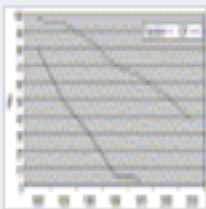


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Abstract

Keywords

1. How the first rural-urban compact changed the face of the earth



2. And is now approaching its social and ecological limits

3. That is why a new rural-urban compact is needed

4. Some short-term building blocks for a long-term journey

References

Ecosystem services: Foundations for a new rural-urban compact


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Abstract

The traditional rural-urban compact, now almost ten thousand years old, whereby the countryside sent products and people to the city in exchange for the city's products, services and governance is not working anymore. The rural population is increasingly marginalized and natural environments are increasingly destroyed. A new rural-urban compact needs to arise where cities acknowledge and pay for environmental sustainability. In this new rural-urban compact there would be more employment opportunities and more income coming to the rural areas, and the cities would benefit from a sustainable supply of rural products and ecosystem services provided by restored rural environments. This paper describes why this is important and provides several ideas on how to implement programs.

Keywords

Ecosystem services; Payments for ecosystem services; Rural-urban compact