

Greater Metropolitan Area of Porto - indicators characterizing the urban form

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The form, structure and extent of the city influence citizens' life. The Greater Porto Metropolitan Area has several bio-geographical and socio-economic contexts that results from a number of factors due to planning and urban forms options.

Rethinking urban planning is part of the process of evolution, as well as finding assessment indicators and including them in studies of future urban planning. However it is necessary to select the indicators that might best represent the reality of the territory.

The present study carry out a model used in a previous study at European scale that through correlations and factor analysis compare the urban form of 231 cities using a landscape metric and geographical indicators with a strong correlation, resulting thus on urban indicators most relevant to the analysis of urban form, such as urban area, continuous and discontinuous, soil porosity, combined ratios, building density and demographic indicators, among others of equal importance.

This study will apply the same methodology to the Greater Porto Metropolitan Area, in order to understand the importance of the city and the way of rebuilding strategies and finding planning policies that may best suited to each city, comparing the city of Porto with other cities.

Keywords: Urban form; Social and economic indicators; Environment indicators; Cluster analysis; GAMP.