IJARSCT



International Journal of Advanced Research in Science, Communication and Technology (IJARSCT)

International Open-Access, Double-Blind, Peer-Reviewed, Refereed, Multidisciplinary Online Journal

Volume 4, Issue 8, April 2024

Exploration of the Social Equity Implications of Urban Green Infrastructure

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Abstract: Urban green infrastructure (UGI) projects are increasingly recognized for their potential to enhance environmental sustainability and improve quality of life in cities. However, there is a growing concern regarding the social equity implications of UGI initiatives. This study aims to explore the social equity dimensions of UGI, focusing on how these projects impact marginalized communities and contribute to addressing social disparities within urban areas. Drawing on a mixed-methods approach, including qualitative interviews, surveys, and spatial analysis, this research investigates the distributional equity of UGI across different socio-economic groups, the accessibility of green spaces to diverse communities, and the extent to which UGI projects engage and empower local residents. The findings highlight both opportunities and challenges in promoting social equity through UGI, shedding light on key factors influencing equitable access, participation, and benefits sharing. The study contributes to the broader discourse on sustainable urban development by providing empirical evidence and actionable insights for policymakers, practitioners, and community stakeholders striving to create inclusive and equitable green cities.

Keywords: Urban Green Infrastructure, Ecosystem services, Economic valuation, Social valuation,

