



ADB Transport Forum Manila

Case Study City: Colombo

Bruce Winston

PADECO Co., Ltd.

10 September 2008

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Introduction

- ADB approved a RETA in October 2006 to promote economic development through sustainable urban transport systems.
- Colombo was selected as one of five case study cities.
- The case study reports addressed government policy, strategy, and plans; urban transport issues and challenges; solutions; vision and overall investment framework; and project concept profiles.

Government Policy, Strategy, and Plans (1/2)

- The case study provided value in revisiting Colombo urban transport from a different perspective, including greater emphasis on social and environmental impacts, and a consideration of freight as well as passenger transport.
- Previous plans were often seen as a result in themselves, although in practice they are just the beginning.
- Implementation requires institutional capacity and financing in addition to engineering design.

Government Policy, Strategy, and Plans (2/2)

- International experience suggests that strong political will and thus the desire to find solutions is the only way to address urban transport concerns.
- A sea change is required in the way urban transport is tackled, with significant modifications in institutional structures, finances, stakeholder participation, and the defining of key objectives for urban transport.

Urban Transport Issues and Challenges

- Issues and challenges addressed related to TDM, public transport, freight transport, system integration, traffic management, parking, transport and land use planning, safety, social aspects, institutional and financial aspects, and environmental aspects.
- As examples, specific discussion of issues regarding public transport, freight transport, institutions, and the environment.

Visions/Solutions (1/2)

Key principles and associated approaches and solutions for achievement of sustainable urban transport in Colombo were found to include:

- integrating the planning of land use and transportation;
- providing an affordable transport system;
- promoting efficient operation of the urban freight system;
- optimizing the use of nonmotorized transport and paratransit;

Visions/Solutions (2/2)

- improvement of safety for all road users;
- preservation of the environment;
- improvement of transport for the poor and vulnerable;
- involvement of the private sector; and
- institutional improvements.

Project Concept/Implementation Profiles (1/2)

Four identified pilot projects were analyzed in detail:

- Rail-Based Inland Container Depot(s);
- a Bus Rapid Transit System Development;
- an Area Traffic Control System; and
- a Bus Route Concessioning Project.

The projects were selected based on a number of factors, including support for sustainable urban transport, engineering and design considerations, timeframe for implementation, replicability, management of social and resettlement issues, and inclusion within government plans and ADB's CPS.

Project Concept/Implementation Profiles (2/2)

To assure achievement of sustainable urban transport aims, it will be vital for social and environmental considerations to be included directly in project design.

A proactive approach to project design should be undertaken, using implementation of the projects as a “strategic opportunity”.

For More Information

Bruce Winston

bwinston@padeco.co.jp

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