

Special Issue

Cultural Landscapes in Transition: Balancing Heritage, Development, and Sustainability (Second Edition)

Message from the Guest Editors

Cultural landscapes represent the "combined works of nature and man", illustrating human settlement and cultural development over time, influenced by both natural and cultural forces. These landscapes provide a legacy of history, showing how local communities have shaped their environments. Since the 1972 World Heritage Convention, cultural landscapes have been recognized within a historical and scientific context, with preservation- and conservation-embracing concepts such as belonging, uniqueness, meaning, and locality. These values highlight the importance of cultural landscapes in shaping identity and cultural heritage. Community engagement is key to creating a shared vision for development and raising awareness of the importance of preserving cultural landscapes. Incorporating green, nature-based solutions and traditional techniques is also essential for promoting sustainability and harmony. Additionally, regenerative and sustainable thinking, which emphasizes carrying capacity and risk identification, ensures long-term preservation.

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