

## SESSION DESCRIPTION

### ID: T20b

Planning for equity and spatial justice in urban risk reduction through green and blue infrastructure ecosystem services (and disservices)

#### Hosts:

	Title	Name	Organisation	E-mail
Host:		Viviana Pappalardo	Department of Civil Engineering and Architecture	viviana.pappalardo@unict.it

#### Abstract:

"It is well acknowledged that urban ecosystem services provide many social, ecological and economic benefits. The extant literature shows countless studies that have contributed to filling many of the existing knowledge gaps around the effectiveness of ecosystem-based solutions for climate mitigation and resilience, nature and biodiversity protection, and economic and social gains in urban landscapes. Ecosystem services are understood and studied as complex social-ecological phenomena, very often by making use of aggregated method, with the potential disregard of important inter- and intragenerational equity issues and spatial justice challenges. The latter are vital in the policy and planning context, particularly with regard to urban areas globally dealing with the promotion of equal and durable social and economic resources to improve, among others, the quality and conditions of urban environment and to achieve sustainable development goals and principles of Do No Harm.

All people, regardless the social dimensions (age, race, gender, income), have the right to be protected from specific environmental issues (i.e. pollution, climate changes risks) and have access to the same services (i.e. sustainable urban drainage systems, greenspaces) in the urban environment.

A very less explored field of urban environmental justice is related to urban risks and their spatial dimension. The geographic dimension of policies related to risk reduction is often not considered and sometimes even not clear. This is why planning for equity represents one of the most urgent topics and tasks faces by planners today. But what it really means is often ambiguous and difficult to act on. What does it mean for planners to operationalize equity practices in their work with urban green and blue infrastructure ecosystem services?

This is the key and guiding question underlying the session."

### Goals and objectives of the session:

This Session aims to scope the latest frontiers in managing the aspects of equity and spatial justice of planning with urban green and blue infrastructure ecosystem services to support real-life decision-making processes. The preferential framework is the spatial planning realm in the light of current urban risks challenges (climate change and urbanization processes related risks).

In particular, the session encourages studies and contributes addressed to:

- Uncover specific knowledge gaps in research and practice related to the incorporation of the concept equity and spatial justice into local planning domains and urban green and blue infrastructure decision-making process
- Highlight current methods for mapping and analyzing equity data, and assessing the equity implications of ecosystem services provision and appropriation
- Map (current) governance approaches of risk reduction measures based on ecosystem services with regard to equity considerations from an empirical and or theoretical perspective.
- Collect experiences and case studies showcasing innovative approaches and exemplary applications of best practices operationalization that have facilitated the integration of the equity concept in spatial planning at various levels

### Planned output / Deliverables:

- Invitation for authors to contribute to the Special Issue "Frontiers in Ecosystem Services: Planning the Changing Urban Landscapes" in Sustainability (MDPI) (deadline for paper 31 March 2023 – [https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/special\\_issues/Frontiers\\_Landscapes](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/special_issues/Frontiers_Landscapes))
- Development of a shared Manifesto based on the session conclusions, to be spread in the scientific/academic context and wider society by means of a collaborative paper.

### Session format:

Standard session (presentations)

### Voluntary contributions accepted:

Yes, I allow any abstract to be submitted to my session for review

### Related to ESP Working Group/National Network:

[Thematic Working Groups: TWG 20 – Equity in ES research](#)