

### Why Research for Megacities?

Mega-urbanization is critical for global change and sustainability because of its speed, scale and worldwide connectivity. Megacities are a major driving force of global change and at the same time bear the cumulative effects.

The global significance of mega-urbanization demands national and international commitment to understand and explain trends, and to support the development of instruments and strategies for policies towards improving urban sustainability.

Mega-urbanization demands new technologies. Urban agglomerations are confronted with particular challenges in the area of environmental technology, public transport, traffic, energy supply, water supply, construction and housing. The demand for scientific-technological innovation in mega-urban regions opens the field for scientific-technological co-operation and entails opportunities to advance international efforts to enhance urban sustainability on a global scale.

### Geographic Focus

- » Megacities in Latin America
- » Santiago de Chile as anchor city and pilot study

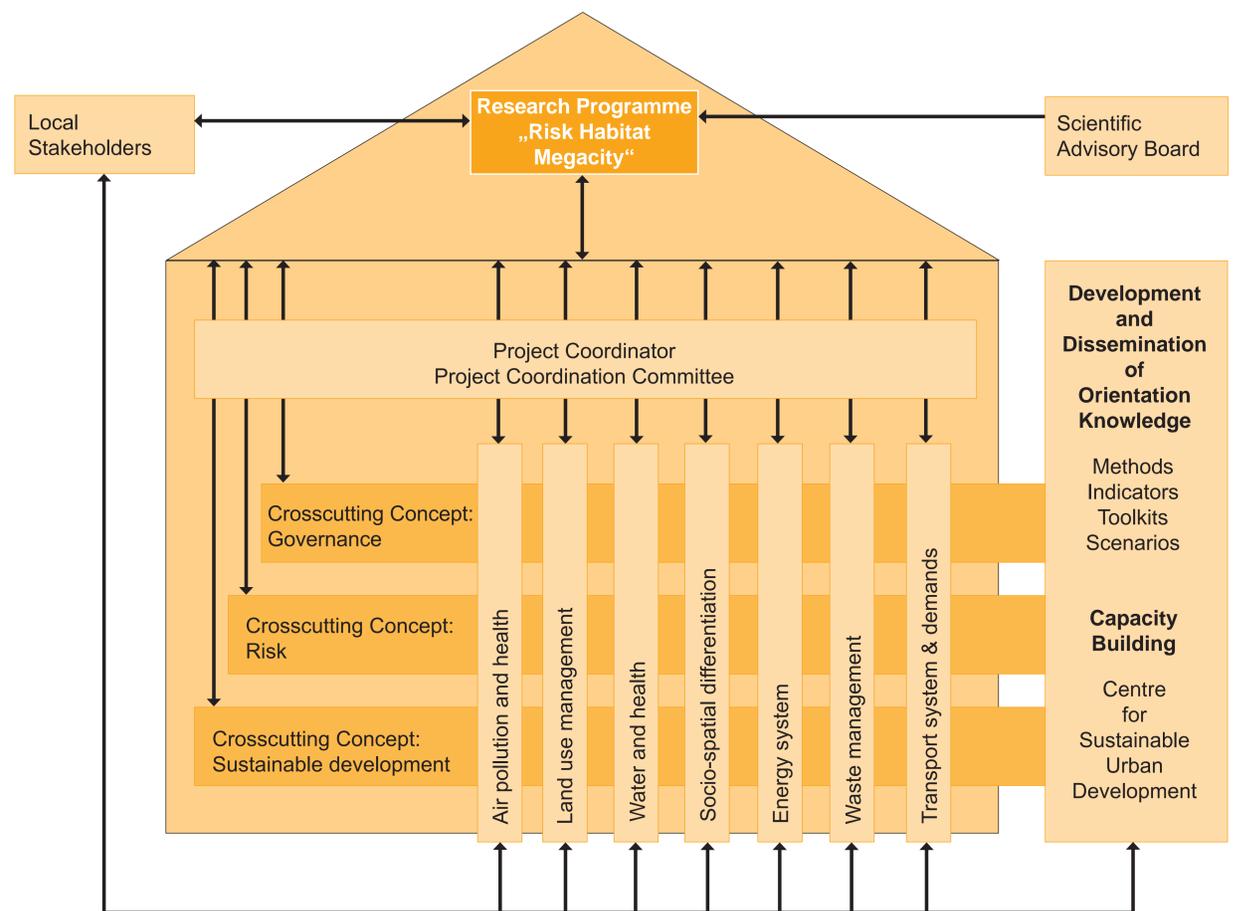


### Goals of ‚Risk Habitat Megacity‘

The initiative will:

- » contribute to the specification of sustainability objectives for the future development of megacities;
- » assess characteristic risks, their driving factors and consequences in megacities;
- » design strategies and instruments for risk management as key tools for sustainable urban development;
- » build a platform for continuous learning and application in order to integrate academic research and practice

### Conceptual Framework



### Crosscutting Concepts:

- » governance
- » risk
- » sustainable development

### Empirical Topics:

- » land use management
- » transport
- » air pollution and health
- » water and health
- » socio-spatial differentiation
- » energy system

Further information: [www.risk-habitat-megacity.org](http://www.risk-habitat-megacity.org)

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### Cooperating Organizations:

Partners in Latin America

- » Universidad de Chile
- » Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
- » United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC/CEPAL)

Partners in the Helmholtz Association

- » German Aerospace Centre (DLR)
- » Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe (FZK)
- » Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (HZI)
- » GeoForschungszentrum Potsdam (GFZ)
- » UFZ Centre for Environmental Research Leipzig-Halle (UFZ)