



Floods, Urbanization and Climate Change in Europe

October 25 th 2016
UFA Fabrik Berlin

- 9:30 h – 10:00 h
Welcome
Senatsverwaltung für Stadtentwicklung und Umwelt,
Brigitte Reichmann (tbc)
UFA Fabrik Berlin, **Werner Wiartalla**
- 10:00 – 11:15 h
A New Nexus: Water and Climate Change
Introduction on the New Water Paradigm:
Marco Schmidt, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany
The active role of vegetation in water cycle and local climate:
Jan Pokorny, Czech Republic
A new paradigm for the climate change agenda - environmental, cultural, political and socio-economic aspects of the New Water Paradigm: **Martin Kovac**, Slovak Republic
- 11:15 h Q&A
- 11:30 h **Movie** "Air Conditioner Breakdown"
- 12:10 h Lunch Break
- In between: 12:30 h **Guided Tour**: Green roofs, rainwater harvesting and stormwater treatment, UFA Fabrik Berlin
- 13:00 h – 14:15 h
Round Table "Flood Risk Management"
Recovering floodplains, improving natural water retention. NGO-comments on flood risk management and the national flood protection program: **Michael Bender**, Grüne Liga, Germany
Floods and urbanization in Herault (South of France) by **Thierry Uso**, European Water Movement, France
Flood Risk Management in Catalonia, example Barcelona: **Annelies Broekman**, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain
- 14:15 h Q&A
- 14:30 h – 15:00 Coffee Break
- 15:00 h – 16:15 h
Water in Urban Areas:
Flood risk management in Germany:
Katharina Schwarz, BMU, Germany
Depave and Unseal: Positive impact on the climate
Daniel Hofnung, France
Measures for sustainable rainwater management:
Heiko Sieker, Germany
- 16:15 h Q&A
- 16:30 h – 16:50 Coffee Break
- 16:50h – 17:25 Round Table
A New Nexus: Water, Floods, Climate Change
Annelies Broekman, Heiko Sieker, Brigitte Reichmann, Jan Pokorny, Katharina Schwarz
Moderation: Marco Schmidt
- 17:25 – 17:30 h **Wrap Up**



This event is part of a series that started on occasion of the climate negotiations COP 21 in Paris end of last year.

The New Water Paradigm opens up an alternative approach to the climate debate. Rather than explain drought as a consequence of global warming by carbon emissions, this new approach addresses landscape dehydration as a key cause rather than key effect of climate change. The argument is based on the fact that solar energy is converted and a cooling occurs when water evaporates on Earth's surface and water vapour condenses in the atmosphere as clouds.

Urban expansion, global deforestation and desertification reduce evapotranspiration. In turn, reduced evaporation results in increasing short-wave solar radiation which is converted to long-wave thermal emissions and sensible heat. The result is that higher surface temperatures creating heat island effects over cities, contribute to local, regional and ultimately, global warming and creating flood events. Rainwater harvesting and management promises a major mitigation strategy against increased temperatures and drought. Urban water management can be enhanced by the ecological design of green roofs, green facades, artificial ponds, evaporation in air conditioners and ground permeable surfaces combined with vegetation. This conference demonstrates the application of these New Water Paradigm principles on an international scale.

The final public event is part of the project KURAS on sustainable urban rainwater management strategies, funded by the German Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) in the framework of the FONA initiative (Research for Sustainable Development). www.kuras-projekt.de