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Introduction: Framing the Future of Asian Cities

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Abstract

This introductory chapter, Introduction: Framing the Future of Asian Cities, provides an overview of the central themes and discussions featured in Future of Cities in Asia. It delves into the ongoing urban transformations across Asia, driven by rapid urbanisation, technological progress, and the increasing effects of climate change. The chapter explains how urban planning, governance, and sustainability adapt to these developments. It reviews each chapter, shedding light on crucial topics like the lack of planning, the emergence of smart cities, environmental resilience in coastal areas, and the changing nature of workspaces within urban environments. This chapter lays the groundwork for detailed examinations of how Asian cities address the multifaceted challenges of modern urbanisation while seizing opportunities for sustainable, inclusive, and resilient growth. It advocates for comprehensive strategies that combine technological innovation with social equality and environmental sustainability to shape the future of urban life. © The Editor(s) (if applicable) and The Author(s), under exclusive license to Springer Nature Switzerland AG 2026.

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Engineering controlled terms

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