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Emerging Land and Housing Markets in China

For nearly 30 years, China has been gradually reforming its policy framework for land and housing markets, injecting market mechanisms into what for decades had been a centrally planned economy. As a result of these reforms, land and housing markets have emerged in China that are of fundamental importance to sustainable economic growth and the well-being of the rapidly growing Chinese population.

A new book edited by two researchers associated with the National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education at the University of Maryland looks at a range of issues related to land and housing markets, including discussions of how these markets are evolving as part of China's transitional economy.

Published by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, *Emerging Land and Housing Markets in China* is edited by Dr. Chengri Ding, a research professor at the National Center for Smart Growth, and Dr. Yan Song, an assistant professor in the Department of City and Regional Planning at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and an affiliate of the National Center for Smart Growth.

“While maintaining the fundamental features of a socialist society, including state or collective ownership of land, China has moved toward a system in which market forces shape the process of urbanization and individuals have greater choice about where they work and live,” Ding and Song write in the Foreword of the book.

The book contains a collection of 10 articles on China policies, divided by land policy reform and housing policy reform.

“The chapters – by leading urban scholars, economists, sociologists and consultants in regional development and municipal administrative reform – constitute an historical review of land and housing reforms and an evaluation of their accomplishments

and flaws,” Ding and Song write. “These analyses identify profound changes, provide our thinking about their meaning and provide context for understanding a nation that is breaking new ground on many fronts.”

Most of the chapters are based on the proceedings of sessions sponsored by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy at the World Planning Congress held in Shanghai, China in July 2001. It provides one of the few records available on these issues in English and provides readers with an outlook for the future of land and housing markets in China.

Emerging Land and Housing Markets in China, at 276 pages, is available in paperback through the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy for \$25.

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