

Urbanisation in China

Rural migration and urbanisation

In this activity you will:

- investigate the mass movement of rural migrants to the cities, the reasons for their movement and the impact of rapid growth and expansion of cities across China
- select new information and present your ideas graphically.

Key inquiry question: What are the effects of rapid urbanisation on people in China and how has the distribution of the population changed in recent times?

Gathering data and information

1. **Think, discuss and make a list** of what you know about the rapid development and growth of cities in China.
2. View the video *Urban Migration in China* (video 1), which shows the growth and development of urban centres resulting from rural migration.

Answer the following questions and, while viewing, consider the small population of Australia in relation to the huge numbers of people in China on the move in recent times. Add statistics and information to your list:

- What key statistics are highlighted in the animation?
- What do you think are some of the issues arising from rapid population growth and building development?

3. View *The largest migration in history*, (video 2) which is a videographic showing the acceleration of urban population growth and rural migration across China from the 1980s. Answer these questions and add more facts and information to your list:

- What motivates rural people to move to cities in China?
- What issues are faced by rural people living in big cities?
- What statistics and dates are provided about population movement? Replay the video if necessary.
- What are the benefits to the country from the growth of cities?
- What are the major negative impacts of urban expansion?

4. View *Urbanisation in China* (video 3) and focus on the key themes of:

- benefits of rural migrants to Chinese consumption of goods
- statistics on rates of urbanisation in China (you may need to watch the video again to gather the data)
- unequal welfare benefits experienced by rural migrants compared to city residents
- **advantages of rural land ownership.**



Presenting your information

Using the facts and information gathered, you will **create an infographic** that highlights:

- the population migration statistics of rural migrants to the cities
- the growth and expansion of cities throughout China
- reasons for people movement
- the benefits and disadvantages of rapid urbanisation.

Use this as a guide for creating your own colourful infographic either freehand, using PowerPoint or some of the infographic online generators.

Before completing your final version, have you answered the key focus question:

- What are the effects of rapid urbanisation on people in China and how has the distribution of the population changed in recent times?

Be prepared..... you may be asked to.....

Present your infographic to the class, giving reasons for the way you designed it for maximum impact.