



Alicante, Spain & Virtual event

Urban Challenges and Sustainable Technological Revolution



Special Session Proposal

Urban challenges in time of multiple crises and of the twin transition

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Abstract

For the first time in the past three decades, the Human Development Index (2022) has declined globally for two years in a row, reversing much of the progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Covid-19 pandemic and, more recently, the war in Ukraine caused unprecedented disruptions worldwide and increased insecurity, uncertainty and polarization. Cities are the places most exposed to multiple crises and urban contexts pose multifold social, economic and environmental challenges. Meanwhile, cities are expected to be at the forefront of the twin green and digital transformation and drive change towards a more sustainable future.

In relation to this background, this Special Session aims to reflect on the simultaneous transformations towards smart, sustainable and resilient cities in time of multiple crises and the significance for urban development policy and practice. While acknowledging the diversity of urban challenges and the role played by the contextual factors, this Special Session addresses, but is not restricted to, the following questions: *How do the multiple crises impact on the urban development agendas? How do the twin green and digital transition evolve in time of multiple crises? How can innovation and technology build better urban futures? What are the synergies and the trade-offs that should be further addressed?*

Submissions covering conceptual, empirical and methodological contributions to the topic are welcome.