

Editorial Preface

Open Data, Web Search, and Planning Issues in Housing and Mobility

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The 2020 volume of the *International Journal of E-Planning Research* (IJEPR) is now complete with this issue. It represents one more year of work in the journey towards the consolidation of the IJEPR as a world reference in the field of Urban e-Planning. Papers submitted and papers published continue to come from all major regions of the world, written by authors from all stages of the academic career, from various disciplinary areas, and with different perspectives of the spatial planning process. The journal continues to be indexed in important Indices, as is the case of SCOPUS and Web of Science Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) and continues to be member of COPE - Committee on Publication Ethics. The 'Urban e-Planning Research Network' (UEPNET) is expanding globally, with new members being added continuously, and the journal annual conference, whose aim is to explore and to discuss recent developments, emerging issues and future challenges in the field of urban e-planning worldwide, is now a reference for all those working in the field of Urban e-Planning. Next will be published the tenth volume and a special issue to mark this achievement is being prepared.

In the first article of this issue, 'A Survey of Municipal Open Data Repositories in the U.S.', Bev Wilson, from the University of Virginia, USA, and Cong Cong, from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA, present and discuss the ways cities in the United States use open data to achieve a variety of objectives, namely the promotion of transparency, the facilitation of the public engagement, and the fostering of innovation in the public and private sectors. The authors conclude that population size and regulatory actions exercise a positive influence on the amount and variety of data provided through municipal open data portals and discuss the implications for the design and governance of open government data initiatives at the local level.

In the following article, 'Searching Through Silos: Assessing the Landscape of Participatory Mapping Research Using Google Scholar and Web of Science', Shelley Barbara Cook, from the University of British Columbia - Okanagan, Logan Cochrane, from the Carleton University, and Jon Corbett, from the University of British Columbia - Okanagan, all in Canada, explore the narrative of participatory mapping as a discipline and do this by assessing the literature on participatory mapping practices across two scholarly search platforms - Google Scholar and Web of Science. Among other aspects, the authors conclude that participatory mapping is not yet a unified method, and that what counts as valid knowledge, in what regards the practice of participatory mapping, varies according to the platform used in the search.

The third article, 'Allocation of Residential Areas in Smart Insular Communities: The Case of Mykonos, Greece', by Chrysaída-Alikí Papadopoulou and Thomas Hatzichristos, both from the National Technical University of Athens, Greece, is focused on the smart exploration of possible

residential areas in the island of Mykonos, in Greece. The authors put emphasis on the management of land, the protection of natural resources and the establishment of a sustainable pattern of housing development, and do the analysis with the support of crowdsourcing, living labs, participatory evaluations, and spatial decision support systems.

In the fourth and last article, 'Planning Mobility on Transboundary Shrinking Towns', Luciano Alfaya, from the University San Jorge, Patricia Muniz, University of Coruña, David Wilkes and Antia Martinez, from Estudio MMASA, and Camilo Fernandez, Inzarede, all from Spain, assess the differences between proximity planning in small-size Spanish municipalities and spatial planning in the Galicia-North of Portugal transboundary plan. The authors conclude that the digital data is useful in planning processes in areas with dispersed population, even in the border area of two countries.

The book reviewed in this issue, *Urban Planning in the Digital Age*, written by Nicolas Douay, explores and discusses the effect of the use of digital technologies on city actors, urban planning methods and processes, and is of interest for all those working in the urban e-planning field.

To conclude, I would like to express once again my appreciation to all colleagues associated, in different roles, with this volume 9 of the International Journal of E-Planning Research (IJEPR): the authors of the articles submitted for publication, members of the editorial board and the external ad-hoc reviewers. The contribution of reviewers, ad-hoc reviewers and members of the editorial board, from countries in all continents, is acknowledged in the list of IJEPR reviewers for volume 9 referred below. I also wish to express my esteem to the IGI editorial staff for their assistance in the publication process. As part of our efforts to keep the Editorial Board adjusted to the increasing demands of the review process, small changes in the board membership were introduced at the start of 2020. To the retiring members of the Editorial Board I express my gratitude for their association with the IJEPR and for the new members I wish them a fruitful and long collaboration with the journal.

Carlos Nunes Silva
Editor-in-Chief
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