Urbanization ≠ Materialization

Materialized Urbanization and Re-Materialized Urbanization

In the post-industrial economy era, China’s urbanization was unprecedented in scale, with the urbanization of high-speed and rough quality, resulting in repeated construction of the city, destruction of the natural environment, and historical sites. In the past, urbanization was a process of unmaterialized spatial materialization. With the advent of the information economy era, the decrease of communication and transport cost leads to the death of distance, which makes the metropolis areas become the direction of population concentration.

The Future of Cities in China

Urbanization = Re-Materialization

Because the space in metropolitan areas is limited, in the future, the increasing spatial needs of economic development and residents’ lives are difficult to meet through the rapid growth of construction volume. Urbanization in the future cannot continue the process of materialization, but the value of the original space should be re-examined through re-materialization.

The re-materialization of urban space includes two aspects. First, the urban system realizes the efficiency of space operation through spatial function reconstruction and space quality mixing. Second, the urban system should blending with the ecological environment, and the ecological matrix provides material security for urban development.

Legend

- Ecological Sources
- Both Land and Water
- Ecological Buffer Area
- Wetland
- Bridge
- Water Area
- Relocation Intensity Between Cities and Towns
- Megalopolis & Big City Core
- Megalopolis & Big City Edge
- Medium-sized Cities
- Small Cities & Towns
- Rural Office
- Bank Office