

Special Issue

Innovating Sustainable Built Environment Integrating Low-Carbon Energy, Energy Efficiency Solutions, and Environmental Considerations

Message from the Guest Editors

While progress is being made in decarbonising grid energy, achieving net-zero targets will require a list of actions to decarbonise buildings and communities. Buildings and the built environment, interacting closely with the grid, pose a major challenge to emission reduction. There are a range of interrelated challenges: the imperative for decarbonisation, escalating energy costs, concerns over both indoor and outdoor environmental quality, and the operational complexity of integrating decentralised sustainable systems. Topics of interest include energy-efficient and sustainable building technologies, low-carbon heating and cooling systems, energy storage integration, indoor environmental quality and occupant wellbeing, and digital modelling for energy optimisation and decarbonisation. We particularly welcome interdisciplinary contributions that combine engineering innovations, data-driven control strategies, and policy insights to support climate-resilient, occupant-centred transitions in the built environment.

Guest Editors

Dr. Cheng Zeng

Dr. Xiaojing Han

Dr. Yuanda Cheng

Dr. Abdur Rehman Mazhar

Prof. Dr. Jun Lu

Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 March 2026



Buildings

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.1
CiteScore 4.4



mdpi.com/si/246957

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

[mdpi.com/journal/
buildings](https://mdpi.com/journal/buildings)





Buildings

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.1
CiteScore 4.4



[mdpi.com/journal/
buildings](https://mdpi.com/journal/buildings)



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).