HARGEISA URBAN VISIONING WEEK
#ChildFriendlyCity

Integrated Report
# Introduction

# Recap Aim & Method

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Why a Vision for Hargeisa?</th>
<th>4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Vision for and by Whom?</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Vision for which Part of the City?</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# Methodology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-Visioning Activities</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Induction</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Consultation</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Consultation</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# Urban Visioning Week

| Programme | 14 |
| Media Outreach | 15 |

# Outputs of the Urban Visioning Week

| Storytelling and Memory Mapping | 16 |
| SWOT | 18 |
| Vision Statements and Designs | 20 |
| Converging Topics and Priorities | 21 |
| Urban Services & Housing | 23 |
| Urban Economy | 25 |
| Urban Culture & Social Issues | 27 |
| Urban Environment | 29 |
| Urban Mobility | 31 |
| Nagaad Network (women association) | 33 |
| Hargeisa City-Region Vision | 35 |
| Block by Block | 36 |
| Shared Vision Statement | 38 |

# UVW follow-up

| Recommendations and next steps | 40 |
| Expert-Based Visioning Workshop | 42 |
| Child-Friendly Cities Summit | 44 |
| Technical follow up | 45 |

# Annexes

| Organizing team | 46 |
| Agenda | 47 |
Introduction

From 1 to 5 September 2019, a Community-based Urban Vision Week was organized in Somaliland’s capital city of Hargeisa. Hargeisa is a fast-growing city with limited resources to plan and manage the urban development in a sustainable manner. The Urban Vision Week aimed at paving the pathway to a participatory strategic urban action plan for Hargeisa 2040, pivoting around a Shared Vision on the best possible urban scenario to strive for.

For the first time in Somaliland, children were mobilized to take active part in pre-visioning consultations and a special Placemaking session during the Urban Vision Week, hence the Child-Friendly-City focus. The UN Joint Programme for Local GOvernance and Service Delivery (JPLG) through UN-Habitat and UNICEF supports the local and national leadership in localizing the SDGs and New Urban Agenda, aligned with the National Development Plan for Somaliland.

Overall the Urban Vision Week was very successful in reaching out to a wide diversity of stakeholders and groups in society, including vulnerable groups such as children, women, elderly and disabled persons. This note presents important takeaways and suggest the best way forward to capitalize on the Shared Vision Declaration that was endorsed during the closing ceremony of the Urban Vision Week, with a hand-over to the Hargeisa Mayor, whom warmly accepted and committed to follow up on the community-based resolutions of the Declaration. This note complements the forthcoming the final Integrated Hargeisa 2040 Shared Vision Report that will be drafted after the upcoming Expert-based Vision Workshop to integrated and fine-tune the outputs of the Community-based Urban Vision Week.
Recap Aim & Method

Why a Vision for Hargeisa?

All over the world, Urban Visions are used:

- To inspire, focus the attention and mobilize all residents, communities, stakeholders, politicians in creating the desired future for the (local/regional) area;
- To build up consensus for the approval and elaboration of formal spatial plans;
- To mobilize investors to invest in the desired future developments.

Urban Visions are developed by looking back where we come from, where we are now and where and what we want to be in 20, 10 and 5 years’ time from now.

An Urban Vision cannot be stand-alone. It must be part of a Vision Cycle as illustrated below.

Moreover, an Urban Vision must be framed within a much larger strategic planning approach that will work in parallel on several tracks.

**Getting started** is usually the most difficult part. There are always plenty of reasons to not start or delay the start (lack of resources, lack of data, upcoming elections, etc.).

**Creating a sense of urgency and opening minds** is very helpful to build up the momentum to get started and taking all the hurdles along the way.

**National and local leadership** are a prerequisite for successful city-visioning, provided that the leadership is open minded about the inputs and outputs of the vision initiative.

Collecting, processing and monitoring data is key for an evidence-based planning approach that will lead to well-informed decision-making for the city its future on long, medium and short term.

This must be complemented by an innovative public and stakeholder participation in the planning process, through exploring new partnerships between governmental and non-governmental institutions and organizations.

New planning approaches must be matched with a more performant regulatory system to enhance sustainable urban development, including possible review and reform of the planning system (planning instruments, planning legislation and planning finance)

For Hargeisa as capital city of Somaliland, this can entail a planning approach and framework as suggested below:

Local and national stewardship will be required to plan, regulate and steer the desired urban development, possibly including new institutional arrangements such as establishing a performant planning agency for Metropolitan Hargeisa.

However, also more down-to-earth innovative approaches such as Placemaking and Tactical Urbanism will be needed to make a change and pave the way for more structural transformations.
A Vision for and by Whom?

Urban Visions can only be effective through a participatory approach. Acknowledging Hargeisa as a young city, engaging children and youth is crucial to develop a Shared Vision for the future city they will have to manage. Girls and women need to be empowered to ensure their fair share in the Vision. In addition, all vulnerable groups in society including disabled, elderly and IDPs need to be heard and involved to ensure a people-centred urban vision.

A People-centred Vision is driven by shared values. The Hargeisa Vision will localize the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, underpinned by the 5 P’s as illustrated below.

The People-approach can be captured by a shared vision for the Caring City - with a focus on providing and improving urban services to all city-residents including the vulnerable groups in society: children, women, elderly, disabled and IDPs. The Caring City must be a Child-friendly City.

As people constantly move around in (and out) the city, a people-centred approach is also needed for a smarter way to transport goods and people – hence the Mobile City.

A Caring and Mobile City are however highly depending on creating private wealth and public surplus, hence the need for a coherent vision on the Creating City to localize the Prosperity-paradigm of the SDGs.

The Planet perspective however will outline the conditions for a more regenerative urban system in terms of water-resilience, renewable energy, carbon-reduction, food-subsistence and simply a greener city – hence the Greening City as an active metaphor.

The remaining two P’s - Peace & Partnership – are more soft than physical and can be captured by the idea of the Collaborative City.

These 5 city-visions appeal to the idea of the ‘MultipliCity’, harnessing the diversity of its residents and their ideas to make the city a better place for all. Understanding the dynamic interactions between different layers, the Hargeisa Vision will be developed around 5 thematic clusters that will feed into the 5 City-visions, as illustrated below.
Understanding the dynamic interactions between different layers of the city, the Hargeisa Vision Week was articulated around 5 thematic clusters that fed into the 5 City-visions, as illustrated below.

Social issues will be treated as part of the cultural DNA of Hargeisa, with a Human-Rights Based Approach for the most vulnerable groups in society, including children and women.
A Vision for which Part of the City?

The Hargeisa Vision will develop visions at three different scales of the city, as suggested below.

The **City-wide Vision** is pivotal to steer urban development in a more coordinated and complimentary way. Therefore, this Vision requires a broad participation of the urban community. The **Community-based Workshop** for the City-wide Vision will assemble around 60 persons representative for its diversity in gender, age, ability, social position, profession etc. Experts taking part in this workshop will participate in their personal capacity, as resident or daily user of the city.

The City-Vision need to be complemented by a **larger territorial scope** on the natural and economic hinterland of Hargeisa, as part of the urban network of Somaliland, as well as part of transport corridors across the national boundary. This requires a more **Expert-based Vision Workshop** with a smaller number of participants from both local and central level (but not only governmental).

City-wide and city-regional vision must also create some windows on how to translate that vision at specific areas such as neighbourhood and even street level, the most tangible and daily living environment of most residents. Hence a series of workshops will be staged to apply global principles at the most local level, with a central role for children, youth and students – shaping the future city they will call home. Planning for streets and neighborhoods is part of an **Area Based Development** approach and can also include visions for special areas such as the entire city-river, the ring-road, the airport-zone, a future Special Economic Zone and last but not least specific parks and public spaces, that can also be part of the visioning week.
Methodology

The Hargeisa Urban Visioning applied a well-tested methodology, going through a set of exercises as illustrated above. These “building blocks” are meant to go through the following steps to guide the participants up to the elaboration of the Vision:

- the past, or how to harness valuable memories of the planning area in the past as a resource for future visioning.
- the present, or how to make a spatial portrait of the planning area today, including current trends and strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (“SWOT”).
- the future, or how to create a community vision based on the past and the present.

Participants of the City-vision workshop went to every single step to achieve the results they have presented at the closing ceremony. This included short training courses to create a level playing field among a diverse group of resident with and without planning expertise.

The invitation of participants was done according to the basic ground rules of Community based Urban Visioning, reaching out to all relevant groups in the urban society. In practice however, it was not possible to include representatives from the most vulnerable urban poor and Internally Displaced People (IDPs).

On the plus side, the participation of children and women was significant. The high turnout and engaged participation of university students and teachers highly contributed to the success of the Hargeisa Vision Week.

Also ‘special’ urban service providers such as firefighters proved to be excellent contributors to the Shared Vision, through sharing their deep knowledge of the urban challenges while performing their duties.

Prior to the Vision Week, a number of facilitators – all domestic planning teachers and students – were trained to ‘make the people do what they can’ during the Vision Week.

“What I need is someone who will make me do what I can”

Ralph Waldo Emerson
Pre-Visioning Activities

Introductory meetings with the Hargeisa Municipality and Ministry of Public Works were held in the first half of 2019, where UNICEF and UN-Habitat presented the concept for the Visioning Initiative and proposed a timeline for citizen engagement, which was further elaborated in a participatory way between the Somaliland Government and JPLG.

In the first week of July, a broad consultation of all relevant stakeholders, governmental and non-governmental, was carried out in multiple meetings.

These meetings involved the local and national government (Hargeisa Municipality, Ministry of Public Works, Ministry of Interior and Champion Office), Academia (Hargeisa University, Gollis University), youth, women and disabled association, among others.

The final concept and timeline for the Urban Visioning Week were agreed upon during a Validation Workshop, held on 6 July in Hotel Imperial and attended by around 40 representatives of key stakeholders, including the Mayor of Hargeisa and a representative of the Ministry of Public Works of the Republic of Somaliland.

This included the establishment of a Visioning Working Party including the key governmental stakeholder (Municipality & Ministry of Public Works) and the facilitators (UN-Habitat & UNICEF), and agreement on criteria for identification and selection of participants.

Five one-day consultations on community based urban visioning were held at different venues in all five districts of Hargeisa between 27th and 29th August 2019, organised by organized by the Municipality of Hargeisa and supported by UNICEF and UN-Habitat.

The consultations were intended to enlarge the audience and provide a platform at district level for citizen to contribute to the overall Urban Visioning Exercise. The target participants were 50 from each district, though the number of people that showed up fell short in some districts.

The focus at the district scale enabled a more detailed understanding of the views of Hargeisa residents on how their street, neighbourhood and district looked like in the past and what are the challenges and opportunities that they face at present.

The five district consultations adopted a similar methodology and schedule as the community-led vision workshop, organized around three components:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26 June</td>
<td>Dhoollayare</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ibrahim Koodbuur</td>
<td>Safari Hotel</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohamoud Haybe</td>
<td>Star Hotel</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmed Dhaqah</td>
<td>Aideed Hotel</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ga’can Libah</td>
<td>Shiraqle Hotel</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• **Storytelling/Memory Mapping**: Making sense of our place through an ice-breaking activity to create a level playing field resulting in a collective mental map of the places we like or associate with positive memories.

• **SWOT Analysis**: Understanding and identifying the neighbourhood and city, their positive and negative aspects, expressed in words, using the typical SWOT.

• **SWOT Mapping**: Mapping the territorial (or spatial) aspects of the SWOT-findings. At the personal level, participants will identify positive and negative spatial features in their own neighbourhood, using a circle-diagram as illustrated below.

Common challenges raised in the five consultations were:

- Lack of open spaces, playgrounds;
- Garbage;
- Access to basic services;
- Security;
- Harassment of women and girls in public spaces;
- Bad and unsafe roads;
- Lack of employment and livelihood opportunities;
- Difficulty in accessing higher education;
- Flood.

As the SWOT mapping was conducted in groups formed by residents of the same sub-districts, it was also possible to highlight that service provision was decreasing moving from the centre of the town to its periphery. This was highlighted in all five districts: while the central areas have a good water provision, waste management, easy access to health, education, and public transport, the outskirts of town have great problems across most basic services. While flood risk was a cross-cutting issue, the most densely urbanised parts of the town, in particular the southern part of 26 June appeared to be the most affected by this issue.

A more thorough report of the single consultations describes in details each of their sessions and their outcome.
Children Consultation

A separate two-day consultation was organized for children aged 12 to 18. For the first time ever, children were invited to participate and provide their views, opinion on how they envision their future city.

On the 31st of August and 1st September, a group of 47 enthusiastic children and young people (14 girls and 36 boys) from all five district of Hargeisa started discussing what they like and dislike about their city, as an important contribution to the Urban Vision Initiative.

The children consultation workshop was designed to:
• Gather information on positive and negative aspects of the Hargeisa urban environment from a child prospective;
• Capture children wishes, ambitions and aspirations for the city they live in, and support them in constructing a vision for its future;
• Ensure that the inputs from children consultation feed into the larger city visioning exercise;

In doing so, the consultation also helped in providing basic information to children about the child rights provision in the International Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

Participatory tools such as “likes/dislikes, risk mapping, prioritization, visioning, body mapping” were used to engage the children. These participatory tools employed were intended to replicate, in a simplified and more playful fashion, the methodology and schedule of the broader Urban Visioning Week. This helped in achieving a certain coherence in the overall initiative, as well as providing outputs easily comparable and assimilable.

Participants shared how they want their neighborhood and city to look. The children also confirmed that this was the first time they heard and understood about child rights. The recommendation from the children provided an important contribution and informed the recommendations of the Urban Visioning Week.

A dedicated report describes in details the proceedings of the Children Consultation.

The overleaf shows some of the most recurring challenges highlighted in the exercises. Some of the most common issues raised in the pre-visioning consultations were related to public spaces. The need for safe, easily accessible, clean and inclusive spaces for leisure was raised multiple times. While most district have playgrounds - often new and well equipped - the majority of them are privately owned. This forces children to play in the street, in empty plots and in dry riverbeds.

Also non-spatial issues, such as street harassment, could be connected with shortcomings in the built environment, such as lack of street lighting, long home-school distances, and lack of gender-sensitive spaces.
LIKES: Safe and publicly accessible places (mosque)

 LIKES: Green and clean open space (tree)

DISLIKES: Bad and unsafe roads (car accident)

DISLIKES: Lack of playgrounds and recreational spaces (women beating child because he plays in front of her house)

DISLIKES: Criminality and harassment in public spaces (Street robbery)

DISLIKES: Lack of waste management, Sanitation (open defecation)
Urban Visioning Week

Programme

On 1st September, the Urban Vision Week was kicked off by a culturally animated and well attended Opening Ceremony in the evening hours, at the Hargeisa Cultural Centre, a symbolic venue to tap into the Sense of Place of Hargeisa’s transformation from a nomadic trading hub to a cosmopolitan city. The ceremony started with an inspiring address by the Vice-President of Somaliland:

“We as Hargeisa residents know more than anyone else the challenges brought about by unplanned urbanization. If we don’t plan for the expansion of our cities ahead of time we will be faced with irreversible consequences […] I call on all parties to take the next week to contribute their ideas to Hargeisa’s future”

The dignitary speakers at the opening session were as follow:

- Director of Hargeisa Cultural Centre
- Vice-President of Somaliland
- Line Ministers of Somaliland Government
  - Minister of Interior
  - Minister of Public Works, Land and housing
  - Ministry of Water Resources Development
  - Ministry of Education
  - Ministry of Health
- Governor of Maroodi-Jeeh
- Mayor of Hargeisa Municipality
- Representatives from UNICEF and UN-Habitat

Among the dignitaries that attended the event, also the Head of the British Office in Hargeisa.

The Mayor welcomed the event as a fundamental step for the development of the city:

“Our objective is to give every resident of Hargeisa the chance to contribute their ideas […] We will give the outcomes of the visioning week a priority and a timeline”

From 2nd to 4th September, the largest group of Vision participants gathered in the central hall while a group of children (aged 12-16 years) retreated in a spate room to take part in a Placemaking workshop using the Block-by-Block software developed by UN-Habitat.

The City-wide Vision Workshop went through all the steps of the Community-based Visioning methodology as explained before and further illustrated below.

Throughout the Vision Week participants with some planning expertise were called in to contribute to a vision for the Hargeisa City-region, consisting of the current urban fabric of the city with its immediate (mainly rural) hinterland. This also included discussions on the territorial cohesion vis-à-vis other cities and trading places in the wider Somali region. Much of the discussion however pivoted around the blue-green spine and network of the city, composed by the central river ecosystem and its connected green fingers that provide a challenging opportunity to mitigate the worsening climate and biodiversity crisis.

Topics such as restoring the Blue-Green network, but also the logistical corridor development between Hargeisa and the port city of Berbera were further explored through a series of tea-sessions and interviews, of which many were recorded to feature in a forthcoming documentary on the Vision Week.

The Hargeisa Wold Café tapped into the mixed experiences of Hargeisa/Somaliland diaspora but also used the opportunity to share and exchange ideas with the SummerLab organised by UCL Bartlett Faculty, on dealing with spatial segregation in Hargeisa, engaging local and international students from more than 10 different countries in urban research and strategies that can feed into the Integrated Shared Vision.
Media Outreach

This paved the way for a successful Closing Ceremony on the 5th September - where all groups presented their findings, and where children proudly demonstrated their new-learned skills to self-design a desirable new public place in front of the Hargeisa Stadium.

During the closing ceremony, a draft of Shared Vision Declaration was displayed on large posters in both Somali and English languages, prepared by the participants the day before. This Declaration was unanimously adopted by all present participants and handed over to the Hargeisa Mayor. He warmly welcomed the Declaration and committed to work and decide along its resolutions, while awaiting the final Integrated Vision Report to be submitted to the City Council for its approval as foundation for the Hargeisa Urban Plan 2040. After the Mayor formally closed the Urban Vision Week, many participants signed the Declaration as an expression of personal endorsement – see the figure below.

All (present) participants were granted a certificate as ‘city changer’, greatly appreciated judging by the numerous photoshoots and selfies recorded afterwards.

Throughout the Urban Vision Week multiple digital social media were used to reach out to both potential participants and the wider public in and outside Hargeisa, resulting in overall positive reactions and many shares and retweets.

UN-habitat and UNICEF also used their own social media outlets to share the experience worldwide as an inspiring practice of Open-source community based visioning, without any political or technical interference or prejudgement.

Drone and video-recordings were made during the ceremony, featuring into an upcoming documentary on the Hargeisa Urban Vision Week. Overall, the opening ceremony transpired a collaborative spirit and raised the bar of expectations towards the participants and facilitators.
Outsuts of the Urban Visioning Week

Storytelling and Memory Mapping

In this session, participants were given the individual task of sticking a post-it with their favourite memory of a specific place on a big map of Hargeisa displayed in the hall. This low-threshold activity breaks the ice and let participants introduce themselves, while tapping into the emotional capital of the city and creating a sense of place which will help in the later activities.

At the same time, by aggregating personal to collective memories, it provides the base of memory map, assisted by a content-facilitator proposing a clustering of personal memory places into more collective community landmarks.

One of the recurring locations was the river, which for years constituted the main public space and the green spine of the city for all section of Hargeisa society. During dry season, children used to play football in the fine grained sand of the river bed while adults gathered under the vegetation on the banks. Elders also convened at the river when handling disputes between families/clans in traditional courts. The river was therefore a multipurpose asset utilized by all residents of Hargeisa. This is not the case anymore, due to the rising pollution. The riverbed is used as a dumping site and most waste is brought there by the running waters during rainy season.

Another common memory was the green and animal-friendly environment. Urbanisation, climate change, and tree cutting for charcoal use has completely disrupted this environment.

Two identified landmarks were the State House and the Theatre. The State House, once “one of the most beautiful buildings in the city” is not occupied by a consolidated IDP settlement. The original Theatre was destroyed during the civil war. What is now indicated as the “theatre” is a modern commercial mall built in the same location.

Interviews with key stakeholders added individual opinion and commitments to the co-production of the Shared Vision

- EU Delegation
- Mr. XXXXXX Former Mayor of Hargaisa (20xx-20xx)
- Dr. Jama Musse, Director of the Hargeisa Cultural Centre
- Several participants of the UVW
- Firefighters
- Disabled person
- Children
- Diaspora
A participant sticking his memory on the memory map

Re-elaboration of the memory map
The SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) is a well-tested method to quickly screening of the current problems and opportunities in Hargeisa city-region

For the SWOT-analysis the participants were divided in 5 groups, corresponding to the 5 themes identified for the UVW:

- Urban services and housing
- Urban economy
- Urban culture and social issues
- Urban infrastructure and mobility
- Urban environment

After completing the task, the flip charts were presented in a plenary session by an appointed ‘rapporteur’, followed by a group discussion. Facilitators also helped to take into the outcome of the District and Children Consultations, which fed into the general discussion. The opposite page shows a diagram consolidating the five SWOTs.

As the participants of the visioning workshops could not rely on any data or survey, the SWOT-relied on subjective and indicative perception, but it still constitute a community exercise based on valuable collective feedback.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Peace and security</td>
<td>• Low investment opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Good trade and business environment</td>
<td>• High unemployment rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Livestock activities</td>
<td>• Limited public services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Good internet access and telecommunication</td>
<td>• increasing migration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• High young population and labour capacity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Well-ordered road network guiding urbanisation</td>
<td>• lack of public, open, green space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reliable electricity supply</td>
<td>• Poor water supply, sanitation, drainage system and waste management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Availability of public land in the inner city</td>
<td>• Lack of basic services (health, education, security)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Well-preserved dry river beds</td>
<td>• Low availability and variety of housing options</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Good public transport</td>
<td>• deforestation and tree cutting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Strategic location for communication, logistic</td>
<td>• Lack of demarcation for animal grazing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Open lands for investment</td>
<td>• insufficient and badly maintained infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Point of access from Diaspora remittances and investments</td>
<td>• Increasing traffic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Base point for circular migration and migrant entrepreneurs</td>
<td>• No bypass for heavy load trucks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Untapped touristic potential – natural and cultural</td>
<td>• Lack of parking and bus stations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Untapped solar and wind energy potential</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Opportunities</strong></td>
<td><strong>Threats</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Strategic location for communication, logistic</td>
<td>• Lack of public investment and corruption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Open lands for investment</td>
<td>• Low production and few industries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Point of access from Diaspora remittances and investments</td>
<td>• Increasing price of land</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Base point for circular migration and migrant entrepreneurs</td>
<td>• Sprawling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Untapped touristic potential – natural and cultural</td>
<td>• Illegal buildings in the streets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Untapped solar and wind energy potential</td>
<td>• Land disputes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>•</td>
<td>• Poorly maintained infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**</td>
<td>• Increasing traffic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Increasing water and electricity costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Increasing taxation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Climate change, Flooding and Soil erosion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Increasing criminality</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Vision Statements and Designs

The first step in ‘mapping the future’ is the formulation and presentation of vision statements for each of the selected topics, including a motto and a logo. Each group was asked to formulate different proposals and to summarize them into 5 to 10 goals or objectives. In a following step group visualized those vision statements on a map for the entire municipality.

The outcome of this exercise is described group by group in the following pages.

In some cases, group vision relates to a neighbourhood or a specific area; in others to the entire footprint of the city, and even beyond the built-up area, taking into consideration planned city extensions and resettlement projects for IDPs. Many of them also refer to nonspatial community development objectives.

Participants were encouraged to develop varied or multiple visions, to enlarge the perspectives. While each vision statement and vision map was discussed in the plenary to develop a Shared Vision Statement (described afterwards) it was accepted that different agendas of visioning participants could coexist, even for the same area or topic. By tapping into different forms of creativity, different solutions can emerge and not all ideas can or have to fit into a single vision statement or design.

In the following planning process there will be a need to merge different elements into one coherent vision that has the best chances for implementation.

For this phase, a new group was added to the initial five, constituted mainly by representatives of Nagaad, a network of women association.
## Converging Topics and Priorities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Group 1</th>
<th>Group 2</th>
<th>Group 3</th>
<th>Group 4</th>
<th>Group 5</th>
<th>Group 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public parks and play grounds</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River utilization</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusive &amp; Child-Friendly Environment</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livelihood and economic opportunities</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure provision</td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood protection</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbourhood markets</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reforestation / greening</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relocations of the IDP communities</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic management and public transport</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and Education Facilities</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separation of urban/rural/industrial uses</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural and Cultural Heritage</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Provision</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste Management</td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable energy</td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration Facilities</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Facilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>⬤</td>
<td>⬤</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Group 1
Urban Services & Housing

VISION PROPOSAL

1. Making play grounds for each district
   • The playground will have an allocated area for
     children to play.
   • It will be used for community gatherings like
     Eid prayers.
   • The rest of the area will be park (green)
     football/basketball ground

2. Relocating of IDP communities
   • Relocating three IDPs like State House
   • Development and reconstruction of Daami IDP
   • Relocating public schools from the commercial
     areas

3. Constructing three reservoirs
   • Naasa-Hablood
   • Manhal
   • Ina Naxar

4. Increasing public spaces
   • Construction of a town hall
   • Enlargement of Hargeisa Stadium and its
     facilities
   • National park in the down town area

5. Increasing public services
   • Enlargement of existing library
   • Change Sheik Bashir library
   • Enclose the market area for commercial use
     only

6. Classifying developed potential area
   • Classifying the area that are undeveloped
     which can be used for future construction
     projects.

VISION OBJECTIVES

1. Every district must have residential children playground
2. Relocations of the IDP communities
3. Constructing three reservoirs
4. Increasing and enlarging public spaces
5. Increasing public services
6. Classifying developing potential land use and under
   developing potential land use
Group 2
Urban Economy

VISION PROPOSAL

1. Creating industries for production
2. Balancing of import and exports
3. Exporting of agriculture and livestock
4. Creating more jobs through investments of public and private sectors
5. Creating more roads and improving the existing ones
6. Every neighborhood have their own markets to reduce congestion
7. Creating parks and recreational spaces for tourist
8. Making clear policy about fluctuation of exchange rates
9. Extraction of national resources

VISION OBJECTIVES

1. Planning of livestock areas
2. Children playgrounds
3. Market for each neighborhood
4. Parks and recreational areas
5. Building more bridges
6. Planning of industrial areas
Group 3
Urban Culture & Social Issues

VISION PROPOSAL

1. To classify road types
   - Free way
   - Arterial
   - Collector

2. Recreational Spaces, outdoor spaces, playgrounds and open space

3. Vocational skills

4. Historical heritages
   - Sheikh Madar mosque
   - Egyptian library
   - Khayriyada / Liberty park
   - Naas-Hablood Mountain
   - High court
   - State House

5. Hargeisa river to be cleaned and planted

VISION OBJECTIVES

1. To make Naas-Hablood mountain a recreational area

2. To make sidewalks and lifts disabled-friendly

3. Government should have the authority to manage and control land

4. To make public spaces like playgrounds, conference halls and libraries

5. To separate streets
Group 4
Urban Environment

VISION PROPOSAL

1. Cleaning the city
   • Water: installation of drainage lines and sewage
   • Waste: solid waste management
   • Air: air pollution control

2. Dividing into zones (agricultural and industries)
   • Agricultural and industrial: (green belt) for grazing land
   • Industrial: Recycling industries, water treatment plant, water reservoirs (at least four)

3. Reforestation (natural & urban farming)
   • Urban farming: both industrial, households & in public spaces
   • 200,000 trees in housing areas
   • Focusing on C.B.D

4. Public Parks and play grounds (10 years)
   • At least 3-5 neighborhood parks: - one in each district
   • National Park: Beerta Xorriyadda
   • River bank park
   • Playgrounds: both residential areas and schools
   • Public toilets: child and gender friendly and inclusive

5. River utilization (20 years)
   • High risk housing: 500 m clearance from both sides
   • Accessibility: 3—5 bridges
   • Dams: at least two and renovating the existing one
   • Water harvesting one in each KM

6. Sustainable city (20 years)
   • Energy: solar energy (40,000 panels), wind and water
   • Pollution: Electric cars pollution agencies limitation
   • Spaces for cycling, pedestrian walk ways, public transport and child friendly

7. Rules and Regulations (20 years)
   • Urban
   • Buildings
   • Pollution

VISION OBJECTIVES

1. Cleaning the city (water, waste and air)
2. Dividing into zones (agricultural and industrial)
3. Reforestation (urban farming and natural farming)
4. Public parks and play grounds
5. River utilization
6. Sustainable city (energy and pollution)
7. Rules and regulation
Group 5
Urban Mobility

VISION PROPOSAL
1. Develop street symbols and marks in the main roads
2. Develop better electrical safety putting wires underground
3. Develop drainage system in main roads
4. Develop child safety and playgrounds and public parks
5. Develop bus stops in and out of Hargeisa city
6. Develop three new bridges across the river

VISION OBJECTIVES
1. To improve child safety and their wellbeing in Hargeisa by enhancing street symbols and road marks by 2020
2. To promote live safety of people and their properties by reducing risks from electricity wires (putting them underground)
3. To strengthen and protect street quality and beauty of the city by developing drainage system in 2020
4. To promote child wellbeing and fitness in Hargeisa, by creating child playgrounds and sport centers in 2020
5. Reducing air pollution and traffic jam in Hargeisa, by making ring road in 2028
6. Hargeisa city should have bus stops
Group 6
Nagaad Network (women association)

VISION OBJECTIVES

1. Roads and drainage system in the city
2. Parking areas especially in downtown
3. River
4. Parks and playgrounds
5. Plantation for greening the city
6. Building new and modern hospitals and MCHs
7. Improving public education
8. Energy
Hargeisa City-Region Vision

Throughout the Vision Week participants with some planning expertise were called in to contribute to a vision for the Hargeisa City-region, consisting of the current urban fabric of the city with its immediate (mainly rural) hinterland. This also included discussions on the

In a parallel session, participants with planning expertise – representatives of the Ministry of Public Works and Hargeisa Municipality and others governmental bodies, lecturers from Hargeisa University assisted by UN-Habitat, gathered to complement the city-vision with a larger territorial scope, looking at the natural and economical hinterland of Hargeisa.

One key issue considered was the forthcoming implementation of the transport corridor Berbera-Hargeisa- Jigjiga-Harar-Dire Dawa. This new infrastructure, of national and territorial strategic importance, will have immense impact on Hargeisa, and if properly integrated could boost the city as a regional pole for logistic and service delivery. On one side, the identification of the physical space for the corridor itself – so called Road 200 has been already demarcated north of the city. On the other, its integration within the system of the city, by-passing the built-up core and taking highway heavy traffic from it, while connecting with transport terminals and an inner-city ring road.

To better capture the economical opportunities of the new interregional connectivity, and industrial zone should be promoted along the transport corridor, complemented by a dry port.

The introduction of a Special Economic Zone and a wholesale and livestock market, well connected to both the road corridor and the airport, is also a priority.

This corridor should not be the only trunk road, but a proper connection with other key areas of Somaliland, such as Odweyne to the South-East, should also be considered.

This infrastructure should also constitute the growth boundary of the city, leaving space for “normal” urban expansion while promoting compactness and density, and separating special uses (industrial, logistical) and rural activities.

The blue-green network was also a focus, with the promotion of greening and reforestation (especially on the mountain ridge in the South of the city, which are not suitable for construction) and the introduction of a special protection area for the main river bed and the feeder streams.

Water catchment areas should also preserved from construction.

As an additional measure for mitigating worsening climate and pollution crises, the city center should also be retought as a low-emission zone accessible only with public transport, bicycles and on foot.
Block by Block

As one of the main components of this initiative was revolving around the inclusion, in the participatory process, of youth and children, a Block by Block workshop was introduced as a parallel session of the Urban Vision Week, and as a direct follow up of the Children Consultation held before the UVW.

This session was also integrated in the methodology described before, as part of a placemaking activity aimed at apply global principles at the most local level, with a central role for children, youth and students.

Block by Block is digital participation methodology specifically designed to actively involve people who do not typically have a voice in public projects—from women and kids to elders, disabled residents, and refugees. Block by Block gives residents the training, the tools, and the platform to participate and contribute their ideas. The outcome is co-created public spaces that serve the needs of all kinds of residents, a deeply ingrained sense of ownership, and, ultimately, stronger communities.

Before the UVW, the municipality identified in the square – currently an empty space – in front of the City Stadium a possible area of intervention for this activity.

After two days working with Minecraft, each team presented their model to the rest of the children on September 4th. The next day one of the teams had the opportunity to show their proposal to the Mayor and the municipal planning team.

A dedicated report explain in detail the different phases of the workshop, and describes the main ideas the children proposed in their models. It also extrapolates priorities and considerations and shows in a final model the consolidated results of the workshop.

Following the workshop, a good workplan should be established with clear deadlines and a coordination mechanism should be set. The action points needed are summarized in the last chapter of this report.

15 children, chosen from the 47 participant of the Children Consultation, took part at the workshop. This included an exportation tour through the public spaces of the area near the identified plot, a training on the video game Minecraft and two days of modelling of proposals and presentation.
Final model of the design area
Shared Vision Statement

Based on the thematic statements an integrated vision statement was prepared and discussed in the plenary, for the sake of coherence and balance.

The Shared Vision Statement was prepared in both Somali and English and presented in the closing ceremony at the presence of additional stakeholders and the Mayor.

A CREATIVE, CARING, CHILD-FRIENDLY, CLEAN, CONNECTED, CLIMATE RESILIENT AND COOPERATIVE HARGEISA

The vision statement reflects the commonly held values of the participants and should guide stakeholders for the remainder of the visioning and planning process. Together with the designs, it constitute the first steps for the creation and implementation of strategic action plans.

The Mayor appreciated the efforts and inputs of the participants and promised to take the outcome of their work to the Municipality

“Very nice visions have been presented today. We will take your words seriously and put them into action. The presentation and needs of children will be given a priority and implemented in the next two years. Your visions will be converted into a plan and the plan will be put into action.”

The integrated vision statement developed at the vision workshop will need to be re-adjusted to the integrated vision designs. The next step is to identify and prioritize strategic actions with specific territorial projects as well as generic measures valid for the entire planning area.

The prioritization will be based on the desired projects and actions suggested during the visioning workshop, according to the available and foreseeable resources at the disposal of the municipality.

The Integrated Vision will also provide a powerful reference for the community to publicly review and the formal planning document. Mechanisms for this review are only partially contained in Somaliland’s Urban Land Management Law, but the Municipality of Hargeisa has shown interest in the formation of a Hargeisa Urban Forum, with possible funding coming from JPLG programming.
SHARED VISION DECLARATION

WE, THE PEOPLE OF HARGEISA, CAPITAL OF SOMALILAND, WANT OUR CITY TO BE:

LESS

- Polluted (plastics, liquids, air, dust, soil);
- Car-jammed (cars & trucks);
- Dangerous (accidents, crime, harassment);
- Draught & Flood prone;
- Sprawled & monofunctional land use;
- Fossil-fuel dependent;
- Socially segmented;
- Top-down planning

MORE

- Eco-friendly/Clean/Drained/Low-emission;
- Circular economy (zero-waste);
- Agro-productive & Food secure;
- Renewable energy;
- Heritage friendly;
- Connected with other cities & countries;
- Walkable & accessible by Public Transport;
- Green with Child-friendly parks and public spaces;
- River-friendly;
- Culturally creative;
- Compact & Mixed-use;
- Bottom-up planning & Placemaking.

TO MAKE THIS HARGEISA 2040 SHARED VISION HAPPEN, WE NEED:

1. Evidence-based and participatory Hargeisa Urban Plan 2040 (prepared by 2021 and approved by City-Council)
2. Government support with National Urban Policy & supportive legislative and financial framework
3. Enhanced capacity to plan and manage sustainable urban development
4. Quick-win impact projects & placemaking
5. Hargeisa Urban Forum with children-chapter

HARGEISA 2040 * CREATIVE * CARING * CHILD-FRIENDLY * CLEAN * CONNECTED * CLIMATE RESILIENT * COOPERATIVE
Recommendations and next steps

The first recommendation is to keep and capitalize on this unique planning momentum, mainly by following the steps of the conventional vision and planning cycle, as illustrated in the figure at p. 4, on the left.

Now that initial steps of creating and sharing the community-based building blocks of the vision have been successfully completed, it is time for fine-tuning and consolidation, with a growing insight on what and how to implement on short, medium and longer term. While the fine-tuning can be largely supported by the municipality its developing partners (UN-Habitat/UNICEF as part of the JPLG Team), the consolidation is entirely the responsibility of the local and national leadership, resulting in formal endorsements of the Integrated Shared Vision by the respective local and national governments as the foundation of the statutory Hargeisa Urban Plan 2040, as well to immediately inform and steer stakeholders, potential investors and residents to plan, build and manage the city according to the Shared Vision.

The strategic partnership between municipality and UN agencies can certainly be extended to design and establish new institutional arrangements, financial revenue mechanisms and legislative and regulatory frameworks to reform the local and national planning system to make it up to task to deliver the Shard Vision.

The second figure at p. 4, on the right, suggest possible building blocks of a more logical planning framework for Hargeisa/Somaliland.

To adequately prepare for the future, the city will need a multiple governance approach with complementary policies, plans, designs and projects at national, regional and local/municipal level. While a statutory municipal Hargeisa Urban Plan (HUP) will be bound to the administrative borders of the municipality, the Shared Vision needs to look at the City-regional level, if not also partially at the central and transnational level.

However, to avoid the classical trap of masterplans as paper tigers, and Area-based planning, placemaking and implementation strategy is needed to cater for real change on the ground and for the lives of current and future residents in this fast growing city. This Area-based approach entails a new toolbox of planning and design tools, including e.g. developing localized planning and design guidelines.

Hargeisa has also a legacy from past initiatives to build upon, and to show what can be successful, what will need higher support and further planning to be implemented, and what can potentially have a positive cascading impact on other sectors of sustainable city-development. Learning from the Placemaking experience with children before and during the Hargeisa Urban Vision Week, child-responsive urban development guidelines and public place guidelines might emerge as Hargeisa priorities for the next phase.

To wrap up proposed next-steps, below are 5 milestones for the roadmap to incrementally implement the Shared Vision Declaration that was adopted by the Hargeisa Urban Vision Week. As seen below, some of these have been already completed.

- Reporting on the Urban Vision Week (including Video-documentary)
- Sharing the experience at the Child Friendly Cities World Summit 2019
- Processing an integrated Share Vision for Hargeisa 2040 Implementing the Placemaking proposal for Hargeisa Stadium Park
- Road-mapping the Hargeisa Urban Plan 2040 & Capacity Enhancement
- Validating the Shared Vision outputs and Roadmap Hargeisa Urban Plan at the first Hargeisa Urban Forum
Reporting on the Urban Vision Week

- Integrated Placemaking proposal for Hargeisa Stadium Park: validation of report
- Processing outputs of other workshops during Vision Week
- Compilation Video of Urban Vision Week

Processing an Integrated Shared Vision for Hargeisa 2040

- Expert-base vision workshop and peer-to-peer learning in Addis and engage Ethiopian planning community
- Strategic discussion with local/national leadership on best way forward

Implementing the Placemaking Proposal for Hargeisa Stadium Park

- Establishing a Task Force Group with Municipality, Government and JPLG
- Fine-tuning the proposal
- Community-based validation of final plans at Hargeisa Urban Forum
- Community-Action Plan to implement and manage
- Community-based implementation
- Community-based management

Validating the Shared Vision outputs and Roadmap

- Establish the Hargeisa Urban Forum with all urban stakeholders as advisory council to District Council
- Paving the way for a Somaliland National Urban Forum & participation in World Urban Forum
- Monitoring & Evaluation of planning process and project implementation

Roadmap for Hargeisa Urban Plan

- Endorsement of the Hargeisa 2040 Shared Vision Declaration and Integrated Vision Report by the District Council
- Establishing the Hargeisa 2040 Planning Taskforce with Municipality, Government and University
Expert-Based Visioning Workshop

An additional workshop was organised from 7th to 9th November in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The purpose was to gather experts to review and integrate the outputs of the Hargeisa Urban Vision week into an urban planning and placemaking strategy with recommended urban interventions and policy decisions for the local and national leadership of Hargeisa as Somaliland capital.

The invited experts also focused on the integration of Child-Friendly-City in each of the components of the implementation strategy.

A delegation of the Hargeisa Municipality and Somaliland Ministry of Public Works, Land and Housing (MoPWL&H) joined the workshop for a brainstorm on the policy, plan-making and tangible urban interventions to incrementally implement the Hargeisa Shared Vision 2040. Capitalizing on the outputs of the Hargeisa Urban Vision Week, the participants elaborated on an integrated spatial structure for Hargeisa city and its hinterland.

The workshop was organised in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. This choice wanted, on one side, capitalize on the peer-to-peer learning opportunities with friendly neighbouring city and country with a maturing planning culture, establishing workable relations that could support future peer to peer exchange on planning and implementation. On the other side, the “retreat” formula enabled the participants to be fully committed and motivated to the workshop for its full length.

During the workshop the following action points were agreed upon. They will be submitted, together with the Hargeisa 2040 Shared Vision Declaration and this report, to the District Council for approval and disseminated to the broader public.

- **Roadmap**
  A matrix was laid out looking at the different components of the urban vision implementation: projects, programmes, plans and institutions in their different time horizons, financing mechanisms and responsible authorities.

- **Hargeisa 2040 Task Force**
  A special Taskforce (gathering relevant departments of the Municipality, National Government and the University of Hargeisa) will consolidate the roadmap for Hargeisa 2040 Vision and guide its implementation.

- **Hargeisa and Somaliland Urban Forum**
  The organization of an Urban Forum will have the aim of consolidating multi-stakeholder gatherings, such as was the UVW, into permanent platforms that can substantively contribute and mobilize the necessary support towards improved urban policies and programming. The HUF would be the first pilot for a Somaliland Urban Forum, creating an enabling environment to promote dialogue and consensus among stakeholders, including national government, local authorities, grass root organizations, private sector and academia among others.
Territorial scale and cross boundaries synergies
Planning experts from the UN-Habitat Ethiopia Country office joined the workshop to present the planning activities undergoing in the Ethiopian Somali Region, namely Jigjiga.

Possible point of contact and potential synergies between Hargeisa and other Somaliland’s towns with their counterpart across the border were explored, with a clear focus on the opportunities opened up by the implementation of the corridor Berbera-Hargeisa-Jigjiga-Harar-Dire Dawa.

Site Visit
During the second day of the workshop the participants were taken on a visit to a newly implemented public space in the Ras Mekonnen area. The project looked at the potential of public space for environmental renovation along the waterfront, and included the realisation of a park – with a children playground and a sport area – and the rehabilitation of a staircase accessing the nearby neighbourhood. It is part of city-wide strategy developed by UN-Habitat and the Addis Ababa City Administration Authority to protect recreational areas for the local population and procure title deeds for public spaces to protect them from illegal encroachment.

The design was generated using the same Block by Block methodology deployed during the Urban Visioning Week in Hargeisa.

Participants
Abdirahman Mohamud Aided
Ali Mohamed Nur
Khalid Sheikh Abb
Issa Mohamud Issa
Abdirahman Mohamed Aar
Rahma Suleiman Ahmed
Astrid Haas
Jens Aerts
Anjali Pradhan
Frank D’hondt
Sophos Sophianos
Mohamed Nur
Francesco Tonnarelli
Thomaz Ramalho
Samrawit Yoseph

Mayor of Hargeisa
Director of Planning, Hargeisa Municipality
Director of Land, Hargeisa Municipality
Director of Planning, MoPWL&H
Director, LUMI,
Lecturer, Hargeisa University
Senior Urban Specialist, IGC
Urban Planner, UNICEF
Programme Manager, UNICEF
Urban Planner, UN-Habitat
PMO-HS, UN-Habitat Somalia
Programme Officer, UN-Habitat Somalia
Urban Planner, UN-Habitat Somalia
HSO, UN-Habitat Ethiopia
Urban Planner, UN-Habitat Ethiopia
Child-Friendly Cities Summit

The Child Friendly Cities Summit, held in Cologne from 15th to 18th of October, brought together mayors, local leaders, technical experts, children and young people from Child Friendly Cities around the world to discuss innovative approaches to advance child rights through local commitment and to identify and exchange good practices at the local level.

The Director of Social Affairs of the Hargeisa Municipality, Mr. Khadar Ali, attended the summit. The Hargeisa Visioning Initiative was presented at the session “Child Rights and Urban Planning”, as a good practice for children participation and placemaking with and for children. The Hargeisa case constituted one of the few presented at the summit from developing countries.

Beside promoting the merits of the approached used in Hargeisa, the Director also had the change to learn about similar inspiring practices and share peer-to-peer learning with the international participants, which will be shared with domestic stakeholders in Hargeisa.

In the closing ceremony, the director together with more than 100 mayors from 40 countries, signed The Declaration of Cologne, to accelerate progress towards improving the lives, opportunities and well-being of children in urban areas.

In the Declaration, the signatories commit to demonstrating concrete, sustainable and measurable results for children; advancing meaningful and inclusive child participation; and eliminating discrimination against children and young people in policies and actions.

The Declaration of Cologne entails the following goals for a child-friendly city:

- Every child and young person is valued, respected and treated fairly within their communities and by local authorities;
- Every child and young person have their voice, needs and priorities heard and considered in public laws, policies, budgets and decisions affecting them;
- Every child and young person have access to quality essential services (including health care, education, nutrition support, early childhood development, justice and family support);
- Every child and young person live in a safe, healthy and clean environment;
- Every child and young person have opportunities to enjoy family life, play and leisure.
Technical follow up

Urban Survey

Data collection and mapping (Urban Survey) is being conducted by the Hargeisa Municipality with support from UN-Habitat in collaboration with local stakeholders.

Key areas of interest are service provision, namely health and education, as well as public space. A set of indicators is being developed in collaboration with UNICEF experts to make sure that data is relevant to address the most pressing issues but can also provide a baseline for incorporating Child Friendly Cities Principles into planning. In this prospective, Hargeisa could be a pilot to test new child-responsive urban planning standards, which could be incorporated in a revision of the Somaliland Urban Regulatory Framework.

Another priority area to be covered by the data collection is water network and drainage, whose situation is aggravating by the years and constitute a rising hazard within the city.

Further analysis will be conducted on the displaced population of the city. Hargeisa has a relevant IDP community, with a minor group of refugee and returnee, most of which have been living in the city for many years.

Settlements occupy informally public land (e.g. State House) major infrastructure (road 150 and 200), and risk prone area (e.g. the river banks). The municipality and the National Commission for Refugees and IDPs are trying to implement a relocation plan, but to be successful this will need be integrated into an holistic view of the city development.

Hargeisa Urban Report

The urban survey will feed into the compilation of the Hargeisa Urban Report. This is intended as a city profile, providing basic information and spatial analysis about the existing situation within a city, to facilitate a shared and better understanding of issues and to support prioritization of these issues by the stakeholders.

Collecting, processing and monitoring data is key for an evidence-based planning approach that will lead to well-informed decision-making for the city its future on long, medium and short term.

Project Implementation

The early delivery of (small scale) intervention projects present an opportunity to mobilise and motivate residents, as well as to ensure the programme maintains momentum.

The Placemaking Proposal for Hargeisa Stadium Park constitute a key project directly developed during the Urban Visioning Week and would provide an example of how Visioning can result also into physical activities benefiting all.

Beside the action points listed in the previous paragraph, relating to the necessary development and validation process, implementation will require the elaboration of a technical proposal, on one side, and the mobilization of appropriate funding. In this regards, JPLG’s Local Development Fund (LDF) could be a potential source to gather capital investment.
Annexes

Organizing team

District, Children and Urban Visioning Week facilitation
Mustafe Artan Yousuf
Mahamoud Suleiman Omar
Nasra Ahmed Mohamed
Abdihamid Mohamed Jama

Block by Block Workshop facilitation
Aisha Ahmed, UNICEF
Abdifatah Kassim, Urban Planner, UN-Habitat
Pablo Fernandez, Urban and Regional Planner, UN-Habitat
Helen Yu, Landscape Architect, UN-Habitat

Technical coordination
Anjali Pradan, JPLG Programme Manager, UNICEF
Frank D’hondt, Urban Planner, UN-Habitat
Sophos Sophianos, Programme Management Officer, UN-Habitat
Mohamed Nour, Urban Environment Specialist, UN-Habitat
Abdirahman Idile, JPLG Programme Officer, UNICEF
Francesco Tonnarelli, Urban and Regional Planner, UN-Habitat
Agenda

Day 1, 1st September, 2019

18.00  Registration
19.00  Welcoming: Director of Hargeisa Cultural Centre
19.10  Key Addresses
       Mayor of Hargeisa
       Vice President of the Republic of Somaliland
19.30  Briefing UVW
       Frank D’hondt, Urban Planner, UN-Habitat
       Jesper Moller, Deputy representative, UNCEF
20.00  Somali Traditional Dance
20.30  Key Addresses
       Governor of Marodijeh
       Minister of Water Resources Development
       Minister of Education
       Minister of Interior
21.45  Somali Traditional Music

Day 2, 2nd September, 2019

08.30  Welcoming and introduction
09.15  Storytelling-memory mapping
10.30  Tea break
10.45  Storytelling-memory mapping
12.15  Prayer and lunch
13.15  SWOT Analysis
14.45  Wrap up

Day 3, 3rd September, 2019

08.30  Registration
09.00  Hargeisa Wadi: overview, challenges, opportunities
09.15  Group formation and thematic Vision Statement
10.30  Tea break
10.45  Thematic Vision Design
12.15  Prayer and lunch
14.30  Wrap up

Day 4, 4th September, 2019

08.30  Registration
09.00  Thematic Vision Design and Prioritization of Interventions
10.30  Tea break
10.45  Plenary presentation
12.15  Prayer and lunch
13.15  Discussion of shared urban vision
14.30  Wrap up

Day 5, 5th September, 2019

08.30  Registration
09.00  Key addresses
       Ishaku Maitumbi, OIC Somalia Programme, UN-Habitat
       Mayor of Hargeisa
10.00  Children presentation of Block by Block Workshop
10.30  Tea break
10.45  Group and shared vision presentation
12.15  Participation certificate
12.30  Conclusion
12.45  Prayer and lunch