



MILIEU an interdisciplinary project on urban systems studies in the city of Berlin (Germany)

Martin Wattenbach and Ulrich Cubasch

FU Berlin, Berlin, Germany (martin.wattenbach@met.fu-berlin.de)

Urban agglomerations are the main habitat for humans on the planet Earth, and the trend towards life in cities and its peripheral regions is one of the key processes of Global Change. Closely entangled to the expansions of cities are other processes of Global Change that may strongly interact with the extension of urbanization. Beside top down effects on cities the city structures and processes themselves modify and very often amplify many of these processes with a trend towards a higher importance as elements in the dynamics of the entire earth system. The MILIEU project is an initiative of the "Freie Universität Berlin" to establish an interdisciplinary centre for urban earth system studies. The talk will introduce the research approach of the project together with results of the first year of work spanning from the greenhouse gas balance to human health and heat stress over to air/light and water pollution measurements and modelling for the city of Berlin (Germany).