

SUB-PAÍS / *Sub-Country*

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TOUCHED / Liverpool Biennial 2012
Visitor Centre, UK.
September - November 2010

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Subpaís es una propuesta de nación que subyace y se gesta dentro de la sociedad cubana por diferentes partidos, organizaciones, grupos de resistencia "no reconocidos legalmente" que plantean la sociedad civil como una sociedad mejor, más prometedora y democrática, y por tanto, "ideal". Es un "país" sumergido dentro de otro. Un "país" que permanece activo bajo síntomas represivos, con dificultades en su desarrollo político-social y expresión mediática. Un "país" en paralelo que lucha por el reconocimiento público de su existencia desde una cartografía incierta.

La obra plantea una variante del área geográfica que ocuparía físicamente el Subpaís, mediante cálculos reales del por ciento de personas que integran estos partidos, organizaciones y grupos de resistencia con respecto a la cantidad de habitantes que existen en Cuba y los Km² que ocupa este por ciento dentro del territorio cubano. De esta forma, el proyecto crea una propuesta de territorio utópico en el que se pudiera constituir geográficamente el Subpaís.

Una parte del proyecto se realizó en la Bienal de Liverpool del 2010, ajustándolo a las características geográficas de esta ciudad. El área definida por los posters fue aproximadamente de 106 Km², es decir, el 1,09 porciento del área geográfica total que ocuparía el Subpaís. Los posters nombraban 20 organizaciones que integraban en su totalidad a 10897 personas. Número de personas que vivirían en el territorio delimitado en el distrito de Liverpool y siendo a su vez, el 1,08 porciento del total de habitantes que poblaría el Subpaís.

Dos mapas representaban el territorio: Mapa de viales y el Mapa geo-político. El mapa de viales señalaba los lugares y direcciones donde estaban emplazados los diferentes porters y, el mapa geopolítico, trazaba el territorio real que estos definían en la ciudad. Ambos eran mostrados en la galería.

"Utopia is not a political project"
louis marin

Sub-country is a proposed underlying nation, and developed within Cuban society by different parties, organizations, groups of resistance "not legally recognized" civil society posed as a better, more promising and democratic, and therefore "ideal". It is a "country" plunged into another. A "country" that is active under repressive symptoms, difficulties in social and political development and media expression. A "country" in parallel struggle for public recognition of its existence from an uncertain mapmaking.

The work presents one variant of the geographic area that would occupy physically Sub-country by actual calculations of the percent of people belonging to these parties, organizations and resistance groups regarding the number of habitants that exist in Cuba and the Km² that occupy this percent within Cuban territory. Thus, the proposed project creates a utopian territory which could be geographically Sub-country.

A part of the project was carried out at the 2010 Liverpool Biennial, adjusting it to the geographical characteristics of this city. The defined area by posters was approximately 106 Km², the 1,09 percent of the total geographic area that would account the Sub-country. The posters nominated 20 organizations that make up in their totality 10897 people. Number of people that would populate in the delimited territory in the Liverpool district and, being this people, the 1,08 percent of the total inhabitants that would populate the Sub-country.

Two maps showed the territory: Street Map and Geopolitical Map. The Street Map marked the places and address where was emplaced the different posters and the Geopolitical Map represented the real territory that these delimited in the city. Both maps were exhibit in the gallery.







Agencia de Prensa Libre Oriental (APLO)

SUBPAÍS project



SUB-PAÍS. Visitor Centre, Liverpool Biennial, UK 2010.

September - November 2010

WESTERN
AVENUE

Skyway NEWS

Corriente Liberal Cubana (CLC)

SUBPAÍS project



SUB-PAÍS. Visitor Centre, Liverpool Biennial, UK 2010.

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Liga Cívica Martiana (LCM)

SUBPAÍS project



Sindicato Independiente de Trabajadores
de la Cultura (SITC)

SUBPAÍS project

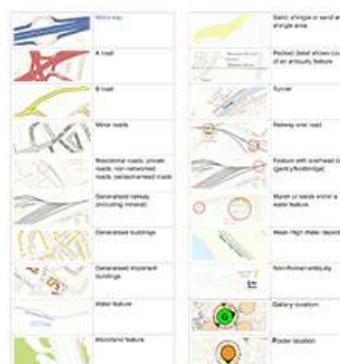


Legend



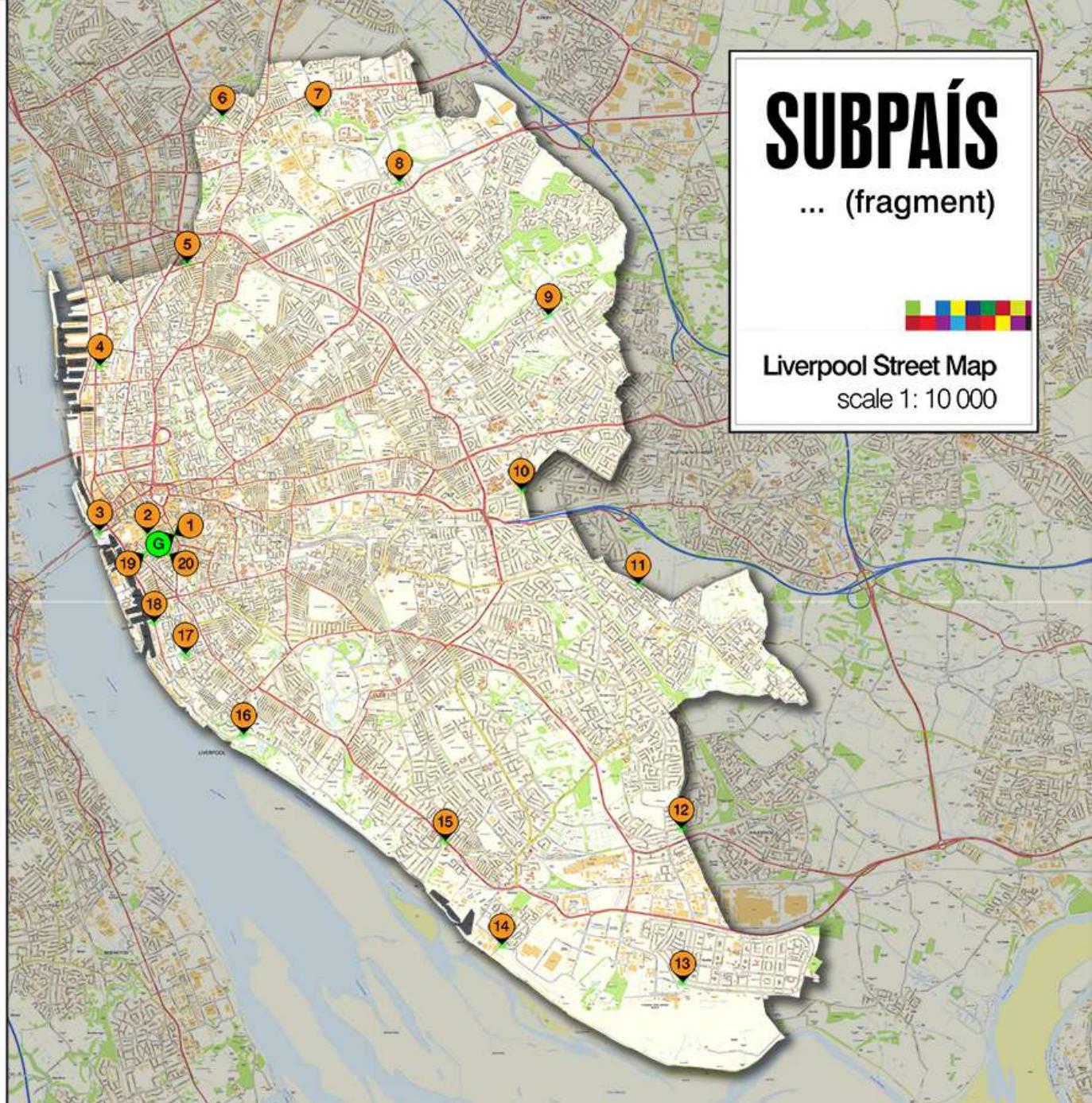
The dataset is produced by automatically merging selected layers from the 1:10 000 Scale Master Sheet with map-making information. Masters may occur where the base source datasets are not in synch, which could result in new roads without house numbers. Also, house numbers may be used to indicate the presence of a house.

Graphic examples



Posters / Location

1. Unión de Periodistas y Escritores Cubanos Independientes (UPECI) / Renshaw Street
2. Movimiento de Integración Racial (MIR) / Hanover Street & College Lane
3. Movimiento Cristiano Liberación y Partido Socialdemócrata de Cuba (MCL PSC) / Mersey Island & Canning Boulevard
4. Instituto Cubano de Estudios Sindicales Independientes (ICESIS)/Agencia de Prensa "Havana Press" (APHP) / A555 Great Howard Street & Grundy Street
5. Consejo Nacional de Resistencia Civil (CNRC) / Carisbrooke Road & Peter Road
6. Agencia de Prensa Libre Oriental (APLO) / Orme Lane & Tatton Road
7. Partido Solidaridad Democrática (PSD) / Higher Lane & Whitewood Park
8. Consejo Nacional de Trabajadores Cubanos (CUTC) / Ten Hall Road & Martin Hall Road
9. Comisión Cubana de Derechos Humanos y Reconciliación Nacional (CCDHRN) / Deybrook Lane & Princes Drive
10. Fundación Médica Independiente (FMI) / Thomas Lane & Old Tomes Lane
11. Liga Cívica Martiana (LCM) / Serum Road & Dauntsey Road
12. Unión de Jóvenes Rurales (UJR) Colegio Médico Independiente de Cuba (CMIC) / Hallewood Road & Sturt Avenue
13. Corriente Liberal Cubana (CLC) Coordinadora Obrera Cubana (COC) / Western Avenue & Dunlop Road
14. Sociedad de Periodistas "Manuel Márquez Sterling" (SP MMS) Colegio de Pedagogos Independientes de Cuba (CPIC) / Brunswick Street & Blackburne Street
15. Centro Independiente Femenino de Ayuda Humanitaria (CIFAH) Fraternidad de Clérigos Independientes (FCIC) / A561 St Mary's Road & Ranfurly Road
16. Consejo Nacional Pro Derechos Civiles en Cuba (CNPDCC) Unión Sindical de Trabajadores Independientes de Cuba (USTIC) / Promenade Gardens & Rivergate Drive
17. Partido Ortodoxo Cubano (POC) / Beaufort Street & Park Street
18. Alianza Nacional de Agricultores Independientes de Cuba (ANAIIC) / A5035 Sefton Street & Hill Street
19. Sindicato Independiente de Trabajadores de la Cultura (SITC) / Forrester York Street & Gilbert Street
20. Proyecto de Bibliotecas Independientes de Cuba (PBIC) / Duke Street & Colquitt Street



SUBPAÍS
... (fragment)



Liverpool Street Map
scale 1: 10 000

SUBPAÍS

... (fragment)



Liverpool District Map
scale 1: 25 000

SUBPAÍS (Subcountry)

The Subcountry is a proposed nation that underlies or prepares within Cuban society, that considers the civil society as a better society, promising and democratic and "idea". It is a "country" submerged in another. A "country" that stays active under restrictions, with difficulties in its social political development and expression in the media. A "country" that has very specific functions and responds to interests that defend the people that live and believe in it. A parallel "country" fighting for public recognition and its existence on uncertain cartography.

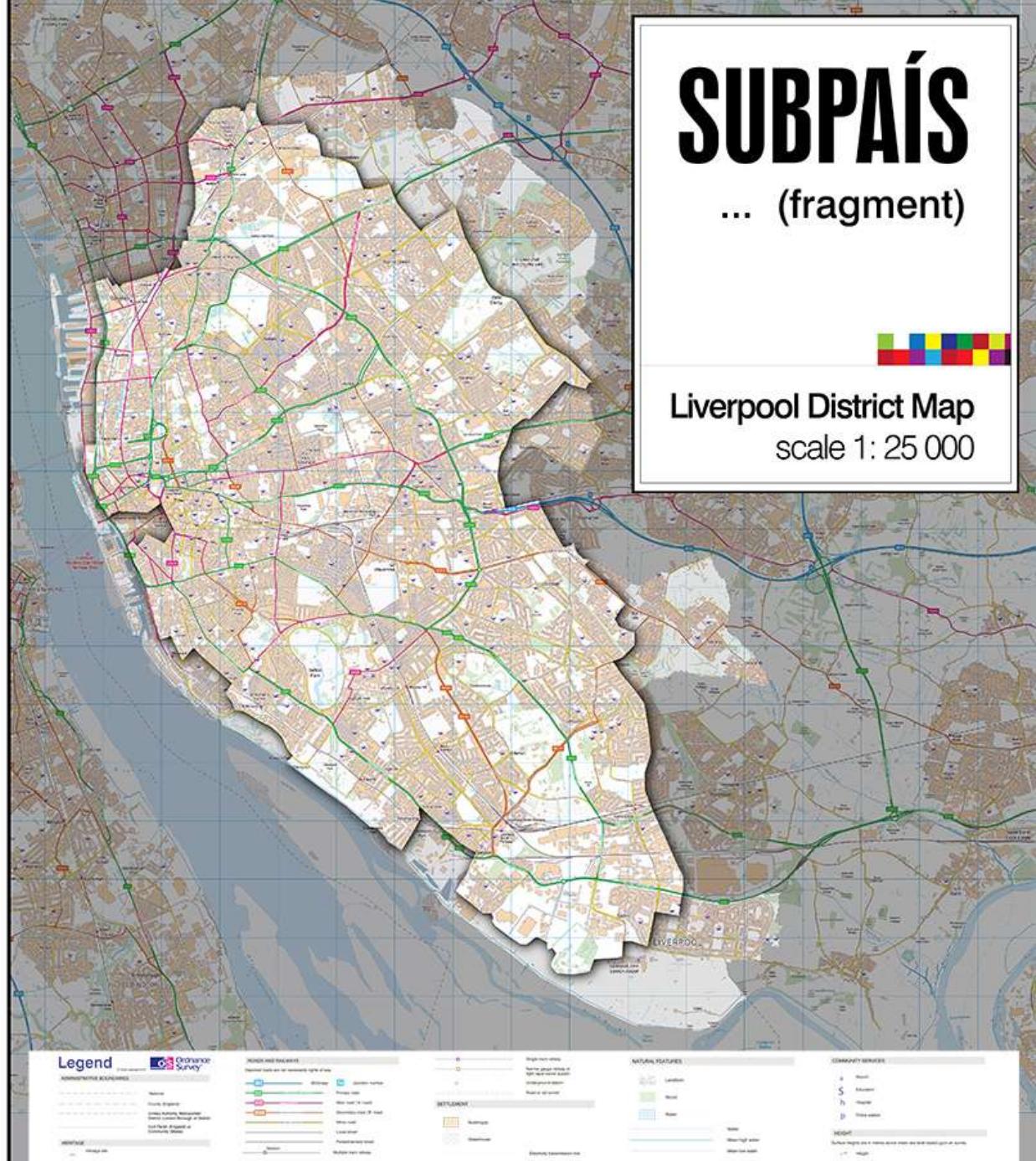
The Subcountry is integrated by different "Cuban Civil Society Organizations not Recognized Legally", that are structured by distinct Organizational Fronts, or as they are named "Opposing Fronts". These are the Assembly to Promote Civil Society in Cuba, All United, Front of National Unity, Progressive Arc, Cuban Liberal Convergence and the National Civic Resistance Council, which form more than 574 organizations. The first Front has a membership of 360 organizations, the second around 160 organizations, the third a sum of 34 organizations, while the rest are made up of more than 15 organizations. The organizations that shape the Subcountry can be divided in several classifications, like Parties, Political and Human Rights Organizations (188); Independent Journalist Associations (35); Independent Libraries (193); Independent Associations of Social Studies, Science, Art and Cultural (16); Farming Co-operatives and Rural Organizations (12), Medical and Health Organizations (10); Trade or Labor Organizations (27); Organizations Protecting the Environment (4); Women's Organizations (13). Others (76). The generally "active" members of these organizations are around an estimated 29 312 people, in other words, 2.9% of all who live in the Subcountry.

The approach of the piece is to trace the "ideal" geographic area according to real calculations of the kilometers square that the percentage of cohabitants of the Subcountry would physically use within the general population density of Cuba. The Subcountry is a total of "approximately a million people", 8.7% of the 11 million habitants in Cuba. This million people equal a geographic area of 9708 Km², divided from the estimated 105 habitants per Km² that the island establishes, in other words of the 114 525 Km² of the general territory of Cuba. What is shown for this occasion, as part of the 10th Biennial in Liverpool, is the current step in the project, readjusted to the characteristics of Liverpool. The limited area in the city is approximately 106 Km², a territory that would populate only the 10 897 people that make up the 20 organizations listed in the posters that define this territory in Liverpool, in other words 1.09% of the total geographic area that the Subcountry accounts for.

¹ "Cuban Civil Society Organizations not Recognized Legally", Document of the Canadian Foundation for the Americas (FOCAL) - Foro of Investigations about Cuba, 2004 and "Who's Who in the Cuban Politics", version 2006.

² Idea.

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HDEZ-GÜERO
STUDIO 



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