We will explore urban design breakthroughs exploiting innovative concepts for city development on steep slope landscapes. We will explore an ecology-oriented, sustainable model, which draws on energy inherent to valley terrain and mitigates mudslide risks. We will ‘bring to life’ the concept through creative designs in steep slope constrained cities in China, partnering with Nanjing University, China.

Phase One Spring Term 2011 will explore and document the underlying concepts and prepare a design brief, applicable to steep slope-constrained cities globally.

Phase Two will undertake field trips to city examples in the US, tentatively Pittsburgh, and earthquake-destroyed areas in the Sichuan region of China.

Phase Three seeks visionary designs demonstrating steep slope city development concepts.

Phase One (Spring 2011) will hold an informational meeting for all interested on Friday 4 February in the AVT at 12:00 – 1:00.