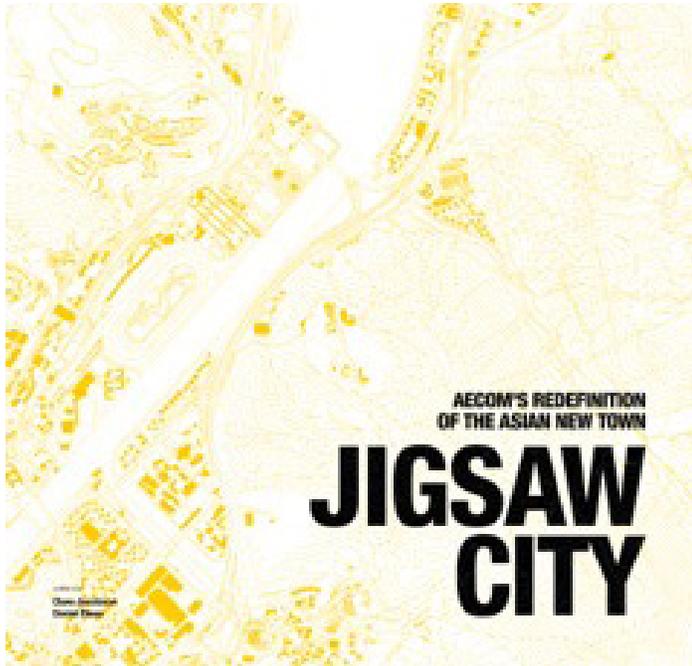


# Jigsaw City

By Daniel Elsea and Clare Jacobson



*Jigsaw City* explores the phenomenon of urbanization in Asia through the lens of AECOM's work in planning, designing, and building cities of varying scales. From Hong Kong to Singapore, from mainland China to the Philippines, the projects examined include regional infrastructure corridors, transit-oriented city extensions, downtown redevelopments, new communities, mixed-use open space districts, environmental conservation frameworks, and ecological restorations. On display are the efforts of strategic planners, environmental and ecological planners, masterplanners, urban designers, landscape architects, and civil engineers to deliver the places and infrastructure needed by rapidly growing populations and economies. At stake is quality of life for millions of people, the rise of a new Asian middle class, and the question of whether frenetic growth can be brought into balance with natural systems already strained to the breaking point.

The premise of the book, and of AECOM's work in the region is that an interdisciplinary city making approach centred around people holds the best hope for tackling challenges of such magnitude. Increasingly relevant in this work is the need to build sustainable cities that could reflect their social heritage, and with which inhabitants can feel proud. *Jigsaw City* is a collection of case studies chronicling efforts over the past four decades—looking to see what has been accomplished and what can be learned for the future as we continue to create the Asian new towns.



## About the Authors:

**Daniel Elsea** is Creative Director for AECOM's planning, design + development group. Daniel's interests lie in contemporary urbanism—in particular, the branding and (re)packaging of cities and urbanization in the developing world. With expertise in messaging, art and editorial direction, architectural criticism and graphic design, Daniel blurs the lines between marketing and practice. His job is to conceive, lead and lend his writing and graphic design skills to special initiatives that enhance AECOM's reputation, expand its remit, and support the company's broader strategic objectives. Based in London and an associate of the American Institute of Architects, Daniel has published numerous articles, reviews and essays on issues related to the built environment in publications such as *Topos*, *Architectural Record*, and *Print*.

**Clare Jacobson** is a Shanghai-based design writer, editor, and curator. She is the author of the book *New Museums in China* and co-author of Karlssonwilker Inc.'s *Tell Me Why: The First 24 Months of a New York Design Company*. She is a contributing editor to *Architectural Record*, and her articles have also appeared in *Engineering News Record*, *Randian*, *Architectural Review Asia Pacific*, *Azure*, *Landscape Architecture*, and other magazines. As editor and editorial director at Princeton Architectural Press for twenty-one years, she originated, acquired, and developed more than 120 books on architecture, graphic design, landscape architecture, photography, and visual culture.