

## How can we ensure that green cities leave no one behind?

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While urban nature offers numerous benefits to people and many municipalities increasingly brand themselves as “green cities,” equitable access to high-quality green and blue spaces remains a critical challenge. This issue intersects with socio-spatial and environmental justice, particularly in cities striving for sustainability and resilience. A pressing concern for urban decision-makers is the unintended consequences of re-naturing strategies, such as “green gentrification,” which can exacerbate inequalities rather than alleviate them.

In this talk, I will share recent empirical research, primarily from cities in the Global North, that highlights urban green (in)equalities and examines how urban greening strategies can inadvertently drive gentrification processes. I will conclude by exploring pathways toward creating green and just cities that align with the vision of the UN Sustainable Development Goal 11: ensuring “universal access to safe, inclusive, and accessible green and public spaces.”

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