# INFLUENCE OF MIGRANTS’ TWO-DIRECTION LINKAGE ON URBAN VILLAGES IN CHINA: THE CASE OF SHIGEZHUANG VILLAGE IN BEIJING

### INTRODUCTION

China’s urbanization can be understood as an in situ process, where rural area gradually changes into the urban (Zhu 1999). This process is characterized by the informal growth of urban villages in the periphery of large cities and huge inflow of rural migrant workers into cities for a better chance of working opportunities (Hao*et al* 2011; Liu *et al* 2010; Zheng *et al* 2009). Under the dual urban-rural land system, indigenous villagers are allowed to extend houses on their own housing plots and rent rooms to migrant population. Due to the low living cost and prime location, urban villages are preferred spots for migrants to settle down in the destination cities. In certain urban villages in metropolitan cities like Beijing, the number of migrants can be more than ten times of that of indigenous villagers (Feng 2010).As such, urban villages have beenidentified as migrant enclaves (Friedmann 2005; He *et al*2010; Lin *et al* 2011; Liu *et al* 2017; Liu *et al* 2018; Wu *et al* 2013; Wu 2016). Much literature has described urban villages as “chaotic”, “unplanned”, “congested” and “substandard” settlements (Chung 2010; Tian 2008) and argued that this situation is attributed to informal development of land mechanisms and rational rent-seeking decisions of villagers to maximize profit from assigned housing plots (Ma 2006; Wu *et al* 2013).In the development and redevelopment process of urban villages, villagers, governments and developers are identified as key stakeholders and negotiation among them has been investigated and analysed (Herrle *et al* 2014).