

Conference report on:

International GIS Crime Mapping
Brussels, Belgium
25 and 26 September 2007

Conference was organised by IQPC, UK

Report by Peter Schmitz

Introduction

The conference was organised by IQPC, UK for European police agencies to demonstrate new trends in crime mapping. Although the high conference fees kept most police members away, about 30 persons did attend the conference with the British being the most represented. The biggest British contingent were those from the Metropolitan Police in London (Scotland Yard). Other included the Swedish National Criminal Intelligence Service and Luxembourg Police.

Paper

The paper that was presented from the CSIR was Using Mobile Phone Data Records To Determine Criminal Activity Space, co-authored by Antony Cooper. It was an extension of the paper presented in March 2007 at the Crime Mapping Research Conference in the USA. The paper was well received by the Metropolitan Police, the Swedish National Criminal Intelligence Service. The Luxembourg Police found the paper interesting.

Possible outcomes

Metropolitan Police

The police officers were from the Performance Directorate in the Metropolitan Police and showed a lot of interest in the paper and want to circulate the presentation through the Metropolitan Police. One officer asked about the possible use with regards to terrorist networks and thought it could very applicable to monitor the movements of suspected terrorists in the UK. There is a possibility that the Metropolitan Police may contact the CSIR in the near future for more information.

Luxembourg Police

The police officer, Alain Braun, from the Information Directorate, informed that they just starting to implement GIS in the Luxembourg Police but have several data issues. This is similar to when the CSIR started with the Innovation Fund project in 1997. I have offered that we will send them a two or three pager concept document of our experience and how we could possibly assist them. The biggest challenge they face is that they need insight into police data from neighbouring countries, since Luxembourg is a small duchy surrounded by Belgium, Germany and France and the criminals owing to the porous borders of the EU move in and out of Luxembourg when committing crimes.

Swedish National Criminal Intelligence Service

They showed interest in the paper, but there might be a slight chance of further contact.

Currently the biggest possibility of any collaboration might be the Luxembourg Police.