

# Imbricating Socioeconomic and Environmental Data to Model Spatial Patterns of Peri-Urbanisation and Their Consequences

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## Message from the Guest Editors

The complex process of urban growth is regarded as a spatial diffusion that implies socioeconomic and environmental changes caused by the interaction of many factors that may be simultaneously analysed given the high availability of quantitative tools. The spatial structure of urban areas and their growth patterns determine how the physical, socio-economic, and environmental characteristics change over time.

With the urban expansion based on dispersed settlement away from central urban areas, the traditional clear-cut division between urban and rural land has lost relevance, producing fragmented landscapes and transition zones between the city and the countryside with a mix of heterogeneous land uses, appearing as peri-urban expansion.

Therefore, this Special Issue focuses on the development of advanced quantitative processes to model the spatial patterns of peri-urban growth and their spatio-temporal consequences, imbricating socioeconomic and environmental data and including Earth observation (EO) and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) techniques.



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