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Editorial Note

## **Advancing Research in Urban Socioeconomic Development and Resilience**

We are delighted to present Volume 8, Issue 1 of the *Journal of Contemporary Urban Affairs*, an international, peer-reviewed, open-access journal published biannually by Alanya University. This issue aligns with our commitment to addressing the complex challenges of balancing socioeconomic development with resilience in the built environment. We aim to advance original, cross-disciplinary academic contributions that strengthen research in three core areas: Citizenship Rights and Responsibilities, Territorial Dynamics, and Urban Transformations, while exploring the emerging social and economic challenges that shape contemporary urban landscapes.

### **Strategies for Streamlined Urban Development: A Case Study of Land Use Succession in Upper Hill, Nairobi**

Elizabeth M. K. Nguah and Dr. Owiti A. K'Akumu examine Urban Land Use Succession (ULUS) in Upper Hill, Nairobi, in the context of neoliberal policies and private-sector-led urban redevelopment. The study reveals how land tenure, infrastructure, and planning controls shape uneven land use patterns and environmental challenges. Proposing solutions like land assembly and the creation of an Urban Redevelopment Authority, the authors highlight the importance of harmonizing public-private partnerships to promote coherent, sustainable urban growth. The research offers a Kenyan model for managing urban transformations, contributing valuable insights into the Territorial Dynamics of developing cities.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2024.v8n1-1>

### **Unveiling the Impact of Urban Green Landscape on Quality of Life in Kaduna, Nigeria: Residents' Perceptions and Sustainable Strategies**

Dr. Henry Ojobo, Dr. Oluwagbemiga Paul Agboola, and Dr. Kasham Jummai Shamang explore the vital role of urban green spaces in enhancing the quality of life in Kaduna, Nigeria. The authors use quantitative data to reveal how green spaces contribute to residents' satisfaction with their environment, providing both aesthetic and recreational value. The study emphasizes the socioeconomic benefits of inclusive urban planning that integrates greenery into cityscapes, advocating for sustainable strategies that uplift community health and social cohesion. Their work advances understanding of Citizenship Rights and Responsibilities by linking environmental planning with social equity.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2024.v8n1-2>

### **Public Housing Project Delivery in Nigeria: Quality versus Quantity**

Dr. Oluwafemi Kehinde Akande and colleagues critically assess public housing initiatives in Nigeria, exploring the trade-offs between housing quantity and quality in addressing urban housing shortages. Through surveys and expert consultations, the study uncovers significant challenges in maintaining

livable housing conditions due to limited project financing and management expertise. The authors call for a shift from a focus on numbers to a holistic approach that prioritizes air quality, sustainable materials, and effective management to ensure resilience and equity in public housing. Their findings add to the discourse on Territorial Dynamics by addressing the broader implications of housing policies on urban development.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2024.v8n1-3>

**Integration of RS and GIS in Assessing Flood Risk: A Case Study on Istanbul - Esenyurt**  
Buse Özer and Özge Yalçın Ercoşkun utilize Remote Sensing (RS) and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to assess flood risks in Istanbul's rapidly urbanizing Esenyurt district. By documenting changes in land use and population growth, the study demonstrates how unplanned urbanization exacerbates flood risks, with significant economic and social impacts. The authors emphasize the critical role of disaster risk management in urban planning and provide a framework for mitigating future risks through sustainable urban policies. This research strengthens the journal's focus on Urban Transformations by addressing urban resilience in the face of natural disasters.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2024.v8n1-4>

### **Analyzing the Social Impacts of Urbanization on Traditional and Contemporary Trading Environments: The Case of Bahrain**

Noor Saleh Alalawi and Prof. Islam Hamdi Elghonaimy analyze the influence of urbanization on Bahrain's trading environments, examining both traditional and contemporary settings. Using qualitative methods and urban design principles, the study highlights the tension between maintaining cultural heritage and adapting to modern commercial demands. The findings underscore the socioeconomic importance of strategic urban design in supporting vibrant commercial hubs while preserving social traditions. By addressing Territorial Dynamics, this research offers valuable insights into how urbanization shapes the economic and cultural fabric of cities.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2024.v8n1-5>

### **The Relationship Between Sense of Place and Nature-Based Architectural Beauty: A Comparative Case Study**

Sana Al-azzawi, Prof. Dr. Gökseven İnalan, and Nada Al-azzawi explore how nature-based architecture fosters a deeper sense of place and social well-being in urban environments. Their comparative case study demonstrates that biophilic designs—those that integrate natural elements—enhance residents' attachment to their surroundings, promoting mental health and community identity. The research highlights the importance of nature in urban design, contributing to the broader understanding of Citizenship Rights and Responsibilities by advocating for environments that support social and psychological well-being.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2024.v8n1-6>

### **Towards Biodiverse Urban Public Spaces: A Morphological Study in Milan**

Assistant Prof. Dr. Fabio Lepratto and Assistant Prof. Dr. Francesca Zanotto propose innovative strategies for enhancing urban biodiversity through architectural composition and urban design. Their study focuses on recent urban regeneration projects in Milan, identifying how specific morphological features promote biodiversity and improve public space accessibility. The findings demonstrate the potential for sustainable design to create biodiverse, socially inclusive environments that enhance urban ecosystems, contributing to the journal's focus on Urban Transformations and the creation of resilient cities.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2024.v8n1-7>

### **Comparing FAHP and FANP Methods in Locating Multi-Storey Parking Sites in Shiraz's CBD**

Alireza Dehghani and Ali Soltani provide a comprehensive analysis of parking site selection in Shiraz's Central Business District using Fuzzy Analytic Hierarchy Process (FAHP) and Fuzzy

Analytic Network Process (FANP) methods. Their research identifies critical factors influencing parking site optimization, such as proximity to key roads and population density. The study offers a decision-making framework that urban planners can use to address the challenges of urban mobility and its socioeconomic impacts. By contributing to Territorial Dynamics, this work provides a practical approach to improving infrastructure in densely populated urban areas.  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2024.v8n1-8>

### **Mapping Tomorrow's Cities: GeoAI Strategies for Sustainable Urban Planning and Land Use Optimization**

Amina Aidaoui and her team explore the integration of GeoAI with sustainable urban planning to optimize land use and resource management. By synthesizing bibliometric and systematic review methodologies, the study advances predictive modeling for environmental monitoring, offering data-driven solutions for urban growth management. Their work addresses the journal's focus on Urban Transformations by providing innovative strategies for balancing socioeconomic development with environmental sustainability in urban contexts.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2024.v8n1-9>

### **Innovative Design Synthesis: AI-Driven Solutions for Sustainable Urban Planning**

Dr. Koudoua Ferhati and colleagues develop an AI-powered model to enhance decision-making processes in urban planning. The model detects urban problems such as sprawl and infrastructure deficiencies, offering real-time solutions to urban planners. By integrating AI with traditional urban analysis methods, the study contributes to Urban Transformations and demonstrates how emerging technologies can drive more efficient and sustainable urban development. This research aligns with the journal's mission of exploring the intersection of socioeconomic development and urban resilience.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2024.v8n1-10>

### **Assessing Urban Green Space Accessibility for Sustainable Development in Mostaganem, Algeria: A Space Syntax Approach**

Dr. Okba Benameur, Fouad Leghrib, and Abdelbasset Laroui use space syntax analysis to assess the accessibility of urban green spaces in Mostaganem, Algeria. Their findings reveal significant disparities in green space distribution, with implications for social inclusion and environmental sustainability. The study offers recommendations for improving green space accessibility, contributing to Citizenship Rights and Responsibilities by advocating for equitable urban development that benefits all citizens.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2024.v8n1-11>

### **Integrating Dynamic Culture and Participatory Design in Urban Spaces for Sustainable Futures**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ines Sahtout Gaha, Prof. Dr. Imen Ben Youssef Zorgati, and Prof. Zoubeir Lafhaj emphasize the importance of dynamic culture and participatory design in urban spaces, using a case study from Tataouine, Tunisia. Their research demonstrates how involving residents in the design process leads to more sustainable and culturally reflective urban environments. This study advances the understanding of Citizenship Rights and Responsibilities by showcasing the potential of participatory design to foster socially resilient and adaptable cities.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2024.v8n1-12>

### **Parental Preferences and Non-Spatial Factors Influencing Home-to-School Distance in Urban India: Insights from Visakhapatnam**

Rohinikumar Reddy and Ram Sateesh Pasupuleti explore how non-spatial factors like family demographics and school attributes influence parental choices in school selection in Visakhapatnam, India. Using statistical models, the study reveals how these factors affect home-to-school distances,

with implications for urban mobility and educational planning. The findings contribute to Territorial Dynamics by offering insights into how education policies can be integrated into broader urban planning strategies to support more equitable access to education. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2024.v8n1-13>

**Investigating the Linkages Between Migration and Image of the City**  
Samruddhi Sachin Purohit and colleagues explore the relationship between migration and the image of the city, focusing on the Hadapsar-Magarpatta area of Pune, India. Using Kevin Lynch's theoretical framework and GIS analysis, the study reveals how migration reshapes urban nodes, paths, and overall city identity, contributing to Urban Transformations. The research provides insights into how migration influences urban development and economic landscapes, offering practical implications for sustainable city planning.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2024.v8n1-14>

**Exploring Commercial Development in Delhi's Mixed-Use Neighbourhoods: An Empirical Study**

Prof. Dr. Uttam Kumar Roy and Puneet Mishra analyze the commercial performance of mixed-use neighborhoods in Delhi, India, revealing how factors like road accessibility and local demographics influence commercial success. Their empirical study highlights the importance of mixed-use planning in supporting sustainable urban development, providing urban planners with critical insights into optimizing commercial growth in densely populated areas. This research contributes to Territorial Dynamics by offering strategies for enhancing the socioeconomic vitality of urban neighborhoods.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2024.v8n1-15>

This issue of the *Journal of Contemporary Urban Affairs* presents a rich compilation of research that deeply engages with the socioeconomic dimensions of urban development. Each article contributes to our core aims by addressing the emerging social and economic challenges that shape contemporary urban landscapes. By strengthening research in Citizenship Rights and Responsibilities, Territorial Dynamics, and Urban Transformations, we hope to foster academic discourse that leads to practical solutions for creating resilient and equitable urban environments. We invite scholars, practitioners, and policymakers to engage with these insightful studies as we collectively navigate the complexities of socioeconomic development and urban resilience.

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