

Special Issue

Sustainable Urban Planning and Regional Development

Message from the Guest Editors

The purpose of this Special Issue is to collect technical-scientific contributions on the themes of sustainable urbanization and integrated strategic planning oriented towards cooperation between different territorial levels and aimed at reducing the complex conditions of peripherality and marginality experienced by some places, including the urban-rural divide, areas with geographical and demographic specificities, and internal suburbs (ESPON, 2018; 2019).

On a global scale, the rural population is decreasing at a high rate (World Bank), while people in cities will accommodate 60% of the world population by 2030, rising to 68% by 2050 (World Urban Forum, 2020).

Urban areas, in particular, are the engine of the European economy and act as catalysts for creativity and innovation across the European Union. But they are also places where persistent problems, such as unemployment, segregation, and poverty, are most severe. Urban policies, therefore, have a broader cross-border significance, which is why urban development is central to EU regional policy.

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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. The journal publishes original research articles, reviews, conference proceedings (peer reviewed full 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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