

A model of reforming institutional structure to manage open-space in Hanoi City, Vietnam

Ngo Minh Hung

Ph.D., General Director, Institute of Cultural Heritage and Development Studies
Head, International Cooperation and Scientific Research Department, Van Lang University, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Email: hung.nm@vlu.edu.vn, hungnm_vn@yahoo.com

Abstract. A new Hanoi city had been expanded over 3,300km², which merged the old Hanoi with Ha Tay province and parts of Vinh Phuc and Hoa Binh provinces from August 1, 2008. After more than 10 emerge years, the population in the new city has gone up to over 8,05 million people in 2020. Improving urban living environment is one of the important targets for the new Hanoi, and managing open-space (m-OS) is a key element in achieving this goal. M-OS is a crucial issue since the expansion and re-zoning of the city can increase the rate of urbanization, cause disappearance of open-space and lead to a serious deterioration of living conditions. Administratively, institutions need to be reformed to effectively manage open spaces in the expanded Hanoi and there is a need to implement specific strategies to manage these areas. This paper aims to provide a solution in managing open-spaces. A managerial model consists of regulatory simplification and adjustment, decentralization of decision-making and simplification of open-space management process. Lastly, proposing an active plan is necessary to implement such strategies successfully and ensure effective and efficient management of open-space and community participation for a mega- Hanoi.

1. General background

The expanded Hanoi is considerably one of megacities in the world. Periodically, Hanoi has undergone three administrative boundary adjustments with two expansions in 1961 and 1978, and a streamlining in 1991. After the implementation of this mergence in 2008, at the Governmental level, the three consultants who were selected, among 12 tenderers by a special council showed different approaches toward the city development. First, Japan's Arata Isozaki - the Netherlands' Metropolitan Architecture presented the idea of "a multi-polar city". Second, South Korea's Posco E&C - two American firms - Jina Architect and Perkins Eastman introduced the vision of "green corridors". Finally, US-based architecture and design firm (RTKL Associates Inc.) showed the model of five satellite cities inside Hanoi.

At the national level, the new Hanoi Municipal People's Council approved socio-economic development tasks (2008, 2011, 2018) of the city. One of the initiatives, called sub-task, focused on relevant agencies to accelerate administrative reform, especially in terms of investment and land policies for businesses. Regarding the sub-task, it may be argued that there is a very good opportunity for local authorities and research scholars to review present policies and deal with existing problems in managing open-space within the mega-Hanoi. The paper, therefore, aims to answer a question of "how do they manage and protect current open-spaces through the city's institutional system to increase green areas