Urban air pollution forming processes in Riga agglomeration

I. Steinberga

University of Latvia, Faculty of Geography and Earth Sciences, Latvia (iwetta_erta@yahoo.com / Fax: +3717145154 / Phone: +3717032622)

Several urban areas in capital of Latvia Riga city has a significant levels of air pollution largely due to localised factors, such as local climate and meteorology, topography and characteristic emissions. Operational models used to predict levels of air pollution at this scale are frequently inadequate as they are unable to handle the complex nature of the terrain and the influence of varying surface characteristics. A major aim of this research is to improve knowledge of the relevant processes that operate at and immediately above the ground, and their influence on atmospheric dispersion conditions in complex local wind environments and to use it for forecasting purposes.