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PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT AND TRAFFIC ACCIDENT PREVENTION IN INDONESIA*

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*This article is based on a short presentation (commentary on the leading presentation) delivered at the 1st Global Interactive Forum on Traffic and Safety (GIFTS), organized by the International Association of Traffic and Safety Sciences (IATSS) on November 28, 2015 at United Nations University in Tokyo, Japan.

Traffic accidents have long been known as an iceberg for comprehending the discrepancies of traffic management and entire transportation systems. Figures detailing traffic accidents in Indonesia, as is the case in many other countries, show significantly high numbers and severity levels; these types of totals are also evident in Jakarta, the highest-populated city in the country. While the common consensus recognizes that traffic accidents are the results of three different factor types, namely human factors, vehicle factors, and external factors (including road conditions), human factors have the strongest influence—and figures on a world-wide scale corroborate that assertion. We, however, try to pinpoint the issues of non-human factors in light of increasing traffic accidents in Indonesia, where motorbike accidents account for the majority of incidents. We then consider three important pillars of action: the development of public transportation, improvement of the road ratio, and traffic management measures.

Keywords: traffic accidents, non-human factors, public transportation, road ratio, and traffic management

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