

## Special Issue

# The Future of Smart Cities and the Metaverse

### Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue invites contributions from social scientists, urban planners, policymakers, designers, and technologists to examine the future of smart cities and the metaverse. We look forward to your submissions addressing the following topics:

- Conceptualizing the relationship between smart cities and the metaverse;
- The role of digital platforms in shaping the metaverse;
- Implications of the metaverse for urban planning and design;
- Social interactions and communities in the metaverse;
- Economic opportunities and challenges in the metaverse;
- The impact of the metaverse on physical and mental well-being;
- Ethical and privacy considerations in the metaverse;
- Digital citizenship and governance in the metaverse;
- The potential for the metaverse to exacerbate existing inequalities and exclusions;
- Future scenarios and policy recommendations for integrating smart cities and the metaverse.

### Guest Editors

Dr. Zaheer Allam

Curtin Mauritius, Charles Telfair Campus, Moka, Mauritius

Prof. Dr. Ali Cheshmehzangi

School of Architecture, Design and Planning, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 March 2024)



## Smart Cities

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

Impact Factor 5.5  
CiteScore 14.7



[mdpi.com/si/162929](https://mdpi.com/si/162929)

*Smart Cities*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[cities@mdpi.com](mailto:cities@mdpi.com)

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





# Smart Cities

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 5.5  
CiteScore 14.7



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



## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

As urban environments continue to evolve, Smart Cities serves as a key platform for sharing innovative research that addresses the complexities of modern urban life. Our journal provides a space for interdisciplinary dialogue and knowledge exchange on the latest advancements in smart city technologies and practices. We prioritize research that not only pushes the boundaries of scientific understanding but also has practical implications for improving urban living, sustainability, and governance. We welcome contributions from diverse fields that bring fresh perspectives to urban challenges, from smart infrastructure and IoT integration to data-driven decision-making and sustainable development. Through a combination of rigorous peer-review and rapid publication, we aim to disseminate impactful research that fosters the development of smarter, more resilient cities.

---

### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Pierluigi Siano  
Department of Management and Innovation Systems, University of  
Salerno, 84084 Salerno, Italy

---

### Author Benefits

#### High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, ESCI (Web of Science), Inspec, AGRIS, and other databases.

#### Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Urban Studies) / CiteScore - Q1 (Urban Studies)

#### Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 26.8 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 4.5 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).