

Special Issue

Urban Green Infrastructure for Heat Mitigation and Social Equity: Global Perspectives and Challenges

Message from the Guest Editors

Amid rapid urbanization and escalating climate impacts, cities face converging challenges of intensifying heat islands and widening inequalities. In 2023, the hottest year on record, urban centers suffered amplified thermal effects, driving higher energy use, health risks, and environmental injustices. Green infrastructure is increasingly adopted as a nature-based response, yet concerns such as green gentrification highlight risks of displacing vulnerable residents. This Special Issue examines how urban greenery can mitigate heat while ensuring equity. We welcome contributions on thermal performance and microclimate regulation, health and well-being benefits with equity focus, mechanisms and prevention of green gentrification, cost–benefit analyses across diverse contexts, integration of traditional knowledge and technology, comparative studies between Global North and South, equity in access and distribution, community-led alternatives, and case studies balancing environmental and social objectives.

Guest Editors

Dr. Paul Osmond

Dr. Bo Wang

Dr. Peng Cui

Deadline for manuscript submissions

30 September 2026



Sustainability

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.3
CiteScore 7.7



mdpi.com/si/256686

Sustainability
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
sustainability@mdpi.com

[mdpi.com/journal/
sustainability](https://mdpi.com/journal/sustainability)





Sustainability

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.3
CiteScore 7.7



[mdpi.com/journal/
sustainability](https://mdpi.com/journal/sustainability)



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

I encourage you to contribute a research or comprehensive review article for consideration for publication in Sustainability, an international open access journal which provides an advanced forum for research findings in areas related to sustainability and sustainable development. The journal publishes original research articles, reviews, conference proceedings (peer reviewed full articles) and communications. I am confident you will find the journal contributes to enhancing understanding of sustainability and fostering initiatives and applications of sustainability-based measures and activities.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Steve W. Lyon

School of Environment and Natural Resources, Ohio State University,
Columbus, OH 43210, USA

Author Benefits

Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE and SSCI (Web of Science), GEOBASE, GeoRef, Inspec, RePEc, CAPlus / SciFinder, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Environmental Studies) / CiteScore - Q1
(Geography, Planning and Development)