Special Issue

Integrated Assessment Methods for Small Urban Spaces Performance Under Climate Change

Message from the Guest Editors

Climate change is radically transforming the way in which cities should be designed, managed and adapted. In this scenario, “Small Urban Spaces” can play an important role. These are small areas such as squares, courtyards, neighborhood parks, pedestrian streets and urban interstices. Despite their small size, these areas can be appropriately designed to improve local climate resilience while enhancing urban quality of life and even social cohesion. IT tools that can provide reliable models of the performance of these spaces are currently available. These models can be used to assess environmental parameters under climatic stress conditions (heat waves, extreme precipitation, air pollution). However, the results are strongly influenced by the quality of the reference data. Furthermore, it is necessary to consider aspects that the digital model is not yet able to control effectively, especially with regard to more subjective and behavioral aspects. Thus, integrated methods that combine the following multidisciplinary approaches must be developed: urban planning, climatology, ecology, sociology, engineering and data science.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

30 June 2026

Atmosphere

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.3
CiteScore 4.9

mdpi.com/si/251758

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Continued developments in instrumentation and modeling have driven atmospheric science to become increasingly more complex with a deeper understanding of concepts, mechanisms, and interactions. This is the field that innovation built and it has led to a better appreciation for the complexity with atmosphere. Human life is intertwined in this complexity as we strive to better understand our atmosphere. Climate change is constantly stretching the limits of our thinking and forcing new ideas and concepts to be played out. Welcome to the Anthropocene!

Editor-in-Chief

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