

4.4. Population, Gender, Peace and Development

Under the impulse of globalization and world trade liberalization, private and public investments are quite often considered as valuable development tools to unleash development potentials of a given country. Also, it is widely acknowledged that urbanization is, quite often, considered as the engine of development and is also serves as an indicator to state power. Nonetheless, the statues of multidimensional challenges and opportunities of investment practices in Eastern Ethiopia have been inadequately investigated and addressed so far. Thus, the following are selected as top priority areas for research projects in 2017/18

- Innovative, interventional and randomized controlled studies on empowering women and girls
- Investment potentials, socio-economic and environmental imperatives of investment in Eastern Ethiopia
- Innovative projects bolstering the effectiveness of government institutions regarding pros and cons, etc. of urbanization, investments and development policies and practices
- Global and national investment trend and its Socio-economic & environmental implications regarding private investment in Eastern Ethiopia