

Special Issue

Sustainable Building Retrofit and Energy Optimization

Message from the Guest Editors

You are already well aware that building energy optimization and sustainable development are on the same track. The building sector highly affects the critical issues of our generation, such as climate change, energy poverty, and the economic crisis. In most countries around the world, it is responsible for around 30–40% of energy consumption, with a similar share linked to greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, the optimization of building energy design and retrofit is a “must” to promote sustainability. Indeed, such an achievement would yield substantial reductions of energy consumption, running costs, polluting emissions, other than improved indoor environmental quality. In this regard, a great deal of attention should be addressed to the energy retrofit of existing buildings, the turnover rate of the existing stock being very low (around 1%) in most countries, especially in developed ones. Finally, the words “sustainable”, “building”, “retrofit”, “energy”, and “optimization” (forming the SI title) provide concepts that need to be coupled to achieve a better life for us and our children.

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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.

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