This second edition of GAWA’s Year 12 ATAR textbook includes a number of significant changes to the first edition, which GAWA published at the beginning of this year. These changes include: an additional new Chapter 11 that provides a second megacity case study based on Tokyo; substantial re-writing of some chapters to better address the syllabus content requirements; a re-ordering of some of the chapters for the Unit 3 content; some adaptation or replacement of graphics and images to better illustrate the text’s content, and some re-formatting of the overall layout and presentation of the book.

The re-writing, re-formatting, re-organisation and editing of this second edition was undertaken by a number of local, senior geography teachers and curriculum experts. This second edition provides an improved and expanded Year 12 ATAR textbook, which GAWA recommends to students and teachers.

The book is divided into the two Year 12 units: Unit 3 – Global Environmental Change and Unit 4 – Planning Sustainable Places, both of which address the geographical knowledge, understandings and skills of the Geography Year 12 ATAR course as accredited by the Western Australian School Curriculum and Standards Authority.

Multiple authors have contributed to the writing of this textbook. These authors comprise local geography/planning academics, industry specialists, geography curriculum developers, and specialist geography teachers. Although the input of multiple authors, from a variety of backgrounds, is seen as a strength of this textbook, it also means that different writing styles and depths of treatment are inherent characteristics of the text.

A choice of depth/case studies is provided in each of the book’s Units to reflect the syllabus content structure. Furthermore, included throughout each chapter are panels of activities/questions which are designed primarily to address geographical inquiry skills, but also provide opportunities for teachers to incorporate one or more of the seven general capabilities, namely the development of literacy, numeracy, information and communication technology capability, critical and creative thinking, personal and social capability, ethical understanding and intercultural understanding.

This second edition is currently being typeset and should be available early November 2016.