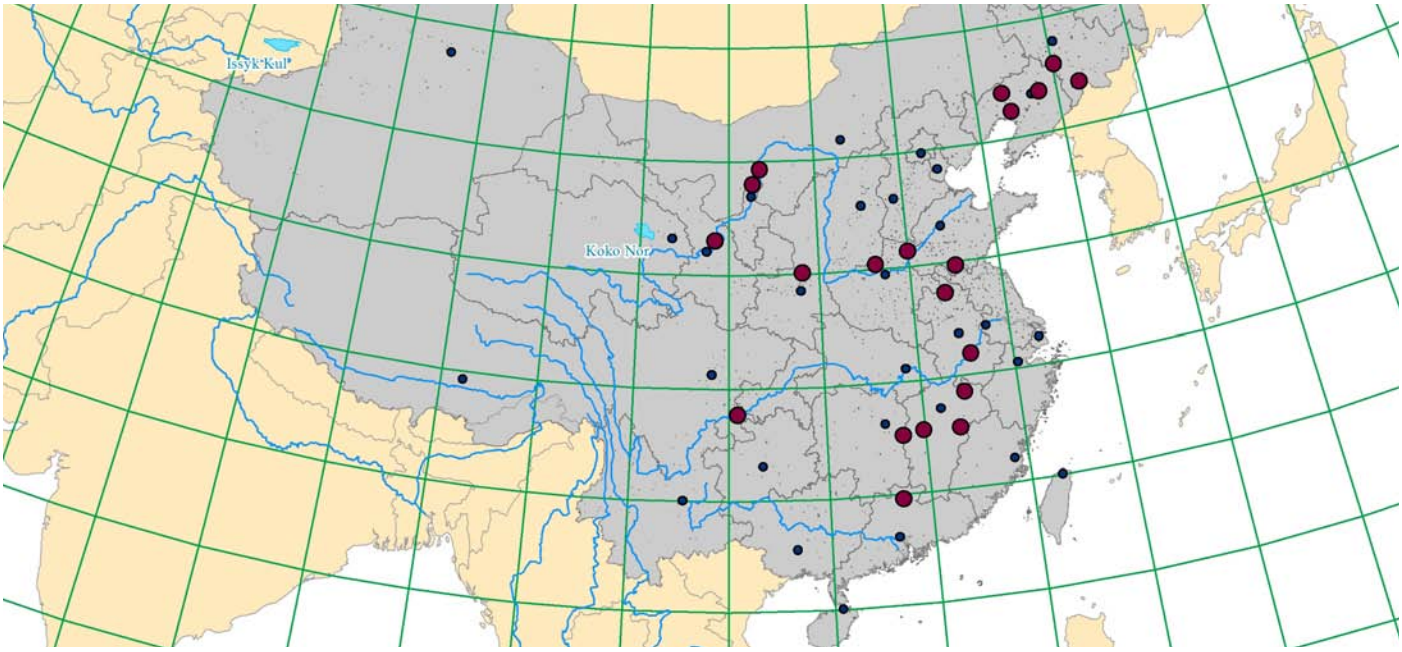
Urban Design Talks

Sylvia He:

WHEN GROWTH GRINDING TO A HALT: POPULATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF CHINESE RESOURCE-DEPLETED CITIES



24 January 2013, 9:30-10:35 am
AIT Building, Exhibition Zones E-F

With the country's annual GDP growth rate of over eight percent in the past 15 years, Chinese cities are growing at a phenomenal pace. However, not every city in this economic agglomerate is expanding; some Chinese cities have stagnant or even negative population growth. Compared to other cities, resource-based cities are often at a higher risk of economic slowdown after years of resource exploitation. Accounting for 18% of all cities in China, resource-based cities have played a crucial role in the early stage of China's development but these cities have also accumulated many pressing problems such as resource depletion, unbalanced economic structure, environmental pollution, and unemployment. This study will analyze a list of resource-depleted cities' characteristics, economic development, challenges, and government policies and strategies.

Sylvia He is an Assistant Professor of Urban Studies at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Prior to that, she was a visiting research fellow at the Department of Urban Structure and Transport Planning at the Technical University of Munich in Germany. Her research interests include transportation planning and policy, land use, urban economics, and spatial analysis. She holds a PhD degree in Policy, Planning, and Development from the University of Southern California. Her research has been funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the BMW Group Institute for Mobility Research (ifmo).

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