Special Issue

Defining and Debating on Smart Cities or Smart Buildings

Message from the Guest Editors

What is a smart city or smart building? It is a commonly asked yet unanswered question both in daily life and in the scientific literature. A smart city or building according to one person would not be considered smart by another. We call for papers that define and debate smart cities or smart buildings, incorporating the following two distinct views. The first view considers that modernist cities or tall buildings equipped with internet and smart devices (e.g., tracking or surveillance) are smart (Talari et al, 2017). They are commonly considered to be smart, sustainable, or even green. The second view focuses on structural aspects, which are capable of sustaining and nurturing people in the presence of the cities and buildings (e.g., Alexander 2004, Jiang 2019). Out of these two distinct views, there may be a third view that compromises on these two. We solicit papers that define and debate smart cities or smart buildings from all perspectives. All authors are invited to review other accepted articles, so the Special Issue will be considered as a coherent whole rather than independent pieces.

Guest Editors

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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

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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).