



WORLD  
RESOURCES  
INSTITUTE



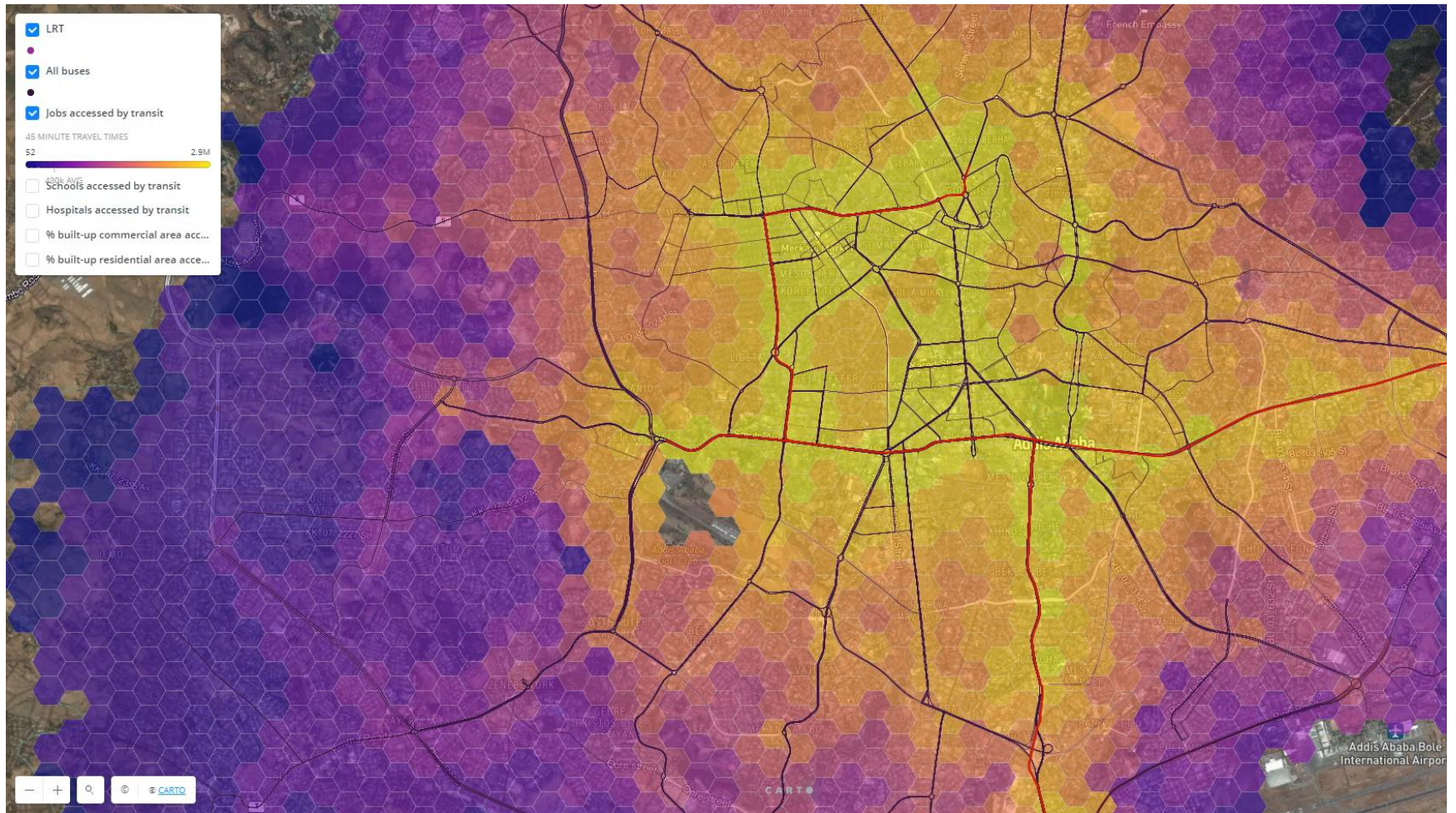
# PUTTING ETHIOPIA'S TRANSIT NETWORK ON THE MAP

IMAN ABUBAKER,  
URBAN MOBILITY  
PROJECT  
COORDINATOR, WRI

RABRA HIERPA,  
INTERN, WRI

# UNLOCK THE POWER OF TRANSIT DATA...

## ...BY CREATING AN ACCESSIBLE CITY



# UNLOCK THE POWER OF DATA FOR AFRICA...

## ...BY BUILDING SAFER CITIES AND STRONGER ECONOMIES

Around  
**AFRICA**

THE BIG QUESTION

### Is data the new oil?

With AI and machine learning on the rise across the continent, Stephen Armstrong explains why Africa is set to lead the data revolution

**THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL** revolution is here – and Africa is so well placed to own it that the continent could be on the verge of transformation. The first industrial revolution harnessed water and steam, the second gave us mass production and the third deployed digital technology, but the raw power for the fourth revolution is data – dubbed “the new oil” by Kai-Fu Lee, CEO of Sinovation Ventures and author of the book *AI Superpowers*.

Unlike oil, data is created by people, not geology, so Africa is well placed to reap the rewards of this revolution. The continent’s population is the fastest growing in the world; by 2050, the UN predicts that one in every four people in the world will be African. This population

boom is akin to an increase in oil reserves – something Saudi Arabia can only dream of. How should Africans take advantage of this huge potential?

First the good news: data can solve so many of the continent’s problems. Health, lifestyle, financial and crime data can help build safer cities, stronger economies and healthier populations. South African non-profit Harambee, for instance, helps young people find work by combining geographical and personal preference data. Kenyan/Rwandan company Hestia Analytics is working with the Rwandan government to blend agricultural data with satellite imaging to calculate optimum planting times; and in the Democratic Republic of the Congo an app using machine learning gives early

#### THE LION AND THE UNICORN

These African start-ups – online retailer Jumo Group, mobile connectivity Cell C and food supplier Phrombecker Holdings – were valued at over \$1bn this year. Meanwhile, investment in African start-ups reached record levels in 2018, raising a record \$725.6m across 458 deals.

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**“First the good news: data can solve so many of the continent’s problems. Health, lifestyle, financial and crime data can help build safer cities, stronger economies and healthier populations.”**

— Stephen Armstrong

**“Africans should be paranoid right now. You have to create, collect and protect your data or someone else will.”**

— Alex Liu

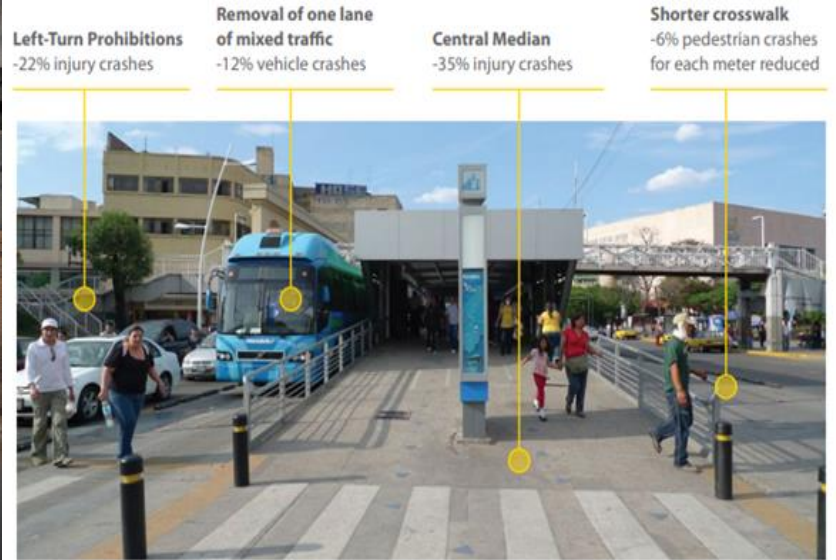
# UNLOCK THE POWER OF TRANSIT DATA...

...BY CREATING A SAFE, EFFICIENT AND INTEGRATED TRANSPORT NETWORK



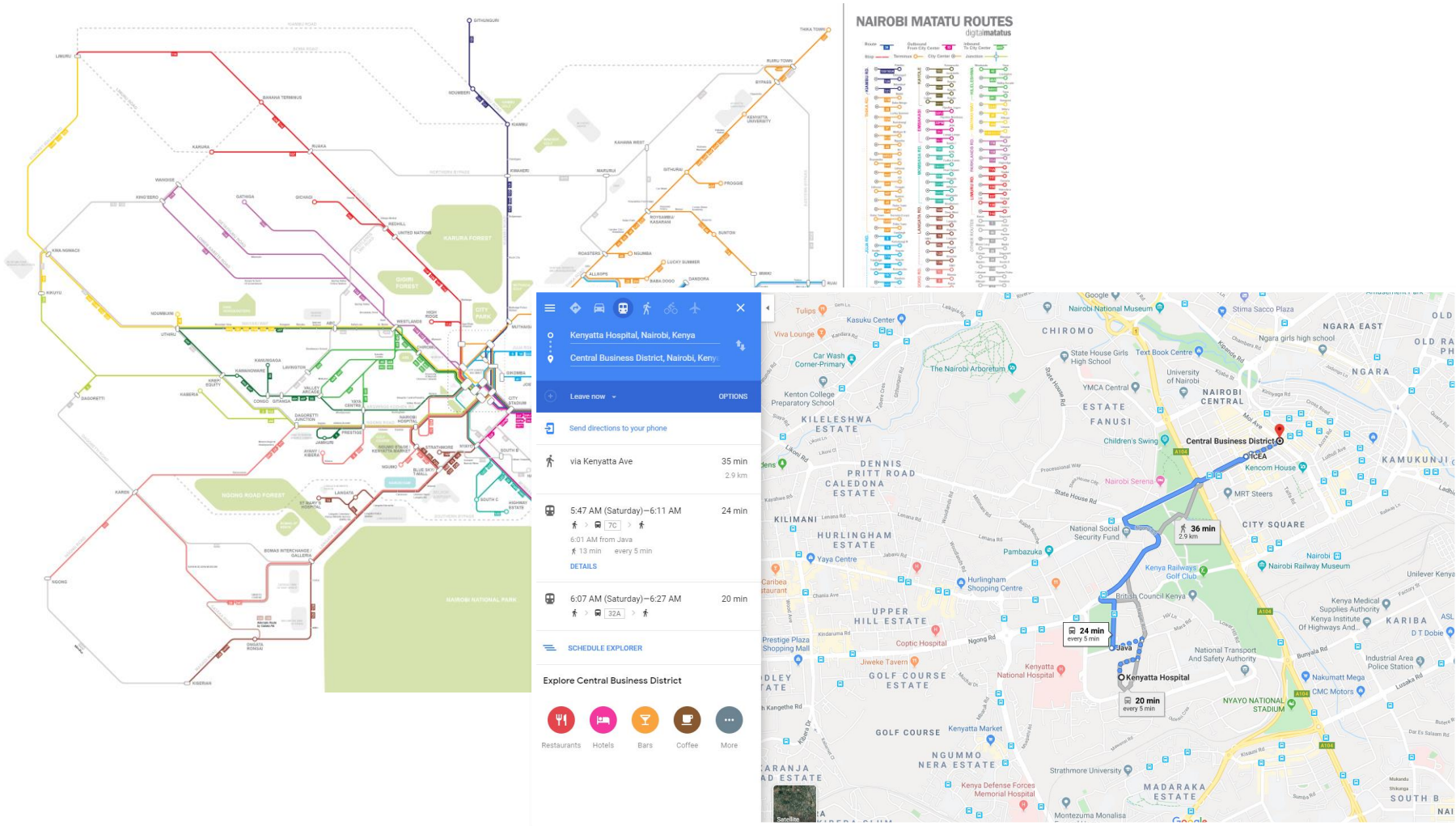
Photo: ITDP Africa

**Figure 2** Changes to the street infrastructure to accommodate a typical Latin American BRT (here, Macrobus, Guadalajara) and their associated safety benefits



# UNLOCK THE POWER OF TRANSIT DATA

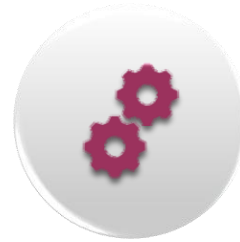
...BY MAKING TRANSIT MORE USER FRIENDLY



# ETHIOPIA LEADING THE WAY



Addis Ababa is one of the handful of African cities that has digitized its public transport network in a **standard and open source format**



Built local capacity by collaborating with universities and local stakeholders at each step of the process



Using the data for transport planning purposes and development of applications



Plans to scale mapping efforts to secondary cities

# DIGITALIZATION OF ETHIOPIA'S TRANSIT NETWORK - PUBLIC TRANSPORT MAPPING METHODOLOGIES

Addis Ababa  
Public  
Transport  
Network

Primary  
Data  
Collection

Output

- GIS Map
- GTFS Feed

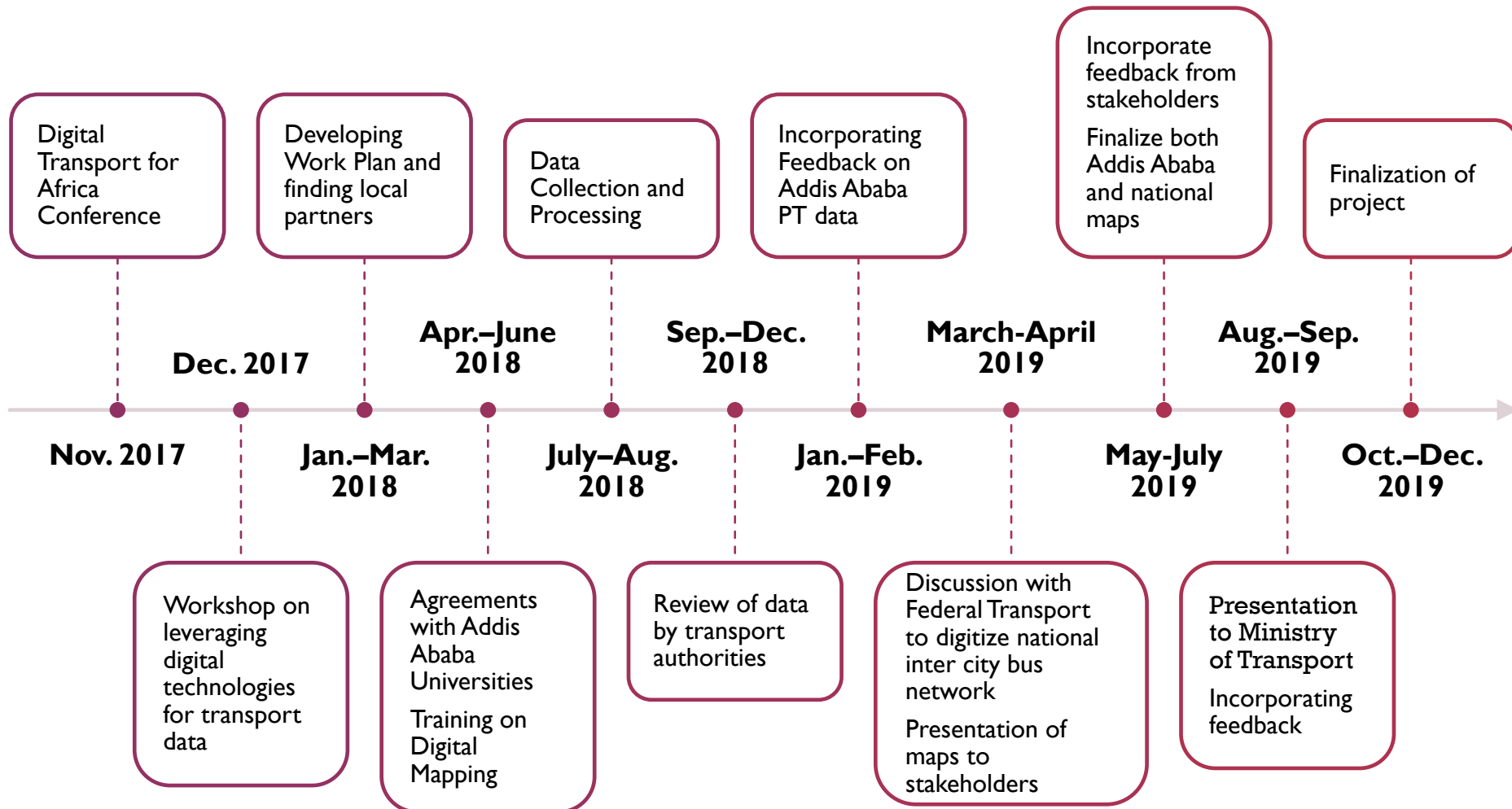
National  
Intercity  
Bus  
Network

Secondary  
Data  
Collection

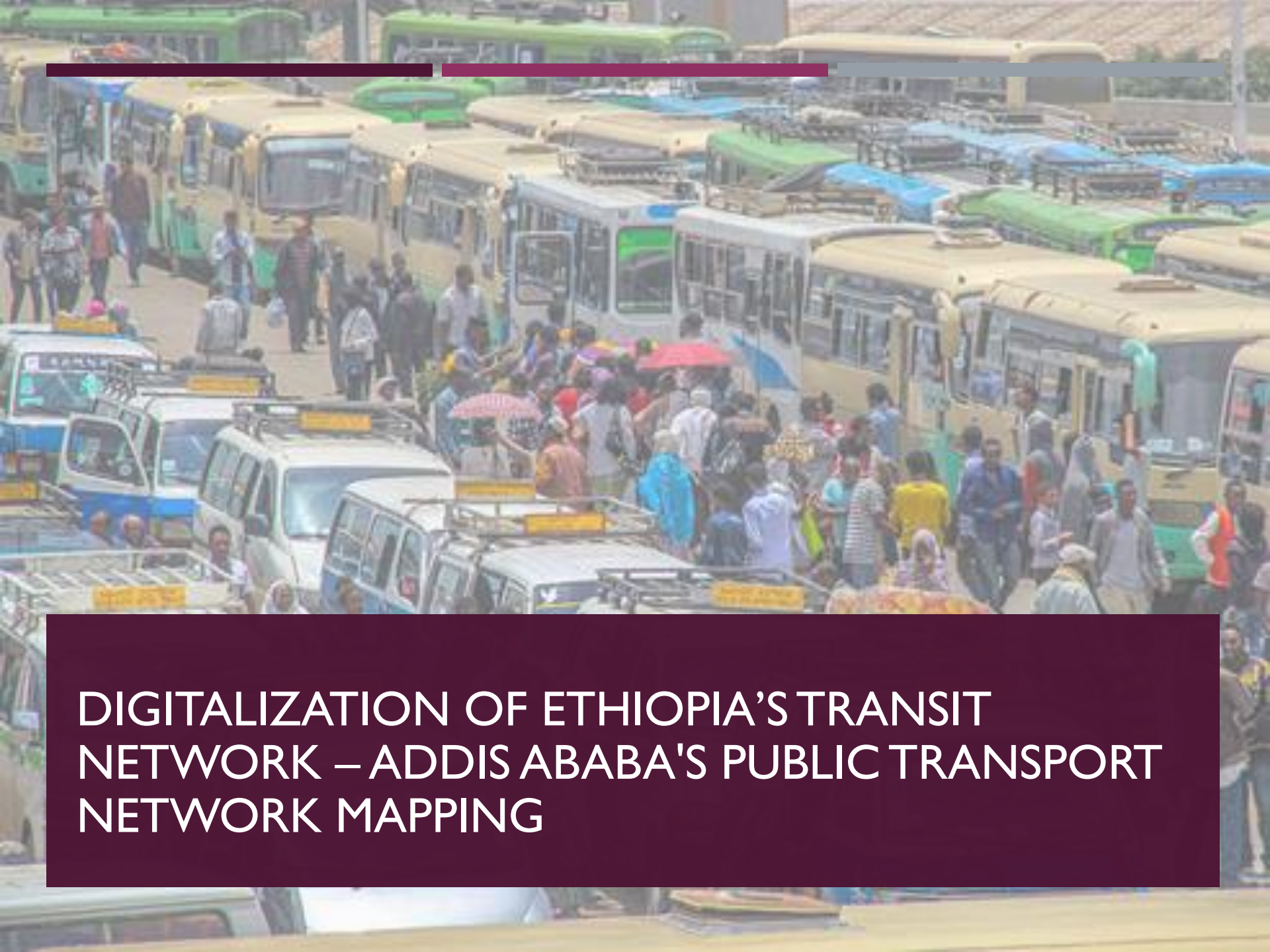
Output

- GIS Map

# DIGITALIZATION OF ETHIOPIA'S TRANSIT NETWORK – WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

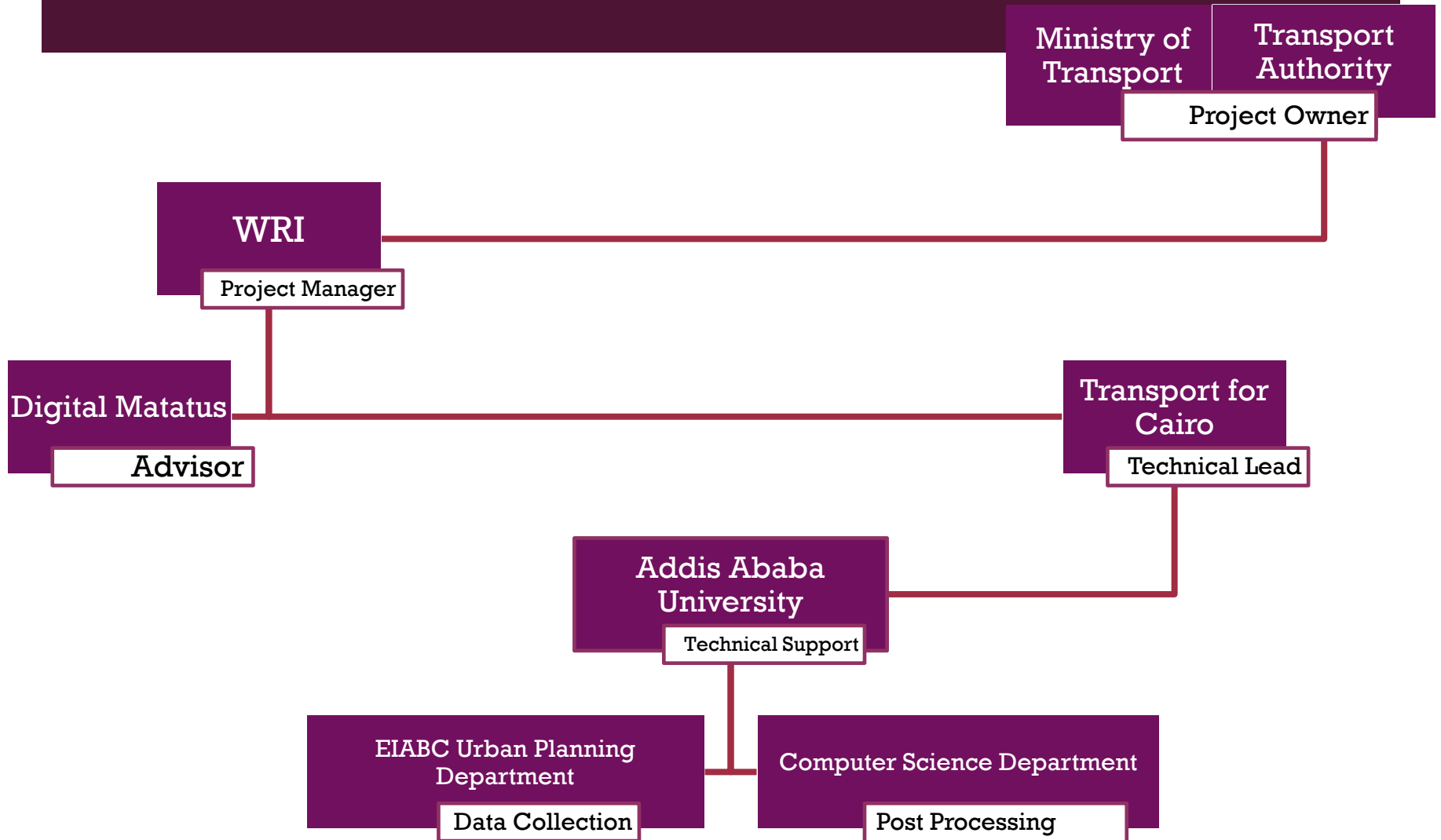






**DIGITALIZATION OF ETHIOPIA'S TRANSIT NETWORK – ADDIS ABABA'S PUBLIC TRANSPORT NETWORK MAPPING**

# STAKEHOLDERS





Create a GIS map for Addis  
Ababa's Transportation Network

Sheger (54 routes)

Anbessa (124 routes)

LRT (2 lines)

Blue Taxis/Paratransit (507 routes)



Create a GTFS Feed for Trip planning



Visualize the data in a simple, informative manner

## OBJECTIVES



# PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY

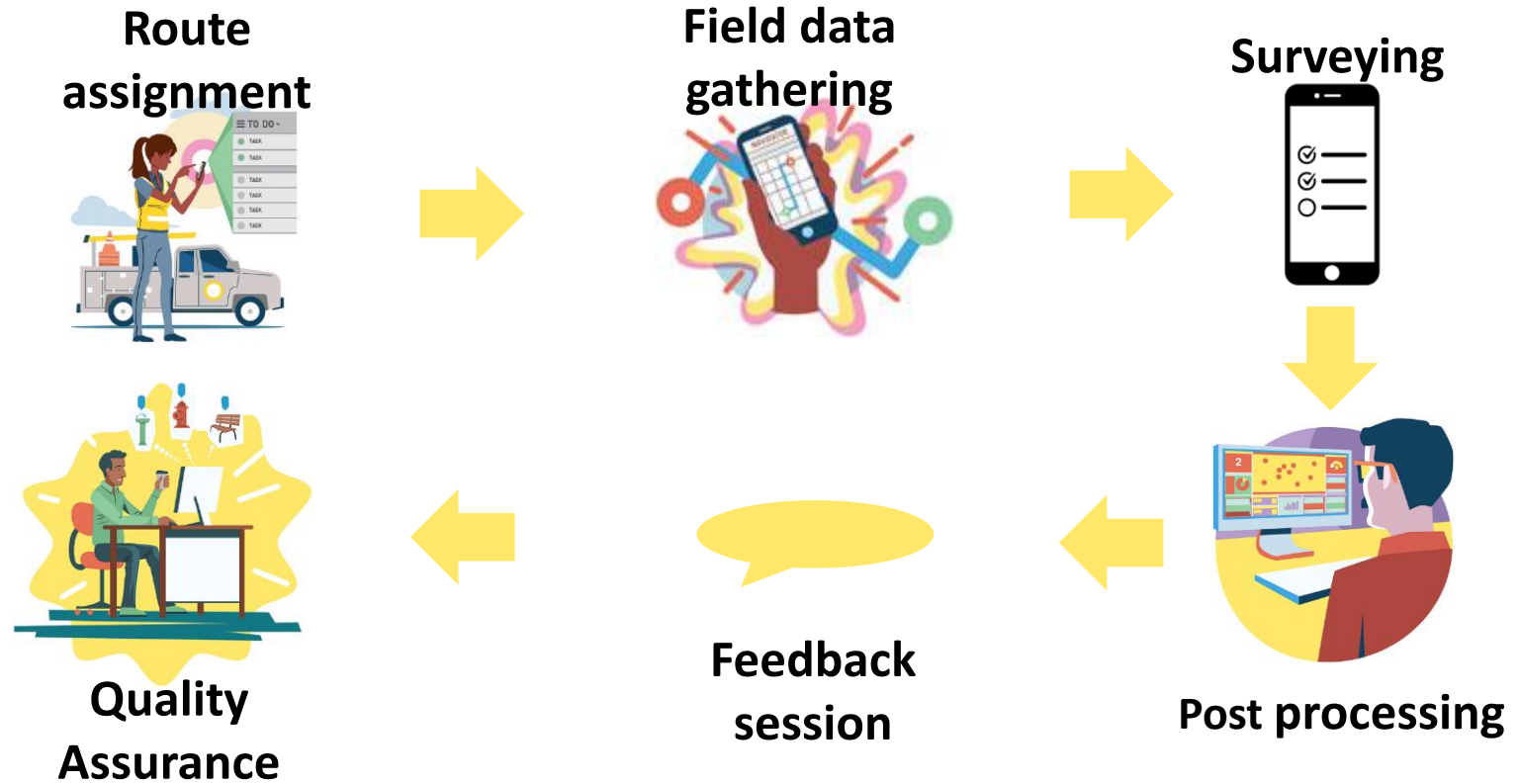
## Importance of Building Local Capacity:

- on digitizing public transport data based on global methodologies and standards
- to maintain and update the public transport data

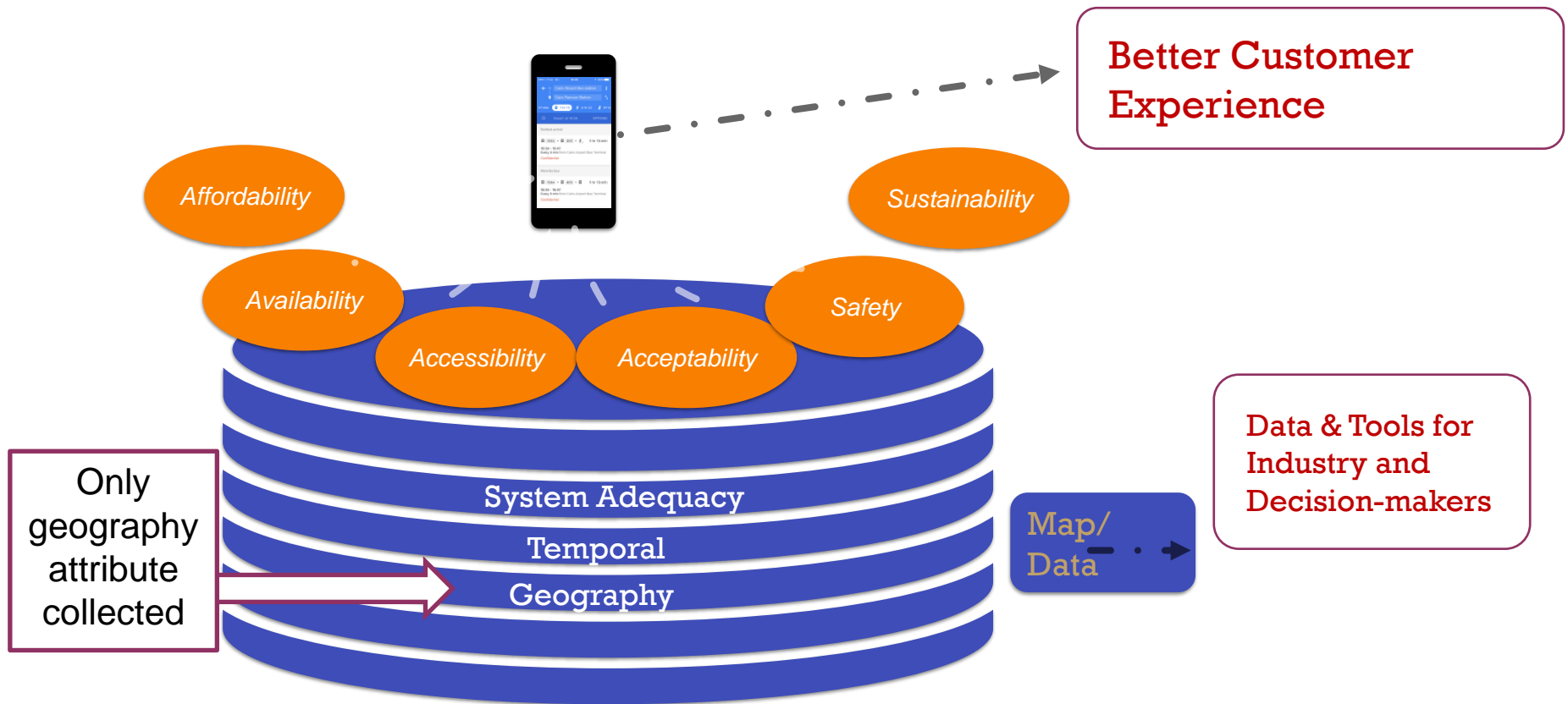
## In the case of Addis Ababa:

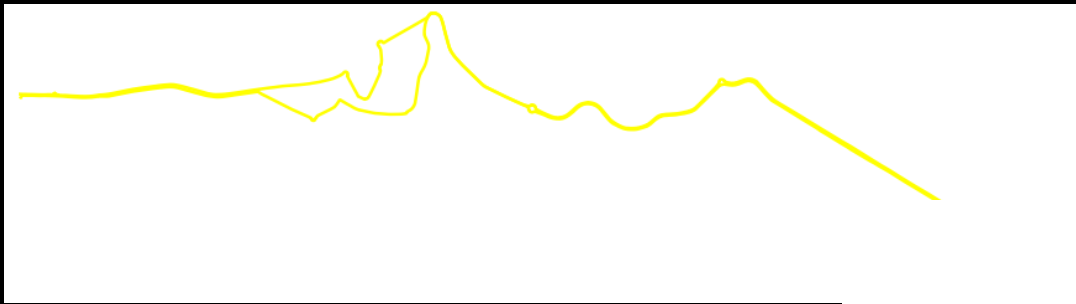
- 90 students from AAU were trained in total
- 50 were active in the data collection and processing

# MAPPING PROCESS



# ATTRIBUTES

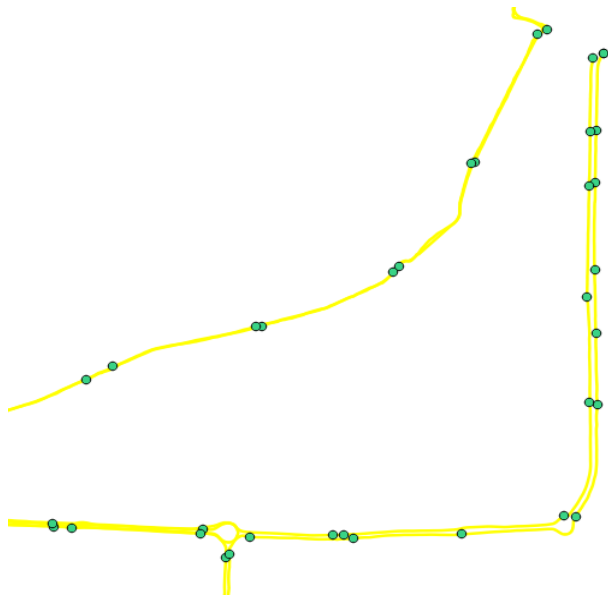




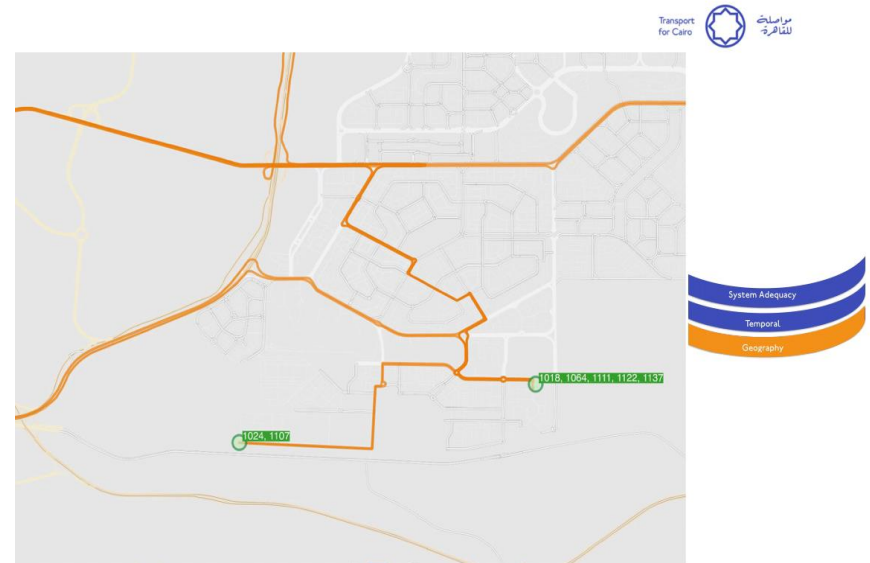
# I. DATA LAYERS – ROUTES

## 2. DATA LAYERS: STOPS

- Single Instances per Trip



- Multiple Instances per Trip





### 3. DATA LAYERS: TERMINALS



# CHALLENGES & SOLUTIONS

## CHALLENGES

- Time constraint
  - capacity building happening simultaneously
- Budget constraint
  - type of app selected
- Unreliability of transport services
  - inactive routes due to road closures
  - tariffs not respected by taxi drivers
- Weather (rainy season) affects GPS

## SOLUTIONS

- WRI brought in experts with experiences working in similar cities/situations
- Application used - GPS Essential
- Support from the AATA and local knowledge
- Quality assurance happened at every stage so students had to re do any routes that were inaccurate
- Selection of top performing students

# Addis Ababa Transit Network

FINAL GIS  
MAP

## Legend

### LRT

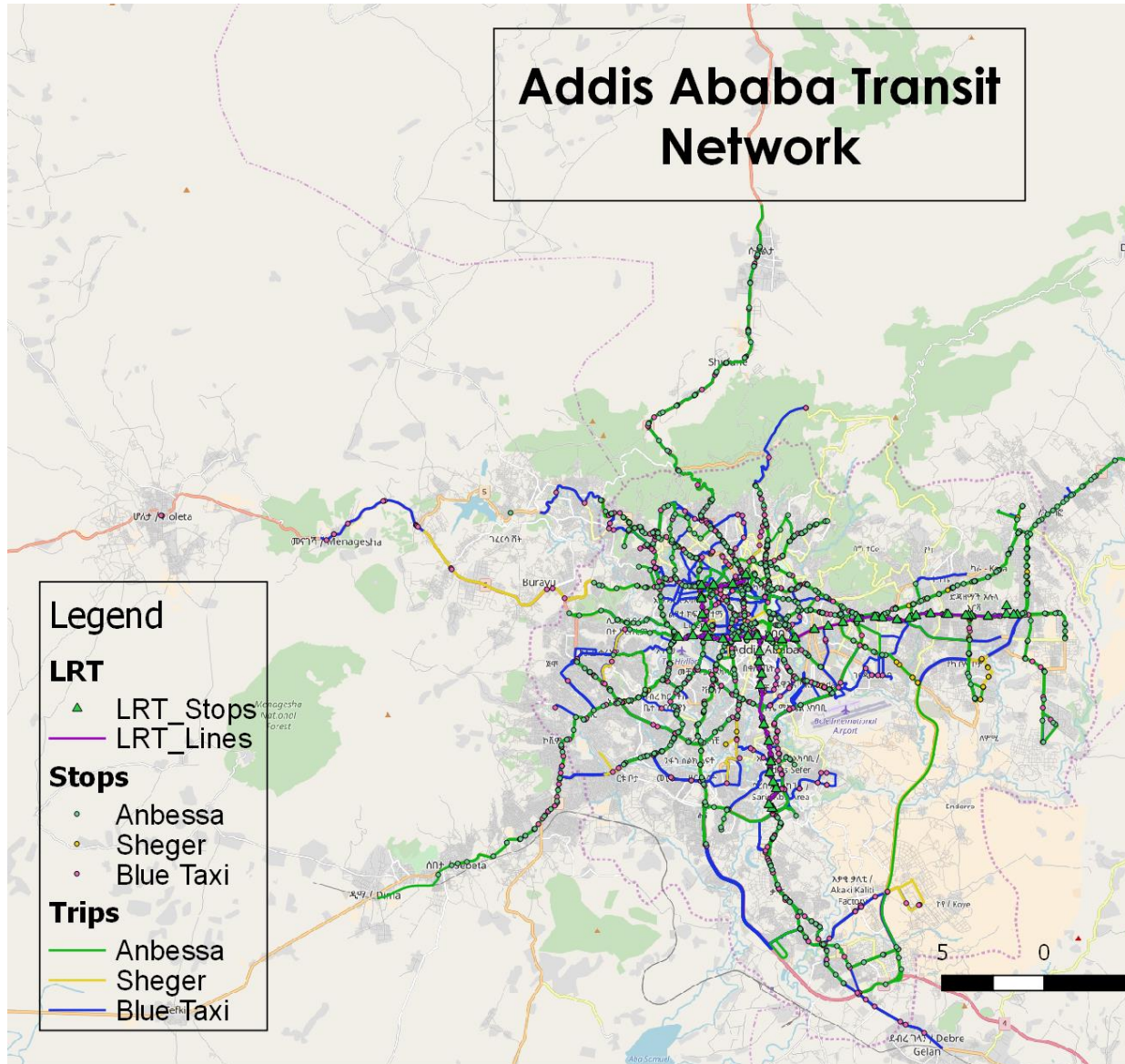
- ▲ LRT\_Stops
- LRT\_Lines

### Stops

- Anbessa
- Sheger
- Blue Taxi

### Trips

- Anbessa
- Sheger
- Blue Taxi



# GET THE MAP

- Go to Play Store and download any QR code scanner app
- Open the QR scanner
- Scan the QR Code by taking a picture
- Open the link with your browser



Anbessa Route  
Map

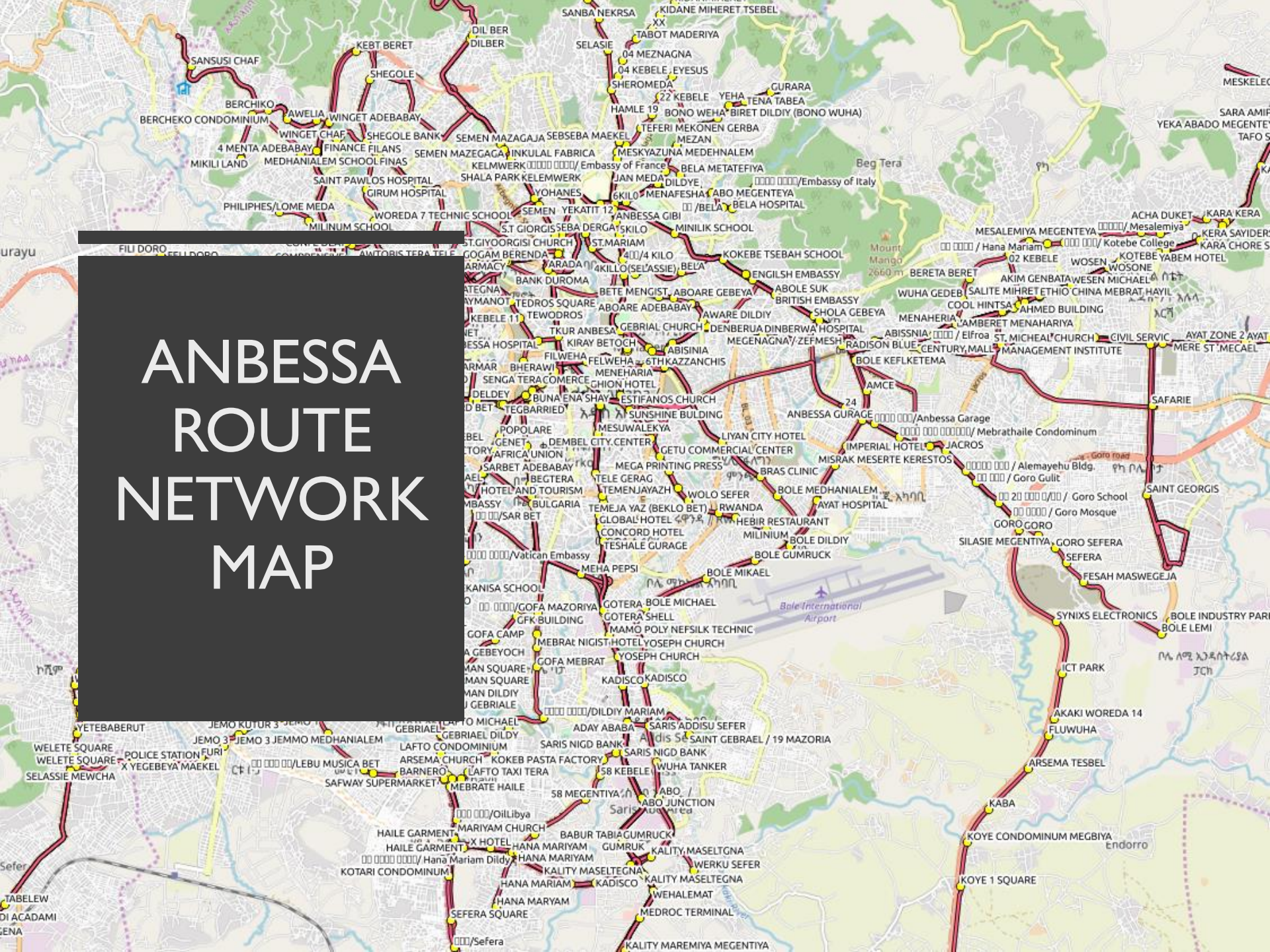


Sheger Route  
Map



Paratransit(Taxi)  
Route Map

# ANBESSA ROUTE NETWORK MAP









## DIGITALIZATION OF ETHIOPIA'S TRANSIT NETWORK – NATIONAL PUBLIC BUS NETWORK MAPPING





Recreate a GIS map for National Intercity Bus Transportation Network (map only available in hard copy)



Update routes, stops and terminals



Visualize the data in a simple, informative manner

OBJECTIVES

# GET THE MAP

- Go to Play Store and download any QR code scanner app
- Open the QR scanner
- Scan the QR Code by taking a picture
- Open the link with your browser



National Route  
Map

36°0.00'E

41°0.00'E

46°0.00'E



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ጁቡቲ

# NATIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ROUTE MAP ሃገር አቀፍ የህዝብ ትራንስፖርት ስምረት መስመር ካርታ

መግለጫ (Legend)

- ★ መነሻ ከተማ (Origin Town)
- መዳረሻ ከተማ (Destination Towns)
- ⊕ ለቁርስ የሚታረፍባቸው ከተሞች (Towns for Breakfast)
- ★ የክልል ዋና ከተሞች (Regional Towns)
- አለምቀፋዊ ወሰኖች (International Boundaries)

11°0.00'N

11°0.00'N

6°0.00'N

6°0.00'N

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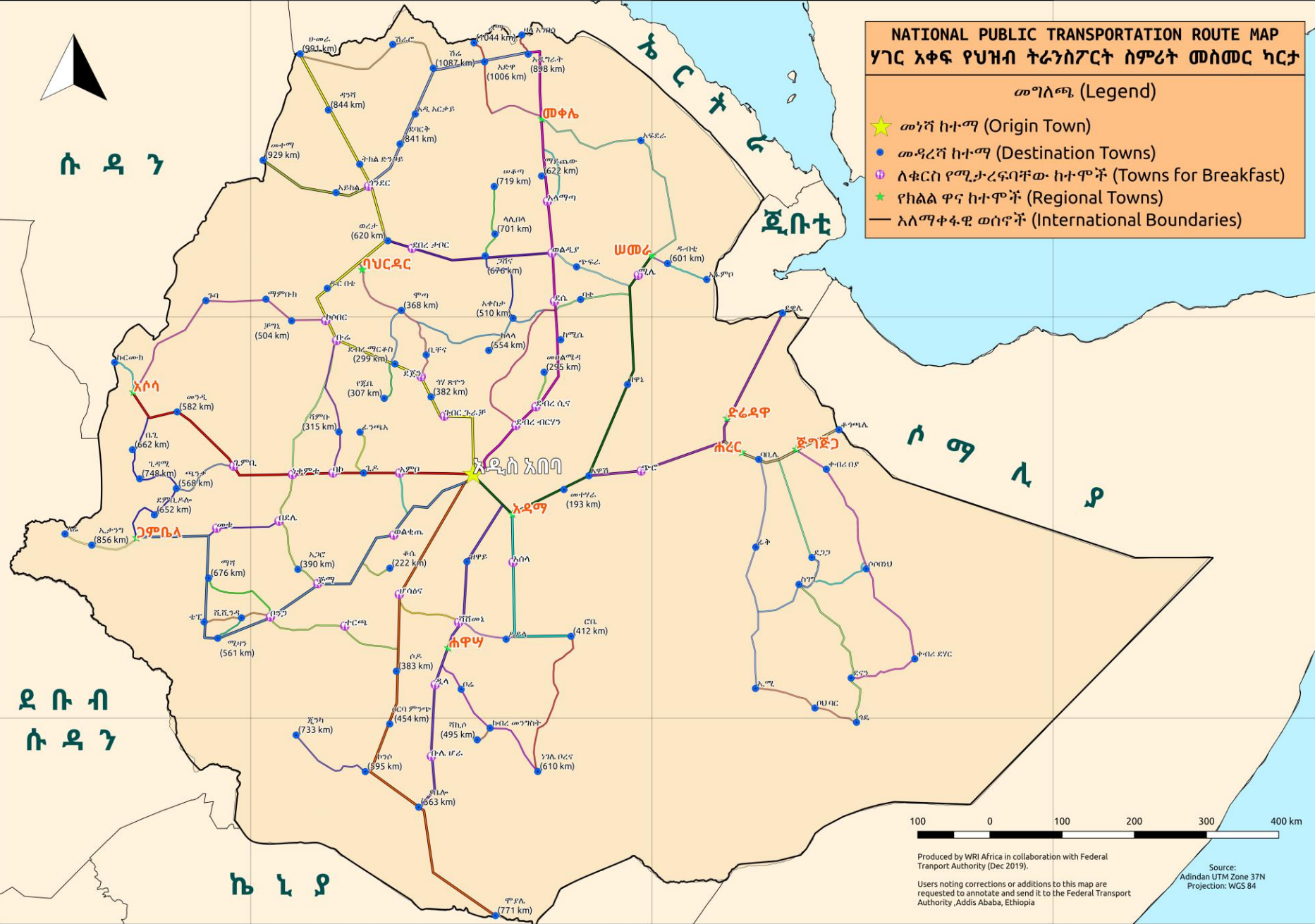
36°0.00'E

41°0.00'E

46°0.00'E



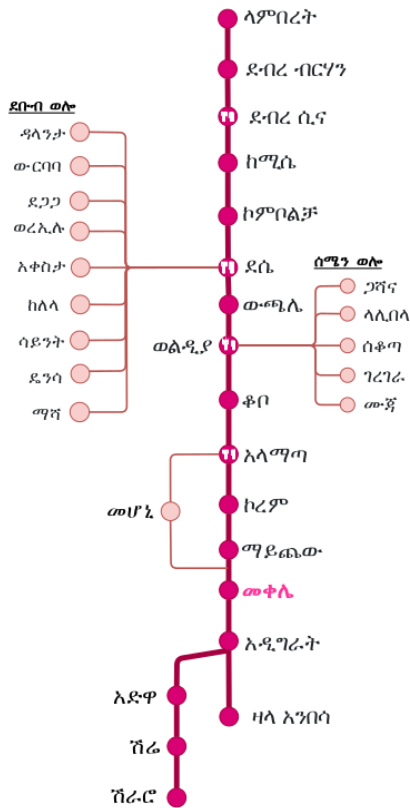
Produced by WRI Africa in collaboration with Federal Transport Authority (Dec 2019).  
 Users noting corrections or additions to this map are requested to annotate and send it to the Federal Transport Authority, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
 Source: Adindan UTM Zone 37N  
 Projection: WGS 84



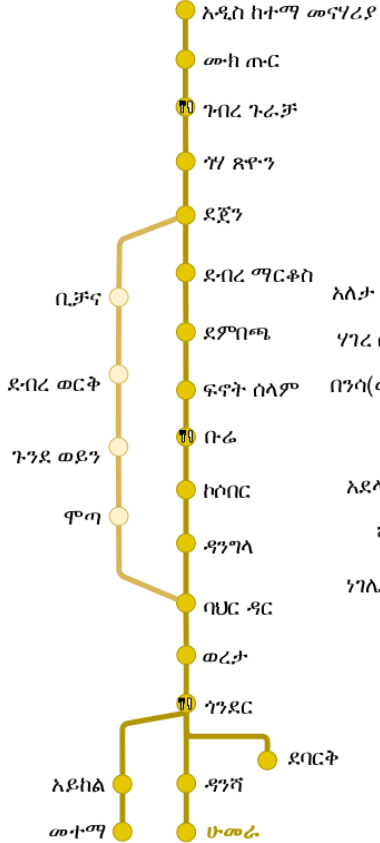
# ROUTE DETAILS

## የመስመር መግለጫ

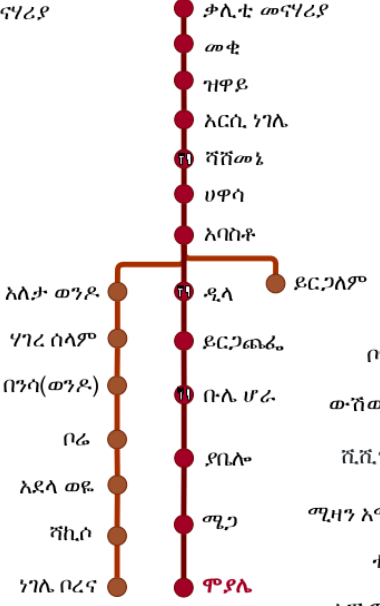
### አዲስ አበባ - መቀሌ (ደቡብ በር)



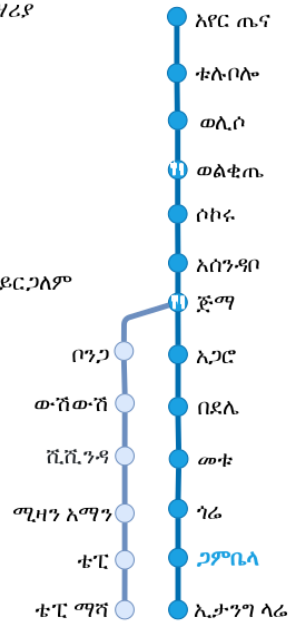
### አዲስ አበባ - ሁመራ (ጎጃም በር)



### አዲስ አበባ - ሞያሌ (ደቡብ ምስራቅ በር)



### አዲስ አበባ - ጋምቤላ (ጅም በር)



# DIGITALIZATION OF ETHIOPIA'S TRANSIT NETWORK – WHAT HAS THE DATA BEEN USED FOR?

WRI - Accessibility map of Addis Ababa

BRT Project Unit - BRT Planning

Alert Engineering - Merkato Accessibility Study

Adama University – Masters Project on Access of Anbessa Bus at Condominium Sites in Addis

AAU Computer Science Department – Routing App Development

Logistics planning for a delivery service company

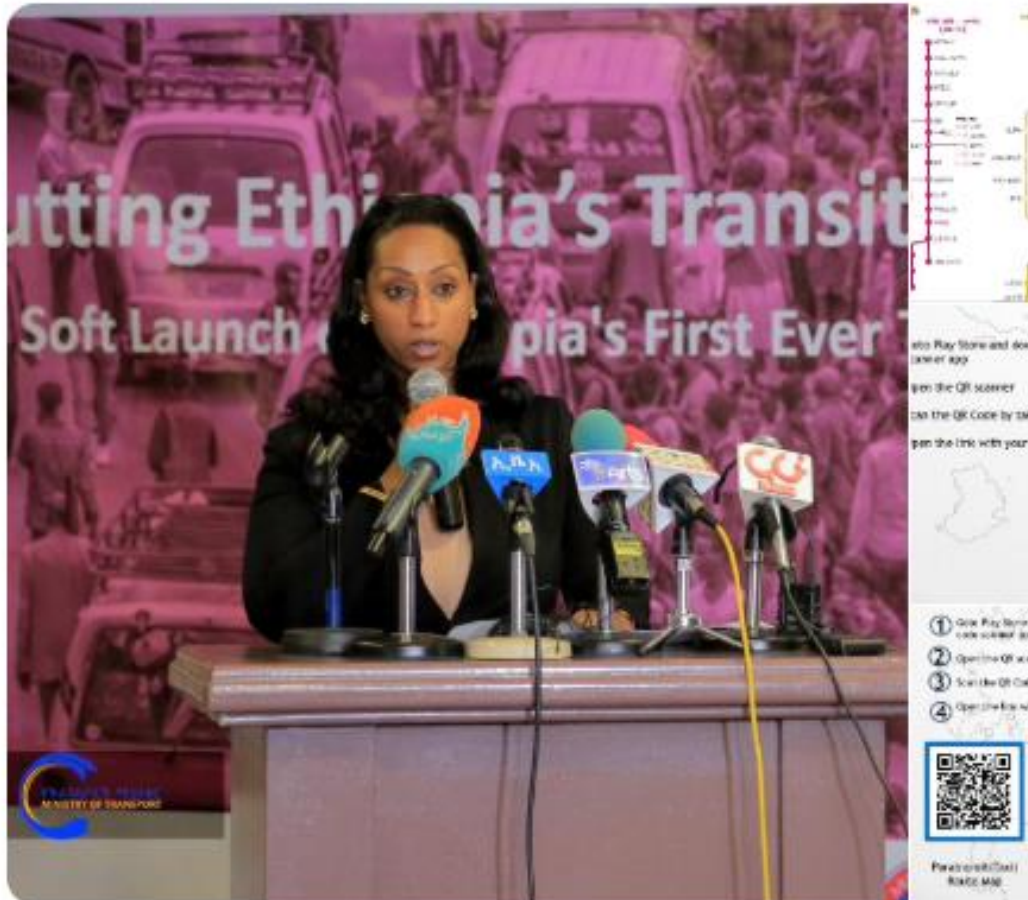
# DIGITALIZATION OF ETHIOPIA'S TRANSIT NETWORK – POTENTIAL

- **Understanding Travel Activity Patterns**
  - Identifying patterns for different modes of transport
  - Motivation and Choices for travel choices
  - Origin – Destination
  - Demand – Supply
- **Transport Planning**
  - Optimizing transportation routes i.e. time
  - Plan extensions or changes to road/public transport network
  - Assess viability of new investment
  - Assess the existing transport system i.e. accessibility maps
  - Enabling street network data for decision makers and researchers
- **Development of innovative mobility solutions and applications**
  - Trip planning
  - Public Transport Hailing applications
- **Robust and Comprehensive Public Transport Data Center**
  - Collection of digital data by all cities that will be continuously updated
  - A central database center within the Ministry of Transport
  - Capacity built across the country on digital data



**Dagmawit Moges** @dagmawit\_moges · 27 Dec 2019

Pleased to officially launch the program of putting Ethiopia's Transit on soft launch of 🇪🇹's first ever trip planning app. The dev't of innovative solutions such as this app is the first step towards creating smarter, data mobility in 🇪🇹. @WorldResources



# POLITICAL COMMITMENT FROM MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

VIDEO BY MINISTER OF TRANSPORT

