

**Title:**

**Urbanization in China: Problems and perspectives**

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**Abstract:**

Urbanization is the most dramatic societal change in human history, and is changing the patterns of energy/material consumption. China is, at this moment, experiencing the rapidest urbanization in the world, it is expected that another 100 to 200 million people will move into cities creating another 10 Shanghai or so. It is therefore a biggest challenge for China to cope with the negative impacts of urbanization on environmental quality and human health. The talk will start from the general aspects of urbanization and environmental changes in China. By analyzing urban metabolism, environmental impacts of urbanization will be presented and discussed. Environmental health problems related to urbanization in China will be discussed in details.

The talk will finally focus on how to develop risk-based environmental management for the development of more 'sustainable cities'. It is believed that the time is right, as China can embrace state-of-the-art technologies in pollution control and remediation, and can benefit from better awareness of environmental quality and stringent environmental standards now, to avoid "old" problems.