SOFT MOBILITY
An alternative to conventional transportation systems
Prelude

- Situation: from where am I speaking?
  - Young
  - Big user of bicycle

- Idea to be developed
  - Let’s define soft mobility
  - The importance of creating an alternative
  - Need for considering soft mobility and alternative mobility seriously
Let’s define soft mobility - the « what » and the « why » -

The what: What is soft mobility?

- Soft / Hard
  - Mechanized/non-mechanized
- Bicycle, pedestrian, boats...
Box 1: Cycling line in Paris

- All the city is covered by cycling lines
- System of bicycle renting
  - Velib’, a system extended to most of French cities
- Remain far from the Netherlands
Box 2: Pedestrian side-walks and pedestrian places

- Personal statement: how do you walk Yangon?
  - To walk in Yangon is a sport and it looks like walking in the jungle

- Pedestrian in Europe
  - Since the 90’s, increase the size of side-walks.
  - Creation of more square = social life concerns
Box 3: Using the river in Paris and Bangkok

- Boat is widely used in Bangkok for transporting people
  - Same system as the metro: there are lines, regular stops, terminals

- In Paris you can go from one side of the city to another by boat
Box 3: Blablacar

- Car-pooling = to share a car with somebody we do not know
- New system based on internet
- Very profitable for all
  - Service provider = company « blablacar »
  - Driver = can pay its fuel and meet with new people
  - Service user = can travel for cheap and meet with new people
The why: Why soft mobility?

- Less polluting
  - Does a bicycle produce CO2?
  - Noise pollution
- Offer alternative and is more adaptable
  - Give the people the choice to decide whether they want to drive a car or do bicycle
- Make a more liveable city
  - Well-being of the population is what matters most!
- Foster tourism
  - Attract more foreigners and constitute a strong marketing element for the country

Most importantly, it is noteworthy to realize that it is **fun** !!!!
Box 4: Why does Europe promote bicycle?

- Far more short car journeys in particular could be made by bicycle or on foot instead.
- 10% of car journeys are shorter than a kilometre
- 30% are shorter than three kilometres
- 50% are shorter than five kilometres.

There is enormous potential here for more environment-friendly mobility patterns!
Importance of creating alternative mobility plan

- Common space for the citizens
  - Long distance = public transportation systems
  - Short distance = soft mobility

- Answer the issue of space
  - A bicycle or a pedestrian take less space than a car or a bus

- The summum of Democracy
  - Sharing the geographical space is important
  - End discrimination (geographic and economic discrimination mainly)
  - « My country will be a full democracy when I will be able to see it in my daily life » =
Need for considering soft mobility and alternative mobility seriously

Seriously = planning

- Low investments requested in term of money
  - BUT strong investments required in term of thinking!

- Coordination and connexion with other mobility plan
  - Soft mobility plan must be integrated in transportation systems plan
  - Liaison between boats stops and bus/tram stops
  - Liaison between bicycle renting place and bus/tram stops
Box 5: Pont Adolphe in Luxembourg
Why not promoting an alternative mobility plan for Yangon?

- Develop bicycle lines
  - Ok, monsoon and hot season.
  - But is it a reason not to propose bicycle for those who are willing to use it despite the whether?

- Develop the use of the Yangon river as a transportation line from northern townships to downtown

- Create pedestrian places
  - Day without cars
  - Streets forbidden to cars: some small street in several townships
  - Pedestrian
THANK YOU!