



Sustainable Vertical Urbanism

Guest Editor:

Message from the Guest Editor

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As cities cope with rapid population growth and grapple with destructive sprawl, politicians, planners, and architects have become increasingly interested in the vertical city paradigm. Unfortunately, cities all over the world are grossly unprepared for integrating tall buildings, as these buildings may aggravate multidimensional sustainability challenges. The chaotic proliferation of this building typology will guarantee another type of sprawl, a “vertical sprawl”, which could have worse consequences than “horizontal sprawl”.

This Special Issue intends to capture state-of-the-art developments in high-rises. It aims to collate scattered information on the sustainable and unsustainable features of a vertical city. Scholars from multitude fields—including architecture, planning, urban design, landscape architecture, environmental sciences, energy, social and political sciences, and economic development—are highly encouraged to participate in this Special Issue.





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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.

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