

## **Comparing local and regional development within and between countries – what information and data is needed?**

The session departs from the Sustainable Development Goal 10 focusing on reducing inequality within and between countries and challenges associated with scarce access of unified georeferenced data. Digitalisation, globalisation and educational upgrading have, for many regions, led to increased wages, less routine work, and, over all, increased wealth (Berger & Frey, 2016). There are also less desirable outcomes, such as divergence between urban and rural locations, labour market polarisations and increased inequality between and within countries (Torre & Wallet, 2015). Emerging patterns of economic growth concentrated to some large urban areas, influence the increasing spatial inequality (Kim, 2011). The patterns of regional inequality influence the interrelation of housing, labour market and mobility on local levels and influence the spatial interaction between households and firms (Glaeser et al, 2005; Moretti, 2012 and Hilber & Vermeulen, 2016). However, the increased interest in analyzing spatial inequality within and between countries pose challenges related to the access of unified data on fine geographical scale with equally detailed and geographical coverage a group of local areas, regions or countries (Vermeulen & Van Ommeren, 2009).

The objective of the session is to discuss applications of different types of georeferenced data in comparative and interdisciplinary studies between different countries to analyse spatial divergence on regional and local levels focusing on labour market, housing market, access to transport, local economic growth patterns. The type of geocoded data can be register-based data on living standards and socioeconomic levels, travel surveys, property transactions, remotely sensed data on land use change and nighttime light emissions.

### References:

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