



Special Session Proposal

Climate adaptation challenges on regional and urban scale - the new form of regional inequalities

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Abstract

Climate adaptation is one of the most current topics in urban studies nowadays, which is closely related to regional inequalities as well. Urban areas play a pivotal role in climate-related challenges from a greenhouse gas reduction and a resilience perspective. The potential effects of well-prepared adaptation actions or even the lack of them seem to be becoming more critical as the number of people living in urban areas increases worldwide. The critical challenge hereby is to adjust our cities to be able to cope with the adverse effects of climate change; while enhancing their overall sustainability and ensuring their competitiveness have to be considered by policy and strategy-makers. Since cities have a distinguished role regarding their economic power interconnected with regional prosperity; thus, urban areas have a significant influence on regional-scale inequalities. Consequently, revealing climate adaptation related challenges, opportunities, best practices, and methodologies can contribute to defining spatial patterns of highly complex inequality issues as well. The spatial distribution of climate-related preparedness can be named one of the newest study areas within regional and urban studies.

Based on the aspects mentioned above, this special section welcomes studies dealing with climate adaptation issues, including case studies; regional- and urban scale analysis regarding various vulnerability issues; comparative analyses of cities' performance in terms of urban governance or policy-making perspectives; qualitative assessments of different local stakeholder's perspectives; spatial characteristics of urban digital transition and sustainability pathways or comparative intra- and interurban climate plan analyses; to name a few.