

China Urbanization And National Development

China's New National Urbanization Plan (2014-20) sets ambitious targets for sustainable, human-centered, and environmentally friendly urbanization. What key institutional and governance challenges will China face in reaching those goals? This title, coedited by a prominent leader of China's National Development and Reform Commission, features policy-focused contributions from leading social scientists in the United States and China who explore challenges ranging from migration and labor markets to agglomeration economies, land finance, affordable housing, and education policy.

Over the past 30 years, rapid urbanization and economic growth have transformed the cities of the People's Republic of China (PRC). But this unprecedented urbanization has highlighted challenges that demand significant changes to basic urban management and planning policies. This report is based on a 2011–2012 policy study for the PRC's forthcoming national urbanization plan that will set out urban development policies and guidelines over the coming decade. It examines the PRC's urbanization challenges and suggests actions for improving the urban environment through changes in the design, financing, administration, and social integration of cities.

Originally published in 1985, *Urbanisation in China* is based on extensive original research and fieldwork, considers the whole problem of urbanisation in China. Starting with an outline of the pre-communist legacy, the author traces population changes and urban growth throughout the communist period, assesses policies aimed at restricting urban growth and contrasts the reality of urban China with the

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image the authorities have tried to project. The policy changes that occurred following the death of Mao are analysed and concludes with a consideration of likely developments up to the end of the century.

This book addresses a wide range of social issues in connection with urbanization, which is providing new momentum for China's economic restructuring and social progress, including the educational gap; the middle class in urbanization; consumption; division of labor; and social integration. All chapters are based on updated nation-wide sampling survey data. Taken together, they provide a lens for understanding various aspects of urbanization and its impacts on China's economy and society.

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' Urbanization has dominated China's development landscape in recent decades, yet the human costs of this economic achievement are largely ignored in commentaries on the subject. Urbanization and Public Health in China seeks to redress this imbalance by bringing together academics and researchers from across China and Australia to offer fresh perspectives on public health issues resulting from urbanization. The analyses focus on issues of unequal access to health services by the most vulnerable groups: the elderly and rural-to-urban migrants. The book explores these issues through demographic, epidemiological and environmental change in China over the past three decades and identifies solutions to create a healthier living environment in urban China. Other countries undergoing similar rapid urbanization can learn vital lessons from these challenges and solutions. This book provides a comprehensive overview for academics and researchers working on urbanization in developing nations, as well as a

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reference point for policy makers and public health practitioners. Contents:ForewordAbout the ContributorsIntroduction (Mu Li and Yang Feng Wu)Demographic and Health Changes in the Context of Urbanization in China (Xiao Ying Zheng and Chao Guo)Population Aging: Social Consequences and Challenges (He Chen and Tuo Hong Zhang)Surveillance of Non-Communicable Disease Risk Factors (Ji Xiang Ma, Jian Hong Li, Zeng Ge and Yang Feng Wu)Urbanization and Road Traffic Injury in China (Li Ping Li)Infectious Diseases and Urbanization (Jia Zheng Wang, Qiang Zheng Sun, Zhu Jun Shao, Xiang Feng Dou, Quan Yi Wang, Bu Yun Cui, Biao Kan and Jian Guo Xu)Childhood Obesity: The Chinese Perspective (Mu Li and Louise Baur)Urbanization and Health Inequalities: The Social Determinants of Health and Vulnerable Social Groups in China's Cities (Beatriz Carrillo Garcia)Major Challenges the Rural China Healthcare System is Facing in the Epidemic of Chronic Diseases (Yang Feng Wu)New Villages on the Urban Fringe: Spatial Planning, Lifestyle Changes and Health Implications (Duan Fang Lu and An Rong Dang)Migrant Health: Reproductive Health Awareness and Access (Chao Guo, Li Hua Pang, Gang Zhang and Xiao Ying Zheng)Urbanization in China and Changes to the Environment (Hao Chen Wang, Feng Lu, Jia Min Gao and Xiao Ying Zheng)Case Study: Improving Population Health in a Rapidly Urbanizing World: are Older Chinese People Ready to Adapt to Climate Change? (Ying Zhang, Jin Na Wang, Wei Ma, Monika Nitschke, Alana Hansen, Peng Bi and Bao Fa Jiang)Promoting Active Transportation: Lessons for China from International Studies (Li Ming Wen and Hui Lan Xu)Eco-City Development and Urban Health Reform: The Sino–Singapore Tianjin Eco-City as a Model for Chinese and Other Cities (Phil McManus)Urbanization, Population Health and Policy

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Reforms (Gordon Liu, Jay Pan and Xiao Yu Wu) Readership: Researchers, undergraduate and postgraduate students the fields of China Studies, Asian Studies, Global Health or International Public Health. The book may be of interest to the general public who are interested in China's social and economic development. Key Features: First book that explores urbanization and its impact on public health through the lens of demographic, epidemiological (communicable and non-communicable diseases) and environmental changes. Public health issues discussed in this book focus on the health of rural-to-urban migrants and health issues of urban residents. Although the book focuses on China, it also shares experiences from other countries that can help to formulate solutions and provide evidence for policy development. The challenges and lessons learnt from China could also benefit other countries undergoing rapid urbanization. Keywords: China; Urbanization; Public Health; Demography; Disease Burden'

This book investigates how the state intervenes in the urban system in China in the post-reform period. To do so, it constructs a conceptual framework based on the perspective of political hierarchy, suggesting that the state power is hierarchically organized in China's urban system, leading to variations in urban government capacities among cities. The book reveals that the state has largely achieved the goal of its national urban system policy to "strictly control the scale of large cities" resulting in the under-development of the large cities if they are mainly developing according to the market force. However, this has become less influential with the advances toward a market economy. Further, state regulation and policies have reduced the gaps between cities at the top and bottom of the urban hierarchy. The book argues that the Urban Administrative System (UAS) is an important tool for the state to regulate urban system development, and the

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administrative level has a significant effect on urban growth performance. It contends that China's urban system is strongly shaped by the omnipresent state through the UAS, which hierarchically differentiates between the urban growth processes. By controlling the administrative-level upgrading process, the state can prevent the size and number of cities from increasing too rapidly. This theoretical and empirical enquiry highlights the fact that the hierarchical power relations among cities and the resulting variations in urban government capacities are the key to understanding the role of the state in China's urban system development in the post-reform period.

Student~ interested in world populations and demography inevitably need to know China. As the most populous country of the world, China occupies a unique position in the world population system. How its population is shaped by the intricate interplays among factors such as its political ideology and institutions, economic reality, government policies, sociocultural traditions, and ethnic divergence represents at once a fascinating and challenging arena for investigation and analysis. Yet, for much of the 20th century, while population studies have developed into a mature science, precise information and sophisticated analysis about the Chinese population had largely remained either lacking or inaccessible, first because of the absence of systematic databases due to almost uninterrupted strife and wars, and later because the society was closed to the outside observers for about three decades since 1949. Since the end of the Cultural Revolution, things have dramatically changed. China has embarked on an ambitious reform program where modernization became the utmost goal of societal

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mobilization. China could no longer afford to rely on imprecise census or survey information for population-related studies and policy planning, nor to remaining closed to the outside world. Both the gathering of more precise information and access to such information have dramatically increased in the 1980s. Systematic observations, analyses and reporting about the Chinese population have surfaced in the population literature around the globe.

In the last 30 years, China's record economic growth lifted half a billion people out of poverty, with rapid urbanization providing abundant labor, cheap land, and good infrastructure. While China has avoided some of the common ills of urbanization, strains are showing as inefficient land development leads to urban sprawl and ghost towns, pollution threatens people's health, and farmland and water resources are becoming scarce. With China's urban population projected to rise to about one billion – or close to 70 percent of the country's population – by 2030, China's leaders are seeking a more coordinated urbanization process. Urban China is a joint research report by a team from the World Bank and the Development Research Center of China's State Council which was established to address the challenges and opportunities of urbanization in China and to help China forge a new model of urbanization. The report takes as its point of departure the conviction that China's urbanization can become more efficient, inclusive, and sustainable. However, it stresses that achieving this vision will require strong support from both government and the markets for policy reforms in a number of area.

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The report proposes six main areas for reform: first, amending land management institutions to foster more efficient land use, denser cities, modernized agriculture, and more equitable wealth distribution; second, adjusting the hukou household registration system to increase labor mobility and provide urban migrant workers equal access to a common standard of public services; third, placing urban finances on a more sustainable footing while fostering financial discipline among local governments; fourth, improving urban planning to enhance connectivity and encourage scale and agglomeration economies; fifth, reducing environmental pressures through more efficient resource management; and sixth, improving governance at the local level.

This book explores the process of urbanization and the profound challenges to China's urban governance. Economic productivity continues to rise, with increasingly uneven distribution of prosperity and accumulation of wealth. The emergence of individual autonomy including demands for more freedom and participation in the governing process has asked for a change of the traditional top-down control system. The vertical devolution between the central and local states and horizontal competition among local governments produced an uneasy political dynamics in Chinese cities. Many existing publications analyze the urban transformation in China but few focuses on the governance challenges. It is critical to investigate China's urbanization, paying special attention to its challenges to urban governance. This edited volume fills this gap by organizing ten chapters of distinctive urban

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development and governance issues.

China's opkomst als wereldmacht is een van de ingrijpendste gebeurtenissen van deze tijd. Honderden miljoenen mensen zijn de armoede ontvlucht dankzij de snelle industrialisatie van het land. De wonderbaarlijke economische groei van China heeft zijn nadelen, iets wat vaak het meest pijnlijk duidelijk wordt in de steden. Deze studie is geschreven door wetenschappers uit verschillende disciplines, waaronder architectuur, stedenbouw, sociale wetenschappen, aardrijkskunde en antropologie. Een deel van de auteurs behandelt de mondiale ambities van de steden, terwijl andere hun culturele en architecturale uitingen onderzoeken.

How will China reform its economy as it aspires to become the next economic superpower? It's clear that China is the world's next economic superpower. But what isn't so clear is how China will get there by the middle of this century. It now faces tremendous challenges such as fostering innovation, dealing with ageing problem and coping with a less accommodative global environment. In this book, economists from China's leading university and America's best-known think tank offer in depth analyses of these challenges. Does China have enough talent and right policy and institutional mix to transit from input-driven to innovation-driven economy? What does ageing mean, in terms of labor supply, consumption demand and social welfare expenditure? Can China contain the environmental and climate change risks? How should the financial system be transformed in order to continuously support economic growth and keep financial risks under control?

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What fiscal reforms are required in order to balance between economic efficiency and social harmony? What roles should the state-owned enterprises play in the future Chinese economy? In addition, how will technological competition between the United States and China affect each country's development? Will the Chinese yuan emerge as a major reserve currency, and would this destabilize the international financial system? What will be China's role in the international economic institutions? And will the United States and other established powers accept a growing role for China and the rest of the developing world in the governance of global institutions such as the World Trade Organization and the International Monetary Fund, or will the world devolve into competing blocs? This book provides unique insights into independent analyses and policy recommendations by a group of top Chinese and American scholars. Whether China succeeds or fails in economic reform will have a large impact, not just on China's development, but also on stability and prosperity for the whole world.

Rapid urbanization in China in recent decades and the challenges of social and regional integration and governance have been issues of major concern. This book explores the course of urbanization and development in China over recent decades. It considers a range of issues including urbanization, changing urban and regional systems, regional integration and governance. The book pays particular attention to the economic relations between Hong Kong and mainland China and how regional development, integration and

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governance unfold in the Hong Kong-Pearl River Delta region.

China's extraordinary economic boom since the late 1970s has been accompanied by massive urbanization, with the proportion of the population living in cities rising from 18% in 1978 to 54% in 2014. Currently the Chinese government has amongst its objectives the target to increase this to 60% by 2020, and also to improve the quality of China's cities. This book examines a wide range of issues connected to China's urbanization. It considers the many problems which have come with rapid urbanization, including urban housing problems, difficulties affecting rural migrants in urban areas, and a lack of social protection. It examines areas of current reform, including land reform, shanty town renewal and moves to address environmental problems. It explores governance issues, and throughout assesses how urbanization in China is likely to develop in future. "

This study uses satellite imagery and population data for the decade 2000 to 2010 in order to map urban areas and populations across the entire East Asia region, identifying 869 urban areas with populations over 100,000, allowing us for the first time to understand patterns in urbanization in East Asia.

Unprecedented urbanization is taking place in China and will continue over the next decades. China's level of urbanization rose from 18 percent in 1978 to 30 percent in 1995 and to 39 percent in 2002. It is expected that China will quadruple its total GDP and reach 55 percent of urbanization by 2020. Urbanization in China is a comprehensive process involving transformations in

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many areas, including the management of spatial expansion via modern urban planning, the administration of land use changes via land policy reforms, the process of rural-to-urban migration, and the development of public finance systems. All of these changes are part of China's transition from a centrally planned economy to a socialist market economy.

China's urbanization is one of the great earth-changing phenomena of recent times. The way in which China continues to urbanize will have a critical impact on the world economy, global climate change, international relations and a host of other critical issues.

Understanding and responding to China's urbanization is of paramount importance to everyone. This book represents a unique exploration of the demographic, spatial, economic and social aspects of China's urban transformation. Based on years of fieldwork and data analysis from different types of cities and towns in every region of China, the authors present a detailed description of how China has urbanized since 1978 and an original theory about the way in which top-down and bottom-up policies have impacted urbanization. They describe China's on-going urbanization process as a 'double-dual' transformation from a planned economy to a more market-oriented one and from a concern with the quantity to the quality of urbanization. In doing so, the authors provide the most comprehensive and up-to-date book on Chinese urbanization to date. This scholarly study will appeal to academics and practitioners, including professors and postgraduate students of urban studies, planning, geography, Asian

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studies, and other social science disciplines and professional fields concerned with cities and urban development. Professionals involved in international development, particularly in China and elsewhere in Asia, will be particularly interested in the book.

The report presents findings from the 2018 revision of World Urbanization Prospects, which contains the latest estimates of the urban and rural populations or areas from 1950 to 2018 and projections to 2050, as well as estimates of population size from 1950 to 2018 and projections to 2030 for all urban agglomerations with 300,000 inhabitants or more in 2018. The world urban population is at an all-time high, and the share of urban dwellers, is projected to represent two thirds of the global population in 2050. Continued urbanization will bring new opportunities and challenges for sustainable development.

By 2030, China's cities will be home to 1 billion people - one in every eight people on earth. What kind of lives will China's urban billion lead? And what will China's cities be like? Over the past thirty years, China's urban population expanded by 500 million people, and is on track to swell by a further 300 million by 2030. Hundreds of millions of these new urban residents are rural migrants, who lead second-class lives without access to urban benefits. Even those lucky citizens who live in modern tower blocks must put up with clogged roads, polluted skies and cityscapes of unremitting ugliness. The rapid expansion of urban China is astonishing, but new policies are urgently needed to create healthier cities. Combining on-the-ground reportage and up-to-

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date research, this pivotal book explains why China has failed to reap many of the economic and social benefits of urbanization, and suggests how these problems can be resolved. If its leaders get urbanization right, China will surpass the United States and cement its position as the world's largest economy. But if they get it wrong, China could spend the next twenty years languishing in middle-income torpor, its cities pockmarked by giant slums.

The key challenges facing China in the next two decades derive from the ongoing process of urbanization. China's urbanization rate in 2005 was about 43%. Over the next 10-15 years, it is expected to rise to well over 50%, adding an additional 200 million mainly rural migrants to the current urban population of 560 million. How China copes with such a large migration flow will strongly influence rural-urban inequality, the pace at which urban centers expand their economic performance, and the urban environment. The growing population will necessitate a big push strategy to maintain a high rate of investment in housing and the urban physical infrastructure and urban services. To finance such expansion will require a significant strengthening and diversification of China's financial system. Growing cities will greatly increase consumption of energy and water. Containing this without at the same time constraining the economic performance of cities or the improvement in the standards of living will call for enlightened policies, strategies, careful urban planning, and significant technological advances. This volume identifies the key developments to watch and discusses the policies which

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would affect the course as well as the fruitfulness of change.

Why is productivity higher in cities? Does urbanization cause growth or does growth cause urbanization? Do countries achieve rapid growth or high incomes without urbanization? How can policy makers reap the benefits of urbanization without paying too high a cost? Does supporting urbanization imply neglecting rural areas? Why do so few governments welcome urbanization? What should governments do to improve housing conditions in cities as they urbanize? Are innovations in housing finance a blessing or a curse for developing countries? How will governments finance the trillions of dollars of infrastructure spending needed for cities in developing countries? First in a series of thematic volumes, this book was prepared for the Commission on Growth and Development to evaluate the state of knowledge of the relationship between urbanization and economic growth. It does not pretend to provide all the answers, but it does identify insights and policy levers to help countries make urbanization work as part of a national growth strategy. It examines a variety of topics: the relevance and policy implications of recent advances in urban economics for developing countries, the role of economic geography in global economic trends and trade patterns, the impacts of urbanization on spatial inequality within countries, and alternative approaches to financing the substantial infrastructure investments required in developing-country cities. Written by prominent academics in their fields, *Urbanization and Growth* seeks to create a better understanding of the role

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of urbanization in growth and to inform policy makers tackling the formidable challenges it poses.

This book provides a general description and evaluation of the process of urbanization in China and the urgent challenges facing the Chinese government. *Urban Transformation in China* examines the changing pattern of China's urban population and the determinants of these changes, including an analysis of the spatial structures of China's cities and industry and an assessment of urban productivity growth and the role of mega cities in national development. The book's coverage encompasses both academic and policy perspectives. With its sister volume *Urbanization and Social Welfare in China* it provides a comprehensive and multidisciplinary overview of the country's urbanization process.

A timely and thorough analysis of the rapid urban growth in China.

This book answers the call for New Urbanization, and proposes a "5+9+6" national spatial layout plan for the urbanization of the 770 major cities in China. This macro pattern is based on a few major metropolises at the center, and other cities supporting and benefitting from these metropolises to form a pyramid-like urban hierarchical system. The book also presents a comprehensive regionalization plan for China's New Urbanization and strategic approaches to improving the quality of this New Urbanization. Currently, China is aggressively promoting a so-called New Urbanization, which has been regarded as one of the primary ways to build a moderately prosperous society, to address critical

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issues related to agriculture, rural regions and farmers, to expand domestic demand and promote industrial innovation, and to realize the China Dream. From a systematic perspective and using recently released urban data, the authors analyze the current status of New Urbanization in China and also investigate the various potential problems and obstacles to its concrete implementation. Based on the analyses and investigations, the authors propose strategic directions, paths and basic principles for China's New Urbanization. In addition, they clearly identify the three different modes of New Urbanization, namely, the general mode, differentiated mode, and gradual mode. Today, many scholars argue that China's urban regions are experiencing a highly unsustainable mode of development. Chinese cities are heavily burdened by the so-called "urban diseases," which are characterized e.g. by congested traffic, polluted water and air, and a lack of open and green spaces. Traditional urbanization, which primarily focuses on economic development, must be fundamentally reformed. New Urbanization, which focuses on integrated economic development, social integration and space/environmental sustainability, or simply put, on the quality of urbanization, has been called for to provide a potential "cure" for these urban diseases. Due to the vastness of China's population and its rapidly growing economic, political and cultural relationships with the rest of the world, the book demonstrates that the success of this New Urbanization is critical not only to the future of urban China, but also the future of urbanization worldwide. The book offers a

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valuable reference work for all researchers, graduate student and policy makers interested in China's urban development.

Urbanization is one of the major challenges facing China. Of China's 1.3 billion people, around half still live in rural areas. There has been huge migration from rural areas to cities in recent years, a trend that is likely to continue strong for some time. The strains that this vast migration puts on China's cities are enormous. This book makes available for the English-speaking reader the results of a large group of research projects undertaken by CDRF, one of China's leading think tanks, into the details of rural-urban migration, the resulting urban growth and the problems associated with all this. The book goes on to put forward a new strategy, which aims to ensure that China's urbanization proceeds in an orderly manner and that people and their needs are put at the centre of the strategy. Key parts of the strategy include that 'city clusters' should become the main form of urbanization; that these should be arranged geographically in a pattern of 'two horizontal lines and three vertical lines'; that industrial and employment structures should highlight regional features and diversity; that urban public services should be more equitably distributed; that there should be new forms of urbanization management and city governance to accelerate urbanization and ensure harmonious social development; and that the whole process should be conducted in an ecological, 'green' way.

The trajectory and logic of urban development in post-Mao China have been shaped and defined by the

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contention between domestic and global capital, central and local state and social actors of different class status and endowment. This urban transformation process of historic proportion entails new rules for distribution and negotiation, novel perceptions of citizenship, as well as room for unprecedented spontaneity and creativity.

Based on original research by leading experts, this book offers an updated and nuanced analysis of the new logic of urban governance and its implications.

Cities are not only home to around half of the global population but also major centers of economic activity and innovation. Yet, so far there has been no consensus of what a city really is. Substantial differences in the way cities, metropolitan, urban, and rural areas are defined across countries hinder robust international comparisons and an accurate monitoring of SDGs. The report *Cities in the World: A New Perspective on Urbanisation* addresses this void and provides new insights on urbanisation by applying for the first time two new definitions of human settlements to the entire globe: the Degree of Urbanisation and the Functional Urban Area. This report focuses on the need for national urbanization policy. First, it presents a worldwide perspective on urbanization and explains why the need for active urbanization policies is greater for developing countries than it was in the past for economies that are now developed. It then discusses the factors affecting national spatial development and gives a country typology for national urbanization strategies. It also covers the determinants of the growth of urban systems, touching on migration, rural-urban interaction, and the

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roles of transport and industrialization. Next, the current status of national urbanization policy is assessed. The report concludes with a discussion on appropriate national urbanization strategies. The appendices cover urbanization issues in Latin America and in large centrally planned economies, such as the Soviet Union and China.

As the world's population exceeds an incredible 6 billion people, governments and scientists everywhere are concerned about the prospects for sustainable development. The science academies of the three most populous countries have joined forces in an unprecedented effort to understand the linkage between population growth and land-use change, and its implications for the future. By examining six sites ranging from agricultural to intensely urban to areas in transition, the multinational study panel asks how population growth and consumption directly cause land-use change, and explore the general nature of the forces driving the transformations. *Growing Populations, Changing Landscapes* explains how disparate government policies with unintended consequences and globalization effects that link local land-use changes to consumption patterns and labor policies in distant countries can be far more influential than simple numerical population increases. Recognizing the importance of these linkages can be a significant step toward more effective environmental

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management.

The year 2018 marks 40 years of reform and development in China (1978–2018). This commemorative book assembles some of the world's most prominent scholars on the Chinese economy to reflect on what has been achieved as a result of the economic reform programs, and to draw out the key lessons that have been learned by the model of growth and development in China over the preceding four decades. This book explores what has happened in the transformation of the Chinese economy in the past 40 years for China itself, as well as for the rest of the world, and discusses the implications of what will happen next in the context of China's new reform agenda. Focusing on the long-term development strategy amid various old and new challenges that face the economy, this book sets the scene for what the world can expect in China's fifth decade of reform and development. A key feature of this book is its comprehensive coverage of the key issues involved in China's economic reform and development. Included are discussions of China's 40 years of reform and development in a global perspective; the political economy of economic transformation; the progress of marketisation and changes in market-compatible institutions; the reform program for state-owned enterprises; the financial sector and fiscal system reform, and its foreign exchange system reform; the progress and

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challenges in economic rebalancing; and the continuing process of China's global integration. This book further documents and analyses the development experiences including China's large scale of migration and urbanisation, the demographic structural changes, the private sector development, income distribution, land reform and regional development, agricultural development, and energy and climate change policies.

1. Introduction: Picking Winners in Space --2. Spatial Policy in China --3. The Multilevel Politics of Development --4. Hunan: The Making of an Urban Champion --5. Jiangxi: The Politics of Dispersed Development --6. Shaanxi: Uneven Development Redux --7. Jiangsu: Shifting Tides of Spatial Policy --8. Rethinking Development Politics in China and Beyond --Appendix A. Analyzing Outcomes across China --Appendix B. Cross-National Extensions to Brazil and India.

Many agree that rapid urbanization in China in the late 20th and early 21st centuries is a mega process significantly reshaping China and the global economy. China's urbanization also carries a certain mystique, which has long fascinated generations of scholars and journalists alike. As it has turned out, many of the asserted Chinese feats are mostly fancied claims or gross misinterpretations (of statistics, for example). There does exist, however, an urbanization that displays rather uncommon

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"Chinese" characteristics that remain to inadequately understood. Building on his three decades of careful research, Professor Kam Wing Chan expertly dissects the complexity of China's hukou system, migration, urbanization and their interrelationships in this set of journal articles published in the last ten years. These works range from seminal papers on Chinese urban definitions and statistics; and broad-perspective analysis of the hukou system of its first semi-centennial; to examinations of migration trends and geography; and critical evaluations of China's 2014 urbanization blueprint and hukou reform plan. This convenient assemblage contains many of Chan's recent important works. Together they also form a relatively coherent set on this topic. They are essential readings to anyone serious about gaining a true understanding of the prodigious urbanization in contemporary China.

The 1986 edition of this incomparable resource examines international agricultural trade, including such crucial topics as agricultural policies in industrial countries, international initiative in agricultural trade, trade and economic policies in developing countries and taxes, subsidies, and marketing. Full-color charts, an annotated bibliography, and an annex of World Development Indicators citing the most up-to-date information on developing nations contribute to the outstanding merit of this series.

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The rise of major metropolises across China since the 1990s has been a double-edged sword: although big cities function as economic powerhouses, concentrated urban growth can worsen regional inequalities, governance challenges, and social tensions. Wary of these dangers, China's national leaders have tried to forestall top-heavy urbanization. However, urban and regional development policies at the subnational level have not always followed suit. China's Urban Champions explores the development paths of different provinces and asks why policymakers in many cases favor big cities in a way that reinforces spatial inequalities rather than reducing them. Kyle Jaros combines in-depth case studies of Hunan, Jiangxi, Shaanxi, and Jiangsu provinces with quantitative analysis to shed light on the political drivers of uneven development. Drawing on numerous Chinese-language written sources, including government documents and media reports, as well as a wealth of field interviews with officials, policy experts, urban planners, academics, and businesspeople, Jaros shows how provincial development strategies are shaped by both the horizontal relations of competition among different provinces and the vertical relations among different tiers of government. Metropolitan-oriented development strategies advance when lagging economic performance leads provincial leaders to

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fixate on boosting regional competitiveness, and when provincial governments have the political strength to impose their policy priorities over the objections of other actors. Rethinking the politics of spatial policy in an era of booming growth, China's Urban Champions highlights the key role of provincial units in determining the nation's metropolitan and regional development trajectory.

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