



Traditional Construction Wisdom in Developing Regions: Sustainable Urbanization and Local-Eco Adaptation

Guest Editors:

Prof. Dr. Yin Zhang

Dr. Ahad Amini Pishro

Dr. Jin Li

Dr. Ying Huang

Deadline for manuscript
submissions:
closed (30 November 2025)

Message from the Guest Editors

Traditional architecture in developing regions stands as a testament to human ingenuity, reflecting a profound understanding of local environmental dynamics, cultural traditions and community needs. However, amidst the rapid urbanization and modernization sweeping across developing regions, traditional architectural practices are facing unprecedented challenges. Many communities are losing touch with their architectural heritage, while simultaneously grappling with pressing issues such as environmental degradation, resource scarcity and social inequality.

As such, it is of great importance to re-evaluate the role of traditional architecture in the pursuit of sustainable urbanization and ecological adaptation in developing regions.

This Special Issue seeks to illuminate the intrinsic value of traditional architecture in the context of sustainable development, with a particular focus on rural, remote and underdeveloped areas. Through interdisciplinary collaboration and knowledge exchange, we can harness the lessons of the past to inform the design, planning and governance of resilient and culturally vibrant cities and communities.





Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. David Arditi

Construction Engineering and Management Program,
Department of Civil,
Architectural, and Environmental
Engineering, Illinois Institute of
Technology, 3201 South
Dearborn Street, Chicago, IL
60616, USA

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Current urban environments are home to multi-modal transit systems, extensive energy grids, a building stock, and integrated services. Sprawling neighborhoods are composed of buildings that accommodate living and working quarters. However, it is expected that the cities and communities of the future will face complex and enormous challenges, including maintenance, interconnectivity, resilience, energy efficiency, and sustainability issues, to name but a few. A smart city uses advanced technologies and a digital infrastructure to improve the outcomes in every aspect of a city's operations. A smart building optimizes the experience of occupants, staff, and management by using a modern and connected environment. Innovations in technology that can bring dramatic improvements to design, planning, and policy are critical in developing the cities and buildings of the future.

Author Benefits

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

High Visibility: indexed within SCIE (Web of Science), Scopus, Ei Compendex, Inspec, and other databases.

Journal Rank: JCR - Q2 (Construction and Building Technology) / CiteScore - Q1 (Architecture)

Contact Us

Buildings Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
www.mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/buildings
buildings@mdpi.com
X@Buildings_MDPI