Sustainability | Individual communication

IC - (20971) - METRICS FOR PUBLIC SPHERE BEHAVIOURS AT SMALL SCALE: A CASE STUDY OF TWO PUBLIC SPACES IN RIO DE JANEIRO

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Background and objectives
UNESCO states the importance of public space as crucial for sustainable cities and communities: providing ecosystem services, improving health and well-being, ensuring social inclusion and economic exchange, offering an opportunity to enrich the quality of life of all urban dwellers, leaving no one behind. This paper is part of a research project and aims to measure and model the personal and social uses of public spaces. The study was conducted in two squares at Rio de Janeiro and aims to address the question: Can we use a common language to observe people-environment relations and analyze trends and actions in public spaces?

Process and methods (for empirical research)
Trough Public Life Data Protocol data specification developed by Jan Gehl and applied in several cities, two open-source protocols were used in field surveys to collect data about people and place.

Main results (or main arguments in the case of critical reviews)
Preliminary results indicate that quantitative and qualitative data gathered thought standardized methods in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) can be used to model essential characterisations of public spaces at social and physical levels.

Implications for research and practice/policy | Importance and originality of the contribution
The methodological approach was shown to be replicable in systematic investigation of different public spaces. Depending on future results and analyses, this research may shed light to interdisciplinary perspectives and methods, contributing with the study and development of indicators and metrics about human behaviour and public spaces.

Palavras-chave : Urban context, Public spaces characterisation, Geographic Information Systems, People-environment relationship