

ROLE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF URBAN GREEN SPACES

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Nowadays more than 55 % of the world's population lives in cities [1]. In urban territories the concentration of industry and transport affects adversely both ecological conditions of the city environment and life quality of local population. Green spaces play an important role in solving current situation. Urban green areas execute a wide spectrum of functions among which a sanitary-hygienic is the most important. Vegetation is quite necessary in conditions of dense development and road infrastructure: plants lower noise and air pollution levels, improve microclimate of cities, decrease urban heat island effect, etc. A structural planning function promotes unity of different city patterns integrating areas into a single whole. Recreational and decorative functions contribute to the mitigation of negative impact on the human nervous system, increasing city aesthetic indexes and providing citizens with recreational areas [2]. The greatest green arrays are mostly concentrated on the outskirts when in central districts in terms of the dense development green areas should be spaced more compactly. Due to the obvious lack of urban green spaces it became necessary to create completely new conception of the city habitat responding to the human requirement for the availability of natural territories. The deficiency of available space necessary for the creation of large green zones such as parks or squares results in attempts to compensate this disadvantage by the development of vertical gardening systems. Thus, modern greening policy promotes improvement of urban ecological situations.

References

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