

# Climate Justice in Cities?: Scaling Urban Greening for Sustainability

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## Climate Justice in Cities?: Scaling Urban Greening for Sustainability

**Kariuki Muigua\***

### **Abstract**

*Climate change has over the years gained global attention due to the adverse effects that it has continued having on the environment, human health and the economy in general. The triggers come from both rich and poor countries, with the rich ones often being accused of making significantly more negative contribution. This is the same case when it comes to the rich and poor sections of society in any country. This has led to the development of the concept of climate justice over the years. In 2022, the UN General Assembly declared access to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment as a universal human right. This declaration is seen as important in acknowledging the harmful effects of climate change, poor resource management, pollution, and biodiversity loss on the enjoyment of all human rights, aiming to encourage action and enable citizens to hold their governments accountable.*

*The increasing global population necessitates the development of modern, sustainable cities. To ensure survival and prosperity, intelligent urban planning is required to create safe, affordable, resilient cities with green, culturally enriching living conditions.<sup>1</sup> To achieve sustainable development goals, the UN has declared 2021-2030 as the decade of ecosystem restoration, emphasizing the need to halt ecosystem degradation and undertake large-scale restoration efforts.*

*With the growing urban population and worsening climate change, this paper makes a case of inclusion of urban areas dwellers in the fight for sustainability through promoting urban greening.*

### **1. Introduction**

Climate justice was formally introduced at the 2002 UN World Summit on Sustainable Development.<sup>2</sup> According to some sources, the movement gained global attention during the COP-13 conference in Bali in 2007, where various groups from both Western and developing countries advocated for climate justice.<sup>3</sup> This conference, it has been pointed out, served as a significant platform for acknowledging climate change issues, with developing countries feeling more confident in negotiations with developed nations.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> 'Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities' (*The Global Goals*) <<https://globalgoals.org/goals/11-sustainable-cities-and-communities/>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>2</sup> Haque MA, 'Conceptualizing Climate Justice' (2024) 3 Journal of Climate Policy 12 <[https://econpapers.repec.org/article/bhxojtjcp/v\\_3a3\\_3ay\\_3a2024\\_3ai\\_3a1\\_3ap\\_3a12-30\\_3aid\\_3a1678.htm](https://econpapers.repec.org/article/bhxojtjcp/v_3a3_3ay_3a2024_3ai_3a1_3ap_3a12-30_3aid_3a1678.htm)> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

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In 2022, the UN General Assembly declared access to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment as a universal human right.<sup>5</sup> This declaration is seen as important in acknowledging the harmful effects of climate change, poor resource management, pollution, and biodiversity loss on the enjoyment of all human rights, aiming to encourage action and enable citizens to hold their governments accountable.<sup>6</sup>

The increasing global population necessitates the development of modern, sustainable cities. To ensure survival and prosperity, intelligent urban planning is required to create safe, affordable, resilient cities with green, culturally enriching living conditions.<sup>7</sup> To achieve sustainable development goals, the UN has declared 2021-2030 as the decade of ecosystem restoration, emphasizing the need to halt ecosystem degradation and undertake large-scale restoration efforts.<sup>8</sup>

With the growing urban population and worsening climate change, this paper makes a case of inclusion of urban areas dwellers in the fight for sustainability through promoting urban greening.

### **2. Climate Justice: Meaning and Conceptualization**

Some authors have argued that existing definitions of climate justice encompass a variety of attributes, reflecting the context-dependent nature of the concept.<sup>9</sup> According to such sources, an analysis reveals thirteen key attributes used across these definitions: Accountability, Participation/Consultation, Distributive/Redistribution, Environmental/Ecological Sustainability, Solutions to Climate Change/Policy Change, Equal Chance of Survival/Social Justice, Freedom from Discrimination, Benefits and Damages/Compensation, Fair Treatment, Right and Access to Resources Needed, Corporate-based Economy/Globalization, Sustainable Societies, and Vulnerability.<sup>10</sup>

Perhaps it is from these varying conceptions of the true meaning of climate justice that it has been posited that while there exists a strong consensus on the science of climate change, climate politics is

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<sup>5</sup> 'Climate Change Is a Matter of Justice – Here's Why | UNDP Climate Promise' (26 June 2023) <<https://climatepromise.undp.org/news-and-stories/climate-change-matter-justice-heres-why>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> 'Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities' (*The Global Goals*) <<https://globalgoals.org/goals/11-sustainable-cities-and-communities/>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>8</sup> Rodrigues B, 'Urban Green Spaces Brief: AMALI Good Practice Case Study' (*African Centre for Cities*, 11 September 2023) <<https://www.africancentreforcities.net/urban-green-spaces/>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>9</sup> Haque MA, 'Conceptualizing Climate Justice' (2024) 3 *Journal of Climate Policy* 12, *op cit*.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

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volatile, influenced by perceptions of injustice.<sup>11</sup> Notably, justice issues linked to climate change highlight that the poorest nations, which have contributed the least to its causes, suffer the most from its effects.<sup>12</sup> Climate justice focuses on recognizing the differential impacts of climate change on various populations and addressing the resulting injustices equitably.<sup>13</sup>

This is an acknowledgement of the fact that the global conception of climate change is increasingly taking a justice-focus.<sup>14</sup> It has also been noted that Climate justice issues have been propelled onto political agendas by the recent wave of climate activism, which emphasizes the need for more equitable development.<sup>15</sup> With this comes differentiation of what is perceived as injustice as far as climate change discourse is concerned: uneven exposure to climate impacts, unequal distribution of costs, and benefits from climate policies.<sup>16</sup> It has been documented that disadvantaged communities, which contribute least to the crisis, suffer the most and thus, effective climate justice requires careful consideration of who incurs costs and who receives benefits from climate actions and inactions, as current policies often exacerbate existing inequalities.<sup>17</sup>

Some studies have concluded that climate justice is used in diverse contexts, particularly in academia and social movements, to achieve procedural justice, material outcomes, and policy results.<sup>18</sup> However, the absence of a clear definition creates inconsistencies in its application and highlights the deficiencies in global climate governance regarding this critical concept as it relates to climate action.<sup>19</sup> As such, it has been suggested that climate justice should be conceptualized not just globally but also locally. A

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<sup>11</sup> Dolšak N and Prakash A, 'Three Faces of Climate Justice' (2022) 25 Annual Review of Political Science 283 <<https://www.annualreviews.org/content/journals/10.1146/annurev-polisci-051120-125514>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>12</sup> Lefstad L and Paavola J, 'The Evolution of Climate Justice Claims in Global Climate Change Negotiations under the UNFCCC' (2024) 18 Critical Policy Studies 363 <<https://doi.org/10.1080/19460171.2023.2235405>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> Lefstad L and Paavola J, 'The Evolution of Climate Justice Claims in Global Climate Change Negotiations under the UNFCCC' (2024) 18 Critical Policy Studies 363 <<https://doi.org/10.1080/19460171.2023.2235405>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>15</sup> Pollex J, 'Climate Justice and Policy Analysis: Still a Reserved Relationship' (2024) 3 NPJ Climate Action 65 <<https://www.nature.com/articles/s44168-024-00146-w>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>16</sup> Dolšak N and Prakash A, 'Three Faces of Climate Justice' (2022) 25 Annual Review of Political Science 283, *op. cit.*

<sup>17</sup> Ibid; see also 'Social Dimensions of Climate Change' (*World Bank*) <<https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/social-dimensions-of-climate-change>> accessed 23 January 2026; 'Chapter 8: Poverty, Livelihoods and Sustainable Development' <<https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/chapter/chapter-8/>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>18</sup> Haque MA, 'Conceptualizing Climate Justice' (2024) 3 Journal of Climate Policy 12 <[https://econpapers.repec.org/article/bhxojtjcp/v\\_3a3\\_3ay\\_3a2024\\_3ai\\_3a1\\_3ap\\_3a12-30\\_3aid\\_3a1678.htm](https://econpapers.repec.org/article/bhxojtjcp/v_3a3_3ay_3a2024_3ai_3a1_3ap_3a12-30_3aid_3a1678.htm)> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

minimal definition is necessary to prevent an overly broad interpretation of the concept in both academic and social movement contexts.<sup>20</sup>

Some authors have argued that climate justice focuses on distributive justice, advocating for an equitable allocation of environmental resources and benefits, alongside the burdens of climate change and greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>21</sup> Thus, climate justice is seen as a complex concept normally framed around four key tenets: distributive, procedural, recognition, and corrective. These tenets address the equitable distribution of benefits, risks, and responsibilities, along with identity acknowledgment and fairness in processes.<sup>22</sup> Environmental justice applies these principles to the various environments associated with people's lives, work, and recreation.<sup>23</sup> Procedural justice involves fair and inclusive decision-making processes that allow access to information and meaningful participation.<sup>24</sup> Distributive justice focuses on the equitable sharing of climate change burdens and benefits, addressing the allocation of resources over time and space.<sup>25</sup> Recognition emphasizes acknowledging group differences and ensuring equal rights, particularly for those unable to defend those rights.<sup>26</sup> Intergenerational climate justice aims to protect future generations from harm and hold accountable those responsible for it.<sup>27</sup>

Climate justice thus emphasizes the importance of equity and human rights in addressing climate change.<sup>28</sup> It highlights the unequal responsibilities countries and communities have regarding the climate crisis, contending that wealthier entities that have significantly contributed to greenhouse gas emissions should assist the most vulnerable populations and nations, who have contributed the least to the problem.<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> Ibid.

<sup>21</sup> Hurlbert M, 'Climate Justice: A Call for Leadership' (2015) 8 *Environmental Justice* 51 <<http://www.liebertpub.com/doi/10.1089/env.2014.0035>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>22</sup> Balest J and others, 'Climate Justice: What It Is and How It Relates to Other Justice Concepts and Components (ASCEND Project)' <[https://bia.unibz.it/esploro/outputs/report/Climate-Justice-What-it-is-and/991007045652501241?institution=39UBZ\\_INST](https://bia.unibz.it/esploro/outputs/report/Climate-Justice-What-it-is-and/991007045652501241?institution=39UBZ_INST)> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid.

<sup>24</sup> Lefstad L and Paavola J, 'The Evolution of Climate Justice Claims in Global Climate Change Negotiations under the UNFCCC' (2024) 18 *Critical Policy Studies* 363 <<https://doi.org/10.1080/19460171.2023.2235405>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>25</sup> Ibid.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> 'Climate Change Is a Matter of Justice – Here's Why | UNDP Climate Promise' (26 June 2023) <<https://climatepromise.undp.org/news-and-stories/climate-change-matter-justice-heres-why>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

Climate justice is seen as a framework for understanding the causes and effects of the climate crisis, highlighting underlying inequalities and guiding mitigation and resilience efforts.<sup>30</sup>

### **3. Climate Justice in Cities: Challenges and Prospects**

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11 requires nation States to ensure that by 2030, they make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.<sup>31</sup> SDG 11 is made up of 10 targets and 15 indicators. It covers measures of general sustainable housing and urbanization (11.1, 11.3, 11.6, and 11.7) and other more specific measures on transport system (11.2), cultural and natural heritage (10.4) and human and economic disaster loss reduction (11.5). The two means of implementation indicators focus on integrated national and regional policies and plans (11.a, 11.b) and on sustainable buildings (11.c).<sup>32</sup> According to the World Cities Report 2020 dubbed “The Value of Sustainable Urbanization”, first published 2020 by United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), urban areas are already home to 55 per cent of the world’s population, and that figure is expected to grow to 68 per cent by 2050.<sup>33</sup>

Urbanization presents significant public health challenges, with over 50% of the global population residing in urban areas, primarily in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.<sup>34</sup> The influx of 60 million new urban residents annually, particularly in impoverished nations, exacerbates health issues, combining infectious diseases from inadequate sanitation with risks from industrial pollution and social violence.<sup>35</sup> Effective urban health policy must address both historical industrialization issues and emerging sustainability challenges, while tackling urban inequality. Moreover, climate change poses severe risks to urban areas, yet urban populations also play a crucial role in addressing climate change.<sup>36</sup>

Urban growth leads to substantial environmental impacts, including habitat fragmentation and biodiversity loss.<sup>37</sup> The prevalence of heat-retaining materials like concrete increases local warming,

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<sup>30</sup> Haque MA, ‘Conceptualizing Climate Justice’ (2024) 3 Journal of Climate Policy 12, *op cit*.

<sup>31</sup> UN General Assembly, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, A/RES/70/1, 21 October 2015, <https://www.refworld.org/legal/resolution/unga/2015/en/111816> [accessed 22 January 2026].

<sup>32</sup> Ibid; ‘SDGs | KnowSDGs’ <<https://know-sdgs.jrc.ec.europa.eu/sdg/11>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>33</sup> Un-Habitat. *World cities report 2020: The value of sustainable urbanization*. UN, 2020.

<sup>34</sup> Stephens, C. and Brown, D., "Global Issues: Urban Health in Low-and Middle-income Countries." (2025): 581-590.

<sup>35</sup> Ibid.

<sup>36</sup> Ibid.

<sup>37</sup> Republic S, ‘Why Greening Our Cities Is Key to Urban Climate Resilience’ (*CIWEM*) <<https://www.ciwem.org/the-environment/why-greening-our-cities-is-key-to-urban-climate-resilience>> accessed 23 January 2026.

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resulting in the urban heat island effect, which can cause cities to be several degrees hotter than nearby rural areas, thus heightening energy use and health risks related to heat.<sup>38</sup>

As urbanization accelerates, especially in low and lower-middle-income countries, sustainable development relies on effective urban growth management.<sup>39</sup> Countries will encounter challenges in fulfilling the needs of expanding urban populations for housing, transportation, energy infrastructure, employment, and essential services like education and healthcare.<sup>40</sup> It is crucial to implement integrated policies that enhance the well-being of both urban and rural residents while reinforcing the connections between urban and rural areas based on their existing economic, social, and environmental relationships.<sup>41</sup>

Governments are developing climate mitigation and adaptation policies to address climate impacts, but these policies often lead to conflicts over the distribution of costs and benefits, potentially exacerbating existing inequalities among sectors and communities.<sup>42</sup> For instance, the UN Kenya Common Country Analysis (CCA) 2025 Update, the United Nations' assessment of Kenya's development context and trajectory, brought together evidence on economic, social and environmental trends, highlighting progress and persistent gaps across prosperity, people, planet, peace and partnerships.<sup>43</sup> The analysis shows that while Kenya has sustained steady economic growth, the gains remain uneven. Poverty, inequality and regional disparities persist, especially in arid and semi-arid counties.<sup>44</sup>

Some leading institutions in sustainable development have observed that climate justice is an important aspect of just transition toward a sustainable future, where local communities, especially

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<sup>38</sup> Ibid.

<sup>39</sup> United Nations, '68% of the world population projected to live in urban areas by 2050, says UN' (*United Nations*) <<https://www.un.org/uk/desa/68-world-population-projected-live-urban-areas-2050-says-un>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>40</sup> Ibid.

<sup>41</sup> Ibid.

<sup>42</sup> Lefstad L and Paavola J, 'The Evolution of Climate Justice Claims in Global Climate Change Negotiations under the UNFCCC' (2024) 18 *Critical Policy Studies* 363 <<https://doi.org/10.1080/19460171.2023.2235405>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>43</sup> 'UN Kenya Common Country Analysis Report for Kenya 2025 Update | United Nations in Kenya' <<https://kenya.un.org/en/306187-un-kenya-common-country-analysis-report-kenya-2025-update>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>44</sup> Ibid.

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informal workers and other vulnerable and marginalized populations can be harmed in this transition if not protected and consulted.<sup>45</sup>

According to the World Cities Report 2024, first published in 2024 by United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), Cities face significant impacts from climate change and contribute largely to global emissions. Vulnerable populations, particularly the urban poor, suffer the most from these impacts. This dual role compels urgent local action for sustainable urbanization.<sup>46</sup> Urban areas enable effective adaptation and mitigation strategies that can yield additional benefits, such as poverty reduction and improved quality of life.<sup>47</sup> Many cities are already pioneering solutions independently, enhancing their resilience despite a lack of national support. There is growing recognition that cities can achieve urban development while reducing emissions, positioning them as integral to addressing climate challenges, even if their full potential remains untapped.<sup>48</sup>

Effective climate action in urban areas presents an opportunity to address inequalities and enhance resilience through strategies that promote environmental sustainability, improve public health, and restore ecosystems.<sup>49</sup> While negative outcomes from climate change are projected, proactive mitigation and adaptation efforts can prevent disaster, emphasizing the importance of transformative policies for social justice and inclusion.<sup>50</sup>

### **4. Climate Justice in Cities: Scaling Urban Greening for Sustainability**

Urban green space accessibility is considered as the key to urban sustainability progress, not only environmentally, but also economically and socially.<sup>51</sup> Urban green space significantly enhances the urban environment and human health, with evidence supporting its positive effects on physical, mental, and social well-being.<sup>52</sup>

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<sup>45</sup> 'Climate Change Is a Matter of Justice – Here's Why | UNDP Climate Promise' (26 June 2023) <<https://climatepromise.undp.org/news-and-stories/climate-change-matter-justice-heres-why>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>46</sup> UN-HABITAT. *World cities report 2024: Cities and climate action*. Stylus Publishing, LLC, 2024.

<sup>47</sup> Ibid.

<sup>48</sup> Ibid.

<sup>49</sup> Ibid.

<sup>50</sup> Ibid.

<sup>51</sup> Du M and Zhang X, 'Urban Greening: A New Paradox of Economic or Social Sustainability?' (2020) 92 *Land Use Policy* 104487 <<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S026483771930568X>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>52</sup> Huang W and Lin G, 'The Relationship between Urban Green Space and Social Health of Individuals: A Scoping Review' (2023) 85 *Urban Forestry & Urban Greening* 127969 <<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1618866723001401>> accessed 23 January 2026.

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Urban greening effectively tackles environmental challenges in cities by incorporating natural elements such as trees, parks, and gardens alongside engineered solutions like green roofs and walls. This holistic strategy provides both climate adaptation and mitigation benefits.<sup>53</sup>

In land planning, urban greenery is used to refer to open space zones designated for parkland, as well as additional green spaces such as vegetation, wetlands, and other types of ecosystems.<sup>54</sup> It has been argued that developing larger green spaces, such as botanical havens, community gardens, and parks, is essential for improving city life.<sup>55</sup> Parks provide leisure opportunities, while community gardens foster sustainability and community awareness. Linear parks and urban forests replicate natural features and ecological environments, respectively.<sup>56</sup> Additionally, plazas and boulevards act as social hubs, enhancing the urban landscape. Overall, these green spaces located in downtown areas allow individuals to relax, connect with nature, and strengthen their community ties, contributing to greater urban livability.<sup>57</sup>

Urban infrastructure significantly impacts carbon emissions and environmental degradation. Urban green spaces can manage the effects of increased urbanization by offering socioeconomic benefits, enhancing biodiversity, mitigating air and water pollution, and regulating temperatures.<sup>58</sup> Factors like population growth and overdevelopment contribute to environmental issues. In Kenya, urban green spaces present economic and social development opportunities, fostering job creation and foreign investment.<sup>59</sup> Community centres, including green libraries, support environmental sustainability by providing modern reading areas with natural lighting and promoting green growth knowledge.<sup>60</sup>

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<sup>53</sup> Republic S, 'Why Greening Our Cities Is Key to Urban Climate Resilience' (*CIWEM*) <<https://www.ciwem.org/the-environment/why-greening-our-cities-is-key-to-urban-climate-resilience>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>54</sup> Zhang F and Qian H, 'A Comprehensive Review of the Environmental Benefits of Urban Green Spaces' (2024) 252 *Environmental Research* 118837 <<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0013935124007412>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>55</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>56</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>57</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>58</sup> Mwanzu, A., Nguyu, W., Nato, J. and Mwangi, J., "Promoting sustainable environments through urban green spaces: Insights from Kenya." *Sustainability* 15, no. 15 (2023): 11873.

<sup>59</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>60</sup> *Ibid.*

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It has also been argued that urban greening combats air and noise pollution, soaks up rainwater reducing flooding, creates a habitat for local wildlife, and lifts morale in the people who see it, which calms traffic and lessens urban crime.<sup>61</sup>

Green infrastructure is a strategically planned network of natural and semi-natural areas, including green and blue spaces and other ecosystems, designed and managed to deliver a wide range of ecosystem services at various scales.<sup>62</sup> Apart from the ecological functions, green infrastructure, as a planning tool, contributes to social and economic benefits, leading to the achievement of sustainable, resilient, inclusive and competitive urban areas.<sup>63</sup>

It has been observed that due to its multiple benefits, which include climate change adaptation, risk mitigation, social cohesion human well-being improvement, and urban regeneration, green infrastructure planning has seen an increase around the world.<sup>64</sup> Some writers have documented some of the most common green infrastructure planning principles through an integrative literature review of relevant studies and diverse sources, including theoretical and empirical sources, or experimental or non-experimental studies.<sup>65</sup> Those principles are connectivity, multifunctionality, multiscale, integration, diversity, applicability, governance, and continuity, and identify important factors that need to be addressed in future green infrastructure planning procedures.<sup>66</sup>

As cities move towards embracing urban greening, there is a need for more localized research to determine the unique needs of each city and how these principles can be used to come up with what works for the city and the people.

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<sup>61</sup> Greenpop, 'The Importance of Urban Greening' (*Greenpop*, 12 March 2021) <<https://greenpop.org/the-importance-of-urban-greening/>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>62</sup> Monteiro R, Ferreira JC and Antunes P, 'Green Infrastructure Planning Principles: An Integrated Literature Review' (2020) 9 Land <<https://www.mdpi.com/2073-445X/9/12/525>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>63</sup> Ibid.

<sup>64</sup> Ibid.

<sup>65</sup> Ibid. see also Monteiro R, Ferreira JC and Antunes P, 'Green Infrastructure Planning Principles: Identification of Priorities Using Analytic Hierarchy Process' (2022) 14 Sustainability <<https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/14/9/5170>> accessed 23 January 2026.

<sup>66</sup> Ibid; see also Štrbac S and others, 'Green Infrastructure Designed through Nature-Based Solutions for Sustainable Urban Development' (2023) 20 Int J Environ Res Public Health 1102 <<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9859204/>> accessed 23 January 2026.

## 5. Conclusion

Definitions of climate justice vary, generally focusing on issues of accountability, participation, and equitable distribution of resources. Addressing climate justice involves recognizing the political and social contexts of climate change, stressing the need for fair allocation of both burdens and benefits, with a focus on procedural and distributive justice. Challenges in urbanizing cities while ensuring sustainable development (SDG 11) are exacerbated by rapid population growth, particularly in developing regions, highlighting health risks and environmental degradation. Integrated policies are necessary to manage urbanization, meet basic needs, and connect urban and rural communities effectively.

There is a need for countries to continue investing in the greening of their cities due to the growing rural urban migration and also as a tool of addressing climate change in the urban areas for sustainability. The race towards achieving sustainable goals must involve both rural and urban populations for long term sustainability.

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