



International Conference on Land Use Issues and Policy in China under Rapid Rural and Urban Transformation

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(First Circular)

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Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research (IGSNRR), the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS)

Organized by

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CNC-IGBP & CNC-IHDP Joint Working Group for the Land Changes Science (LCS)

Centre for Rural Health and Community Development, University of South Australia

Center for Regional Agriculture and Rural Development, IGSNRR, CAS

Research Center for Land Use Engineering, IGSNRR, CAS

Key Laboratory of Regional Sustainable Development Modeling, CAS

Key Laboratory of Northwest Degraded and Unused Land Consolidation Engineering, the Ministry of Land and Resources of China

Key Laboratory of Land Use, Institute of Land Surveying and Planning, the Ministry of Land and Resources of China

Background

China is a nation with strong rural roots. Despite rampant urbanization, about half of its population still lives in rural areas, and the national economy has been built on agricultural foundations since ancient times. However, China has transformed rapidly since the economic reforms and an open door policy were initiated in 1978. The traditional centralized economy changed to a market-based economy, and the economy, which was once primarily agricultural, has become increasingly urban and industrial. Tremendous land use change has occurred since 1978, which has also transformed development in both rural and urban areas. Accompanying this rapid rural–urban transformation, various land use issues have occurred, giving rise to formulation of new policies directly affecting land use. These have contributed to new land use problems due to the nature of the policies and the difficulties in policy implementation constrained by the special ‘dual-track’ structure of rural–urban development in China.

There are obvious regional discrepancies in the development gap between rural and urban areas as well as in the dimensions of geographical and bio-geo-physical conditions in China. Rural and urban transformative development underlying the above mentioned regional discrepancies has led to a series of land use issues, such as land degradation (including desertification and salinization) due to improper use, land pollution due to industrialization, farmers’ livelihood issues due to land use change, food security problems due to farmland loss and extensive use, and ecological issues caused by land use change, land use engineering and technological issues. Currently, there is a dilemma relating to land use associated with economic construction, farmland protection, farmers’ livelihoods, food and ecological security. Nevertheless, the resolution of these issues will depend on effective land use policies and their smooth implementation.

In order to promote international cooperation and exchange in this field, an International Conference on Land Use Issues and Policy in China under Rapid Rural and Urban Transformation will be convened on October 20-21, 2012 in Beijing, China. The primary goal of the Conference will be to share and promote new scientific findings from a range of disciplines that advance research on land use policy in China.

Conference Themes

We invite papers on any of the following themes and also welcome proposals for additional related themes to be incorporated into the final program. Initial themes include:

- Land use issues, strategies and policies in China;
- Regional differentiation and modes of land use in China;
- Land use policy (tenure and benefits for farmers) innovations in China;
- Rural-urban transformative development and its impacts on land use changes in China;
- Integrated consolidation and allocation of rural-urban land in China;
- Policy countermeasures for urban expansion and farmland protection in China;
- Policy implications of regional land use changes and their consequences in China.

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Programme Summary

To be announced later.

Working Language

Language for the Conference: English

Format

A 300 words abstract in English, including the title, the name(s) of author(s), affiliation, contact address, telephone and email address, should be sent to Hualou Long (longhl@igsnr.ac.cn) with the subject line of “Land Use Policy in China Conference” by the deadline of abstract submission.

Present papers would be turned into submissions to the **themed issue of *Land Use Policy*** (Guest-Editor: Professor Hualou Long) on “**Land Use Issues and Policy in China under Rapid Rural and Urban Transformation**”. Submitted manuscripts for this themed issue would all go through the usual refereeing process, with manuscripts submitted through the publisher’s online system.

Important Dates

- 8 May 2012: Abstract submission deadline
- 1 June 2012: Invitation to present full paper
- 8 October 2012: Full paper submission deadline

Registration Fee

Registration Fee: 1500 RMB¥ (include accommodation costs). Participants invited to present full paper are exempted from registration fees but will have to bear travel expenses from place of origin to venue and back.

Conference Venue: Beijing

To be announced later.

Fieldtrips

To be announced later.

Enquiries and Contacts of Further Information

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