

Call for précis

1.5°C Climate Change and Urban Areas

Special Issue in
Current Opinion on Environmental Sustainability
Issue 1: 2018

Special Issue Guest Editors:
Diana Ürge-Vorsatz, Central European University
Karen C. Seto, Yale University

Introduction to the journal

Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability (COSUST), <http://www.journals.elsevier.com/current-opinion-in-environmental-sustainability>, is a young, international journal with a dynamically growing impact, with a present **impact factor of 4.7**. *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability* aims to stimulate scientifically grounded, interdisciplinary, multi-scale debate and exchange of ideas. It contains concise and timely *review* and *synthesis* papers. COSUST aims to commission a mixture of perspectives and disciplines, but the quality of the review is paramount.

Ambition and objective of the special issue

COSUST will develop and publish a special issue on the subject of 1.5°C climate change research in the context of urban areas. Among the purposes of the special issue is to directly support the process towards the IPCC¹'s Special Report on 1.5°C Climate Change with literature specific to this climate target. COSUST invites papers to be considered for review and publication that focus on urban mitigation and adaptation aspects of a 1.5°C rise in global temperature.

Papers **must** address any of the topics listed below, or propose another relevant and important topic, from the perspective of a 1.5°C warming cap target on issues related to deep mitigation pathways or impacts/vulnerability/adaptation related to this temperature increase. Papers that do not explicitly include a 1.5°C perspective will not be considered. Papers are encouraged to synthesize broader areas of knowledge from urban research relevant to 1.5°C climate change, as the special issue attempts to scan the broad area of relevant scholarship as comprehensively as feasible. Therefore higher level, overview papers are preferred.

Securing of manuscripts

The co-editors of the issue invite prospective authors to submit proposals for papers in the form of a précis. The précis should include a tentative manuscript title, an author list with contact information, the rationale of the paper in the context of the 1.5°C climate change

¹ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

discourse, key sub-areas to be covered, key realms of literature to be reviewed/assessed, provisional main messages. The précis should not exceed 2 pages and is to be submitted to both co-editors by January 2, 2017.

Process

The review process will be facilitated through the COSUST review website. A minimum of two external reviews will be solicited per manuscript. *Authors submitting papers to the special issue agree to serve as a reviewer for one or two papers, and submit these in time, in case their expertise is needed.* Authors will be notified by January 10 about an invitation to submit a paper to be considered for review in the special issue. All invited manuscripts will undergo regular merit review.

Types of manuscripts

COSUST publishes short review and synthesis papers, with manuscripts ranging from 2,000 to 4,000 words. Authors write short review articles on broader areas covering urban scholarship in the context of 1.5°C climate change in which they present recent developments in the subject, emphasizing the aspects that, in their opinion, are most important. As part of the review, authors are encouraged to provide short annotations to the published papers that they consider to be most impactful from all those published in their topic over the previous year.

Timing

Given the time frame for including this research in the IPCC 1.5°C special report, we expect the publication schedule to be fast tracked and the issue available by the end of the first quarter of 2018 in Volume 30. In order to have the issue ready in time for the Special Report, extensions to deadlines cannot be granted.

Deadlines:

Due date for précis	January 2, 2017
Final manuscripts due	June 11, 2017
Final, revised papers due	November 16, 2017
Publication	February 2018

Précis to be submitted by January 2, 2017 to:

Diana Urge-Vorsatz: vorsatzd@ceu.edu

and

Karen Seto: karen.seto@yale.edu

With subject: CoSUST Special Issue Précis submission

Potential paper topics welcomed by co-editors

Topic
Extreme events in cities in 1.5°C warmer world
Urban precipitation in a 1.5°C scenario
Urban form and vulnerability to extreme heat
Urban water supply
Reducing urban vulnerability to extreme heat
Extreme heat and population health
Thermal inequality
Green infrastructure & mitigation and adaptation
Urban flood risk
Sea level rise and vulnerability of urban populations
Equity and ethical implications of a 1.5 degree world in cities
Sustainable urban development and efforts towards a 1.5C warmer world: trade-offs and synergies
Assessing best practices in urban climate action towards deep mitigation pathways
Assessing the experiences with city alliances to cut emissions or energy use
Multi-level governance: how much can city level action contribute to reaching 1.5°C?
Very low energy buildings: review of experiences to date and promise for the future
Net zero carbon neighborhoods: luxury or necessity?
Urban adaptation and mitigation: synergies and trade-offs
Rethinking density
Emerging issues in urban scholarship in the context of deep mitigation
Smart cities – hype or necessity for a low-carbon future?
Urban mobility in a 1.5°C warmer world
Urban transformation pathways
Urban food supply in a 1.5°C warmer world (including mitigation aspects and cutting food waste)
Urban lifestyle, culture and transformation pathways
Urban low-carbon development opportunities enabled by the big data and social media revolution
Disruptive innovations that might help reaching very low-energy or deep decarbonisation pathways in cities
Assessing the urban policy toolbox towards reaching low emission targets