The year of 2007 marked a special moment. More than half of the world population now lives in cities globally. In China, rapid urbanization has taken place since the economic reform in 1978. Managing urban complexity effectively will thus be one of the most challenging tasks faced by human beings for the 21st century. Based on the presumption that cities are complex systems and that plans for urban development alone cannot deal sufficiently with the deteriorated urban environment and the related issues that are derived from rapid urbanization, the Journal of Urban Management (JUM) has its two-fold aims set to integrate the studies across fields in urban planning and management, as well as to provide a more holistic perspective on problem solving.

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