

# LARGE-SCALE URBANIZATION IN ETHIOPIA

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December, 2019.



# INTRODUCTION

## FOCUS AREAS:

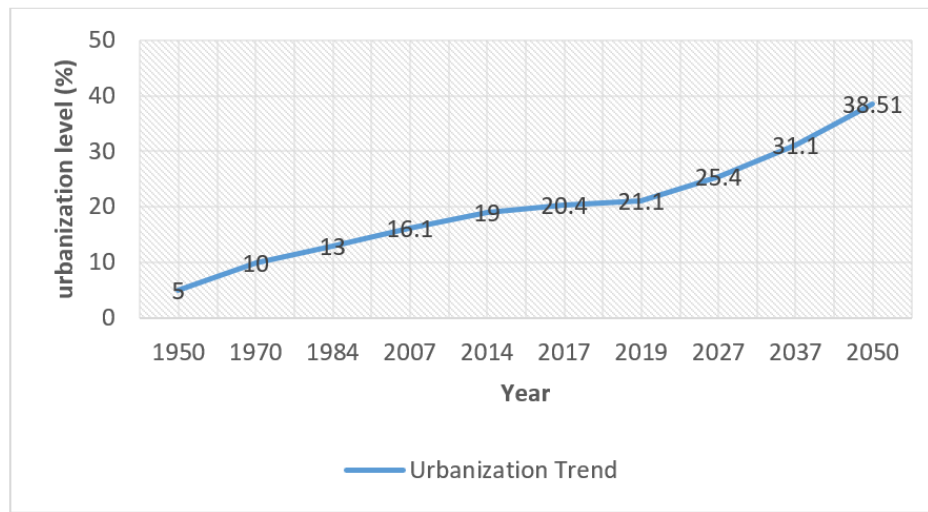
- The challenges of urbanization, urban centers and rural areas
- Large scale urbanization, rural transformation, integration, good quality of built and natural environment and quality of life



# DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM

## BACKGROUND:

- Past urbanization level in Ethiopia: 5% in 1950, 19% in 2014 (2%/decade)
- CSA ICPS: 16.1% (2007) projected to be 31.1% (2037)
- Current Ethiopian urbanization 21.1 %, African 40%, World 55.7%
- By 2050 Ethiopia 38.51%, African 60%, World 66%



Year	Urbanization Level (%)
1950	5
1970	10
1984	13
2007	16.1
2014	19
2017	20.4
2019	21.1
2027	25.4
2037	31.1
2050	38.51

Table and graph showing the urbanization level in Ethiopia within 1950-2050 period. (Source: Compiled from sources cited in the paper and own projection).



# DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM

## BACKGROUND:

- By 2050 61.49% Ethiopians will still be living in rural areas i.e. additional 18mill to the current 83mill= 101mill
  - Already there is declining land share (<1ha) and increasing landlessness
  - Youth had limited access to land due to land scarcity and market restrictions
  - Only 9% pursue agriculture as their livelihood and 10% of the economically active population employed in non-agricultural sectors
  - 72% farms in the world are less than 1 hectare but huge portion of the food is produced by large-scale farms, and most of the labour force are absorbed in non-agricultural economic sectors
  - Ethiopia: limited large-scale and irrigated farms as a result there is food insecurity, and shortage of inputs for industries
- Government implemented: ADLI (1993-2000); SDPRP (2000-2005); PASDEP, (2005-2010); GTP I (2010-2015) and II (2016-2020)
  - ADLI and SDPRP focused on rural development and progressively diversified to industrialization and other sectors
  - Problem of integration, slow but unserved urbanization, marginalization of rural areas



# DESCRIPTION...

## BACKGROUND:

- Population growth is the bases for urban expansion, creates demand for goods and services and markets for entrepreneurs
- Urban centers are hubs and engines of economic development and transformation (direct correlation)
- China's urbanization: enabled moving of 260 million migrants from agriculture to more productive activities; lifting 500 million people out of poverty, and registering of 10% percent annual average economic growth for three consecutive decades
- Economic transformation involves:
  - Reallocation of resources from less productive to more productive sectors
  - Increase in the relative contribution of manufacturing to GDP and rise of a modern industrial and service economy
  - Declining share of agricultural employment to total employment
  - Demographic transition from high rates of births and deaths to low rates
  - Rise in urbanization and shift in economic activity from rural to urban areas
  - Africa's urbanization is more of increase in population and area and is faced with numerous challenges

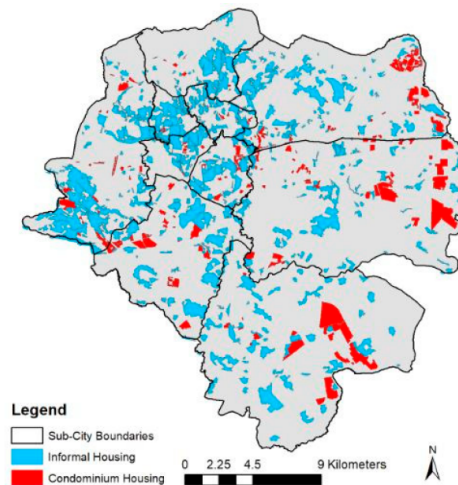
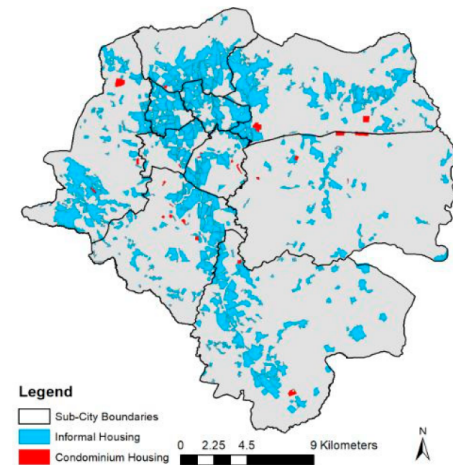


# DESCRIPTION...

## CHALLENGES FACING URBAN CENTERS IN ETHIOPIA:

### ■ Addis Ababa

- 2018 population=3.5 million; declining growth rate of 2.39-1.614% (2018-2050); 6.29 million by 2050
- Age composition <15, 15-64 and above 64 years 24.7%, 71.8% and 3.5% respectively
- Total unemployment rate: 21.2% (national average 16.8%), males 14.4%, females 28.6%)
- Proportion of rural-urban migrants in 2017 47.6%
- Total area 51,949 ha; built-up area increased from 24924 to 35050ha (2006-2016)
- Water supply coverage 90%, water loss 50%, only 14% of households are connected to the sewerage network, area reserved for infrastructure 17% (MUDCHo standard 30%)
- Has structure, NDPs and LDPs (poor implementation)
- Highest housing demand ratio of 361 per 1,000 population (1.16 million people=33%)
- Informal housing declined from 57% to 38%
- Overall density decreased from 109 to 98 inhab./hectare UN Habitat, 2014 standard 150 inhab./ha)
- Low housing affordability: condominium housing unaffordable to 49.5% of the new owners



# DESCRIPTION...

## CHALLENGES FACING URBAN CENTERS:

### ■ Addis Ababa...

- Per capita green area ratio: 0.4-0.9m<sup>2</sup> (WHO standard of 9m<sup>2</sup>), Available areas not fully functional, well developed and properly utilized, responsible for 40% of the flooding and landslides in the city
- Poor development and utilization of left-over urban spaces, poorly located, and organized and uncomfortable local markets; poor view of surrounding areas of garages and workshops; unattended cluttered government and public compounds; crowding of notice boards at round about and sides of streets and poor landscape development
  - No toilets and storages
  - Not well organized, designed and built
  - Affect the beauty and comfort; emotional wellbeing and confidence of the people
  - Not sustainable and do not inspire people to look for change and a better future



View of Merkato from Shema Tera building.



Saris Market ~



# CHALLENGES FACING URBAN CENTERS:

## ■ Addis Ababa

- Other problems: Shortage of affordable housing options; loss of prime agricultural land; poor mixity; emergence and proliferation of gated communities; low density and inefficient housing development; poor quality and dilapidated housing and living environment and growing rate of homelessness
- Addis Ababa is the main gateway to Ethiopia; seat of national, Africa and international organizations, still facing multifaceted challenges thus more efforts required to make it competitive global city.



Views of Market located in the eastern part of Lafto.



Views of Market located nearby the minibus and three-legged taxi stations in Lafto.



Views of Market located north of the taxi station in Lafto, near the road crossing.



Market located in Jemo along the main asphalt street.

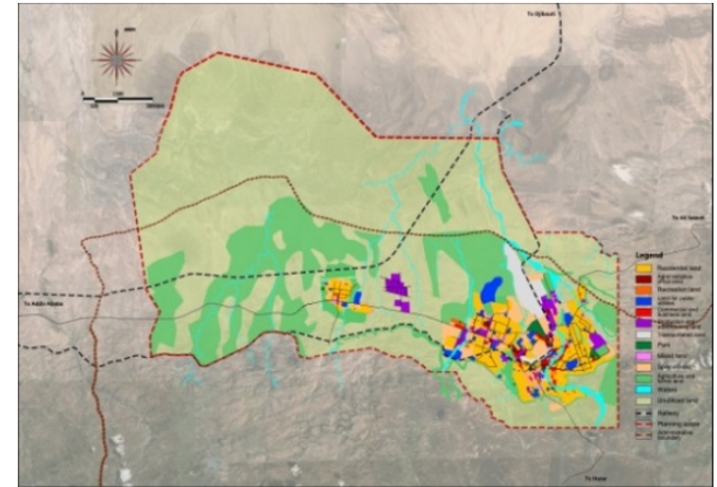




# DESCRIPTION...

## ▪ Diredawa

- 2018 population 303000; Medium variant growth rate 3- 2.92% (2018-2050), 780487 by 2050
- Age composition: <15 years 23.3%, 15-64 years 73.4% and above 64 years 3.2%
- Rural-urban migrants in 2017: 46.6%
- Youth unemployment rate: 33%
- Administrative area: 133262 ha, urban settlement 6862 ha (5.15%)
- Outdated Structure Plan; No plan for overall development: except SEZ; LDPs covered built up area but difficult implementation
- Water supply coverage: 76%
- Area of infrastructure: 10.8%
- City faces problem of informal developments, challenges of urban planning and development management



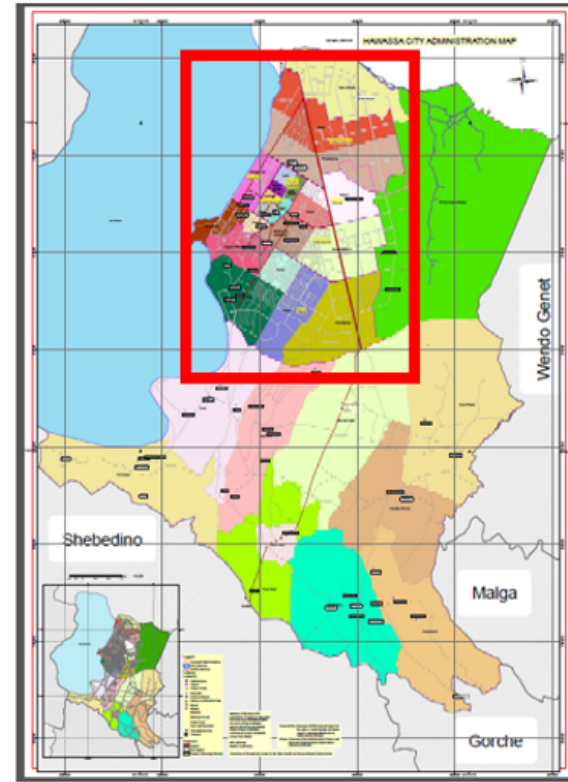
Diredawa city administration boundary and existing land use, 2015.  
(Source: Diredawa SEZ, 2015). |



# DESCRIPTION...

## ■ Hawassa

- 2018 population 352954, growth rate of 5.28 - 3.56% (2018-2050); 1323924 population by 2050
- Age composition: <15 years 33.9%, 15-64 years 64.2% and above 64 years 2%
- Total dependency ratio: 55.9%
- Rural-urban migrants in 2017: 60.1%
- Administrative area: 15720 ha, recently delineated about 3 fold as expansion area
- Plan for overall development: not prepared; LDPs for selected areas but slow implementation,
- Water supply coverage: 85%
- Area of infrastructure: 16%
- Problems: informal developments; land speculation; loss of agricultural land and poor environmental management



Hawassa city administration, 2016.

(Source: Hawassa City Administration, 2015).



# DESCRIPTION...

## ▪ Bahirdar

- 2018 population 331549, growth rate 5.59 - 3.6% (2018-2050); popn 1258695 by 2050
- Age composition: <15 years 33.9%, 15-64 years 64.2% and above 64 years 2%
- Total dependency ratio: 46.4%
- Rural-urban migrants in 2017: 55.6%
- Administrative area: 6239 ha (urban kebeles), 15865 ha including satellite towns and 42160 ha plus rural kebeles
- Structure Plan expired; No plan for overall development: have LDPs for selected areas but slow implementation
- Housing demand ratio of 272.4 per 1,000 populations (27.24%)
- Share of green areas: 14%
- Total length of roads 667.342 km q.l. 63km/km<sup>2</sup> (<18km/km<sup>2</sup>, UN Habitat, 2014) ; reserved area for roads in the structure plan was 467 ha accounting for 7.5%
- Problems: informal developments; poor infrastructure and service delivery to satellite towns and rural kebeles; loss of agricultural land and green frame



Bahirdar City (Source: Google Earth, 2018).



Bahirdar City Administration Boundary (Source: Bahirdar University, 2012).



# DESCRIPTION...

- **Challenges facing small and medium urban centers**
  - There are a total of 1,525 urban centers in Ethiopia
    - 1,385 (90.8%) are municipalities or towns with population of 2000-20,000 and under the authority of weredas
      - Too small to function as key economic service centers
      - Suffer from reduced or divided attention
      - Face poor provision of housing, services and infrastructure; poor peri-urban development, exposed to informal development, misuse of agricultural land; poorly served, low density and sprawling settlements
      - Low job opportunities
      - Could not compete with larger urban centers, they suffer from loss of people and investments and poor economy of scale
    - 140 (9.2%) granted ULG status;
      - Out of these medium urban centers have population of 20000-200000
      - Face similar problems with secondary cities



# **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION AND CALL FOR ACTIONS**

## **■ Summary of findings**

- The rate and level of urbanization are low; most urban centers face multifaceted challenges
- The poor quality of developments is paralyzing our economic growth, happiness and pride
- With the ongoing trend, urban centers in Ethiopia will not be able to meet Goal 11 of the Millennium Development Goals: “Make Cities Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable” unless we come up with better and improved development approaches.
- Rural areas: face prevalence of poverty and food insecurity; poor services and infrastructure; are still marginalized; have surplus labour force; there will be increasing demand for agricultural products as inputs for industries.



# SUMMARY...

## ▪ CONCLUSION

- Developing of tolerance to poverty, unable to exploit more opportunities and mechanisms
- The slow and disintegrated implementation of projects led to multiplication and complication of our problems and wastage of resources
- Now, surplus rural labour force need jobs at the same place or massive shifting to urban centers
- The food insufficiency and increasing demand of agricultural inputs for industries calls for expansion of large-scale and irrigated farming
- Urban centers will not be able to accommodate the rural and their own labour forces; cater for demands of housing, infrastructure and services and be competitive at the national and international levels and meet the Millennium Development Goals (11) through small-scale and disintegrated interventions
- Therefore:
  - Scaling up of urbanization and agriculture;
  - Integration and sustaining of development efforts within and across urban centers and rural areas and sectors;
  - Improving the quality of the built and natural environments and quality of life
- To this end we need to,
  - Open-up;
  - Identify the gaps in our policies, laws, strategies and programs;
  - Design and implement unique and localized strategies by changing our current approaches to development.



# PROPOSED SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS

## PROPOSED SOLUTION A:-

Carry out large-scale urbanization, scaling up the rate, level and quality by applying alternative options and interventions from lower spatial levels to big agglomerations supported by investments and learning by doing:-

### Action 1: Open up urban centers, bring about urban agglomeration and economy of scale:

Create dialogue and negotiation and intensify coordination and integration among urban centers and surrounding settlements; maintain green belt and food production in and around urban centers; allow controlled migration, minimize displacement in existing settlements; accommodate settlements in expansion and peri-urban areas; allow self-transformation or development by own force; give right to invest or maintain property; use people's and private sector potential for development in integration with government interventions.



# PROPOSED SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS

## PROPOSED SOLUTION A Contd...:-

Action 2: Promote development of urban regions to enable urban centers to become competitive national and international cities:

Update and implement the National Urban Development Spatial Plan (Egis international et al, 2016), which proposed urban clusters and corridors, industrialization and integration of economic sectors, by cascading down and localizing the proposals to Addis Ababa, Diredawa, regions, zones and weredas as applicable.

Example: Bishoftu, Mojo, Adama, Dukem, Gelan, Oude Dhenkaka, Dire, Chefe Donsa etc.



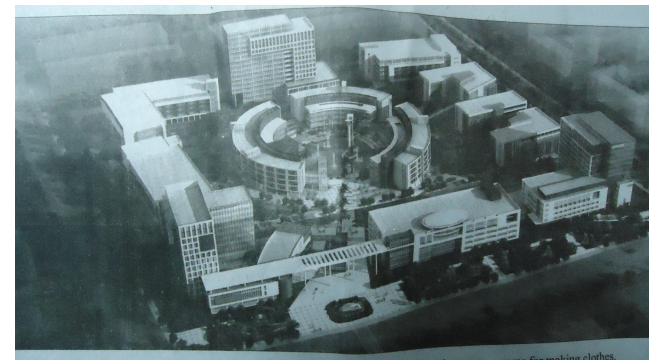


# PROPOSED SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS

## PROPOSED SOLUTION A Contd:-

### Action 3. Strengthen the preparation of standardized large-scale new urban development projects:

Continue preparation of high standard, integrated, complete and holistic plans and designs of large-scale developments such as Industry Parks, Special Economic Zones, large-scale housing, new urban settlements nearby, and around urban centers, or in existing brown field or new green field areas which together sum up and improve the urban centers and bring about sustainable developments within large-scale integrated plan.



# **SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS...**

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION B:-**

**Improve quality of urban development and urban life:-**

### Action 1. Change our approach to urbanization:

Implement smart urban planning, development and management; start and strengthen the journey towards smartness, taking sustained, targeted, coordinated and integrated actions in accordance with United4SmarterCities (UN, 2019); which describe the indicators that form part of a holistic view of a city's performance in three dimensions (economy, environment and society and culture); incorporate smart goals in urban planning, development and management.



# SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS...

## PROPOSED SOLUTION B Contd:-

Action 2. Update, execute and sustain existing and ongoing studies and projects:

Complete planned and ongoing urban development projects and initiatives such as ICT (MUDC, 2015), cadaster, infrastructure and services development, afforestation and green development initiatives.



# **SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS...**

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION B Contd:-**

### Action 3. Solve impediments for development:

Identify gaps and ease down policies, laws, regulations and requirements that hamper, create obstacles and delay in urban development and improvement; minimize risks associated with conflicts among groups such as farmers, previous land holders, government public, and private developers by updating and maintaining data on land and resources chronologically using engineering and technology and using the data as input for urban planning and management.



# **SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS...**

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION B Contd:-**

### Action 4. Promote climate and green oriented developments:

Design and utilize river banks, left over urban spaces; urban streets, squares, parks; intensify implementation of 40/30/30 ratio (built-up, streets and green areas, MUDC 2014); exploit their economic, social and environmental benefits; start implementing actions for addressing risks and hazards in urban centers that were studied; identify risks in others design and implement actions.



# SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS...

## PROPOSED SOLUTION B Contd:-

Action 5. Standardize public building structures, compounds of public and government institutions, and urban spaces:

Prepare standards and build floors of local markets with materials that enable to keep hygiene; lay proper ditches; design and apply improved structures with seats and storages; widen and standardize internal and external circulations; provide public toilets and showers in markets, public buildings, urban spaces and streets; keep hygiene, cleanliness and visual quality of government, public and private compounds; prepare and implement landscape designs.



# **SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS...**

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION B Contd:-**

Action 6. Identify and improve deteriorated parts of urban centers progressively:

Strengthen the initiative of identifying and locating slum areas in urban centers by MUDHCo; carry out urban upgrading and renewal through collaborative actions of own capacity of residents, developers and government



# **SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS...**

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION B Contd:-**

Action 7. Build urban knowledge base and technical capacities of urban administrations; promote and sustain research and change:

Carry out public awareness and education and revolutionize the attitude and culture of people against being content with poverty and its overall societal acceptance; build public aspirations for change, overall confidence and happiness; create and promote show cases of better and improved developments and center of excellences; build knowledge base and provide continuous trainings to urban administrators and experts; continue the search for better and affordable developments options; sustain actions through improving by applying lessons learnt.





# **SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS...**

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION C:-**

### **Transform rural areas:-**

Action 1. Create jobs at the source, engage people in rural areas in non-agricultural economic activities:

Establish Small Scale Enterprises (MSEs), and agro-processing in the rural areas and link these to large-scale producers, distributors and whole sellers; create markets and market linkages; provide space in market places for farmers in the urban centers; link markets in the rural areas to buyers in the urban centers.



# **SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS...**

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION C Contd:-**

### Action 2. Expand and complete ongoing rural access projects, rural electrification and transportation:

Increase rural road and transport accessibility, connectivity, in rural areas rural people to enable them save time, sell their products within the urban centers, work in the urban centers while still staying at the rural areas without the need to migrate to urban centers; create equal access to standardized services and housing; improve health and education services; improve the capacity and productivity of people.



# **SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS...**

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION C Contd:-**

Action 3. Strengthen existing, create new and promote large-scale agriculture:

Improve production of food and agricultural inputs for manufacturing; expand commercial farms to increase inputs for manufacturing; expand irrigation, widen provision of improved agricultural inputs and technology; expand afforestation and rehabilitation and protection of environmentally sensitive areas.



# **SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS...**

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION D:-**

**Unlock the potential of own financing of urban centers from within through investigating more options and alternatives:-**

Action 1. Assist urban administrations to enhance and generate more revenue through strengthening updating of data helping to collect overdue rents, taxes and revenues:

Strengthen and assist updating of data on land and other resources of urban administrations to enable them collect more revenues from land and land related taxes and service charges. Continue and complete legalized administrative boundary demarcations; ongoing and upcoming land inventory, registration and cadaster using simplified methods, steps and procedures by learning from the experiences until now; adjoin and align urban and rural land registrations and national level data on land.



# SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS...

## PROPOSED SOLUTION D Contd:-

Action 2. Strengthen matching and collaborative financing; engaging the private and public sector through partnerships:

Create government institution financing urban developments and engage private sector and MSEs in implementation of infrastructure projects and create planned, served and standardized settlements in collaboration with utility agencies, communities and residents and recover the cost.



# SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS...

## PROPOSED SOLUTION D Contd:-

### Action 3. Intensify cost recovery:

Enable urban administrations to carry out viable projects that are sustainable and promote economic and social developments and recover the costs through auditing of costs of developments and managements.



# **SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS...**

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION D:-**

Action 4. Assist urban administrations to find long and medium-term loans and grants; enable urban administrations to act as entrepreneurs and corporate entities:

Help urban administrations to get loans or grants from local and international agencies by mediating and providing warranty and following-up repayments. Enable urban centers to create financing institution for urban development by pulling or contributing finances from their own sources and form urban development financing cooperative/s that provide/s loans by studying feasibility of proposed projects, collecting loan repayments; provide services and generate finance; find financing options and sources and manage overall activities.



# **SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS...**

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION D:-**

Action 5. Promote collaborative and shared financing between and among urban administrations:

Create and facilitate institutional arrangement, laws and forums for discussion, negotiation, consensus building between and among adjoining urban centers to finance and manage common infrastructure and other projects; protection of the environment and address overall common developments and challenges.





**THANK YOU**

