

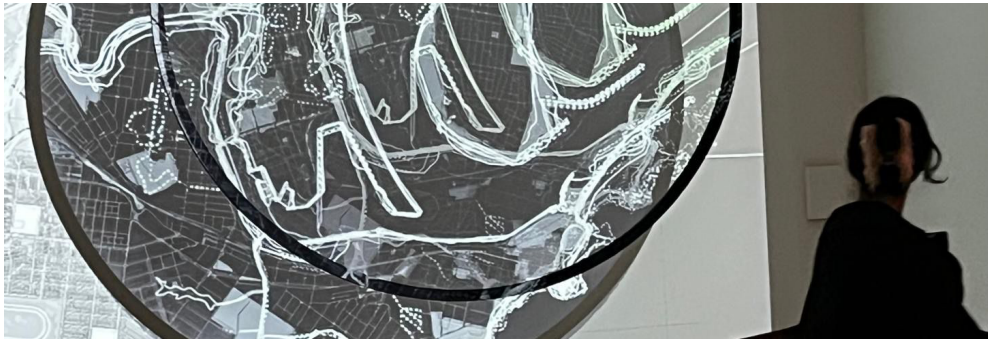


PLEA WORKSHOP 4

Latent Cartographies

by Dra. Silvia Mata Marín, Dra. Irene Pérez López, M.Sc. Felipe Barrantes Reynolds, and Dr. Katrina Wiberg

Date: July 27-28, 2026
Location: School of Architecture, Universidad de Costa Rica
Language / Capacity: English / 30 participants



WORKSHOP LEADERS

Dra. Silvia Mata Marín, Dra. Irene Pérez López, M.Sc. Felipe Barrantes Reynolds, and Dr. Katrina Wiberg are academics and researchers whose work spans environmental sustainability, climate adaptation, ecological systems, and the relationship between society and the built environment. Through interdisciplinary research, teaching, and professional practice, they contribute to advancing knowledge on sustainable development, resilience, environmental management, and evidence-based decision-making. Their combined expertise bridges natural and social sciences with policy, planning, and design, fostering innovative approaches to addressing contemporary environmental challenges and promoting more sustainable and resilient communities.

OVERVIEW

This interdisciplinary workshop explores cartography as a critical tool for understanding climate vulnerability, urban transformation, and future spatial scenarios. Using open-source mapping tools such as QGIS, participants will engage in collaborative exercises focused on geomorphology, hydrography, urban patterns, climate risk, and environmental change within vulnerable territories. Through field observations, mapping practices, and strategic spatial analysis, the workshop encourages participants to rethink urbanism and adaptation through critical and creative cartographic methodologies.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to understand the role of cartography as a tool for analyzing climate vulnerability, environmental change, and urban transformation; develop practical skills in the use of open-source mapping platforms such as QGIS for spatial analysis and visualization; interpret relationships between geomorphology, hydrography, urban development, and climate risk; and apply critical cartographic methods to explore future scenarios, inform adaptation strategies, and support more resilient and sustainable planning and design processes in vulnerable territories.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

<p>Monday 7/27/26 Morning</p>	<p>09:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Background— Introduction to Latents Cartographies: Course presentation; Methodology and conceptual framework. 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Interactive P2P learning: Open Access Tools, Digital and non-digital mapping tools. Coffee break 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Hands-On: Quebrada Los Negritos site-visit; groups organization and group dynamics.</p>
<p>Monday 7/27/26 Afternoon</p>	<p>02:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Discovery Phase—Scenario Analysis & Interpretation— encompassing the exploration of geomorphology, hydrography, geography, geology, topography, ecology, social and urban patterns; identification of climate-risk predictions and event-based evidence. Coffee break 3:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Synthesis Phase—Comprises cartography analysis and mapping, interpolating and processing spatial data to reveal current and future spatial challenges within La Quebrada and surrounding neighborhoods. Roundtable Discussion: Day one results; Day-one groups' wrap-up discussion; Day 2 planification.</p>
<p>Tuesday 7/28/26 Morning</p>	<p>09:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Projective-explorative— Identify vulnerable areas and opportunities for developing adaptation strategies and testing future scenarios; and (ii) foster reflective thinking that can be extrapolated into lessons for future urbanism practices. 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Panel discussion on challenges, opportunities, and future directions for Mapping Urban Climate data; Exploring collaboration and research pathways. Coffee break 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Panel discussion on challenges, opportunities, and future directions for Mapping urban data; Exploring collaboration and research pathways / After exposing experiences and tools applied the case study contexts, collaboratively develop lesson learns and move forwards.</p>

PARTICIPANTS

This workshop is intended for undergraduate and graduate students, architects, urban planners, landscape architects, geographers, engineers, researchers, policymakers, and professionals interested in climate adaptation, environmental planning, spatial analysis, urban transformation, and resilience. It is particularly relevant for those seeking to understand how cartographic tools and spatial data can be used to analyze vulnerable territories, visualize climate risks, and inform sustainable planning and design strategies.

RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND

Participants should have an interest in sustainability, climate change, urban studies, geography, architecture, planning, environmental sciences, or related fields. Familiarity with maps, spatial thinking, or digital tools is beneficial but not required. No previous experience with GIS or QGIS is necessary, as the workshop is designed to accommodate participants from diverse academic, professional, and interdisciplinary backgrounds.

MATERIALS AND REQUIREMENTS

- Laptop
- Sketching materials
- Software: QGIS (<https://qgis.org/download/>)

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Date: July 27- July 28

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Capacity: 30 participants

Language: English

Registration: https://www.tiquetebox.app/e/workshop_4_latent_cartographies

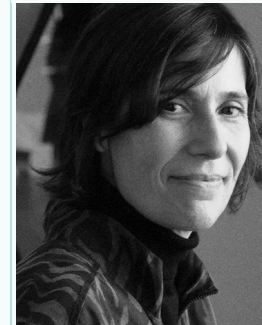
Plea email: pleacr2026@gmail.com

ABOUT THE TUTORS



Silvia Mata Marín

Dra. Silvia Mata Marín is a researcher and academic specializing in environmental sustainability, climate adaptation, and ecological systems. Her work focuses on understanding the interactions between natural and human systems to support evidence-based approaches to environmental management, resilience, and sustainable development.



Irene Pérez-López

Dr Irene Perez Lopez is a registered architect and environmental designer. Currently, Irene holds a position as Senior Lecturer at the School of Architecture and Built Environment at the University of Newcastle, Australia. Beyond academia, Irene has a long trajectory practicing architecture, urbanism, strategic planning, and community co-design in Europe, Latin America, and Australia.



Felipe Barrantes-Reynolds

M.Sc. Felipe Barrantes Reynolds is a researcher and environmental professional with expertise in spatial analysis, environmental management, and sustainable territorial planning. His work integrates scientific data, geospatial tools, and participatory approaches to support decision-making processes related to environmental conservation and climate resilience.



Katrina Wiberg

Dr. Katrina Wiberg is a researcher and educator working at the intersection of sustainability, climate adaptation, and socio-ecological systems. Her research focuses on interdisciplinary approaches to environmental challenges, emphasizing the links between ecological processes, human wellbeing, and resilient community development.