Conurbano´s Atlas

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Conurbano, an heterogeneous region

- **9,9 million** people (Census 2010, INDEC).
- **63%** total population of Buenos Aires Province.
- **25%** total population of our country.
- **308,000 km²** área.
- **24** townships.
- **More than 1000** informal neighbourhoods.
- **18,4%** of the gross domestic product.
Popular economy

Our research aims at the reproduction strategies of popular classes, households who access their homes in an informal way.

Popular sectors living in the margins of society, in slums, settlements and social housing.

Popular economy: a set of strategies to earn money, access goods, financing and strengthen social networks.

Informality – household work – family and reciprocity relationships – money state transfers – territory and local socio-political relationships

Life’s sustainability
Reproduction strategies in popular economy

4 central questions to understand reproduction strategies in popular sectors:

- How do popular classes work and earn money?
- How do they access goods and services to satisfy their needs?
- How do they access financing to buy goods, build or improve their homes?
- Which are their relationships and social networks? How do they extend their social and symbolic capitals?

The study of the strategies of popular sectors is an issue related to the reproduction of the whole society. It helps to understand how social structure determines the strategies of the popular classes and to explain how these strategies contribute to create social order and social transformation.
Social science, big data, public policies
“Big data might be useful to better understand what underlies possible dynamics of segregation and polarization in a diverse society, but also what are the limitations of the use of big data. It will be argued that big data can only seriously foster our understanding of social integration dynamics when integrated with theory driven computational modelling and small-scale empirical research as well as “old” types of data such as surveys” (Flache, A.).
In Argentina, public statistics and big data sources don’t provide complete information about the popular neighborhoods.

For example, the population census don’t always survey people living in informal territories, as slums or settlements.

Popular classes have less access to technology, internet, smartphones, etc., so the information gathered about online activities is not fully representative of the whole society.
Fieldwork

Since 2011

Arrangement with Social Develop Ministry of Buenos Aires to design a slums and settlements urbanization strategic plan.

Founds of the UNPRE (a dependence of the Economy Ministry).

12 popular neighborhoods.

3,283 houses.

3,311 households.

15,281 people.
The Atlas: a tool for social analysis

**Social analysis tool:** displays socio-economic public statistics, cartography and information on informal neighborhoods.

**Systematization of information** currently disperse or difficult to access.

**Interdisciplinary work:** sociology, social work, architecture, geography, programmer, etc.

**Contribution to policy planning:** articulation between academic research and governmental agencies.
Methodology

**Analysis and visualization of public open data.**

**Primary information** produced by our fieldwork in popular neighborhoods.

**Cartography** of these neighborhoods made with information provided by the townships.


We look forward the participation of diverse actors to enrich and update the Atlas.
Discussion

- Academic research – Social science – Big data – Public statistics – Public policies in Argentina.

- Encourage interdisciplinary work and dialogue between actors with different perspectives.

- Integration of data and theory driven models, small-scale empirical research, surveys and qualitative techniques.

How can we address these challenges to improve living conditions in a more efficient way?
Thank you!

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