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Climate change and air pollution in megacities: A challenge for interdisciplinary research

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The impact of climate change on Megacities as well as feedback mechanisms from urban conglomerations to climate change are issues which will have major consequences to the urban life quality. One of such issues is the impact of climate change on air quality in Megacities and its future development as well as the contribution of green house gases (GHG) from urban emissions to climate change. Based on a survey of more than 500 stakeholders from 25 cites it was expressed, that air pollution is the most significant environmental challenge followed by traffic congestion issues. This statement enforces the scientific work on air quality in which vehicular emissions play a major role for the air pollution in urban conglomerations and further – interdisciplinary – investigations on air pollution have to be done. In view of the ongoing climate change – which will amplify environmental problems - it is important that the scientific community of climate change, air pollution, health and social science experts convene with regional and local stakeholders in order to introduce suitable measures and to reduce and minimize air pollution levels and health impacts.

Results of the assessment of the air quality, the impact of global climate change and its consequences on human health in large urban agglomerations will be discussed and presented.