

# Roadmap to a Coordinated Master Plan: Rural Revitalization in Sichuan Province in China

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## SUMMARY

Rural revitalization refers to the process of rural transformation towards sustainability and competitiveness of rural areas by solving principal economic and social problems, faced by the region in a specific period. It is a strategy which is constructed upon a foundation of different dimensions of equality between urban and rural areas.

Recently China adopted the rural revitalization strategy in response to the rapid rural-urban migration and emergence of hollow villages, characterized by the declining and aging populations, limited economic and social opportunities for residents, and depleting natural resources. It intends to cover different aspects, including cultural, social, and ecological progress. The ultimate aim is speeding up the rural modernization process.

This study is based on a pilot project in Sichuan Province in P.R. China, undertaken by the Hanns Seidel Foundation, which is energizing the Chinese rural revitalization strategies. This study draws the lessons from the experience of master plan approach for rural revitalization in the context of landscape and ecological planning. The study analyzes the three major phases of the pilot project – determining the core challenges, formulating targets and measures for the master plan, and coordinating and implementing the master plan. The study findings confirm that this pilot project would provide experience and help in the implementation of China's new rural revitalization policy.