

Special Issue

Governance and Spatial Planning for Sustainable Urban and Rural Development

Message from the Guest Editors

The goal of this Special Issue is to collect papers (original research articles and review papers) to provide insights about case studies, theoretical advancements, methodological innovations, and empirical research that highlight successful practices, challenges, and lessons learned in implementing sustainable development goals through effective governance and spatial planning. This Special Issue will welcome manuscripts that link the following themes:

- The impact of governance on sustainable urban and rural development strategies;
- Challenges and paths for sustainable urban and rural governance;
- Theoretical frameworks and governance mechanisms for sustainable development;
- The integration of environmental sustainability into spatial planning processes;
- Climate change adaptation and resilience in spatial planning;
- The intersection of spatial planning with environmental, social, and economic sustainability;
- The role of technology and big data in enhancing governance and spatial planning;
- Multi-scale governance cases for sustainable development;
- Case studies of sustainable spatial planning initiatives.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Chao Ye

Prof. Dr. Jinliao He

Prof. Dr. Uchendu Eugene Chigbu

Prof. Dr. Zhituan Deng

Prof. Dr. Liang Zhuang

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 June 2025)



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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

Prof. Dr. Christine Fürst
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