Special Issue

Geospatial Analysis of Urban Heat Island Phenomena in Megacities

Message from the Guest Editors

The United Nations has projected that the world will have 43 megacities by 2030. Most of the fastest-growing urban agglomerations or megacities will be in developing countries in Asia and Africa. The high rate of urbanization is expected to induce a further expansion of built-up surfaces, and hence, alterations of land surface temperatures (LST). The surface urban heat island (SUHI), which refers to LST differences between urban and non-urban areas, has been shown to affect local climate variations, vegetation growth, and water and air quality. Given the continued horizontal and vertical urban developments, megacities in developing countries are expected to be affected by SUHI and its associated effects in the near future. The main focus of this Special Issue is to contribute to SUHI science as well as discuss the challenges and future research prospects in megacities.

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