

Urban development and its implication on land use change of Lanzhou City, China

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Lanzhou City, one of the historical cities of the Silk Road along the river basin of Hwang-Hu River, is a capital of Gansu Province, and it is the westernmost biggest city located in Inland area of China. Land use of Lanzhou has been changed through industrial and residential developments under the national policy, aiming at central role for regional development of inland area.

The population of the city increased when entering the planned economy period. The petrochemical and heavy industry, etc. have been established on the river basin under the national policy named Three Line Construction. The Reform and Open Policy introduced in 1978 has changed the character of the city from the heavy industry city to the integrated central city. Sprawl type urbanization is advanced since the 1990's in the lower terrace of the river basin in the eastern part of the city. The construction of a new residential house is advanced in order to progress redevelopment of an old built-up area. A lot of high-rise residential buildings are constructed in the civic center region as a commercial house. A new urban development is under construction in the area away from one hour by expressway from the city. Lanzhou New District is huge development that the area is 400 square kilometers.

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