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Nov 2nd, 9:00 AM - Nov 3rd, 5:00 PM

### Tirana Urban Growth During The Last Decade

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#### Recommended Citation

Shehu, Arbi, "Tirana Urban Growth During The Last Decade" (2012). *UBT International Conference*. 28.  
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## “TIRANA URBAN GROWTH DURING THE LAST DECADE”

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**Abstract.** *After the 90s Tirana encountered a large increase of the population coming from different towns and villages of the country. In this way the population of 150 thousand inhabitants turned in approximately 1 million. Its major transformation has occurred in the last decade where beside the residents, a lot of settlements and socio-economic buildings have been constructed, bringing in this way an unplanned urban development.*

*To identify Tirana urban growth, in addition to terrain identification or partial urban studies more easily we can use satellite images provided by Google Maps, which through their electronic archive provide us images over the years.*

*In this way, the paper at hand provides a visual analysis of the images over a decade, in 2002 and 2009. These images, which are within the yellow line in Tirana but also in its surroundings, show that part so called the Tirana Metropolis.*

**Key Words:** *Urban Growth, Satellite Imagery, Tirana, Albania.*