



In the 19th century, there were no satellites to document the depth of a night on Earth. Back then, only three per cent of the population lived in cities. Today, we have a nocturnal planisphere of lights revealing unrestrained development. The satellite images foretell demographic relationships and transformations of the land and reveal signs of change. Human traces can be seen from above. According to the United Nations, more than fifty per cent of the world's population lives in or is migrating to cities. Within a quarter of a century, two out of three people will live in urban areas. The Megalopolises, which have populations of ten million people or more, are crammed with human beings. But in some other parts of the world Cities are rethinking development. New experiments are beginning, from Masdar City, near Abu Dhabi, to PlanIT Valley in Portugal. Centres that, like organisms, will be able to manage and regulate the urban metabolism of their inhabitants: water, energy, waste. As Aristotle said: "A great city is not to be confounded with a populous one". The age of the Ecopolis is coming.

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The relentless dynamism of urban growth gives rise to an ongoing metamorphosis of the city.

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Water, a vital resource for the development of the city, can sometimes become a threat.

03_MAR

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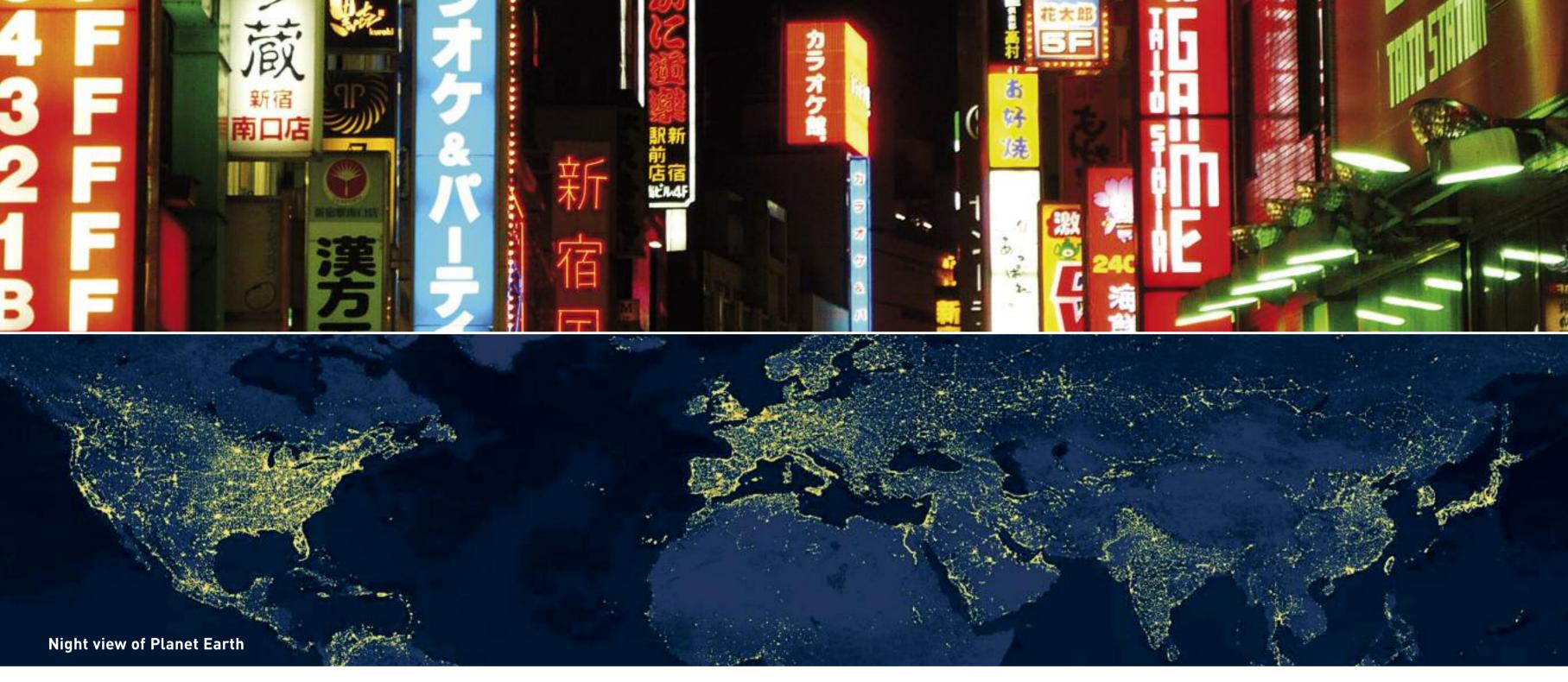
Demographic pressure is increasingly limiting the urban space available.

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Cities are the places where demand for energy is most concentrated. Cities absorb 75% of global energy output.

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Urban sprawl is causing irreversible changes to the landscape.

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The reconversion of disused urban areas can generate more sustainable development plans.

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11 LOVE PLANET EARTH

Telespazio, a Finmeccanica / Thales company, is a leading worldwide operator in satellite services. For 50 years Telespazio has been serving an ever-changing world: from Satellite Navigation to Broadband Multimedia Telecommunications, from Earth Observation to Satellite Constellations Management.

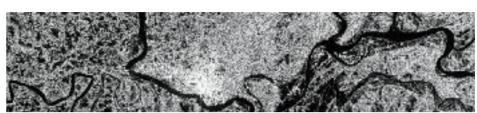
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The 2011 calendar has been prepared in collaboration with e-GEOS, the company owned by Telespazio (80%) and the Italian Space Agency (20%), dedicated to Earth Observation activities.

















Shanghai, Shanghai World Expo 2010, China

31° 11' 10" N, 121° 29' 20" E http://www.telespazio.com/calendar11/shanghai.html GeoEye-1 © GeoEye Inc., 2010

Barisal, Bangladesh

22° 43′ 30″ N, 90° 24′ 30″ E http://www.telespazio.com/calendar11/barisal.html COSMO-SkyMed™ Product - ASI, 2010 Processed under license from ASI - Agenzia Spaziale Italiana. All rights reserved.

Arwad Island, Syria

34° 51' 20" N, 35° 51' 30" E http://www.telespazio.com/calendar11/arwad_island.html GeoEye-1 © GeoEye Inc., 2009

Night view of Planet Earth

http://www.telespazio.com/calendar11/night_view.html Credit: C. Mayhew & R. Simmon (NASA/GSFC), NOAA/ NGDC, DMSP Digital Archive

Sinop, Mato Grosso, Brazil

11° 51' 15" S, 55° 30' 40" W http://www.telespazio.com/calendar11/sinop.html COSMO-SkyMed™ Product - ASI, 2008 Processed under license from ASI – Agenzia Spaziale Italiana. All rights reserved.

Detroit, Michigan, USA

42° 33´30" N, 83° 02′ 50" W http://www.telespazio.com/calendar11/detroit.html IKONOS © GeoEye Inc., 2005

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