Connecting and Managing Systems of Secondary Cities

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Why the Development of Systems of Secondary Cities is Important

• 75% of the world’s population live in rural areas and urban settlements of less than 500,000 people;

• They provide the conduit hubs in supply chains for resources and goods needed to support the operation and development of the world’s largest 600 cities which produce 60% of World GDP;

• If the efficiency of systems of secondary cities’ enabling environments, production and logistics systems were to improve this could more than double the GDP of many poor cities and rural regions;

• Improving connectivity and networking within systems of secondary cities would significantly lower disparities in levels of regional development, increase national productivity and prosperity, and reduce the pressure of rural-urban migration on the development of large metropolitan regions.
### What is a secondary city?

“A secondary city is largely determined by population, size, function, and economic status”

### Types of Secondary Cities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional Secondary City</th>
<th>Secondary City within Metropolitan Areas</th>
<th>Corridor Secondary City</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provincial administrative or manufacturing secondary city hub</td>
<td>Spill over New and Expanded Secondary Cities</td>
<td>Series of large urban centres developing into a city</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metro Region</td>
<td>Expanded Urban Area</td>
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<td>Secondary City Hub and logistics centre</td>
<td>Old Primate City • High level Services • Commercial and Port</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub Secondary Urban logistics centre</td>
<td>Provincial Tourism or resource-based secondary city hub</td>
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Five Driver Elements of Secondary City Economies

1. Sustainable Use of Resources and Assets
2. Enabling Environments
3. Value Adding Transformation Activities
4. Expansion of End-User Demands opportunities
5. Improved Flow, Transfers and Logistics Systems

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Competitive Vs Collaborative advantage
Hard and soft infrastructure are vital elements **supporting the drivers of development** within secondary city economies.

Hard and soft infrastructure is also required in **building networks** to enhance connectivity and exchanges within systems of secondary cities - especially rural urban and city to city linkages.
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From Competition to Collaboration among Secondary Cities: Regional Trade and Economic Development Corridors
To address these challenges, partnerships need to be built at national, regional and local level:

- Analyse to better understand the flows of goods, services and people within a system of cities;
- Establish a national enabling environment for cities to balance growth, e.g. through national urban policies, spatial plans and territorialised growth plans;
- Identify and address the investment bias towards growth poles and match projects from secondary cities with domestic (and international) investment funds;
- Strengthen local planning and municipal finance capacities in small and medium sizes;
- Enable local governments to plan beyond administrative boundaries to connect with rural hinterlands and other cities;
Thank you very much for your attention