

# SECONDARY TOWN DEVELOPMENT

## SUPPORTING "EMERGING CITIES" BY A CITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY IN ETHIOPIA - TIGRAY REGION

Diploma thesis 2009/2010 - Faculty of Spatial Planning University of Dortmund - Maren Wichardt

### Background

The present urbanisation process in developing countries, caused by high natural growth rates and rural-urban migrants mainly looking for employment wears on and puts increasing pressure on urban governments. In Ethiopia the regional government of Tigray is at the point of upgrading eleven Emerging Cities by providing administrative status. These towns shall prevent accruing gaps in the regional urban network. Authorities are requested to take the opportunities which derive from the increasing population, to strengthen the economy and to stimulate its sustainable growth. The aim is to alleviate poverty and to improve the quality of life for a large share of the population.

### Research Objectives

The research carried out, aims at the support of secondary towns by a City Development Strategy for Emerging Cities in Ethiopia, with the focus on Tigray Region. The elaborated results contribute to the overall knowledge for the development of secondary towns by a City Development Strategy.

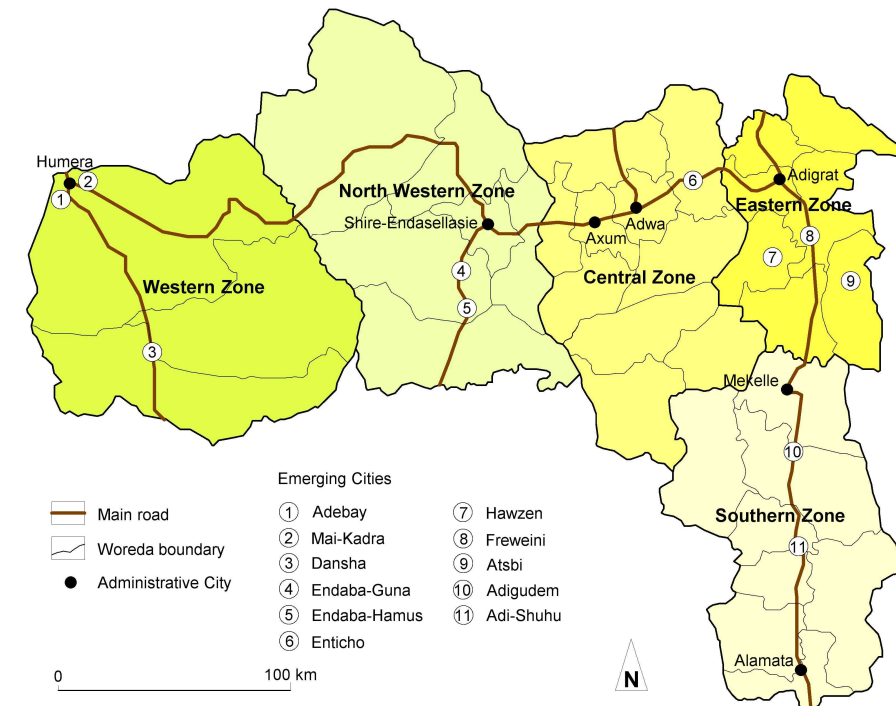
### Analysis

The role as a centre of market and of services and the large quantity of human resources, are identified as the main potentials of Emerging Cities in Tigray Region. The identified main constraints are the lack of qualified human resources, lack of urban planning and management, traditional beliefs and attitudes, lack of infrastructure facilities as well as scarcity of financial resources.

### Concept and Outlook

Thematic recommendations are elaborated for the design of a City Development Strategy in Emerging Cities to use the present potentials in order to meet the existing constraints.

It is essential to implement a pilot project in order to corroborate and complement the recommendations developed. The recommendations can be transferred to other towns outside Tigray Region which display a comparable placement on the development trajectory and which provide similar potentials and constraints. By incorporating the elaborated knowledge into the Ethiopian Cities Network, towns outside Tigray Region and even outside Ethiopia will profit.



Emerging Cities in Tigray Region



Emerging City as centre of market for the rural hinterland



Absorption of job seekers in urban development projects: Unskilled workers on the cobblestone road construction side