SELF-SALVATION BEYOND GROWTH

Transformative Planning for SMART SHRINKAGE in Chinese resource-exhausted cities

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CONTEXT & PROBLEM DEFINITION



China has experienced rapid development since 1949, the founding of PRC.

Resource-based cities refer to those with mining and natural resources processing as the leading industries (The State Council of the PRC, 2013). The emergence and development of such cities are inseparable from industrialization, mainly rely on local natural resources for industrial layout and economic development.







Because of the resource depletion, resource-based cities are facing difficulty of transition.



Negative attitude towards the future of resource-exhausted cities.



Attractiveness from large cities encourages labors and talents to migrate.



PROBLEM STATEMENT



PROBLEM STATEMENT



THE STRUCTURAL CRISIS IN SHRINKING RESOURCE-EXHAUSTED CITY

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SMART SHRINKAGE



Popper and Popper (2002) define smart shrinkage as "planning for less—fewer people, fewer buildings, fewer land uses."

RESEARCH QUESTION

How can <u>smart shrinkage</u> be used as a transformation strategy in the <u>resource-exhausted cities</u> in China to <u>RECOVER</u> them as resilient urban systems? Three values of **URBAN RECOVERY**

- Mitigate the negative impacts of urban shrinkage
- Increase liveability under shrinking trend
- Boost the urban vitality of development





THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK



CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK



METHODOLOGY











Less influenced by Harbin-Changchun urban agglomeration

Fiscal burden



Former Chinese coal-mining city of Hegang in dire financial straits

Commentators say the city's financial woes are the tip of the iceberg, amid spiraling local government debt.

By Qiao Long and Chingman 2021.12.29





People walk past residential buildings in Hegang, Heilongjiang province, northeastern China, Jan. 2, 2020.

⊕ Reuters





Economy has declined since 2012, especially the secondary industry.

Human-land scale contradiction •

Residencial area







Coal mining area



Residencial area/Resettlement housing

Industrial area

• Human-land scale contradiction





Fragmented shrinkage







• Vulnerable ecological environment





• Loose urban spatial structure





Detailed land use



• Limited development space





• Unbalanced distribution of functions within the city





Why SMART SHRINKAGE?

"A great city should not be confounded with a populous city."

——Aristotle

VISIONING

'TOWARDS A MORE INTEGRATED AND LIVEABLE POST-INUDSTRIAL CITY'



VISIONING

'TOWARDS A MORE INTEGRATED AND LIVEABLE POST-INUDSTRIAL CITY'






Strategy building



- Identify and Assess the urban space

- Establish the Database of urban space and public services

- Build industrial development sharing platform

Strategy



- Build "Industry+life" community

- Reorganize the industrial distributions

- City public transport network upgrading

- Ecological restoration

- Construct Disaster prevention facility
- Build Green infrastructure system

- Recover the coal mining land to cropland



- Renewal of vacant space
- Adjustment of urban spatial structure
 - Improve the living quality



I. Smart management of urban space

□ Adjustment of urban spatial structure

- **D** Rightsize public service facilities
- □ Improve living quality
- Renewal of vacant space



I. Smart management of urban space





I. Smart management of urban space

■ Adjustment of urban spatial structure

■ Rightsize public service facilities

□ Improve living quality

□ Renewal of vacant space

MODE	ATTITUDE TO SHRINKAGE	ACTION	PARTICIPATION MECHANISM
Demolition	Not admit/Seek for growth	Demolish the vacant buildings	Government-led/Attract market
Transferability	Admit/Solve problem	The land bank reclaims vacant land, and grass- roots organizations such as neighborhood com- mittees obtain the right to reuse the land	Government-led/Attract residents
Transition	Admit/Wait for growth	Transit vacant industrial or commercia land by encouraging local businesses and organizations to actively envision new uses for vacant land, transforming vacant resources into temporary places with multiple functions.	Government-guided/Social participation
Change	Admit/Utilize shrinkage	Reuse the vacant property and give it new function; Turn vacant land into "green infrastruc- ture"	Government-led/Social participation

II. Build green infrastructure system

Build green infrastructure systemEcological restoration





II. Build green infrastructure system

D Build green infrastructure system

D Ecological restoration



Natural landscape Cropland	Shanty towns	Resettlement housing	River	Residential area	Urban area	Industrial area	Coal mining area	Abandoned mining area & natural landscape
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II. Build green infrastructure system

Build green infrastructure systemEcological restoration





II. Build green infrastructure system

Build green infrastructure systemEcological restoration

PREPARATION	Step1: Analyse the need of land use and Identify the current natural landscape resources, Research on the current local soil conditions Step2: Reclassify the land use and vacant buildings Step3: Assess the value of the land based on residents' preference
PLANNING	Step4: Confirm the locations /types/stakeholders of green infrastructure Step5: Make the green infrastructure network plan and the green corridor Step6: Design on sites Step7: Make the plan for ecological restoration
	Step8: Demolish/Renewal the vacant building Step9: Transform the vacant space to green infrastructure
MAINTENANCE	Step10: Public participation Step11: Make the strategies for short-term and long-term maintenance Step12: Maintain

III. Sustainable economic transition

Adjustment of industrial structure

D Build industrial development sharing platform **D** Reorganize the industrial distributions SECONDARY

TERTIARY

PRIMARY

■ Build 'Industry+Life' Community



INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT PLATFORM

STRATEGIC PLANNING

III. Sustainable economic transition

- Adjustment of industrial structure
- Build industrial development sharing platform
- **Reorganize the industrial distributions**
- Build 'Industry+Life' Community



III. Sustainable economic transition

Adjustment of industrial structure
Build industrial development sharing platform
Reorganize the industrial distributions
Build 'Industry+Life' Community



III. Sustainable economic transition

- Adjustment of industrial structure
- Build industrial development sharing
- **D** Reorganize the industrial distributions

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DMINISTRATION

□ Build 'Industry+Life' Community



IV. Participatory governance with flexibility

Build Land bank system

Encourage collaborative planning



IV. Participatory governance with flexibility

- Build Land bank system
- Encourage collaborative planning





IMPLEMENTATION

Time phasing



	PREDEVELOPMENT		TAKE-OFF	ACCELERATION	STABLIZATION	
GOAL	ASSESSMENT&	ONSTRUCTION OF INCUBATION	BASE	REMOVAL OF TRANSITION BARRIERS	EVALUATION & IMPROVEMENT	
	IDENTIFICATION	CO-PL	ANNING & CO-DESIGN		OF PROJECTS	
	VISIONING & PRELIMINERY			CO-DEVELOPMENT		
	PLANNING	PILOT	PROJECTS DEVELOPMENT			
	ACCUMILATION& PREPAR				MAINTENANCE OF NEW NORMAL	
	DEVELOPMENT	Γ	ADJUSTMENT & UPGRADING OF PL	LAN		
	NETWO	ORKING AMONG ACTORS		IMPLEMENTATION OF PLANNING WIDELY		
				[CONTINUING TRANSITION]		



SPATIAL IMPLEMENTATION OF DESIGN

Spatial Design toolbox



Design toolbox

IMPROVE URBAN LIVEABILITY 1 Rooftop gardening & 2 Rooftop energy 3 Vertical mixed use 4 Greenstreet & slow traffic system farming 5 Permeable pavement 6 Flexible open space 7 Food market 8 Pocket park





11 Hospital



12 School (including kindergarten)











15 Green parking lot



Design toolbox

INDUSTRIAL AGGLOMERATION



Design toolbox

ECOLOGICAL-BASED LANDSCAPE



5 Waterfront park



FUNCTIONAL LANDSCPE



Design site-l



Design site-l



Design site-l

□ Structural planning





Design site-l

□ Structural planning



- Ecological restoration
- Infrastructure optimization

- Integration of urban center
- Sustainable industrial start-ups

- Community center upgrading
- Related service optimization

Design site-l

Detailed planning



Design site-I-A





Design site-I-B





Design site-II



Central city area Design site-II • Joint development with central area • Vibrant center Unattractive community Ecologically sensitive • Green infrastructure network + • Renewal of vacancy Vacany Vacany Natural landscape • Ecological belt • Integration of industries Low-efficient industrial area

IMPLEMENTATION OF DESIGN

Design site-II

□ Structural planning





Design site-II

□ Structural planning



- Ecological restoration
- Infrastructure optimization

- Pilot industrial project
- Renewal of vacancy, reclaim cropland
- Industrial upgrading and integration: industry & urban farming
- Industrial+living community

- Slow traffic network
- Industrial-related service optimization

Design site-II

Detailed planning


IMPLEMENTATION OF DESIGN

Design site-II-A





IMPLEMENTATION OF DESIGN

Design site-II-B





CONCLUSION





APPENDIX	PRINCIPLES	SMART SHRINKAGE CONCEPT	LOCAL CONTEXT
	Network of cooperation	/	 Internal and External Limited developing conditions: Remote location; Periphery of urban cluster; Lack of internal devel opment momentum; Limited urban expanding space; Provincial industrial planning requirements: Regional cooperation in clusters Similar development context (history and culture) as surrounding cities
	Efficiency of space and public services	 Right-sizing of urban scale and reduce the scope of infrastructure services Re-adjust the built environment Focus on high quality urban center Dense community Re-adjust to the aging and less child future 'Land bank' and land management 	 High vacancy of space and buildings (resettlement housing) Abandoned coal mining area and demolished shanty towns Population decline and change of demographic structure Low space quality: space disorder Inequality of development within central city
	Smart environment of green cities	- Re-adjust to Green infrastructure (e.g. bike infrastrurcture/food infrastruc- ture) - Green retirement city (e.g. urban gardening)	 Pollution and ecological degradation caused by coal mining industry Rich and original natural landscape resources Call for green development and ecological restoration
	O NO		
	Stable and sustainable economic development	- Industrial upgrading and transition	 The recession of secondary industry and Facing the industrial transformation Potential of Internet celebrity economy: social media Potentials from transition Location advantage : border trade economy Lack of basement for other industry New resources: graphite industry
	Participatory governance with flexibility	- stimulate and encourage the public participation - participate in urban self-constrtuction through studios and projects(e.g. living laboratory) - stronger and stable community - land management and land bank	- Solidified governance system - Growth-oriented planning paradigm in the past - Shift of consciousness of government and local residents - Migration of population

Detailed strategy

PRINCIPLE- Network of cooperation

- Regional transport infrastructure upgrading

To provide development basis for regional integration.

- Ecourage Regional cooperation and establish regional industry development cluster

To utilize the foundation and advantages of regional industrial development, avoid disadvantages such as remote locations, then promote the formation of collaborative industrial development clusters with extended industrial chain.

PRINCIPLE- Efficiency of space and public services

- Identify and Assess the urban space

Investigate and collect the urban space data, according to current conditions, identify the low-efficiency land in the urban area of the whole city by combining social, economic and various conditions.

- Establish the Database of urban space and public services

To manage the urban space and public services data in a smart and digital way.

- Rightsize the urban scale and public service facilities

Promote the centralized distribution and rational layout of medical care, social welfare, commercial facilities and residences; Improve the value and efficiency of facilities and urban space, and reduce the waste of space and government expenditure.

- Renewal of vacant space

Utilize the urban vacant space as 'Resource', for instance, transform low-efficiency and vacant land into green spaces, public activity spaces, cultural activity centers, sports venues, etc. through green infrastructure, tempo rary use, function replacement and other updating methods to stimulate the value of vacant spaces, avoid further deterioration of the area, and maintain regional image.

- Centralize and decentralize population and land use

Centralized population and functions reduces unnecessary investment for construction and enable the gathering of funds, resources, talents, etc, which finally contributes to long-term cost-effective development.

- City public transport network upgrading

Complete the accessibility of public transport, improve urban slow-walk traffic system and thereby timprove quality of residents' urban normal life.

- Improve the spatial quality

Improve the overall appearance of the city, form a multi-level community life circle suitable for aging, child-friendly, walk-friendly, green and low-carbon vision.

PRINCIPLE- Smart environment of green cities

- Ecological restoration

Restoring and protecting regional ecological space, establishing ecological corridors and national parks, using greening to nourish towns and other measures, and promoting the formation of an ecological pattern of natural and harmonious symbiosis in the region; On the basis of protecting natural landscape land, provide residents with places for entertainment, experience, communication and learning, and form an ecological environment for sustainable urban development.

Build Green infrastructure system

Form a multi-scale, networked, multi-functional sustainable green infrastructure system.

- Construct Disaster prevention facility

In view of the risks such as ground subsidence that may occur in the long run, prepare for the urban disaster prevention space plan.

- Recover the coal mining land to cropland

Return part of the construction land to farmland, renovate the farmland by integrating the scale of the farmland, replanning the roads in the field, transforming and improving the irrigation and drainage facilities, and improving the soil of the farmland to improve the quality of the farmland; realize the further development of regional modern agriculture and forestry.

PRINCIPLE- Stable and sustainable economic development

- Build industrial development sharing platform

Construct a sharing platform, establish relevant industrial infrastructure and service, provide communication chance for domestic and foreign researchers and industries, and provide a place for citizens to experience and learn in person.

- Adjustment of industrial structure

- Establish the sustainable green structure of graphite industry

Utilize existing product resources, promote the development of graphite-related secondary industries through the circular economy development model, and achieve technological innovation and product upgrades through international cooperation channels.

- Extend the chain of coal-chemical industry

Optimize advantageous industries, upgrade the original industrial model with advanced technology and concepts, promote the sustainable and green transformation of industries with backward structures, strengthen competitiveness, and create new brands.

- Market building for cross-border trading industry, tourism business and agriculture

Excavate and refine the development foundation and advantages of the region, and create a development foundation and future market by formulating relevant encouragement and development policies at the government level to attract and gather related industries.

- Encourage the collaboration among industries

Realize the coordinated development of the primary, secondary and tertiary industries in the region.

- Low-end Labor training

Provide skills upgrading training for workers to better adapt to the upgraded industry and reduce unemployment.

- Build "Industry+life" community

Promote the matching of industrial space and living space in close proximity, provide workers and other workers in and around the industrial park with perfect residential, commercial, service or green space functions, so that production, living and ecology are coordinated with each other and the economic vitality of the park is enhanced.

- Reorganize the industrial distributions

Gather the industries and form industrial clusters; provide reserved space for start-ups and future development; Improve the industtrial park and related community, and formulate the basis for working and living.

PRINCIPLE- Participatory governance with flexibility

- Build 'Land bank' system

Collect, temporarily manage and dispose of vacant properties, transforming vacant land and buildings into green assets to maintain neighborhood stability and encourage property reuse; also as an economic and community development tool to restore real estate markets in shinking cities

- Living laboratory

Based on the principle of people-oriented, pay attention to the needs and life of residents, and attach importance to urban public activities and social interactions; promote the enthusiasm of local people for life and realize the revitalization of the neighborhood through public participation in community construction and community building.

Build Regulatory agency

Add supervisory agencies to urge the public to actively participate from the bottom up, and to make government information policies open and transparent.

- Encourage collaborative planning

Encourage cooperation between the government, professionals, research institutions, universities, enterprises and the public, build a framework for cooperation planning, realize technological innovation and improve the quality of the urban physical environment; the public participates through various channels and provides feedback and information.

- Build Stable and sustainable community

Improve the living environment and improve public service facilities; fully consider the age structure of the community population and respect the wishes of residents; use the neighborhood committee as the grassroots autonomous network to improve community management, and build a platform for residents to fully participate in planning and construction to achieve multi-party co-construction

Detailed design guideline of vacancy renewal





Participatory governance of GI system

STAKEHOLDER



APPENDIX Gl system



AGRICULTURE

Eco-farms Horticulture COREAREA

CORRIDOR

SITE

STEPPING STONE



Detailed strategy



APPENDIX D Renewal of vacant space



Public buildings

Industrial area

APPENDIX D Renewal of vacant space





Residential area	Shanty towns	Residential area

APPENDIX D Encourage collaborative planning - Ecology



APPENDIX D Encourage collaborative planning - Production



APPENDIX D Encourage collaborative planning - Living





