20 Years of Fighting Urban Poverty

In 1999, at the inaugural meeting of the Cities Alliance, Nelson Mandela launched Cities Alliance’s ‘Cities without Slums’ action plan, of which he was a Patron.

The ‘Cities Without Slums’ action plan was endorsed at the highest political level internationally and;

The ‘Cities Without Slums’ goal of improving the lives of 100 million slum dwellers was reflected as a target of the Millennium Development Goals.

Through its unique membership, and very clear mandate, the Cities Alliance has continued its work to improve the lives of the urban poor.
Cities Alliance is the global partnership fighting urban poverty and promoting the role of cities.
The Members

The Cities Alliance has a unique and diverse membership of 27 organizations that provide strategic direction, contribute to the financing of the Fund, and engagement in normative and operational activities.
IDENTITY  Cities Alliance is a global platform fighting urban poverty and supporting cities to deliver sustainable development. We are hosted by the United Nations Office for Project Services – UNOPS.

MEMBERS  Currently 27 diverse members that provide strategic direction, contribute to the financing of the Fund, and engage in advocacy and operational activities to realise sustainable development.

MISSION  We enhance the well-being of urban populations by delivering innovative, multi-sectoral solutions to urban poverty.

VISION  The Cities Alliance seeks to improve the lives of 60 million urban poor across 200 cities in 20 countries by 2030. To be a leading agent for urban change by supporting and implementing comprehensive programmes in countries and cities where it matters most. We leverage the collective expertise of our partnership to catalyse urban transformation at a global level.
Investing in Hard and Soft Infrastructure to Enhance Connectivity within Systems of Secondary Cities

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A World Economy Dominated by Cities

- Over the last 50 years development driven globalization, competition, and national economic restructuring and political change in many countries has resulted in:
  - Greater than 75% of global GDP is produced by cities
  - 600 cities with 22% of the world’s population, producing 60% of World GDP by 2025 (McKinsey)
  - The world’s 50 largest ports in 2010 were responsible for more than 68 per cent of world container trade.

- The overall benefits of development have been positive, but
  - Many post-industrial city economies have experienced declined and benefited little from globalization and neoliberal economic development ideas
  - There has been a progressive redistribution and concentration of wealth, population, capital, economic power and production in mainly large and secondary cities.
  - Many developing city economies have experienced massive population and informal employment growth along with significant urban management problems – especially those with large metropolises
  - Most countries are experiencing growing physical, economic and social inequity in the development of cities.
  - A critical change point in addressing the inequitable growth in the development of national systems of cities is a renewed focus on secondary cities — especially the need for investment in hard and soft infrastructure to bring about some rebalancing.
What are Secondary Cities?

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

Commonly, secondary cities are geographically defined urban jurisdictions or centres performing vital governance, logistical, production and other value-adding functions at a sub-national or sub-metropolitan region level within national or a larger geographic region system of cities. In some cases, their role and functions may expand a national geographic region to the global realm.

The population of secondary-cities range between 1 million (which is likely to be a small metropolis or the most important city or cities of a country) and 50,000 in countries with small populations and/or low-level urbanisation i.e. island states.

Most will have populations between 10 and 30% of the largest city or major cities in a country. There are more than 2,400 secondary cities in the world today.

They mainly constitute cities that function as sub-national, second-tier level of government engaged in public administration and delivery of education, knowledge, health, community, security and other public services; an industrial centre, a development growth pole; a new national capital; or part of a cluster of smaller satellite or new industry cities surrounding a large metropolitan region.

Most play a crucial intermediary role as value-adding hubs in national supply chains, production, logistics, distributions and network systems for goods, services, information and passengers between metropolitan regions and more dispersed and settled rural-regional development areas and smaller urban settlements.
Functions of Secondary Cities

Sub-national service, manufacturing and logistics and market centres that function as regional economic, administrative, cultural and social hubs engaged in the delivery and exchange of a wide range of goods and services.

Urban centres with a significant pool of natural or created endowed resources and assets that provide inputs into add value to production, processing and service industries and systems that add significant to national and local economic growth.

Urban centres that play a crucial role in the efficiency, effectiveness and competitiveness of the flows of goods, materials, services and people along supply chains and transportation networks, by acting the primary sub national logistics and distribution network centres between large metropolitan regions and servicing smaller cities and towns, and their hinterlands.

Some secondary cities have developed high levels of specialization and play a significant role globally. In a global sense they are primary cities in terms of scale, reputation because of specialization industries i.e. Toulouse and Seattle in aviation, Boston and Cambridge in terms of education and research.
Why the development of systems of secondary cities is important

- 60% of the world’s population live in rural areas and urban settlements of less than 50,000 people. 20% of the world’s population live in cities of 0.05 to 1 million. Many of these are secondary cities.

- Secondary cities are crucial conduits and hubs in global and national supply chains. They support for flow of resources and goods for operation and development of the world’s largest 600 cities which produce 60% of World GDP. Secondary cities produce around 15-20% 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.
Regional Networks of Clusters and Corridors of Trading Cities

Regional Cluster of cities
- Small city
- Small city
- Medium Sized secondary city 250,000+
- Small city
- Small city

Regional Organizations of Councils
- Collaborative Governance and planning
- Common-user infrastructures
- Resource Leveraging
- Joint Marketing

Corridor towns and cities
- Linear Secondary City
- Small city
- Small city
- Small city
- State or International Boundary

Regional Corridor of Councils
- Collaborative Governance and planning
- Common-user infrastructures
- Resource Leveraging
- Joint Marketing
Globalization has Resulted in Global Networked System of Cities

- Sub Systems of Industry Sectors and Clusters of Economic Activities
- Traditional Hierarchical Links
- Lateral and Non-Hierarchical Links
- Value and Cluster supply chain links
- Industry Clusters engaged in value adding to supply chains

Cities Alliance
Cities Without Slums

- Metropolitan City
- Secondary City
- Small Cities
Strategies for Enhancing Connectivity to Support the Development of Systems of Secondary Cities
Strategies for Enhancing Connectivity within Corridor Systems of Secondary Cities
Key Investment Strategies for Corridor Secondary City Development

- Integrated regional trade corridor governance and planning
- Integrated open transport, information and logistics systems
- Focus on urban growth nodes, Industry clusters and specialization
- Managed peri-urban corridor development
- Secondary city employment, education and investment
- Affordable and sustainable housing
- City revenue base underpinning development and services delivery
- Maintenance and rehabilitation of corridor environmental services
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.

**HARD**
- Roads, rail, sea and air
- Transportation Systems
- Logistics
- Pipeline
- Electricity
- Post & Telecommunications

**SOFT**
- Social
- Cultural
- Economic
- Education
- Environmental
- Governance
- Technology
- Digital

*Source: Author*
## Hard and Soft Elements of Connectivity Infrastructure

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<th>ELEMENT OF CONNECTIVITY</th>
<th>ELEMENTS OF HARD CONNECTIVITY</th>
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| **Physical**             | • Inter-city and local area infrastructure platforms and networks  
                           • Integrated logistics, freight and passenger services  
                           • Inter-city utilities (pipelines, electricity and ICT)  
                           • Local area energy, water and waste networks  
                           • Collaborative operations maintenance of infrastructure  
                           • Internet broadband and 5-G services  
                           • ICT data exchange including big data  
                           • Information systems  
                           • E-utility services  
                           • E- monitoring of freight and passenger movements  
                           • Strategic planning |                           |
| **Economic and Trade**   | • Trade development using common-user facilities,  
                           • Trade flow capacity enhancement  
                           • Business documents exchanges  
                           • Planning and development of local, interconnected and cross industry clusters and networks  
                           • Business exchange  
                           • Teleworking facilities | • E-finance and money  
                           • E-health  
                           • E-services  
                           • City to city corridor and network trade agreements, collaborative, marketing and promotion  
                           • E-trade and manufacturing  
                           • Local and regional network service agents |                           |
| **Social and Cultural**  | • Education and learning facilities  
                           • Accessible community health facilities and services  
                           • Information and technology literate workforce  
                           • Sports and cultural  
                           • Conventions, workshops, and seminars  
                           • Cultural exchanges and events  
                           • Access to affordable housing | • E-learning and conferencing  
                           • Social and public media  
                           • E-library and media  
                           • Diaspora  
                           • Para-technical skills  
                           • Capacity building for strengthening city economic hubs and nodes |                           |
Examples of Cities Enhancing Connectivity in Support of Inclusive, Equitable and Sustainable Growth and Development of Systems of Secondary Cities
Example: New Zealand Core Cities Network

- Realisation by local governments that location, size of its cities and fragmented ways each were competing for trade and investment was not maximising the use of local resources and the development potential of the country
- Collaboration between 10 cities and national governments to reduce business transaction and externality costs, to share marketing intelligence and to pool resources to gain a competitive advantage for trade and investment
- Four focus areas:
  - Development of collaborative networks internationally;
  - Policy and research to determine the role of city networks in New Zealand;
  - City competitiveness and city place in the national economy;
  - Research options that would produce a database to assess regional economies
- Laid a foundation for the Chinese Peoples Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) establishing a new sub-national mechanism of exchange between China and New Zealand, city to city exchanges and Mayoral Forums

Source: Author
Bratislava, Budapest, Ljubljana, Prague, and Vienna: a polycentral city network

Based on a shared history and collaborative culture, these five cities have built a spatial triangle of economic flows between them. Proactively fostered by collaborative territorial cooperation, several inter-municipal planning initiatives have been established to capitalize upon these flows through the harmonization of municipal spatial planning practices towards a joint, regional spatial-development strategy across several national borders. The main reason for territorial cooperation was to find a balanced way to work together and, at the same time, compete and identify the potentials and challenges for such cooperation/competition (EPSON, 2017)
Chicago and Mexico City have entered into a first-of-its-kind city-to-city agreement. This was not a typical Sister Cities cultural exchange pact. The Global Cities Economic Partnership instead plans a series of joint initiatives in trade, innovation, and education to increase employment, expand advanced industries, and strengthen overall global competitiveness.

Global Cities Initiative

Scope of Agreement
1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
2. EXPORTS
3. FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT
4. INNOVATION, RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND HUMAN CAPITAL
5. OTHER

A. Goods manufacturing Industries and Electronics
- Machinery
- Base metals
- Plastics
- Miscellaneous manufacturing (medical equipment, sporting goods, jewellery)
- Fabricated metals
- Chemicals and pharmaceuticals
- Precision instruments
Facilitated through Industry cluster, networks, institution and R&D partnerships

B. Services Industries o Finance
- Professional, scientific, and technical services
- Insurance
- Management and consulting
- Administrative and support services (including waste management)
- Education
- Hospitals
- Tourism
- Creative industry, digital and cinema
- Entertainment and recreation facilities and services
- Freight and logistics
- Air transportation
- Waste management and remediation services
Uzbekistan Medium-Size Cities Integrated Urban Development Project

Hard and soft infrastructure connecting for the development of secondary and medium size cities

Connectivity and partnerships between towns and cities along the main transport

Regional clusters secondary and middle sized of trading cities

Institutional capacity building
Thank you