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# The Vietnamese City in Transition

**Cooperation Centre for Urban Development, Hanoi** (Institut des Métiers de la Ville (IMV)) was created in 2001 by the People's Committee of Hanoi and the Ile-de-France Region (France) within their general cooperation agreement. It has for first vocation to improve the competences of the municipal staff in the field of urban planning and management of urban services. The concerned technical departments are the department of urban planning and architecture, the department of transport and civil engineering, the authority for public transports planning, the construction department. . . IMV organizes seminars to support decision-makers and technicians, finances studies, implements consultancies, contributes to knowledge dissemination by the translation of scientific and technical books, and maintains a library on urban planning.

**Ho Chi Minh City Urban Development Management Support Centre** (Centre de Prospective et d'Études Urbaines (PADDI)) was created in 2004 in cooperation between the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City and the Rhone-Alpes Region (France). Its office is located inside the Ho Chi Minh City Institute for Development Studies (HIDS). Competences of PADDI are training, consultancies and research. The PADDI organizes regularly training workshops to complete the training of civil servants of the city by making them aware about concepts, techniques and new methods in urban management. The answers to the urban planning problems given in France are compared with the situation in Vietnam to inspire new practices and new policies. The publication of the results of these workshops enables to associate a widened public.

The **Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)** was established as an autonomous organization in 1968. It is a regional centre dedicated to the study of socio-political, security and economic trends and developments in Southeast Asia and its wider geostrategic and economic environment. The Institute's research programmes are the Regional Economic Studies (RES, including ASEAN and APEC), Regional Strategic and Political Studies (RSPS), and Regional Social and Cultural Studies (RSCS).

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# The Vietnamese City in Transition

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Hai Phong: Sunday stroll in a cyclo.

*Photo: Myriam de Loenzien, July 2005*

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Hanoi: Nguyen Trai Street.

*Photo: Myriam de Loenzien, August 2003*

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*Photo: Trung Quoc Toan, IMV, 2003*

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# Foreword

The present work was undertaken as part of two cooperation programmes between French and Vietnamese local governments: one involving the Ile-de-France Region and Hanoi People's Committee, the other the Rhone-Alpes Region and Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee. It was published with financial support from the Cooperation and Cultural Action Office (SCAC) of the French Embassy in Vietnam. Gathered here are the main results obtained by the Franco-Vietnamese research teams involved in the Urban Research Programme for Development (PRUD) funded by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As the outcome of joint concertation, it illustrates the coherence between the various French cooperation programmes in Vietnam.

The research presented here attempts to define the issues at stake in urban development in Vietnam under the economic and demographic push induced by the transition from a centralized planned economy to a globalized market economy, and by strong urban population growth. Processes at work such as international integration and fast-growing metropolisation, speeded up economic development, devolution/decentralization of urban management authorities, modernization of housing patterns, poorly controlled peri-urban urbanization, mutations in the management of urban services, etc., all require strengthening of skills for urban project management and local government.

To respond to this need, IMV (Cooperation Centre for Urban Development) was created by Hanoi People's Committee and the Ile-de-France Region in 2001. PADDI (Ho Chi Minh City Urban Development Management Support Centre) was founded in 2004 by Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee and Rhone-Alpes Regional Council. Both organizations are jointly headed *in situ*

by representatives from each collectivity and are responsible for developing programmes in such areas as continuing education aimed at government cadres specialized in urban management, consultancy and technical expertise, investment in pilot operations and pilot infrastructures projects, assistance to consultancy firms and BPW companies, and for promoting Vietnamese and French research in the field of urbanism. *The Vietnamese City in Transition* is the first joint scientific work to be published by our two institutions.

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*The Editorial Team*

# List of Acronyms

ADB:	Asian Development Bank
ADEME:	Agence de l'Environnement et de la Maîtrise de l'Énergie [ <i>French Agency for Environment and Energy Management</i> ]
ADETEF:	Assistance au Développement des Échanges en Technologies Économiques et Financières [ <i>Assistance for the Development of Exchanges in Economic and Financial Technologies</i> ]
AFD:	Agence Française de Développement [ <i>French Development Agency, Paris</i> ]
AFIMA:	Association pour la Formation Intellectuelle et Morale des Annamites [ <i>Association for the Intellectual and Moral Training of the Annamese</i> ]
ASEAN:	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
BCEOM:	Bureau Central d'Études pour les Équipements d'Outre-Mer [ <i>Central Office for the Study of Overseas Infrastructure, Paris</i> ]
BCO:	Basic Community Organisation
BOT:	Build, Operate and Transfer
BPW:	Buildings and Public Works
CEETIA:	Centre of Environmental Engineering of Towns and Industrial Areas
CEFURDS:	Centre for Urban and Development Studies, Ho Chi Minh City
CERTU:	Centre d'Études sur les Réseaux de Transport et l'Urbanisme [ <i>Research Centre on Public Networks, Transport, Urban Planning and Construction</i> ]
CETE:	Centre d'Études Techniques de l'Équipement [ <i>Centre for Engineering Studies</i> ]
CIDA:	Canadian International Development Agency

CNEE:	Centre National de formation aux métiers de l'Eau et de l'Environnement [ <i>National Vocational Training Centre for Water and Environment</i> ]
CNRS:	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique [ <i>National Centre for Scientific Research, Paris</i> ]
COMECON:	Council for Mutual Economic Assistance
CSD:	Centre d'études en Sociologie et Développement [ <i>Centre for Sociology and Development Studies</i> ]
DANIDA:	Danish International Development Agency
DGCID:	Direction Générale de la Coopération Internationale et du Développement [ <i>General Directorate for International Cooperation and Development, Paris</i> ]
DWS:	Drinking Water Supply
EBAI:	École des Beaux-Arts de l'Indochine [ <i>Indochina School of Fine Arts</i> ]
EPFL:	École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne [ <i>Lausanne Federal Polytechnic School</i> ]
ESCG:	Environmental Services Community Group
FAO:	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation
GEMDEV:	Groupement d'intérêt scientifique pour l'Étude de la Mondialisation et du Développement [ <i>Scientific Network for the Study of Globalisation and Development, Paris</i> ]
GSO:	General Statistics Office
HCMC:	Ho Chi Minh City
HIDS:	Ho Chi Minh City Institute for Development Studies
HOUTRANS:	Ho Chi Minh City Urban Transport Master Plan and Feasibility Study
IER:	Institute for Economic Research of Ho Chi Minh City
IMV:	Institut des Métiers de la Ville [ <i>Cooperation Centre for Urban Development, Hanoi</i> ]
IPRAUS:	Institut Parisien de Recherche: Architecture, Urbanistique, Société [ <i>Parisian Research Institute: Architecture, Urbanism &amp; Society</i> ]
IRD:	Institut de Recherche pour le Développement [ <i>Institute of Research for Development, Paris</i> ]
ISO:	International Solidarity Organisation
ISTED:	Institut des Sciences et des Techniques de l'Équipement et de l'Environnement pour le Développement [ <i>Scientific and Technical Institute of Infrastructure and Environment for Development, Paris</i> ]

JBIC:	Japan Bank for International Cooperation
JICA:	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KDT:	<i>Khu Do Thi</i>
KTT:	<i>Khu Tap The</i>
MARD:	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MOC:	Ministry of Construction
MOET:	Ministry of Education and Training
MOF:	Ministry of Finance
MOH:	Ministry of Health
MOSTE:	Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment
MPI:	Ministry of Planning and Investment
NEA:	National Environmental Agency (1993), affiliated with the MOSTE
NGO:	Non-Governmental Organisation
NRWSS:	National Rural Water Supply and Sanitation
ODA:	Official Development Assistance
ODAP:	Overseas Development Assistance
OTV:	Subsidiary of Veolia Water
PACCOM:	People's Aid Coordinating Committee (Vietnamese organisation that issues permits for interventions to foreign ISOs)
PADDI:	Ho Chi Minh City Urban Development Management Support Centre
PMU:	Project Management Unit
PPP:	Public Private Partnership
PRUD:	Programme de Recherche Urbaine pour le Développement [ <i>Urban Research Programme for Development</i> ]
RWP:	Rural Water Programme
RATP:	Régie Autonome des Transports Parisiens [ <i>Autonomous Parisians Transport Administration</i> ]
SADE:	Subsidiary of Veolia Water
SAFEGE:	Société Anonyme Française d'Études et de Gestion [ <i>Limited Company for the Study of Management and Business</i> ]
SAUR:	Société d'Aménagement Urbain et Rural [ <i>Company for Urban and Rural Planning</i> ]
SCAC:	Service de Coopération et d'Action Culturelle [ <i>Cooperation and Cultural Action Office</i> ]
SEDIF:	Syndicat des Eaux d'Île-de-France [ <i>Ile-de-France Water Authority</i> ]
TDSI:	Transport Development Strategy Institute

TPWS:	Transport and Public Works Service (under the authority of the Vietnamese municipality)
TRAMOC:	Transport Management and Operation Centre, Hanoi
TUPWS:	Transport and Urban Public Works (construction of water supply and drainage infrastructures)
UNDP:	United Nations Development Programme
URENCO:	Urban Environment Company
VCP:	Vietnamese Communist Party
VeT:	Villes en Transition [Association Cities in Transition]
VINACONEX:	Viet Nam Construction and Import Export Corporation
VND:	Vietnamese Dong
VWSA:	Viet Nam Water Supply and Sewerage Association

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*Photo: Truong Quoc Toan, IMV, 2003*

Hanoi: Looking down from a tower block in Nhan Chinh Development, Cau Giay District