

POST-MODERN URBAN LANDSCAPES IN VIETNAM: POTENTIALS OF “CLIMATE GOVERNANCE”

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Abstract:

This paper discusses the development of post-modern urban landscapes in Vietnam. At first the term “post-modern urban landscape” will be introduced and discussed why this type is gaining increasing importance in urban Vietnam. Secondly, the various notions of the fuzzy term “governance” are explained. In the following, the analytical governance framework of the scientists DiGaetano/Strom will be introduced. It comprises different spheres of analysis and particularly investigates the set of stakeholders, the key decision makers, the governing relations between the stakeholders and the governing logic (the way decisions are taken). This concept will be speculatively applied regarding the policy field development of new urban areas in Vietnam. It will be discussed which governance modes currently prevail in Vietnam and if there is a change of governance modes expectable in the future.

After this rather analytical part, the paper will get a more normative notion because it will be discussed how (new) urban development in Vietnam can become more sustainable against the background of climate change. This happens by introducing the concept of “Climate Governance”. So far, this concept has been mostly used to describe and consequently to improve the organizational logic within the global discourse about climate change. In a rather speculative way, the author argues that the application of the concept of “Climate Governance” on municipal level can – firstly – generate scientific surplus because it enhances the understanding, which stakeholders are making the Vietnamese city and in which respect environmental issues play a role. Secondly, it might identify stakeholder coalitions and governing relations, which ensure greater urban environmental sustainability in Vietnam.

Key Words:

Post-Modern Urban Development, New Urban Area, Governance, Climate Change, Climate Governance, Vietnam

Research Background

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