



Rural–Urban Transformation and Regional Development

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Message from the Guest Editors

Due to rapid urbanisation and industrialisation in the Global South, problems such as youth outmigration, the “hollowing-out” of villages, the wellbeing of left-behind children and empty nesters, and land abandonment have emerged and prevailed in rural areas in the Global South.

Whilst the economic restructuring and poverty alleviation in rural areas have increasingly become a cause for concern among academics and practitioners, changes in everyday lives of rural residents and the lineage-based rural society and culture have yet to receive adequate attention. This can be extremely problematic as the rural can never really be more than an appurtenance of the city whilst rural civil society remains a dysfunctional “empty shell”. A rural revitalisation should be first and foremost the revitalisation of the rural society and culture. This Special Issue is expected to widen our knowledge by exploring interdisciplinary approaches and theories designed to enable more human-centred approaches to rural planning, policies, governance, and society in the Global South and beyond.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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