

Name: Chai Ning
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Personal Profile

Prof. Dr. Chai Ning is an Associate Professor at the School of Architecture and Design, Hunan University of Science and Technology(China). He has served as Head of the Department of Urban and Rural Planning, Deputy Director of the Social Science Office, and Vice Dean of the International Education College at Hunan University of Science and Technology. He earned his Ph.D. in Urban Planning from Seoul National University (2011–2014) and was a Academic Visitor at Sheffield Hallam University (2016–2017). He is a member of ISOCARP, UPSC and ISSRNC, a former editorial board member of the UPSC official website (English), and a reviewer for *International Journal of Urban Sciences*. His research covers regional and urban planning, urban regeneration, community resilience, and environmental behavior.

Achievements

His research addresses practical problems in urbanization, population mobility, and community governance, with a consistent focus on transition, innovation, resilience, community-building, and ecological restoration. He has published over 30 papers, in some representative journals such as *Environmental Research*, *International Journal of Urban Sciences*, *Buildings*, etc. His work has contributed to identifying institutional and social barriers in rural employment transitions, diagnosing population outflow in new towns, and providing resilience-oriented planning approaches for rural and urban communities.

Current Projects

He has led a wide range of research projects oriented toward transition, innovation, resilience, community-building, and ecological restoration. These include *Ministry of Education Humanities and Social Sciences Project* and *National Ethnic Affairs Commission Ethnic Research Project*, both focused on rural revitalization, cultural restoration, and livelihood mechanisms in ethnic regions of China, as well as projects funded by *Hunan Provincial Natural Science Foundation*, *Hunan Provincial Philosophy and Social Science Foundation*, *Hunan Provincial Department of Education*, and *Hunan Provincial Ethnic and Religious Affairs Commission*, addressing population loss in new towns, sustainable development of the Chang-Zhu-Tan area, cultural participation of rural empty-nesters, and support mechanisms for returned migrant entrepreneurs. His ongoing project on Ecological Restoration Planning and Design in *Guofu Village* further integrates these themes into a place-based practice of rural regeneration. As a CSC-funded Postdoctoral Researcher, he is currently conducting research at CCRS on *how Living Labs apply new quality productive forces to ecosystem restoration, drawing on European ecosystem restoration communities (2017–2027)*.