



# TRANSFORMING RURAL CHINA

Guy M. Robinson, University of Adelaide, Australia  
and University of Cambridge, UK

*'This book offers an impressive and very insightful overview of China's rural development policies since the 1980s and their outcomes. Guy M. Robinson tackles issues ranging from poverty alleviation, ecological restoration programs and the rise of cooperatives to land consolidation and agricultural modernization. He does not shy away from contentious issues like China's one-child policy, forced resettlement policies, and rural development policies in western China's ethnically and culturally diverse regions. A must-read for anyone interested in gaining an objective, science-based view of China's rural transformation.'*

– Nico Heerink, Wageningen University & Research, the Netherlands

*'Informed by half a century of research on rural and environmental dynamics and an extensive review of writings by Chinese scholars, Guy M. Robinson provides an accessible and comprehensive survey of China's multifaceted and uneven rural-urban, and accompanying agrarian, demographic and social transitions. Along the way, Transforming Rural China is also a valuable guide to further reading on an array of topics, from China's ecological discourses to regional development and rural tourism.'*

– James D Sidaway, National University of Singapore

Over the last four decades, China has witnessed dramatic economic growth, transforming into an economic powerhouse with considerable consequences for its rural regions. In this timely book, Guy M. Robinson adeptly navigates the principal elements, key events and significant changes of the transformation of China's countryside.

Chapters assess economic, social, and environmental aspects of China's rural transformation, examining the central role of the Chinese Communist Party and government policies in shaping this change. Offering an interdisciplinary perspective, Robinson comprehensively explores the key events in the transition from a rural peasant society to a countryside that is a complex mosaic of 'hollowed' villages, 'desakota' peri-urban fringes, farming landscapes, tourist attractions, new villages, 'left behind' children and elderly, wholesale rural poverty alleviation, and degraded and newly restored ecosystems.

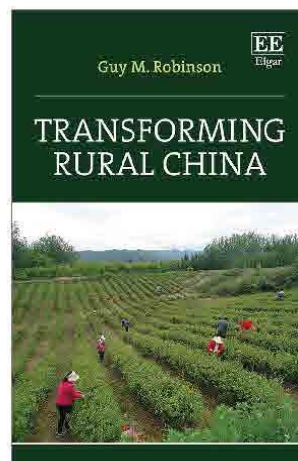
This book will prove to be an essential read for academics and students of geopolitics, human geography, environmental studies, economics and finance, and development studies focusing on China. It will also be an invigorating read for undergraduate and postgraduate students of Chinese and Asian studies.

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