

Urbanization

For the first time, more people now live in the cities than in the countryside – a trend of increasing urbanization that is expected to continue.

In essence, the bigger the city, the greater the opportunities-but negatives or costs also rises, such as crime or traffic congestion.

As our world urbanises at a pace never before seen, with buildings rising and falling in as little as 30 years, the crumbled debris of our cities often ends up in landfill. Much of that new construction means knocking down old structures, and gradually engineers and policymakers are waking up to a question: what should we do with our concrete when we're finished with it?

The problem is particularly thorny in the developing world, where there are often limited systems in place to join the dots between demolition and new building projects. In Brazil, one of the biggest emerging economies, recycling is close to non-existent: less than 1% Brazil's concrete waste is recycled.

Most developed countries, including much of western Europe, the majority of demolished concrete is put to some use – but mostly to make low-value products like filling for roads. This process is known as “down cycling”.

1. Rapid urbanization in china: challenges and opportunities

2. China's new urbanization plan

a major conference on urbanization in china prioritizes Hukou reform over construction and relocation projects.

Urbanization was the focus of an entirely separate conference that met in Beijing during the CEWC. Xinhua described the Central Urbanization Work Conference (CUWC)", the most high-level meeting the Chinese leadership has ever convened on urbanization. The conference underscored China's commitment to urbanization, calling it the road China must take in its modernization drive. However, the conference called for a more "human centered" approach to urbanization, in an attempt to avoid the many potential pitfalls that could affect China's other economic goals.

Urbanization has long been seen as the key to unlocking China's domestic demand, and thus to providing a steady source of growth for China's economy. In a 2012 article translated by China. org, current Premier Li Keqiang wrote that urbanization has the greatest potential for boosting domestic demand. " He estimated that "every rural resident who becomes an urban dweller will increase consumption by more than 10,000 yuan (\$1 587). This potential shot in the arm to domestic consumption is irresistible for Chinese leaders as they seek to rebalance the country's economy.

3. Realizing china's urban dream

4. China urbanization rate reached 56% in 2015

The National Development and Reform Commissions says more than half of China's population now live in urban areas. The commission says a hundred million people have migrated from rural areas to cities in the last five years.

However, change in household-registration is lagging behind. That's being blamed on a lack of input by local governments and unwillingness of farmers to give up their farmland. Officials also say clusters of cities have been forming and developing fast in central and west China, but the number of big cities in China, which stands at around 600, is very limited compared with developed nations like Japan and the US

The government is aiming to change the household registration of 45 percent of migrants to urban registration by 2020. But big cities still need to improve their infrastructure and public services.

5. Urbanization in China & India

In the middle of the 1970s, Princeton economist W. Arthur Lewis- the first black man to win the Nobel Prize in Economics outlined the centrality of urbanization for developing countries in his classic is The Evolution of the International Order.