CITIES
SPECIAL ISSUE
IDEAS FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE
DESIGNING SOLUTIONS
A TEMPORARY REFUGE BECOMES HOME
WALKING THROUGH A MEGALOPOLIS
RATS—THEY’LL ALWAYS BE WITH US
CONTENTS

SPECIAL ISSUE: CITIES

17

THE BIG IDEA
To Live Together, We Must Make Compromises
Urban life inevitably involves trade-offs. We may reap huge benefits in return for suffering enormous disadvantages when we choose between issues such as individual freedom and community interests, and between social ties and anonymity.
BY JARED DIAMOND

20

INFOPHRAGM
Cities of the Future
What should cities be like in 2050 when an estimated 6.7 billion people live in them? We asked the architectural and city planning firm SOM to imagine those urban centers; the group created a vision based on 10 principles. Among them: putting ecology first; building an economy that supports the best use of resources; and promoting culture and livability.

8

Double Vision
Eight seconds is all it takes to create astounding images that capture the energy of the world's most vibrant cities from more than one angle.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY NICOLAS RUEL

On the Cover
Completed in 1932, Sydney Harbor Bridge leads the way into the glittering modern downtown of Australia's largest city.
VINCENT LAFORET
Walking Tokyo
Tokyo is the world's most populous metropolis. It's also one of the wealthiest, safest, cleanest, and most creative—despite being partly destroyed and rebooted twice in the past hundred years. The best way to understand this modern megacity is on foot. 
BY NEIL SHEA
PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAVID GUTTENFELDER
P. 38

Rethinking Communities
What if cities could be built to benefit the environment, residents' fitness, and social connection? City planners foresee dense, walkable, mixed-use communities linked by transit systems, curbing reliance on cars and helping clear the air.
BY ROBERT KUNZIG
PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREW MOORE
P. 70

A City Rises
Can Africa's largest refugee settlement grow into an urban hub?
BY NINA STROCHLIC
PHOTOGRAPHS BY NORR LORIE
P. 102

In Our Shadow
Wherever there are people there are rats, thriving on our trash.
BY EMMA MARRIS
PHOTOS BY CHARLIE HAMILTON JAMES
P. 126