IVM Chine

Launched in June 2000, the Institut pour la ville en mouvement (IVM) [City On The Move institute] seeks to contribute to the emergence of innovative solutions for urban mobilities. It brings together representatives of the corporate and academic worlds, researchers and practitioners from the social, cultural and voluntary sectors, along with municipalities, to work on joint action-research projects. It seeks to test concrete solutions, to promote international comparisons, to identify the most original urbanistic and architectural approaches. In Asia, America, Africa and Europe, City on the Move mobilizes experts and expertise from multiple disciplines, disseminates knowledge and raises public awareness of the challenge that mobilities represent for the societies of today.

As of January 2016, the City On The Move institute is integrated to VEDECOM, a public-private French research institute dedicated to carbon-free, sustainable and new individual mobilities. It is based on an unprecedented collaboration between industries of the automotive sector, infrastructure and services operators in the mobility eco-system, academic research institutions, and local communities in the Paris region. VEDECOM aims at becoming a European innovation leader in the fields of electrified vehicles, autonomous and connected cars, and new infrastructure and services for shared mobility and energy. The City on the move institute completes VEDECOM’s technological innovation program with an organizational and societal approach, including a better understanding of urban, architectural and social mutations.

In China, IVM has since 2001 been a focus of both research and action. This action consists of international conferences in Chengdu, Beijing and Shanghai on the big challenges of development in transportation and mobility under the condition of fast motorization and massive urbanization; city workshops in Shanghai, Wuhan, Canton, Hangzhou and Chongqing, bringing together European and Chinese experts to explore concrete issues; a university chair of urban mobility at the University of; an architecture competition on the topic of sustainable
mobility with 80 European and Chinese students; architecture and urban design exhibitions providing a focus for subsequent encounters; and finally, publications arising out of partnerships with leading Chinese journals and publishing houses.

Created in April 2005, City On The Move's University Chair in China is the outcome of a partnership with the College of Architecture and Urban Planning at the prestigious University of Tongji in Shanghai. Since then, the role of the Chair has been to provide a focus for points of view from different disciplines on the issue of urban mobility: sociologists, transport engineers, economists, geographers, etc.

Initiated in 2010, the “Better Mobility Better Life!” Prize is enabling the identification of innovative solutions of mobility management in China. This competition is organized in partnership with the World Bank, the University of Tongji, the Transportation Research Center of the Housing and Urban and Rural Development Ministry, the Urban Transport journal and the Association of urbanism schools of China. Each year, dozens of initiatives originating from many cities are presented to a jury of international experts.

Because mobility has an impact on the city and on urban development, IVM looks at the different solutions that architects and urban planners from all around the world have adopted through its international exhibitions such as "The Street Belongs To All Of Us!", Chinese version, with local examples added, presented in Shanghai and Beijing. It proposed ideas for the future of the 21st-century street; "Architecture On The Move!" (45 resolutely innovative projects on new urban practices at a time of intermodality. Exhibition shown in Shanghai, Chongqing, Wuhan, Canton, Beijing and Xi’an).

IVM China office, led by Professor Pan Haixiao, feeds the axes of reflection of the City on the Move institute through academic and scientific programs, as well as empirical study cases, such as its participation to the international project “The Making of Movement”, and its seminar in Paris in 2012 titled "What drives public action on urban mobility issues? The making of movement in global megacities".

Its more recent contributions include, in 2015, the setup of an international competition about the site of the 2010 Universal Expo in Shanghai, whose work and results, as well as the research done by IVM China, were integrated into the "Passages, Transitional Spaces For The 21st Century City" touring exhibition.

Among the seminars organized by IVM in China:
“Urban mobilities. Research priorities and problems in china and abroad” (Tsinghua University, Beijing 2004), “Is China in the process of inventing the streets of the future?” (Tongji University, Shanghai 2008), "Accessibility in metropolitan spaces” (Tongji University, Shanghai 2006), “The emergence of mobility services in China” (Tsinghua University, Beijing 2009), “Travel survey, mobility analysis and transport policy” (Tsinghua University, Beijing 2011)

Among the publications released by IVM China: