

3rd ESP Asia Conference

14-17 December 2021 | Nagasaki, Japan

Eco-health and ecosystem services in Asia:
Bottom-up aspects for planetary health

ONLINE

SESSION DESCRIPTION

ID:

Session title: Equitable distribution of urban ecosystem services as determinant of public health

Hosts:

	Title	Name	Organisation	E-mail
Host:(1)	Asst. Prof.	Perrine Hamel	Nanyang Technological University	perrine.hamel@ntu.edu.sg
Co-host(s):	Dr	Mahyar Masoudi	Nanyang Technological University	mahyar@u.nus.edu
Other organisers (2)	Dr	Shankar Kamarajugedda	Nanyang Technological University	shankar.ak@ntu.edu.sg

1) Preferably max 2 per session (1 host and 1 co-host). If necessary you can add more co-hosts but we will only send correspondence to the people listed as Host. Hosts are requested to forward relevant correspondence to the co-hosts, and other people involved in the organisation.

2) Other people involved in the organisation of the session can be listed here (you can add rows as needed);

Abstract:

Green and blue infrastructure in cities provide numerous services that are vital to the well-being of urban residents: mitigating excess temperatures, alleviating air pollution, regulating runoff, providing recreational opportunities, and enhancing creativity and cognitive performance. However, the distribution of such infrastructure may not be uniform across cities due to climatic, geographic, political and economic reasons, benefiting some more than others. Emerging evidence show that minorities or marginalized communities—e.g., immigrants, low-income households—are disproportionately located in areas that lack green and blue infrastructure, raising environmental justice issues, with important implications for public health. However, evidence is scarce in the Global South, and particularly in Asia. This gap is particularly important since Asian cities are different from their American and European counterparts in their overall urban form, and have followed varying developmental trajectories. For example, a key feature of urbanization in Asia is informal settlements, which are also a manifestation of underlying social and economic injustice. Given the close relationship between social and environmental injustice demonstrated by existing literature, it is expected that the residents of such settlements be particularly vulnerable to low levels of environmental benefits.

This session invites presentation abstracts from all interested scholars whose works contribute to our understanding of the distribution of green and blue infrastructure in Asia, and the ecosystem services they provide from the environmental justice and spatial equity perspectives. All forms of contribution (i.e., development of methods, case studies, review and conceptual works) are encouraged.

Goals and objectives of the session:

1. To increase the body of knowledge on the existing condition of Asian cities in terms of the spatial structure of their population with regard to variables of importance to environmental justice, e.g., age, ethnicity, immigration status, race, and income.
2. To increase understanding of the distribution of green and blue infrastructure, and the ecosystem services attributed to such infrastructure across formal and informal neighborhoods in Asian cities.
3. To produce evidence on the health impacts of the current state of distribution of green and blue infrastructures across cities of Asia.

Planned output / Deliverables:

Assuming we receive enough novel contributions, we propose to write an opinion piece with session participants on the topic of ecosystem services provisioning in informal settlements.

Voluntary contributions accepted:

Yes

Related to ESP Working Group/National Network:

BWG 10 – Urban systems