



"Speakers' Corner" provides information regarding the progress of the research within the IP Urban Transformations

IP News

In June, the new BMBF-funded RegIKlim project **"Platform for climate-conform action at local and district level in low mountain regions"** (KlimaKonfrom) started. **Uwe Schlink** and **Niels Wollschläger** coordinate the research about green infrastructure at communal level, including green roof studies in cooperation with TU Dresden.

Another BMBF-funded project **„BNE-Kompetenzzentrum Bildung – Nachhaltigkeit – Kommune (BiNaKom)“** started in June. It is a joint project by Deutsches Jugendinstitut e.V., Trägerverein Kommunales Bildungsmanagement Niedersachsen e.V. and UFZ (**Dieter Rink**, and our new colleagues **Ronald Gebauer** and **Anna-Luise Schönheit**). The objective is to link initiatives in Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) to municipal education management and hence to optimize ESD processes on an empirical basis. [LINK](#)

Dieter Rink will furthermore work on the first phase of the research project **„RegioZukunft: Wärme – Wärmewende in der Region“** which started 1 September 2020 and is also funded by BMBF. UFZ will collaborate with Leipzig University of Applied Sciences and the Network for Energy & Environmental Technology (NEU) in order to define a common vision for future heat supply on the base of renewable energies and create an innovation cluster in the Borna-Leipzig-Bitterfeld region. [LINK](#)

Mariana de Brito and **Christian Kuhlicke** successfully applied for a new **PhD-College of TB 6: The PhD College Thirsty Cities** will explore the impacts of the shortage of freshwater in urban areas and assess whether current regulatory frameworks are "fit for purpose". Four PhD students will jointly with their supervisory from the Departments Susoz, UPOL, ÖKON and UPR investigate pathways for enhancing cities' resilience to water scarcity (i.e. ability to cope with, recover and adapt to water shortages) and by doing so reduce the risk of conflicts. Thirsty Cities complements model-driven projections of water scarcity by focusing on the political implications of future water shortages and on solutions on how to manage them.



In June, three scientists from the IP UrbanTrans attended the virtual **IAPS conference 2020** - "Running out of time – Setting the pace for future generations": **Sigrun Kabisch** presented research results about the dynamics of large housing estate Leipzig-Grünau over the past 40 years. She also chaired the symposium "Long-term studies – Benefits and pitfalls", to which **Janine Pößneck** contributed with a methodological reflection based on the example of the Grünau long-term study. **Juliane Schicketanz** participated in the Young Researchers Workshop and presented a part of her PhD project about environmental determinants of children's active school travel.

Reimund Schwarze gave a keynote on "The Great Reset: Challenges for Cities and the EU GreenDeal" on 24 August 2020, at the symposium "The New Normal, New Mobility and the Future of the City" of the Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB) in cooperation with German Economic Institute (IW Köln) and Fujitsu Deutschland. [LINK](#)

Jingxia Wang will defend her PhD on "Urban Green Infrastructure Planning: Multifunctional Networks for Sustainable Urban Development" (supervised by Univ.-Prof. Dr. Stephan Pauleit, **Ellen Banzhaf** and **Sigrun Kabisch**) on 8 October 2020 at TU Munich.

Danny Otto and **Mariana de Brito** participated in virtual conference of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) in August 2020 with a session on "Following the COVID-19 Discourse – Using Text Mining to Analyse the Debate on Sustainability Transformations in Times of Crisis".

Upcoming events/ Save the date



Last highlight of the IP Urban Trans in POF III: International conference "Sustainable & Resilient Urban-Rural Partnerships". It will be organised from 25 to 27 November 2020 in close collaboration with the BMBF-initiative "Stadt-Land-Plus".

The conference will have a hybrid format, including presence and virtual programme parts. **Early Bird registration deadline is 30 September 2020.** [LINK](#)



Selection of (peer-reviewed) Articles

de Brito, M.M., Kuhlicke, C., Marx, A. (2020). Near-real-time drought impact assessment: A text mining approach on the 2018/19 drought in Germany. Environmental Research Letters. [doi:org/10.1088/1748-9326/aba4ca](https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/aba4ca)

de Brito, M.M., Amoradie, A., Evers, M., Bossa, A., Lumor, M., Norman, C., Yacouba, Y., Hounkpe, J. (2020). Current flood risk management practices in Ghana: Gaps and opportunities for improving resilience. Journal of Flood Risk Management. [doi:10.1111/jfr3.12664](https://doi.org/10.1111/jfr3.12664)

Wellmann, T., Lausch, A., Andersson, E., **Knapp, S.**, Cortinovia, C., Jache, J., Scheuer, S., Kremer, P., Mascarenhas, A., Kraemer, R., **Haase, A.**, Schug, F., Haase, D. (2020). Remote sensing in urban planning: Contributions towards ecologically sound policies?. Landscape and Urban Planning 204, 103921. [LINK](#)

Haase, A., Bontje, M., Couch, C., Marcinczak, S., **Rink, D.**, Rumpel, P., Wolff, M. (2020). Factors driving the regrowth of European cities and the role of local and contextual impacts: a contrasting analysis of regrowing and shrinking cities. Cities (forthcoming).

A full list of publications related to the research within the IP Urban Transformations can be found on our [website](#).