



Towards Sustainable Building & Infrastructure Operations & Maintenance (O&M)

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Message from the Guest Editors

Sustainability in the built environment is concerned with several aspects of building and infrastructure performance throughout their lifecycle, from an environmental, social and economic perspective. The Operations and Maintenance (O&M) of buildings and infrastructure, which is typically the longest lifecycle stage, presents both challenges and opportunities related to e.g. energy efficiency, decarbonization, and lifecycle costs. The AEC/FM industry is responsible for around 33% of annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions worldwide, making it one of the most energy intensive sectors. Energy use in building and infrastructure operations accounts for a significant part of the total (embodied and operational) energy use and costs during their lifecycle. Technological advancements in data and information management in the form of BIM and digital twins can contribute to reducing embodied, and operational energy use, as well as overall lifecycle costs, by providing access and management of accurate data about all aspects of building and infrastructure assets. However there are still many barriers that are preventing their uptake by the AEC/FM industry, and reaping those benefits.





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