



Achievements and Prospects of Land-use and Transportation Planning and Development in Vietnam's Urban Areas

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ABSTRACT:

In Vietnam urban transportation has developed in a unique way as a result of the long process of interaction between land uses and modal choices. Compact urban areas with a high mix of land use and space/energy-efficient private transportation, particularly bicycles and motorcycles, have realized the concept of a sustainable city. However, the initially promising situation has quickly degenerated into disorder due to internal and external impacts such as rapid urbanization, motorization, economic growth, changes in lifestyles, and outmoded planning systems. This paper thus presents an overview of the urban transportation characteristics of Vietnamese cities, which are currently in a critical transition period, and reflects on the prospects of the sector's sustainability.

Firstly, the process of urban and transportation development is briefly looked into and implications between land use and transportation in selected cities, namely Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh, and Hai Phong are analyzed from the economic, social, and environmental viewpoints. Secondly, impacts on urban transportation and land uses due to various emerging changes are discussed. Thirdly, the current policy and planning system to address the changing situation are assessed. Lastly, an opportunity to promote a sustainable urban transportation in Vietnam's urban areas is presented.