

Special Issue

Selected Papers from the "World Sustainable Built Environment Conference 2026 –WSBE26"

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue explores the nexus between circular building design, construction, operation, end of life, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. As a major resource consumer and driver of ecological balance, economic resilience, and social equity, the building sector must adopt a circular economy for sustainable transformation. This Special Issue invites interdisciplinary research, case studies, and innovations promoting resource efficiency, waste reduction, and regenerative approaches across the building life cycle. Authors presenting at the "**World Sustainable Built Environment Conference 2026**" (WSBE26) will be invited to submit extended, peer-reviewed versions of their papers, focusing on innovative circularity approaches in design, construction, operation, and policy/legislation:

- Life cycle design, through to end-of-life innovation;
- Capacity building and knowledge transfer;
- Integrated sustainability assessment beyond LCA;
- Novel frameworks and tools for systemic transition (e.g., business models, digital tools);
- Policy, governance and strategic pathways;
- Context-specific case studies and scalable solutions.

Conference Website: <https://www.wsbe26.org/>

Guest Editors

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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

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Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 15.1 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.9 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).