1. Xining Public Transport Corridor Urban Design Collaborative Workshop

- **[Project]** As a part of the Xining Urban Transport Project, the World Bank China Transport Team organized an Urban Design Collaborative Workshop to support development of the integrated Wusixi Road Public Transport Corridor. Xining Urban Transport Project is a $251.7 million program (US$120 million IBRD loan, US$131.7 counterpart funding) that comprehends investments in road construction, public transport, traffic management and capacity building. The project’s main target is the development of an integrated Public Transport Corridor on Wusixi Road, an east-west road connecting Xining’s downtown area and the commercial district of Chengxi to the east, and the new development areas of Haihu and Xichuan to the west.

- **[Workshop]** The Workshop was held in Xining, Qinghai Province, from August 31 to September 7, 2012, with the objective of creating a conceptual and visible vision for the proposed public transport corridor that incorporates the best international practice in terms of integrated transport and land use planning, transit oriented development (TOD), pedestrian oriented design (POD). The Workshop consisted of eight days of very intense collaborative work by a team of local public officials, and the consultants and Bank Staff. Substantial interactions happened between local team and international experts, through site visits, inception meetings, studio works, etc.

- **[Output and Lessons Learned]**

International and national experiences in public transport corridor development have demonstrated consistently that, beyond getting the technical aspects of transport planning right, an essential element of project success is incorporating high-quality people-oriented design to both the transport and land use plans. To this end, the Workshop helped visualize and enhance the following concepts: the land use layout of the corridor needs to achieve an efficient distribution of employment and service centers, places of interest, etc.; the design of sidewalks, landscaping and additional public spaces –like parks and plazas– needs to provide a comfortable and enjoyable pedestrian experience; and special attention needs to be put to ‘place making’, i.e. developing a diversity of attractive neighborhoods along the corridor, combining residential areas, with shopping opportunities, restaurants, cafes, and the like. The workshop itself focused on delivering to the high ranking officials a more thorough and detailed proposal for the Wusi xi corridor, based on the following principles:

- In relation to urban planning and design, the Wusi xi corridor will achieve: i) compact mixed-use development, concentrating high quality urban life along the corridor; ii) employment and service opportunities in proximity to residential areas; iii) place making: diversity of destinations and local identities, attracting inter district travel; iv) high quality public spaces ranging from large parks and plazas, to smaller squares and pockets of greenery and urban furniture; and v) common thread
elements unifying the experience of the corridor together.

- In relation to transport planning, the Wusi xi corridor will realize: i) a corridor travel priority as follows: pedestrians, non-motorized transport, public transport, private motorized vehicles, freight; ii) generous sidewalks, complemented by a dense network of secondary and tertiary paths; iii) a segregated bicycle lane, always guaranteed; iv) public transport services within a brief walk, providing efficient travel to multiple locations; and v) car use on is not discouraged, but alternative roads should provide a faster option.

- **[Tools and Deliverables]** Aside from the two workshops held locally and the short summary delivered to high-ranking officials in Xining, the consultant team and bank staff had developed a report of URBAN DESIGN CONCEPTS - In Support of Sustainable Urban Transport Corridor Development. The Urban Design Concepts Report is widely distributed to other Chinese cities as a tool to explain the concepts of integrated corridor design, TOD and POD. The report is available for public via the link: [http://bit.ly/L5sSCp](http://bit.ly/L5sSCp)