

Special Issue

Energy Communities: Innovations in Urban Building Design and Energy Systems

Message from the Guest Editors

The transition to sustainable energy systems is a cornerstone of climate action, with urban buildings playing a pivotal role. Energy communities—collective, citizen-driven initiatives for renewable energy generation and distribution—are emerging as transformative models for decarbonizing cities. This Special Issue seeks to explore cutting-edge research on energy communities, focusing on their potential to reshape urban energy landscapes. Topics of interest include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Technological innovations: Digital twins, AI-driven energy management, and HVAC optimization for community-scale systems.
- Building design: Net-zero energy districts, passive housing, and circular construction materials.
- Policy and governance: Regulatory frameworks, business models, and equitable participation mechanisms.

We welcome original research articles, case studies, and reviews that address these challenges and opportunities. By sharing knowledge and best practices, this Special Issue aims to accelerate the adoption of energy communities as a keystone of sustainable urban development. We look forward to your contributions.

Guest Editors

Dr. Moises Odriozola-Maritorena

Prof. Dr. Iñaki Gómez-Arriaran

Dr. Zaloa Azkorra-Larrinaga

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Sustainability
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
sustainability@mdpi.com

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

I encourage you to contribute a research or comprehensive review article for consideration for publication in *Sustainability*, an international Open Access journal which provides an advanced forum for research findings in areas related to sustainability and sustainable development. *Sustainability* publishes original research articles, review articles and communications. I am confident you will find the journal contributes to enhancing understanding of sustainability and fostering initiatives and applications of sustainability-based measures and activities.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Marc A. Rosen

Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science, University of Ontario
Institute of Technology, Oshawa, ON L1G 0C5, Canada

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