



*The "Speakers' Corner" provides information regarding the progress of the research within the IP Urban Transformations. It informs about ongoing processes, decisions and events. Its content is the result of the close consultation of IP-Speaker, Manager and WP-Speakers.*

## IP News



### sustainability

**Reminder:** The [Call for papers](#) for the **Special Issue in Sustainability** "Urban Transformations Towards Sustainability" ends on **31<sup>st</sup> December 2019** (Guest Editor: Sigrun Kabisch, Dept. SUSOZ). The focus lies on research results and new concepts related to complex and interrelated challenges such as urban land use change, infrastructure adaptation, health transformations or energy transition. The accepted articles are continuously published online. **Ten papers** have already been published and can be accessed [here](#). Among them, you can also find the article "Transdisciplinary Responses to Children's Health Challenges in the Context of Rapid Urbanization" by Roderick Lawrence, who was speaking within the IP Lecture Series "Children's Environmental Health in Urban Context".

The **project "Leipziger BlauGrün"** will start in October 2019 and consists of a consortium of 12 partners from science, economy and local authorities. A new district will be built on the brownfield "Eutritzscher Freiladbahnhof". The UFZ departments UBZ, UPR and SUSOZ accompany the project aiming at implementing blue-green infrastructure solutions for an integrated urban water management. The project is funded for three years by the BMBF within the "Zukunftsstadt" initiative (Roland Müller, Maximilian Ueberham, Dept. UBZ).



The **EC-funded project REGREEN** includes collaboration between European and Chinese partners. It was launched on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019, with a four-year duration. UFZ contributes to the project with research on re-greening cities by means of urban remote sensing techniques. A new Postdoc-position will be established (Ellen Banzhaf, Dept. SUSOZ).

Sonja Knapp (Dept. CE) participates in the new **Helmholtz-funded project Hi-CAM**. The project was launched on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019, and serves as an overarching project for several Helmholtz-Centres to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Her contribution focuses on the sub-project „Adaptation“, which started with a kick-off meeting on 10-11<sup>th</sup> September 2019. A new PhD student will support Sonja's research. In the frame of Hi-CAM **Daniel Hertel** (Dept. SUSOZ) has got a Postdoc-position to continue his research on heat stress in urban areas.

The **Federal Congress on National Urban Development Policy** "Smart, solidary, resilient: How to shape the future in urban and rural areas?" took place in Stuttgart from 18-20<sup>th</sup> September 2019. It included sessions on Urban Health, Smart Cities made in Germany, special formats for innovative urban development as well as international perspectives on the development of the Leipzig Charta 2.0. Further information can be found [here](#).

**UFZ-internal Workshop on "Resilience"**, 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019: The concept of resilience has played a role in the research of the UFZ for many years. It will also gain a prominent position in the new research programme POF IV, e.g. through the topic of "resilient cities". The UFZ-internal workshop aimed at getting an overview of the different understandings of resilience and related research topics. The workshop brought together 17 colleagues and revealed a broad range of different approaches to resilience at the UFZ (e.g. psychology, geography, ecology, water research). We discussed the bridges and junctions between the research projects, whether there is a need for further conceptual clarification and thought of possible cooperation products (workshops, paperwork, projects).

**Visit by the Mayor of Leipzig** and the Executive manager of Leipziger Versorgungs- und Verkehrsgesellschaft, on 12<sup>th</sup> September: The aim was to discuss common project ideas about climate adaptation and "Wärmewende" within sustainable urban development. Sigrun Kabisch, Uwe Schlink (Dept. SUSOZ) and Roland Müller (Dept. UBZ) represented our IP by individual presentations.

As appointed member of the **High-Level Expert Group on Innovating Cities** by the European Commission, DG Research and Innovation, Sigrun Kabisch (Dept. SUSOZ) got involved in a one-year process to elaborate a report titled "The human centred city. Opportunities for citizens through research and innovation". The report was finalized in July 2019. At present it serves as discussion paper critically reflected by a number of EU-institutions. After this procedure, the report will be published.



## Upcoming events

**ESP10 - Ecosystem Services Partnership Conference 2019**, Hannover from 21-25<sup>th</sup> October 2019: **Joerg Priess** (Dept. CLE) and **Annegret Haase** (Dept. SUSOZ) will chair a double session titled "Urban Green Infrastructure: factors shaping urban ecosystem services and disservices" together with Nina Schwarz from University of Twente.

**National Conference** "Droughts in Central Germany - Consequences, Challenges and Adaptation Options" from 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> January 2020 will take place at the KUBUS in Leipzig. For further information visit the [website](#) or contact **Christian Kuhlicke** and **Daniela Siedschlag** (Dept. SUSOZ).



**IAPS 2020 "Running out of time: Setting the pace for future generations"**: The theme of the conference addresses time as slow and fast, as close and distant. Time as the seconds, days, months or years affecting the uses and representations of the built and natural environment at all scales. Deadlines for abstract proposals: 1<sup>st</sup> October for symposiums and 15<sup>th</sup> December 2019 for all other types of proposals. Further information can be found [here](#).

## People

**Norman Bedtke** (Dept. ÖKON) successfully defended his PhD-thesis entitled "Transitions of urban water infrastructure systems - an economic analysis of institutional change in the German water sector" on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019. The defense took place at the Faculty of Economics and Management Science of the University of Leipzig. His supervisors were Prof. Erik Gawel and Prof. Bernd Hansjürgens.

**Melissa Marselle** and **Aletta Bonn** (Dept. ESS) won a Volkswagen-Stiftung grant to host a **symposium** "Exploring the pathways linking biodiversity to human health and well-being" on 25-27<sup>th</sup> September 2019 in Hanover. Experts from ecology, public health, environmental psychology and other disciplines will come together to understand the 'big picture' of how biodiversity matters for human health and well-being. A biodiversity and health framework detailing the various mechanistic pathways will be **developed**.

## Conceptual Research on Urban Transformations

Since the start of our IP in 2014, IP members have continuously worked on the **conceptual framing** of urban transformations. Selected publications are presented in the following section. The full list of IP publications can be accessed at [www.ufz.de/urban](http://www.ufz.de/urban).

## Selection of Special Issues and (peer-reviewed) Articles

**Annegret Haase** together with Peleg Kremer und Dagmar Haase were guest editors for a **Special Issue** of the journal **Sustainable Cities and Society** titled "[The futures of urban sustainability](#)". The introduction written by the three guest editors may be accessed via [annegret.haase@ufz.de](mailto:annegret.haase@ufz.de).

**Marselle, M.**, Warber, S.L., Irvine, K.N. (2019): Growing resilience through interaction with nature: Can group walks in nature buffer the effects of stressful life events on mental health? *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health* 16 (6), art. 986.

Strunz, S., **Marselle, M.**, Schröter, M. (2019): Leaving the "sustainability or collapse" narrative behind. *Sustain. Sci.* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-019-00673-0>.

**Wang, J.**, Xu, C., Pauleit, S., **Kindler, A.**, **Banzhaf, E.** (2019): Spatial patterns of urban green infrastructure for equity: A novel exploration, *Journal of Cleaner Production*. (238) 117858. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2019.117858>.

**Wang, J.**, Pauleit, S., **Banzhaf, E.** (2019): An integrated indicator framework for the assessment of multifunctional green infrastructure – exemplified in a European city. *Remote Sensing*, 11: 1869. [Doi:10.3390/rs/11161869](https://doi.org/10.3390/rs/11161869).

Wolff, M., **Haase, A.** (2019): Viewpoint: Dealing with trade-offs in comparative urban studies, In: *Cities* 96 (2020), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2019.102417>.

Kabisch, N., Haase, D., **Haase, A.** (2019). Reurbanisation: A long-term process or a short-term stage? *Population, Space & Place*, DOI: 10.1002/psp.2266.