

Special Issue

Smart Cities and Sustainable Urban Futures: Digital Transformation, Collective Intelligence, and the New Logic of Urban Life

Message from the Guest Editor

In the post-digital era, cities are evolving from static infrastructures into dynamic, adaptive ecosystems—shaped by the interaction of technology, environment, and human experience. AI, data-driven governance, and digital transformation are redefining urban operations, yet a core question remains: how can technology, sustainability, and human values coexist to shape urban futures? This Special Issue aims to address this question by providing an open platform to explore cities not merely as optimized technical systems, but as “living knowledge organisms” capable of learning, adapting, and renewing through human creativity and collective intelligence. We welcome original research, case studies, conceptual papers, and reviews focusing on the intersections of digital transformation, sustainability, and human-centered innovation. Recognizing the need for a paradigm shift in sustainability research, this Special Issue views cities as intelligent organisms reflecting societal collective consciousness. Together, we seek to reimagine urban evolution: from data to wisdom and infrastructure to imagination.

Guest Editor

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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. The journal publishes original research articles, reviews, conference proceedings (peer reviewed full 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.

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