



## Curry Stone Design Prize Winner Announced

October 26, 2015



The Curry Stone Foundation has named the nonprofit research and design firm Rural Urban Framework (RUF), as the 2015 Curry Stone Design Prize Winner. The Curry Stone Prize is one of the most recognized social impact design awards, celebrating socially engaged practitioners and the influence and reach of design as a force for improving lives and strengthening communities. The RUF was founded in 2006 by University of Hong Kong professors, Joshua Bolchover and John Lin. RUF uses design to help stabilize, reinvigorate and rebuild villages across China that are rapidly losing residents due to the country's rural-to-urban migration.

*"The work of RUF is addressing one of the most urgent current geopolitical issues, how to deal with the imbalances created by large mass migrations," said Emiliano Gandolfi, the Prize Director. "Their work is exemplifying how architecture should establish a dialogue with the community and the environment in order to build structures that respond to their changing needs."*

China is undergoing an unprecedented migration from rural villages into urban cities. In 1980, approximately 80 percent of all Chinese lived in villages. Today, more than half of the population lives in cities. This trend is expected to accelerate under a government plan to move an additional 250 million rural residents into cities by the year 2025.