



WESTON ROUNDTABLE SERIES



Thursday, October 6, 2016

1163 Mechanical Engineering

1513 University Avenue

4:15 - 5:15 PM

coffee, tea and cookies at 4:00 PM

Urbanization and Global Environmental Change

Dr. Felix Creutzig

Head of the Land Use, Infrastructure and Transport Working Group

Mercator Research Institute on Global Commons and Climate Change (MCC)

Urbanization emerges as a megatrend of the 21st century that is closely entangled with anthropogenic climate change and global land use transitions. In this talk, our speaker will assess the scope of urbanization as a force of global environmental change in different world regions, specifically the loss of the world's most fertile croplands due to urban land expansion, and the rapid rise of GHG emissions originating in urban or urbanizing areas. Several types of interventions would enable a more sustainable urbanization trajectory. But while solutions, in principle, are feasible, institutional capacity and political will is too often missing. In addition, to steer dynamics into less disruptive geo-biophysical regimes, sustainable urbanization must also be accompanied by a dramatic increase in overall resource efficiency.



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