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and
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development

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2016



Centre for
Functional Ecology

Citizens' engagement in drawing strategies/priorities towards improving urban quality of life

Paula Castro

Centre for Functional Ecology
University of Coimbra
Portugal

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Environment
1th UPE Lusophone Symposium



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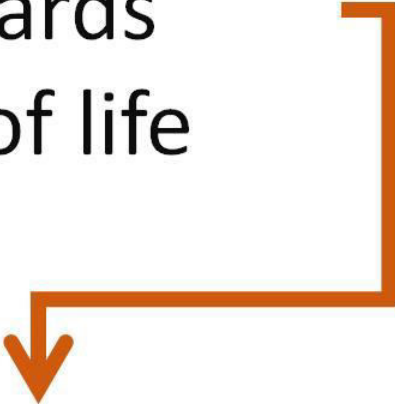


Caixa Geral
de Depósitos

Citizens' engagement in drawing strategies/priorities towards improving urban quality of life

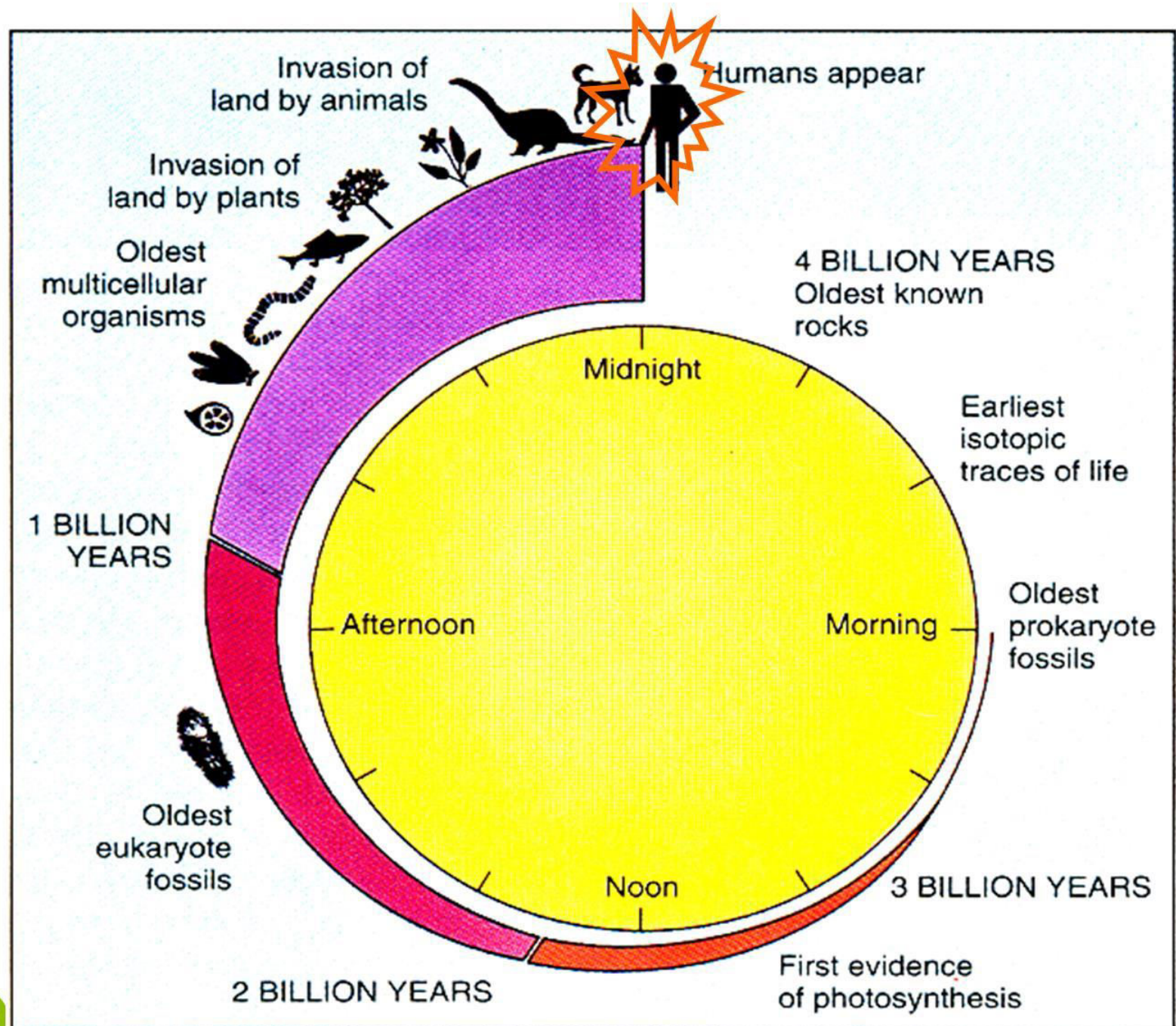
Paula Castro
Helena Freitas
Lurdes Barrico

Centre for Functional Ecology
University of Coimbra
Portugal



Assessing the quality of life and urban development in the municipality of Coimbra based on a perception survey of its residents

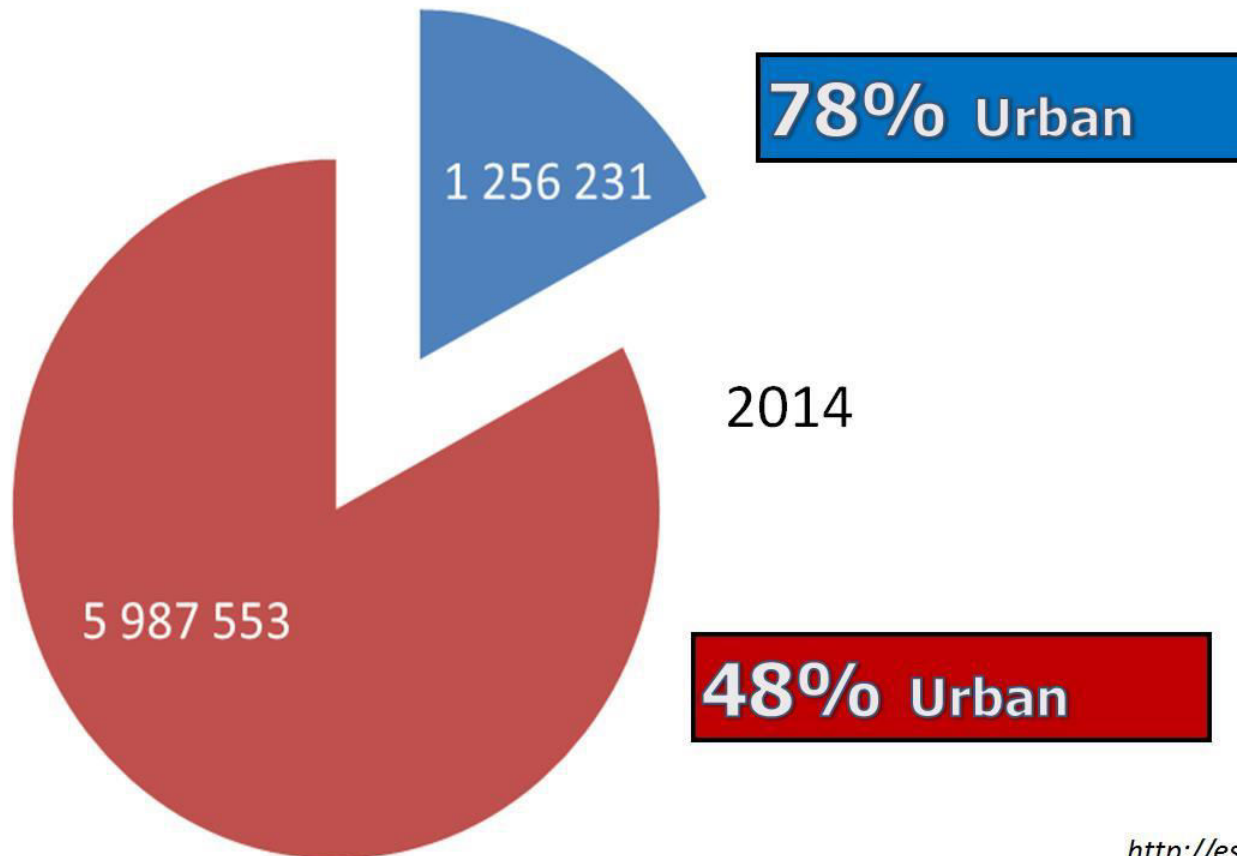




World population!

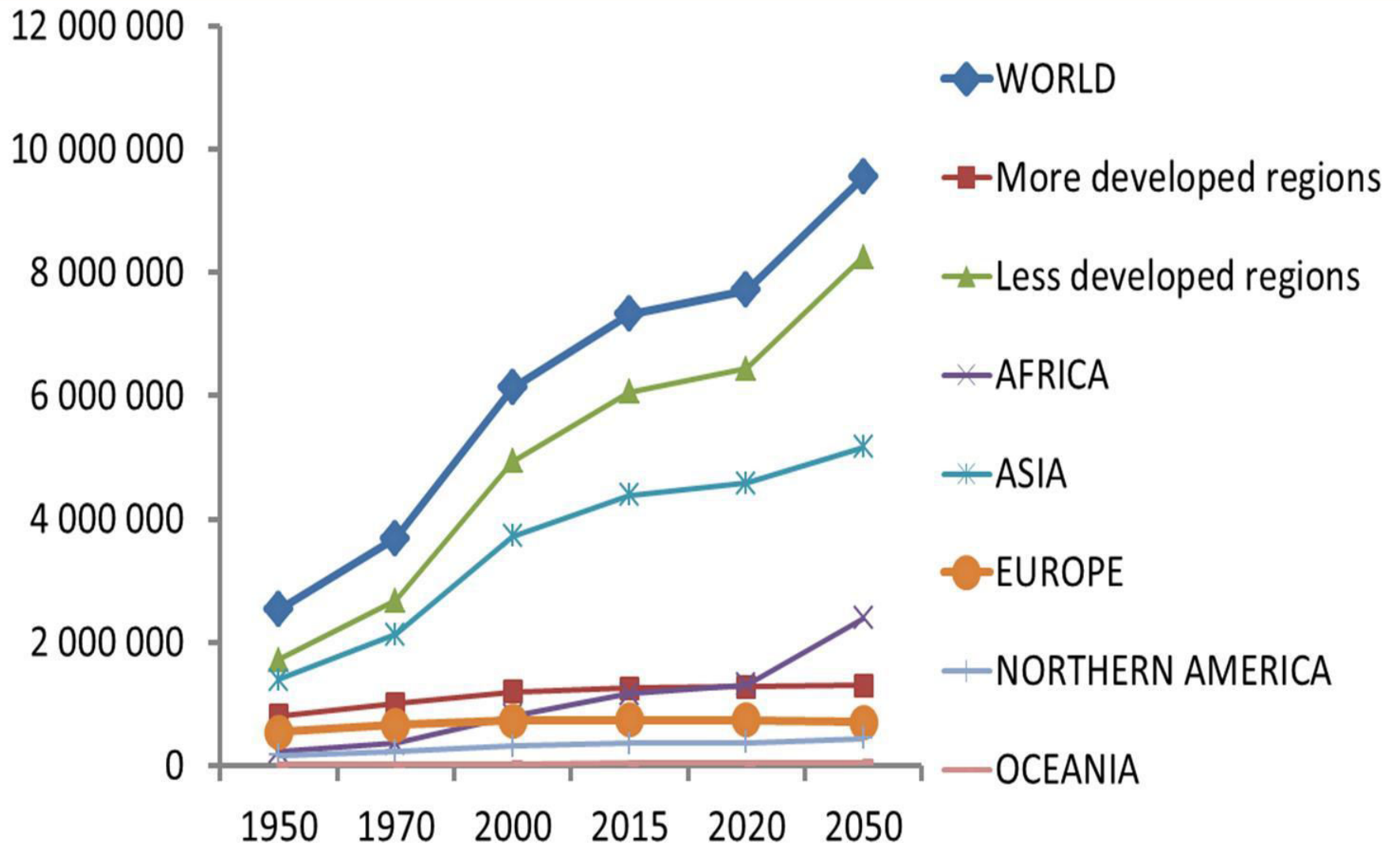
- Less developed regions
- More developed regions

7 324 7827 people
(2015)



<http://esa.un.org/unpd/wup/CD-ROM/>

Population evolution



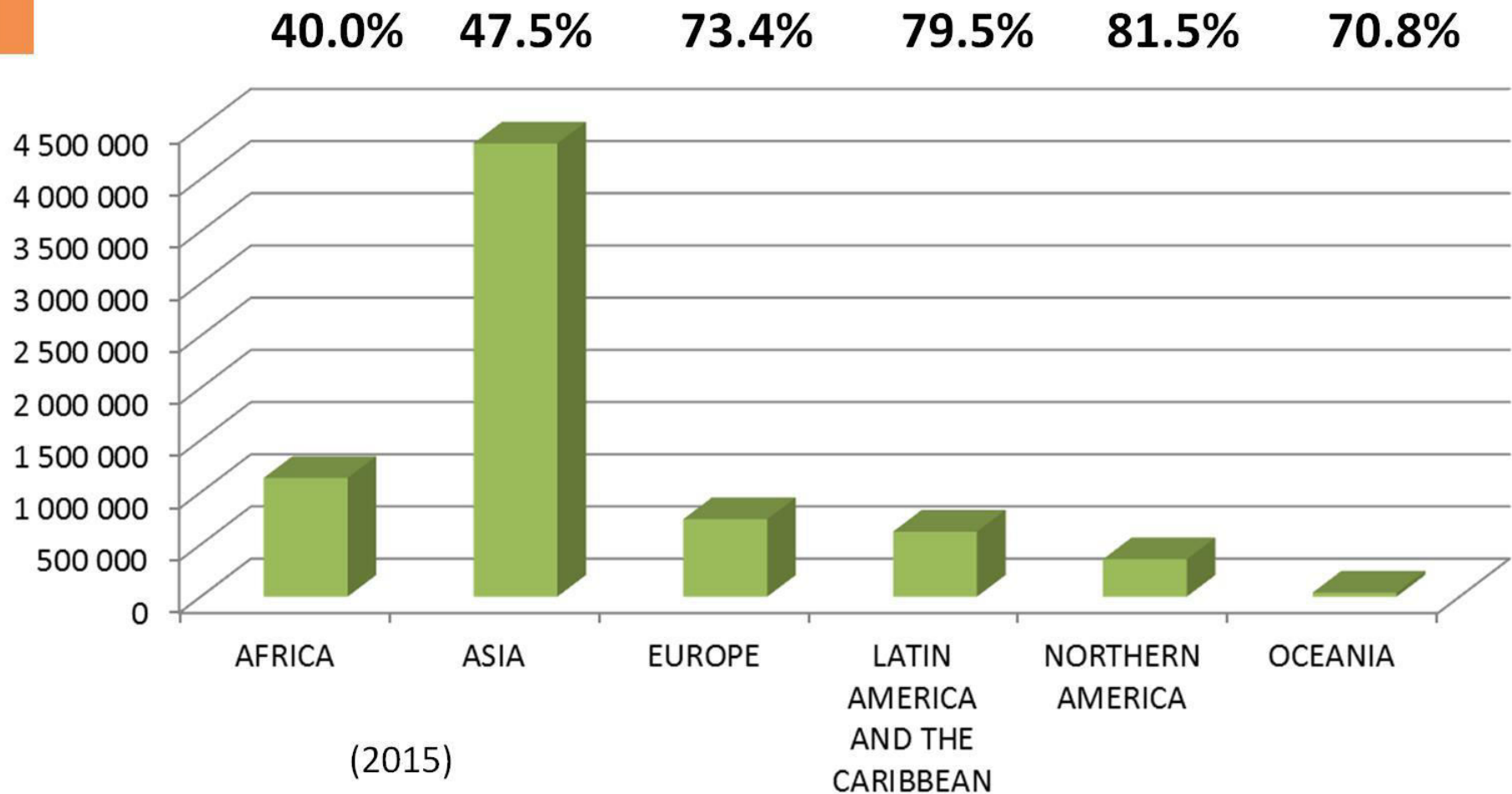
The cities!

“Managing urban areas has become one of the most important development challenges of the 21st century. Our success or failure in building sustainable cities will be a major factor in the success of the post-2015 UN development agenda”

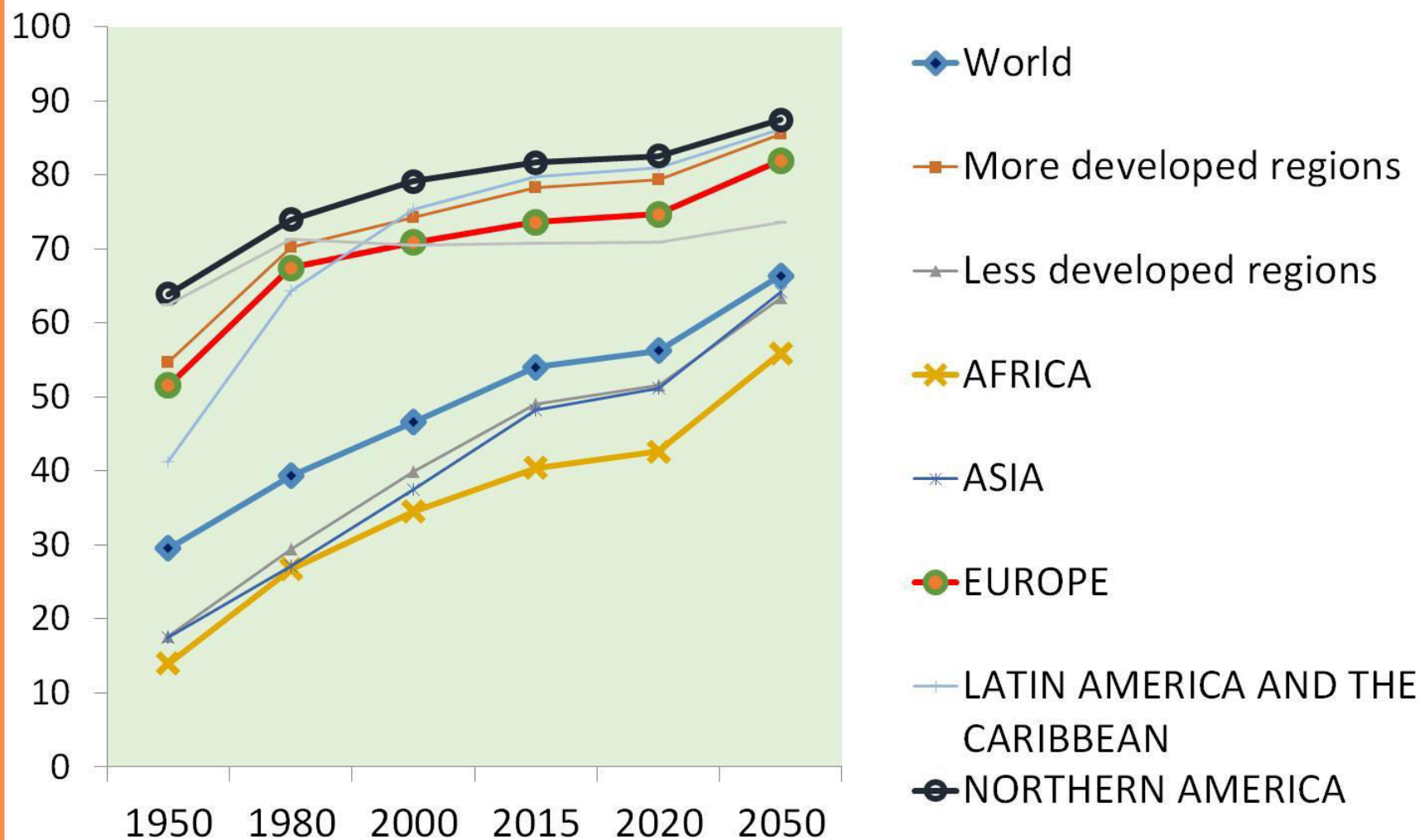
John Wilmoth, Director of UN DESA’s Population Division.



World population living in cities



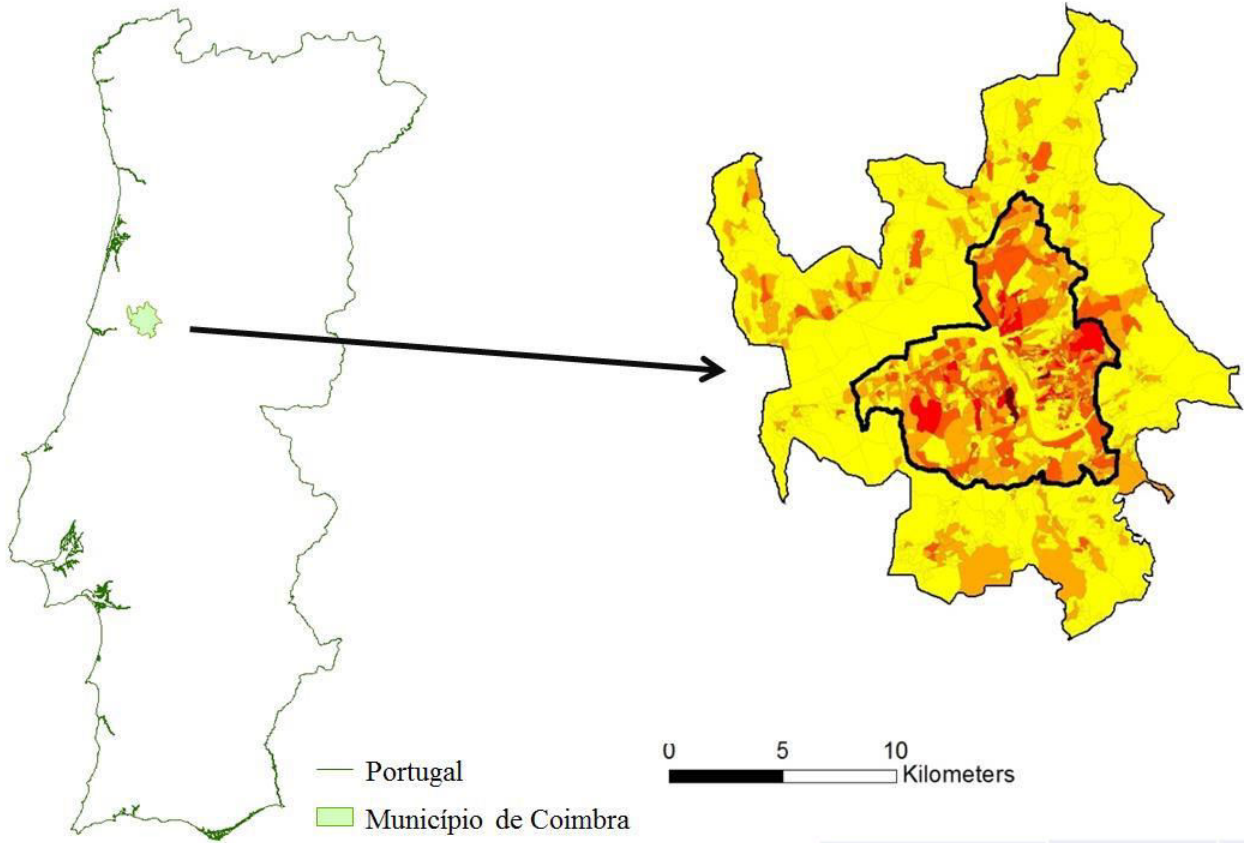
% POPULATION LIVING IN URBAN AREAS: Past-Present-Future



The study case!



Municipality of Coimbra



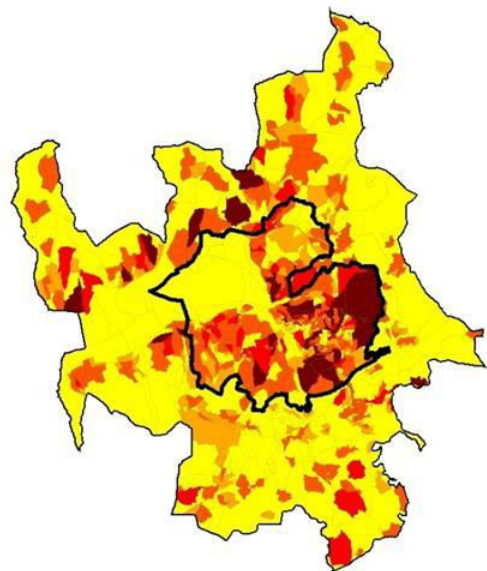
Portugal	63,5%	(2015)
Coimbra	~ 78%	(2011)



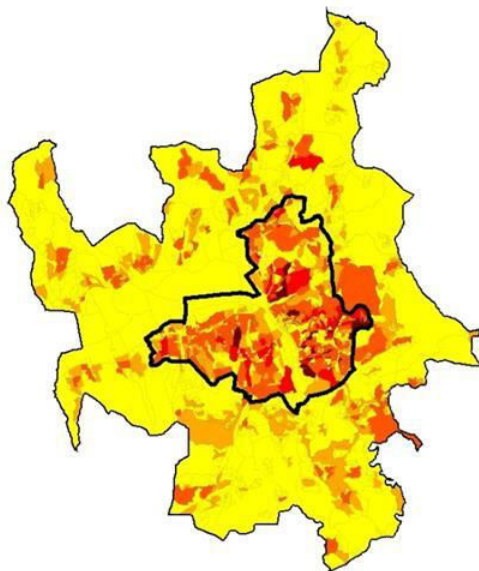
Population (Nº)



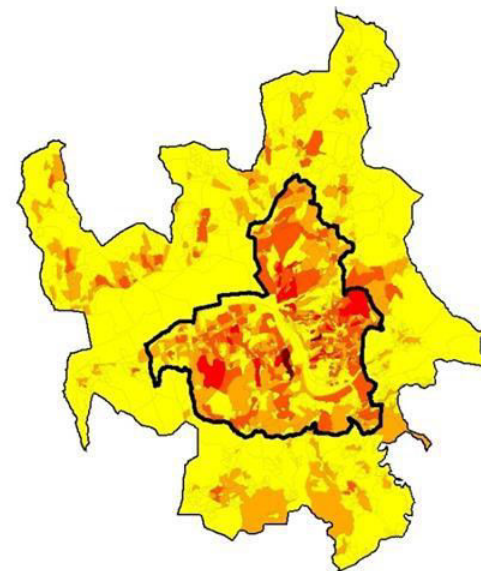
1991




2001



2011



 City of Coimbra


Population

 0 - 50

 51 - 100

 101 - 300

 301 - 500

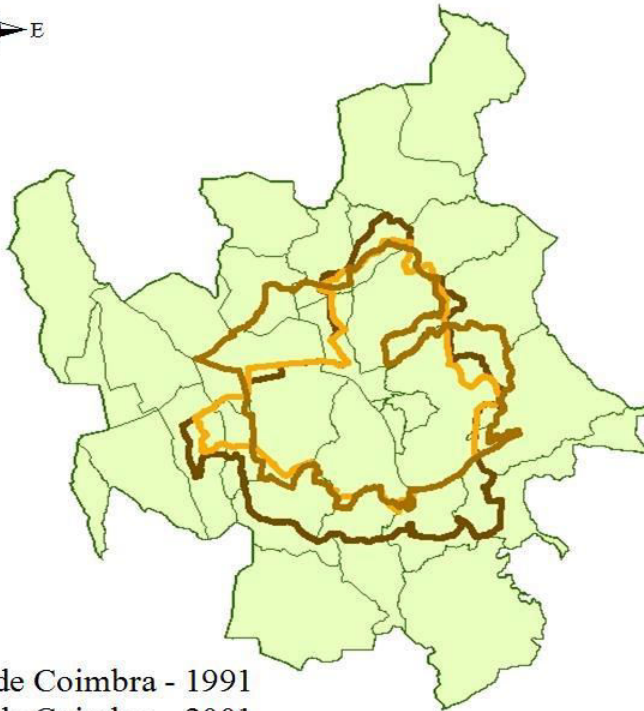
 501 - 1500

0 5 10 Kilometers



Urban expansion model in the city of Coimbra

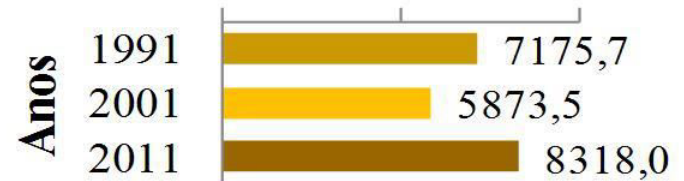
Urban sprawl – a less compact city



- Cidade de Coimbra - 1991
- Cidade de Coimbra - 2001
- Cidade de Coimbra - 2011
- Freguesias de Coimbra

0 5 10 Kilometers

Area (ha)
0 5000 10000



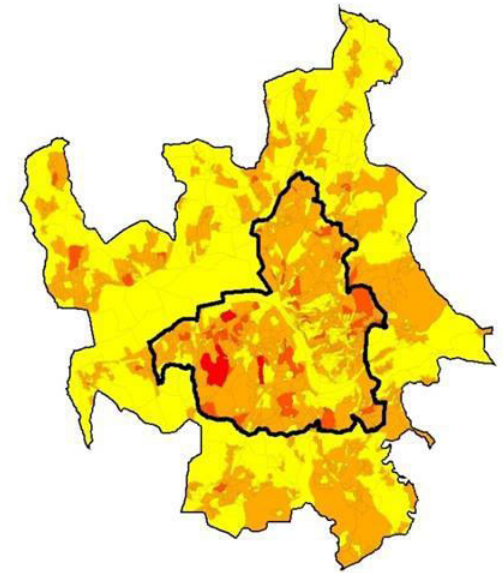
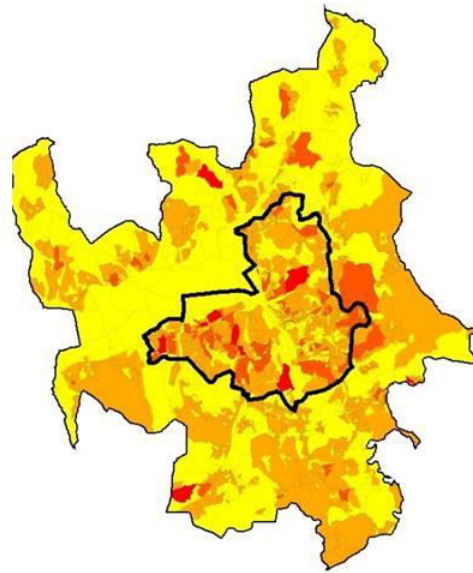
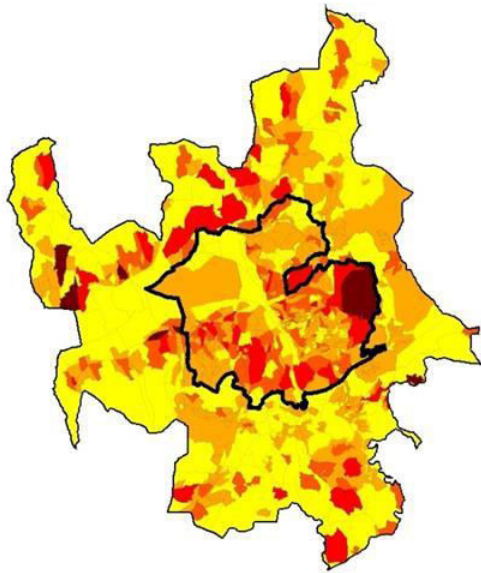
Population density (n.º/km²)


0 1000 2000





Number of Buildings



 City of Coimbra

Buildings

 0 - 10

 11 - 50

 51 - 100

 101 - 200

 201 - 300

0 5 10
Kilometers



	Municipality			City		
	1991	2001	2011	1991	2001	2011
Population (N°)	139 052	148 443	143 396	92 196 (66.3%)	111 801 (75.3%)	111 788 (78.0%)
Population density (per km2)	435.4	464.8	449.0	1 284.8	1 903.5	1 343.9
Buildings (N°)	32 914	35 807	40 641	17 414 (52.9%)	22 842 (63.8%)	27 235 (67.0%)
Buildings density (per km2)	103.0	112.1	127.2	242.7	388.9	327.4
Area (ha)	31 940	31 940	31 940	7 175.7	5 873.5	8 318.0



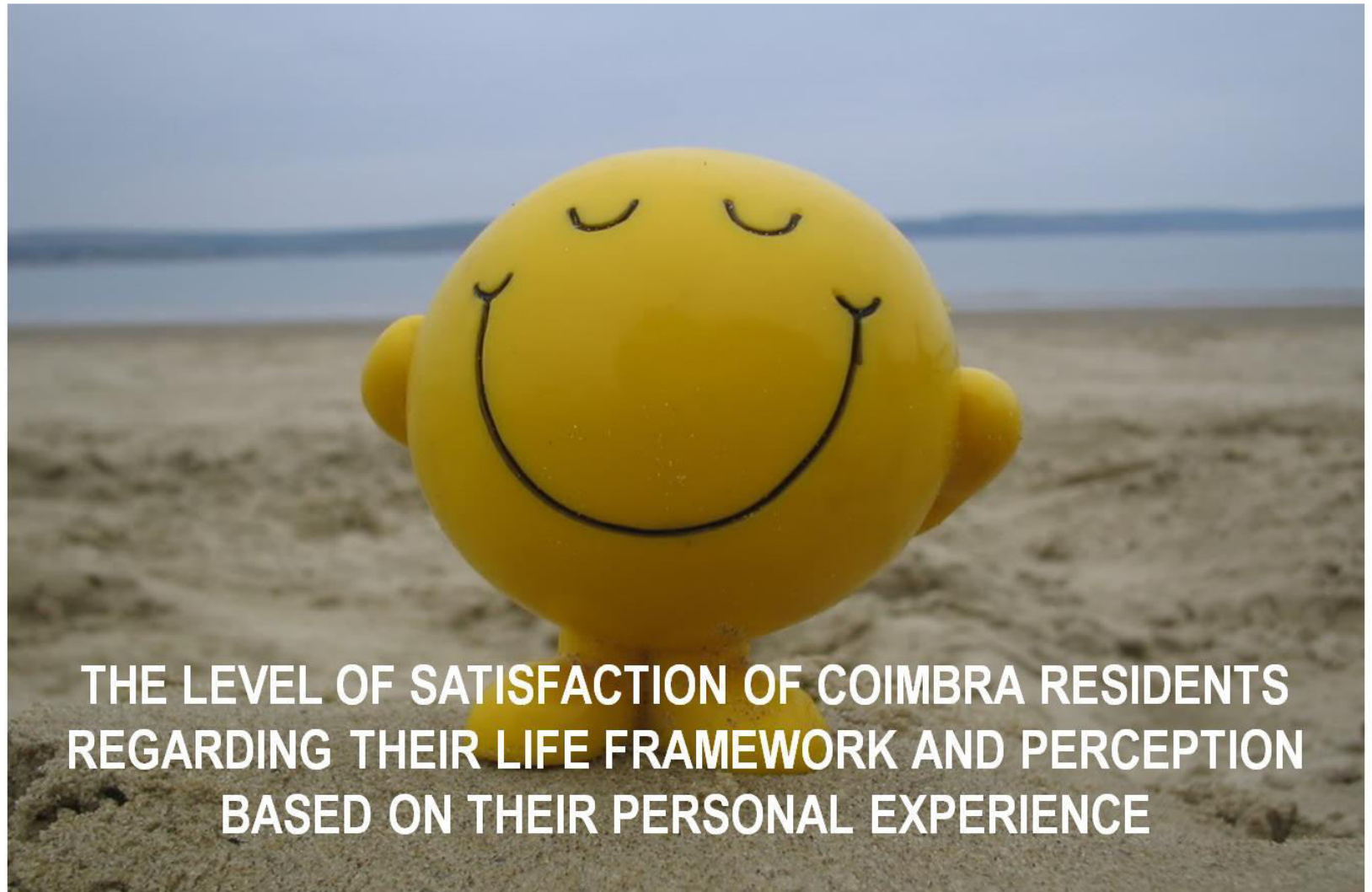
Sustainable urban environments:

- The priority of local governments should consist in improving:
 - the relationship with its citizens
 - the quality of life and well-being of society through their capacity to attract active and participatory citizenships as well as stimulating and supporting economic agents

It is important to engage **residents** and other stakeholders in the planning process and decision-making...



We assessed:



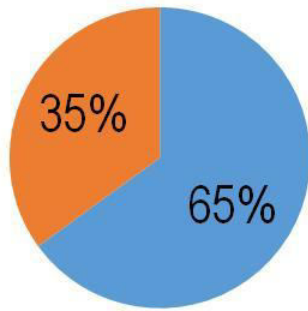
**THE LEVEL OF SATISFACTION OF COIMBRA RESIDENTS
REGARDING THEIR LIFE FRAMEWORK AND PERCEPTION
BASED ON THEIR PERSONAL EXPERIENCE**



The sample:

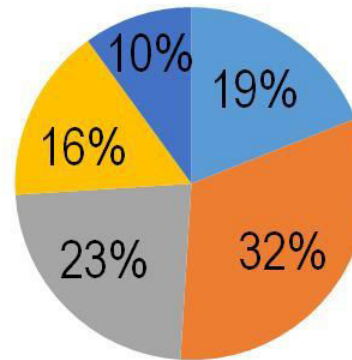
Gender

- Female
- Male



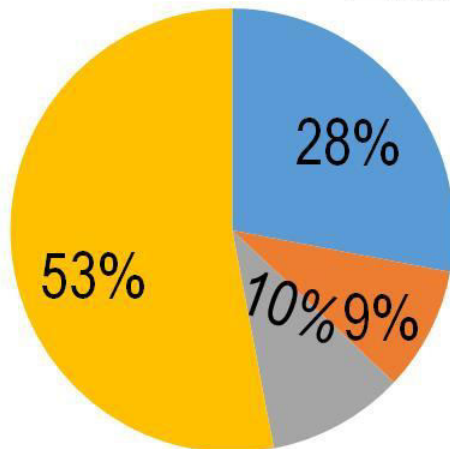
Age group

- 18-25
- 26-35
- 36-45
- 46-55
- More than 55



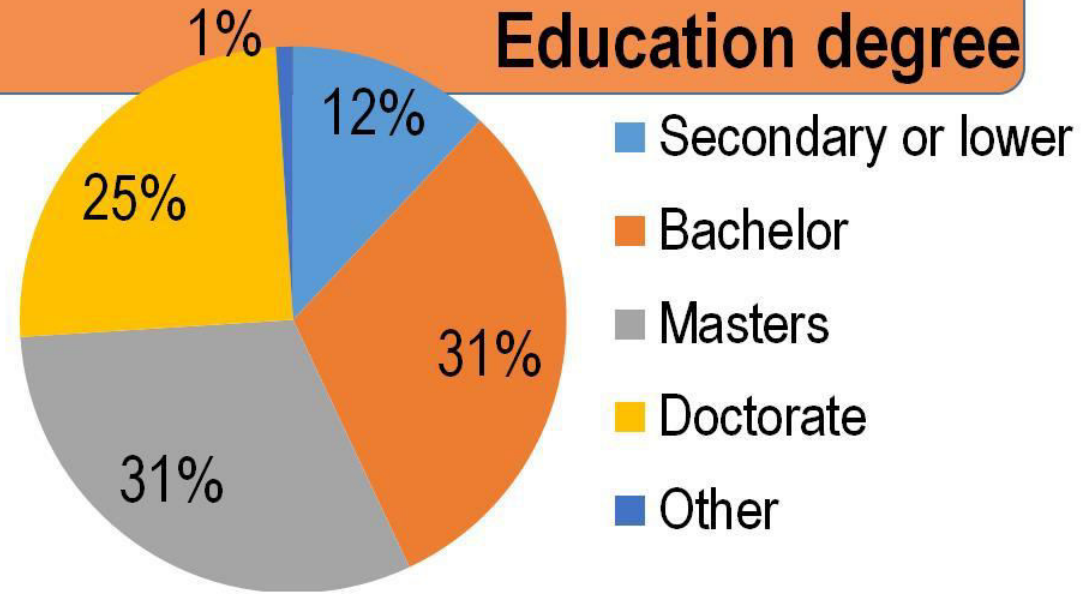
Length of residency

- Until 9 years
- 10-15 years
- 16-20 years
- More than 20 years

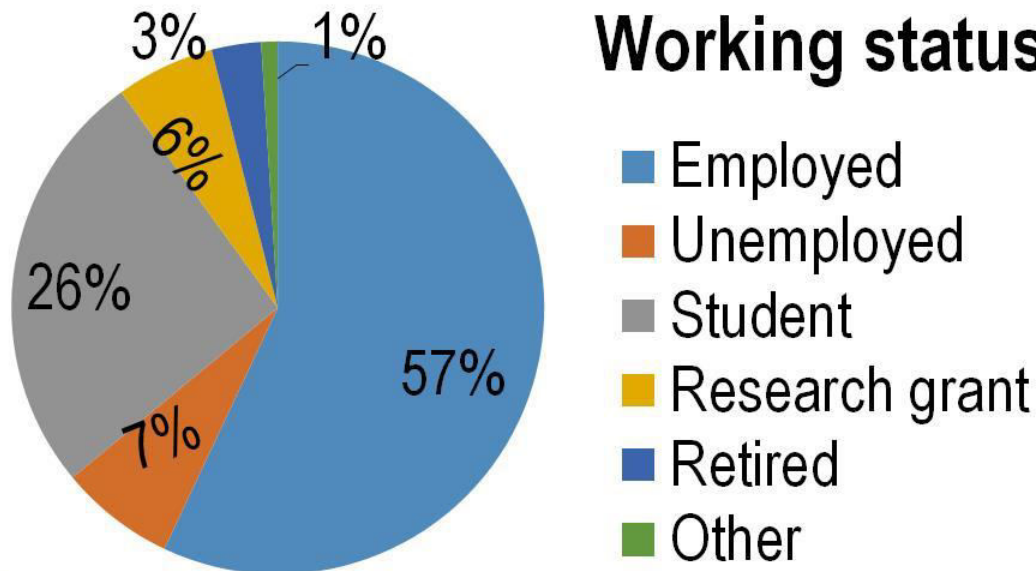


The sample:

Education degree

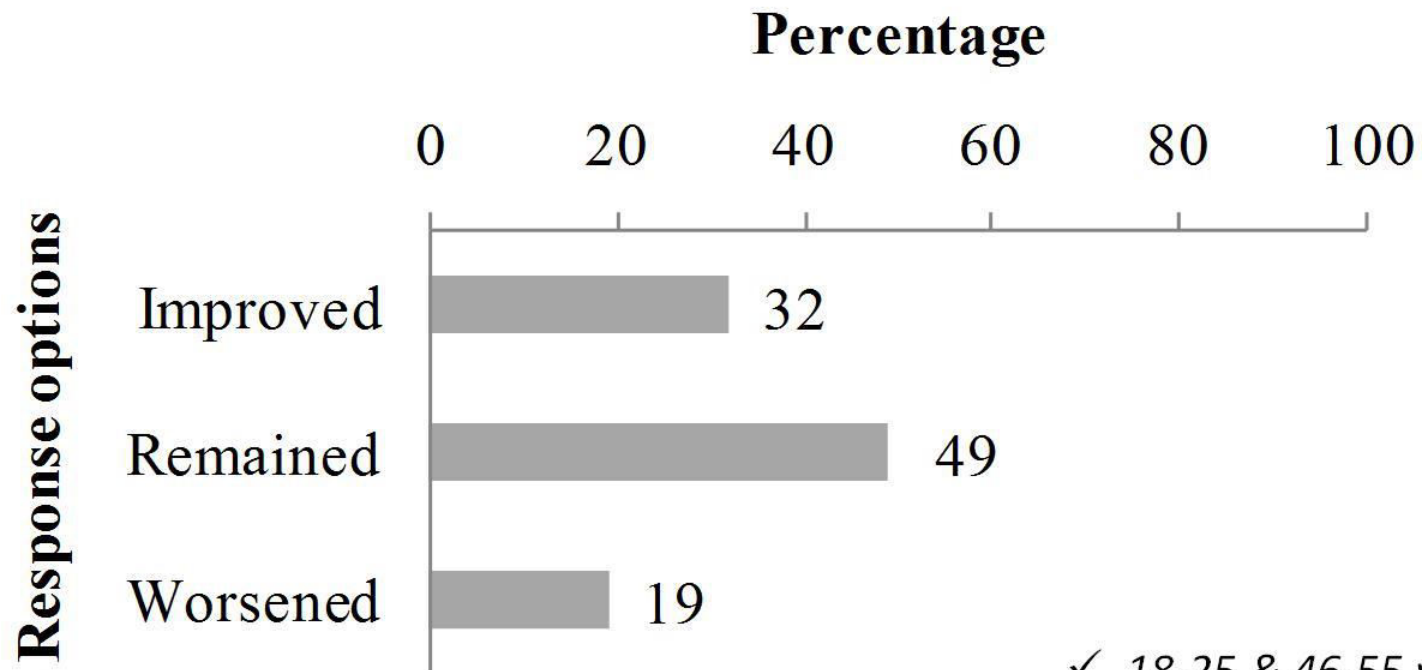


Working status



Questions and results:

Quality of life in the past 5 years?

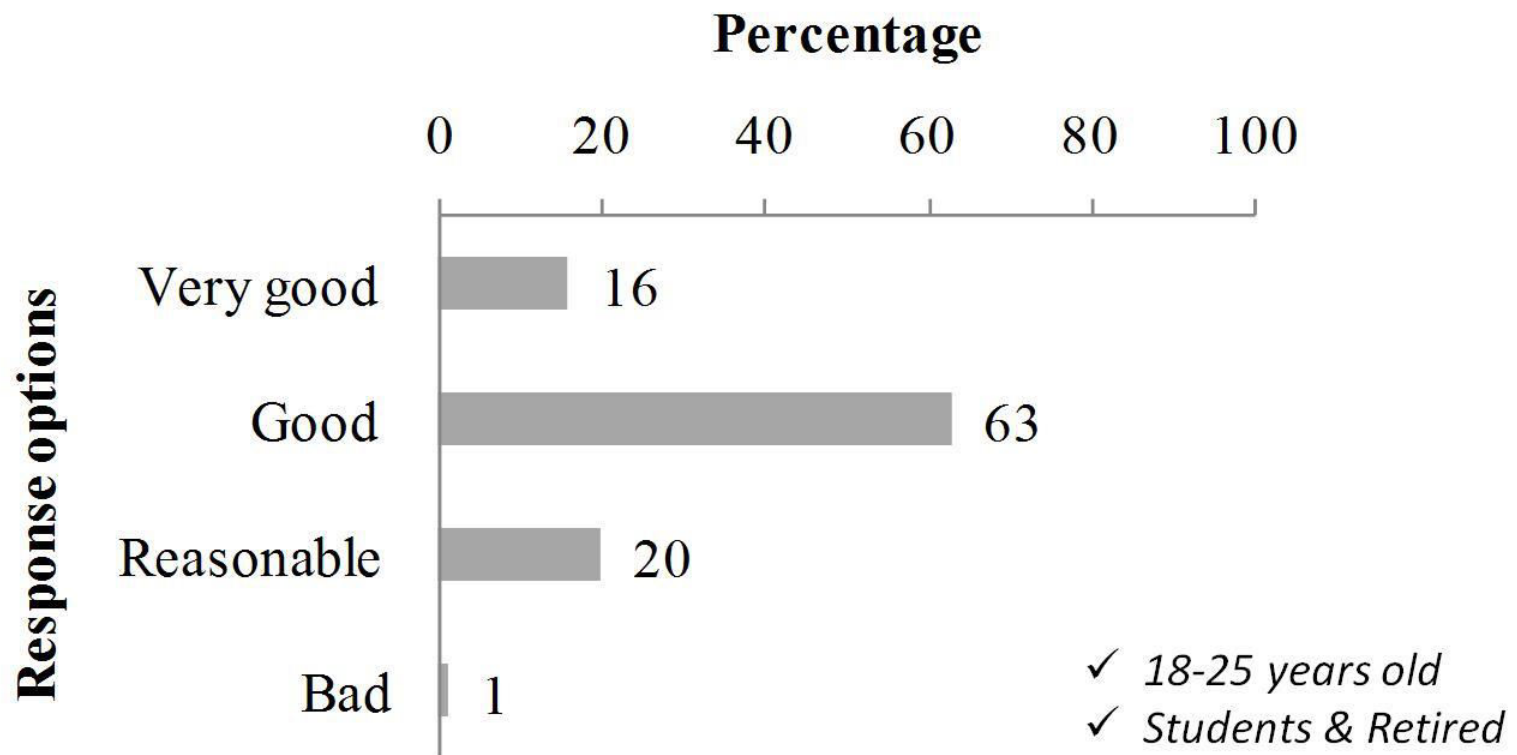


✓ 18-25 & 46-55 years old



Questions and results:

Living in the municipality?



Questions and results:

Level of satisfaction about economic and socio-cultural conditions ?

1. Bike paths	13. Public transport
2. Housing price	14. Leisure and recreation areas
3. Accessibility for people with disabilities	15. Cultural and sport areas
4. Parking	16. Air quality
5. Employment	17. Public safety
6. Conditions of the buildings	18. Waste collection and selection
7. Spatial planning	19. Public lighting
8. Combating poverty and social exclusion	20. Cultural heritage
9. Pedestrian areas	21. Basic sanitation
10. Support for the elderly	22. Water supply
11. Accessibility	23. Education
12. Transit	24. Health services



Questions and results:

Level of satisfaction about economic and socio-cultural conditions ?



Less satisfied

Accessibility for people with disabilities

Bike paths

Housing price

Parking

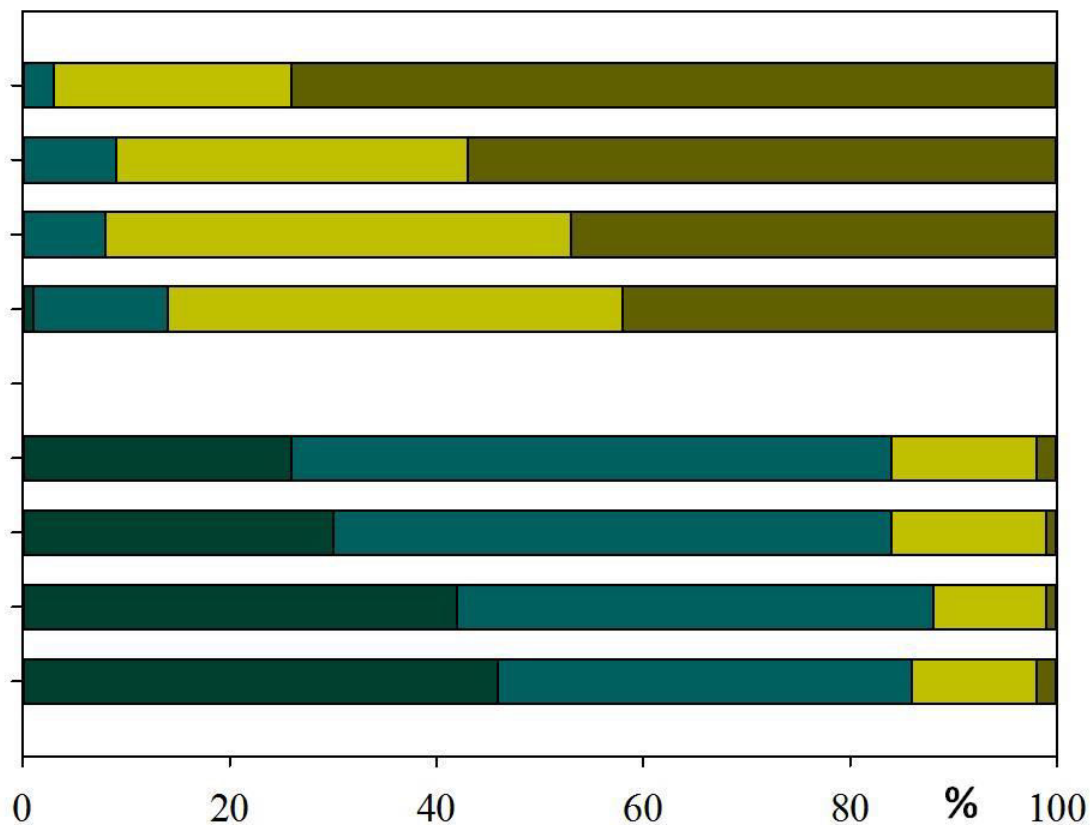
More satisfied

Basic sanitation

Water supply

Education

Health services



The statistical results relative to the four worst-ranked issues (1-4) and the four best-ranked issues (5-8) with regard to socio-demographic profile of the respondents. * Significant differences at $p < 0.05$. ** Significant differences at $p \leq 0.01$.

Issues	Gender	Age	Education degree	Working status	Time of residency in Coimbra
1. Bike paths	$p = 0.553$	$p = 0.095$	$p = 0.817$	$p = 0.118$	$p = 0.204$
2. Housing price	$p = 0.104$	$p < 0.001^{**}$	$p = 0.145$	$p < 0.001^{**}$	$p = 0.020^*$
3. Accessibility for people with disabilities	$p = 0.027^*$	$p < 0.001^{**}$	$p = 0.006^{**}$	$p < 0.001^{**}$	$p = 0.014^*$
4. Parking	$p = 0.090$	$p = 0.163$	$p = 0.014^*$	$p = 0.228$	$p = 0.163$
5. Basic sanitation	$p = 0.025^*$	$p = 0.023^*$	$p = 0.064$	$p = 0.082$	$p = 0.026^*$
6. Water supply	$p = 0.032^*$	$p = 0.337$	$p = 0.368$	$p = 0.578$	$p = 0.001^{**}$
7. Education	$p = 0.466$	$p = 0.078$	$p < 0.001^{**}$	$p = 0.535$	$p = 0.072$
8. Health services	$p = 0.083$	$p = 0.029^*$	$p < 0.001^{**}$	$p = 0.265$	$p < 0.001^{**}$

Questions and results:

Level of satisfaction about economic and socio-cultural conditions?

Less satisfied

- Bike paths ·
- Housing price · Middle age, employed & retired, res. 10-15y
- Accessibility for people with disabilities · Female, middle age, higher educated, employed & research fellows, res. 10-15y & >20y
- Parking · Higher educated

More satisfied

- Basic sanitation · Male, youngest, res. >16y
- Water supply · Male, res. >16y
- Education · Higher educated
- Health services · Middle age, higher educated, res. >16y



Questions and results:

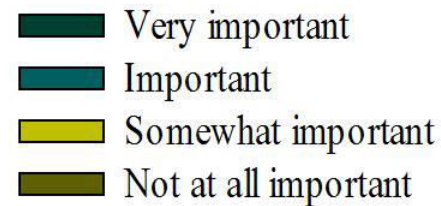
Where should local authorities invest?

1. Housing sector	11. Public cleanliness
2. Water supply	12. Spatial planning
3. Public lighting	13. Education
4. Municipal roads and paths	14. Parks and gardens
5. Parking	15. Public transport
6. Systems of waste collection	16. Social action
7. Leisure areas	17. Support for the elderly
8. Basic sanitation	18. Accessibility for people with disabilities
9. Public safety	19. Support for industry, trade and establishment of companies
10. Culture and sports	



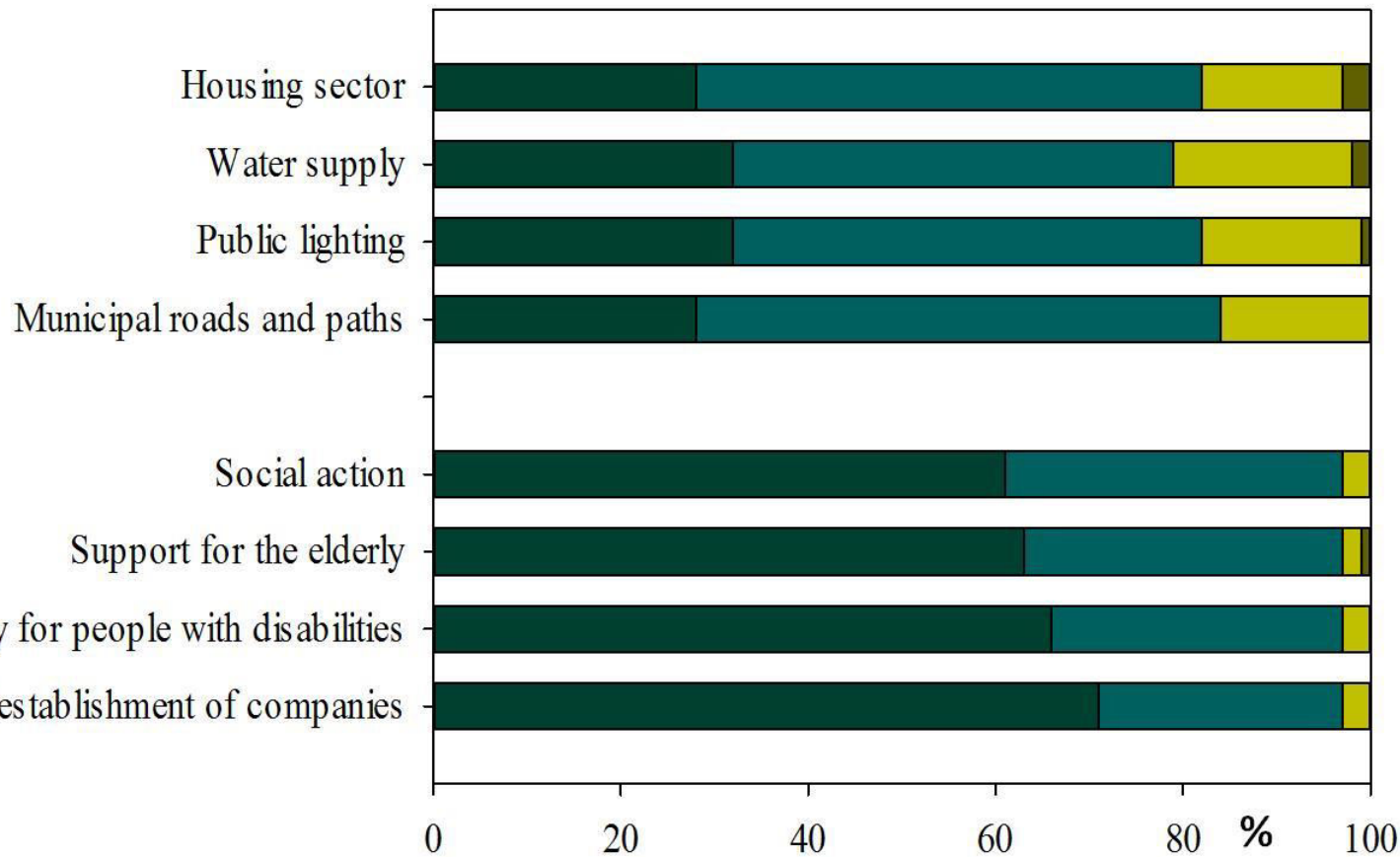
Questions and results:

Where should local authorities invest?



Less important

More important



Questions and results:

Where should local authorities invest?

Issues	Gender	Age	Education degree	Working status	Time of residency
1. Housing sector	p = 0.209	p = 0.074	p = 0.397	p = 0.205	p = 0.141
2. Water supply	p = 0.329	p = 0.589	p = 0.635	p = 0.390	p = 0.765
3. Public lighting	p = 0.001**	p = 0.020*	p = 0.826	p = 0.005**	p = 0.601
4. Municipal roads and paths	p = 0.189	p > 0.05	p = 0.441	p = 0.146	p = 0.762
5. Social action	p = 0.226	p < 0.001**	p = 0.019*	p > 0.05	p = 0.220
6. Support for the elderly	p = 0.013*	p < 0.001**	p = 0.001**	p = 0.003**	p = 0.017*
7. Accessibility for people with disabilities	p = 0.051	p = 0.050*	p = 0.012*	p = 0.093	p = 0.290
8. Support for industry, trade and establishment of companies	p = 0.645	p = 0.351	p = 0.871	p = 0.858	p = 0.394

Questions and results:

Where should local authorities invest?

Housing sector

Less important

Water supply

Public lighting

Male, younger people, unemployed & student

Municipal roads and paths

More important

Social action

Middle & older people, all except master,

Support for the elderly

Female, Middle & older people, employed & retired, res. 16-20y

Accessibility for people with disabilities

36-45 years old, all except master

Support for industry, trade and establishment of companies



General findings:

- ❖ Respondents were satisfied with the quality of life in their municipality and agreed that Coimbra is a good place to live.
- ❖ Overall, the respondents expressed a high level of satisfaction with the economic and socio-cultural conditions.
- ❖ Nevertheless, several areas should be particularly important be developed ("**support for industry, trade and establishment of companies**", "accessibility for people with disabilities", and "support for the elderly").
- ❖ The more influential factor was the age of the respondents. Those who were between 18 and 25 years old expressed significantly higher levels of satisfaction with the majority of the issues examined in this survey.

In sum, this research attempted to contribute towards the **understanding how citizens form judgments and opinions** about the quality of the municipal services.

The purpose of this study also was to **provide the competent authorities with results and suggestions** which can be helpful for the development of future management plans and programmes in this municipality.



To know more:

Barrico, L. 2015. **Ecological Processes related to Urban Development and Land Use Change in the Municipality of Coimbra**. Ph. D. Thesis. University of Coimbra.

Barrico, L., Castro, P. 2016. **Urban Biodiversity and Cities' Sustainable Development**. In: Castro, P., Azeiteiro, U.M., Bacelar Nicolau, P., Leal Filho, W., Azul, A.M., (Eds.). "Biodiversity and Education for Sustainable Development". Chapter 3, DOI: 10.1007/978-3-319-32318-3_3 "Biodiversity and Education for Sustainable Development", Springer, World Sustainability Series. <http://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783319323176>.





**Thank you very much
for attending!**

