



1 GCRO launches the 2013 State of the Gauteng City-Region Review

On 25 October 2013, the GCRO's online and interactive *State of the Gauteng City-Region Review 2013* went live and was launched officially to a full house at the Wits Club

2 Fieldwork for third Quality of Life Survey completed

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3 Citylab on green infrastructure on the way

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4 GCRO work reviewed

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News bytes

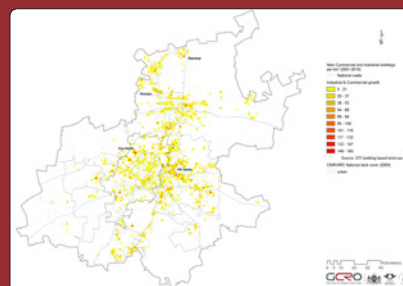
- ▶ Reports and publications
- ▶ Conferences, workshops and presentations
- ▶ Teaching and supervision and wider academic citizenship



GCRO joins the nation and the world in celebrating the life and times of Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, the former President of the Republic of South Africa. His contribution towards social justice, equality and human rights will forever be cherished. May his soul rest in peace.



Profile SON



of the month



DATA

2 | Fieldwork for third Quality of Life Survey completed

The third Quality of Life Survey (QoL III) is nearly complete, having been designed in June, piloted in early July and in field for the period since then

Fieldwork for the third Quality of Life Survey (QoL III) has been completed in late November. Having realised a sample of over 26 000 respondents it promises to be the largest survey of social attitudes ever undertaken in Gauteng.

The QoL III survey was designed in June, piloted in early July, and has been in field for the period since then. It is the most exciting GCRO survey yet, representing a provincial/local sphere partnership with each of the three metropolitan municipalities in Gauteng having supported the undertaking financially. Its huge sample will yield data to ward level, something the GCRO has been aiming for since inception, equipping all spheres of government with local-level data needed for detailed targeting of development and delivery programmes.

This third Quality of Life survey is also critical because with the 2009 and 2011 surveys it will provide data across three points in time. Though still a small number this will allow us to do some future trends modelling, impossible when we only had the first two surveys done. While official data are more reliable on many demographic issues, no-one is currently able to model future attitudes – to race and non-racialism, for example, or gender-based violence, or xenophobia – or to cross tabulate these with objective measures of life circumstances. We will now be able to talk with some confidence about ‘where we are going’ as a city-region – not just the economy, or structures of government, but as citizens, as people who engage or disengage from politics and society, and those drawn into the mainstream or pushed to the margins. The ability to map and model that, into the future, and lay those over government’s future plans – whether for transport or housing or economic nodes – could be critical in uniting the two often separate elements of policy intentions and the ‘warm bodies’ who are affected by those policies or make them work on the ground.

The pressure has been on for some time to find a way of attaining ward-level representative data within our existing budget constraints. This would allow us not merely to analyse by municipality but to pin-point – across all wards – where delivery challenges, social problems, psycho-social attitudes, and so on, cluster. In turn this would enable local, provincial and national spheres of government to target their programmes with greater accuracy.

For GCRO it is deeply satisfying that the three metro municipalities – Ekurhuleni, City of Johannesburg and City of Tshwane – approached us with additional funds, permitting us

to both realise a ward-representative sample and to forge a robust working partnership across the government spheres that comprise the Gauteng City-Region. By early 2014 we will have data to ward level for all municipalities in Gauteng, a major advance for us all. Moreover, GCRO’s Senior Systems Manager, Chris Wray, is looking at exciting ways to present the data in interactive format, so that citizens, policy-makers, and anyone else who is interested, is not merely presented with a report or a set of slides, but also results they can manipulate and analyse for themselves.

After a highly competitive tender process, GeoSpace International won the tender to undertake the fieldwork. The questionnaire was improved again, though all the Quality of Life and Marginalisation Index questions remain unchanged. The sample – with the advice and assistance of Emeritus Professor Paul Fatti as well as StatsSA’s Ross Jennings – works from Small Area Layer (SAL) up to ward and then to municipality. The SAL level upwards approach seeks to ensure that respondents are drawn from all the different settlement types within each ward. In this way we are generating better ward coverage than the traditional approach where random numbers assign starting points, and a ward may be represented by, say, only an informal settlement and a township, or only a hostel. To ensure representivity, randomness was built into every layer, from the selection of SALs through to selection of stands, households and respondents.

In conducting the fieldwork GeoSpace has faced the challenges that all field agencies do – overzealous guardians of what should be accessible space, including gated communities, mine hostels, suburbs with armed response, and the like. In case after case, despite all our assurances that this survey presents all Gauteng residents with a unique opportunity to have their say, knowing that elected officials will hear them, we have seen fieldworkers being threatened, turned away or refused access. This is a terrible situation, given both the constitutional guarantee of freedom of movement and speech, but also given the fact that every respondent and/or community who refuses to answer the questionnaire has a negative impact on data quality.

We hope to have the data ready for a top-line presentation – the ‘big’ findings – by early February 2014. Thereafter, GCRO will head into a whole series of different types of reporting, on different topics, at different levels, and in different formats. Watch this space!

SUSTAINABILITY



3 | Citylab on green infrastructure on the way

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In January 2014 GCRO will be launching the 'Green Infrastructure Citylab', a platform to facilitate strategic dialogue among government officials on how to plan for green infrastructure in urban developments. The Citylab follows on from and extends work done by the GCRO on green infrastructure, published as 'State of Green Infrastructure in the GCR' report in July 2013. The Citylab aims to further promote a shared understanding of how the concept of green infrastructure can be incorporated into spatial and service-delivery planning for the region's fast growing cities and towns. The Citylab process is supported with funds from the Department of Science & Technology's Global Change, Society and Sustainability Grand Challenge Research Programme, which awarded a grant to a joint Wits School of Architecture & Planning and GCRO research project on urban resilience in the GCR in 2011.

Through the Citylab platform, GCRO hopes to facilitate the co-production of policy relevant knowledge by both

practitioners and researchers. In general, Citylabs provide an opportunity for government officials to reflect on the broader context of their day-to-day work, and for researchers to deepen their understanding of the practical application of their ideas. The Green Infrastructure Citylab will bring together key people from municipalities in the GCR, as well as selected provincial government departments and other stakeholders, to explore the idea of a Green Infrastructure Master Plan for the GCR. This will entail a series of dialogues, spanning the course of about 2 years, and will generate the following co-produced deliverables:

- A framework for a Green Infrastructure Master Plan, to be published as a GCRO Occasional Paper in May 2014;
- A Green Infrastructure Master Plan for the GCR, to be concluded by 2016.

DATA



4 | GCRO work reviewed

From 6-8 November 2013, GCRO's work was assessed by an independent panel of reviewers in accordance with the organisation's constitution stating that there will be a review every 5 years

From 6-8 November the GCRO's research work was assessed by an independent panel, in accordance with the organisation's constitution that there will be a review every 5 years. During these three days GCRO was under the spotlight from a team of six expert reviewers from a variety of backgrounds – academic, government and the private sector. A range of interviews was conducted with GCRO staff and various officials from local and provincial government with whom GCRO has interacted. The review team's report is due shortly, but on the basis of discussions it seemed that there was a broadly positive impression of the work done by GCRO over the last few years.



5 | GCRO enters the social media domain

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In order to reach a wider audience, GCRO is now active on social media platforms, specifically Facebook and Twitter. This move is expected to improve the dissemination of GCRO research outputs as well as encourage discussion and debate around issues that affect the GCR. Social media platforms are massively popular and offer a range of interesting ways for the public to interact with the GCRO. Recently, the GCRO used a Twitter hash tag to provoke an online conversation during the launch events of two GCRO projects, namely the *Portraits of a [Gauteng] City-Region* exhibition and the *State of the Gauteng City-Region Review 2013*. Both events



saw a lively Twitter exchange and useful comments were raised concerning GCRO's work.

The GCRO's Twitter handle is [@GCR_Observatory](https://twitter.com/GCR_Observatory) and our Facebook page is available at www.facebook.com/GautengCityRegionObservatory. Be a part of our social media network by following and linking us.



6 | GCRO to release report on the governance of acid mine drainage (AMD)

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During 2010 GCRO published a Provocation on the challenges of acid mine drainage (AMD) on the Witwatersrand, authored by Wits University professor Terence McCarthy. The Provocation touched on the technical aspects of AMD, mainly how it was generated, and how it has become a problem, given the nature of mines and mining. Subsequent to this report GCRO embarked on another research project, this one interrogating the governance of AMD in the GCR.

This second output – to be published shortly as an Occasional Paper – critically examines the sequence of key events and the stakeholder relationships that have emerged in response to social and environmental challenges raised by AMD. The report uses novel diagrams, timelines and actor-based diagrams to illustrate these elements.

The report shows that AMD is not just about contaminated water; there are more far-reaching impacts of this phenomenon on society. The research suggests that there is need for a more sustainable approach, over the long term, to address the broader mining legacies that the city-region has inherited. Also, while government's response cannot necessarily be faulted on technical grounds, effective governance of the AMD challenge required better and deeper engagement with affected communities and concerned stakeholder groupings.

7 | GCRO launches photo-essays viewer

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As part of a new research project, 'The GCR and its people', GCRO has introduced a new online photo-essays viewer as a platform to showcase its visual research outputs. The space will be filled with documentaries, in both photos and words, of people across the entire city-region. These documentaries will explore where they live and how they associate with their local neighbourhoods as well as the wider city-regional space.

The first photo-essay critically reflects on how the GCRO Photo Competition held earlier this year was conducted and on how the photographs submitted during this competition portray the GCR. Through photographic theory, the essay

offers a different perspective through which to conceptualise the GCR – an imaginary space that exists with no distinct identity. The GCR's identity, it is argued, cannot easily be pinned down, in the same way as it is difficult to reduce any photographic representation to a single meaning or narrative. The essay highlights the fluidity of the city-region space, as represented in the images received from the competition, and asks what this means for future attempts to understand the GCR.

Readers can access the photo-essays here <http://www.gcro.ac.za/reports-data/gcro-reports/category/photo-essays>



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In August 2013, the GCRO released an Occasional Paper entitled *Modelling Urban Spatial Change: a review of international and South African modelling initiatives*

In August 2013 GCRO released an Occasional Paper entitled *Modelling Urban Spatial Change: a review of international and South African modelling initiatives*. The paper highlights the significant role that urban growth and land use change models can play in urban spatial planning and management. In the paper, the authors describe and compare the various methods for modelling urban spatial change in use in South Africa and around the world. Desktop analysis as well as telephone, email and personal interviews were carried out in 2012 with a view to understand and characterise trends in urban spatial change modelling both locally and internationally.

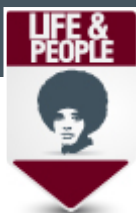
The analysis revealed that there are variations in the manner in which urban modelling research is classified internationally and in South Africa. At the international level, modelling projects are understood to fall into one of five main categories, namely Land Use Transportation, Cellular Automata, Urban System Dynamics, Agent-Based Models and Spatial Economics/Econometric Models. Locally, urban modelling initiatives are categorised differently and cover a broader range of techniques. Local examples studied include provincial government modelling initiatives in Gauteng; municipal government modelling initiatives; other government-funded modelling research; and academic modelling research.

The various South African modelling initiatives described in the report are by no means a comprehensive review of all



urban spatial change modelling projects in the country, but provide a broad indication of the types of modelling currently underway. The paper concludes by identifying key urban modelling challenges and opportunities for short- to long-term planning in the GCR and South Africa.

The GCRO hopes to use the analysis to shape its own future urban modelling work. The full report is available for download via the GCRO portal for Occasional Papers – <http://www.gcro.ac.za/category/report-category/occasional-papers>



9 | Book on 'Non-racialism in South Africa' published

In 2011, GCRO and the Ahmed Kathrada Foundation jointly initiated a project on non-racialism. One output from this project was a special edition of *Politikon*, which has now been published by Routledge as a book.

In 2011, GCRO and the Ahmed Kathrada Foundation jointly initiated a project on non-racialism. The GCRO commissioned a set of 15 focus groups across the country, and a group of authors (from the academy, civil society and elsewhere) were invited to analyse the transcripts to see what issues were arising. One output from this project was a special edition of *Politikon*, a peer-reviewed political science journal, with a preface by Ahmed Kathrada. That journal special issue was in turn selected by Routledge publishers for publication as a book. Routledge felt it had a potential readership considerably beyond that of the original journal. In mid-2013 the book, with a new conclusion by GCRO Executive Director David Everatt, was published. The conclusion made the argument – implicit in many of the chapters – that without substantive equality, the non-racialism project in South Africa would never succeed.



10 | New staff at GCRO

In July 2013, GCRO welcomed Daniel Kibirige as an intern with a focus on GIS mapping, and on 1 October Farah-Naaz Moosa joined GCRO as its new Office Administrator and Receptionist.



Daniel Kibirige

In July 2013 the GCRO welcomed Daniel Kibirige as an intern with a focus on GIS mapping. This internship was kindly sponsored by Esri South Africa, which is part of Esri, an international GIS company based in the United States. Daniel holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Community Water and Sanitation Services (*Cum Laude*) from the University of Limpopo, and a Master's degree in Water Resources from Lund University in Sweden. In his master's thesis, entitled "Evaluation of Open Stormwater Systems in Augustenborg, Sweden", Daniel assessed the efficiency of open stormwater solutions during extreme rainfall events using a hydrological model designed by the Danish Hydrological Institute (DHI) and came up with innovative ways in which water surface flow could be reduced, hence curbing flooding.

At GCRO, Daniel is involved in GIS mapping and assists with updating the GIS interactive website. To date Daniel has generated a number of maps, some of which have been published as 'GCRO Map of the Month', while others have

been used in other GCRO projects. In addition to GIS work, Daniel will also be involved in a research project on the effects of poor water quality in Mine Residue Areas (MRA). He hopes to integrate this work with GIS mapping in a journal article during his tenure at the GCRO.



Farah-Naaz Moosa

On 1 October 2013, Farah-Naaz Moosa joined the GCRO as its new Office Administrator and Receptionist. Farah began her working career at a cellular network provider, servicing contract account customers and data queries. Prior to joining the GCRO, Farah worked in the banking sector, where she spent 6 years, gaining experience with reconciliation of bank accounts, 'hard-core' collections, quality assurance, and as a personal assistant to a management committee. She was also the communications officer on the volunteers committee, as well as the treasurer for the staff social committee. Her hobbies include fashion designing and sewing and she has an interest in forensic entomology.

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Reports and publications

- Cheruiyot, K. Harrison, P. (forthcoming), 'Modeling the relationship between economic growth and time-distance accessibility in South Africa', *Review of Urban and Regional Development Studies*, revised article resubmitted following reviewers' comments
- Bobbins, K. (2013), 'The legacy and prospects of the Gauteng City-Region's mining landscapes', accepted for publication in conference proceedings, 8th International Conference on Urban Regeneration and Sustainability (Sustainable Cities, 2013), Putrajaya, Malaysia, 3-5 December 2013
- Peberdy, S. (forthcoming 2013), 'From the past to the present: Regulating migration and immigration in post-apartheid South Africa', *Austrian Journal of Development Studies (JEP - Journal für Entwicklungspolitik)*
- Wray, C., Musango, J., Damon, K. and Cheruiyot, K. (2013) 'Modelling urban spatial change: a review of international and South African modelling initiatives', *GCRO Occasional Paper 6* (August 2013).
- Everatt D. (ed.) (2013), *Non-racialism in South Africa* (Routledge, London)
- Everatt, D. (2013), 'What lies at the end of the 'Rainbow Nation'?' in Everatt, D. (ed.) *Non-racialism in South Africa* (Routledge, London)

Conferences, workshops and presentations

- Christina Culwick (November 2013), 'A multidisciplinary approach to understanding disaster risk: the case study of flood disasters in Ekurhuleni' at the *Southern African Adaptation Colloquium* in Cape Town, 25 November 2013
- Chris Wray (November 2013), 'GIS for spatial analysis and data visualization in the Gauteng City-Region', Statistics South Africa GIS day, Pretoria, 20 November 2013
- Guy Trangoš (November 2013), 'Johannesburg: Dislocation | Fragmentation and An Introduction to the GCR / GCRO', Opening of the Johannesburg component of the [In]formal City Berlin-Johannesburg Exchange, 18 November 2013
- David Everatt (November 2013), 'State of the Gauteng City Region 2013', Gauteng Advisory Council, 15 November 2013
- David Everatt (November 2013), 'GCR past, present and future', Gauteng SMS Conference, 14 November 2013
- Kerry Bobbins (November 2013), 'State of the Green Infrastructure Report and GIS data constraints', Coj user group and spatial information steering committee, 13 November 2013.
- Kerry Bobbins (October 2013), 'Investigating acid mine drainage and its governance in the Gauteng City-Region', GCRO Day / Launch of the 2013 State of City-Region Review, 25 October 2013.
- Guy Trangoš (October 2013), 'New spaces of transport in the GCR: a Gautrain analysis', GCRO Day / Launch of the 2013 State of City-Region Review, 25 October 2013
- Darlington Mushongera (October 2013), 'The GCR barometer', GCRO Day / Launch of the 2013 State of City-Region Review, 25 October 2013
- Christina Culwick (October 2013), 'Non-motorised transport in the GCR', GCRO Day / Launch of the 2013 State of City-Region Review, 25 October 2013
- Chris Wray and Christina Culwick (October 2013) 'Spatial transformation across the Gauteng City-Region', Ahmed Kathrada Foundation's "Lost in Transformation?" Conference, 9 October 2013
- Koech Cheruiyot (September 2013), 'Collaboration opportunities for spatial analysis and data visualization', StatsSA's Gauteng Isibalo Conference, Midrand, 16-17 September 2013.
- Chris Wray (September 2013), 'Smart cities + smart province = smart city-region?', G2055 business lab, 17 September 2013
- Sally Peberdy (September 2013) 'Social protection for informal cross-border traders', inaugural international conference of the Southern African Social Protection Experts Network (also hosted by Friedrich Ebert Stiftung) *Social protection for those working informally: Social & income (in) security in the informal economy*, 16 September 2013

- Graeme Gotz (September 2013), 'Socio-economic trends in the Cradle of Humankind' Wits colloquium on *Inclusive Economic Growth in the Cradle of Humankind*, 13 September 2013.
- David Everatt (September 2013) 'What we know: the GCR today' Premier's Co-ordinating Forum, Springs, September 2013 David Everatt (September 2013). 'Long-term quality of life analysis in Gauteng' to RC55 (Social Indicators Research Committee of the ISA) mid-term conference on Social Indicators, Hague, Netherlands, 12 September 2013

Teaching & supervision & wider academic citizenship

- Chris Wray presented two lectures to second year geography students at Wits on 'GIS for spatial analysis and data visualisation in the Gauteng City-Region' and 'Web GIS and GCRO's Web GIS applications', on 4 October 2013.
- Koech Cheruiyot lectured 'Quantitative Methods for Property Studies', a year-long course in the MSc (Building) Property Development and Management, Construction Economics & Management, at Wits
- Koech Cheruiyot is co-supervising a PhD in Economics student in the Wits School of Economics and Business Science, with the research title 'Analysis of Local Housing Markets: Adoption of stock flow model of Investment'
- Koech Cheruiyot is informally (awaiting approval) co-supervising as an external supervisor an M.A. (Economics) student at Morgan State University, Maryland, USA, with the research title 'Sub-national growth rate differentials in South Africa: A spatial econometric analysis'
- Chris Wray assisted a group of third year geography students from UJ with their GIS in the workplace project
- Chris Wray and Kerry Bobbins devised 3rd year and postgraduate projects ideas for uptake by students in the Wits Geography department for the 2014 academic year
- David Everatt worked with the Kathrada Foundation Executive and Research Director on their future planning around a 'non-racialism observatory'

- Potsiso Phasha was invited to be an external examiner in a first year Urban & Regional Planning course in the School of Architecture & Planning at Wits
- Potsiso Phasha was invited to give a guest lecture in a Masters research methodologies course in the School of Architecture & Planning at Wits
- GCRO was visited by Common Purpose in partnership with the Commonwealth Association, for a discussion around 'intractable city challenges'
- Graeme Gotz gave three lectures to a third year Wits planning course, Johannesburg as a city in Africa, in August 2013
- Sally Peberdy was invited to present a lecture to postgraduate students in the School of Architecture and Planning at Wits University 'Cross border traders and research methodologies', 13 August 2013
- The three MA students supervised by Sally Peberdy at UWC successfully graduated