Asia Trans and Hanoi Eco Trans

Two decentralized cooperation projects supported by the European Union

Codatu XII, Lyon, 5-7/07/2006
KEY FEATURES ON HANOI CITY

• Capital city of Vietnam
• 3 million people (60% in urban districts)
• Economic growth rate : 11%
• Income per capita : 800USD

Location of Hanoi city

Satellite picture of Hanoi

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THE TRANSPORTATION SITUATION IN HANOI

- Modal Split

- A motorbike city

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THE PROJECTS

• ASIATRANS
  Partnership: Hanoi
  Ile-de-France
  Bruxelles Capitale

  2002-2005
  Budget: 1 000 000 euros

• ECOTRANS
  Partnership: Hanoi
  Ile-de-France
  Hannover

  2005-2007
  Budget: 950 000 euros

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The objectives: Public Transport

- Reorganize Public Transport to improve ridership and modal split.
- Create easy interchange.
- Capacity Building of the administration: study tours and seminars.
- Information: maps and panes.
- Ticketing: the concept of integrated tickets. Introducing smart cards.
- Maintenance and pollution control: model depot.
- Private sector participation.

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ACHIEVEMENTS

• Increase of ridership: 2000%. Huge success of integrated tickets.

• The model interchange station: much admired and very efficient.

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• The model depot: functioning and servicing three times as many busses as planned. Good value for little money.

• Success of the map: very visible, showing the cooperation of partners and EU.

Computer version on: www.hanoibus.com
A new concept of Public Transport emerging: projects of metro and BRT, linked to the model success of Hanoi bus reorganization.

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THE PHILOSOPHY

• Organic development of competence and of material conditions.

• Experimental approach. Better test a good thesis than make a big plan which never will be realized.

• Profiting from experience and encouragement by partners, who know their job.

• Mobilize your own resources. As the project is small, it is much easier for the local leaders to understand and to act on the same level as the foreign partner. (Throwing with big money kills often initiative!)
• Developing a lasting relationship between political leaders of same level, expert practitioners of same level and even the lower staff.

An expert from RATP during a bus maintenance training in Hanoi

• Partners of equal standing, not recipient vs. donor.

• Mutual confidence creates also a climate of honesty.
Some people believe that the market will fix everything, others believe, that a city’s problems can be solved by big investment. True, this is important, however:

A city needs a good and honest administration. Strange but true: big projects corrupt! a partnership of trust builds up!
DECENTRALIZATION : A ROAD TO SUCCESS?

• We did realize tangible progress on a wide array of contents: planning, operation, infrastructure development with small investment. Knowledge transfer was for free but of high value.

• In ASIATRANS every Euro which Ile de France invested multiplied by the factor 8, mobilizing contributions from Hanoi and from the EU.

• Thanks to the European Union, which encourages and builds on the decentralized approach.

• Thanks to Ile de France, which initiated the process.
Welcome to Hanoi !