



Manual for

URBAN PROFILING

Hirshabelle State, Somalia



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Manual for Urban Profiling in Somalia, Hirshabelle State - November 2020

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1. INTRODUCTION

Somalia's cities are growing at a fast rate. By 2026, more somalies will live in urban centres when in villages.

People need basic services: they need water, health centres, job, kids need go to the school...Therefore the need to collect and process relevant and reliable data on all aspects on urban life becomes more important for decision makers, government, private sector, civil society and humanitarian and development partners.

UN-Habitat is the United Nations agency for human settlements activities to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable as outlined in the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11. To measure progress towards the achievement of SDG 11, UN-Habitat in collaboration with IOM and UNDP is developing tools for managing the rapid urbanization that fit to the specific context across Somalia.

Under the Midnimo (Unity) project for achieving durable solutions in areas impacted by displacement and returns in Jubaland, South West State, Hirshabelle and Galmudug, urban profiles for various urban centres have been developed complementary to local Community Action plans.

In addition, Urban Profiling is the entry point to undertake much needed urban development planning that leaves no one behind in Somalia

The porpuse of this manual is to train public servants and community leaders and interested citizens to undertake urban profiling in their respective locations.

This manual was supported by the United Nations Peace Building Fund.



Community Action Planning, Jowhar

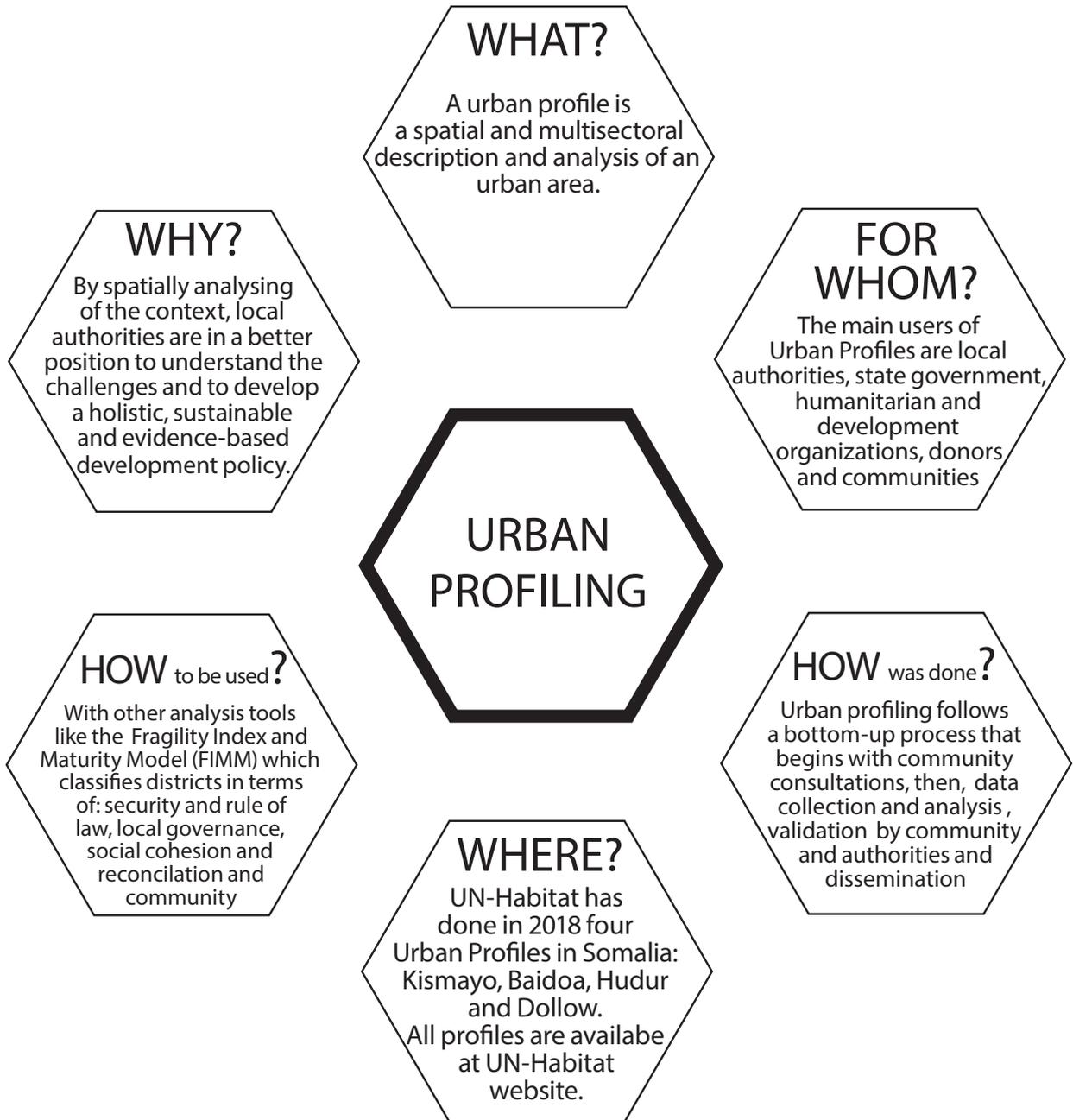


Community Action Planning, Beledweyne

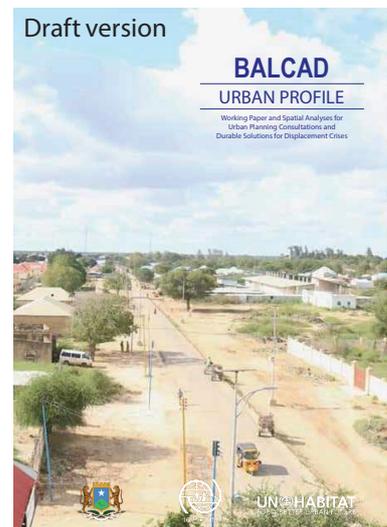
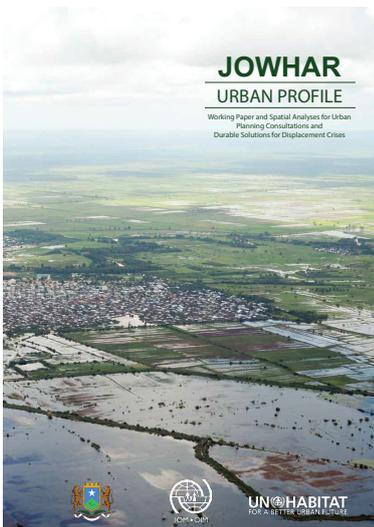
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2. BACKGROUND



Urban Profiles of Hirshabelle State developed



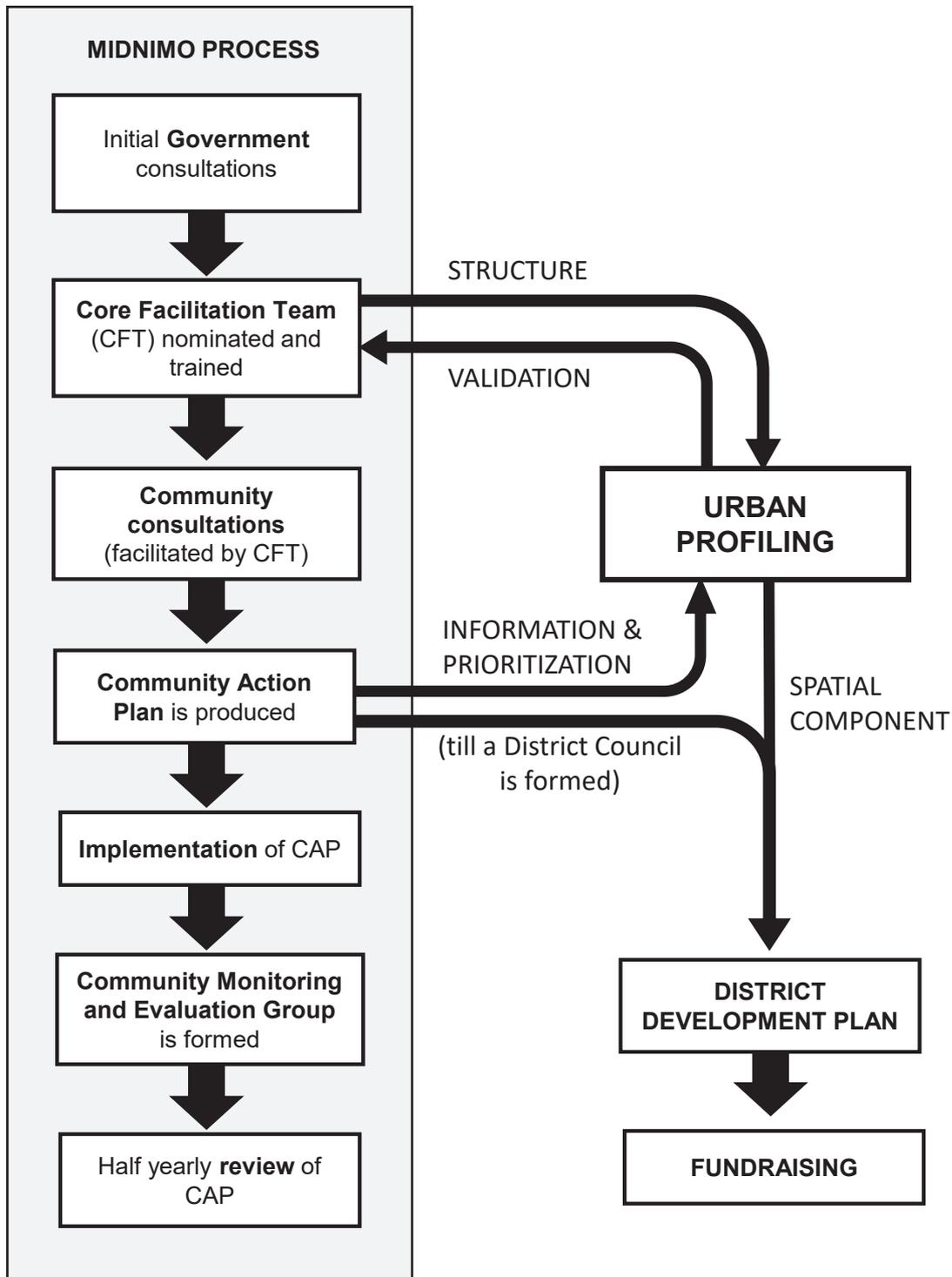
3. URBAN PROFILING IN THE MIDNIMO PROJECT

The urban profiling process is intimately related to the “Midnimo” (unity) methodology as it is the Core Facilitation Team that structures and validates the document.

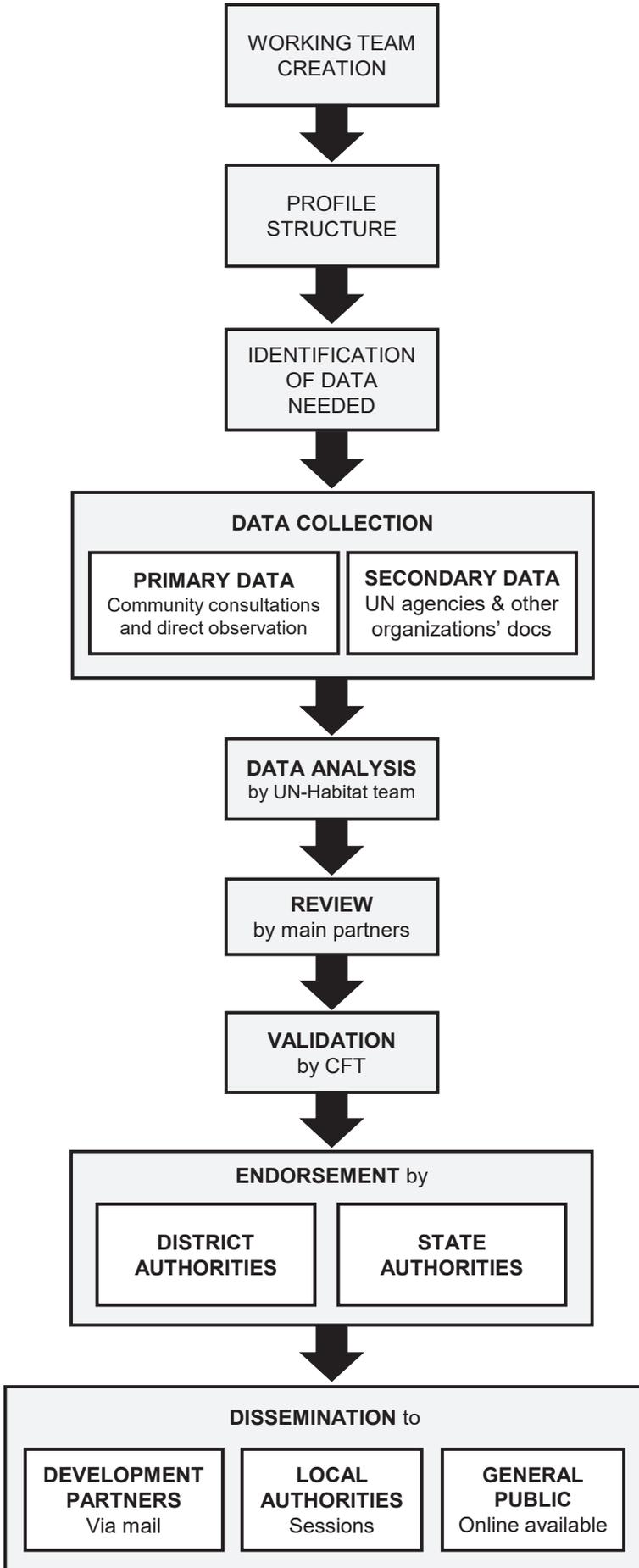
In addition, the urban profile collects the outcomes of the Community Action Plans (CAP), consultations and urban planning exercises held in the city.

For those areas where the District Council is not formed as per Wadajir framework, the CAP serves as a preliminary District Development plan and it is here that the urban profile can bring the spatial touch to the process.

From the fundraising perspective, the urban profile has a capital role as it constitutes a trustworthy tool for donors when it comes to unlocking resources.



4. THE METHODOLOGY



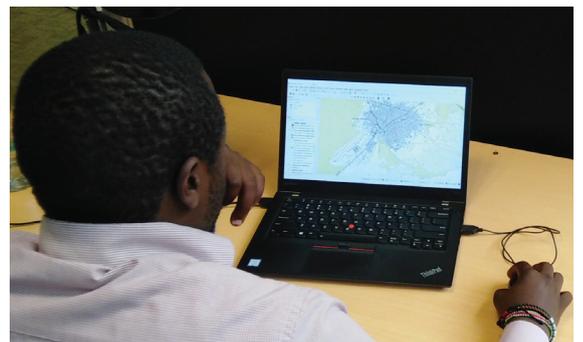
Community Action Plan launch in Balcad.
Source: IOM



Community Action Planning, Jowhar



Community Action Planning, Beledweyne



Data analysis through Geographic Information System (GIS) software.

5. THE STRUCTURE

Although the four urban profiles carried out under the Midnimo programme have the same skeleton, the structure is flexible enough to include the necessary sub-sections to explain the particularities of each city.

The main structure is as follows:

- Introduction
- General city information
 - Location and regional context
 - Governance and administration
 - History
- Urban growth and demographics
 - People and demographic trends
 - Urban growth
- Land use patterns and environmental constraints
- Urban and Rural economy
 - Development potentials
 - Livelihood and productive sectors
- Basic urban services
 - Security
 - Water and sanitation
 - Transport and transport management
 - Power and telecommunications
 - Education
 - Health
 - Social and religious services

- Dimension of displacement, humanitarian needs & services gaps
 - Latest data
 - Immediate needs and basic services

The next chapters correspond to activities carried out recently in the city or region. This section is especially important as it relates the document to what is really happening on the ground. Some of these activities are:

- Community and city consultations
- Community Action Planning (CAP)
- Capacity assessment

Finally, the last chapter consists of a town planning and development scenarios exercise based on the analyses of the previous sections.

The following pages explain the main content of each chapter. In the orange boxes you will find the main sources of information used.



This icon means that you can access to the information source online by clicking on its name.

6. INTRODUCTION

This opening chapter is written in English and Somali and explains the scope, the background and rationale of the urban profile.

It is important to start by indicating where the process is framed, in this case the Midnimo II project jointly implemented by International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and also the main objectives of the project.

In the second place it is necessary to refer to the government frameworks to which the urban profile is anchored, for example:

- Wadajir Framework

- National Development Plan Somalia, NDP-9, 2020-2024
- Peace Building Priority Plan
- Durable Solutions Initiative

This section also analyzes the medium and long term objective of the document, as well as the main challenges that the urban profiling process intends to influence.

The chapter also includes one or more photographs of everyday scenes, monuments or situations that characterize the city.

In some way this makes it possible for the reader to be transported to one of the streets of the city and empathize with the inhabitants about the challenges that are analyzed in the following chapters.



JOWHAR Urban Profile

7. GENERAL CITY INFORMATION

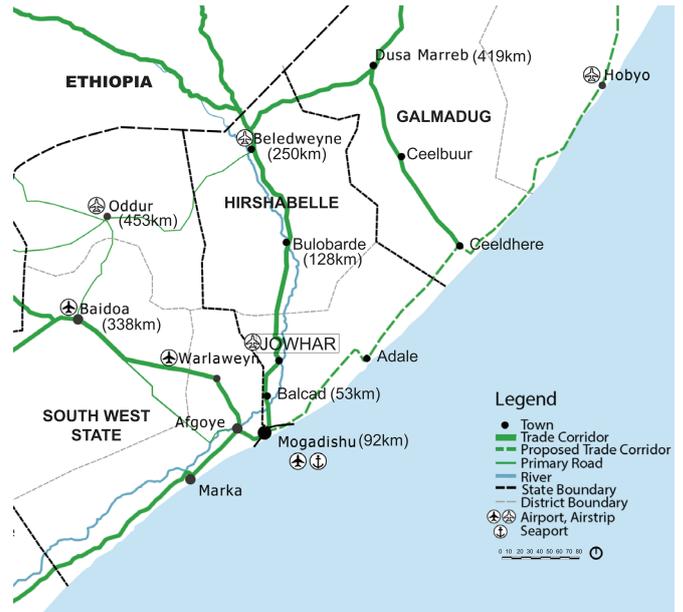
The aim of this chapter is to have a quick overview of the city in order to better understand the content of subsequent chapters.

LOCATION AND REGIONAL CONTEXT

This section analyses the context in which the city is located at a regional level. It is important to explain the district and the region to which the city belongs, as well as the number and name of the neighboring districts.

Especially it is necessary to analyze the approximate distances and orientation with respect to other cities, towns, national and international borders, refugee or displaced persons camps, coast, airports, ports, trade corridors, rivers and any other element that has or could have an impact on the city.

All of the above, as well as the road network near the city, can be shown very effectively with a simple map like the one on the right



Regional context and distances from the town (Jowhar Urban Profile)

GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

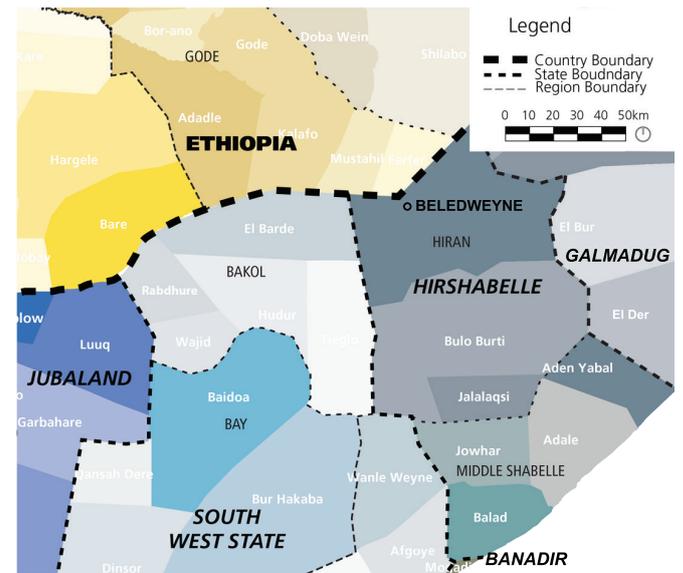
This part explains the organization of the city in Administrative Urban Villages. Apart from indicating the name of each of them it is important to locate them on a map if possible. As for governance, indicate which is the governing body, its role and responsibilities as well as under which law it is defined.

HISTORY

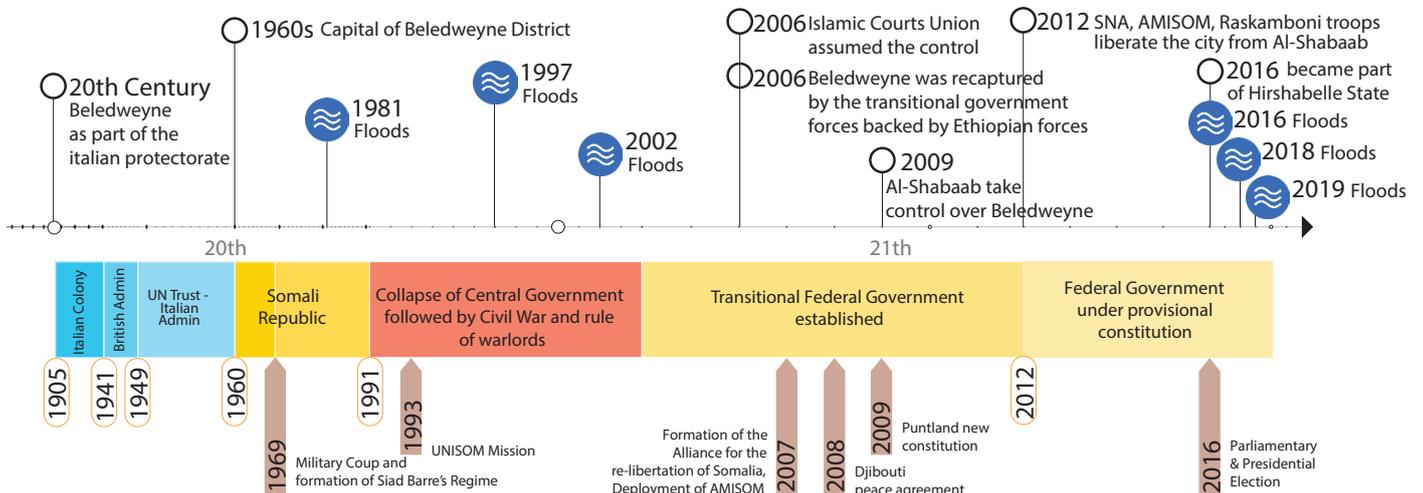
The historical section presents a summary of the history of the city indicating what has been its role throughout the centuries as well as the most remarkable facts of the different stages of history.

In addition, the most significant events in the recent history of the country and the city are accurately compared through a timeline as the one below.

Information sources: [Hirshabelle CAPs 2018-19](#)



Administrative boundaries of the region (Beledweyne Urban Profile)



Timeline of significant events between 20th and 21st Century (Beledweyne Urban Profile)

8. URBAN GROWTH AND DEMOGRAPHICS

PEOPLE AND DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

This section is of vital importance as it will allow us to understand challenges such as rapid urbanization, lack of basic services or land-based conflicts.

It is necessary to underline that in certain regions there are no up-to-date and reliable demographic data. It is therefore important to indicate the source and date of the figures and try to contrast the data with different sources.

It is interesting to indicate the ethnic composition of the city or region since it is common that several ethnic groups, clans and sub-clans coexist in the same area.

This section includes a table with an estimate of the population of the region in absolute and relative data (percentage) dis-aggregated by Urban Population, Rural Population, Nomadic Population and Internal Displaced Persons (IDP). In addition, each of these groups is broken down by gender and household.

URBAN GROWTH

It is not only a question of showing static data of the demographic situation of the city but also dynamic information that shows the trend of growth. For this purpose, an analysis of satellite images from different years is carried out.

In addition to summarizing the growth data in a line-chart comparing build-up areas in ha over the years, it is vitally important to translate this information into a map.

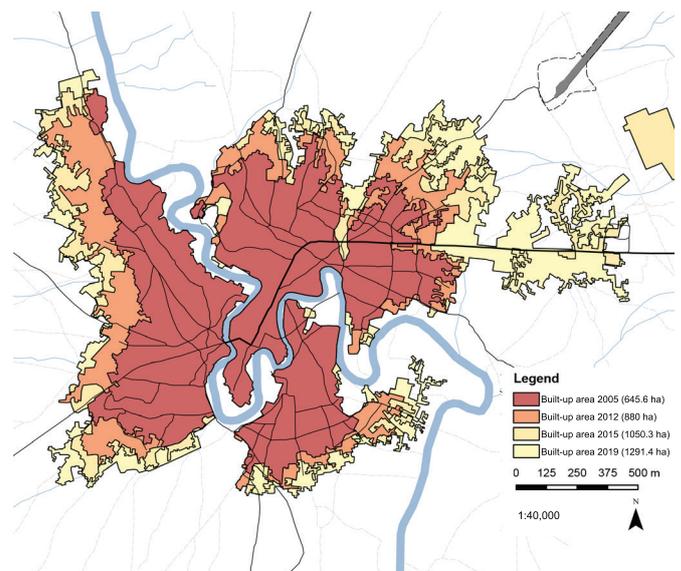
This exercise offers the possibility to visualize the growth in a spatial way in order to better understand challenges such as population displacement, land-based disputes and lack of infrastructure. All this constitutes a powerful tool to make wise decisions about urban development in the long term.

Information sources: UNFPA Population Estimation Survey of Somalia (PESS), World Bank Somali High Frequency Survey, Somali Health and Demographic Survey (SHDS)

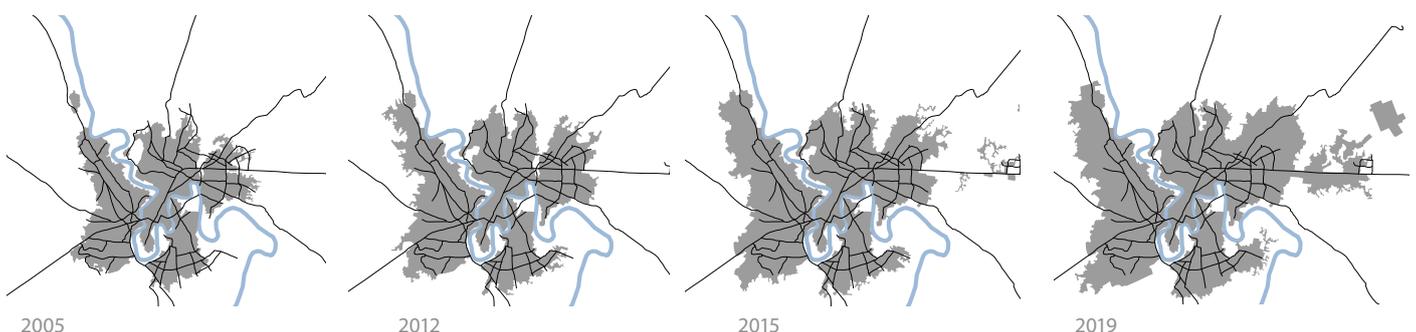
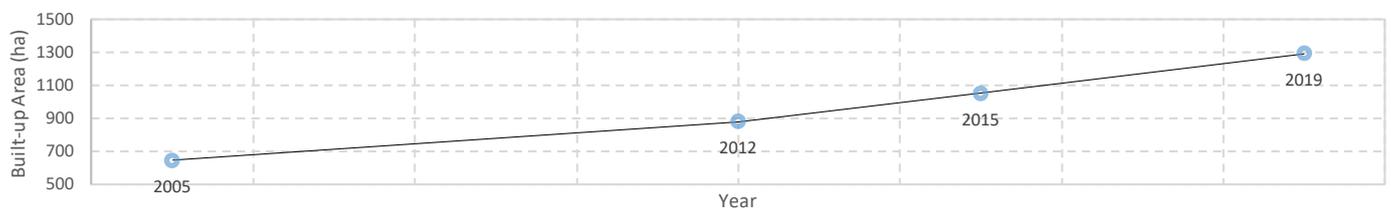
POPULATION ESTIMATION OF MIDDLE SHABELLE - 2014

Urban Population	114,348	22.2%
Male pop.	56,104	49.1%
Female pop.	58,244	50.9%
Households:	13,446	
Household size:	8.5 (national average: 6.4)	
Rural Population	249,326	48.3%
Male pop.	138,698	55.6%
Female pop.	110,628	44.4%
Households:	50,099	
Household size:	5.0 (national average: 5.8)	
Nomadic Population	100,402	19.5%
Male pop.	50,000	49.8%
Female pop.	50,402	50.2%
Households:	15,635	
Household size:	6.4 (national average: 6.5)	
IDP:	51,960	10.1%
Male pop.	25,584	49.2%
Female pop.	26,376	50.8%
Households:	14,731	
Household size:	3.5 (national average: 3.7)	
Total:	516,036	

Population estimation (Jowhar Urban Profile)



Urban growth (Beledweyne Urban Profile)



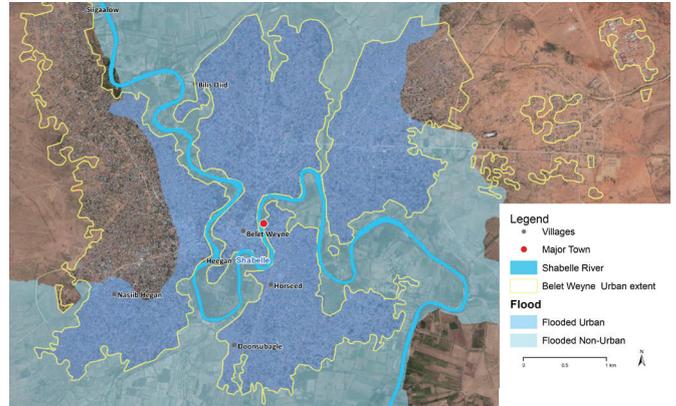
9. LAND USE PATTERNS AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRAINTS

This section analyses:

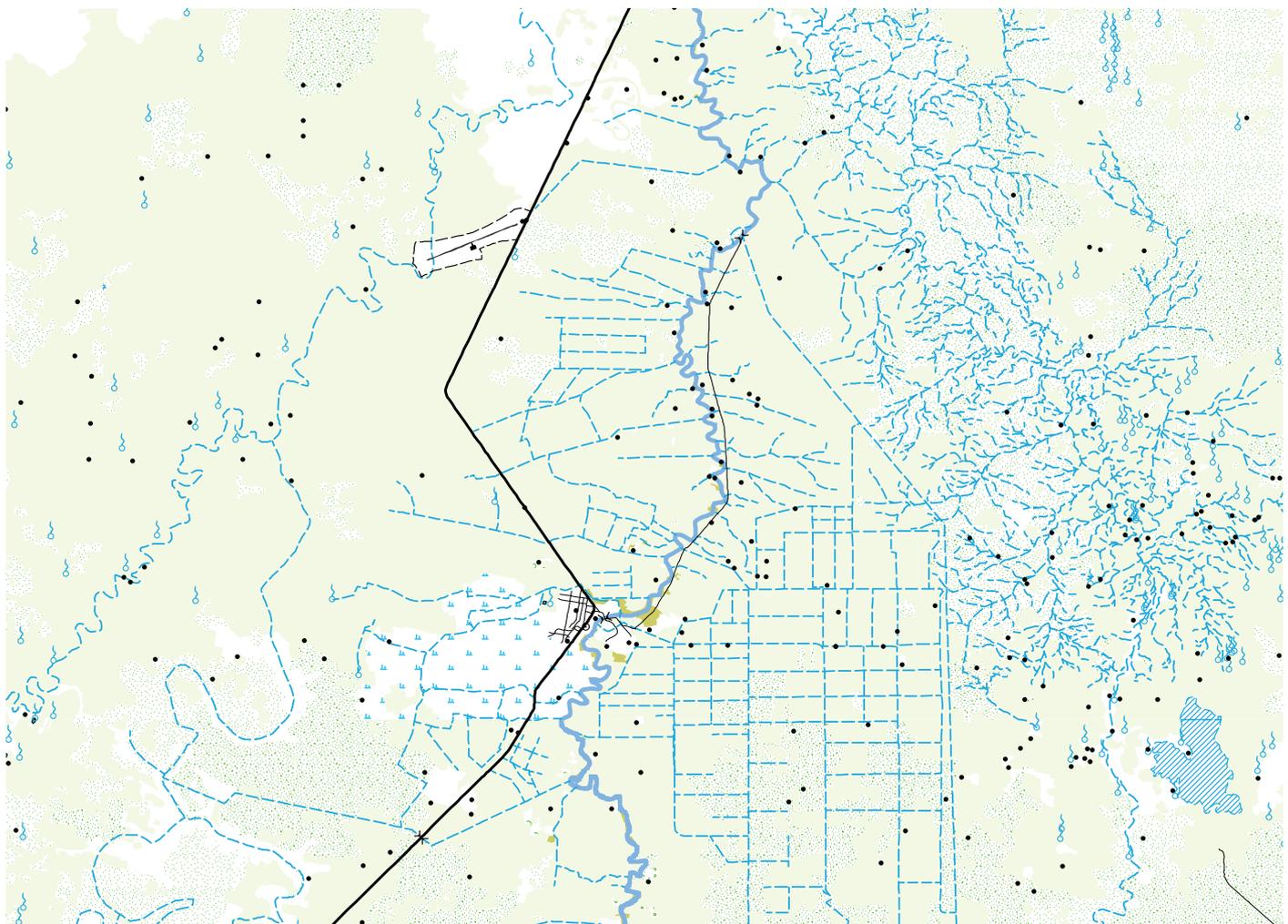
- Climate patterns of the region including annual average rainfall and different seasons.
- Environmental risks and challenges such as flood prone areas, deforestation, degradation and its impact on climate change.
- The hydrography of the region including the presence of rivers and the availability of water sources.
- Conditions of agriculture, livestock and grazing, such as the presence of pastures, type of vegetation, soil fertility, etc.
- Land use

All these components are visualized spatially on a map in order to analyze their involvement with issues such as livelihoods, settlement areas, buffers zones (risk management), migration or direction of city growth.

Information sources: Somali Water and Land Information Management, The Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit, Working paper on Flood Risk and Urban Resilience, Beledweyne.



Flooded areas (Beledweyne Urban profile)



- | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Settlements | ⊙ Natural Pool / Non-Perennial | ▨ Lake / Non-Perennial | — River / Perennial | 🌳 Wood / Scattered Trees |
| ≡ Bridge | • Well / Water, Perennial | ■ Reservoir | - - - River / Non-Perennial | 🌿 Swamp Bog |
| — Road Fairweather | ⊙ Water Tower | ▬ Dam | ■ Wood / Coniferous | 🌾 Grassland |
| — Road Dual Paved | | ▭ Aerodrome | | 🌱 Grass Thicket |
| — Road Single Paved | | - - - Ditch / Non-Perennial | | 🌱 Grass Thicket Low |
| | | | | 🌾 Crop Land / Dry Crops |
| | | | | 🌾 Crop Land / Orchard |

0 2.5 5 7.5 km

1:200,000



Jowhar Urban profile

10. URBAN AND RURAL ECONOMY - DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

LIVELIHOOD AND PRODUCTIVE SECTORS

This section analyzes which are key factors that influence the local economy.

These factors can vary greatly depending on many components such as geographic location and accessibility, available natural resources, historical role, livelihood activities, stability and security, but the main activities in which the community relies can be:

- livestock rearing and farming
- agriculture
- small, medium or big scale businesses
- remittances from diaspora
- tax revenue from airport or port activities
- financial contributions from international organizations
- trade routes. Sometimes even with neighboring countries.
- imports / exports
- markets (wholesale and retail)
- hospitality sector (hotels and restaurants)
- industry

It is also important to know the role of youth in employment and livelihoods.

All these activities are intimately related to the environment and it is crucial to take them into account in order to propose initiatives for an inclusive, resilient and sustainable urban development.

 **Information sources: [Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit Somalia Livelihood Profiles](#), [Somalia Transport Sector Needs Assessment \(TSNA\)](#), [CAPs](#).**



Food market (Jowhar Urban Profile)



Livestock market. (Beledweyne Urban Profile)



Street (Beledweyne Urban Profile)

11. BASIC URBAN SERVICES

SECURITY

It is important to point out what is the security situation of the city and what is the role of each of the actors involved such as AMISOM troops, foreign military forces, police, military troops, neighborhood watch (madani), religious leaders, etc.

In addition, this section should include an analysis of what the main security threats are and how they relate to other challenges in the region, such as the influx of IDPs and returnees, community trust in the authorities and land and family disputes.

WATER AND SANITATION

Analysis of the availability of public infrastructure providing clean running water including all operational water sources like boreholes, burkads, protected wells w/o hand pump, tanks with taps and trucking distribution.

It is also important to indicate the quality of the water, the treatment carried out (if any) and the relationship with waterborne diseases and environmental risks such as droughts and floods.

TRANSPORT AND TELECOMMUNICATION

This section analyses the state of the city's transport infrastructures and their relationship with the region: airports, ports, roads, bridges, etc.

It also indicates the state of internet and GSM connectivity, radio station and electric power supply.

EDUCATION

Information about both public and private educational facilities and analysis of the school enrollment rate and the possible causes that block access to free education.

HEALTH

Availability of health facilities and the type of services offered. Sometimes, it is important to indicate what are the barriers for these facilities to be fully functional and the importance of carrying out initiatives in this direction.

SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Indication of the presence of community centers, mosques, recreational spaces including playground, stadiums or football pitches and other spaces for meeting and sports.

Analysis of the need to promote social activities where diversity is appreciated and coexistence fostered.



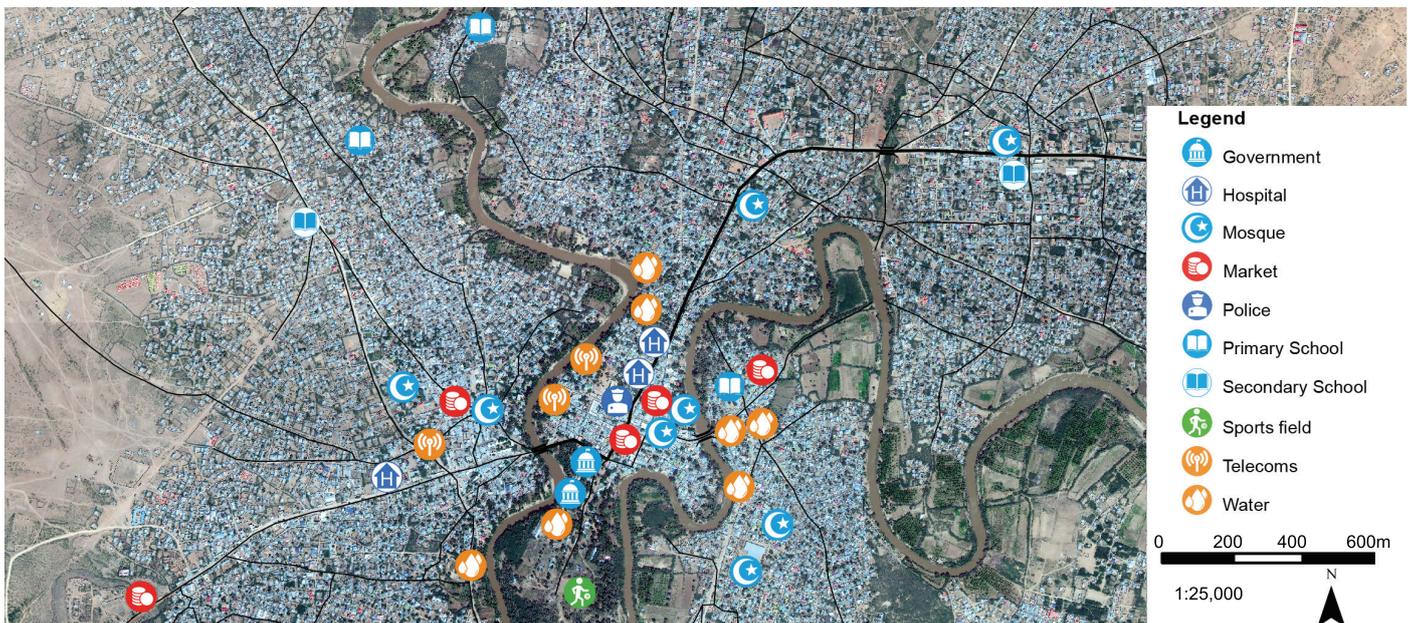
Information sources: District conflict and security assessment by Observatory on Conflict and Violence prevention (OCVP), Fragility Index and Maturity Model (FIMM).



Medical clinic. (Beledweyne Urban Profile). Photo: Tobin Jones.



Primary and secondary school (Jowhar Urban Profile)



Basic urban services map (Beledweyne Urban Profile)

12. DIMENSION OF DISPLACEMENT & IMPACT ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT

CURRENT SITUATION OVERVIEW

This section focuses on one of the biggest challenges facing cities in Somalia: large scale population displacement.

In order to better understand this challenge it is important to have accurate and up-to-date data about:

- number of IDPs and returnees settled in the area.
- distribution in settlements and geographical clusters.
- land property as land allocated by the government or private land.
- possible risk of eviction, especially in spontaneous settlements.
- accessibility of settlements to the city.
- density of settlement. Important to avoid overcrowding.
- level of planning.
- socioeconomic characteristics of IDPs and host communities
- seasonality of flows, for example depending on rainy seasons or droughts.

IMMEDIATE NEEDS AND BASIC SERVICES

In a complementary manner, it is necessary to provide an overview of the conditions in which the displaced population and host communities live.

The basic services we have to analyze are:

- sustainable water supply
- sanitation
- waste collection
- shelter
- accessibility to food and markets.
- security

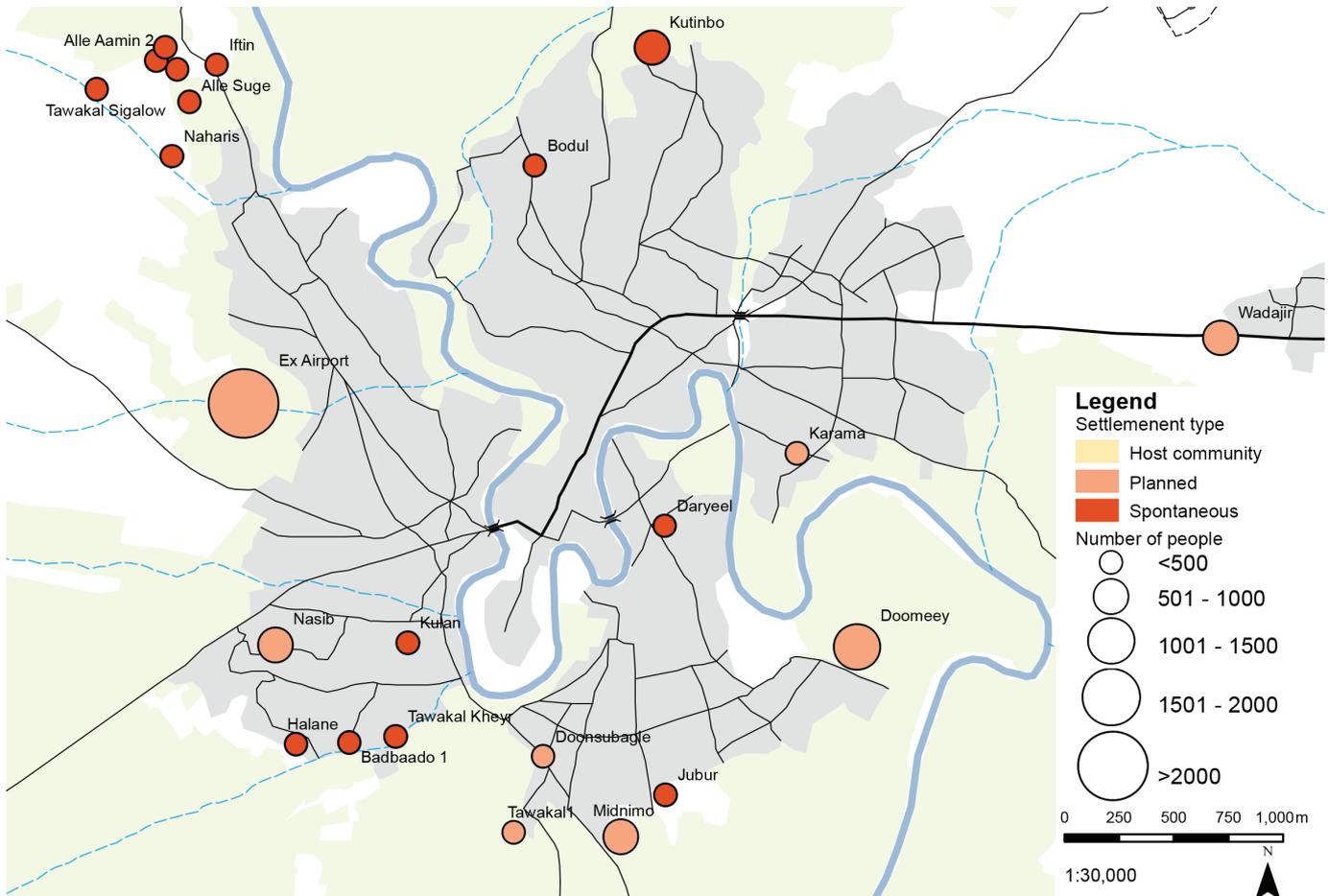
All this information will help humanitarian and local decision makers to facilitate the evolution of IDP settlements from camp like to urban form and thus promote inclusive and sustainable urban development.

It is of particular interest to know which are the main projects that are being carried out addressing these issues by humanitarian organizations. This will allow us to identify the main gaps in terms of needs, look for synergies and avoid duplications.



IDP Settlement (Beledweyne Urban Profile), Photo: Ahmed Qeys

Information sources: [IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix](#), [Camp Coordination and Camp Management \(CCCM\) reports](#), [REACH assessments](#), [UNHCR/PRMN displacement statistics](#), [Joint Multi-Cluster Needs Assessment \(JMCNA\)](#).



IDP settlements in Jowhar. Map made from Emergency Tracking Tool (ETT) data. (Jowhar Urban Profile)

13. COMMUNITY ACTION PLANNING

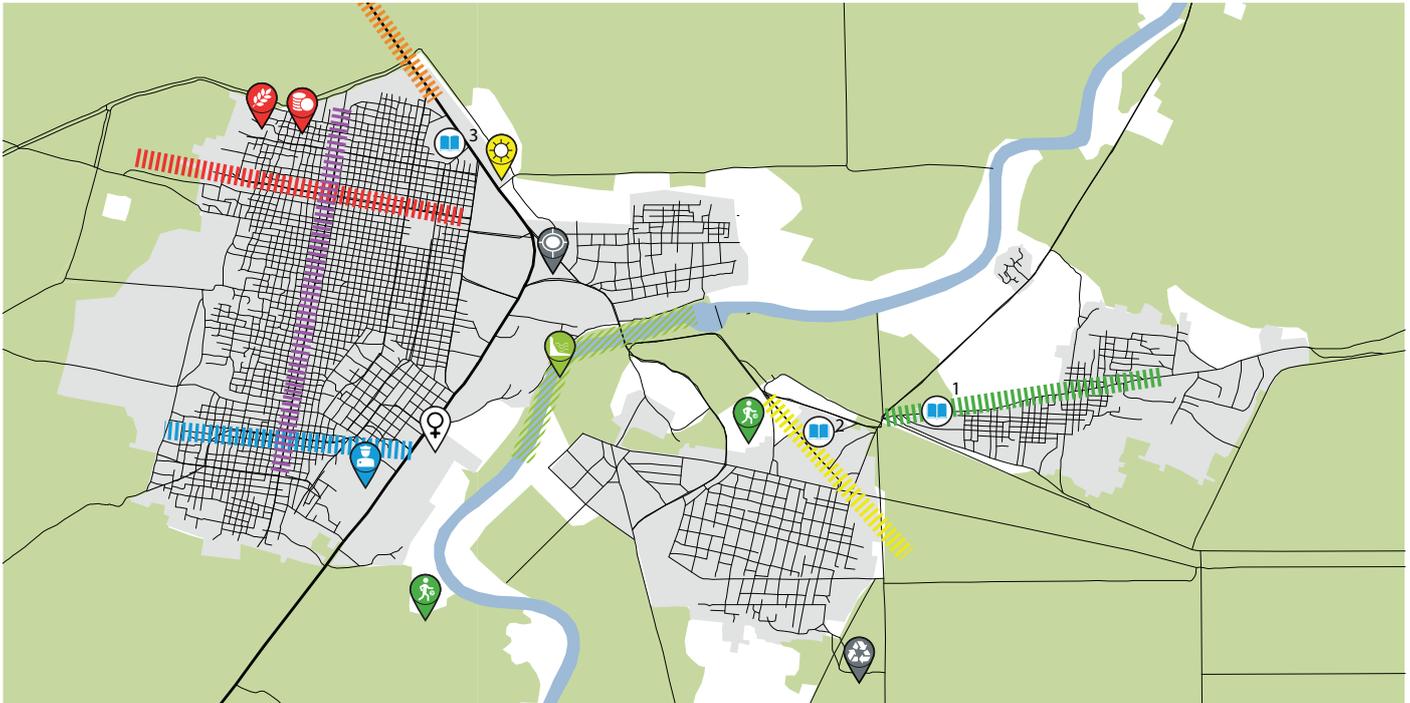
This section collects all the actions carried out in the field on which the urban profile is based, such as community village and city consultations, community action planning sessions, and district capacity assessments.

When explaining the community action planning sessions it is important to collect the different objectives and the list of possible interventions identified and prioritized by the community as well as the vision for the city agreed by all participants.

This chapter also includes a spatial representation of the interventions proposed in the Community Action Plan.

This map, see example below, is an important source of information for the development scenario and town planning exercise explained in the following chapter.

 **Information sources: Hirshabelle CAPs 2018-19**
CLICK



Infrastructures

- Rehabilitation of main road (from town to airstrip) 
- Rehabilitation of access road in the main market 
- Upgrading of Hantiwadag road 
- Construction of Kulmis road 
- Construction of Buloshiikh road 
- Construction of Horseed road 
- Rehabilitation of canals 
- Rehabilitation of meat market in Hantiwadag 
- Construction of vegetable market 
- Construction of roundabout 
- Rehabilitation of river bank 

Public facilities

- Construction of Jowhar prison 
- Rehabilitation of police station 
- Construction of Jowhar community center 
- Construction of Jowhar women center 
- Construction of youth center 
- Construction of football stadiums 
- Rehabilitation of the basketball stadium 
- Construction of indoor sports center 
- Construction of rehabilitation center for drug-addicted and vulnerable children 
- Construction of Jowhar public library 
- Installation of solar lights 

Health centers

- Construction of maternity center in Hantiwadag
- Construction of OPD and maternity center in Horseed
- Construction of maternity center in Buloshiikh
- Equipment and medical supplies to Jowhar hospital

Sanitation activities

- Trainings and workshops
- Construction of a sewerage system
- Rehabilitation of dams and reservoirs 

Education

- Rehabilitation and equipment, Sheikh Oyaye School ¹
- Rehabilitation and equipment, Bulobaley School ²
- Rehabilitation and equipment, Horseed School ³
- Construction of Jowhar vocational training center

Livelihoods development

- Provision of agricultural equipment to farmers
- Trainings and workshops on business for women
- Small scale financing projects for IDPs, women and youth

Map of projects identified and prioritized by the community (Jowhar Urban Profile)

14. DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO AND TOWN PLANNING

This last chapter proposes a development strategy that harnesses the resources and opportunities already present in urban areas and works to support, restore and improve existing urban systems after a crisis.

These systems include governance, infrastructure, income-generating activities, markets and social systems, among others.

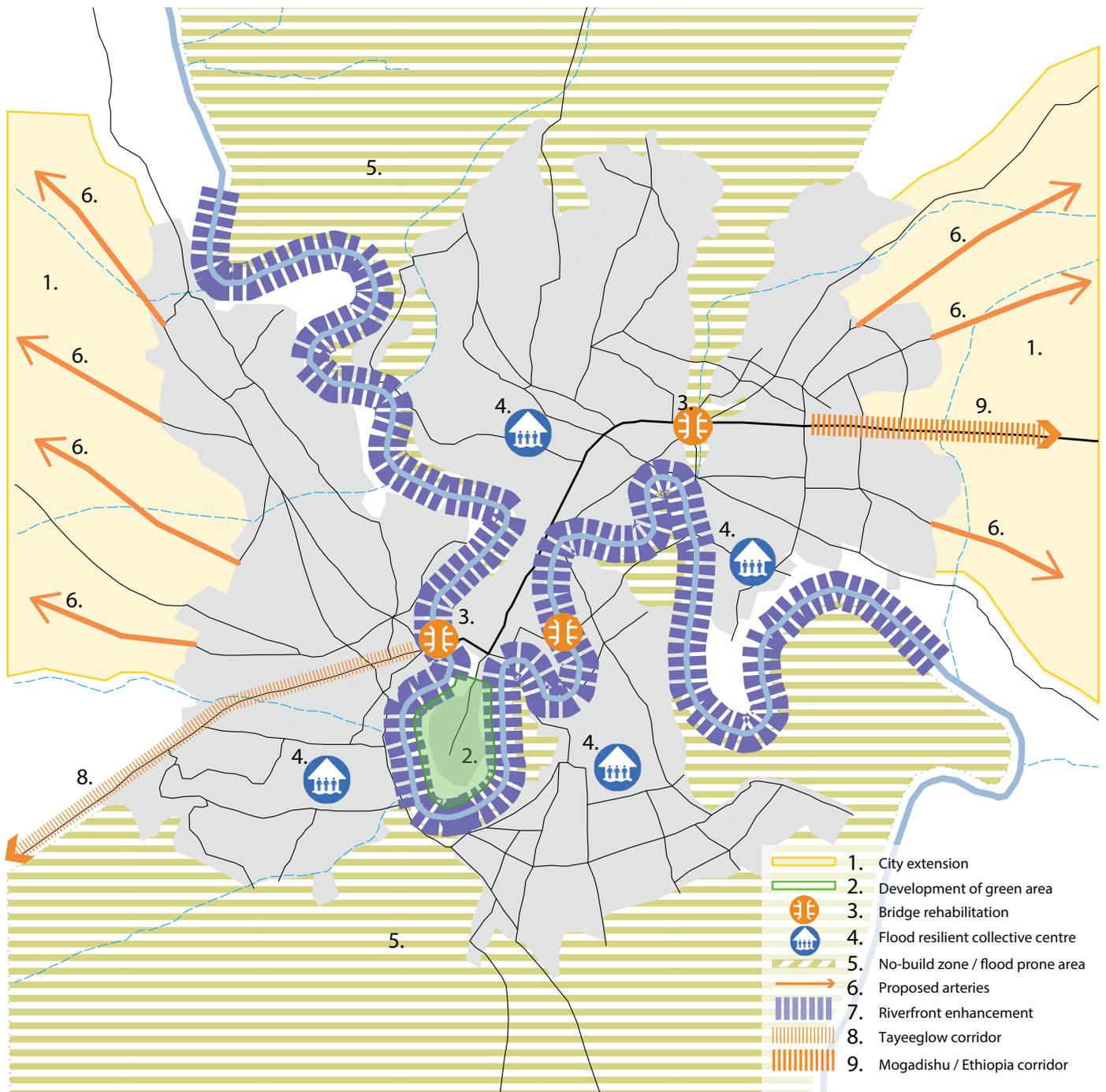
To take them all in to account it is required a more holistic and spatial approach and develop a shared strategy for the development of the urban area.

Another quick exercise that can be included in this section is the creation of different scenarios on the urban development,

such as: non-intervention, intermediate response to urban crisis or long term development approach.

Finally, an incremental approach can also be considered. This step-by-step approach attempts to address the decreasing public interest which occurs in long planning processes by starting with small-scale and short-term projects which have the potential of triggering other forms of development in the community giving the city a chance to naturally grow both socially and economically.

It is important to highlight that consultative workshops is the main modality to ensure that the process is participatory which is an imperative for the success of building urban resilience.



Beledweyne development strategy (Beledweyne Urban Profile)

15. WAY FORWARD IN URBAN PROFILING

As explained at the first chapter, this manual is a static photograph that explains the process and contents of the urban profiles developed so far in Somalia.

However, it is crucial to understand that urban profiling is a dynamic process especially in a context such as Somali where it depends on local capacities to undertake this process.

Therefore, these urban profiles accompanied by this manual correspond to the preliminary step of this journey.

At this point it would be interesting to evaluate the current urban profiling process through surveys and interviews with the main actors involved. It is also necessary to analyse the main outcomes achieved as well as the capacities of local staff.

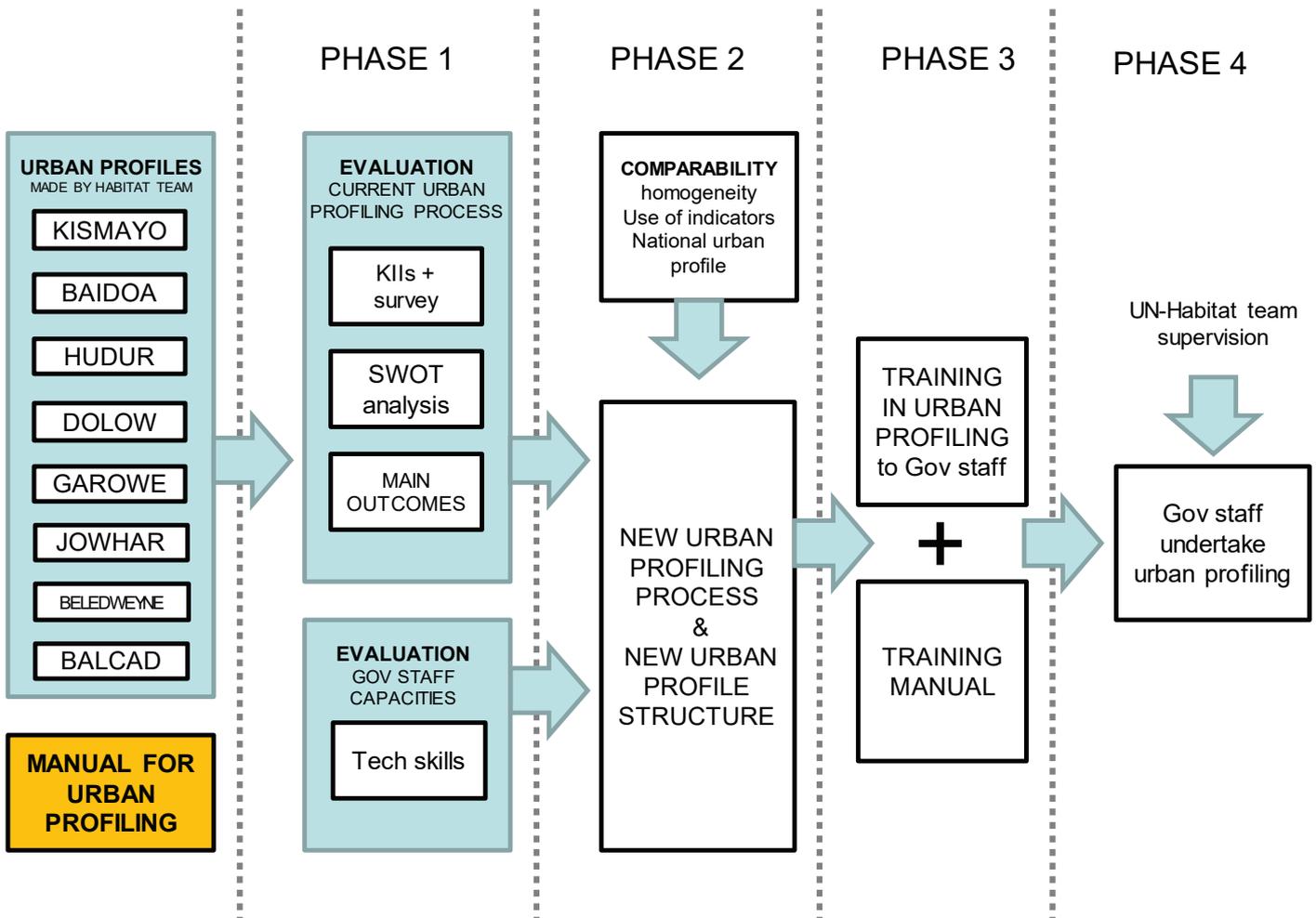
With this information, we will be able to redefine together the urban profiling process for the next profiles.

At this step it is possible to study the relevance of incorporating the use of indicators in the profiles in order to gain greater comparability and thus be able to have a vision at a national level, which could even be collected in a document such as "national urban profile".

The next phase could consist of a series of trainings on urban profiling for government staff so they can undertake the urban profiling process and use it as a sustainable tool for evidence-based decision making of the urban development.



Discussion session of the Manual for Urban Profiling, Mogadishu 2019





Urban Profiling in Somalia WORD CLOUD
 The more a specific word appears in the four Urban Profiles of Somalia the bigger it is shown in this Word Cloud
 Note: created using www.wordclouds.com

Your comments to consolidate this paper are highly appreciated. Please send us your feedback.

Talada aad ku xoojinaysa buug-yarahan aad baan u soo dhawaynaynaa. Fadlan fikirkaaga nala wadaag.

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