

*The "Speakers' Corner" is a quarterly newsletter to provide information regarding the progress of the IP-work. It informs about ongoing processes, decisions and events. Its content is the result of the close consultation of IP-Speaker, Manager and WP-Speakers. In the event of queries or requests for additional information please do not hesitate to contact us.*

## WP-Research

In [WP 1](#) (Concepts/Synthesis) we continued our work on the exhibition "The change of Leipzig, reflected by UFZ urban research", which is presented from Nov. 1-30, 2015 during Leipzig's 1000nd anniversary celebrations. The exhibition takes place at Neues Rathaus (Leipzig Townhall) and will be accompanied by an event program on selected urban studies issues. In [WP 2](#) (Urban Land Use & UES), 10 international experts have already confirmed their participation at the workshop "Socio-environmental change in cities - governance challenges and potentials for transformation towards more sustainability" (June 1, 2015 at UFZ). [WP 3](#) (Sustain. Water Infrastructures) has published a report on the fourth waste water treatment stage. The research was financed by the Federal Environment Agency and conducted in cooperation with Leipzig University. It was analyzed if the waste water charge could be a viable way to finance the fourth waste water treatment stage. More information on the study and its results can be found [here](#). In [WP4](#) (Env. Risks & Vuln.), a concept to analyze and frame multiple risks is elaborated. In addition, C. Begg is currently working on a project funded through the American National Socio-environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC). The project (2015-2017) brings together an interdisciplinary group of scientists in order to synthesize datasets and answer the question of how communities learn and adapt to repetitive water-related surprises (e.g. floods in Germany and droughts in the USA).

## Annual meeting of the IP UrbTrans

During this year's annual meeting of our IP we will visit several focal points of our IP research in Leipzig. The excursion on July 6, 2015 will contain stops at flood risk areas and the demonstration center for decentralized waste water management in Leutzsch, the large housing estate in Grünau with its socio-demographic challenges and a brownfield re-use area in Plagwitz as well as a boat trip to discover the green and blue treasures of Leipzig's inner-city from a new perspective. All IP members and interested colleagues are most cordially invited to join this special IP meeting!

## IP Flash Lights

- [New article](#) on Urban Transformations from D. Rink, E. Banzhaf, S. Kabisch and K. Krellenberg in GAIA 24/1 2015: 21– 25.
- Program Integration Budget: 2 Projects with IP-involvement have been approved: "Urban Expo" (in cooperation with IP T12 Land Use Conflicts and IP T42 Exposom) and "Leipzig Visuell" (with O. Kolditz, IP T53 and supported by IP T14) will receive funding in 2015.
- A group of IP UrbTrans members has submitted a proposal to support the City of Leipzig's project "HORIZON 2020 Smart Cities initiative –Triangulum". The aim of the project is to develop and implement an interdisciplinary smart city plan for western Leipzig using participatory planning tools and interdisciplinary approaches on urban sustainability.
- IP participation at the international conference of the ALTER-Net Research Network: "[Nature and Urban Wellbeing](#): Nature-Based Solutions to Societal Challenges", May 18 – 20, 2015, Ghent, Belgium.
- „[Urban resilience in the light of recent flood events](#) - should we stay or should we go". Presentation by C. Kuhlicke (IP UrbTrans). Lectures on current research at UFZ, May 19, 2015.

## IP Guests



Shaaban Mohamdeen (Ministry of State for Environ. Affairs, Egypt) joined the IP recently as a Guest Scientist; his research stay is funded by the Alexander-von-Humboldt-Foundation. At UFZ he is working on his project "Micrometeorological studies of urban air in Cairo for the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change".

## Helmholtz-Humboldt-Sonntagsvorlesung 2015



Lecture by S. Kabisch: "City or countryside: Where do we want to live?" (in German).