



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) F. Koch and K. Krellenberg organized a public discussion and a co-design workshop on "How do cities contribute to the implementation of the Paris Agreement & the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?" This DKN Future Earth event took place on 15.11.2017 as side event of the World Climate Conference COP 23 in Bonn. Mayors, representatives from ministries and urban development practice as well as scientists including our IP-Speaker S. Kabisch participated in the lively exchange of experiences and challenges.



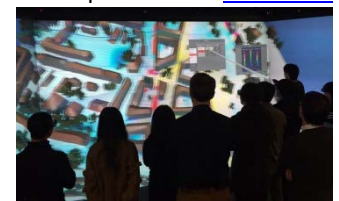
In August and September 2017, several scientists working in [WP 2](#) (Urban Land Use & UES) took part in international conferences such as Resilience 2017 in Stockholm, RC21 2017 Conference in Leeds, and the final conference of the EU 7FP project Green Surge in Malmö, Sweden, as session organizers, speakers and panelists.

[WP 3](#) (Sustainable Water Infrastructures) member A. Zehnsdorf organized a "Green Roof Academy" on 27.11. at UFZ. Students and practitioners discussed possibilities to use multifunctional Green Roofs in Leipzig. In close cooperation with the city of Leipzig, further activities including the implementation of the Green Roof Academy results are planned.

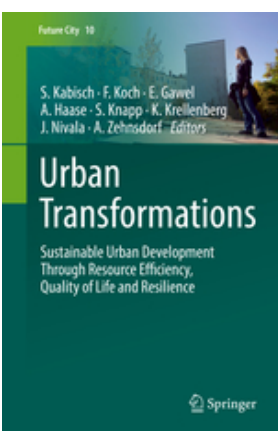
In [WP 4](#) (Environmental Risks & Vulnerability), a delegation from Zhejiang University, Department of Land Management, Hangzhou, visited the UFZ in October 2017 to present own findings, to inform about current urban research and to discuss approaches of integrated urban development. The [DE-US.net](#)



web-portal for innovators for more sustainable cities and regions was launched in September 2017. The first webinar, hosted by WP member R. Schwarze focused on [Climate-Resilient Infrastructure Financing](#). S. Bartke, coordinator of DE-US.net, contributed to an interview with a Malaysian TV network, available online [here](#).



IP Book Urban Transformations



We synthesized our results and research experiences in our [IP Book](#) "Urban Transformations. Sustainable development through resource efficiency, quality of life and resilience", edited by S. Kabisch, F. Koch, E. Gawel, A. Haase, S. Knapp, K. Krellenberg, J. Nivala and A. Zehnsdorf. The book is now available at Springer Publishing and contributes to the emerging international debate on urban transformations.

Addressing the Sustainable Development Goals



In August 2017, the first UFZ workshop addressing the SDGs took place. The event was organized by our IP in cooperation with the IPs T12, T16, T34, T32 and funded by the program integration fund. The event pointed out that the large thematic variety of UFZ research offers excellent conditions for inter- and transdisciplinary research on the topic and that the SDGs can provide valuable orientation for the development of a future research agenda. In the meantime, a respective PEER-initiative has been launched.

IP Flashlights

- On 29.1.2018 a workshop at UFZ on how social factors impact the health of children in urban environments takes place. Based on results of a literature review we will present different understandings of "social", plea for a common understanding of this term and discuss common research interests between sociologists and epidemiologists.
- D. Rink and A. Haase are editing a volume about city concepts (Stadtkonzepte). Contributors from our IP and from outside are invited. The editors intend to publish the book in spring 2018.
- The evaluation of the UFZ-research program will take place from 9.-13.4.2018. The work of our IP is evaluated mainly as part of the Research Unit "Environment and Society" in the Sub-Unit "Urban Transformations". Currently, we are preparing the evaluation reports and presentations.
- The IP-Manager F. Koch will leave the UFZ after three years of interdisciplinary IP-work in January 2018 to work as Professor for Urban Development and Smart Cities at the University of Applied Sciences for Engineering and Economics HTW Berlin. We are currently [searching](#) a new IP Manager.
- The volume "[Großwohnsiedlungen im Haltbarkeitscheck. Differenzierte Perspektiven ostdeutscher Großwohnsiedlungen](#)", edited by U. Altrock, N. Grunze and S. Kabisch, Springer 2018, appeared recently. It contains 14 papers dealing with challenges of large housing estates in Germany, Poland and the Czech Republic.
- Last but not least: We wish all our IP colleagues and friends Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2018!