

“Instant Cities”: Is building new greenfield cities a viable strategy to mitigate for accelerating urbanization and climate change challenges?



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The world is witnessing a new urban phenomenon: the building of new cities (Instant Cities) from scratch. This neoliberal phenomenon is distinct from post-colonial cities of the 1950s-60s and is being embraced with vigor, particularly by developing nations. There are currently over 150 new cities currently being built, predominantly in the Global South, at a cost exceeding \$1 trillion. This research will evaluate the suitability and performance of existing Instant Cities against significant urbanization and climate change challenges. It will also present recommendations on optimizing their viability, feasibility and overall success as an urban model.

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