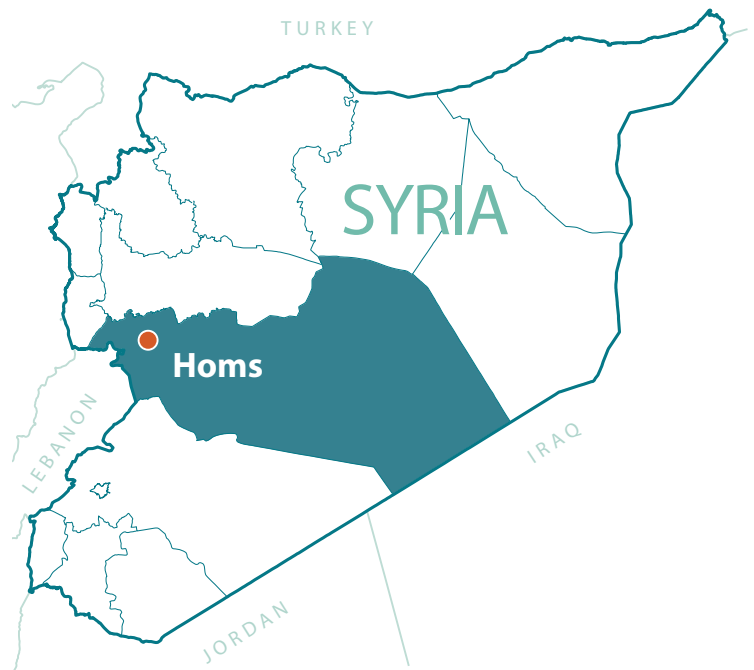


CITY PROFILE **HOMS**

Multi Sector Assessment

May 2014



City of Homs pre-crisis view



Housing damage in Homs



Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	1
TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
CITY PROFILE FINDINGS	3
GOVERNORATE CONTEXT	5
CITY COMPOSITION AND CHARACTERISTICS	7
CITY DAMAGE ANALYSIS	11
URBAN FUNCTIONALITY	13
DISPLACEMENT AND SHELTER CONDITIONS	17
CASE STUDIES FROM HOMS	20
NEIGHBOURHOODS ANALYSIS AND KEY FINDINGS	21
ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS	22

LIST MAPS:

MAP 1: CITY OF HOMS WITHIN GOVERNORATE CONTEXT	5
MAP 2: CITY URBAN COMPOSITION	7
MAP 3: DAMAGE ANALYSIS	9
MAP 4: DISTRIBUTION OF CITY BASIC SERVICES AND AREAS OF STRAINS	13
MAP 5: SHELTER ANALYSIS ON THE NEIGHBOURHOOD LEVEL	17
MAP 6: NEIGHBOURHOOD ANALYSIS FOR HOMS	21

CITY PROFILE

The crisis in Syria has had a huge impact on the country's major cities, with large scale movements of population, damage to buildings and infrastructure and interruptions to the local economy. Cities represent multiple and inter-related formal and informal systems and need to be described and analysed in an integrated manner that captures the complexity of urban conditions. Up to now the majority of information available has been sector-specific, rather than integrated or city-based.

A major characteristic of this crisis has been the shortage of information for decision making, from assessment of needs to monitoring the response and identifying emerging issues. Without a better understanding at family, community and city levels, humanitarian interventions may not be responsive or appropriate to local coping mechanism. Without better understanding of local institutions, interventions may not be anchored. Without better monitoring of local conditions, the impact of interventions cannot be evaluated.

Through Rapid City Profiles, UN-Habitat seeks to provide up to date, holistic documentation and analysis of the impact of the crisis in key cities. The profile synthesizes information and insight from existing sources and priority sectors, supplemented by direct field research by UN Habitat teams based in each city and carried out from **December 2013 to May 2014**. The Homs City Profile is the second profile developed (after the Aleppo City Profile), and upcoming City Profiles will focus on Latakia and Dara'a. UN Habitat expertise in urban analysis, community approaches and crisis contexts have informed the development of the City Profiling process. All City Profiles are developed in coordination with the concerned Governorates and Municipalities.

The City Profiles review the functionality of the city economy and services, presents an understanding of capacities and coping mechanisms and identifies the humanitarian and recovery priorities. They do not provide comprehensive data on individual topics, but seek to provide a multi-sector overview. The City Profile also affords an opportunity for a range of stakeholders to contribute their diagnosis of the situation in a given city, provides a basis for local discussions on actions to be taken and helps to make local information and voices accessible to external stakeholders seeking to assist in the crisis response and recovery.

Humanitarian Outline

Homs is the third largest city in Syria, after Aleppo and Damascus. The pre-crisis population of Homs was approximately 800,000. The city was well known for its integration of multi-cultural communities, as it received a big proportion of migrants from all the surrounding rural areas before the crisis. Waves of migrants formed the city's eastern part (mainly informal settlements) while the historical Homs community remained in the center of the city and expanded westward.

The city was one of the first major urban centers to be affected by the crisis. There is large scale impact of the ongoing crisis on the city's housing, economy, infrastructure and services. The old city of Homs is accessible since May 2014 after two years of siege, however, only 200 returnees have been reported so far despite the improvement in security conditions. UN-Habitat will provide a comprehensive analysis of the current situation and challenges in the old city neighbourhoods, which will be issued independently.

Humanitarian access to Homs has been variable during the last few months due to insecurity and road conditions. Food and other life-saving supplies to the city are not currently disrupted, but access to the mostly impacted neighbourhoods is still extremely difficult due to the amount of accumulated debris and the severe damage in the streets infrastructure.

Currently, the crisis' impact is concentrated in the traditional and western part of the city, as well as in the north eastern informal neighbourhoods, while "migrants" neighbourhoods are least affected. This unfortunate condition is threatening the future identity of the city, as well as its wellbeing and recovery.



Homs city center (pre-crisis)



Ancient mosque of Khalid Ibn Al Waleed (pre-crisis)

Displacement and Population Changes

Homs is one of the most heavily impacted cities in Syria; when compared to Hama (still stable in terms of population movement, and in fact receiving IDPs), Aleppo (widely damaged and divided, but with open supply routes to Turkey that insured continuity of economic activity), and Reif Damascus (with settlements that are equally impacted but have lower population).

- According to UN estimates 468,000 inhabitants have been displaced by December 2013.
- 55% of the displaced population fled the city to Lebanon or to other Syrian cities, while the rest of the displaced remain inside the city. Currently, 150,000 IDPs in addition to 35,000 original inhabitants in Al Waer and Al Mimas are at the risk of being displaced, and the two western neighbourhoods are strictly sealed off, with no access to humanitarian assistance.
- 96,700 housing units are no longer habitable, which forms nearly 54% of the city housing stock. Losses in the housing sector are added to the severe losses in the commercial and industrial infrastructure, as the economic center of the city is also severely damaged.
- 26 neighbourhoods (out of a total of 36 neighbourhoods) are either totally or partially non-functional. Only 10 neighbourhoods are normally functioning, but are in turn affected by influx of IDPs from neighbouring damaged and insecure areas.

Impact on Essential Services

61% of all city educational facilities are no longer operational, as well as 62% of its health care institutions. This has contributed to population displacement even when security conditions have improved.

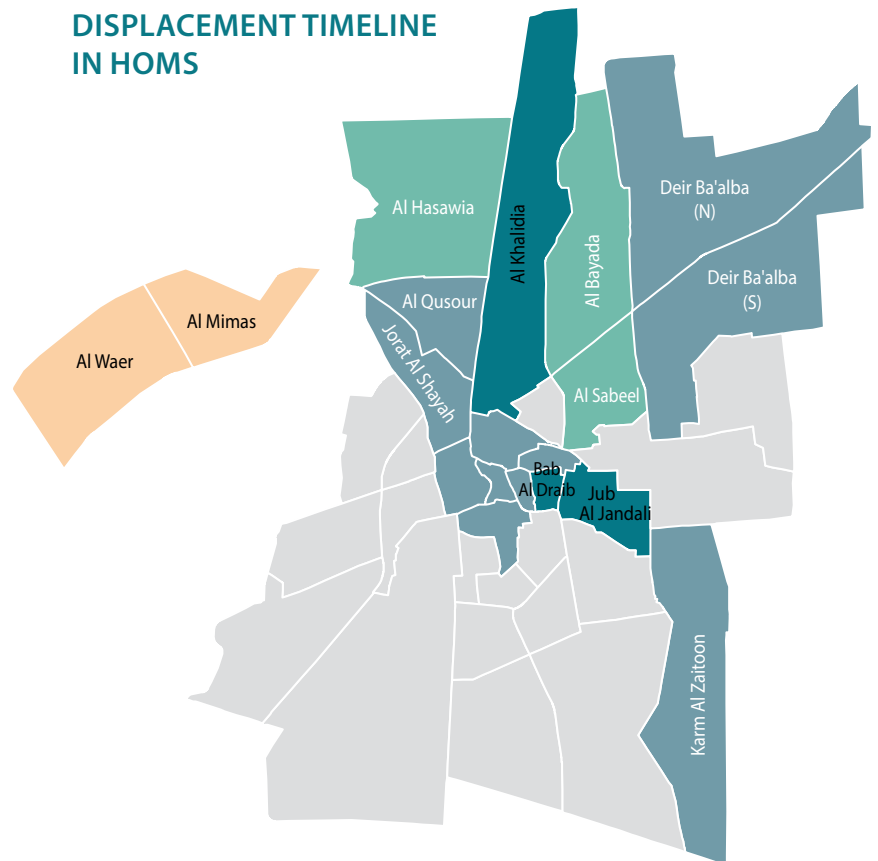
Essential services and infrastructure like waste collection, sewerage and electricity networks are non-functional in 21 neighbourhoods. Water shortage is impacting all city neighbourhoods, and specifically threatening besieged areas.

Impact on Economy

As compared to Aleppo and Damascus, the city of Homs financial capacity and economy was weaker before the crisis, and currently, it's less economically vibrant than Aleppo despite the fact that both cities are severely impacted. Some of the factors underlying this faint economic performance are:

- Displacement of 60% of the population, including not only the directly affected population that once created the private sector workforce, but also city economic capital and higher income groups.
- Breakdown of industrial and economic sector, including impact on factories and industries in Homs which was looted and hence became non-operational.
- The physical damages that affected essential housing and infrastructure foundation of the city, and stretched to essential areas of city economy and productivity.

DISPLACEMENT TIMELINE IN HOMS



2011

Displacement from Al Khalidia, Bab Al Dair, and Jub Al Jandali, mainly inside Homs, but also to Damascus and Reif Damascus

2012

Displacement from the rest of the old city, Karm Al Zaitoun, Deir Ba'alba, Al Qusour, Jorat Al Shayah mainly to Wadi Al Nasara (West of Homs), and to Tartous outside the city, and to Al Waer inside the city.

2013

Displacement from Al Sabeel, Al Bayada, Al Hasawia mainly to Rif Damascus, but later to other destinations as the recipient areas in Reif Damascus quickly involved in the crisis.

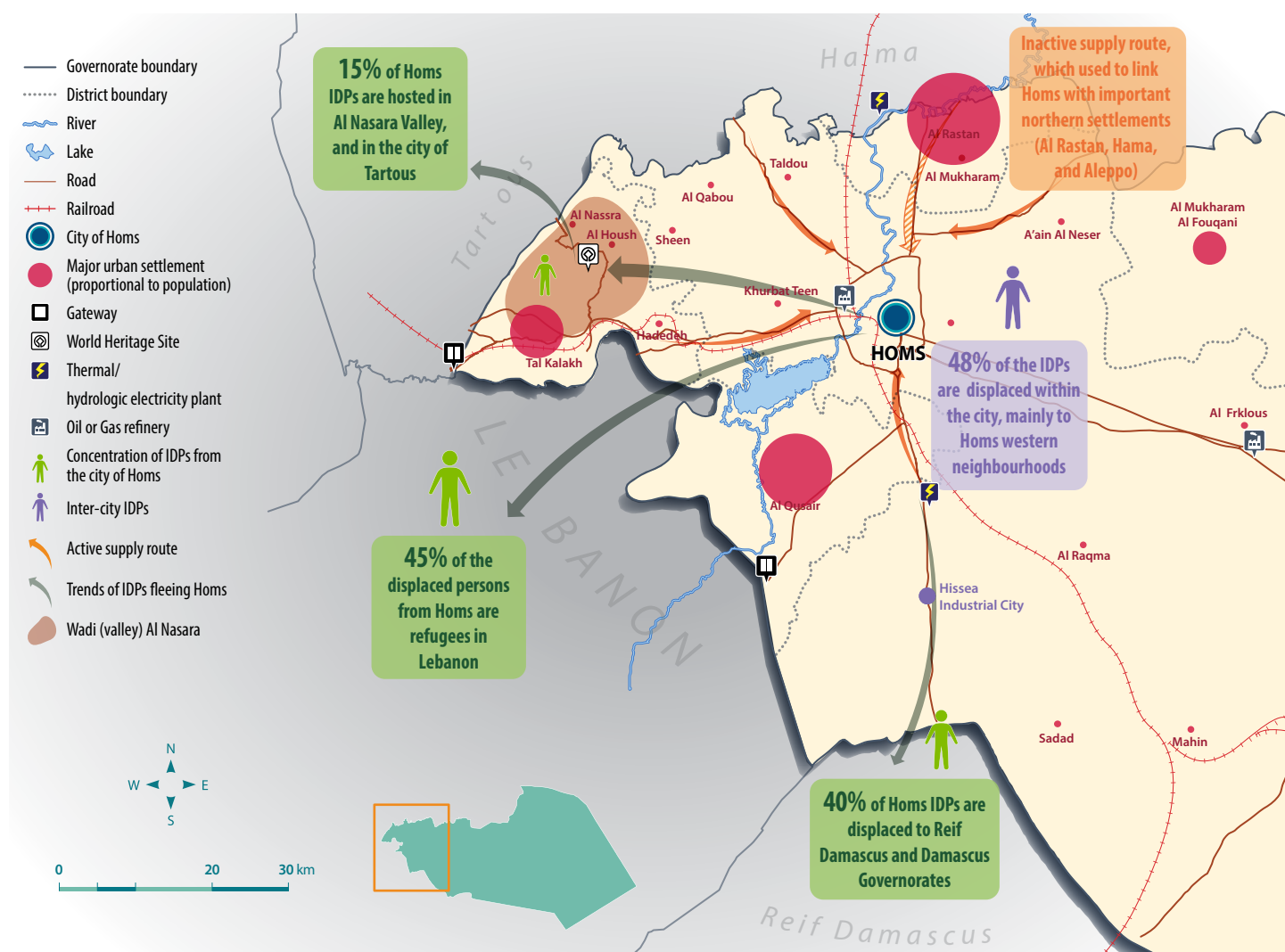
2014

Displacement from Al Waer, and Al Mimas mainly to Karm Al Shami, Dahyat Al Waleed or outside the city to Damascus and Reif Damascus



Main commercial street in Jouret Al Shayyah (2014)

MAP 1: CITY OF HOMS WITHIN GOVERNORATE CONTEXT



Governorate: Homs

Municipality: Central city of Homs Governorate

Total number of neighbourhoods: 36

Number of informal settlements: 12

City Importance: Occupying central location in the country's transportation network, linking all major urban centers and providing the country with strategic industrial products.

- Homs is the largest Governorate in Syria in terms of area, and the third largest in terms of population (1,803,000, CBS, 2011). The city of Homs is the capital city of the Governorate.
- Homs Governorate is one of the mostly impacted amongst all Governorates, both in terms of damage to infrastructure, and strains on areas receiving IDPs:
- Homs Governorate has 8 districts, and Homs district is the largest in population as the city of Homs is the central city of the district as well. The rest of the districts significantly vary in population density, from highly populated mountainous district of Tal Kalakh to extremely low density Tadmour district dominated by steppe climate.
- The urban population was 51% of the total Governorate population in 2011 (CBS, 2008).
- Homs Governorate has a dominant central location within the country, as it shares borders with Lebanon from the west, and with Iraq from the east, and provides linkages between different Syrian urban centers. The main economic drivers in the Governorate were industry, agriculture, and transportation, with two major world heritage international tourism destinations (Palmyra and Crac Des Chevaliers).

587,000 of Homs Governorate population is estimated to be displaced within the Governorate, either displaced to cities within the Governorate or residing rural areas.

Almost 300,000 inhabitants have left the Governorate, 75% of whom are from the city of Homs itself. Main displacement destinations are Wadi Al Nasara (west part of Homs Governorate), Rural Damascus and Damascus Governorates and Lebanon.

DISPLACEMENT, ECONOMY AND BASIC SERVICES

It is estimated that almost 50% of total Governorate population has been displaced. Of this figure, half are displaced outside the Governorate, both within and outside Syria. The following displacement trends have been observed: (Map 1)

- 15% of Governorate IDPs are displaced to Wadi Al Nasara area, mainly IDPs coming from de-populated neighbourhoods of Homs: Al Hamidia, Bustan Al Diwan, Bab Al Siba'a, and Al Waer. This group of IDPs are mostly upper-middle income people. The Wadi Al Nassara area has no infrastructure capacity to cope with the increased demand;
- 45% of the displaced population from Homs Governorate are refugees in Lebanon. These are mainly low income families coming from border districts: Al Qusair and Tal Kalakh;
- Most of the remaining 40% of the Governorate's population are displaced into Rural Damascus and Damascus Governorates. However, continued conflict in Rural Damascus has resulted in multiple displacement of this group of IDPs.

Strategic industrial plants in the Governorate are still operating, which is ensuring the acceptable supply of basic services to the Governorate (including water, electricity and fuel). The two major thermal electricity generation plants (Al Zara and Jandar), Homs oil refinery, and the gas processing plant in Al Foroqlous are operational. Hasia industrial area (a major industrial cluster 35 km south of Homs) is still operational, although many factories' operations have come to a halt.

Governorate economy has been severely impacted, as the city of Homs used to play a central role in the Governorate commercial and industrial activity. The city of Homs used to be the Governorate hub for key services and economy, and the commercial mediator between eastern steppe low density area and western fertile mountainsides. This role has now been disrupted, and both western and eastern rural areas became isolated, and started to develop new consensus for trade and industry with surrounding regions.

Almost **50%**
of total Governorate
population has been
displaced

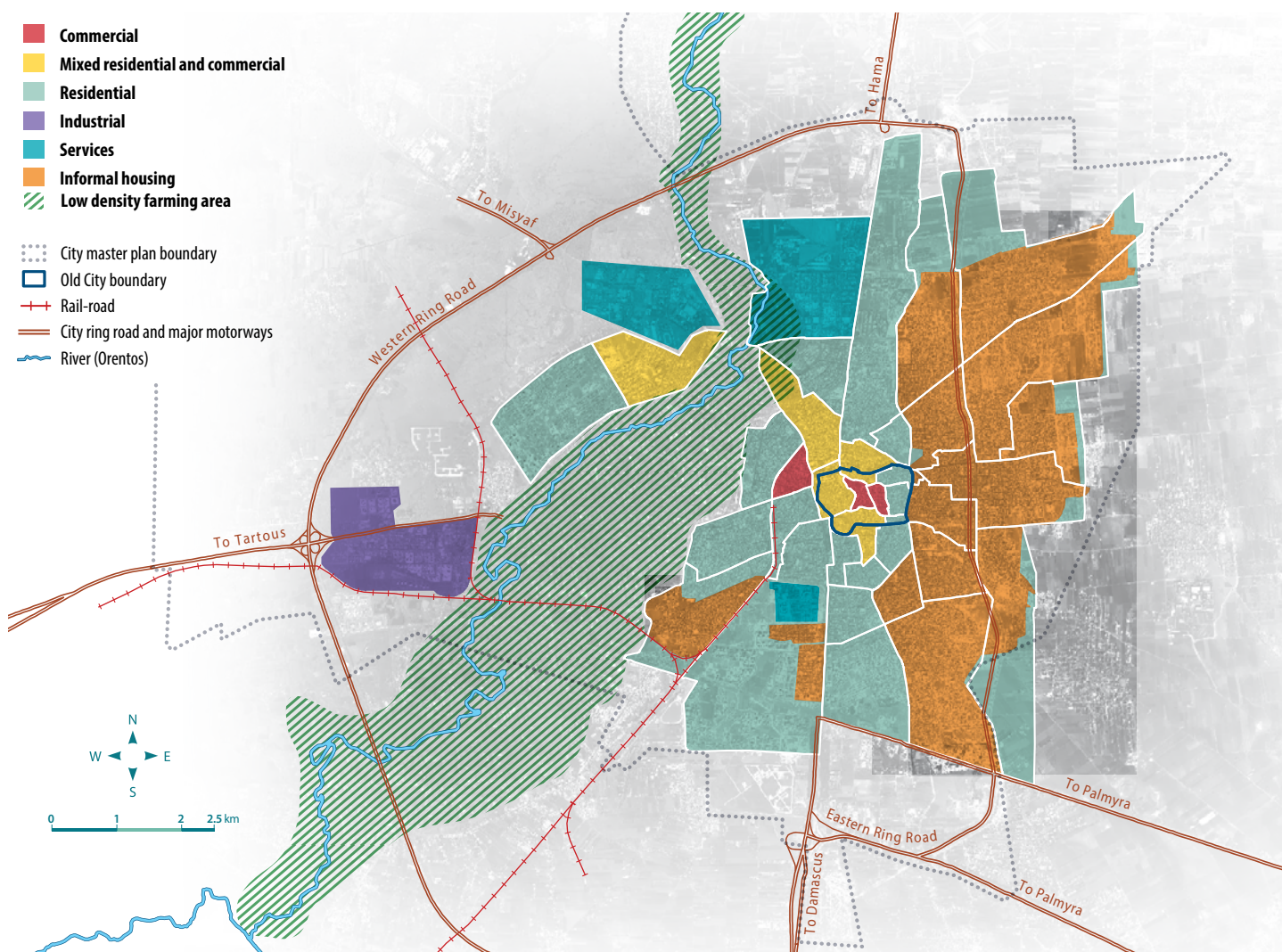
The displaced persons
from the Governorate
equal **9%** of the total
displaced population in
Syria



Abandoned street in Bab Al Siba'a neighbourhood despite relatively small scale of damage

CITY COMPOSITION AND CHARACTERISTICS

MAP 2: CITY URBAN COMPOSITION



59%

of city's land area is occupied by 12 informal settlements

The Old City was redeveloped in the 80s and the 90s through modern urban plans that replaced the traditional urban fabric with modern high rise commercial buildings.

The remaining Old City Quarter represents only 6.2% of current city area

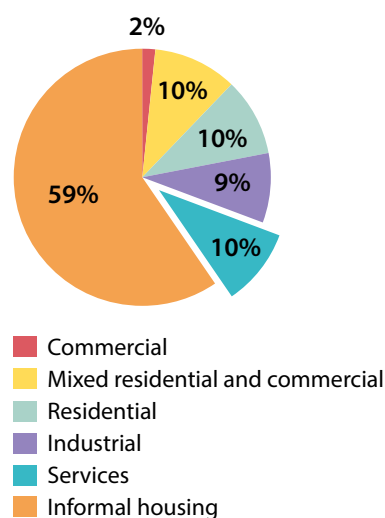
CITY COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS

20% of the city is composed of modern housing areas, mainly mixed residential and commercial uses. (Map 2, Figure 1)

Informal housing areas occupied 59% of the pre-crisis master plan area. Ownership and land disputes in these areas were resolved during 2009-2010 through a national pilot project that targeted the registration of all housing properties as official ownership at the cadastral record. However these areas still lack the full range of urban services and building standards have not been fully enforced.

A large farming area (1,600 ha) is located in the heart of the master plan, including mainly farm houses that used to accommodate almost 12,000 families. Over the past decade, many of these farming houses were transformed into luxury villas because the area enjoys good connectivity with the city. (Map 2)

Figure 1: Land-use, Homs Master Plan



PRE CRISIS AND CURRENT URBAN INFORMATION

DEMOGRAPHICS

Population annual growth rate: 2.36% (0.2% higher than national level, which means relatively high rates of rural migration to Homs over the last 10 years, UNDP, 2010).

Proportion of city population relative to the total population of the Governorate: 45%

WATER AND SANITATION

Potable water: 98.17% of houses were connected to water networks and used improved water sources (CBS, 2009). Most of the city enjoyed 16 hours of daily water supply through the network. **Currently daily water supply significantly dropped from 16 hours per day to only 4 hours per day.** (Figure 3)

Sewerage network: 97.62% of the city population had access to sewerage networks (CBS, 2009). According to recent field observations, sewerage network is less damaged than other types of infrastructure, but major maintenance works will have to be carried out, especially in the previous sealed neighbourhoods.

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Homs enjoyed a strong municipal management system. The local private sector was a key player in providing basic services (eg. waste collection and disposal).

Currently, most of the private sector operators are unable to operate in conflict affected areas particularly in cross line and frontline across of the crisis. This has put tremendous pressure on the public sector to fill the services gap. Garbage and waste is accumulating rapidly as the private sector and contractors have ceased to work in many of the hotspot neighbourhoods or have lost equipment and capacity.

ELECTRICITY

98% of houses had electricity supply (Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2006), with an average of 24 hours per day supplied. **Currently, the daily supply has dropped significantly to 12 hours.** Complete damage of electricity network in the mostly impacted netowrks has interrupted electricity supply in 16 neighbourhoods. Local electricity company is planning to restore supply to main streets in the coming weeks.

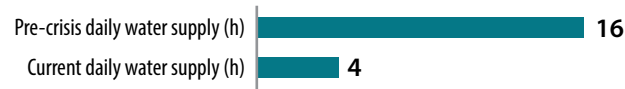
Figure 5: Changes in the daily electricity supply hours



Figure 2: City population changes



Figure 3: Changes in daily water supply on the city level



Remaining population in damaged neighbourhoods suffering from lack of drinking water (Al Midan area east of Al Mahatta neighbourhood, 2013)

HEALTH

Maternal mortality: 61 deaths per 1,000 life birth

Skilled birth delivery: 94%

Vaccination: 72% of children between 12-23 months received vaccinations against childhood diseases. (Family Health Survey, 2009)

Health facilities: Homs had more than 1.555 operational bed capacity in 2011, which was distributed among 30 hospitals and 17 public clinics.

Currently, 62% of bed capacity is not operational. Private clinics have also closed down in most city areas, and the city has lost many of its professional doctors and medical staff, although estimates of capacity loss are under-reported.

Figure 4: Health facilities operational status



EDUCATION

Attendance: 99.44% of 6-11 year-olds were in school, and 98.6% of 12-15 year-olds were in school (CBS, 2011)

Illiteracy rate (+15): 9.43%

Number of primary schools: 147 public; 12 private; 3 UNRWA: (Department of Education, 2011). **Currently; 139 of these facilities are non-operational, and the remaining 20 schools include 3 UNRWA schools and 17 public schools. No evident local education alternatives have been reported.**

Al Ba'ath University is a major public campus located inside the city, and its still operational despite drop in the number of enrolled students.

ECONOMY

Key economic drivers: Private sector led industrial activity, commerce, and services.

Strategic role and key linkages: The city occupies a strategic location within the national transportation network. It has been a centre for strategic industries since the 1950s (public sector heavy industries, including the oil refinery, cotton treatment and phosphate treatment plants).

198 of large industries were located in Homs (mainly on the city's western ring road and its surrounding buffer areas). Almost all these industries are currently non-operational. 173 of the 198 pre-crisis factories have either been damaged or looted.

Pre-crisis unemployment rate (+15): 12.10% (CBS, 2011)

Estimated current unemployment rate (for current city population): 22%

Services, construction, industry and local tourism used to be the city main sectors of employment (Figure 7). The impact of the conflict has been mostly felt in the tourism, industry and construction sectors. However, the services sector is still by far the largest sector of employment. In fact, more than 55% of the current workforce serves as public sector staff (Figure 8). The population of the eastern and south eastern neighbourhoods are the least affected areas. The city today, in terms of damage, displacement, and disruption of services, and the largest employment sector for these neighbourhoods population was traditionally in the security field, which has in fact been growing since the crisis started in 2011.

Figure 6: Operational school facilities

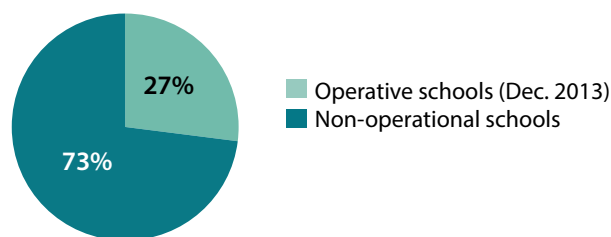


Figure 7: Pre-crisis employment per sector

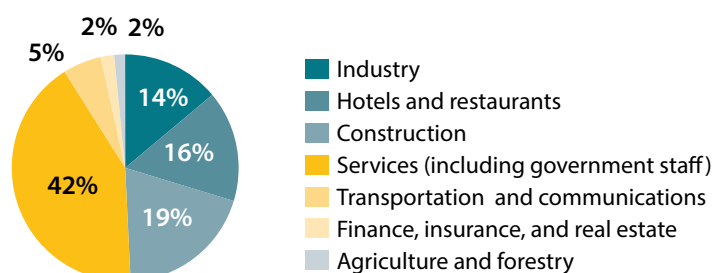
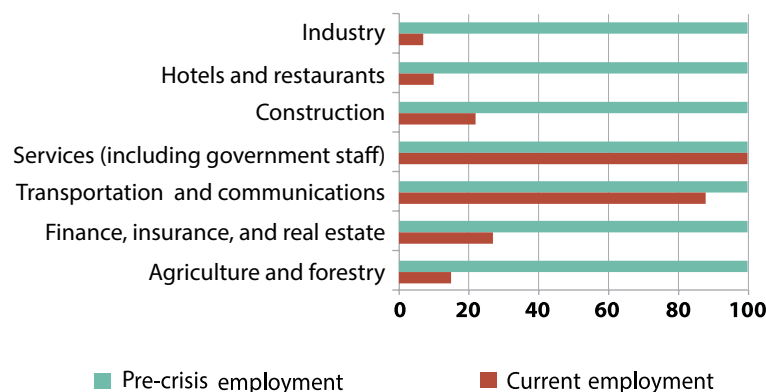


Figure 8: Changes in employment rate by economic sector



Newly emerging trades in Al Mimas neighbourhood



HOUSING AND SHELTER

Homs had 178,000 housing units in 2011 (estimates, CBS), 71% of which were multi-storey apartment buildings, while 16% were patio Houses (concentrated in the Old City and traditional neighbourhoods) (Figure 9). The 12 informal housing areas provided 42% of the housing stock, and had the highest density level as compared to "formal" residential areas.

According to the 2004 Census, 84.9% of households in Homs were owners, and 12.7% of households were renters. According to 2004 Census records, 58.1% had official ownership titles, while the remaining possessed some form of documentation approved by the official notary bureau. In 2009 and 2010, the municipality led an initiative to formalize informal tenure deeds. Although this project was interrupted during the crisis, it is estimated that approximately 80% of the occupants became recognized as the official owners by the end of 2010, possessing official ownership titles (Homs City Council) (Figure 10). However, these housing areas remain underserved and without a regular urban plan or zoning regulations.

Currently, 96,700 housing units (including apartment blocks) are no longer in use or have been abandoned (end of 2013). This equals 54.3% of the city's 2011 housing stock. The majority of the damaged units are in multi-storey apartment buildings, and they were mostly concentrated in the informal areas (especially in Al Bayada, Deir Ba'alba, and Baba Amr).

UNOSAT's Shelter Damage Assessment which was based on analysis with WorldView imagery acquired in September 2013 concluded that 6,876 buildings were heavily damaged (destroyed or severely damaged). Figure 11 summarises the most affected neighbourhoods and number of damaged buildings. Deir Ba'alba, Baba Amr, Bab Houd, Khalidia and Karm Al Zaitoon are the severely damaged or destroyed neighbourhoods. Wadi Al Zahab neighbourhood was also found widely destroyed, although the condition there is under-reported, and the damage to housing resulted from a huge explosion in a military site south of the residential area, and this the housing damage is concentrated in a limited zone south of the neighbourhood.

Figure 9: Residential buildings typologies

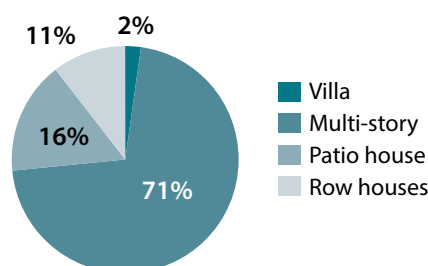


Figure 10: Distribution of owners by ownership types

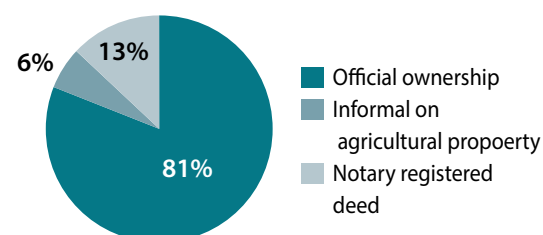
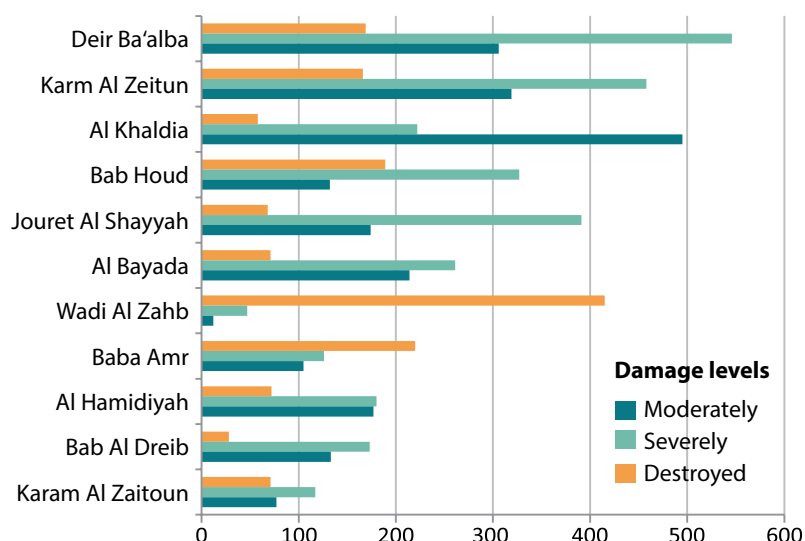
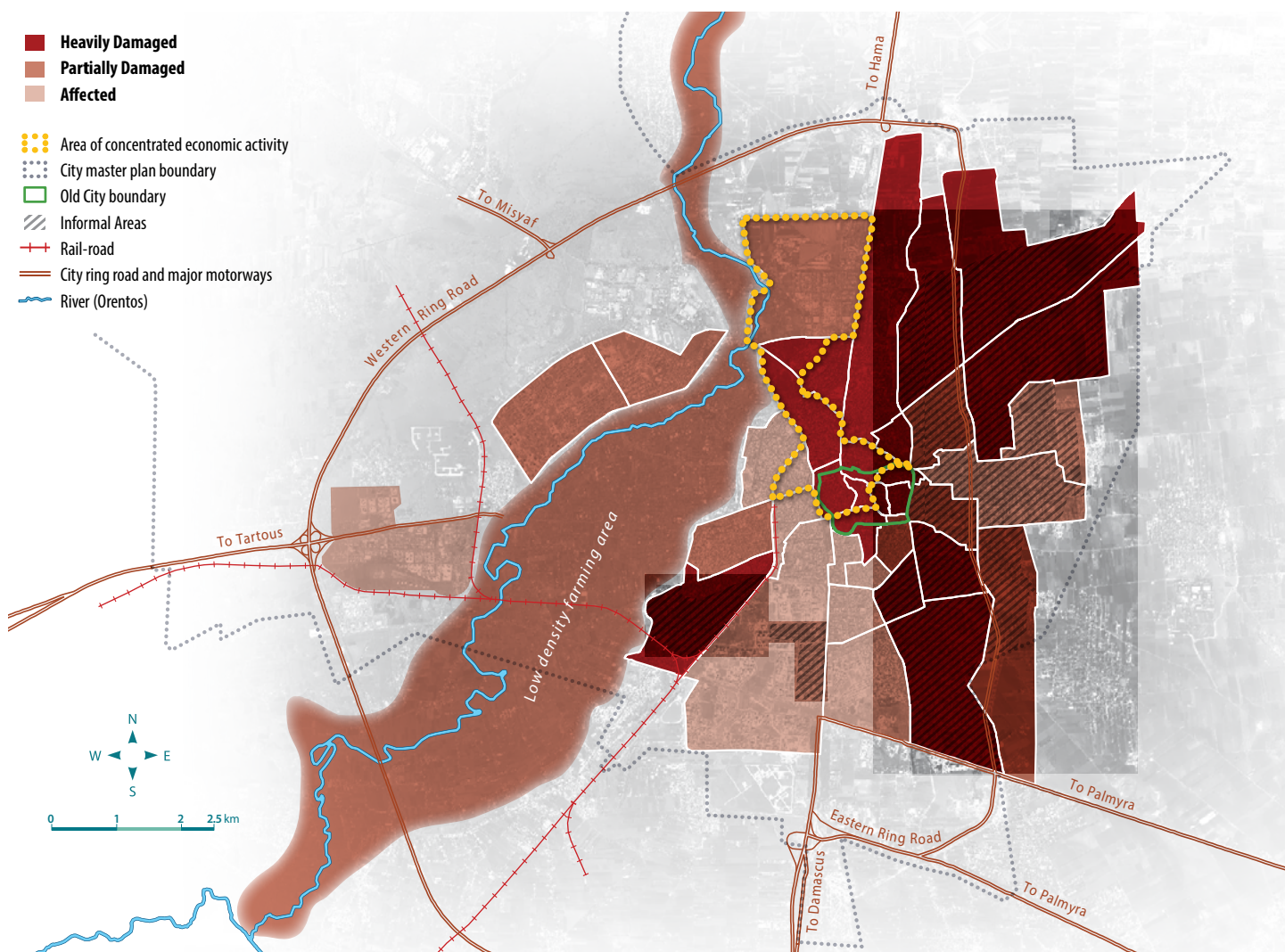


Figure 11: Mostly affected neighbourhoods (# buildings), UNOSAT, Sep. 2013



Damaged houses in Bustan Al Diwan (Al Hamidia neighbourhood)

MAP 3: DAMAGE ANALYSIS



DAMAGES TO BUILDINGS AND HOUSING STOCK

50%
of Homs 36
neighbourhoods are
heavily damaged

In terms of area damage; the analysis concludes that: (Map 3, figure 13)

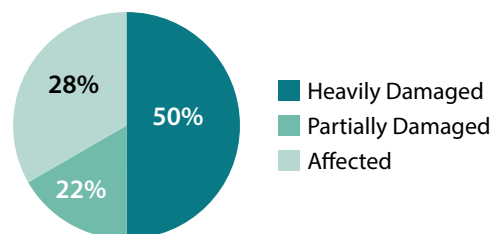
- 18** (50%) neighbourhoods have been heavily damaged (most buildings are either structurally damaged or hazardous to occupy);
- 8** (22%) neighbourhoods have been partially damaged (heavy damages limited to certain areas/ blocks, other buildings are still habitable or have been repaired by people);
- 10** (28%) neighbourhoods have minor to no damage, both nevertheless affected by the crisis.

47%
of Homs urban land areas
are heavily damaged. Most
or all buildings are either
structurally damaged or
hazardous to occupy

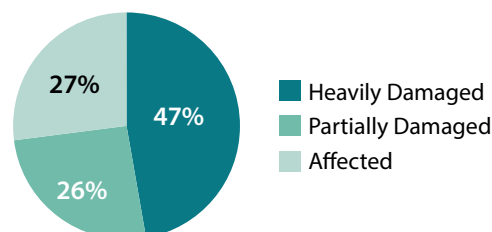
This status had remained largely unchanged since May 2013. Recent escalations in the city's western neighbourhoods may change the findings of this assessment, especially as severe clashes are currently taking place (since January 2014) in the southern part of Al Waer neighbourhood and in Al Mimas.

Figure 13: Classification of neighbourhoods and city urban area per damage level

Damage level by neighbourhoods



Damage level by urban land



DAMAGES BY LAND USE

When damage was analyzed against city land use, the findings suggest that the **housing sector has received the largest share of damages**; (Figures 14 and 15)

- **83%** of the damaged areas (both heavily and partially damaged) were residential, mostly multi-storey apartments. The damaged housing stock will make population restitution extremely challenging, a fact that has been noted recently after the latest developments in the old city neighbourhoods, as no tangible population restitution is taking place;
- **69%** of the heavily damaged were informal areas (Figure 16);
- The city's **light industrial area** (Al Hasawia) is less damaged in terms of buildings and infrastructure, but properties and machinery were completely looted. This has brought economic activity in the area into a standstill. Not only Al Hasawia was a major employment area in Homs, but it was also the main supplier of building materials (raw and fabricated), and it's current non-functionality has great implications on the city's economy and local self-recovery efforts for housing and building damage rehabilitations.
- The majority of the damages in the city of Homs are concentrated in informal, commercial and residential areas. All city services areas including public administration agglomerations are partially damaged. Latest city restoration plans are clearly concentrating on the restoration of public services due to their impact on other rehabilitation processes.

AFFECTED POPULATION BY HOUSING DAMAGE

594,000 of Homs 806,000 inhabitants (74% of the city population) have been affected by damage to the housing sector. Only 212,000 have not been directly affected. Although some neighbourhoods have been less damaged, they have been completely abandoned by population as they have become inhabitable - inaccessible or unsafe (Karm Al Zaitoun for example). 60% of the city population is displaced, inside or outside the city. (Figure 17)

The city's central neighbourhoods are heavily damaged, including the old city and the traditional residential and commercial neighbourhoods surrounding it. The city's neighbourhoods that had a very high population density before the crisis, are the same neighbourhoods where damage is concentrated. Pre-crisis population densities by neighbourhoods, are shown in the map, mirroring the concentration of the impact of housing damage. (Figure 18)

The damage is also concentrated in the neighbourhoods essential for in the city's economic activity, resulting in major impacts on income generation and livelihoods. Neighbourhoods marked in Map 3 provide specific examples of this impact, as these areas used to be the city's main hubs for trades, professional businesses and private sector activity.

Figure 14: Distribution of damage by area and land-use (ha), Homs, Dec. 2013

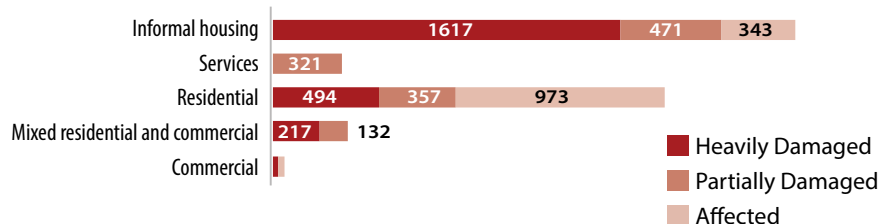


Figure 15: Land-use vs. damage level in Homs (%)

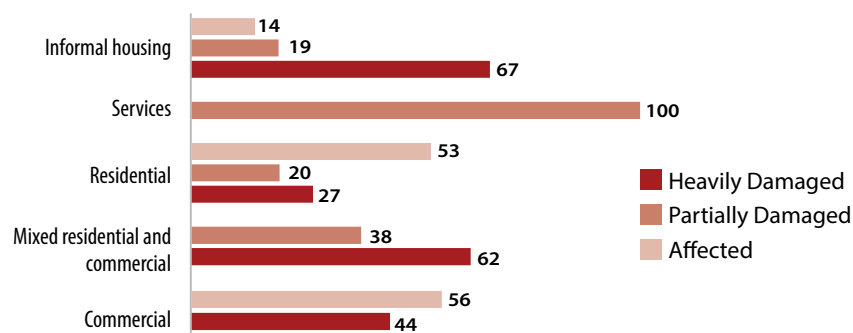


Figure 16: Concentration of heavy damages by main land types

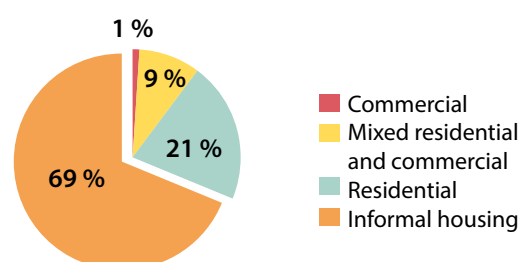


Figure 17: Affected population per housing damage level (% for total city population, absolute number)

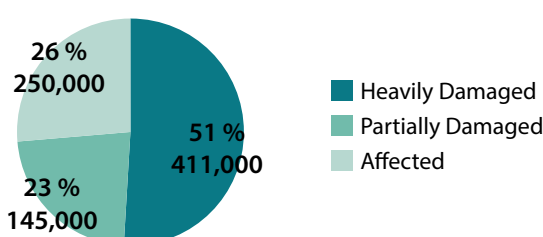
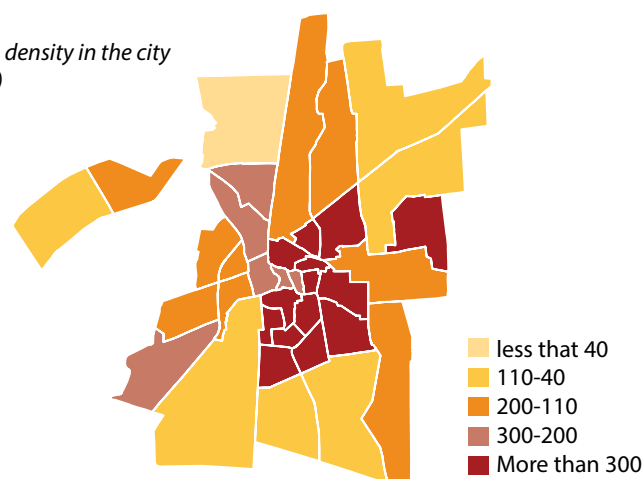
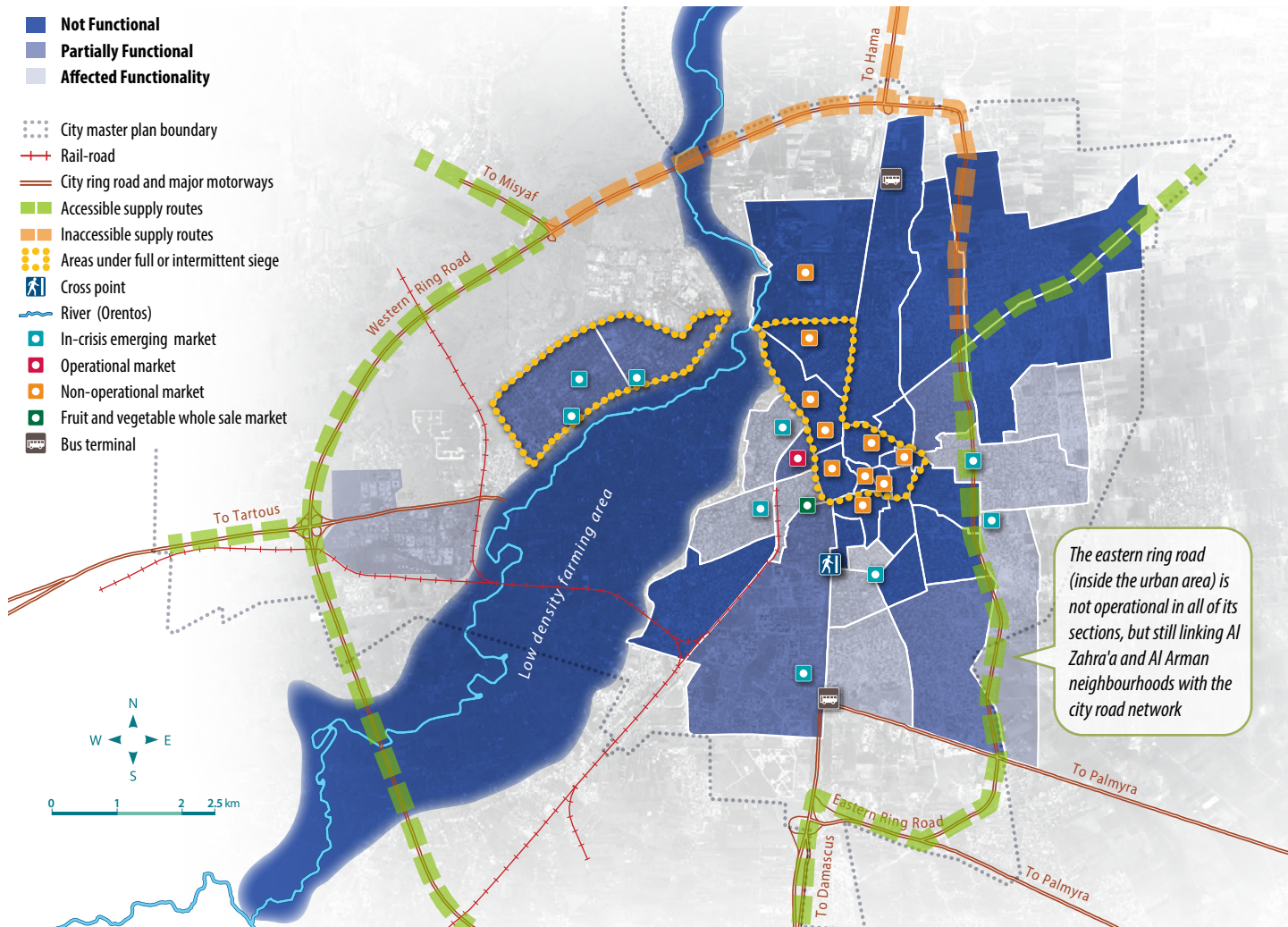


Figure 18: Population density in the city (pre-crisis, Capita/ha)



URBAN FUNCTIONALITY

MAP4: CURRENT LEVEL OF URBAN FUNCTIONALITY



URBAN FUNCTIONALITY LEVELS

	Not Functional	Partially Functional	Affected Functionality
Housing facilities	Most houses are either damaged or structurally hazardous	Total damages limited to certain blocks, others are still habitable	Minor to no damages
Basic infrastructure	Not operational	Partially operational for some areas/sectors	Affected due to strain on infrastructure and services due to increased IDP population
Basic services	No services	Limited services	Available services
Markets	Not functioning	Partially functional	Functioning. New markets established

Analyzing Homs from an urban functionality perspective demonstrates that 58% of the city urban area is no longer functional. The explanation of the urban functionality analysis is as follows: (Map 4, Figure 19)

58%
of Homs' neighbourhoods
are no longer functional

This means that **21** of
total **36** neighbourhoods
are no longer functional.

The collapse of the
private sector economy,
the abandonment of
neighbourhoods, and
the breakdown of basic
services and infrastructure
have contributed the non
functionality

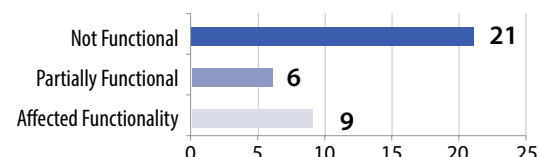
21 neighbourhoods were found to be non-functional, and were effectively de-populated. This proportion exceeds the number of damaged neighbourhoods, as 3 neighbourhoods were completely de-populated due to social unrests.

6 neighbourhoods were found partially functional. These vary in terms of the following categories:

- Neighbourhoods under intermittent siege (Al Waer and Al Mimas),
- Neighbourhoods strained by extreme influx of IDPs (Karm Al Shami),
- Neighbourhoods with damages to housing and infrastructure in some parts of the area, while other parts almost fully operational (Wadi Al Zahab and Al Sabeel).

9 neighbourhoods were found to be functional. Some neighbourhoods do not host many IDPs (like Akrama, Al Nuzha, and Al Zahra'a), while others are affected by an influx of IDPs (Dahait Al Waleed, Al Arman, Al Ghouta and Al Fardous).

Figure 19: Classification of neighbourhoods by urban functionality



IMPACT ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

ACCESSIBILITY

1. Road and rail accessibility

- The city is still accessible from different national highways that link it to Damascus and with the coastal cities of Tartous and Latakia. The city is not accessible through the northern highway that links Homs to Hama. Current traffic travelling from south to north uses the western ring road. The regional road to Salamiya is also still used which leads into other major urban centers in the north (Map 4).
- Rail roads have not been operational since December 2011, and substantial damages have been reported regarding rail road's infrastructure and assets.

The western ring road is still operational, except in the section overlooking Al Hasawia industrial area. Eastern ring road has become recently secure, but damages in the north eastern city neighbourhoods is blocking access in many sections.

2. Internal mobility

- Some city areas are not accessible, either due to severe damages or because of total or intermittent siege (Map 4). The need for humanitarian assistance access is more pressing in the neighbourhoods that host the majority of intra-city IDPs (Al Fardous, Al Ghouta, Karm Al Shami and Al Waer).
- The separation between western and eastern neighbourhoods is not complete but social differences are limiting access between the two sides. The only active crossing point between both sides of the city is Dawar Al Raees (Map 4), but is still limited to government staff and to a small number of select NGOs working on both sides (mainly SARC staff).

3. Public transportation

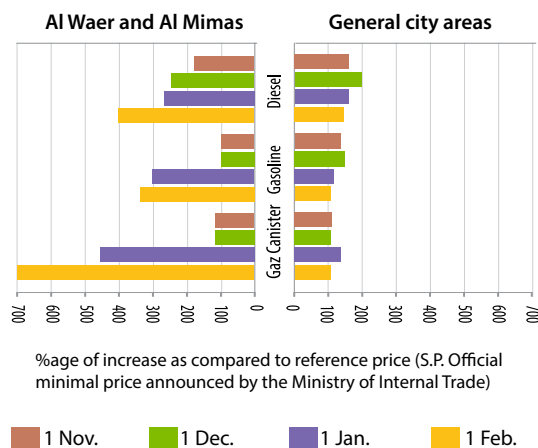
- Pre-crisis public transportation system has collapsed in most parts of the city except for a limited number of private micro-bus services in the eastern neighbourhoods, while western neighbourhoods are depending on private cars operating as informal taxis.
- Northern bus terminal is completely damaged, thus regional coaches trips have become random and based on travelers' direct contact with the private operators. However, the southern bus terminal is still operational, but services are limited to people living in eastern neighbourhoods.

ELECTRICITY AND FUEL

- Electricity supply is dependent on two major thermal plants in the Governorate: Jandar and Al Zara. Both plants are fully operational, despite latest clashes in the vicinity of Al Zara plant (March 2014).
- Habited neighbourhoods in Homs have access to electricity, approximately 12 hours of daily supply. However, the city suffered from months of electricity total blackouts during the period of intense clashes in 2012.
- Fuel prices and access to fuel remains acceptable in most city parts, as the Syrian largest refinery plant is located in the close vicinity of the city western neighbourhoods, and in fact linked to the city through the local roads network. However, 5 of

the 10 gas stations in the city are damaged, and fuel prices are significantly higher in the sieged neighbourhoods (Al Waer and Al Mimas). (Figure 20)

Figure 20: Consumer fuel prices (Nov 2013 - Feb 2014)



The city is not accessible through the northern highway that links Homs to its northern peer Hama

The only active access point between both sides of the city is Dawar Al Raees

EDUCATION

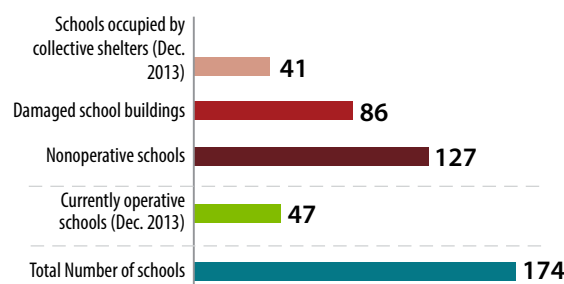
- Nearly 73% of schools in Homs are no longer operational due to direct damage or inaccessibility; these schools now require rehabilitation. Non-operational schools also include the school buildings used as collective shelters, and despite the repeated evictions of IDPs from many schools since 2012, school's have not resumed their original role. (Figure 21)
- All schools in the city are working in two shifts, and supporting official curriculum (Department of Education). Some schools are adapting to changing security conditions, and students are regularly reported on changes in shifts and attendance patterns depending on priorities and accessibility (especially in Al Waer, Al Fardous and Al Ghouta neighbourhoods).
- Drop-out has increased, especially amongst female IDPs, and including different educational levels (including secondary and college previously enrolled female students). Skipping educational years is also widespread.
- City public university (Al Ba'ath) is still normally operational, despite low attendance rates observed since 2012.

61% of schools in Homs are no longer operational due to direct damage or inaccessibility

Drop-out has increased, especially amongst female IDPs

Homs city's public university is still operating

Figure 21: Number of school facilities (primary and secondary) as per operational status



Neighbourhoods occupied by IDPs and original population is equally receiving 12 hours of daily supply.

HEALTH AND NUTRITION

The only two public hospitals in Homs are not operational:

- Al Watani: totally damaged
- Al Waleed: limited accessibility

3 out of 17 public clinics are operational.

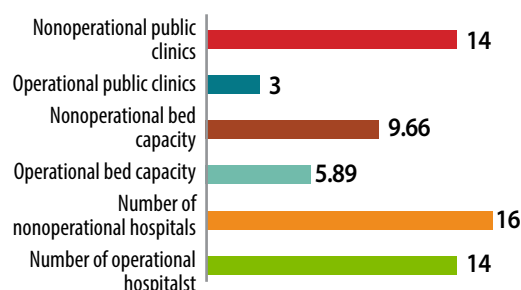
Neighbourhoods that used to accommodate the majority of private clinics are heavily damaged

Serious drop in the water supply has been reported in the besieged neighbourhoods, especially Al Waer and Al Mimas

40% of the garbage was collected by the private sector and contractors before the crisis. The municipality is maintaining waste collection at a cycle of 3 times per week in all accessible city areas

- Out of the city's 30 hospitals, 16 hospitals are non-operational due to direct damage or inaccessibility. This includes the only two public hospitals in the city (Al Watani/ totally damaged, and Al Waleed/ limited accessibility). This has resulted in significant drop in the city bed capacity, and professional health services have become inaccessible for most of the city and rural population, as rural population was dependent on the city health services. (Figure 21). Only 3 out of 17 public clinics are operational.
- Two charity hospitals are still operational (in Al Waer and Wadi Al Zahab) despite access constraints.
- The greatest loss in the city medical service is attributed to the severe damages in the neighbourhoods that used to accommodate most of the private service providers. Neighbourhoods like Joret Al Shayah, Al Hamidia, Bani Al Sibae'e used to accommodate the vast majority of the private clinics, and these neighbourhoods are heavily damaged. Most of the city doctors and professionals have left the city.
- The reduced health care capacity and staffing levels, lack of availability of medicines, and the widespread respiratory diseases in the schools and among IDP represent the main sector challenges. Longer term challenges such as the loss in health sector trained staff will continue to challenge improvements in health conditions.

Figure 21: Operational status of health facilities



WATER AND SANITATION

- At the time of the assessment, water supply to the populated part of the city is still acceptable, despite interruptions caused by frequent lack of pumping fuel.
- Serious drop in the water supply has been reported in the besieged neighbourhoods. This had less impact on the Old City neighbourhoods, since that a big number of traditional wells exist inside the area's patio houses. Al Waer and Al Mimas have been impacted by lack of supply as water availability dropped from 20 hours to 1 hour per day.
- IDPs sheltered in unfinished buildings are lacking means for water storage and adequate sanitation. Inaccessibility to hygiene items due to inflated prices are disrupting regular hygiene practices.

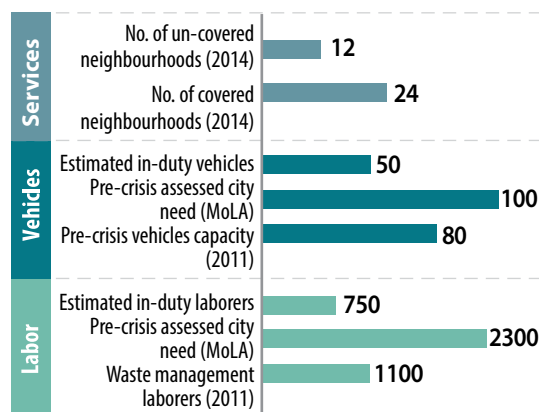
SOLID WASTE

- Despite the big losses in the city's solid waste

management capacity (Figure 22); the municipality is still maintaining acceptable level of services in all accessible neighbourhoods, and achieving collection at a cycle of 3 times per week all around the city. Despite the drop in the amount of garbage produced in the city as compared to pre crisis (800 tons per day in 2011 compared to 412 tons in recent municipality reports), the remaining municipal resources are unable to cope in the neighbourhoods where population has increased significantly (especially Al Waleed and Al Waer).

- The official dump site in Tal Al Nasr (north of the city) is still accessible, and basic separation processes of hazardous and medical waste is still being applied.
- The public sector was providing 60% of the waste collection services before the crisis in Homs. 40% of waste collected by private sector, however since the crisis started, the private sector and contractors have been unable to respond in the same manner due to conflict zones, placing all the burden on limited municipal capacities. However, the municipality is planning to restore the private sector's role in 2014 to cover 35% of the current operations which will be dependent upon availability of resources.

Figure 22: Solid waste collection resources



FOOD AND LIVELIHOODS

1. Food

- Access routes to essential food supplies are still active, and the rich agriculture and livestock production in the city countryside is ensuring adequate food supplies in the markets.
- The intermittent blockade of food items and access to food in Old City, Al Waer and Al Mimas has caused significant increase in prices of food when compared to the rest of the city. Vulnerable families (and IDPs) in besieged neighbourhoods are at risk of food insecurity due to lack of access for food items. (Figure 23)

2. Economy and Livelihood

The loss of livelihoods is attributed to many factors:

- The collapse of the role of the city central neighbourhoods that used to accommodate the traditional markets (including professional trades), mainly in Joret Al Shayah neighbourhood; the city's most significant economic hub and income generator. Other secondary markets in the city have also collapsed, including markets such as Al Jundi,

Al Naoura, Bab Al Siba'a and Baba Amr.

- Division of the city into east and west, and lack of mobility and economic interaction between both sides that used to occur through the old city neighbourhoods.
- The collapse of the multi-disciplinary industrial area in Al Hasawia (not functional since August 2011) has led to loss of jobs and livelihoods for people of Homs as Al Hasawia was employing thousands of people.

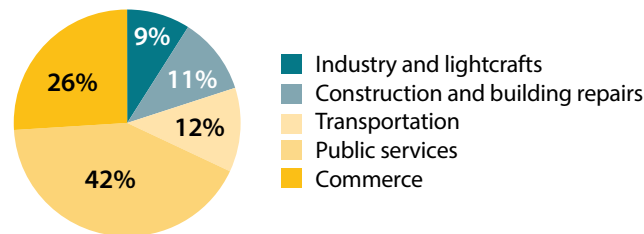
3. Emerging skills

- The collapse of the role of traditional markets, and the shift in population densities due to hosting and sheltering in residential neighbourhoods have led to emergence of new informal street markets, which are providing thousands of job opportunities to original population and IDPs. These markets are selling goods and food items and were established after the crisis. The privately led transportation sector is also presenting a major contributor to income generation in the city.
- Public services sector is currently the dominant employment sector in the city today, especially in the city's south eastern neighbourhoods (Al Zahra'a, Akrama, Al Nuzha and Al Arman). (Figure 24)

Figure 23: Consumer prices of food items.



Figure 24: Distribution of current employment per sector



IMPACT ON CITY'S ECONOMY AND MARKETS

The intra-city farming area (Al Basateen):

The area used to provide almost 40% of the city's fresh food products over the past decades, and was a source of income for more than 12,000 families. Currently, this area is completely abandoned, and most of its agricultural infrastructure has either been damaged or looted, including irrigation networks, warehouses, livestock and farmer's houses and properties.

Al Hasawia multi-disciplinary industrial area:

The area used to accommodate 6,300 mini-factories and workshops (Figure 25). This area used to provide the space for most of the city light crafts, and acted as the main supplier for raw and manufactured building materials.

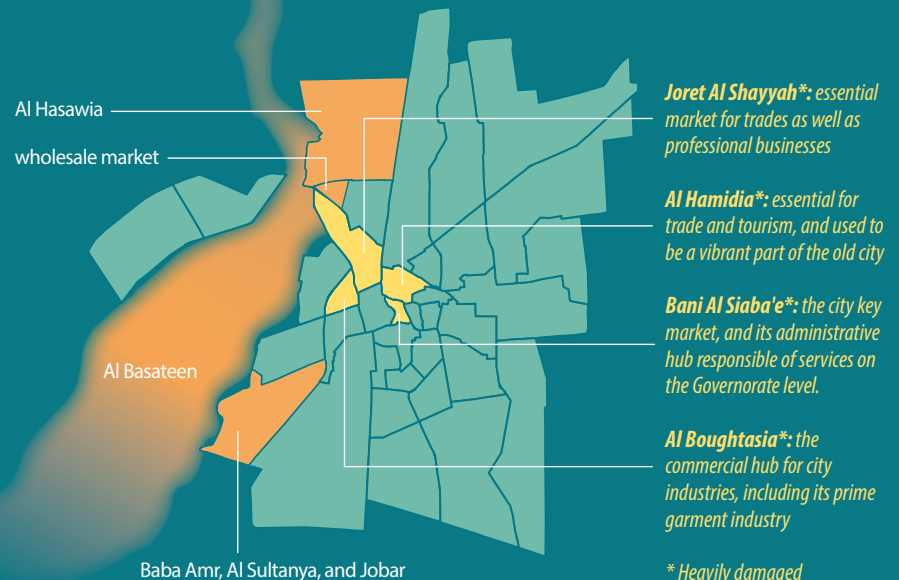
Currently, the area is not functional due to large scale looting of factories and businesses in the city, despite the fact that minimal physical damages occurred in this area. The looting aspect of the ongoing crisis is significant and also witnessed in many other cities as many homes, buildings, factories and workshops have been looted, impacting the functionality of these areas. Baba Amr, Al Sultanya, and Jobar factories and industries have been highly damaged and also looted during the crisis.

The city fruit and vegetable wholesale market has collapsed, and the municipality has improvised a limited location inside the urban area. (Figure 26)

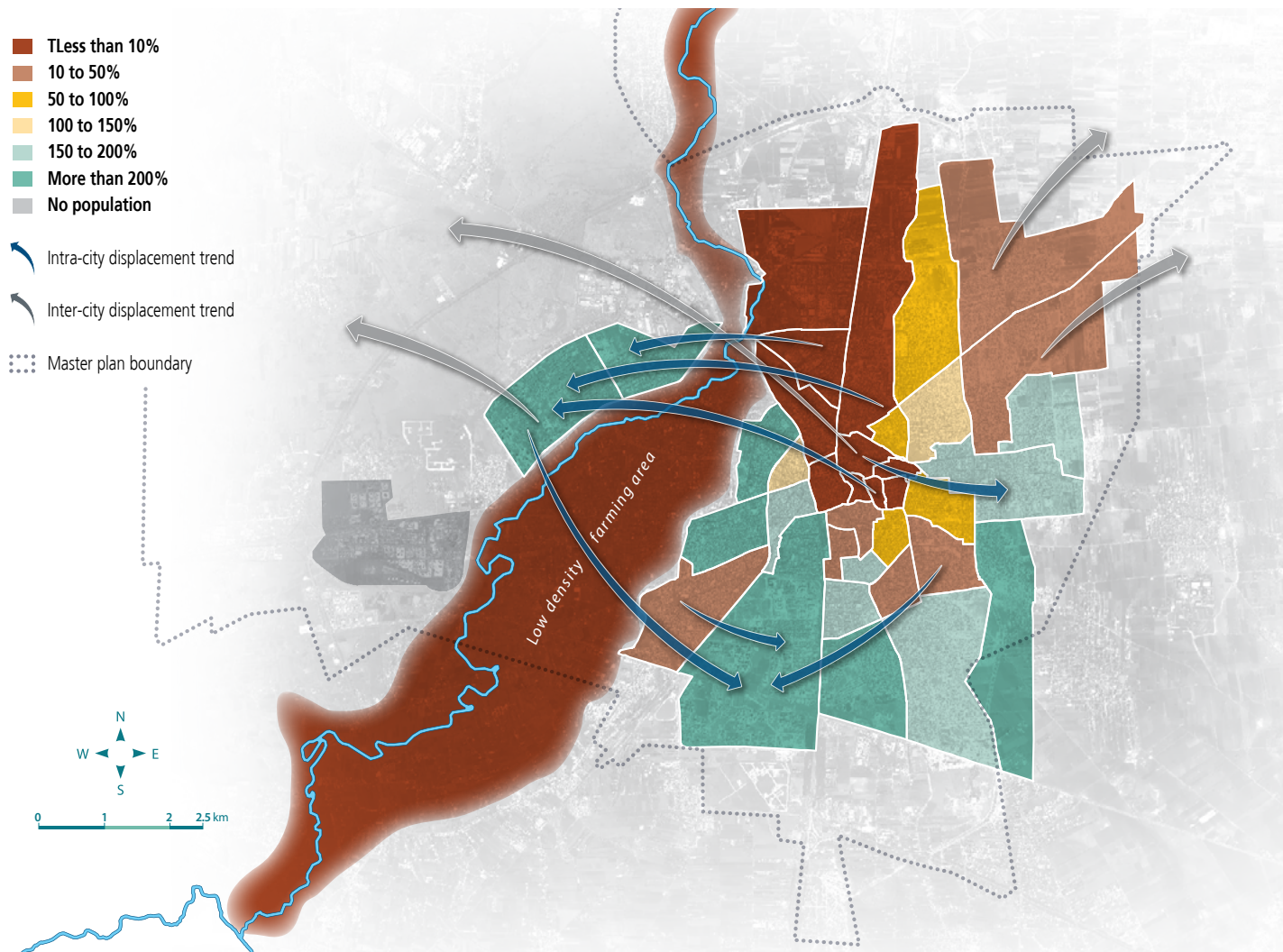
Figure 25: Dominant trade inside Al Hasawia Neighbourhood



Figure 26: Affected functionality in Homs main economic areas



MAP 5: SHELTER ANALYSIS ON THE NEIGHBOURHOOD LEVEL



POPULATION CHANGES AND DISPLACEMENT TRENDS

60 %
of Homs 2011 population
have been displaced

Homs is one of Syria most
impacted cities in terms of
displacement and damage

Displacement trend that
slowed down in 2013
increased notably in 2014

Due to the prolonged conflict, housing and building damages and insecurity prevailing in Homs, the impact on displacement has been very high. Out of the total population (estimated to be 806,000), approximately 468,000 inhabitants were displaced by November 2013. 56% of the displaced inhabitants have left the city mainly to Wadi Al Nasara, Damascus, Rural Damascus and Tartous Governorates or Lebanon, and 44% have been displaced within Homs, making a total of 58% of the current population. (Figure 27)

Homs can be considered as one of Syria most impacted cities in terms of displacement and damage proportions and duration of conflict which prolonged displacement. However, displacement trend that slowed down in 2013 increased notably in 2014, clearly demarcating habitable and non-habitable neighbourhoods. Most of the recently displaced population is heading to Karm Al Shami and Dahyat Al Waleed neighbourhoods. (Map 5, Figure 29).

Figure 27: Proportions of population in terms of displacement, end of 2013

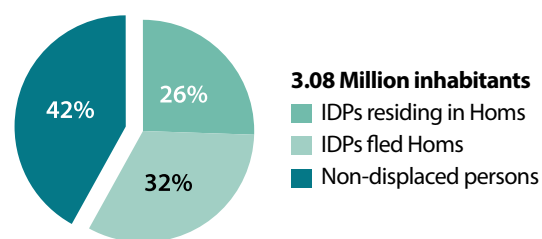


Figure 28: Estimated population changes, December 2013

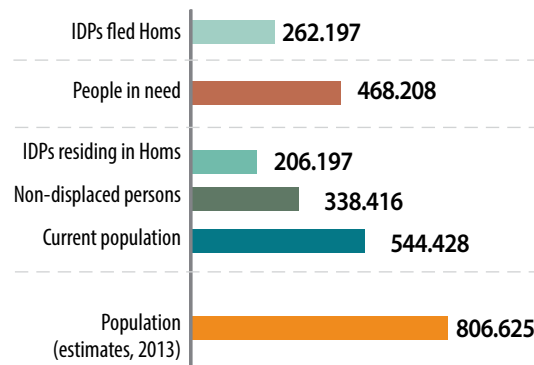
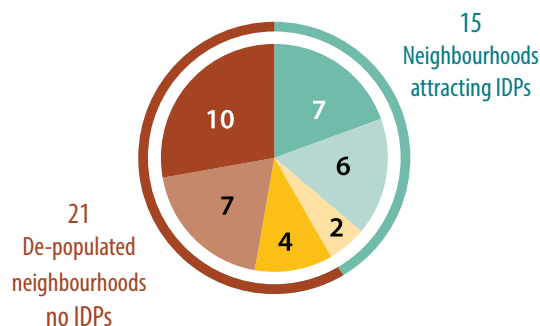


Figure 29: Classification of neighbourhoods per Habitability levels



Current Population (IDPs and original population as compared to pre-crisis population)

De-Populated	• Decrease in the original population of these neighbourhoods	Less than %10
	• Negligible IDP numbers	10 to %50
Attracting	• Minor decrease in the original population of these neighbourhoods • Substantial influx of IDPs	50 to %100
		100 to %150
		150 to %200
		More than %200

Hosting is the largest shelter support mechanism in Homs, like in other cities. Due to large number of non-functional neighbourhoods, existing housing stock is being used for hosting

SHELTER CONDITIONS AND IMPACT

Housing stock and capacity has been seriously affected in Homs, displacing the population and leading to different sheltering options in the city. Two facts characterize shelter conditions in Homs; 1) Heavy damage has caused abandonment of a large number of neighbourhoods, 2) Most of the city IDPs left the city with only few families returning after being displaced.

Collective shelters are taking in a relatively big number of displaced families (9,520 families) making a total of 22% of intra-city IDPs. School buildings, the Exhibition Hall (in Al Waer) and some un-used public buildings are providing the space for these shelters. Collective shelters are receiving most of humanitarian assistance attention, however; **some of these shelters are being managed unofficially, but supported by local charities.**

Hosting remains the predominant mechanism for sheltering IDPs, as 30% of the IDPs are hosted by families, friends and non-relatives. Although hosting was mostly a temporary shelter solution for the IDPs at the outset of the crisis, recent escalations in February, March and April led to additional strains on functional and hosting neighbourhoods. **Host families living in apartments and houses in areas such as Al Fardous, Al Arman, Al Waer and Al Mimas began hosting additional families, adding further strains on households.**

Squatting (or secondary occupation) of unoccupied apartments is widespread in hosting neighbourhoods, especially in Al Waer and Al Fardous. Many of the city inhabitants (mainly upper-middle income families) decided to leave the city to safer destinations due to safety and livelihood concerns. A squatting trend without agreements with owners has been seen since the crisis in Homs and in other cities. Post squatting arrangement usually takes place afterwards, mediated by community representatives or NGOs, but long term tenure issues remain unaddressed. **Fears of property disputes have led many families to host IDPs in their properties before evacuation, including verbal agreements to protect their properties.**

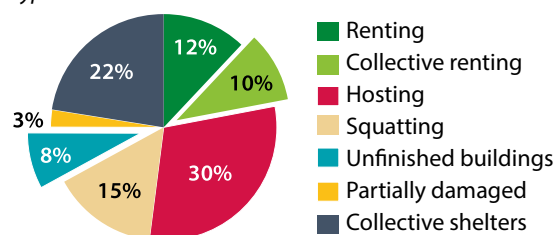
Renting is also an important shelter type in Homs (22% of IDPs), and despite moderate renting prices in almost all neighbourhoods varying between 50 to 150 USD in hosting neighbourhoods, **most of the rental accommodation is occupied by more than one family as families are renting collectively. Many of the leases are undocumented and increase in rental prices is also observed.**

8% of the displaced families are occupying unfinished buildings. Only two neighbourhoods are providing this shelter option for displaced families in Al Waer and Karm Al Shami. **Al Waer has become under siege and subject to severe confrontations since October 2013, which decreased the amount of occupied unfinished buildings in the city.**

Squatting un-occupied apartments is widespread in hosting neighbourhoods, especially in Al Waer and Al Fardous

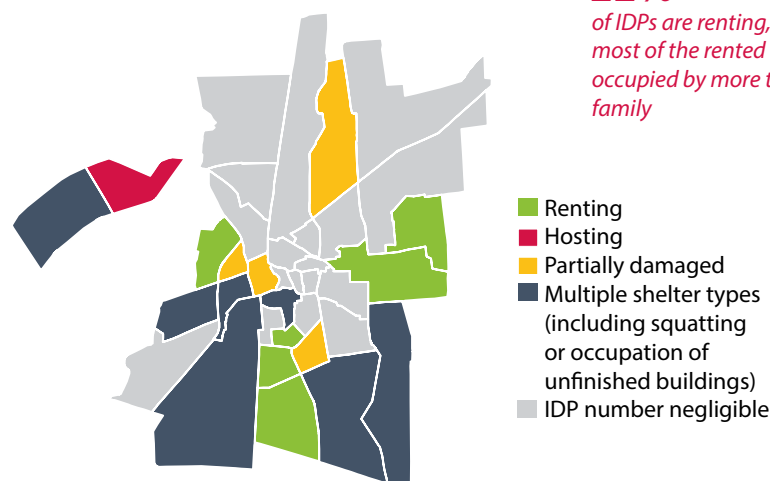
8% of the displaced families are occupying unfinished buildings.

Figure 30: Estimated distribution of IDPs per shelter type



Collective shelters are taking in relatively 22% of intra-city IDPs

Figure 31: IDP shelter types per neighbourhood



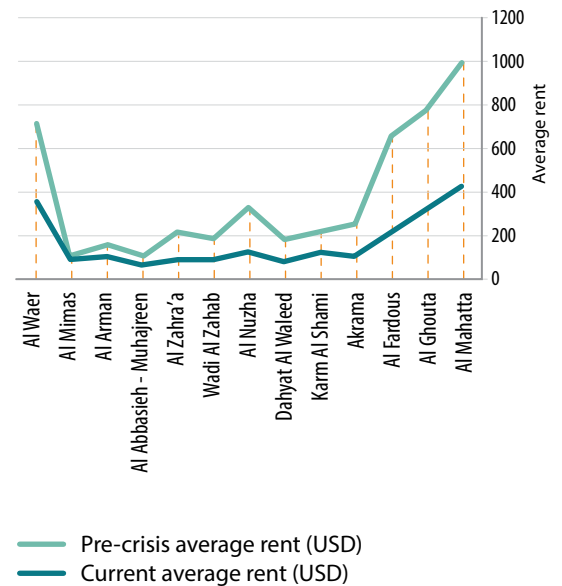
22% of IDPs are renting, but most of the rented units are occupied by more than one family

HOMS RENTAL MARKET

Two factors currently demarcate the rental market in the Homs:

1. Lack of available offer in the market: there are only 13 neighbourhoods currently inhabited, those neighbourhoods have received different proportions of IDPs, and most of these neighbourhoods had the process of replacing original occupants with newly coming IDPs. However, city general lack of residential space (due to damages or abandonment of areas) has minimized the total offer of rentals, and currently its extremely difficult to find an available apartment for rent in any of these functioning neighbourhoods.
2. Lack of demand in the remaining functional neighbourhoods: the city is no longer attractive for inhabitants due to different factors; security condition and lack of livelihoods are the dominant factors that make the city less attractive for IDPs who can afford to rent, and most of this income group of IDPs choose to leave the city.
3. Unlike other major impacted cities with intra-city displacement; Homs rental prices have not increased, in fact it decreased in fixed prices terms, although inflation may imply an apparent increase. (Figure 32) Most of city rental accommodations are unfurnished, but increase in number of apartments that were evacuated by its residents have slightly increased the offer of furnished units.

Figure 32: changes in net average monthly rents of average unfurnished apartment (fixed prices)*



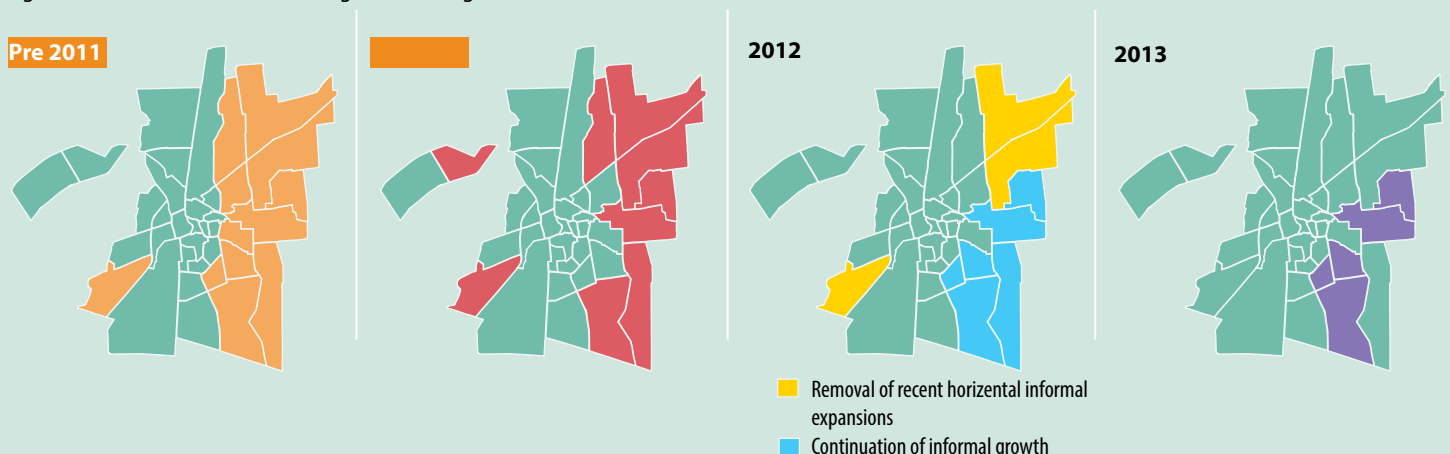
* This figure includes average rent prices for Al Waer and Al Mimas (hard to reach areas) using reported prices before the latest siege.

SNAPSHOT ON THE GROWTH OF INFORMALITY IN HOMS

Informal housing expansion in Homs can be seen as part of the crisis urban dynamics; it started with a local authorities disregard of informal housing growth after years of strict monitoring, which was seen as a step to absorb social unrest. Later, most of the units produced in the earlier stage were demolished, either during the fights or were bulldozed. However, informal housing growth in the south eastern neighbourhoods continued non-stop.

- 2011: Massive informal housing and informal commercial growth almost in all city neighbourhoods (adding floors, surface expansion, and encroachments on buildings setbacks)
- 2012: Decrease in the informal growth in most neighbourhoods, although it continued in few neighbourhoods. **Some surface expansions of informal housing were bulldozed by local authorities**
- 2013: Suspension of informal growth due to deteriorated security condition, inflation and lack of building materials, and depletion of resources. **Few informal housing activities (mainly adding floors) continue in 5 neighbourhoods. (Figure 33)**

Figure 33: Growth of informal housing in Homs neighbourhoods, 2011-2013



HOSTING AND RENTING

Abo Mohamad, is a 46 year old professional mechanist, married and a father for 4 children. He was an owner of a house in Homs in Jub Al Jandali neighbourhood, and had a professional car maintenance workshop at Al Hasawia light industries area in partnership with his elder brother. Jub Al Jandali was among the first neighbourhoods to be affected and abandoned in Homs during 2011. Most neighbours, relatives and friends left the neighbourhood and Abo Mohamad also left with no personal belongings except key documents and savings.

He and his family moved three times. His first displacement destination was Rural Damascus for a few days and later they moved to Qudsaya (Rural Damascus, 10 km north of the Capital city center). People hosted the family in an empty apartment, however the family lacked personal household items, beds and mattresses as they had left Homs with documents and savings only. They were fully dependent on local people's solidarity and support. During their stay in Qudsaya, Abo Mohamad started working fulltime at a local car maintenance workshop for nearly 200 USD per month. Two months later, the family had to leave Qudsaya due to escalations, and moved for the third time to a rental apartment neighbouring Qudsaya Suburb (a modern residential area well connected with the Capital Damascus).

The rental accomodation was extremely sub standard and rent was reasonable as per market price. for furnishing the apartment, the family in kind support from neighbourhoods and non-relatives. Coping mechanism for the family was further strengthened when Abo Mohamed's car maintenance work showed some positive signs of income and livelihoods for the family.

HOSTING OF IDPS BY PROPERTY OWNERS

In December 2011, Kattan family had to leave their home in Al Khalidiya. They were a married couple and were first hosted by relatives who lived in Al Khalidiya as well. The entire family including extended family had to leave Al Khalidiya as security became challenging in the neighbourhood.

They stayed in a public hall for few days with hundreds of families while searching for housing option. The relative of Kattan family had a local contact and found a vacant big sized house which the original owners of the property agreed to give for free to the family. Key part of the verbal agreement was to protect the property of the owner.

Abdo and Kattan family have been living in the same apartment since 2012. The family has frequent contact with the owner and is paying back the hospitality of through protecting valuables and the property as much as possible. The family is only using two rooms and the rest remains protected and safe.

RETURNEES TO THE OLD CITY OF HOMS

The recent local agreement mediated by Government and Opposition side in presence of the UN has resulted in the full seize fire in the Old City neighbourhoods. Return of civilians back to their homes or protection of their properties is emerging as a key issue. The area has suffered from wide scale of damage, and impact of nearly two years of strict siege on services and infrastructure. The following observations about the impact on the area population has been recorded by UN-Habitat facilitator:

- Small number of original inhabitants grouped at the gates to the Old City one day after the cease fire, asking for permission to enter (mainly women, elderly and children). They were mostly members representing their families. After getting an entry "green light" returnees spent almost two hours inside the area, and left out with few luggage.
- Looting of properties is alarming. Most of the remaining properties faced looting of even before the owners returned, checked or sealed them
- The physical condition of the neighbourhoods does not allow habitability of houses. Basic services, electricity in particular is non operational. Most of the "returning" people left back to their secondary homes with no clear vision on possible time or framework for their return, and only carrying documents or personal belongings which they had left behind at the time of displacement.



Man from Homs Old City getting out after checking his home, carrying few family photos and wearing two jackets (May 2013)

NEIGHBOURHOODS ANALYSIS AND KEY FINDINGS

revision and endorsement
Draft for

MAP 6: NEIGHBOURHOOD ANALYSIS FOR HOMS

AREA A .

Modern housing
neighbourhoods

AREA B.

Informal housing
neighbourhoods

AREA C.

Homs Old City and
the surrounding
traditional
neighbourhoods

AREA D.

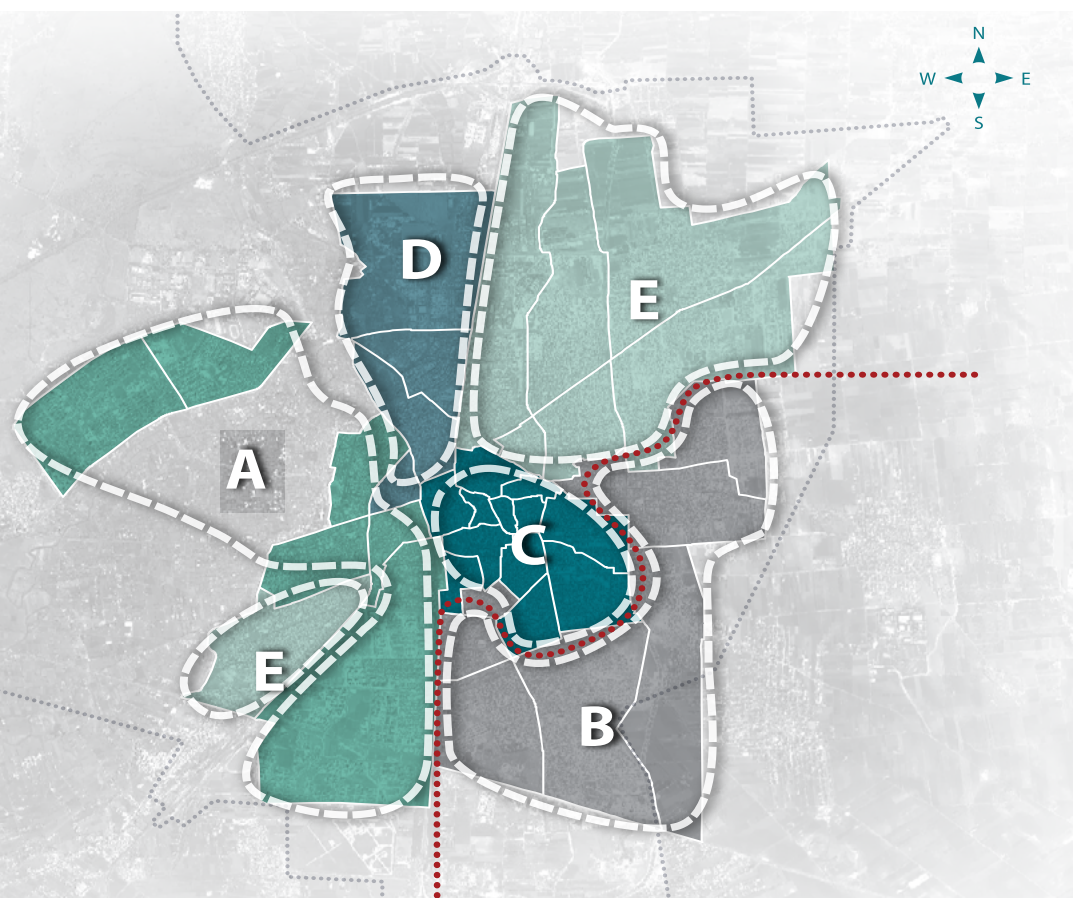
Modern mixed
residential,
commercial
and industrial
neighbourhoods

AREA E.

Low density
informal housing
neighbourhoods

AREA F.

Modern residential
expansion
neighbourhoods



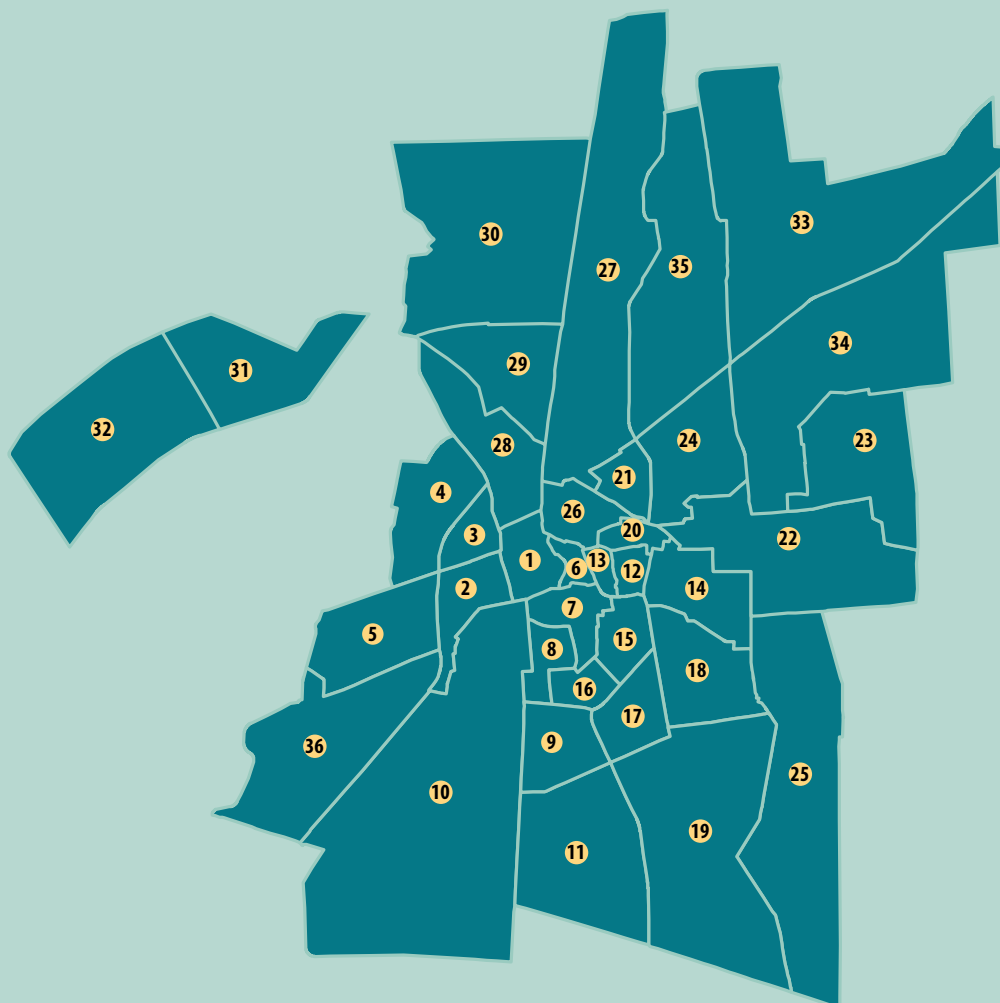
	AREA: A	AREA: B	AREA: C	AREA: D	AREA: E	AREA: F
Area (hectare)	839	1212	431	894	1298	349
Pop. (2011)	105,550	190,899	190,696	90,541	190,903	38,045
Pop. Current	113,132	194,254	200	100	38,350	151,550
IDPs	40,500	12,900	0	0	20,600	132,000
Original population which has left	%31	%5	%100	%100	%91	%49
Original Pop. Income group	High	Low	Middle	Upper-middle	Low	High
Predominant shelter types	Renting, squatting, and hosting	Renting	Non	Non	Hosting, lodging to partially damaged houses	Squatting, hosting, renting, lodging to partially damaged houses
Average s rent	150 USD	50 USD	Non	Non	Non	50 USD
Food supply	Operational	Operational	Operational	Operational	Non-operational	Non-operational
Damage level	Minor	Minor	Heavy	Heavy	Heavy	Partial
Urban functionality level	Functional	Functional	Non-functional	Non-functional	Non-functional	Partially functional
Access to food and markets	Accessible	Accessible	Inaccessible	Inaccessible	Inaccessible	Inaccessible
Electricity supply hours/ per day	10	12	Non	Non	4	2
Water supply hours/per day	6	6	Non	Non	4	2
Garbage collection	Operative	Operative	Partially operative	Non-operative	Non-operative	Non-operative
Sewerage network	Operative	Operative	Non-operative	Non-operative	Partially operative	Operative
Health facilities and services	Partially accessible	Accessible	Inaccessible	Inaccessible	Inaccessible	Partially accessible
Educational facilities	Accessible	Accessible	Inaccessible	Inaccessible	Inaccessible	Inaccessible
Humanitarian Access	Accessible	Accessible	Accessible	Partially accessible	Partially accessible	Inaccessible

sector	ISSUE	PRIORITY
CITY LEVEL		
Livelihoods	<p>1. Loss of technical and professional capacities: through mass exodus of city professionals, including private sector, medical professionals, engineers and teachers.</p> <p>2. Loss of all productive sources of income: the remaining population is either depending on public employments, or occupying marginal retail jobs in emerging street markets.</p>	<p>1. Identifying the preferred displacement destinations of professionals, assessing their intentions to return or to reside abroad. Engagement of doctors, engineers, water and sanitation technicians, teachers and other professionals remaining in Homs in the rehabilitation works to mitigate against further "brain-drain". Organizing trainings through humanitarian interventions and involving the city professionals and technicians in the implementation.</p> <p>2. Plan for quick impact projects, including the rehabilitation of key markets in the city to support the economic revival of the affected areas. Specific rehabilitation projects should target the wholesale market, Al Hasawia light industries area, and the city urban farming area.</p>
Protection	<p>1. Lack of information available to the IDPs: IDPs are not informed properly about the conditions in their areas of origins, and thus may plan future investments in hosting areas inside and outside Syria. Lack of information on housing and property rights in relatively stable areas and on future plans for rehabilitation is a hindrance to ending displacement.</p> <p>2. Land, tenure and property issues: lost ownership deeds, secondary occupation, unlawful and forced evacuation of houses are among many types of rights violations, undermining population return and stability in the city. Complicated tenure and ownership issues in the traditional markets will make revival of these urban areas challenging.</p>	<p>1. The development of information sharing mechanisms with IDPs and refugees is an essential approach. IDPs and refugees have a range of questions on housing, property and rehabilitation process which can be reviewed and analyzed, and responses developed and shared back with them.</p> <p>2. Promotion of international law and practice governing post conflict property rights' protection. Immediate steps recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revision of current Governorate plans for "reconstruction" in the Old City and compensation programmes, and ensure adequate consideration to property rights' protection. - Improve local authorities awareness on property rights' protection, and promote inclusive planning practices. - Communicate information on housing and property rights with the IDPs and the refugees. - Provide dispute resolution mechanism which can provide an objective platform for affected population.
Water supply	Scarcity of water is not frequent in Homs city, but lack of fuel and electricity supplies necessary to operate pumping systems is decreasing supply hours. Vulnerable IDPs and residents who have not been displaced are most at risk groups.	Ensure that local water departments are technically prepared for the challenges of the coming summer season (including those stemming from the geographic changes in demand in IDPs hosting neighbourhoods, and ensure that the rehabilitation of damaged water system and water quality control are prioritized.
Health care	The city health care infrastructure has been severely impacted, as most city facilities (including hospitals and clinics) were in Joret Al Shayah and Al Boghtasia. However, both neighbourhoods are currently non-functional. The damage to health service will mostly impact vulnerable groups including children, the elderly, pregnant and lactating women, and will discourage IDPs to return.	Prioritize the rehabilitation of the "Public National Hospital". Programme incentives to local professionals willing to rehabilitate their damaged private hospitals. Provide mobile and temporary emergency units in the locations where population return is expected (Baba Amr and the Old City in specific), or where there is an absence of any type of health care service even before the crisis (Al Khalidia, Al Bayada, Deir Ba'alba).
Area: A		
Shelter	<p>1. Approximately 1,300 displaced families are occupying unfinished buildings in Karm Al Shami neighbourhood.</p> <p>2. Widespread squatting of abandoned apartments, mostly in Al Fardous neighbourhood.</p>	<p>1. Assess the condition of these families and provide necessary shelter support.</p> <p>2. Develop an appropriate tenure agreement mechanism between the IDP, the owners and the municipality by documenting the cases of unfinished buildings or squatted apartments, which can improve the owners' and IDP rights' protection.</p>
Education	<p>1. Pressure on schools due to incoming IDPs, and the use of many schools as collective shelters.</p> <p>2. Increase in drop-out and in skipping of educational years among female IDPs.</p>	<p>1. Release strain on schools where possible, including post occupation rehabilitation works before next semester.</p> <p>2. Coordinate education attendance support programmes with household and community assistance interventions.</p>
Food	High percentage of vulnerable IDPs are in acute need of food assistance due to rising prices.	Enhance food accessibility to the area, and rehabilitate local markets and bakeries to improve capacity.
Area: B		
Shelter	<p>1. 600 displaced families are occupying non-residential spaces in Al Waleed neighbourhood, including families occupying building setbacks and shops.</p> <p>2. Nearly 200 households are occupying partially damaged houses in Wadi Al Zahab, and are unable to afford necessary rehabilitation.</p>	<p>1. Provide support of households occupying non-residential spaces or partially damaged houses, including technical, financial and logistical assistance.</p> <p>2. Ensure access for key construction materials.</p>
Food	Vulnerable non-displaced households in the area are not prioritized by food assistance.	Focus food assistance programmes on vulnerable non-displaced families in the area.

sector	ISSUE	PRIORITY
Area: C		
Shelter	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Almost all area houses are inhabitable. 2. Building materials inaccessible and prices are rising. 3. Absence of technical support for the inhabitants willing to rehabilitate their own shelters. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide emergency shelter rehabilitation support, including technical and financial assistance. 2. Reinstate local building materials markets and industry. 3. Support families willing to repair their properties through financial and technical assistance to make them habitable. 4. Deploy expert teams in the area for construction related advise as part of any future recovery 5. Provide technical support and convene professionals and construction sector actors to support local mechanisms, including technical assistance in building safety assessment.
Water and sanitation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water network is heavily damaged, which is a major hindrance to return. 2. Sewerage network severely impacted by damage, rodents propagation and interruption of the network due to lack of maintenance. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide emergency outlets to provide secure source of drinking water, and ensure accessibility of water supplies necessary for construction and rehabilitation works 2. Prioritize water and sanitation network rehabilitation, by enhancing relevant local departments technical and equipment capacity.
Electricity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Electricity supply is interrupted due to damage in the local network. 2. Absence of electricity and street lighting is contributing to widespread looting and vandalism. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rehabilitate lighting in the main streets and in the critical service centres. 2. Support quick rehabilitation of electricity network to facilitate housing rehabilitation and population return.
Education	All schools are damaged, need rehabilitation.	Rehabilitate schools with minor damage before next semester, and prioritize schools that service locations where population return is expected.
Health	All health facilities are damaged, vulnerable returnees (especially the elderly) are mostly affected.	Provide emergency medical service, especially in Al Hamidia and Bab Al Siba'a where population return is more significant.
Waste and debris	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Accumulated debris, scrap and rubbish are blocking most of the Old City secondary streets. 2. Dangerous and destroyed buildings remain in situ. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Removal urgent before summer, and dangerous remains should be prioritized. Increase collection capacity, and provide technical support to validate adequate disposal sites. 2. Develop building stabilisation, demolition and debris management strategy.
Area: D		
Livelihoods and food	<p>Loss of the city's main building materials manufacturing capacity located in Al Hasawia.</p> <p>Increase in food prices due to limitations in the newly improvised fruit and vegetable market, despite the light damages in the city traditional wholesale market.</p>	<p>Quick rehabilitation of Al Hasawia industrial area (minor damage), and ensure access and supplies of water and fuel.</p> <p>Rehabilitate the city original wholesale market and the slaughter-house (partial damage) to reinstate capacity.</p>
Shelter	Majority of the housing stock is severely damaged.	Provide technical and financial support to local and self-rehabilitation initiatives, mainly in less damaged locations in Al Qusour and Al Khalidia neighbourhoods.
Area: E		
Livelihoods	High unemployment, low income generation contributing to vulnerability of the remaining population.	Support return and rehabilitation of productive sectors, small businesses, and promote employment intensive assistance activities, including infrastructure rehabilitation.
Shelter	Most area housing stock is severely damaged. Streets are inaccessible, and vulnerable population can't afford basic building materials and construction tools.	<p>Prioritize debris removal and management.</p> <p>Provide technical and financial support to local rehabilitation initiatives, mainly in partially damaged locations in Al Sabeel and Al Bayada neighbourhoods . Heavily damaged neighbourhoods such as Deir Ba'alba will require comprehensive reconstruction plans, which involves debris removal projects, provision of building materials supply chains, and technical and financial support to affected population.</p>
Food	Disruption of local markets and bakeries and lack of availability of food items	<p>Rehabilitate local markets and bakeries to reinstate capacity.</p> <p>Provide cash grants for rehabilitation of local markets and bakeries in the area.</p>
Education	Schools damaged, increased drop-out rate in low income families due to pressure for children to work.	Rehabilitate schools with minor damage to reinstate capacity before next semester.
Area: F		
Access and supplies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The area is besieged: 132,000 IDPs and 20,000 original inhabitants are vulnerable. 2. Access to most essential supplies is interrupted, including fresh food, bread and meats, children formula, medicine, and fuel supplies are inaccessible. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure secure and continued access for basic supplies. 2. Ensure better mobility conditions and minimized access limitations to humanitarian activities.
Water	Lack of availability of local water sources. Network water is scarce due to limited pumping of water, and private sector tankers have no access.	Ensure adequate supplies of drinking water through the network as the area source of drinking water can afford sufficient supplies, and secure continued access of water and hygiene materials.

NEIGHBOURHOODS OF HOMS

- 1 Bab Houd
- 2 Al Mahatta
- 3 Al Boghtasia
- 4 Al Ghouta
- 5 Al Fardous
- 6 Bani Sibaee
- 7 Bab Al Siba'a
- 8 Al Khidr
- 9 Akrama
- 10 Karm Al Shami
- 11 Dahyat Al Waleed
- 12 Bab Al Draib
- 13 Jamal Al Deen
- 14 Jub Al Jandali
- 15 Al Mrejeh
- 16 Al Nuzha
- 17 Karm Al Loaz
- 18 Karm Al Zaitoon
- 19 Wadi Al Zahab
- 20 Bab Tadmor
- 21 Karm Shamsham
- 22 Al Zahra'a
- 23 Al Abbasieh-Muhajreen
- 24 Al Sabeel
- 25 Al Arman
- 26 Al Hamidia
- 27 Al Khalidia
- 28 Joret Al Shayah
- 29 Al Qusour
- 30 Al Hasawia
- 31 Al Mimas
- 32 Al Waer
- 33 Deir Ba'alba (N)
- 34 Deir Ba'alba (s)
- 35 Al Bayada
- 36 Baba Amr



City of Homs pre-crisis view

CITY PROFILE **HOMS**

May 2014

City profiles will be updated every three months and be available online at:
www.unhabitat.org

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