The Causes and Consequences of Rapid Urbanisation in an Ethnically Diverse Region

Case study of a county town in Yunnan

Ben Hillman

Electronic version

URL: <http://journals.openedition.org/chinaperspectives/6244>

DOI: 10.4000/chinaperspectives.6244

ISSN: 1996-4617

Publisher

Centre d'étude français sur la Chine contemporaine

Printed version

Date of publication: 1 September 2013

Number of pages: 25-32

ISSN: 2070-3449

Electronic reference

Ben Hillman, « The Causes and Consequences of Rapid Urbanisation in an Ethnically Diverse Region », *China Perspectives* [Online], 2013/3 | 2013, Online since 01 September 2016, connection on 28 October 2019. URL : <http://journals.openedition.org/chinaperspectives/6244> ; DOI : 10.4000/chinaperspectives.6244

This text was automatically generated on 28 October 2019.

© All rights reserved

The Causes and Consequences of Rapid Urbanisation in an Ethnically Diverse Region

Case study of a county town in Yunnan

Ben Hillman

ABSTRACTS

In contrast with China's coastal regions, where rural urbanisation has largely been a result of industrialisation, urbanisation in the once predominantly rural towns of the interior is sometimes driven by local government policies. This article focuses on a case study of Zhongdian (Shangri-la), where urbanisation has mainly been driven by tourism. It shows that while the problem of land seizures has been generally less violent in this sparsely populated area of the interior, the urbanisation of this ethnically diverse area of northern Yunnan has generated a distinct set of problems. While local officials have strong incentives to pursue policies that promote urbanisation, they have few incentives to pursue policies that promote equal access to the new economic opportunities that accompany urbanisation.

INDEX

Keywords: education, employment, ethnic minorities, inequality., rural China, Tibet, urbanisation

AUTHOR

BEN HILLMAN

Ben Hillman teaches comparative politics at the Crawford School of Public Policy at the Australian National University. Crawford School of Public Policy, J.G. Crawford Building, #132 Lennox Crossing, The Australian National University, Canberra ACT 0200 (ben.hillman@anu.edu.au).