

Special Issue

Spatial Governance, Environmental Change, and Urban Sustainability: Planning Pathways Toward SDG 11 and SDG 13

Message from the Guest Editors

Cities today are experiencing unprecedented environmental and climatic transformations. Rapid urban expansion, land-use conversion, ecological degradation, and climate-related risks are reshaping urban regions worldwide. At the same time, global policy frameworks—particularly SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and SDG 13 (Climate Action). This Special Issue examines how urban planning systems address environmental change and climate pressures in pursuit of sustainable cities and climate action. By linking institutional planning research with spatial–environmental analysis, it advances understanding of how cities manage land, mitigate risk, strengthen resilience, and drive sustainability transitions across diverse urban contexts. This Special Issue will welcome manuscripts that link the following themes:

1. Urban Land-Use Change and Environmental Dynamics;
2. Planning Institutions and Spatial Governance;
3. Social–Ecological and Collective Action Perspectives;
4. Climate-Responsive and Sustainability-Oriented Urban Planning;
5. Digital and Geospatial Innovations in Urban Planning.

Guest Editors

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Land is the only open access journal covering all aspects of land science, and it is a pioneering platform for publishing on land system science. Our editorial board is comprised of eminent scholars. We publish high quality research on societally relevant, emerging and innovative topics and results in land system research. It is now one of the top land journals with a significant Impact Factor, and has a goal to become the best journal in land in the coming years.

Editor-in-Chief

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