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ASSIGNMENT A – ESTIMATING THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF TRANSPORT SUB-MARKETS IN COLOMBIA

« Transport », or transport activity, or transport output, or transport market, or transport demand, is usually measured in physical quantities, such as passenger*kilometers for passenger transportation or ton*kilometers for freight. This is insufficient, and might even be misleading, for three main reasons. First, such units are rather crude, in the sense that not all ton*km (or passenger*km) are equal. Second, this procedure makes it impossible to add or to compare passenger transportation and goods transportation, which are not measured in the same unit. Third, it assumes that there are only two sub-markets (passengers and goods) when in fact there are more sub-markets, such as urban transport and intercity transport.

It is desirable to measure the transport activity of a country in money or value terms, as the amount of money users pay to get transport services, and also desirable to distinguish as many distinct sub-markets as possible. This exercise was conducted for France, and the findings are presented in Table 1.

Table 1 – Demand for transport in France, by sub-markets, in value terms
(in % of total)

Passenger transportation	71		
Urban transportation		26	
City center to city center			3
Periphery to city center			5
Periphery to periphery			18
Intercity transportation		44	
Business trips			9
Non business (leisure) trips			35
Goods transportation	29		
On short distances (less than 150 km)		15	
Urban			4
Non urban			11
On long distances (more than 150 km)		14	
Urgent			10
Non urgent			4
Total	100	100	100

You will prepare a similar table for Colombia. It is likely that many of the asked for numbers, beginning with the number for the total (in $), do not exist as such. You will have to "produce" them, on the basis of available information. You will specify - and try to justify - the sources utilized (and discuss them if useful), the choices made and the procedures utilized.

You can present the paper in Spanish.