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The planning, design, construction and maintenance of underground space plays a very important role in the global sustainable development due to the huge worldwide demand of infrastructure to accommodate the growing urbanised populations and the numerous renewal of aged facilities. Innovation is the main driving force in underground space engineering for both developing and developed countries. Although the primitive development of underground space in human history can be traced back over hundreds of years, the utilization of the invaluable underground resources has not yet reached a satisfactory state, and a long way ahead remains from perfection in the coming decades.

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