

## Special Issue

# Smart and Sustainable Urban Futures: Integrating Planning, Participation, and Policy Innovation

### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues: This Special Issue explores how cities can advance smart and sustainable urban futures by aligning planning, participation, and policy innovation across diverse contexts and scales. We welcome conceptual, empirical, methodological, and practice-oriented contributions from any discipline that illuminate pathways to more sustainable, resilient, equitable, and data-informed urban governance and design.

Submissions may draw on any theoretical lens or method—quantitative, qualitative, mixed, or experimental research. Illustrative (not exhaustive) examples include urban sustainability and resilience (including transformative change), Social-Ecological-Technological Systems (SETS), climate neutrality and just transitions, governance and policy design, mobility and accessibility, housing and public space, nature-based and circular solutions, urban health, cultural heritage and tourism pressures, energy transitions (e.g., Positive Energy Districts), data governance and ethics, and monitoring and evaluation frameworks.

---

### Guest Editor

Dr. Dario Esposito

Department of Civil, Environmental, Territorial, Construction and Chemical Engineering, Polytechnic University of Bari, 70126 Bari, Italy

---

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

10 September 2026



## Urban Science

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 2.9  
CiteScore 3.7



[mdpi.com/si/253863](https://mdpi.com/si/253863)

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

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





# Urban Science

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 2.9  
CiteScore 3.7



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



## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

*Urban Science* is a scholarly international journal which provides a platform for the exchange of theories, ideas, methods, analyses, and comparative studies of urban and regional development. It is a peer-reviewed, open access journal that publishes high quality original articles, theoretical essays, critical reviews, research notes, and shorter communications. Its broad definition of “science” includes both quantitative and qualitative methods of social, environmental, and spatial analysis. There is no restriction on the maximum length of the papers.

---

### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Luis Hernández-Callejo

Department of Agricultural and Forestry Engineering, University of Valladolid, Campus Duques de Soria, 42004 Soria, Spain

---

### Author Benefits

#### Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

#### High Visibility:

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

#### Journal Rank:

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