

New Metropolitan Perspectives



NMP2018

REGGIO CALABRIA MEDITERRANEA UNIVERSITY
22.05.2018 - 25.05.2018

3RD INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM





Unione europea
Fondo sociale europeo



Beyond Innovation Districts: The Case of Medellinnovation District

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BACKGROUND

- Innovation districts are being promoted in cities around the world as local economic development strategies.
- The main objective of innovation districts is to accelerate the technological innovation process by clustering knowledge companies and workers (Katz & Wagner, 2014; Morisson, 2014).
- Innovation districts and the innovation economy are criticized for contributing to gentrification and economic polarization (Edlund, Machado, & Sviatschi, 2015; Florida, 2017; Glaeser, Resseger, & Tobio, 2009; Stehlin, 2016).
- Brookings Institution: DO INNOVATION (DISTRICTS) ALWAYS EQUAL GENTRIFICATION?
- In Medellin (Colombia), Ruta N, a regional innovation agency, launched in 2012 its innovation district, dubbed as Medellinnovation district.

TITLE	BACKGROUND	MOTIVATION	METHODOLOGY	CASE-STUDY	RESULTS	CONCLUSIONS	FUTURE WORK
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MOTIVATION

To investigate the programs that Ruta N implemented in order to mitigate the negative externalities of building its own version of an innovation district, the Medellinnovation District.

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METHODOLOGY

SINGLE CASE STUDY: THE MEDELLINNOVATION DISTRICT

FOUR SOURCES OF DATA:



11 INTERVIEWS



DOCUMENTS



OBSERVATIONS



YOUTUBE

ANALYSIS:



TRIANGULATION

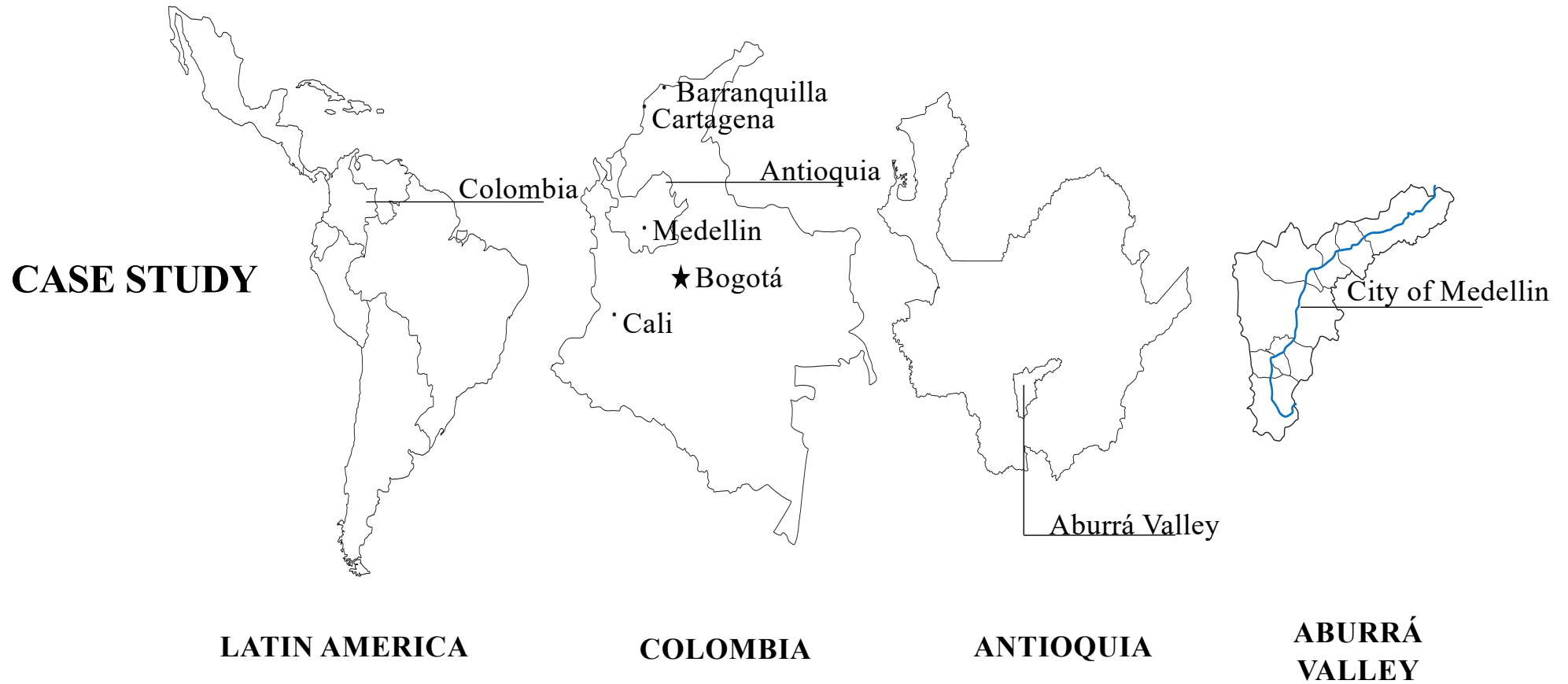


PATTERN RECOGNITION

RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY:

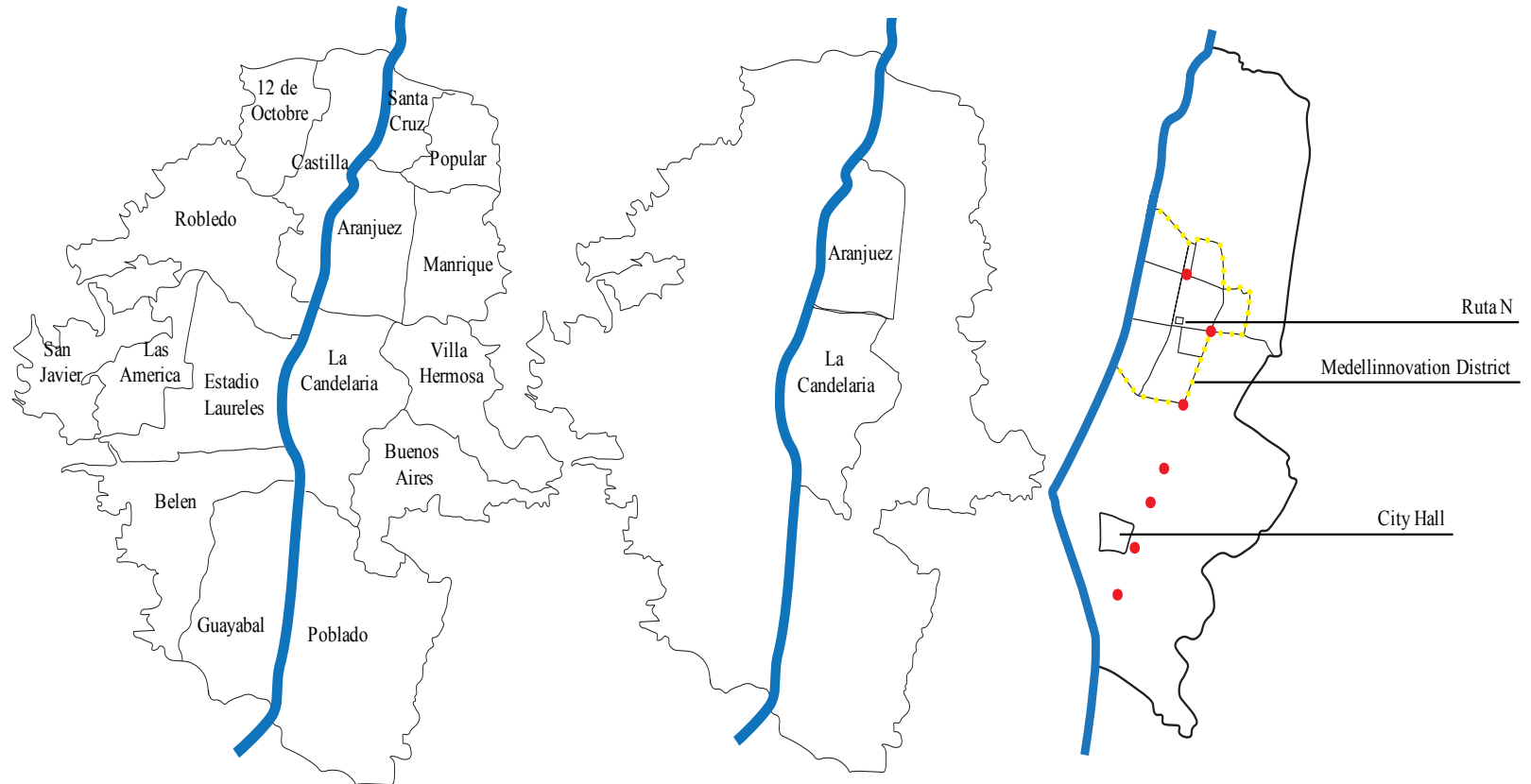


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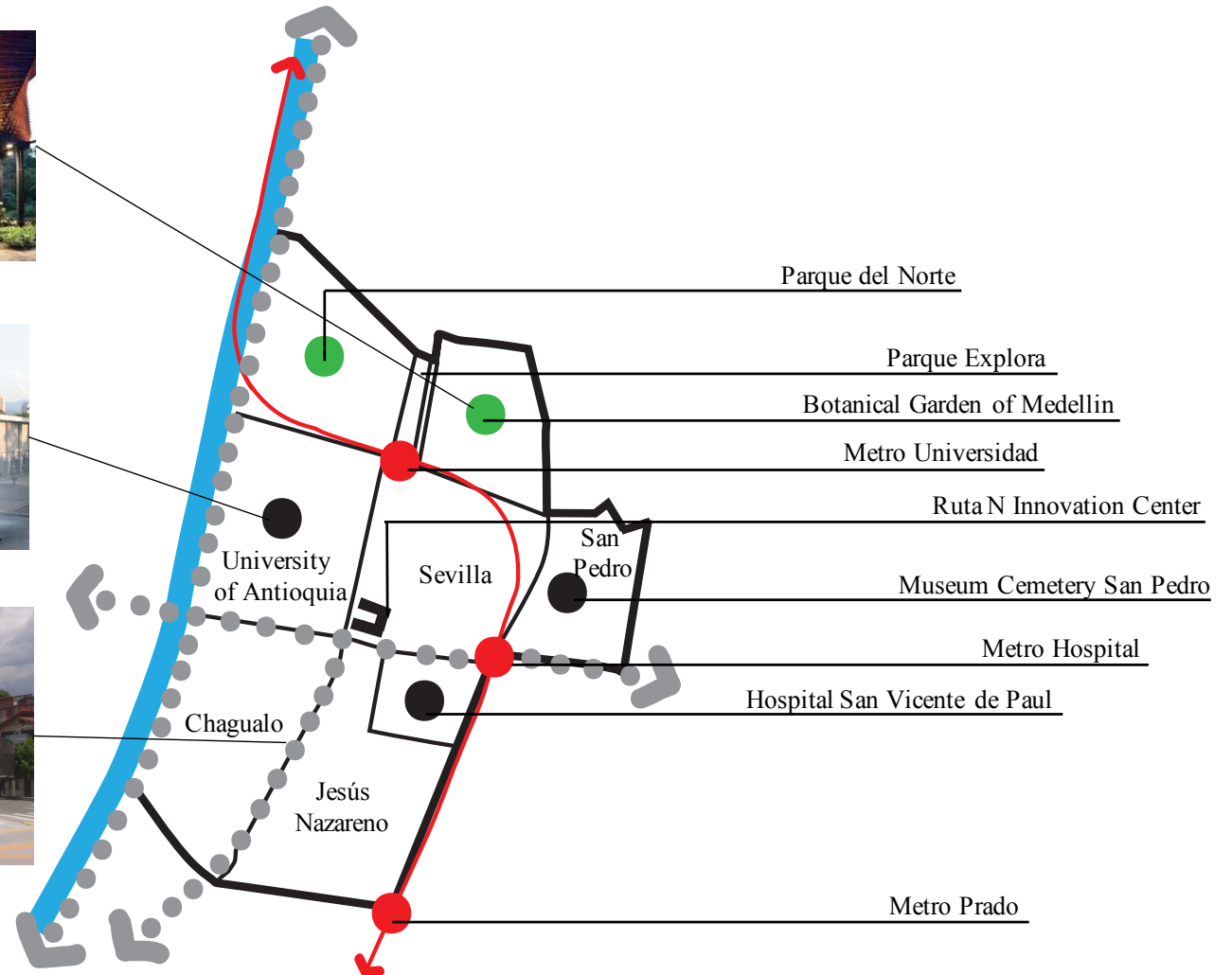
CASE STUDY



Innovation District located in the Northern part of the city of Medellín.

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CASE STUDY



Innovation District: urban amenities - four districts - 172 hectares with a population of 12,244 inhabitants in 2015.

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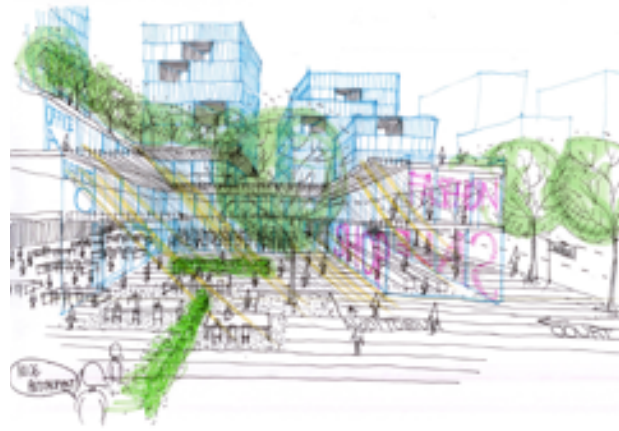
CASE STUDY



Innovation District: around Ruta N innovation center.

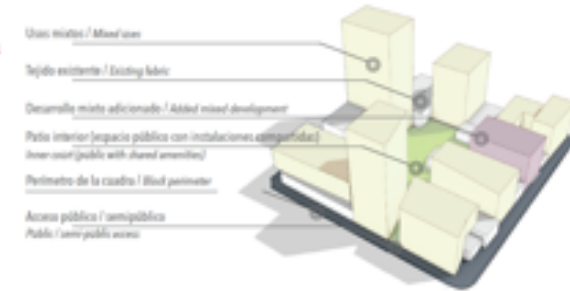
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BEYOND INNOVATION DISTRICTS: THE CASE OF MEDELLIN INNOVATION DISTRICT



TIPOLOGÍAS DE EDIFICACIONES
Y CUADROS INCREMENTALES
(VER SECCIÓN 4.7)

INCREMENTAL BLOCK AND
BUILDING TYPOLOGIES
(see section 4.7)



CASE STUDY



Programs: Soft Landing, Tax-Breaks, Masterplan (22@ and MIT) – Targeting knowledge workers and companies.

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CASE STUDY



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RESULTS

Strategy	Program	Key Finding	Program's Goal
Attraction	Soft Landing	Incentives to attract companies to the district, such as low rent, knowledge spillovers, high amenities.	Local Economic Development
	Tax-Breaks	Incentives to attract companies to the district.	Local Economic Development
	Masterplan	Non-pecunary incentives to attract companies, such as high amenities and quality of life.	Urban Development
Absorption	Co-Creation	To familiarize local residents with changes brought by knowledge workers and companies.	Participatory Urbanism
	DistritoLab	To familiarize local residents with technologies used by knowledge workers and companies.	Residents' Training
	Open Kitchen	To adapt local businesses to changing customers' preferences in the district.	Residents' Business Opportunities
	Living Lab	Formal and informal contacts between residents and knowledge-based companies.	Residents' Inclusion
	Events	Formal and informal contacts between residents and knowledge-based companies.	Residents' Inclusion

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Objectives of the programs:

- To reduce the cognitive distance between residents and the incoming knowledge workers.

CONCLUSIONS

- Nooteboom (1999) shows that knowledge diffusion is constrained by the “cognitive distance” between actors. This cognitive distance should not be too wide nor too similar. Indeed, knowledge that is already known is just as useless as it is for knowledge that cannot be understood (Boschma, 2005).
- Residents of the Medellinnovation district to become full participants in the development of the innovation district.

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FUTURE WORK

Further research should look at strategies to mitigate negative externalities in innovation districts that have experienced strong real-estate speculations.

Further Readings:

Arnault Morisson & Carmelina Bevilacqua (2018) Balancing gentrification in the knowledge economy: the case of Chattanooga's innovation district, Urban Research & Practice, DOI: [10.1080/17535069.2018.1472799](https://doi.org/10.1080/17535069.2018.1472799)

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

If you have any question about the paper, please do not hesitate to contact the authors:

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