

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910633935603321
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Titolo	China's City Cluster Development in the Race to Carbon Neutrality // by Ali Cheshmehzangi, Tian Tang
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Singapore : , : Springer Nature Singapore : , : Imprint : Springer, , 2022
ISBN	981-19-7673-2
Edizione	[1st ed. 2022.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (222 pages)
Collana	Urban Sustainability, , 2731-6491
Disciplina	307.1216
Soggetti	Sustainability Environmental policy Political planning Environmental Policy Policy Implementation
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	China's sustainable development status and carbon neutrality plan -- The significance of a long-term plan: Reflecting on the position of China's City Clusters -- Case study Chapters of City Clusters -- China's City Clusters and Carbon Neutrality Plan: Conclusions and Future Directions.
Sommario/riassunto	The scope of this book is to map China's city clusters and their individual directions for the national-level strategies in line with the 2060 carbon neutrality plan. Since China announced the carbon neutrality plan in autumn 2020, no study has looked at the role of city clusters in achieving this long-term plan. Hence, this study is believed to be the first attempt to explore this important topic from the city cluster perspective. It explores the challenges, opportunities, and directions of all 19 city clusters, allowing readers to have a clear picture of China's historical and ongoing progress, as well as the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. In a short time, China's city clusters have helped boost regional economic development, infrastructure development, trade and business, and better urban-rural integration. With enhanced coordination of connection and transport networks in and between the city clusters, we see a growing number of initiatives

beyond just the initial economic strategies. The dual approach of top-down policies and infrastructure systems and bottom-up governance and investments has helped China consider urban–rural development strategies and regional sustainable development. These factors are essential to be explored from the city cluster perspective and in line with China’s sustainable development and carbon neutrality directions. Hence, the book covers these points holistically, ensuring that regional planning and development are favored in the face of uneven urbanization trends. We anticipate this book to be a valuable resource for local governments and authorities, urban planners and practitioners, developers, and urban researchers. While the focus is on China’s city clusters, we believe there are similar examples elsewhere. Hence, lessons learnt from this book could apply to other countries, regions, and subregions. Lastly, the book aims to put regional sustainable development at the heart of longer-term strategies and plans, such as the case of China’s carbon neutrality plan.

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