

# **ANTHROPOGENE BODENDEGRADATION IN DEN STADTNAHEN GEBIETEN DER PROVINZ HAVANNA/KUBA – AUSMAß, HINTERGRÜNDE UND PROBLEMLÖSUNGSANSÄTZE**

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## **SUMMARY**

The agricultural areas in the urban-rural interface of the Cuban capital Ciudad de la Habana are under high pressure of utilisation, which leads in many cases to inadequate practices and use, resulting finally in severe environmental problems. One of the main objectives of the CAESAR project, funded by the 5<sup>th</sup> Frameworkprogramme of the European Commission from 2002-2005, was to quantify these problems, to investigate their reasons und interdependencies, and finally to draw up recommendations for their solutions. As the main area for the investigation the province Ciudad de La Habana was selected. Within this area, a detailed environmental monitoring took place in the superficial drainage basin of the Quibú River, in the western part of the city-province, at some 100 sample points. Samples were taken for the analysis of their contents in heavy metals (Pb, Cu, Zn, Ni, Cd). Results show that soil degradation is in spatial and qualitative aspects amongst the gravest environmental problems which were observed within the investigation area. Principally heavy metals, mainly because of the general use of leaded fuel in Cuba, are abundantly observed. Taking in consideration the other results of the project in respect to land use, tendencies in settlement of the local population, planning- and management structures as well as approaches of the government for spatial and resources protection, the CAESAR consortium elaborated a project's GIS as a tool to support environmental evaluation and decision making. Project recommendations aim at well at the implementation of concrete measures to fight soil degradation.