

AFRICAN CITIES JOURNAL – AUTHOR DIRECTIVES

Thank you for choosing to submit your paper to us. Please take time to read the instructions below so your paper can move through peer-review, production and publication smoothly. Contributions are limited to 9,000 words for the core manuscript and 250 words for the abstract.

We differentiate between the requirements for new and revised submission. You may choose to submit your paper as a single Word or PDF file. Only when your paper is at the revision stage, will you be requested to put your paper in the 'correct' journal format for acceptance. Note that the journal's requirements must be met to move through to the production process.

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Types of contribution

The journal is flexible in the type of contributions. It publishes research articles, reviews, and perspectives (including theoretical and methodological) in areas related to urban spaces.

Original research articles. These articles report original research with broad scientific significance and importance.

Review. These papers provide extensive overview and thorough assessment of recent developments in selected areas that fall within the aims and scope of the journal.

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Perspective. These papers reflect on the theoretical and methodological aspects of urban research, with broader implications.

There are no strict formatting requirements but all core manuscripts should contain essential elements needed to move through the publication process. An example of such elements is provided below.

- Title
- Abstract
- Keywords
- Introduction
- Methodology
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion

- References
- Acknowledgements
- Appendices

A template is available for each type of contribution at the following link.

Reference style

Text: All citations in the text should refer to:

1. Single author: the author's name (without initials, unless there is ambiguity) and the year of publication;
2. Two authors: both authors' names and the year of publication;
3. Three or more authors: first author's name followed by 'et al.' and the year of publication. Citations may be made directly (or parenthetically). Groups of references should be listed first alphabetically, then chronologically. Examples: 'as demonstrated (Allan, 2000a, 2000b, 1999; Allan and Jones, 1999). Kramer et al. (2010) have recently shown ...' *List:* References should be arranged first alphabetically and then further sorted chronologically if necessary. More than one reference from the same author(s) in the same year must be identified by the letters 'a', 'b', 'c', etc., placed after the year of publication.

Examples:

Reference to a journal publication: Bagstad, K. J., Semmens, D. J., Waage, S., & Winthrop, R. (2013). A comparative assessment of decision-support tools for ecosystem services quantification and valuation. *Ecosystem Services*, 5, 27-39

Reference to a book: Carter, R., & McCarthy, M. (2006). *Cambridge grammar of English: a comprehensive guide*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Reference to a chapter in an edited book: Opdam, P. (2016). Bridging the gap between ecosystem services and landscape planning. Frameworks for ecosystem assessments. In Potschin, M., Haines-Young, R., Fish, R., Turner, R.K. *Routledge Handbook of Ecosystem Services*. Routledge, London and New York, 564-567.

Reference to a website: Cancer Research UK. (1975). *Cancer statistics reports for the UK*. <http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/aboutcancer/statistics/cancerstatsreport/> (accessed 13 March 2003).

Reference to a dataset: Oguro, M., Imahiro, S., Saito, S., & Nakashizuka, T. (2015). Data from: Mortality data for Japanese oak wilt disease and surrounding forest compositions. *Mendeley Data*, v1. <https://doi.org/10.17632/xwj98nb39r.1>.

Figures and tables are embedded in text

Please ensure that they are placed next to the relevant text in the manuscript, rather than at the bottom or the top of the file. The corresponding caption should be placed directly below the figure or table.

Mathematical formulae

Please submit math equations in an editable format, not as image.

Referees

The authors should suggest the names of three international, independent potential reviewers (with full contact details: name, affiliation, e-mail address and phone number). Please include the detail in the tab "Referees" during the submission process. All manuscripts are sent to two independent reviewers to ensure both accuracy and relevance to the journal. The final decision on acceptance will be made by

the Editor. Manuscripts may be sent back to authors for revision if necessary. Revised manuscript submissions should be made as soon as possible (within 6 weeks) after the receipt of the reviewer's reports.