Flowminder

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BACKGROUND AND MISSION

Flowminder Foundation is a non-profit organisation based in Stockholm, Sweden. Its mission is to improve public health and welfare in low- and middle-income countries. The data it provides are global public goods. They work with governments, inter-governmental organisations and NGOs. They collect, aggregate, integrate and analyse anonymous mobile operator data, satellite and household survey data, often with extremely large datasets. Its analyses enable the foundation to map the distributions and characteristics of vulnerable populations in low- and middle-income countries. They help save lives by providing analyses and decision support to all relevant parties, based on latest academic advances. Flowminder is founded and led by researchers who realised the potential of combining new types of data with statistically rigorous methods to support the most vulnerable people in low- and middle-income countries. From individual applied academic research projects, Flowminder is today having an impact on hundreds of millions of people.

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Precision epidemiology
- Disaster response and relief
- Social and economical determinants of health

HEALTH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

Flowminder pioneered the use of de-identified data from mobile operators to follow population displacement and to support relief agencies in delivering the right supplies to the right people at the right time. Traditional surveys in low- and middle-income countries produce estimates only for large areas. Using new statistical methods, satellite and mobile data Flowminder produces estimates of poverty and key social indicators at a resolution of 1km². Most infectious diseases spread through human movements. Flowminder integrate large numbers of data sources, including data from mobile phone operators to model and predict spread of infectious diseases. The Flowminder team has a six-year track record of pioneering new groundbreaking methods to support public health and development in low- and middle-income countries, publishing results in peer-reviewed academic journals.

Flowminder supports the attainment of SDGs by working with mobile operators, governments, UN agencies, private companies and NGOs. We increase their capacity to use new analytic techniques and data sources. Flowminder is also active in global policy dialogues and provides strategic advice to governments and international bodies on responsible and transparent use of new data sources in international development.

THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE GENEVA

GLOBAL HEALTH CENTRE

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF

Flowminder staff are all affiliated to academic institutions, including Harvard University, Karolinska Institute, the University of Southampton and Stockholm School of Economics. Staff and affiliates in Flowminder are chosen because of their area-specific knowledge and skills. Flowminder staff includes economists, geographers, medical doctors, epidemiologists, public health specialists and computer scientists. The board is composed of 4 people, with Eric Wetter as chair and Linus Bengtsson as Executive Director. 29 more people compose the team, which is supported by 7 advisors and 6 collaborators.

FUNDING SOURCES AND BUDGET

Flowminder is funded by Rockefeller Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and United Nations Foundation, as well as some public institutions like DFID UK.

PUBLICATIONS

No annual report is available on the website, apart from news brief at
https://web.flowminder.org/news

Individual links to post or scientific work are available in the "what we do" section.

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