

Series editors' foreword

This book series addresses the causes, dynamics and understandings of global urban transformation in the twenty-first century. We live in an era when numerically the greatest number of people moving to cities are in the parts of the globe normally characterised as the global south. It is also the case that in recent years much of the most interesting, innovative and insightful work around contemporary urbanisms has addressed the global condition through a disposition that speaks internationally both from and to this new cartography.

We have put together this series with Manchester University Press to reflect and capture these trends and realities and look for new voices that might articulate and curate these new realities through fresh lenses.

We look to publish work that is:

International, working within a global frame of reference, where cases are generative of larger transnational processes. The series aims to move urban studies to a focus that transcends a traditional separation of literatures of the global south and global north.

Interdisciplinary, originating mostly but not entirely from within the social sciences. The orientation of the series seeks work that rethinks interdisciplinarity in an urban context, drawing on insights from natural sciences and humanities as well as the social sciences.

Informed by the past but future oriented, addressing the challenges of the emergent cities of the twenty-first century. This perspective values the particularities of history and geography; the path dependencies of urban change; and the realities of spatial variation. It recognises the predictive value of new methods of data collection and technological change but considers that such a 'future' city orientation moves beyond extrapolation from trend to a more multidimensional sensibility.

Addressing multiple audiences, working across conventionally defined urban scholarly and professional interests (such as architecture, planning, city politics and urban regeneration), privileging work that has value for city thought leaders and activists, the general reader as well as students and the specialist academic audience.

Multi-scalar, recognising the value of different scales of analysis, commissioning work that focuses on geographies that range from trends in rapidly expanding megacity regions, smaller towns or the dynamics of neighbourhood change.

Multi-actor, welcoming contributions that detail stakeholder interactions that drive urban change, including tracking the power dynamics and institutional politics between residents, civil society, the state, business or traditional authorities.

Michael Keith and Susan Parnell