



SCSADV: Platform for Interdisciplinary Urban Innovation

We are pleased to announce the launch of *Sustainable Cities and Society: Advances (SCSADV)*, an open-access journal designed to support the growing need for integrative, data-informed research that addresses the complexity of sustainable urban systems. As a companion to *Sustainable Cities and Society*, this journal provides a platform for interdisciplinary work that merges theoretical innovation with practical application, especially where computation, policy, and environmental science intersect.

Urban environments today are defined by multi-dimensional challenges. Increasing energy demands, climate volatility, resource inefficiency, cyber-physical vulnerabilities, and socio-economic disparities create interdependent risks. These systems problems cannot be resolved in isolation. Instead, solving them depends on high-resolution sensing, real-time analysis, predictive modeling, and coordinated policy and infrastructure design. The emergence of technologies such as machine learning, intelligent control, and large-scale simulation has opened new possibilities, but the translation of these tools into effective urban solutions requires deeper alignment between engineering, data science, environmental science, and the social sciences. SCSADV is designed to facilitate this convergence.

The journal builds upon the foundational scope of *Sustainable Cities and Society*, but expands its focus on advanced, cross-disciplinary research that is computationally intensive, methodologically novel, and practically relevant. Our goal is to attract contributions that not only model or monitor complex urban phenomena but also demonstrate deployment potential, interpretability, or policy implications. In particular, we emphasize the importance of reproducibility, explainability, and scalability in work related to artificial intelligence, smart systems, and data-driven planning.

The journal's thematic areas reflect the full pipeline of sustainable city research, from foundational models to field-deployed systems. These areas include smart city design and implementation, renewable and distributed energy networks, zero-carbon buildings and communities, urban air quality and environmental health, water systems optimization, transportation and mobility analytics, urban agriculture, and multi-layered infrastructure resilience. We also welcome submissions addressing digital governance, algorithmic regulation, social behavior modeling, and decision support systems under uncertainty.

To accommodate this wide spectrum, SCSADV accepts several types of contributions:

- *Full-length articles* presenting in-depth original research with strong methodological and analytical frameworks;

- *Review articles* that systematically synthesize and evaluate recent developments in high-impact areas;
- *Case studies* documenting real-world applications, implementation feedback, and data-rich performance assessments;
- *Application papers* that validate AI and machine learning models in applied urban contexts, with an emphasis on interpretability, benchmarking, and replicability;
- *Dataset and benchmark papers* introducing curated, well-documented datasets and evaluation protocols that enable rigorous comparative studies and support model development in urban sustainability domains;
- *Special issues* curated around specific challenges, such as urban energy resilience, mobility decarbonization, or cybersecurity in smart infrastructure.

The journal operates as a fully open-access publication. This model ensures maximum visibility, rapid dissemination, and a barrier-free exchange of ideas. Open science is foundational to our vision. We strongly encourage authors to submit their data pipelines, model repositories, or codebases alongside their manuscripts, facilitating broader uptake and re-use within the research community.

Our editorial board reflects the scope and depth of this journal's vision. It includes leading experts in smart cities, AI, machine learning, cybersecurity, systems security, intelligent transportation, eco-efficiency, renewable energy systems, cyber-physical infrastructure, energy management, building automation, and urban policy. This diversity of expertise ensures that SCSADV can evaluate work from both technical and contextual perspectives. Review processes will prioritize methodological clarity, technical rigor, and societal relevance equally.

At its core, this journal values interdisciplinary integration. We welcome submissions that connect machine learning with regulatory design, cybersecurity with environmental control, or behavioral science with smart system feedback loops. Urban problems are too complex to fit into one academic field, so their solutions should not be limited to just one either. The most effective research today is both domain-aware and data-capable. It integrates qualitative context with quantitative precision.

We are also committed to geographic and institutional diversity. Urban sustainability is a global problem with highly localized expressions. We invite work from all regions and at all scales, from megacities implementing AI-enabled energy grids to smaller municipalities testing behavioral nudges or low-cost data collection strategies. Comparative analysis across contexts is particularly encouraged.

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We extend our gratitude to the editorial board, our reviewers, and the contributing authors for shaping this new platform. Their collaboration and insight have made it possible to launch SCSADV with both intellectual depth and applied relevance. Going forward, we welcome new submissions, proposals for special issues, and ideas for further developing the journal's scope. We aim to support a collaborative knowledge network that advances sustainable, intelligent, and inclusive cities worldwide.

We look forward to publishing research that deepens theoretical knowledge while offering insights that can be applied to real-world ur-

ban challenges. Addressing future challenges will benefit from both systems thinking and careful implementation, and SCSADV aims to contribute to that effort.

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