



## Relevant dates

- » **2008**  
October 30: Call for contributions
- » **2009**  
March 30: Deadline for submission of contributions
- May: Notification of acceptance
- July 30: End of early registration
- September 7–10: Conference

## Scientific Coordination Committee

- » **Joseluis Samaniego**  
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC/CEPAL), Santiago de Chile
- » **Prof. Dr. Francisco Martinez**  
Universidad de Chile
- » **Prof. Dr. Claudia Rodriguez Seeger**  
Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
- » **Prof. Dr. Bernd Hansjürgens**  
Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, Leipzig

## Scientific Advisory Board

- » **Prof. Dr. Janos Bogardi**  
United Nations University, Bonn
- » **Prof. Dr. Adisa Azapagic**  
University of Manchester
- » **Prof. Dr. Ben Wisner**  
Oberlin College, Ohio
- » **Prof. Dr. Eckhard Ehlers**  
University of Bonn
- » **Prof. Dr. Axel Borsdorf**  
University of Innsbruck

## Organizing Committee

Dr. Dirk Heinrichs, Dr. Kerstin Krellenberg, Katrin Barth (Coordination)  
Dr. Ellen Banzhaf, PD Dr. Sigrun Kabisch, Jürgen Kopfmüller, Dr. Helmut Lehn, Dr. Volker Stelzer, Prof. Dr. Ulrike Weiland

## Fees

Early Registration:	195.-€
Full Fee:	215.-€
Students Early Registration:	95.-€
Students Full Fee:	105.-€

The fees include conference materials, coffee and tea during breaks and the conference dinner. Fees do not include travel and accommodation costs.

## Conference secretariat / Information

F&U confirm  
Permoserstraße 15  
04318 Leipzig  
Germany  
  
Tel: +49 341/ 235-2264  
Fax: +49 341/ 235-2782  
Email: megacity.2009@fu-confirm.de

Conference Venue: Leipziger KUBUS  
[www.leipziger-kubus.de](http://www.leipziger-kubus.de)

Organized by the *Risk Habitat Megacity*  
Research Initiative: [www.risk-habitat-megacity.org](http://www.risk-habitat-megacity.org)

# International Conference

## Megacities: Risk, Vulnerability and Sustainable development

[www.megacity-conference2009.ufz.de](http://www.megacity-conference2009.ufz.de)

**Leipzig (Germany)  
7–10 September 2009**

Leipziger KUBUS Conference Centre  
Helmholtz Centre for  
Environmental Research – UFZ



## Scope and guiding questions of the conference

Megacities worldwide are an outstanding feature of urbanization and are culprits and victims of dramatic global change processes at the same time. They do not only involve unprecedented population growth and density, but also produce a complex variety of simultaneous and interacting processes and functions, for example the tremendous consumption of resources, the production of waste and pollution or social integration/disintegration. They turn the urban habitat into both a space of risk and a space of opportunity with consequences on the prospects for achieving urban sustainability.

- » What does sustainable development mean for Megacities?
- » What risks are associated with this trend towards mega-urbanization and what are the driving forces behind it?
- » How can we predict and describe the transformation of the complex risk habitat Megacity?
- » How vulnerable is the mega-urban system and how are risks distributed across cities and social groups?
- » On the other hand, what opportunities for sustainable development do Megacities offer?
- » What strategies can steer the urban system towards sustainable development and what institutional and organizational preconditions need to be in place for effective implementation of these strategies?
- » How can the interrelation of megacities with their hinterland and with global change processes be assessed and conceptualized?

## Conference themes and topics

The conference invites interdisciplinary contributions of worldwide regions from all fields of urban research such as: land use, social polarization, security, energy, water and sanitation, waste, mobility and transportation, air quality, health, food supply, economic productivity, climate, ecology. Proposed work is expected to examine these fields by means of modeling, monitoring, quantitative and qualitative social/political science research and scenario techniques. Interdisciplinary contributions are expected to present re-search that connects to any of the three main themes Risk, Vulnerability and Sustainable development.

### Theme 1: Risk

- » Risk concepts and approaches, systemic risk perspective
- » Interdisciplinary risk assessment: earthquakes, floods, storms etc; environmental degradation and pollution; technology, infrastructure and economic risks
- » Global and climate change risks
- » Tools and decision support for risk management
- » Risk governance

### Theme 2: Vulnerability

- » Physical and social vulnerability
- » Measuring vulnerability (indicators etc.)
- » Response options to vulnerability
- » Coping with uncertainties

### Theme 3: Sustainable development

- » Concepts for sustainable urban development
- » Sustainability assessment
- » Measuring sustainable development (indicators, targets)
- » Sustainable urban economy
- » Modeling techniques/Scenarios for sustainable urban development
- » Visions for sustainable future(s) in Megacities
- » Good management practices, planning and governance

## Sessions and submission of contributions for

- a. Thematic sessions with the presentation of individual contributions,
- b. Poster sessions in the central hall of the venue and
- c. Young researchers sessions with individual contributions from ongoing PhD work, chaired by a senior colleague.

Submission of contributions for thematic sessions (a.) is welcomed either in the form of an individual paper or a proposal for an entire session including chair, up to three individual presenters and a discussant (optional).

**Submission forms for individual abstracts, sessions, posters and young researchers workshop can be downloaded from the conference homepage:**

[www.megacity-conference2009.ufz.de](http://www.megacity-conference2009.ufz.de)

**Please note that the conference language will be English.**