

# Assessment of Cultural Ecosystem Services of Urban Green Spaces in Beijing, China

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**Xueying Tu**

Wednesday, 29 May 2024 at 17:30 (CET)

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## Summary

Urban green spaces (UGS) such as parks, urban forests and community gardens are crucial ways for people living in urban areas to connect with nature and it is the main provider of ecosystem services for urban residents. Cultural ecosystem services (CES) are the inevitable benefits produced by the interaction between human activity and the natural ecosystem. This PhD research addressed four research challenges in evaluating CES provided by UGS: (1) whether the public's demand for the various CES provided by Beijing's UGS matches their actual acquisition; (2) the characteristics of urban typologies that influence people's visits to UGS from the perspective of CES; (3) the complex relationships among various CES in UGS, particularly in conjunction with human usage patterns; and (4) urban parks (a type of UGS) as providers of CES and individuals as recipients of CES, including a clarification of the distinctions between the two. In summary, the main contribution of this thesis is its comprehensive exploration of CES within UGS and their perception by people through four case studies. Each case study contributes to a deeper understanding of the intricate relationships between CES, UGS, and the people they serve.



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## About the author

Xueying Tu (1993, China) is a PhD candidate at the Department of Geography of Ghent University. She received her Master's degree in Landscape Architecture from China Agricultural University (China). In 2018, she started her PhD program at the Landscape Research Unit, funded by the China Scholarship Council (CSC). Her research interests focus on the evaluation of cultural ecosystem services of urban green spaces both from the physical features and people's perspectives, with publication in the International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology.