

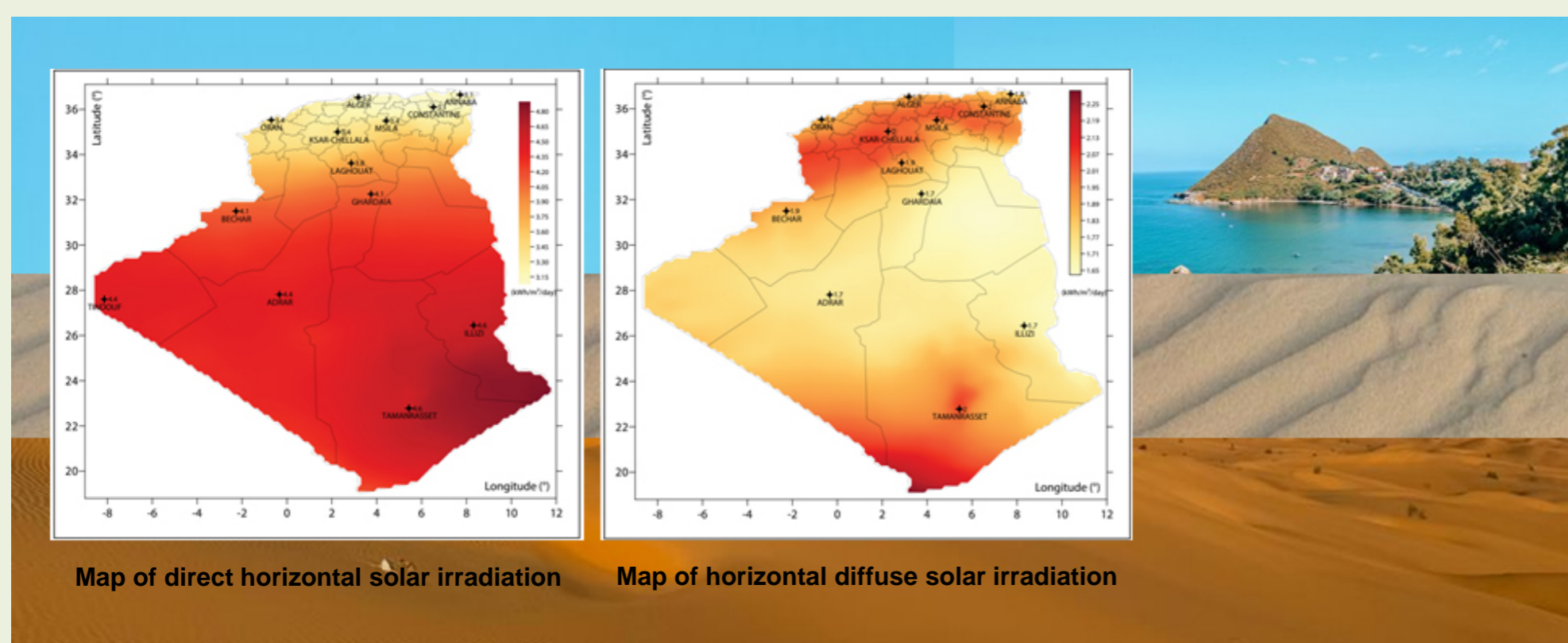
Climate-induced seasonal mobilities and the feminization of public spaces: socio-spatial dynamics in the coastal city of Jijel

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INTRODUCTION & AIM

The increasingly frequent and intense heat waves observed in recent decades are now among the most visible markers of climate change's effects on inhabited areas. These phenomena impact the population's living conditions, daily practices, and mobility in different ways, particularly in regions with extreme temperatures. In this context, climate-driven mobility, understood here as temporary or seasonal migrations to seek more bearable weather conditions, is emerging as a key factor in understanding contemporary urban transformations.

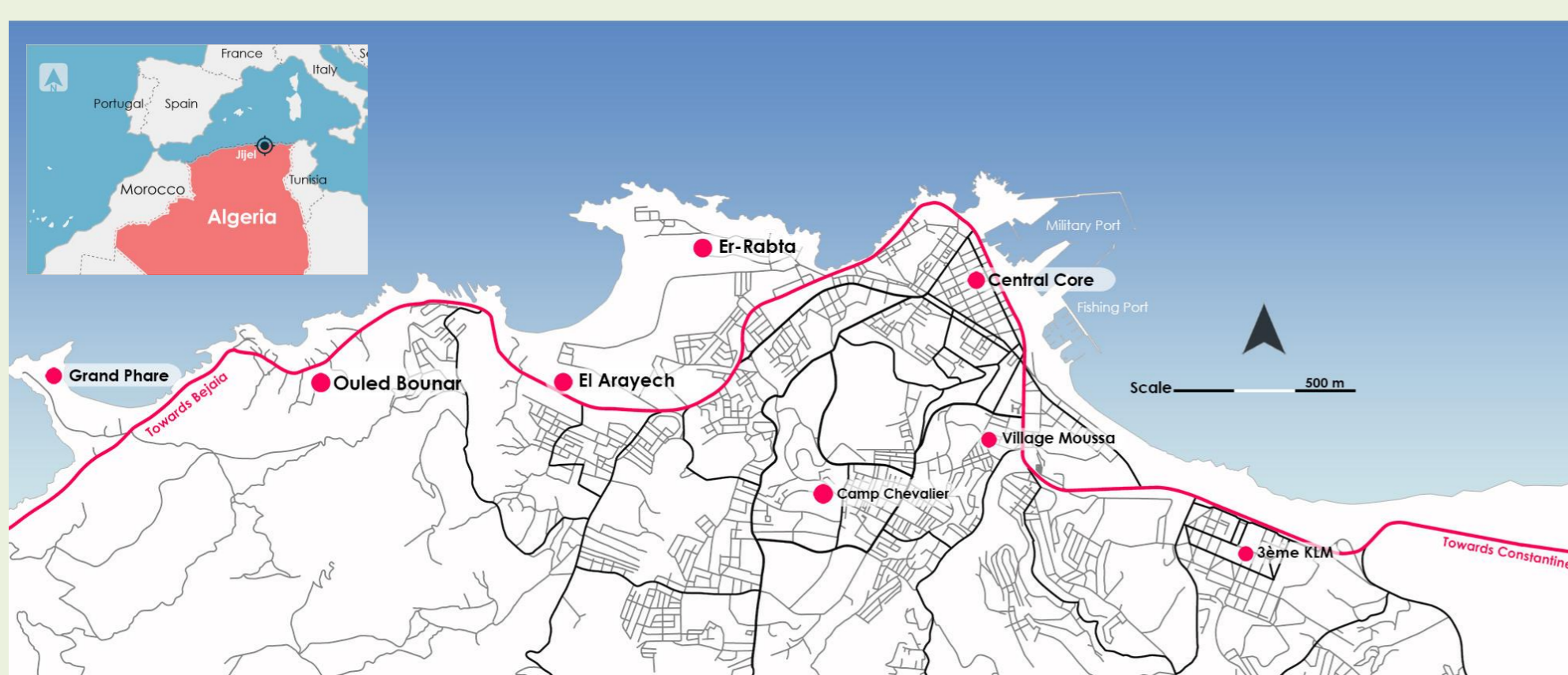


In Algeria, these dynamics translate into the growing attractiveness of coastal cities, which are perceived as spaces of refuges from the extreme heat affecting inland and desert regions. The summer season, which coincides with both peak temperatures and vacation periods, intensifies flows of people toward the coast, where vacationing, tourism, and the pursuit of climatic comfort converge. These seasonal mobilities are not merely a tourism phenomenon but more broadly contribute to the temporary reconfiguration of social practices and public space arrangements.

METHOD

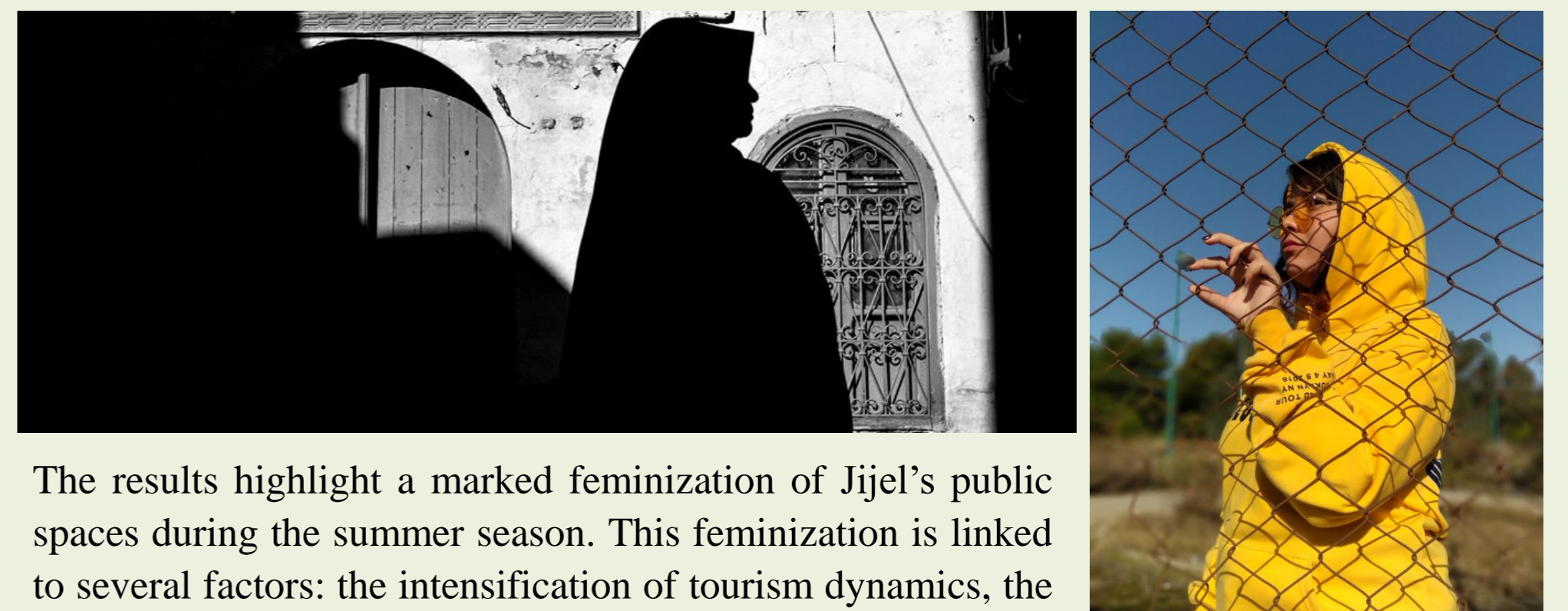
This research addresses the coastal one of the major tourist hubs of Algeria, Jijel, characterized by significant seasonal flows of visitors from the inland regions. This latter, particularly dense during the summer season, lead to maximised usage of public spaces: beaches, coastal promenades, town squares, and shopping streets, and temporarily alter the social and symbolic balances that structure them. The city thus becomes the stage for new forms of co-presence and sociability, in which prevailing gender norms tend to be reconfigured.

This research employs a qualitative approach based on ethnomethodology, combining in situ observations with semi-structured interviews. Observation captures ordinary uses and interactions in public spaces, with particular attention to temporalities, atmospheres, forms of presence, and bodily practices. The interviews complement this approach by providing access to the perceptions, strategies, and lived experiences of the city's users, both men and women, whether they are permanent residents or seasonal visitors.

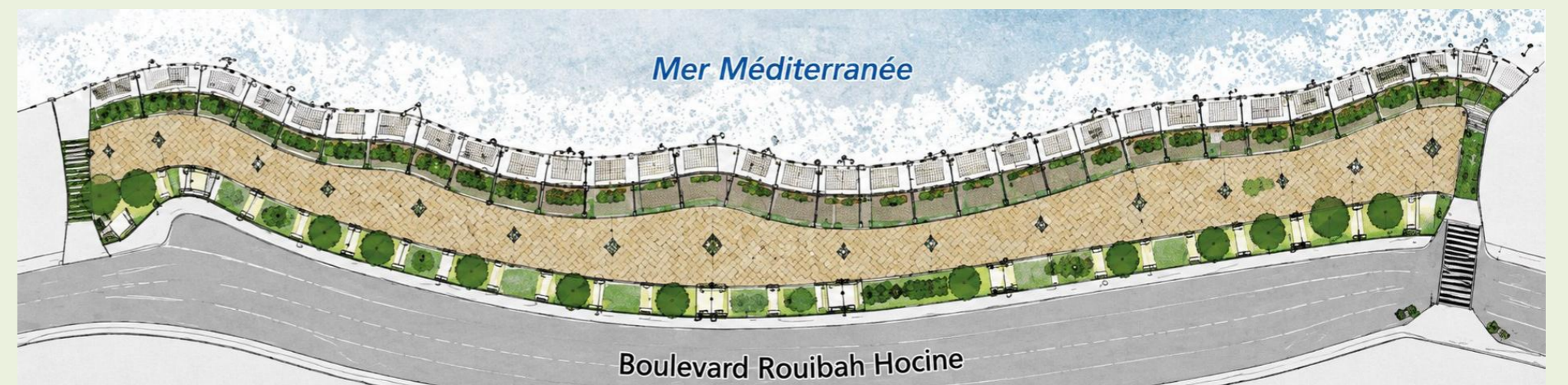


Map of main urban area

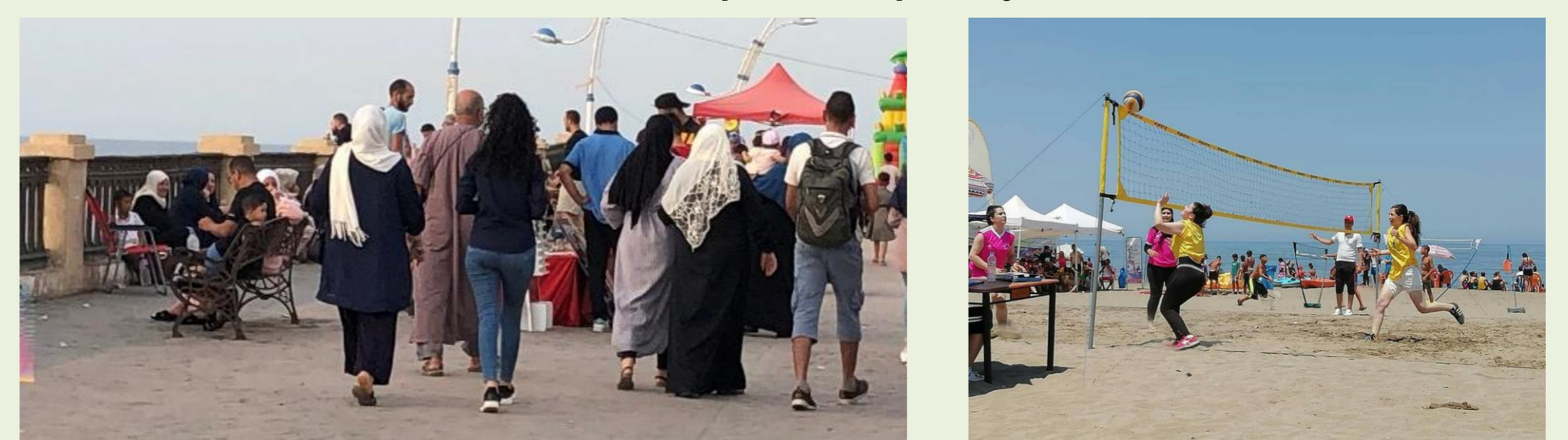
RESULTS & DISCUSSION



The results highlight a marked feminization of Jijel's public spaces during the summer season. This feminization is linked to several factors: the intensification of tourism dynamics, the social anonymity of local women made possible by the massive influx of non-local populations, the city's attractiveness, and development measures implemented by local authorities (improved promenades, leisure areas, urban programming, and enhanced security). These elements contribute to making certain spaces more accessible, tolerant, and inclusive, thereby fostering an increased and more diversified female presence.



Tourism development map of Jijel



CONCLUSION

Climate-induced seasonal mobilities play a structuring role in socio-spatial dynamics. While they create pressures on space and resources, they also contribute to the temporary transformation of usage norms, the broadening of social practices, and the emergence of new forms of urban sociability. Through the case of Jijel, this research invites a rethinking of the links between climate, mobility, gender, and public space, emphasizing the central role of coastal cities in the social reconfigurations induced by climate change.



FUTURE WORK / REFERENCES

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