Abstract

This paper discusses some of the technical issues involved in the development of a georeferenced population database, including urban extents, currently being developed by CIESIN and partner organizations, using ArcGIS. The database will be available as three separate data products--human settlements database (points), urban extents (polygons) derived from satellite imagery and additional geographic data sources (such as DCW), and urban-rural surface (grid). To produce the urban-rural surfaces, we developed a mass-conserving algorithm that reallocates people into urban areas, within each administrative unit, providing a more accurate representation of the distribution of human population.

Francesca Pozzi
CIESIN, Columbia University
61 Route 9W
Palisades, NY 10964
USA
Phone: 843-365-8977
Fax: 845-365-8922
E-mail: fpozzi@ciesin.columbia.edu

Gregory Yetman
CIESIN, Columbia University
61 Route 9W
Palisades 10964
USA
Phone: 845-365-8982
E-mail: gyetman@ciesin.columbia.edu

Deborah Balk
CIESIN, Columbia University
61 Route 9W
Palisades 10964
USA
Phone: 845-365-8965
E-mail: dbalk@ciesin.columbia.edu

Andy Nelson
University of Leeds
Centre for Computational Geography
Leeds, West Yorkshire LS2 9JT
UK
Phone: +44.0.113.343.3309
Fax: +44.0.113.343.3308
E-mail: a.nelson@geog.leeds.ac.uk

Uwe Deichmann
The World Bank, MSN MC2-205
Development Research Group
1818 H Street, NW
Washington, DC 20433 Phone: (202) 473-6400
E-mail: udeichmann@worldbank.org