

World class city-Information city: calibration of public choices

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ABSTRACT: In South East Asian cities where the image of 'world class' appeal to authorities, there are many evidences that local government devotes enormous public resources to create a built environment, to change the use of a large piece of land (build mega-infrastructure, airport & large entertainment project, stadium, convention center, mega-mall) to host global visitors. The government justify their act by expecting return from global investment and speak of creating a "world-class" city image. The question we should ask is whether the amount of the public expenditures and the public returns can be calibrated and disclosed. Whether the consequence of such project for the area or the city is what has been preferred environmentally, economically and socially?

A Wide variety of researchers are working on modeling the spatial and temporal patterns of land conversion and understanding the causes and consequences of these changes. Among these, geographers and natural scientists have taken the lead in developing spatially explicit models of land (resource) use, change and the consequences to the environment. However, less attention has been given in the development of these models to understanding the economic and social consequences.

This paper reviews some of the advances that have been made by researchers in developing these models of spatial land use change, focusing on their modeling of the environment, economic and social process associated with land use change. Next, brief examples of using these models in planning and evaluating public projects are illustrated. The paper then concludes with suggestions for further research and interdisciplinary approach that is necessary to help accelerate development in our context.

Conference Topic: 5 Information Cities

Keywords: resource used, land use change, environmental models, economic models, social models