

Global Change, Human Mobility and Local Development

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Human mobility, local development, and how to measure human mobility (at local level) are key issues in the contemporary world. In its cognitive project the IGU Commission on Global Change and Human Mobility illustrates the overlappings and integrations which have occurred in changes in the economy and in society. Therefore, it is necessary to search for a new paradigm capable of identifying the typologies of mobility on the basis of parameters that are able to acknowledge the integration and overlapping of the functions of consumption and production. The contemporary concept of human mobility presupposes new paradigms and definitions and thus encounters difficulty in using the available statistical data which refers to two fundamental functional distinctions: work and pleasure, production and consumption.

Theory of local development is linked to global changes via the development of economic, social and cultural resources available and/or the improvement in the quality of life and people services. In the relationship between local and global there is a creation of flows of goods, both material and immaterial, and of people, whose identification, in relation to space and time, and the relative classification, can constitute a contribution to human mobility studies. The paper will consider how local development facilitates human mobility and under which conditions human mobility contributes to local development.