



ETH STUDIO BASEL
Institut Stadt der Gegenwart
Contemporary City Institute

„Vietnam’s Urban Development in Transition: Challenges and Chances“

Lecture by

Michael Waibel

Wednesday, 29. February 2012 / 17.30 p.m.

Michael Waibel will discuss urban growth in the Vietnamese capital Hà Nội, where the urban planning process itself is the direct result of a necessity to assure the production of quality urban space in the face of private development.

After the gradual introduction of market-led reforms in Vietnam since the late 1980s, known as *Đổi Mới* (Renovation) Policy, Vietnam’s economy gained tremendous momentum. The Vietnamese state had to give up its role as sole provider of housing and real estate and new players entered the arena of urban development. This talk will investigate the dynamics behind this, taking a look at the driving forces as well as the key stakeholders, their constant negotiation processes and how this materializes within the urban fabric, with Hanoi taken as a case study.

Dr. Michael Waibel is Senior Researcher at the Department of Economic Geography of the University of Hamburg. He holds a Ph.D. in Human Geography and a M.Sc. on Economic Geography with key competencies in urbanism, empirical research methods and urban governance. He gains more than 15 years of international experience in academic work, and capacity development in Southeast Asia as well as in East Asia. In 2001, he published his PhD-thesis about the urban development of Hanoi with special consideration of the socio-economic transition of the Ancient Quarter driven by private shop-owners.