

## Title: The World's Leading Eco-Cities - Success Factors

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## Abstract

Cities will represent 20% of the world economy by 2025. According to McKinsey research, the world's top 600 cities, will account for 60% of global growth to 2025. Of 136 new cities to enter the top 600, all will be from developing countries, including 100 from China alone. Income growth in cities in the developing world is forecast to be 10 times faster than in developed countries. This is particularly true of middle-weight cities which are expected to contribute 50% of global economic growth to 2025. 13 middle-weight cities will become mega-cities by 2015, including seven in China. However, cities can become hotbeds of an urban divide in income, space, opportunities, and basic livelihood of food, shelter, health and education. Eco-cities need to be intelligent cities. Innovation, technology, competitive specialization, wireless interconnectivity, smart transport systems, smart home-linking power grids, water recycling and conservation, green energies, materials and neighbourhoods plus affordable housing can make all the difference. Building an intelligent city takes a high-level strategy of economic, social, political, regional and ecological policies and effective governance. For sustainable growth, the UCI Urban Sustainability Index 2010 highlights five indicators - Basic Needs, Resource Efficiency, Environmental Health, Density, and Commitment, backed up by Best Practices - Link land use planning to industrial restructuring; Support dense liveable environments through transit-oriented ecological development; Use transparent standards and pricing to incentivize behaviour; Invest in re-cyclical economy projects; and Restructure local government bodies to enable coordination.

## Biography

Mr. Andrew K. P. Leung SBS, FRSA is an international and independent China Specialist with over 40 years professional experience covering Hong Kong and Mainland China. He is a China Futures Fellow selected worldwide by Berkshire Publishing Group, Massachusetts and is on the Brain Trust of Evian Group, a Lausanne-based think-tank. Andrew was founding Chairman of the China Group of Institute of Directors City Branch, London. Andrew served as Advisory Board Member of China Policy Institute, Nottingham University and on the Governing Council, King's College London until 2010. He helped set up Standard Chartered Bank's first merchant-banking subsidiary in Hong Kong (1983), oversaw the trans-migration of industries into China as Deputy Director-General of Industry; a month-long US-government sponsored visit to brief Fortune 50 CEOs on China beyond Tiananmen Square (1990); and acting as Editor-at-Large in an international consultancy on China's energies. Andrew was awarded Hong Kong's Silver Bauhinia Star (SBS) and has been in the UK's Who's Who since 2002.