaches to achieving collection of high-quality data in interviewer-administered surveys.

1. The Anchoring Method: Estimation of Interviewer Effects in the Absence of Inter-penetrated Sample Assignment

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Methodological studies of the effects that human interviewers can have on the quality of survey data have long been limited by a critical assumption: that interviewers in a given survey are assigned completely random subsets of the larger overall sample that is being measured (also known as interpenetrated assignment). In the absence of this type of study design, estimates of interviewer effects on survey measures of interest may simply reflect differences between interviewers in the characteristics of their assigned sample members, rather than recruitment or measurement effects specifically introduced by the interviewers. We introduce a new Bayesian approach for overcoming this lack of interpenetrated assignment when estimating interviewer effects. This approach, which we refer to as the "anchoring" method, leverages correlations between observed variables that are unlikely to be affected by interviewers ("anchors") and variables that may be prone to interviewer effects (e.g., sensitive, or complex factual questions) to statistically remove components of within-interviewer correlations that a lack of interpenetrated assignment may introduce. The improved estimates of interviewer effects on survey measures will enable survey managers to manage data collection more effectively in real time and intervene when particular interviewers are producing survey outcomes that vary substantially from expectations. We evaluate this new methodology empirically using a simulation study, and then illustrate its application using real survey data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), where interviewer IDs are systematically provided on public-use data files.

2. Do SMS messages improve response rates in a longitudinal phone survey? Evidence from an electricity sector survey in Benin

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This paper presents experimental evidence on the effect of SMS pre-notification on telephone survey response rates and attrition in a longitudinal survey of electricity consumers in Benin. The survey began with an in-person baseline survey in mid-2019 and includes 10 waves of telephone follow-up surveys over a 5-year period. The sample includes three distinct cohorts: households, small businesses, and medium to large businesses. In the second wave of the telephone survey,

half of each cohort was randomly selected to receive SMS pre-notification prior to the first survey contact attempt. No pre-notification messages were sent in the subsequent wave. We compared the survey response rates for pre-notification and control groups in the initial SMS-treated wave to understand the immediate effect of these messages. We then reviewed results for the subsequent wave to ascertain whether the messages affected future attrition. We found that SMS pre-notification led to a small but significant increase (7 percentage points) in the response rate for households in the initial wave but no change in the response rate for the small business or medium/large business cohorts. In the subsequent wave, which did not include an SMS pre-notification, we found that businesses which had received pre-notification in the initial wave were significantly less likely to respond in the subsequent wave. Response rates were 7 percentage points lower for the pre-notification group in the small business cohort and 14 percentage points lower in the medium/large business group. We conclude that SMS pre-notification has mixed results across sample types for this longitudinal phone survey and may even increase attrition in certain cases.

3. Data Quality Control approaches in the LeCellPHIA phone based COVID-19 Surveillance Survey

Gerald Mwima; gm2915@cumc.columbia.edu (ICAP at Columbia University, Lesotho)

Background: The global COVID-19 pandemic swiftly shifted interactions from physical to virtual and accelerated the use of cell phone surveys in low and middle-income countries. From May 2020 ICAP in Lesotho established a phone-based community surveillance system to collect influenza-like illness (ILI) symptoms from a subset of respondents who had participated in the Lesotho Population-based HIV Impact Assessment (PHIA). Interviewers administer a weekly questionnaire to 1700 respondents uploading data daily to a central server.

Objective: The objective of this abstract is to describe the approach to quality assurance and quality control for a cell phone surveillance system in Lesotho.

Methodology: Any interviewer-administered mode is prone to interviewer error. Therefore, practical approaches to identifying, minimizing, and addressing interviewer-related error in these contexts is critical. This paper describes our experience assuring quality in the telephone interviews. For the Lesotho Cell phone-based Population HIV Impact Assessment (PHIA) survey (LeCellPHIA), survey calls were recorded and reviewed by supervisors to assess performance of interviewers to identify measurement errors. To assess interviewer influence on nonresponse error, response rates for all interviewers were tracked weekly. Interviewers who had Response Rates below 75% had performance discussions with their supervisors to explore challenges they were facing and devise ways of improvement.

Results: The survey recruited 1,700 index participants who received weekly call interviews inquiring if they or any of their HH members reported Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) symptoms, as a proxy for COVID-19 symptoms in the past week. Interviewers inquired about fever, dry cough, and

shortness of breath for the participants as well as household members. We experienced a challenge with play back of recorded interviews as only the respondent side was captured and not the interviewer side. However, based on the participant's responses the supervisors were able to determine the quality of the interview as sufficient or requiring engagement with the interviewer. Response rates were generally good at 75% on average with minimal occasions where less than 75% RR was achieved with a need to engage interviewers about their performance. However male interviewers were more likely than their female counterparts to have lower RR were their female respondents expressed concerns from their spouses who had discomfort with a male regularly calling their spouse. In these rare cases the participant was re-allocated to a similar gender interviewer but overall, interviewers and respondents were not gender matched. From the weekly interviews data was uploaded analysed and weekly ILI-estimates were generated and shared with CDC and MoH.

Discussion: We found that establishing rapport and connections with the participants occurred and fostered trusted relationships between interviewers and participants with high week on week response rates. In some cases, concerns arose especially from non-gender matched pairs particularly female respondents who had to be switched from Male to female interviewers. Whereas the surveillance system was not directly evaluating incidence of COVID-19 symptoms trends from this ILI system mirrored national prevalence data collected by a completely different laboratory reporting system indicating good acceptable quality data through the telephone survey.

Conclusion: We find telephone interviews are a valuable method of collecting data especially in the context of COVID-19.

4. Introducing real-time quality control systems for face-to-face interviewing

Alexandra Cronberg; alexandra.cronberg@kantar.com (Kantar, Kenya)

Godfrey Akisa; godfrey.akisa@kantar.com (Kantar, Kenya)

Intro: The role of interviewers is critical in face-to-face surveys, and it is essential that this type of interviewing applies rigorous quality control measures to minimize interviewer-introduced errors. The more of these checks can be done in real-time, the more efficient the fieldwork. To address the challenge of real-time monitoring and quality control checks, Kantar has developed an online tool for computer-assisted personal interviewing based on the CAPI software Nfield ("Kantar Quality Control System", KQCS) that enables monitoring and quality control on the go. Kantar also deploys Microsoft Forms for instantaneous reporting of infield back-checks, and the Nfield audit trail tool for monitoring of question duration. Methods: The KQCS has been developed to allow for the following capabilities:

Monitoring:

View of real-time count of interviews (Live, test, dropped out, rejected, screened out, successful count).

View of Survey / Project Overview (Quota, Quota framework, GPS, maps, variable reporting)

Quality control:

View all survey data live

View all surveys / records with important survey-specific metrics flagged, e.g., length of interview, duration for securing the next interview, working hours, putting a limit to straight lining

Access the details of the records / surveys that have breached the survey specific metrics

Edit and re-run survey-specific metrics

Accept or reject records flagged

Kantar uses Microsoft Forms to collect reports generated by infield personnel who conduct back-checks and accompaniments. The reports provide real-time statistics for each interviewer, which allows for quick actions to address potential quality concerns. The Nfield audit trail provides a breakdown of time spent administering each question or question blocks, allowing for scrutiny of each interviewer and is pivotal in flagging incorrect questionnaire administration. Discussion and conclusions: The above-mentioned measures have resulted in reduced interviewer error rates during fieldwork due to early diagnosis of problems and immediate remedial actions. The KQCS is, however, currently limited in the number of variables that can be included and Kantar is working to expand its capabilities.

5. Monitoring Interviewers Real-Time: A Data-driven Tool

Zeina Mneimneh; zeinam@umich.edu (Survey Research Center, University of Michigan)

Interviewers have the potential to contribute to error in face-to-face surveys. To monitor interviewer behaviour and reduce this error source, survey practitioners have used different quality control procedures including call-backs, audio recordings, and in-person evaluation. These procedures have been recently supplemented by the increased use of data-driven tools to achieve greater efficiency and improve data quality. Such tools allow for closer and real-time interviewer monitoring especially in international work with geographically distant field operations.

This presentation will focus on the development of a real-time tool for monitoring interviewers using multiple sources of data, including contact attempt history, audit trail data, and key survey measures. Two types of measures are implemented: 1) a non-comparative measure where interviewers are flagged based on a specified metric; and 2) a comparative measure where interviewers are flagged based on their relative performance to other interviewers. Non-comparative measures include very short administration of a single question (less than 3 seconds), visiting a single question more than three times, and short duration between interviews. Comparative measures include interview length and proportion of key survey measures. The presentation will also highlight two key features of the tool: 1) the ability to drill down to a single question within the tool when a question is flagged, 2) and the ability to graph comparative measures over time.

Session 23:
Assessing the Quality of Data Survey

Date and Time

Friday, 24.09.2021, 14.00 – 16.00

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82987169154?pwd=TDk5c2xUVXRoWG9mS0w2OVkveHRzQT09

Meeting ID: 829 8716 9154

Passcode: 462600

Session organizers

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This session will provide a series of original investigations on data quality in both national and international contexts. The starting premise is that all survey data contain a mixture of substantive and methodologically induced variation. Most current work focuses primarily on random measurement error, which is usually treated as normally distributed. However, there are a large number of different kinds of systematic measurement errors, or more precisely, there are many different sources of methodologically induced variation and all of them may have a strong influence on the "substantive" solutions. To the sources of methodologically induced variation belong response sets and response styles, misunderstandings of questions, translation and coding errors, uneven standards between the research institutes involved in the data collection (especially in cross-national research), item- and unit non-response, as well as faked interviews. We will consider data as of high quality in case the methodologically induced variation is low, i.e., the differences in responses can be interpreted based on theoretical assumptions in the given area of research. The aim of the session is to discuss different sources of methodologically induced variation in survey research, how to detect them and the effects they have on the substantive findings. Keywords: Quality of data, task simplification, response styles, satisficing.

1. Combining Research Elicited Data and Processed Produced Data in the Sociology of Deviance

Khumo Motshwari; motshwarikp@gmail.com (University of Augsburg, Germany)

Processed produced mass data has always been criticized for its limitations and inability to address certain kinds of research questions, and this is buttressed by arguments in (Baur, 2019),

who highlighted that the data is usually not produced for research purposes but is usually a side product of social processes. Process produced data such as administrative data that are collected by government ministries and organizations constitute an important data source that can be useful in research but are often not sufficient alone to answer different kinds of research questions, especially when they are used in isolation. Whilst these limitations are evident and indisputable, it is equally clear that such data can be effectively harnessed to answer specific types of research questions, and this paper offers an example of the usefulness of process produced data in studying juvenile delinquency. This paper intends to use the Botswana Youth Risk Behavioral and Biological Surveillance Survey by the Ministry of Basic Education as a form of process produced data set, to analyse the factors associated with juvenile delinquency in Botswana. Whilst the report in itself provides a basis from which to launch the study, it cannot answer other uniquely qualitative research questions that would require thorough descriptions from the juveniles involved in these acts of deviance. This paper therefore uses this as a starting point to explore the possibilities and potentialities associated with combining process produced data with research elicited data, with the ultimate aim being to demonstrate how doing so offers more satisficing research results. This a methodological approach that has not yet been extensively applied in the context of Botswana, and other African countries, and therefore the paper will open discussions on the possibilities of conducting research in this manner, especially where process produced data sets are publicly accessible and available.

2. Challenges of Representativeness in Survey Research: An Evaluation of the ERiK Surveys 2020

Gedon Benjamin; gedon@dji.de (German Youth Institute (DJI), Germany)

At what point can we claim that survey data and results are representative of the entire population? And what actions can researchers take to improve representativeness? Despite the fact that these questions are fundamental to almost any research endeavour, they are rarely explicitly addressed. This presentation aims to address this gap and showcases the challenges of generalisability faced by many researchers by discussing the approach taken by the national study "Indicator based monitoring of structural quality in the German early childhood education and care system (ERiK for short)". We first describe the ERiK survey concept, which consists of five cross-sectional surveys in 2020, covering the multiple stakeholder perspectives of directors and pedagogical staff in day-care facilities, family day-care workers, youth welfare offices and day-care facility providers. We then evaluate the quality of the ERiK data collection with regard to their representativeness, especially for the 16 German federal states, focusing in particular on selectivity due to varying sampling and participation probabilities. We use several different measurements for this assessment, including comparisons between actual and ideal sample size, the share of respondents of the total population and the response rate. Additionally, we discuss other possible sources of error at different stages of the survey process (summarised in the concept of the Total Survey Error) and develop appropriate weighting factors. We conclude that the ERiK surveys 2020 can be considered representative and therefore

can be used to make generalised statements about the quality of child day-care in Germany. Finally, we review some limitations of the datasets.

3. Evidence on Non-Response and Coverage Bias in German Provider Surveys

Lisa Ulrich; lulrich@dji.de (Deutsches Jugendinstitut, Germany)

In Germany, nearly all pre-school children attend a childcare center facilitated by a public or private provider. Since early childhood education and care (ECEC) has long-lasting educational benefits for children, debates about the quality of services and related research increase as well as the number of provider surveys being conducted rises. However, sampling frames for providers are not available and provider registries are not administered in Germany, so that the survey quality of these provider surveys and the consequences for respective survey estimates have not been scrutinized. In this article, we assess the risk of observing non-response and coverage bias in provider surveys on exemplary point estimates, namely, the share of children attending childcare centers. We accomplish this task comparing distributions based on registry data on childcare facilities as well as survey data on providers and on childcare facilities from the ERiK Surveys 2020. We find that the combined extent of nonresponse and noncoverage biases the point estimate of up to 10 percent. Considering the detrimental consequences of biases that high for political and societal planning, the results show that the distributions based on unweighted provider survey data can only be used to a limited extent. Furthermore, the paper shows that statistical adjustments through weighting can minimize bias due to non-coverage and non-response for the exemplary outcome. The paper thereby introduces a procedure for future provider studies to evaluate their survey quality respectably the generalisability of their point estimates.

4. Pilot studies: A useful Methodological Principle in Quantitative Research

Joy Tauetsile; tauetsilej@ub.ac.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)

Commonly known as 'feasibility' studies pilot studies are designed to assess the feasibility of a large, expensive full-scale study and are an essential pre- requisite in social science research. The objective of this paper is to provide lessons learnt conducting a pilot study by providing the key aspects of the pilot study including a) Sample selection and data collection b) Outcomes of the pilot and application to main study c) Deciding on the measures and / or scales to use for main study based on pilot study results d) Fieldwork protocol and logistical problems experienced during the pilot e) The criteria for evaluating success of a pilot study and (f) reporting the results of a pilot investigation. In discussing these aspects this paper will make reference to two papers "Measuring Employee Engagement: Utretch Work Engagement Scale (UWES) or Intellectual, Social, and Affective Scale (ISA)" and "Employee Engagement in Non-Western contexts: The link between Social Resources, Ubuntu and Employee Engagement". The former was the pilot inquiry for the latter. The paper will conclude by elaborating and discussing the challenges and the valuable lessons learnt during a pilot investigation which assisted in making appropriate methodological decisions for the main inquiry.

Session 24:
Digital Methods in Action: Use, Challenges and Prospects

Date and Time

Thursday, 23.09.2021, 14.00 – 16.00

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82987169154?pwd=TDk5c2xUVXRoWG9mS0w2OVkveHRzQT09

Meeting ID: 829 8716 9154

Passcode: 462600

Gabriel Faimau; Faimaug@UB.AC.BW (University of Botswana, Botswana)

Ludovic Lado; directeurcefod@gmail.com (CEFOD Business School, Chad)

Jannis Hergesell; jannis.hergesell@tu-berlin.de (Technical University of Berlin, Germany)

The emergence of digital methods has presented various ways of studying and understanding digital phenomena in general as well as online and internet-related research in particular. This includes studies of online archived objects, online spatial analysis, social media and social networking, online network mapping, and various online social, political, economic, and cultural references. Internet and online environment researchers have lately focused on addressing the following issues: How digital methods provide tools to respond to the challenge of Big Data on the one hand and how digital methods provide a base for what scholars call "online groundedness" in order to examine various socio-political change and cultural conditions shaped by online dynamics and constellations on the other? These digital methods widen the scope of researchers and change research practices and subjects fundamentally. However, this also raises "classical" questions of empirical social research: How are sampling strategies, data collection and methodological procedures changing? Do conventional quality criteria need to be adapted or supplemented? This session provides a unique platform to reflect on practical use of digital methods in various research fields and map out frameworks for exploring new possibilities for online social science research as well as encourage critical discussions on recent trends in the field of digital methods. We invite papers that address ways of doing and using digital methods, including but not limited to: Internet research and methodological innovation: Digital methods of social media research. Digital methods in studies of online political discourses and participation. Ethics and questions of digital research. Practical use and challenges of doing digital research and methods. Mixing methods in researching digital landscape. Insights from dealing with Big Data. Techniques and challenges of online data collection. Interdisciplinary cooperation between technical and social sciences on digital methods. Enhancement of "established" research designs by digital methods. Online participatory action research.

1. Digital Methods in Action: Use, Challenges and Prospects

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2. Measuring travel behaviour via smartphones

Vera Toepoel; v.toepoel@uu.nl (Utrecht university, Nederland)

Smartphone apps are starting to be commonly used to measure travel behaviour. The advantage of smartphone apps is that they can use location sensors in mobile phones to keep track of where people go at what time at relatively high precision. In this presentation, we report on a large fieldwork test conducted by Statistics Netherlands and Utrecht University in November 2018. A random sample of about 1900 individuals was drawn from the Dutch population register and invited to install an app and keep that for a week. Based on an algorithm the app divided each day into "stops" and "tracks" (trips), which were fed back to respondents in a diary-style list separately for every day. Respondents were then asked to provide further details on for example the mode of travel and purpose of trips. Having both sensor data and survey data allows us to investigate

measurement error in stops, trips, and details about these in some detail. This presentation focuses in identifying. 1) False positives: a stop was presented to a respondent that wasn't a stop (and by definition also a track connecting this stop to another one). How can we identify such occasions, how did respondents react to false positives, and how can we correct for this in estimates of travel behaviour? 2) False negatives: stops were missing from the diary (often because a Respondent forgot the phone, or GPS tracking was not working properly). How often did this happen, how did respondents react (they could add a stop, but often didn't) and can we say anything about their possible impact on estimates? We conclude with a discussion of how to generally move forward in combining sensor and survey data for tracking studies.

3. The digital and digitalised self: The use of selfie as a methodological and discursive strategy in the relational experiences among young people in Botswana

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Digitalisation has brought the question of self-identity, particularly the construction of digital self-identity among young people, to a critical point: existential negotiation of the self in a digital space. As young people continue to spend much of their lives in the online and digital space, the digital self has become more ingrained in the day-to-day individual lives and performances. The emergence of self-portrait, popularly known as the selfie, adds a new dimension to the self-performativity in the digital space as it brings along a new culture that shapes self-presentation, social relationships, and socio-digital consumption. While operating within the context of media logic, selfie-taking and selfie-posting also offer a glimpse into young people's mental dispositions in our contemporary digital and mediatized world. Drawing on data collected through self-administered questionnaires completed by 411 participants and 20 qualitative interviews, this paper will focus on examining the following: first, how selfie culture offers a new digital space for interactional experiment and identity formation among young people; second, how young people adopt selfie-taking and selfie-posting as methodological and discursive strategies as they navigate their relational experiences in the contemporary digital world and culture; third, how participation and performance in online and digital environments contribute to the sense of self and socio-digital interaction among young people.

4. Fieldwork reflective views on web-based surveys among young people in Botswana

Tumisang Tsholetso; Tsholetsot@ub.ac.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)

The Covid 19 pandemic has been a wakeup call for a lot of developing countries including Botswana. Developing nations find themselves playing catch up with the developed world when it comes to the digital space. Researchers in the south are grappling with the unprecedented push

towards the much-dreaded methodological technologies as a way of conducting social science research. The use of online surveys has become an inescapable choice. The exponential increase of smartphone use places the topic of web-based surveys at the center of survey methodology discussions. However, there is limited literature on the benefits and drawbacks of conducting these digital web-based surveys via smartphones in the global south specifically, Botswana. This article reflects issues pertinent to the doctoral researcher' practical fieldwork experiences on the urban youth context in Gaborone on the Social Capital and the Contested Networking Space: Smartphone Use among Young People in Botswana study. This paper addresses key methodological and ethical issues emanating from the quantitative web-based surveys from a sample of youth in four purposively sampled institutions in Botswana; the complexities surrounding gaining access, the identification process, the navigating exercise, the quality of data and different degrees of ethical concern regarding privacy, transparency, confidentiality, and security. The existing methodology literature tends to simplify these processes. Fieldwork experience arguable suggests that the literature is partially applicable; nonetheless, there are further critical issues that need to be considered by researchers. The increasingly technological mediated nature shows how timely and important this article is right now in response to COVID-19.

5. Using a Facebook group for data collection as an alternative to conventional ethnographic methods during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic – challenges and opportunities

Cornelia Thierbach; m.thierbach@tu-berlin.de (Technical University of Berlin, Germany)

Due to the pandemic and the accompanying preventative healthcare measures, collecting empirical data in face-to-face situations were limited in Germany. Therefore, we decided to explore an alternative form of data collection using social media, namely a Facebook group. In this talk, I want to reflect on our experience with this approach and what challenges and opportunities we faced. Background of this study is the interdisciplinary research project "UbiAct" which deals with smart kitchens. We are asking how such technologies influence everyday life in general as well as practices and routines in the kitchen in particular. For this purpose, it is necessary to clarify how people currently experience their kitchen to obtain a basis for comparison and to see how widespread such technologies already are in everyday life. This research question is at the center of our inquiry using the Facebook group but was originally designed as ethnographic phase within our research project. Considering that food and cooking are widely discussed topics on social media, this approach seemed quiet promising as well as appropriate during the pandemic. We decided for a Facebook group for several reasons: (a) provided features (e.g., possibility to upload videos, pictures, and comments), (b) locating contributions at one place (and not spread out on participants' profile pages), (c) hosting the group as private, and (d) the demographic structure of Facebook users is more diverse compared to other social media platforms in Germany. Reflecting on this research study in general, we can state that this form of data collection works. However, we need to take a closer look at several methodological topics that affect generalization of results as well as data quality, in particular: sampling strategies, data collection and their provision by

participants, dealing with different kinds of data, asynchronous of communication, and group dynamics.

6. Prophetic Ministries and Religious Flyers in Botswana: of Urban and Digital Spaces?

Tshoganetso Dolly Ramooki; Ramookit@ub.ac.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)

Gabriel Faimau; Faimaug@UB.AC.BW (University of Botswana, Botswana)

Wame Maryjoy Kesebonye; kesebonyew@ub.ac.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)

The secularisation thesis of Peter Berger affirms that a pluralistic condition offers a market situation. Consequently, as stated by Berger, "religious institutions become market agencies and the religious traditions become consumer commodities." This paper examines Berger's thesis by focusing on the adoption of secular advertising among prophetic ministries and how this contributes to the religious practices in Botswana. Over the past few years, the public presence of prophetic ministries in Botswana has been supported massively by creative advertisement of religious events and religious figures through the use of flyers. Applying the discursive approach and techniques of marketing, flyers of prophetic ministries emphasize the pull factors that bring economic and spiritual benefits. Urban and digital spaces are two common spaces that are popularly used to circulate religious flyers. In Botswana, religious flyers can be easily found in offices, schools, urban roads, bus stations and shopping malls. The same flyers are also posted online on various social media platforms or circulated through WhatsApp messengers. This paper explores the trends of religious marketing, the characteristics of religious flyers and how the circulation of religious flyers desecularises urban and digital spaces as they turn the common secular adverts into religious texts in public places. In particular, the paper examines how religious flyers reconstruct religious practices of prophetic ministries and the extent to which their circulation in the urban and digital spaces reinforces public religious imagination. We suggest that religious flyers do not only facilitate the socio-religious acceleration of communicative messages or increase the social visibility of prophetic ministries in public spaces. The use and circulation of religious flyers in urban and digital spaces also function as symbolic resources and reference points for urban and digital aesthetics and the need for public and religious reflexivity.

Session 25:

Researching Climate Change Communication:

Methodological Challenges and Opportunities in the Digital Era

Date and Time

Thursday, 23.09.2021, 16.30 – 18.30

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82987169154?pwd=TDk5c2xUVXRoWG9mS0w2OVkveHRzQT09

Meeting ID: 829 8716 9154

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Over the years, communication scholars have used multiple methods to research and analyse climate change discourses. In the advent of new media technologies, climate change communication and discourses have spanned from the traditional modes of communication such as the radio, print and television to emerging platforms including the social media. This has transformed the ways audiences encode and interpret issues revolving around climate change. In addition, the emergence of social media technologies allows researchers to analyse data on the dynamics of climate change debates with unprecedented breadth and scale. These platforms have expanded the research areas for studying changing patterns in interpersonal and institutional communication on climate change. At the same time this development has brought new methodological challenges and opportunities for studying content, context, and climate change representations. This session is aimed at stimulating innovative investigations into the conceptual and methodological challenges and or opportunities of climate change communication research in the emergent new media digital technologies and directions for future researchers from an African perspective. Key words: climate change; communication; research; digital research. Africa type of papers for the session should be around but not limited to: comparing methods for analysing climate change discourses; methods for analysing the spatial dimension of land use in African social-political environments; epistemological challenges and ethical dilemmas in researching climate change communication in the digital era; climate change in the press, visual/textual analyses; semiotics and climate change communication; media framing, agenda-setting and climate change; qualitative/quantitative studies of climate change perception among African communities; media portrayal of climate change: longitudinal or case studies; social media use and climate change protests; climate change engagement in the digital era; corpus studies on climate change

communication; meta-discourses on climate change communication; new media climate change discourses.

1. Researching Climate Change Communication: Methodological Challenges and Opportunities in the Digital Era

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2. Climate change communication and activism: challenges in conducting ethnographical research during the covid-19 pandemic

Antonio Nucci; antonio.nucci@usi.ch (University of Italian Switzerland, Switzerland)

Matthew Hibberd; matthew.hibberd@usi.ch (University of Italian Switzerland, Switzerland)

The aim of this paper is to present key methodological challenges and potential solutions undertaking ethnographical research into climate change activism during the Covid-19-related lockdown in Switzerland. The main original aim of the research, utilizing video-reflexive ethnographic methods, sought to understand ways in which climate activism groups communicated both online and offline to convey their messages to internal members and to wider national or local publics. This methodology would have allowed the researcher to observe, film and see first-hand the inner workings of the activist communication machine such as image and word selection, coordination with other national or international groups, verbal and non-verbal communication during face-to-face protests and activist training sessions. The main aim was to share video data with activists in order for them to evaluate their communication strategies. On March 16, 2020, however, the Swiss confederation, like many other nations, banned all demonstrations and gatherings in an effort to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus. As a result, activist groups saw their main sources of media attention via face-to-face demonstrations and events disappear overnight as well as the opportunity to meet together for planning and organizational purposes. This presented the need to integrate and strengthen new forms of online communication, raising a number of privacy and displacement concerns. For the researchers, this lockdown raised key methodological challenges. How could we proceed with ethnographic methods when the possibility of observing activists face- to-face was no longer possible? What were the potential options of adapting or changing methodological strategies? Through an analysis of the literature related to ethnographies, qualitative interviews, and focus groups, this paper will seek to raise key challenges and solutions to conducting ethnographic research at a time of a global pandemic.

3. Theorizing conspiracy theories: A call for critical eclecticism

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This paper reflects on conspiracy theories to address a contemporary dilemma of social science methodology. As our alleged post-truth era (Angermuller 2018; Flood 2016) coincides with an ongoing movement to decolonize the university (Mignolo and Walsh 2018; Ndlovu-Gatsheni 2013; Nyamnjoh 2019), two contradictory methodological and epistemological frameworks seem to rival with one another. On the one hand, further emancipation from Western universalism appears to necessitate a constructivist epistemology showcasing positionality and the relativity (or relationality) of truth claims. On the other hand, a scientific stance against fake news, climate change denialism and populism seem to call for an epistemological framework, or a return thereto, that allows for a distinction between factual truth and falsehood (Arendt 1967; Popper 1962). To address this dilemma beyond a binary opposition, the present paper draws on several years of ethnographic and quantitative survey research (n=607) on conspiracy theorizing, notably in the Republic of Guinea. Focusing on two different sets of conspiracy theories (one related to the 2013-16 Ebola epidemic and the other to the notorious September 2009 massacre), it first seeks to demonstrate how constructivist and 'positivist' approaches complement each other by shedding a critical light on the shortcomings of the respective other. Secondly, by comparing European, US-American, and African contexts, the paper emphasizes the relativity of what the concept "con-

spiracy theory" means in different historical and geographical settings (see also Butter and Rein-kowski 2014), and traces different ways of how sociological attempts of generalization can deal with such contextuality (see Collins 2005; Diagne 2013). Alongside Comaroff and Comaroff's Theory from the South (2012: 1), for instance, I argue that conspiracist dynamics in Guinea are not to be seen as an aberration from a Western norm, but as affording "privileged insight into the workings of the world at large" as they circulate in an environment of multiple regimes of truth (cf. Foucault 1980: 131-32). Third and finally, the paper will reflect on three very different methods of producing knowledge about conspiracy theories: textual methods, statistical methods, and photography, based on the ongoing project "Politics of the Unknown" with photographer Aurélien Gillier at the University of Bayreuth, Germany. Outlining these methods' respective qualities in approaching questions of truth, this paper calls for a critical eclecticism that brings into relation radically different methods and epistemologies without subordinating one to the other.

4. Print Media Coverage and the Socio-Contextual Representation of Climate Change in Botswana

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Research on climate change in Botswana has generally focused on exploring the extent to which Botswana has been affected by this global challenge. In particular, studies have examined how agricultural development and the tourism industry, two important sectors in Botswana, have been impacted by climate change. While climate change remains a global issue, questions on how the issue is framed and dealt with in various local contexts still require further exploration. Among others, scholars have pointed out that media play a crucial role in framing the climate change discourses and setting a broad agenda relating to local responses to the urgency of climate change challenges. Drawing on data collected from two Botswana print media, Mmegi and Sunday Standard, this chapter critically reviews and analyses various frames of climate change circulated within the Botswana print media sphere. In general, we argue that the Botswana print media representation of climate change has employed the following thematic frames: repackaging of a global issue, metaphoric framing of climate change and representation of local realities. We further suggest that while media representation of climate change has the potential of raising awareness on the issue, the urgency of communicating climate change in Botswana requires a shift from an informative model of communication to a transformative agenda focusing on the translation of global discourses for public consumption on one hand and localisation of various adaptation strategies on the other.

Session 34:
Quantitative Methods of Spatial Analysis

Date and Time

Friday, 24.09.2021, 10.00 – 11.30

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82987169154?pwd=TDk5c2xUVXRoWG9mS0w2OVkveHRzQT09

Meeting ID: 829 8716 9154

Passcode: 462600

Session organizers

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Quantitative researchers are conducting a growing number of studies in the Global South. To recognize the diversity of regions within the Global South in general and within nations in particular our classical container models of space (equalizing culture and nation) face more and more difficulties to adequately grasp spatial dynamics. Potential new directions for quantitative studies are central, firstly in the search for adequate units of analysis at flexible regional levels and secondly to incorporate fine-tuned spatial characteristics in our methodological approaches. Our aim in this session is to look for fruitful intersections between the discipline of social geography and sociology to include spatial information in our broad range of quantitative methods in the social sciences. Due to technological advancements, researchers now have new ways to operationalize data and to measure them with greater accuracy. The new low-cost options for data acquisition ensure that empirically relevant information can be obtained at precise "resolutions" within very small-scale spatial units. One of the most prominent directions in this regard is to link GIS data with survey data. Here, it is possible to uncover different spatial layers and to measure their impact on the living conditions or attitudinal and behavioral characteristics of individuals. This method—using the advances of the mediatization of the social world and the new benefits of digitalization—is perfectly tailored to enhance our knowledge of spatial dynamics at the micro level. Across various countries and regions on a global scale we are able to obtain precise measures of local characteristics, which can be interpreted as clear signs of the social production of space. Additionally, the preciseness of GIS data reflects even higher standards compared to surveys, which are often susceptible to bias. Using the quality criteria of quantitative research, we can state that

physical/material data can be seen as reliable and valid to measure infrastructure at the local level. Of course, these data can be notably enriched by data on living conditions or attitudinal and behavioral dynamics based on survey data or alternative quantitative approaches.

In short, we are looking forward to receiving submissions concerning studies which have been conducted in the Global South. Especially regarding the dominance of Western based approaches, we still know only little about how data is collected and how different methodological approaches are combined in other world regions. We therefore particularly welcome studies from Africa and other regions focusing on new methods and innovative solutions to achieve a spatially integrated methodology.

1. Application of spatial methods to optimize Antiretroviral (ARV) uptake in rural Botswana

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Sue C. Grady; gradys@msu.edu (Michigan State University, USA)

Botswana was the first African country to introduce free antiretroviral treatment (ART) to people living with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), but today it has the fourth highest HIV prevalence rate (20.3 per 100 population) in the world. This study investigates the availability and accessibility of ART facilities in Botswana and the utilization of ART services in districts with high HIV prevalence and low percentages of ART uptake. Availability and accessibility are measured using Botswana's ART site model and road network analysis. Microdata on HIV status from the Botswana AIDS Impact Survey IV (BAIS IV) survey, and patient data on antiretroviral (ARV) utilization is examined at the health district level. The results show the spatial mean centers of hierarchically clustered ART facilities within ART sites are strategically located in areas of high population density. Many rural people across the country travel more than three hours to ART services. Within five rural health districts there are substantial ART facility patient deficits. Future planning should focus on increasing ART services and road infrastructure in rural areas, ART uptake for men, and ART adherence in relation to circular migration and social stigmas in rural destinations to ensure the success of the Treat All Program in Botswana.

2. Using GIS for a typomorphological analysis of four university campuses in Algeria

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Saïd Mazouz; s_mazouz_dz@yahoo.fr (University of Oum El-Bouaghi, Algeria)

This paper is a part of PhD in progress at the university of Biskra in Algeria. It presents a process of establishment of a campus information system of four university campuses in Algeria using a GIS platform that integrates reliable data for typomorphological analysis. It focuses on establishing a typomorphological comparison between campuses of universities of Biskra, Constantine-

03, Batna-02 and USTHB of Algiers. The paper analyses also data related to master planning conditions and historical physical development of these universities. A literature review of notions of GIS applied to typomorphology studies and university campuses as well as the history of campus physical planning environment in Algeria is presented. The main methodology of the paper is based on three main steps of modelling, documenting, and analysing processes using QGIS, Geoda and R platforms. A vectorial modelling process of land use zones, buildings shapes, accessibility networks, open space design and furnishing is performed through QGIS platform. It contains, besides a modelling of individual geometrical forms, a setup of a structure of topology links between land use elements, buildings object, open space, and accessibility networks in the four campuses. A range of diverse attribute data related to architectural as well as functional, historical and space use patterns properties are also introduced to the platform. A comparison of the four campuses using statistical analysis of modelling processes and attribute data is then performed. It aims to determine whether historical physical planning conditions were relevant to affect the nature of morphological campus identities. Preliminary results confirm the relevance of establishing campus informational systems with typomorphological data using GIS that supports a great range of architectural, social, historical, and environmental data. Results show also that the evolution of morphological expressions of university campuses in Algeria seem strongly related to the socio-political conditions of physical planning since decolonization in 1962.

3. Environmental Inequality in Four European Cities. A Study Combining Household Survey and Geo-Referenced Data analyzed by spatial regression models

Andreas Diekmann; diekmann@soz.gess.ethz.ch (University of Leipzig and ETH Zurich, Germany)

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Jörg Hartmann; joerg.hartmann@sowi.uni-goettingen.de (University of Göttingen, Germany)

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Ulf Liebe; ulf.liebe@warwick.ac.uk University of Warwick, UK)

Combining individual-level survey data and geo-referenced administrative noise data for four European cities (Bern, Zurich, Hanover, Mainz; n=7,450), we test the well-known social gradient hypothesis which states that exposure to residential noise is higher for households in lower socioeconomic positions. In addition, we introduce and test the "environmental shielding hypothesis" which states that if there are environmental bads in the neighbourhood, privileged social groups have more and better opportunities to shield themselves against them. Our results show that for many residents of the four cities, observed road traffic and aircraft noise levels are above WHO limits. Yet estimates of spatial error regression models only partly support the social gradient hypothesis. For example, the proposed negative relationship between income and noise exposure is rather weak. Albeit socioeconomic groups tend to be equally confronted with road traffic and aircraft noise, high-income households are still more able to evade environmental noise. We compare OLS regressions and spatial regression models, and we explore on how alternative

model specifications might have an impact on statistical estimations. We also demonstrate how to combine geo-referenced data with household data analyzed by using Geo-Information System (GIS) software.

4. Geomorphologic and topographic conditions influence in shoreline dynamic analysis along the southern coast of Rufisque department (Dakar/Senegal)

Ibrahima Pouye; pouye.i@edu.wascal.org (WASCAL, Senegal)

Among the impacts of climate change in equatorial areas particularly in west Africa, coastal erosion is the most threaten apart from flood and the increase in temperature. Therefore, scientists are more and more interested in a better understanding of the processes and generator factors of this phenomenon. Far from being safe, Rufisque department as part of the more exposed coastal zones in Dakar region records the most current coastal damages due to its coastline dynamics, low lying area, the geomorphologic conditions, etc. This study was conducted in three littoral cells in the Rufisque department (Bargny, Sendou and Toubab Dialaw) and aims to point out the influence of the geomorphologic and topographic conditions in the coastline dynamics. First of all, the Modified Normalized Different Water index (MNDWI) using the historical Landsat images was utilized to delineate the coastlines before computing the evolution rate. After that, the relationship between the coastline dynamic rate, geomorphologic and topographic conditions have been used through the linear regression model. The results show that, Lithosols, Regosols dismantled on sandstone and non or slightly leached ferruginous soils on colluvium there is no significant relationship between the geomorphologic and pedologic conditions with a coefficient about -0.38 and other parameters such as population density can explain this dynamic. In the Sendou littoral cells where the pedology is marked by Holomorphic soils on clayey material, hydromorphic soils on clayey material poorly developed imported soils on sands and Vertic hydromorphic soils on marly-limestone clay material with varying degrees of tirsification, the relationship is no significant with a coefficient about 0.38. In the Toubab Dialaw littoral cell where the pedology is marked by Holomorphic soils on clayey material and hydromorphic soils on clayey material poorly developed imported soils on sands, the relationship is significant with a coefficient about 0.69.

Session 35:
Mixed Methods

Date and Time

Saturday, 25.09.2021, 10.00 – 12.00

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82987169154?pwd=TDk5c2xUVXRoWG9mS0w2OVkveHRzQT09

Meeting ID: 829 8716 9154

Passcode: 462600

Session Organizers

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Cornelia Thierbach; cornelia.thierbach@tu-berlin.de (Technical University of Berlin, Germany)

Mixed methods research combines at least one qualitative and one quantitative research component within a single study or a series of studies. In the last decades, publications on mixed methods research have strongly increased in number internationally. However, the methodological debates are still dominated by Anglo-Saxon scholars from specific subfields of social sciences such as education, health, nursing, and evaluation research. As a result, on one hand mixed methods research has been established as a research approach with its own terminology and research tradition. Nevertheless, on the other hand we find that methodological debates from other countries and other disciplines proceed independently and need to be integrated. E.g., the issue of the epistemological foundations of mixed methods research can be characterized by oversimplifications and false assumptions and thus, is still at its beginning. But also integrating different research strands poses practical challenges. This is why this session aims at broadening the debate on mixed methods, especially by scholars from other countries and disciplines. We are especially (but not exclusively) interested in contributions from the Global South and spatial research. Papers should either provide new perspectives on the methodological debate or address how mixed methods research is conducted or taught in their research contexts. We are looking forward to gaining new insights and experiences on debating and conducting mixed methods research.

1. Mixed Methods in Spatial Research

Cornelia Thierbach; cornelia.thierbach@tu-berlin.de (Technical University of Berlin, Germany)

Spatial Research is undertaken by disciplines such as geography, architecture, planning, and sociology. Each discipline has their own stocks of knowledge, research perspectives and research methods. Methodological debates on how to combine and mix spatial methods are still at their beginnings. However, it becomes clear that researching space interdisciplinary and mixing these methods appear to be quite promising to tackle and understand complex spatial phenomena. Alongside not only the combination on how to combine or mix qualitative and quantitative methods are worth debating, but also and maybe more pressing than in other research areas, the question on how to combine verbal and visual data.

2. Insights on combining quantitative and qualitative methods in the study of the adoption of technology in an African University

Esther Nkhukhu-Orlando; Orlandoe@UB.AC.BW (University of Botswana, Botswana)

The paper acknowledges the increased use of Mixed Methods Research (MMR) design/strategies in social science research where developments show the necessity to use MMR and integrate data from studies using different methods of inquiry. Despite the growing trend of adopting both qualitative and quantitative methodologically strategies in the global north, there is dearth of literature on the experiences of the global south, where researchers have limited resources and there is still considerable uncertainty concerning what it means to integrate findings in mixed methods research. Relying on a case study in Botswana, this paper shares the unique experiences of adopting a mixed methods approach in studying the adoption of e-learning at the University of Botswana. It highlights the practical benefits and challenges associated with mixed methods research and make contributions to the area of technology adoption where most studies are conducted in developed countries. The paper also makes recommendations that may be considered when conducting mixed methods study in the context of the global South by highlighting several factors that impede the ability of mixed methods researchers to bring together the quantitative and qualitative results of their projects. It argues that the adoption of mixed methods should be carefully thought of in advance to achieve quality results in research. The paper provides possible implications that future mixed method researchers might like to consider regarding extracting greater value from their projects.

3. Application of mixed methods research to the study of sustainable urban futures: a retrospective approach to Metropolitan Municipal and District Medium Term Planning in Ghana

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Ibrahim Yakubu; iyakubu@uds.edu.gh (University for Development Studies, Ghana)

Urban futures relate to the socio-spatial development of urban space as it hinges on sustainable urban growth and development. Sustainable urban futures, in this paper, is conceived of as addressing the urban development challenges of the current generation without compromising the

abilities of future generations to use urban development propellers to address their urban development challenges. A perusal of the urban growth and development literature reveals burgeoning lacunae as to the merger of static and dynamic models in mixed methods contexts for urban planning research, particularly in connection with Metropolitan, Municipal and District Medium Term (MMDMT) planning in Ghana. This paper, therefore, seeks to identify these lacunae and proceeds to demonstrate how mixed methods can be employed to integrate static and dynamic models to deal with human-centred variables within MMDMT planning in Ghana. To achieve this, we used socio-spatial models which accommodate time, space, and human-centred characteristics as variables of interest. We recommend the adoption, or at least the adaptation, of these amalgamated models to research sustainable urban futures in Ghana.

4. Reading of a place through a multi-method approach: case study of a territory in the Metropolitan Area of Lisbon

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Luís Manata; lmanata@gmail.com (Cics.Nova, Portugal)

This chapter is based on an analysis commissioned by the municipality of Almada, located in the Lisbon Metropolitan Area, on internal and external perceptions of the older part of the city in view of spatial requalification and tourism development strategies. The area under analysis is located on the Tagus River on the bank opposite Lisbon's old city centre easily accessible in a short trip by ferry. Almada is a former industrial area, has a strong relationship with the river and the sea area and is marked by a rather disorganised suburbanisation process due to the lack of urban planning. It has a multimodal centre, administrative services of local government, cultural facilities and it is known for its seafood gastronomy. Also, an emblematic sanctuary can be visited in the area nearby that attracts many visitors. After losing some of its vitality over new areas of the municipality, in more recent years it has been attracting new residents as well as a growing number of different outlets, hostels and new offers in terms restaurants. In this sense, the research aimed to understand, on one hand, how the territory is experienced as a touristic attraction by its visitors and, on the other, the locals' concerns and expectations. For the reading of the territory a multi-method approach of the territory was carried that combines social media and press analyses, observation, focus groups, in-depth interviews, and surveys. The results obtained reveal the narratives about the territory from different perspectives: people who use this area on a regular basis namely residents, visitors, representatives from the municipality, from commerce and the hospitality sector, with distinctive elements associated with the landscape, history, memories, culture, and urban form.

Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability
Prof. Gabriel Faimau

GCSMUS Lead Partner, Steering Committee Member, and Action Speaker
University of Botswana | Department of Sociology

Stream D: Methods for Specific Research Fields

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89613473781?pwd=ekVsdC80a3RWaUN6SDFHekZmZGQvQT09

Meeting ID: 896 1347 3781

Passcode: 100356

Session 26:
Money and Digitalisation in the Global South

Date and Time

Friday, 24.09.2021, 10.00 – 11.30

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89613473781?pwd=ekVsdC80a3RWaUN6SDFHekZmZGQvQT09

Meeting ID: 896 1347 3781

Passcode: 100356

Session organizers

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Jürgen Schraten; juergen.schraten@sowi.uni-giessen.de (University of Giessen, Germany)

The session addresses the methodological problem of studying the rapid changes in the usage of money, the procedures of payments and the marketization as a consequence of digitisation with a special focus on the distinctions formal/informal and rural/urban in the Global South. It calls for contributions that reveal the methodological challenges of the multiple forms of money usage in empirical studies. Money itself is a paradoxical social institution because it requires the existence of a network of money users, which it generates itself. Therefore, any empirical study of money usage has to deal with the structural element of a network and the individual agency of payment at the same time. The empirical study of money in African contexts revealed a high diversity in its forms and practices, which resulted in a methodological preference for the study of monetary agency. But digitisation, at the latest, brought the importance of structures back on the agenda, as the organisers of the session in their publications on mobile money (S. Maliehe) and consumer credit (J. Schraten) in Southern Africa have shown. The methodological challenge of the structure/agency-distinction in the Global South contexts is increased by two additional and overlapping poles of tension. The well-known distinction between rural and urban social conditions is complicated by the difference between formal and informal economic activity. While the former refers to the qualitative effect of a quantitative population density, the latter addresses the quantitative limitations due to qualitative differences regarding the economies of scale. Digitalisation keeps the promise to solve both. The session invites papers which address the methodological challenges of studying money and payments under the conditions of digitalisation in regard to the tense poles of rural/urban and formal/informal in the Global South.

1. Money and Digitalisation in the Global South

Sean Maliehe; seanmaliehe@gmail.com (University of Pretoria, South Africa)

Jürgen Schraten; juergen.schraten@sowi.uni-giessen.de (University of Giessen, Germany)

The session addresses the methodological problem of studying the rapid changes in the usage of money, the procedures of payments and the marketization as a consequence of digitisation with a special focus on the distinctions formal/informal and rural/urban in the Global South. It calls for contributions that reveal the methodological challenges of the multiple forms of money usage in empirical studies. Money itself is a paradoxical social institution because it requires the existence of a network of money users, which it generates itself. Therefore, any empirical study of money usage has to deal with the structural element of a network and the individual agency of payment at the same time. The empirical study of money in African contexts revealed a high diversity in its forms and practices, which resulted in a methodological preference for the study of monetary agency. But digitisation, at the latest, brought the importance of structures back on the agenda, as the organisers of the session in their publications on mobile money (S. Maliehe) and consumer credit (J. Schraten) in Southern Africa have shown. The methodological challenge of the structure/agency-distinction in the Global South contexts is increased by two additional and overlapping poles of tension. The well-known distinction between rural and urban social conditions is complicated by the difference between formal and informal economic activity. While the former refers to the qualitative effect of a quantitative population density, the latter addresses the quantitative limitations due to qualitative differences regarding the economies of scale. Digitalisation keeps the promise to solve both. The session invites papers which address the methodological challenges of studying money and payments under the conditions of digitalisation in regard to the tense poles of rural/urban and formal/informal in the Global South.

2. The Postcolonial Infrastructure of Mobile Money

Jürgen Schraten; juergen.schraten@sowi.uni-giessen.de (University of Giessen, Germany)

The presentation addresses the methodological challenge of studying mobile money as an everyday tool of postcolonial societies. It problematises the link between household economies on the one hand and world market infrastructure on the other hand in the research of mobile money. The presentation defines the misunderstanding of the social as a void that unfolds between featureless individuals as the root of the problem. It suggests an understanding of society as a collectivity that is populated by human beings, and by all kinds of tools and media as suggested by the 'Science and Technology Studies'. From this perspective, scientific and economic knowledge itself becomes a part of society that serves the purpose of equipping and connecting individuals. The two competing perspectives of the methodological divide appear as different attempts of 'naturalising' their own effects by overcoming the contingency of their respective tools (statistics on the one hand, and stabilised social interaction on the other). As a consequence, the presentation suggests taking the ethnomethodological study of postcolonial infrastructure as an approach that reconciles the (informal) local and the (formal) global perspective by focussing its

'missing link'. It actually consists of text-based organisations, which begins with the contractual instructions of local mobile money agents and ends with the financial reports of multinational stock companies. They build a chain of bureaucratically connected clusters, each demanding "institutional accountability" (Garfinkel) from local actors. An analysis of this chain reveals the qualitative shift of demands presented to the actors, which explains the methodological divide: customers of mobile money have to demonstrate their ability to maintain their livelihood whereas the company clerks have to outline profit towards their superiors.

3. 'The state and the world economy on the local scenery': ethnographic reflections from Diepsloot in postcolonial South Africa

Sean Maliehe; seanmaliehe@gmail.com (University of the Free State, South Africa)

This paper reflects on my periodic field visits to Diepsloot between June 2016 and March 2020. The township offers an ideal platform to explores some methodological challenges that confront researchers when studying the complexities of a local scenery. Unlike many South African townships, Diepsloot emerged in a period of transition from apartheid to democracy in the mid-1990s. It is a home to a multitude of migrants from Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Somalia, and Ethiopia. I reflect on two distinctive ethnographic observations, one empirical and another methodological. First, while mobile money services had failed elsewhere in South Africa, they were vibrant in Diepsloot. The rise of mobile money emerged as a necessity of local inhabitants in need of secure remittance channels. Second, I encountered methodological challenges that consisted of analysing a local scenery that is visibly shaped by the global economy and the state. The world economy forced African migrants into a township periphery, while a global market and banking system allowed the movement of money across borders in a form of remittances. The state marginalised migrants, instead of accepting them as citizens with equal rights. In a neoliberal dispensation, the state also paddled back and forth between marketisation and monetarisation on the one hand, while attempting to control the banking system and prevent money laundering and criminal activity through the Financial Intelligence Centre, on the other hand. I argue that what is happening in Diepsloot should be analysed through complex methodological lenses that appreciate the ongoing presence of the past in unsettling ways, and how people's actions on the ground are dialectically connected to an impersonal world beyond their control.

4. Making digitalisation, making money: Methodological challenges of doing anthropology with digitalising monies

Detlev Krige; detlev.krige@up.ac.za (University of Pretoria, South Africa)

Hannah Acutt; hmacutt@gmail.com (University of Pretoria, South Africa)

This paper reports on the completed first phase of a research study and details the plans for a second phase of research on digitalisation and money in the Global South. The title of our paper points to our interest in being in conversation with the authors of "Gens: A Feminist Manifesto for

the Study of Capitalism". Instead of assuming the existence of 'digitalisation' or 'money', we want to understand how money and digitalisation and its "social relations are generated out of divergent life projects". This means not beginning with markets or money or postulating "the economic" as a separate domain, but rather paying attention to the "diverse and wide-ranging practices of life and production that cross-cut social domains" which are often messy and uncoordinated even as it appears totalising and coherent as in for example the notion of "data colonialism". While some scholars have abandoned the notion of "the field" as work/home boundaries get reconfigured, we argue that the notion of "location-work" as articulated by Akhil Gupta and James Ferguson prior to the emergence of the online/offline distinction, retains value. Location-work points to how "the field" is cognitively constructed, how researchers are never "out of the field in an interconnected world", and how accountable and situated knowledge emerges from a "well developed sense of location". In this approach, fieldwork emerges as "motivated and stylized dislocation" in the production of empirical data. We argue that the notion of "location-work" is important not only for its insistence on doing anthropological research that is not colonial in its mode of engagement, but also for the theoretical opportunities it creates for making empirical data on 'digitalisation'.

5. Mobile Money in a Human Economy

Keith Hart; johnkeithhart@gmail.com (Independent scholar, France)

Based on his substantial works in the field of research like 'The Memory Bank' (2000), 'People, Money and Power in the Economic Crisis: Perspectives from the Global South' (2014), 'Economy for and Against Democracy' (2015) and 'Money in a Human Economy' (2017), Keith will comment on the three papers and provide key statements on the topic.

Session 27:
Methods in Food Studies Research 1

Date and Time

Thursday, 23.09.2021, 14.00 – 16.00

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89613473781?pwd=ekVsdC80a3RWaUN6SDFHekZmZGQvQT09

Meeting ID: 896 1347 3781

Passcode: 100356

Linda Hering; linda.hering@tu-berlin.de (Technical University of Berlin, Germany)

Julia Fülling; julia.fuelling@geo.hu-berlin.de (Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany)

Food Studies as an interdisciplinary field is interested in the historical, economic, cultural, social, and political investigation of the production, processing, distribution, purchase, preparation, incorporation, and disposal of food. The scales on which research in food takes place therefore varies from the global scale to the individual or household level and even more connects those different scales. In our session, we would like to discuss methodological issues that arise from the investigation of a topic as complexity such as food in its manifold functions, meanings, and entanglements. Papers should address one of the following questions either at a general methodological level or at using a concrete example of a specific research project: (1) Which are appropriate methods to analyse topics such as food consumption practices, governance, sustainability, (alternative) food networks, food waste etc? (2) Which data are suitable for which kind of research questions and how can they be collected? How valid are results drawn from the different kind of data? (3) Where and how can data be collected? Which sampling strategies can be applied and how does it affect the generalization of results? (4) When and why is it useful to use a mixed-method or multi-method approach? And which data collection and analysing methods fit best? What are the challenges which the researcher faced then? (5) What are further challenges and opportunities of food studies research? Papers debating general methodological questions and papers discussing specific problems using a concrete data type in a specific research project are both equally welcome.

1. Methods in Food Studies Research

Linda Hering; linda.hering@tu-berlin.de (Technical University of Berlin, Germany)

Julia Fülling; julia.fuelling@geo.hu-berlin.de (Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany)

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2. Mapping Food Chains. Approaching translocality through spatial analysis and visualization

Anke Hagemann; hagemann@b-tu.de (B-TU Cottbus-Senftenberg, Germany)

Natacha Quntero González; quintero@b-tu.de (B-TU Cottbus-Senftenberg, Germany)

This paper will illustrate how the fields of architecture and urban planning can enrich methodologies in agri-food studies, "follow the thing" approaches or Global Commodity Chains frameworks through cartographic analysis. We will present and critically reflect on a collection of maps developed by architecture and planning students, which explore conventional food items typically found in large numbers and at low prices in supermarkets in the German city of Cottbus. The maps follow the journey of products such as packaged bread, chicken, bananas, and fruit gums, from the places where they are grown or raised to our kitchens. By working across scales and using different mapping techniques, the maps illustrate the global reach and translocality of supply chains, the complex actor-networks within food systems, the built spaces and urban context of particular stations, as well as the current or historical presence of the respective products in the city of Cottbus. This approach to urban food mapping enables mapmakers to understand and visually communicate interdependent processes within food chains and the physical impact of current consumption patterns in urban and rural spaces. It demonstrates how global processes shape local urban configurations and how specific building types emerge. Such explorations can lead to inconspicuous or unknown places—hidden henhouses in German forests, vast banana

plantations in Ecuador or supermarket food stalls—yet reveal issues of social and political relevance, such as the unequal distribution of value, colonial patterns in global trade, the carbon footprint of food or the increasing power of large food corporations and retail chains.

3. Food Security in Urban Areas in Botswana: Methodological Considerations

Gwen Lesetedi; Lesetedi@ub.ac.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)

Maitseo Bolaane; Bolaanem@ub.ac.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)

Despite the rapid urbanization, the cities are heavily reliant on food production from the rural areas mostly carried out by women. The attainment of food security is very much linked to improved livelihoods among rural and urban households in Botswana. This paper discusses the methodological issues arising out of a study in which the gendered livelihoods and women's contribution to food security at a household level was examined. Most of the stages of food production take place in the rural areas carried out by women utilizing indigenous knowledge systems and practices associated with food production, processing, storage, and marketing most of which occurs in the urban areas. The study had focused on the planting, harvesting, processing, and marketing of the morogo (leaves) and dinawa (beans) which comes from the cowpeas plant –a member of the legume family. Using the case study approach and through in-depth interviews the agricultural practices of rural households were profiled and to further explore, rural-urban livelihoods in Botswana, interviews were also extended to randomly selected women in Gaborone representing the urban area. This paper specifically addresses the issue of sampling, data collection and data analysis. In selecting the respondents, purposive sampling was utilized while the case study approach was adopted utilizing in-depth depth interviews allowing the researchers to capture food production in as much details as possible. A major methodological consideration for a study of this nature is having case studies from both the urban and rural areas in order to get a holistic picture of the interconnectedness of livelihoods between the two as illustrated in the study. This highlights the urgent need for a new research agenda in food security in urban areas by taking into consideration the complex web of relations and connections between rural and urban households.

4. Food waste methodologies in Covid19-times – German case studies

Ulrich Juergens; ngg02@rz.uni-kiel.de (University of Kiel – Geography, Germany)

In comparison to other types of waste, food waste has attracted for a very long-time little attention, because it is often unconsciously and, especially in private households, invisibly disposed of, rather than in formal waste containers. This investigation aims to extend the food waste discourse by considering the spatial dimension, which has been completely neglected thus far. This involves no longer only considering the living conditions of private households on the micro-level, but also focusing on the producers and retail sources of (fresh) foodstuffs that are particularly prone to food waste on the meso-level. The attitudes and perceptions of private households concerning

food waste can then be explained and spatially differentiated using the areas of origin and structural characteristics of their food stuffs like production conditions or packaging sizes. This should allow behavioural segmentation to identify target groups among the private households, and their perceptions and behaviour to be linked to shopping patterns and locatable attitudes to groceries and producers such as locality, region, and home. Quantitative and qualitative investigations are conducted in rural and urban areas of the case-study region of Schleswig-Holstein (Germany), not only with the aim of diagnosing the causes of food waste, but also to determine the types and extent of communication between the various groups of actors concerned so as to identify lessons that may be learnt in an effort to avoid food waste. It is necessary to address target groups specifically using diverse wording and nudging for different groups of people to sensitise them to food waste. A mixed-method approach, sample size and problems of qualitative and quantitative postal and online data collection will be discussed and how it could be realized in a complex network of stakeholders and households including backlashes in Covid19-times.

Session 27:
Methods in Food Studies Research 2

Date and Time

Thursday, 23.09.2021, 16.30 – 18.30

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89613473781?pwd=ekVsdC80a3RWaUN6SDFHekZmZGQvQT09

Meeting ID: 896 1347 3781

Passcode: 100356

Session organizers

Linda Hering; linda.hering@tu-berlin.de (Technical University of Berlin, Germany)

Julia Fülling; julia.fuelling@geo.hu-berlin.de (Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany)

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1. Ethical dilemma in researching on food insecurity in Nigeria: A case study of Enugu State

Ngozi Stella Udechukwu; ngozi.udechukwus@unn.edu.ng (University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria)

Enugu State has been confronted with food insecurity as a result of destruction of farm crops in its different parts. This paper centers on ethical dilemmas confronting researching on the causes of food insecurity in the state considering the conflict between the Fulani herdsmen and the indigenous farmers. The study is qualitative using personal experience, newspaper reports, articles and interviews using food sellers within the state. The researcher's investigation showed that the Fulani and their cows have been noted as the key destroyers of their farm produce that have resulted to scarcity of food stuff in the market. Researching on the cause of food insecurity and trying to illicit measures to tackle insecurity in the area has posed serious dilemma to the researcher trying to overcome ethical issues surrounding such research both to the researcher and the respondents. The researcher is at the risk of not knowing who may be offended by the research findings while the respondents are confronted with fear of whether the researcher is spying them. Convincing the respondents that the research is purely for academic purposes was difficult and it led the researcher to depend on familiar respondents, which is a limitation to the findings and conclusions. This study has implications to social work practice in Nigeria trying to be the voice of the marginalized section in the country.

2. Social interview in food studies: a necessity for Brazilian researchers

Joana Pellerano; joana.apellerano@sp.senac.br (Centro Universitário Senac, Brazil)

Our relationships with food infiltrate all social instances and govern social groups' daily lives. As a result, the difficulties of conducting research in this area are many, since the theme provides different approaches to issues that, at first glance, seem similar (Goody, 1995). As it is a routine topic, it's common for young Brazilian researchers to be moved more by curiosity than by scientific interest, and an effort is needed to satisfy not only personal interest, but also the academic field's requirements. So, if one's goals are not clear, the large amount and variety of data related to eating practices can overwhelm the researcher with results that doesn't necessarily answer the questions that guide the investigation. Interviews are widely used in food studies also in Brazil, which is confirmed in an analysis of works of Human, Social and Applied Social Sciences carried out recently. Like any other method, the interview should not be used indiscriminately, but as a specific answer to the problems imposed by the goals of the research. The method has ambiguous potential: Guber (2004) recognizes it as one of the most appropriate methods to access social actors' meanings, but the numerous information it provides are not necessarily those needed and can confuse the researcher, especially an unexperienced one. In order to demystify this method for food studies research, we propose discussing social interview and locating research situations in which that is the best methodological choice. For that, we adopt bibliographic research from which we analyse the particularities of the interview not only as a technique, but as a social relationship from which we can collect research data (Bourdieu, 2008; Guber, 2004; Oliveira, 2006;

Sanmartín Arce, 2000), and we address the research needs in the field of food that this method meets (Miller & Deustch, 2009; Poulain & Proença, 2003).

3. Multisensory Discourse Resource Analysis in Foodscapes: Decolonizing Ethnographic Research Practices

Nettie Boivin; nettie.l.boivin@jyu.fi (University of Jyvaskyla, Finland)

Recently, there has been much discussion around the notion of conceptualizing multisensory discourse as means to move away from 'human exceptionalism' colonial discourse and practices embracing new materialist, post-humanist, post-structuralist approaches (LaTour, 2014; Barad, 2007). The multisensory discourse resources (intersecting sights, sounds, tastes, smells, and touch) illustrate evidence in interactional and non-interactional emotional, sense memory moments. These contribute to aspects of ones' social, familial, community, cultural, ethnic, national, and religious identity. My newly conceptualized multisensory discourse resources (MDR) analysis (Boivin, 2020; 2020; 2021) in two different research contexts revealed often overlooked data, as MDR data are sensory and emotional not centred in linguistic data and that evoke emotional, shared memories (Holmes & Hazen, 2014; Mills, 2016). Language is power and the language of Western academics tends to benefit colonizers rather than colonized (Smith, 2013, 1999; Denzin, Lincoln, & Smith, 2008; Gill, Purru, & Lin, 2012; Atalay, 2006). Observations investigating questions of who, how, and why often contain unconscious inferences and biases of marginalized, colonized, and underrepresented groups/people (Denzin, Lincoln, & Smith, 2008). How do we balance our need to assess objective data and our desire to be more inclusive? This paper investigates 1) How can multisensory discourse resources analysis expand our perceptions of what is data and evidence while raising awareness of decolonize ethnographic research practices amongst local social actors, community stakeholders and national, transnational, and international policymakers? 2) To what extent can utilizing foodscapes contexts increase strategic bridging of multidisciplinary perspective across academic and community research participation? 3) How can co-construction of bottom-up research practices be vertically transmitted to inform policy-making across multiple intersecting areas (environment, cultural practices, migration, health, and well-being)? Thus, expanding traditional, observation practices, which focus on language to include multisensory discourse, creates capacity for voice and agency in colonized and marginalized groups (Boivin, 2020).

4. Towards bridging the positivist/phenomenological divide in food and nutrition security research

France Maphosa; maphosaf@ub.ac.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)

Martin Kebakile; martin@aardi.org.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)

Irene Modibetsane; irenemodibetsane@gmail.com (University of Botswana, Botswana)

Research on food and nutrition security has traditionally been largely concerned with agronomic, ecological and production issues. However, attempts to ensure food and nutrition security have achieved partial results. This is because food and nutrition security are a multi-faceted phenomenon with agronomic, ecological, economic, political, and social aspects as causes, as well as consequences. While the development of systems, technologies and practices that would enhance efficiency and effectiveness in food production, a purely technocratic approach to food and nutrition security will always have partial success. Ensuring food and nutrition security is a human activity which requires the methods and theories of the social sciences in understanding issues such as culture, economic status and mindset change in the adoption of innovations and best practices for increased productivity and improved distribution of food, which affect food security. With a particular focus on Botswana, this paper presents a case for bridging the disciplinary gap in traditional research on food and nutrition security which is largely informed by the positivist paradigm and the social sciences phenomenological paradigm of the social sciences. It advocates for the use of mixed methods in food security research which is informed by the realization that reality is both concrete and social constructed.

Session 29:

Ethical and Methodological Dilemmas of Social Research in Violent Conflict Situations

Date and Time

Friday, 24.09.2021, 16.30 – 18.30

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89613473781?pwd=ekVsdC80a3RWaUN6SDFHekZmZGQvQT09

Meeting ID: 896 1347 3781

Passcode: 100356

Edlyne Anugwom; akommiri@gmail.com (University of Nigeria, Nigeria)

Pius Adejoh; Padejoh@unilag.edu.ng (University of Lagos, Nigeria)

The overarching goal of this session is to reflect on ethical dilemmas that researchers confront when conducting studies in violent conflict situations and how these dilemmas are overcome as well as their impact on methodologies of such research. The above concerns loom especially large in Africa where there has been proliferation of many forms of violent conflicts championed by violent non-state actors ranging from terrorists, armed militias to violent cultists. The endemic nature of these conflicts in a good number of African nations point to the fact that we need to know more about the nature, dynamics and driving motives of these violent groups besides the very obvious consensus that these are driven by the quest for power, poverty, and elite corruption. Such nuanced and reflexive knowledge would go a long way in the general efforts towards understanding, unravelling, and overcoming the development retarding effects of these conflicts. Therefore, the need for in-situ research efforts as the basis of evidence-based apprehension of these groups and the conflicts they generate cannot be overstated. However, doing research in a conflict situation generates peculiar challenges and risks. Thus, such research efforts may be confronted with peculiar issues of ethics and by implication appropriate methodologies since the sensitive and overtly risky nature of such undertaking may undermine the desire and effort to abide with the main canons of social research ethics particularly issues of full disclosure and informed consent. In more cases than otherwise, the researcher is confronted with the choice over keeping to the best dictates of research ethics and not doing the study. This ambivalence challenges the innovative capacity of the researcher and often calls for engagement subtilities that one would not confront in any other research situation or environment. In view of the foregoing, the session calls for papers that address the ways and means of conducting ethical research in an on-going conflict situation and the methodologies of such undertaking.

The organizers would particularly welcome submissions anchored on experience of such research undertaking as well as theoretical papers that radically interrogate the 'do-ability' of ethical

research in such situations. Submissions can be guided and structured by the following issues: challenges of ethical social research in violent conflict situations; innovative strategies for overcoming peculiar ethical challenges in violent conflict situations; practical experience and lessons learnt in research in active conflict situations; methodological challenges of social research in active conflict situations, theoretical insights on ethical and methodological challenges of conflict research; ethical and methodological issues of social research with children living in situations of active conflict; ethical and methodological issues of social research with women in situations of active conflict; other submissions bordering on the general themes of ethics and methodologies of research in active conflict situations.

1. Decoupling or Recoupling? – The Methodological Challenge in Studying the West African Neo-Pentecostal/Charismatic Field as a Business-Ethical Space

Isaac Osei-Tutu; isaac.osei-tutu@uzh.ch (University of Zurich, Switzerland)

Inasmuch as society is not perfect but prone to faults and nonconformity, Neo-Pentecostal/Charismatic (nPC) churches, organisations and actors may conform to and deviate from ethical norms and policies available in the nPC space as transcendentally given codices (e.g., scriptures, traditions, and societal laws/rules) and/or as constantly generated values in their everyday group activities and social interactions (e.g., organizational codes of conduct, rules and regulations, and unwritten communal expectations, social standards and group demands). NPC institutions conform to or deviate from these given and emergent ethics to, calculably or incalculably, arrive at specific ends in their religious entrepreneurship and other organisational practices. To study such conformities and deviations, connections and disconnections in ethical policies and actual practice of nPC institutions, a methodological possibility would be to apply the organisational theory of decoupling. However, decoupling seems not to do justice to actors as ethical engines in the nPC space since nPC actors in real life do not distinguish given ethics from everyday ethics but practice/live both synchronously and symbiotically. Thus, for nPC actors, there is no disconnection between transcendental and generated ethics, the sacred and the secular, the given and the everyday, as the everyday, the secular, and the generated are informed by and infused with the religious, the sacred, and the transcendental. Besides, not only their deviation from given norms may point to their own imaginations of ethics but the relationality between norms and practice, the given and the everyday may give rise to other practice-oriented ethics. To analyse such a norm–practice–relationality or given–everyday–relationality, a method would also be to apply the organisational theory of recoupling as anthesis to decoupling. Nevertheless, to explore the ethics peculiar to the Neo-Pentecostal/Charismatic space from organisational theological perspectives, neither decoupling nor recoupling perfectly serves the purpose. The question, therefore, is how does one methodologically better approach a religious organisational space such as that of the Pentecostal/Charismatic churches and institutions without deliberately missing out on one or another ethical aspect due to methodological and theoretical shortfalls? My paper addresses this challenge to poke a scholarly discussion about studying the nPC field as an ethical space and to suggest a solution.

2. 'It's About Going an Extra Mile with High Risk-Sensitive Populations': Reflections on Using Semi-Structured Interviews with Male Sex Workers

Lesedi Mashumba; mashumbal@ub.ac.bw (University of Botswana, Botswana)

In 2018, I embarked upon a doctorate thesis that aimed to explore male sex worker's experiences, attitudes and perceptions of gender, sexuality, race, and victimisation in their interactions with sex tourists in Botswana. At the time, male sex work had been flourishing under the booming sex tourism industry, and over the past decade, the tourism industry had been one of the fastest growing and largest economic sectors in Africa. Studies in other contexts confirm a strong correlation between growth in the tourism industry and an increase in sex work. While there are theoretically sound and empirically informed studies on the many forms of sex work, especially in Asia and other parts of the world, as well as studies focused on female sex work in the tourism industry, male sex work is still under-researched, and especially its occurrence in the tourism industry in Africa. The sex work and sex tourism linkage are very complex, especially in the African context, where it is entangled in a web of denial of its existence, religious disapproval, and political views fuelled against it. This paper explores the research methodology which utilised in depth face-to-face semi-structured interviews with male sex workers, support groups and the police as important players given the existence of sex work in a semi-criminalised and fuzzy legal system in Botswana. It focuses in particular on the difficulties of obtaining ethical clearance, the challenges faced in securing participants and the strategies used during the fieldwork given the sensitivity of the topic, as well as the impact that this can have on research findings.

3. Between Ethics and Doing It: Reflections on Fieldwork Experience in Northeast Nigeria

Edlyne Anugwom; akommiri@gmail.com (University of Nigeria, Nigeria)

While social research is usually anchored on a set of ethics that ensure responsible and sensitive research enterprise, some of these rules pose major challenges in terms of realities of conducting research in a violent conflict situation where issues of the safety of the research team and the overriding need to consummate the enterprise may appear paramount. Often, the risk and unpredictability of the context generate the dilemma of either doing the research in some innovative manner or following ethics and jettisoning it. In view of the above, the paper draws from a recent fieldwork experience in Northeast Nigeria to highlight the dilemmas of social research in a conflict situation. The Northeast zone of Nigeria is the main theatre of the terrorist conflict involving both the Boko Haram and ISWAP in Nigeria. At the time of the fieldwork in 2016, the conflict was at its height with Borno state as the epicentre. Thus, the fieldwork became much more challenging from an ethical point of view especially in view of the requirement of full disclosure. But while doing research in a conflict situation should not be tantamount to jettisoning social research ethics, it calls for subtle creativity on the part of the researcher to carry through the exercise without either contaminating the quality or validity of the outcome as well as ensuring safety. The above requires

the possession of a research nimbleness that facilitates the negotiation of turbulent social contexts and mediating both contending parties and affected local populations in the research process.

4. Measuring space-time relationships between civilian deaths and cultural violence in Syria

Fiona Greenland; fg5t@virginia.edu (University of Virginia, USA)

Michelle Fabiania; mrdfabiani@gmail.com (DeSales University, USA)

Proximate and remote observation technologies have expanded the possibilities for information capture in conflict zones. Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), earth observation satellites, GIS, and smartphone images are among these technologies. After the information capture and initial processing steps, however, researchers are left with several methodological challenges to develop information into new forms of data. Our paper is based on an international collaboration between social scientists at the University of Virginia (USA) and the Uppsala Conflict Data Program (Uppsala University, Sweden). The team created a fully georeferenced dataset of cultural destruction and civilian deaths events from the Syrian war (2011-18). The work involved cleaning and coding a highly diverse set of materials: satellite imagery, social media posts, government reports, Russian disinformation, and anonymous eyewitness reports in text and video. The heterogeneity is noteworthy because the unconventional formats allowed dissident groups within Syria to make the case for human rights abuses. But it also presented specific challenges to our standards of data reliability, robustness measures, and metadata. In our paper we address how we developed methodologies for coding image- and video-based sources of data; the creation of reliability scales for non-traditional media sources; the creation of temporal coding weights to support spatio-temporal analysis; and the ethics of using publicly available—and potentially identifiable—social media data to study cultural destruction events, particularly media sources that document individual participants. The study was supported with a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), USA.

Session 32:
Methods for Health, Disabilities and Childhood Studies

Date and Time

Friday, 24.09.2021, 14.00 – 16.00

Zoom Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89613473781?pwd=ekVsdC80a3RWaUN6SDFHekZmZGQvQT09

Meeting ID: 896 1347 3781

Passcode: 100356

Session organizers

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Current societal change processes, such as demographic transformation, global migration, and digitization, particularly affect the health care and education sector. New phenomena, practices, and research objects therefore require a critical review of previous research methods and designs that are concerned with this change. These include phenomena such as emancipatory move-ments of people with disabilities, post-colonial social movements, and related theory-plural and method-integrative research approaches. Correspondingly, these recent developments also pose new challenges for empirical social research. Theoretical-conceptual, as well as methodological-empirical approaches, have to be reviewed and, if necessary, to be developed further. Many of the current social sciences methodological and theoretical approaches are best suited to analys-ing individual behavior. However, as methodological discussion in the last decade has shown, health and educational research also need process-orientated research, micro-macro-analysis, comparative research, or mixed methods designs. During the session, these, and other chal-lenges specific to health and educational research processes are discussed using examples from empirical research. The following questions, among others, are addressed: how to determine the defining the population / field of analysis in health and educational research; how to use a pro-cess-oriented methodology able to grasp current social transformation; and how to combine qual-itative and quantitative methods and different theoretical schools. In doing so, the session brings together perspectives from different cultural contexts to advance a cross-cultural discussion of methodological development in Health and Educational Studies.

1. Emancipatory Research Methodology in Disability Studies

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The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has profoundly impacted social and educational development and provides opportunities to drive forward inclusive policy for people with disabilities. Historically, disability research predominantly focused on 'researching for people with disabilities' rather than 'researching with people with disabilities. As a result, a plethora of documented disability research is situated within a medical perspective and mostly conducted by Western researchers with a western population. In that midst, voices of individuals with disabilities from the Global south are missing. Therefore, it is important to take a radical approach and use a politically sensitive perspective such as the 'disability emancipatory paradigm'. Qualitative research approach that utilizes multiple methods is most suitable for such situations. This article undertakes to explore the use of qualitative methods about disability research. Drawing on three of our published research where we used multiple data collection methods in qualitative research, in this study we will reflect our experiences that could be used in disability research. Multiple methods offer flexibility in conducting research and allow the researchers to make multiple assumptions about the nature of reality. Most importantly, it provides opportunity to individuals with disabilities to voice their thoughts, which are mostly not heard. We will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each method as well as the challenges in conducting the research. Furthermore, how each method could be combined to obtain multiple realities and lived experiences of individuals with disabilities will be discussed. This discussion will provide a socio-cultural dimension in disability research particularly in the context of Botswana, that could pave a way forward.

2. Positivism and constructivism in the study of health behaviours of adolescents in Botswana

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The debate on the two dominant paradigms in social science have divided researchers into several fields of enquiry. Specifically, the juxtaposition of positivism and constructionism traditions in carrying out empirical research. The debate has also been on whether the social world can be studied using same principles as natural world. The positivists espouse a deductive logic through quantitative methods while the constructivists prefer an inductive logic through qualitative methods. Hence the debate between the two paradigms is sometimes called the qualitative-quantitative debate. To overcome the debate, most researchers adopt a mixed method with aspects of both qualitative and quantitative in one study. However, there are limited studies that combine the two when using secondary and primary data. The main aim of the paper is to illustrate how quantitative and qualitative approaches are used as reconcilable research methods in a study of health behaviours of adolescents in Botswana. The paper demonstrates how quantitative secondary data and qualitative primary data can be used in one study. The paper will also address the strengths and weaknesses of both methods and how they can complement each other. The

findings of the discussion are expected to assist novice researchers to appreciate both quantitative and qualitative methods and that none is better than the other. They can complement each other when successfully combined in one study.

3. Researching the lived experience of Cancer patients in Botswana: A post-structuralism approach

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Conventional interpretive methods have often missed to adequately represent the voice of patients in situations of long-term illnesses such as with cancer patients. They have lacked a genuine voice of consciousness and experience in conveying the true experience of cancer patients. The methods have seen such voice as too subjective to satisfy the requisite qualities of acceptable research. Within the health care settings, the biomedical approach expects the patient to surrender to a health care professional who exercises their expertise to bring about intervention. This study uses in-depth interviews and biographical methods on a sample of cancer patients in two sites in Botswana. The work provides a contribution, from the global south, of how agency of experience plays a meaningful role in understanding the lived experience of cancer patients. The research stems from a growing realization of the significant value of experiential voice in an ongoing event or what may be a debilitating illness. Methods that free the authentic voice of patients are gaining more ground especially within practice professions such as medicine, nursing, social work, and others.

4. Interview as a social practice and the self-reflexivity to postcolonial childhood studies

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An expanding body of research to postcolonial childhood studies focuses on subaltern subjectivity and agency through positivistic filters. Critical postcolonial theory has shown that such approaches fail to answer questions as who speaks for whom and how, and who listens and how. Consequently, postcolonial childhood inquiries may not exclude the positioning of a researcher. Therefore, to deconstruct the interactive communication with the researched subject and to ask questions at variance to the dualist center and border is the aim of this study. It examines the interaction in interviews of indigenous children who attend bilingual intercultural schools in Ecuador. Consequently, at the first stage of the analysis are some theoretical orientations in the ascription process and its articulation with the periphery through class, race, generation, and colonial difference. This study asks questions on how meanings are constructed through language while focusing on children and their performance and their positioning in specific contexts. Secondly, linguistic structures will decipher new ascriptions. Thirdly, the study implies to consider the performative self-reflexive positioning and negotiation processes during the interview. Accordingly, a reconsidering of de-colonial turn to border thinking; while engaging in interviews with

children, and the self-reflexivity adds an anchor to politics of location when speaking for and about the subalterns. I will conduct videotaped semi-structured in-depth narrative interviews with individuals and peer groups to a constructivist grounded theory. A description of meanings with an emphasis on an interactive knowledge is characteristic here, as a movement from the abstract ideal to the concrete and from the concrete to the theory. An approach that assumes a constant changing world but recognizes diverse local worlds and multiple realities and addresses how people's actions affect their local and broader worlds. Therefore, the CTG involves a learning about the specific and the general and focus on what is new. Additionally, following Spivak's "unlearning," to learn on and through children's interpretations and their interactions to relations of power is an examination mode to the theory that might open visibility to the interactive strength of the context contributions through the complex process in data.

5. Inclusive Play Spaces for Children with Special Needs: A methodological enquiry into Urban Indian context

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Right to play is not necessarily an easily accessible privilege to most children either on accounts of space or social contextuality in several urban realms owing to a range of environmental barriers that need to be encountered. Children with special needs sometimes referred as children with disabilities further face greater challenges to inclusion in play spaces and require sensitization and accessibility to infrastructure that caters. Reduced green spaces in growing urban futures in India as a context pose further challenges to inclusion of children with special needs. Driven by rights-based policies from UNCRPD and UNCRC with a supportive policy by Government of India, this paper shares an insight into a methodological enquiry to identify the key barriers viz. social and spatial that impede access to children with special needs. In an ongoing COVID context, it further sheds light on experiences through case studies and in-depth surveys across families of children with special needs using digital methods of interaction. The study brings out contextual experiences of methods employed to understand children with special needs in Indian context and paves way for contextualizing inclusive attributes of play spaces for similar contexts in global south. Adopting remote methods of surveying, digital / visual tools for documentation and qualitative approaches to analyse the special needs further transform the idea. While analysing various dimensions of play spaces and children with special needs, this paper concludes towards highlighting the key concerns in such play spaces and socio spatial approaches to make them more inclusive.

6. A relational approach to study learning trajectories of young people from post-colonial Benin

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After colonialism, the numbers of schools and students have increased significantly in the republic of Benin, since education is largely seen as a decisive factor for development and social mobility. Although a large number of young people and their parents aspire employment in the public sector, these jobs have decreased with the neoliberal adjustment policies, while the number of school-educated youths qualifying for these jobs are increasing. Young people often experience a state of "waithood" and "educated unemployment" which has been described mostly for young men and urban contexts. In a rural context, where many young people are first generation students and where a school career up to university is an exception, we ask how young people learn to make a living in and outside schools. With backgrounds in social anthropology and educational science, our project looks at the learning trajectories and biographical processes of youths in a relational way over time and multiple constellations. We ask what kind of various relations are important in the process of how those young people who have left school early and those who have finished school learn to make a living. The beginning of our study is situated in a small rural town in northern Benin from which we follow a sample of girls and boys over a period of four years through the various constellations in which they are involved and in which learning processes might take place. Hereby, we research biographies not in retrospect but try to observe social processes of learning to make a living in real time. In this paper, we show how we combine different methods such as participant observation, interviews, questionnaires, media use, network data, etc. to create a relational research design and to triangle methodologies in what becomes a multi-sited case study that follows the young people and their paths of learning in a postcolonial space.

Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability
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About the Conference

If you need help

WhatsApp Helpline: +267 75584767 during the conference.

Email mosianek@ub.ac.bw for technical assistance during the conference.

For queries, and clarity email smusconference@ub.ac.bw

Visit SMUS Conference Website for more updates Botswana – SMUS (www.gcsmus.org)

What are SMUS Conferences about?

The "Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability" (GCSMUS, https://gcsmus.org) together with the Research Committee on "Logic and Methodology in Sociology" (RC33) of the "International Sociology Association" (ISA) and the Research Network "Quantitative Methods" (RN21) of the European Sociology Association" (ESA) is organizing the "1st International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods" ("SMUS Conference") which will at the same time be the "1st RC33 Regional Conference – Africa: Botswana" from Thursday 23.09 – Saturday 25.09.2021, hosted by the University of Botswana in Gaborone, Botswana.

Description

Most countries in the Global North have a strong methodological infrastructure including systematic basic training at universities. There is also a strong international network providing both advanced training and academic discourse on how to further social science methodology. However, at the same time scholars lack discourse about what type of methods are suitable for research in the countries in the Global South and how to build field contacts and an appropriate research infrastructure.

The lack of discourse in general throughout the countries in the Global South may not be due to the lack of methodologies, but to the different focus of attention in different stages of social development with these countries. Taking China as an example, more quantitative and positivist research methods are preferred, and there may be less discussion on the theory behind the methods. In addition, in the developing countries, methodological training at universities is often even less systematic and training is provided by scholars who are generally not specialized in the area of research methodology. This results in scholars being in need of basic and advanced methodological skills, which, in turn, hinders participation in international methodological discourses and debates.

Suitability and necessity of action

Conferences on social research methodologies usually take place in cities in developed countries. Since expenses (conferences fees, travel and daily allowance) are fairly high and funding is markedly limited (and often even non-existent), scholars based in the developing countries – as participation numbers prove – are recurrently excluded from partaking. Thus, one of the first goals of the center is to educate in social science methodology by creating a global network of discourse on social science methodology that integrates both scholars from developing and developed countries, thus creating meeting points and building the basis for future collaboration.

Given the current challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic, the conference will convene entirely online. The conference aims at promoting a global dialogue on methods and should attract methodologists from all over the world and all social and spatial sciences (e.g., area studies, architecture, communication studies, educational sciences, geography, historical sciences, humanities,

landscape planning, philosophy, psychology, sociology, urban design, urban planning, traffic planning and environmental planning). Thus, the conference will enable scholars to get in contact with methodologists from various disciplines all over the world and to deepen discussions with researchers from various methodological angles.

Participation in the Action and Selection Criteria

The conferences are open to both network and non-network members. There will be no conference fees, and there will be travel grants for both network and non-network members from the developing countries. The conference is also open to other participants as long as they bring their own funding.

The RC33 rules for Session Organization apply. In particular, all English-language sessions and papers that address the conference theme will be accepted.

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