Special Issue

Distributed Renewables for Climate-Responsive Buildings and Cities

Message from the Guest Editors

Recently, the deployment of distributed renewable energy systems has accelerated, providing extensive opportunities to create climate-responsive built environments. This Special Issue will explore the important nexus of distributed renewables, building energy systems, and urban climate dynamics in defining future sustainable cities. We invite original research, case studies, and review articles from researchers and practitioners to advance our understanding of the role of distributed renewables in the creation of climate-responsive buildings and cities. Your contributions will play a role in facilitating the future of sustainable urban energy systems. For further reading, please follow the link to the Special Issue Website at:

https://www.mdpi.com/journal/buildings/special_issues / 26CJ39Y060

Guest Editors

Dr. Pengyuan Shen

Dr. Yuekuan Zhou

Dr. Yi Zhang

Deadline for manuscript submissions

20 February 2026



an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.1 CiteScore 4.4



mdpi.com/si/245160

Buildings Editorial Office MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5 4052 Basel, Switzerland Tel: +41 61 683 77 34 buildings@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/buildings





an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.1 CiteScore 4.4





About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Current urban environments are home to multi-modal transit systems, extensive energy grids, a building stock, and integrated services. Sprawling neighborhoods are composed of buildings that accommodate living and working quarters. However, it is expected that the cities and communities of the future will face complex and enormous challenges, including maintenance, interconnectivity, resilience, energy efficiency, and sustainability issues, to name but a few. A smart city uses advanced technologies and a digital infrastructure to improve the outcomes in every aspect of a city's operations. A smart building optimizes the experience of occupants, staff, and management by using a modern and connected environment. Innovations in technology that can bring dramatic improvements to design, planning, and policy are critical in developing the cities and buildings of the future.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. David Arditi

Construction Engineering and Management Program, Department of Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering, Illinois Institute of Technology, 3201 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, IL 60616, USA

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within SCIE (Web of Science), Scopus, Ei Compendex, Inspec, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Construction and Building Technology) / CiteScore - Q1 (Architecture)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 14.9 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.7 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).