

An aerial photograph of a city grid, overlaid with a semi-transparent orange filter. A river winds through the city from the top right towards the center. The grid consists of numerous small, rectangular blocks.

UN HABITAT

BURAO

first steps towards strategic
urban planning



United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), August 2009
P.O.Box 30030, GPO 00100, Nairobi, Kenya
Fax: +(254-20) 762 3120 (Central Office)
www.unhabitat.org

All pictures © UN-HABITAT Office for the Somali Region.

The satellite image is provided by DigitalGlobe © 2004 DigitalGlobe. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Excerpts from this publication, except the satellite image, may be reproduced without authorization, on condition that the source is indicated.

Soft copies of this publication can be downloaded from the website: <http://www.unhabitat.org/sudp>

HS/941/07E

ISBN: (Volume) 978-92-113-1917-0

DISCLAIMER

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries, or regarding its economic system or degree of development. Views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme or the United Nations and its member states.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Author: Ombretta Tempra, Felix Zeiske, and Aisling O'Loghlen

Design and layout: Ombretta Tempra

Graphics: Ombretta Tempra, Khalied Jacobs, Katja Schafer

Editor: Edward Miller

Printed at UNON / Publishing Services Section / Nairobi



BURAO

first steps towards strategic urban planning

INTRODUCTION

The city of Burao has been undertaking, in collaboration with UN-HABITAT, a series of steps towards effective and integrated urban development:

- **a city consultation** built a common vision for the desired future of the city and identified priority needs and related areas for strategic intervention.
- **an urban spatial analysis** – an indispensable tool for strategic planning – gave a basic spatial understanding of the city, highlighting challenges and priority interventions from a spatial perspective.
- **tables** were developed that contain methodological information and further details on the urban spatial analysis, city consultation, and projects implemented by UN-HABITAT in Burao.

The main objectives of this publication are:

- Documenting the process undertaken by the Burao municipality through city profiling and city consultation.
- Recording the outcomes of the first broad consensus on urban issues, priority urban interventions, and action plans.
- Introducing spatial analysis as a tool for strategic planning.
- Complementing the documentation of the process undertaken with teaching–learning techniques and tips for local authorities and technical persons involved in the urban development of the city.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

background	6
vision	7
strategies for development	
basic services	10
economic development	12
urban governance	14
environment.....	16
spatial analysis	
structuring elements	20
functional layout and main urban elements	21
services and infrastructure	22
IDPs and returnees	23
potential for development	24
tables	
city consultation	26
urban spatial analysis and strategic planning	27
UN-HABITAT activities in Somaliland	28
UN-HABITAT donors and implementing partners	29

BACKGROUND

Chronology

"Ceel-Gooni" period. 1880

"Burao Gubad" or the burned Burao period. 1900

Present-day Burao is established. 1910

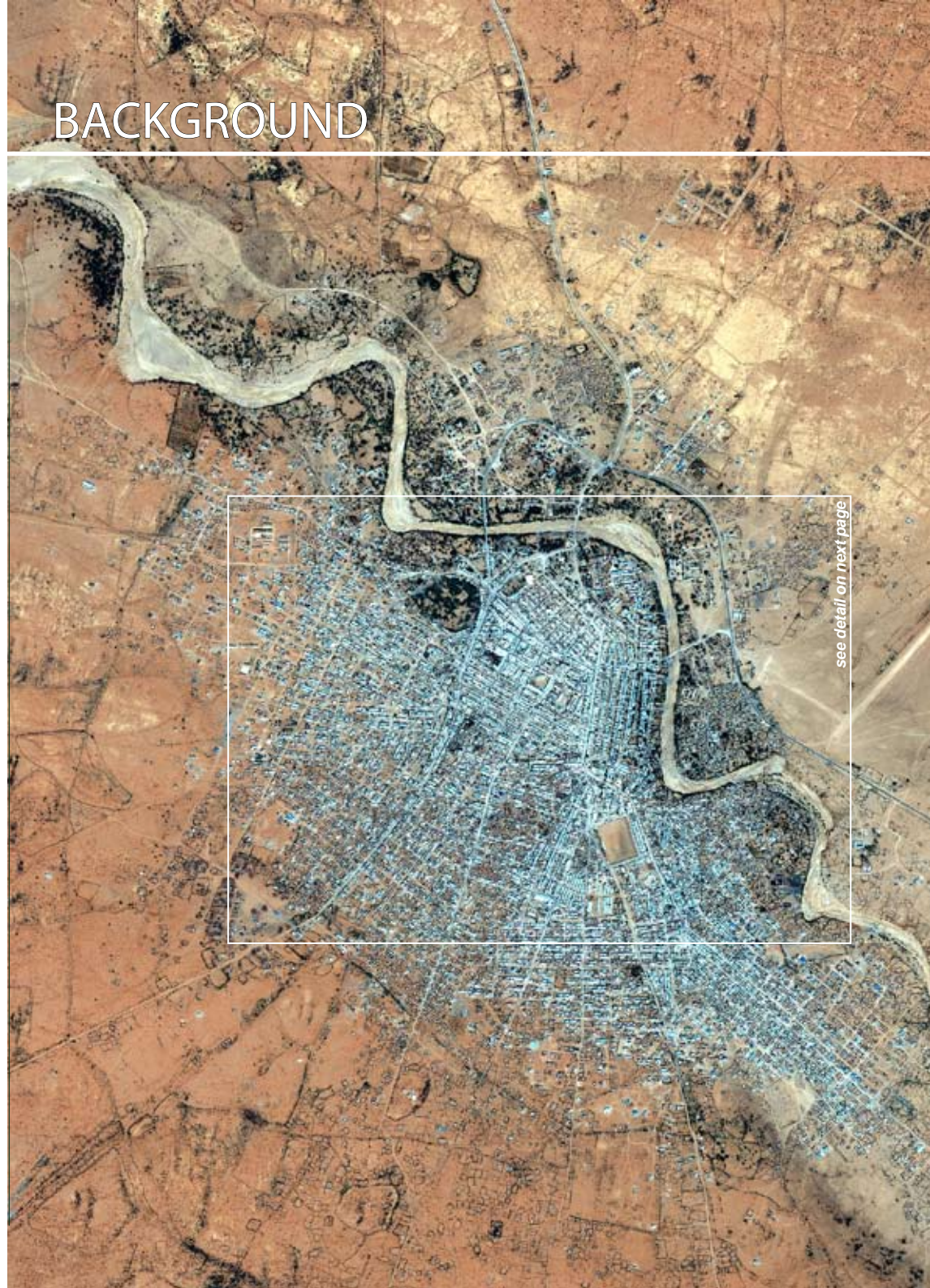
Burao obtains district status and important government offices such as a post office, a police station, and military garrisons are established by the British colonial administration. 1920

Italy and Britain grant independence to their respective Somali protectorates, allowing the two sectors to merge as the unified Republic of Somalia. 1960

Somalia openly backs a rebel movement in the Ogaden desert in an attempt to recapture the area, which was seized by Ethiopia at the turn of the century. Somalia admits defeat after 8 months of war with Ethiopia, having lost much of its 32,000-man army and most of its planes and tanks. 1977

After years of civil conflict, Somaliland declares independence to become the Republic of Somaliland. 1991

Local elections see the birth of a multiparty democracy in Somaliland. 2002



Located on the intermittent Togdheer River, Burao is the second largest town in Somaliland.

population – A census has not been carried out, but the current population is commonly estimated at 150,000. Other estimates go as high as 300,000.

climate – Burao has a hot, semi-arid climate. Annual rainfall is only 200 millimetres, falling in the two wet seasons of April to June and October to November.

topography – The city is situated in the northern part of the Haud plateau, at an elevation of around 1,040 metres above sea level, and gently slopes to the south-east. The intermittent Togdheer River is the main natural element in the city, with the built-up area concentrated on its southern banks.

economy – The city's main economic activities are related to livestock rearing, commerce, and communication services. However, a very high unemployment rate remains a critical problem for the inhabitants of Burao.

land ownership patterns are closely connected to clan subdivisions, translating into distinct ethnic quarters in the east and the west of the city and resulting in limited spatial movement and social contact among the different ethnic groups residing in the urban area.

ethnic tensions are a constant threat to urban stability and at times lead to a volatile and even hostile environment, with violent land disputes; the local government, civil society actors, and elders are then required to mediate disputes.



VISION *for the future*

“Peaceful and attractive city where the rule of law is governing, the economy is growing, and multi-ethnic dialogue is encouraged.

Quality urban services and good recreational and residential areas should make of Burao a high-standard city”*

*the slogan for Burao's development, chosen by the participants of the Burao City Consultation.

strategies for development

building the future

During the Burao City Consultation, the local stakeholders agreed on priority interventions for their city, based on key developmental challenges identified in the city profile. This section offers an overview of the problems that were identified by the stakeholders in relation to five key problem areas: basic services, economic development, urban environment, urban governance, and city strategic planning. For each problem area, this chapter illustrates specific strategic objectives and key actions.

strategies for development

building the future

During the Burao City Consultation, the local stakeholders agreed on priority interventions for their city. For each problem area, specific strategic objectives, strategies, and actions were outlined.



problem

objective

Water scarcity and poor water distribution and quality.

Provide adequate access to safe drinking water to all residents.

High number of mentally ill people and lack of a mental hospital.

Provide care and related services for the mentally ill presently roaming around the city.

Sale of expired drugs to the public.

Safeguard the public from potentially harmful drugs.

Insufficient schools in the city.

Provide equal opportunities for the children and youth of Burao.

basic services basic services basic services basic services basic services basic



basic services

Want to have an idea of...?

The water distribution in Burao [go to page](#) 30

The location of a hospital in your city [go to page](#) 28

The urban services in your city [go to page](#) 30

strategy

key actions

Upgrade and extend the Burao water system.

Establish a water development committee.
 Ensure appropriate implementation and transparent and accountable management of the water system.
 Construct water reservoirs.
 Generate sufficient revenue to upgrade the water system and management of the water agency.
 Train the technical staff working for the water agency.

Continue the collaboration between the community and the local authority to construct a clinic for mental illnesses.

Create a committee which oversees the coordination and planning of the mental clinic project.
 Identify an appropriate site suitable for the construction of the clinic.
 Complete the ongoing fund-raising campaign and establish partnerships with interested agencies.

Form a collaborative forum between the local council and the Ministry of Health.

Establish a committee that can draft a by-law to protect the public from expired drugs.
 Draft, review, and endorse the by-law; monitor the implementation of the by-law.
 Develop awareness-raising campaigns to educate the public about the importance of checking the validity of drugs and consumer items.

Establish collaborative mechanisms among the Ministry of Education, the local authorities, the community, and international agencies to provide adequate education for all.

Conduct neighbourhood surveys to determine the demand for schools in certain areas.
 Identify those schools that need the most urgent interventions.
 Draft a proposal for rehabilitating damaged schools and constructing new schools, and distribute it to the community and interested or relevant international agencies.

strategies for development

building the future

The second priority is the enhancement of local economic opportunities. In a country that imports the bulk of its consumer goods and where a large percentage of families rely on remittances to boost their monthly income, unemployment and economic stagnation are issues to be addressed urgently. Burao has the potential for development, which needs to be further explored and unlocked.



problem

objective

strategy

No open market for clothes vendors.

Improve the quality of business services.

Establish a committee that brings together the various vendors to enable investment in a new market structure.

Non-functional facility for transit animals.

Improve the collection of livestock taxes and improve the quality of the animals being exported.

Invest common resources to provide the missing services in the transit animal facility.

Unemployment and limited vocational skills.

Create jobs.

Strengthen and develop vocational skills through professional training schemes and workshops.

Limited agricultural capacity.

Improve the capacity of farmers to produce agricultural goods.

Strengthen the skills base among farmers and provide the appropriate agricultural equipment for increasing production.

Lack of international and local support for factories.

Attract investment to Burao's industrial area.

Identify individuals and corporations with an interest in investing in Burao's industrial sector and develop economic incentives.



key actions

Identify suitable land for the construction of an upgraded clothes market.
Identify those vendors willing and able to invest in the new market.
Ensure that the local authority and other interested agencies outline how they are able to contribute to the project (e.g. technical and financial assistance, etc.).

Create a joint committee between the municipality and the livestock traders.
Conduct a technical study that highlights the exact requirements for the rehabilitation of the livestock facility.
Identify the investment capabilities of the municipality and livestock traders for the rehabilitation of the facility.
Ensure the regular examination of livestock.

Conduct a survey to determine the available and required vocational skills in Burao.
Conduct a workshop to present the results of the survey to the community and interested local and international agencies.
Revise the curriculum of the existing vocational training schools to better reflect the needs and demands highlighted in the survey.
Create new vocational training schools.

Provide good seeds and proper training to farmers.
Provide the necessary agricultural tools.

Develop a policy (the local council must do this) to meet the interests of investors.
Create a technical committee to study market potential in the region.
Monitor and improve the quality of locally produced goods.
Involve the local business community, the local council, and the chamber of commerce in planning strategies for expanding the market for local goods.

Want to have an idea of...?

The location of Burao's main markets and commercial areas go to page **28**

The location of the livestock market go to page **28**

strategies for development

building the future



problem

objective

Insecurity.

Strengthen urban security.

Poor relationship between the local council and the community.

Improve dialogue between the local council and the community.

Poor general functioning of the municipality.

Provide good quality, effective municipal services.

Poor municipal revenue collection system.

Increase revenues considerably.

Unstructured city development and poor road network.

Create a clean and well-organized city that can respond to the demands of the community.

strategy

Increase the number of police stations.

key actions

Create partnerships among the community, international agencies, and the Ministry of Interior.
Identify sites for at least four new police stations.
Write proposals to UN and international agencies for this type of project.

Collaborate with the business community to establish regular communication forums and information-sharing mechanisms.

Create committees to represent the concerns, priorities, and needs of the different neighbourhoods.
Ensure the local council holds regular meetings with the committees.
Incorporate the problems identified through the committee consultations and workshops as key objectives for urban development.
Accommodate newly defined objectives as financial obligations in the municipal budget.

Reorganize municipal staff and departments to improve their efficiency.

Rehabilitate existing municipal offices and construct new ones; identify the equipment required by the municipal authority.
Build the capacity of the municipal staff and introduce incentives for them.
Complete an analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the municipality in order to highlight problem areas and solutions.

Develop a sound plan for restructuring the revenue collection system.

Conduct a baseline study to assess the drawbacks of the existing revenue collection system, and assess potential new revenue sources.
Identify international agencies that can assist the municipality in developing more effective accounting and revenue collection systems.
Introduce new accounting procedures to improve control mechanisms and prevent corruption.
Reduce tax evasion through raising awareness of the benefits of a functioning revenue collection system.
Develop training schemes for revenue collectors, and improve the capacity of the internal audit unit.

Prepare a city development strategy.

Draft a town plan and supportive legal framework (i.e. focusing on flood response and preparedness through considering the drainage pattern of the town and prohibiting illegal buildings on public land, while highlighting safe areas for IDPs and the urban poor to settle in).
Create a strategic planning unit to guide the city planning (Core Development Team).
Build the capacity of municipal staff and key actors in providing urban services.

strategies for development

building the future

Environmental degradation is one of the most visible problems of the town, and it poses severe health risks to Burao's residents.

problem

Environmental degradation.

objective

Improve sanitation and hygiene and enhance environmental quality.

strategy

Enhance collaboration between the local authority and communities to improve the natural drainage pattern into Togdheer River.
Introduce a more effective garbage disposal system.

Poor condition of the slaughterhouse and meat market.

Upgrade the existing market facilities, create a well-organized market area, and improve the slaughterhouse.

Improve cooperation among the local council, vendors, and other stakeholders.

Lack of greenery and attractive open spaces for recreation.

Create an open and welcoming city and a green urban environment.

Involve communities, local authorities, local and international NGOs, UN agencies, and private investors.

environment environment environment environment environment environment environment



key actions

Establish a hygiene and sanitation committee and a drainage committee.

Identify land for new dump sites.

Develop awareness-raising campaigns.

Prepare a proposal for cleaning the town, submit it to interested agencies, and seek technical assistance from international organizations with expertise in the waste sector.

Prepare and endorse a public-private partnership by-law (the local council must do this) that sets out the conditions under which private companies can become involved in municipal waste management.

Involve the local council, key local stakeholders, and international agencies in the planning and implementation of the rehabilitation.

Establish committees for the market rehabilitation, ensuring the proper implementation of the project and good management of the new facilities.

Identify land for a new slaughterhouse and meat market.

Raise funds and mobilize resources for the market rehabilitation, and have an open tender for the selection of a suitable contractor.

Relocate the vendors, monitor the construction, and establish a vendors' management committee.

Plant flowers and trees in the town and create open green spaces.

spatial analysis

putting actions in place(s)

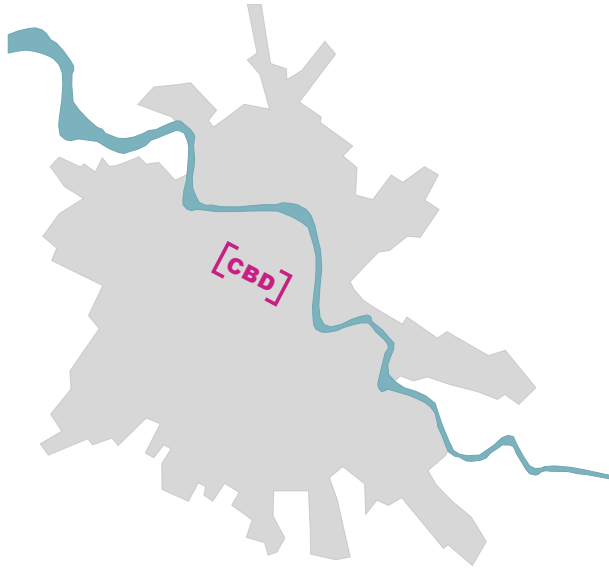
The purpose of the spatial framework section of this publication is to introduce spatial analysis as a tool for strategic planning.

A basic spatial understanding of the city and its main characteristics and dynamics can enable local and international urban development stakeholders to plan and position their interventions according to an overall development strategy and thus maximize the results of their investments, to the benefit of the whole city.

SPATIAL ANALYSIS

structuring elements

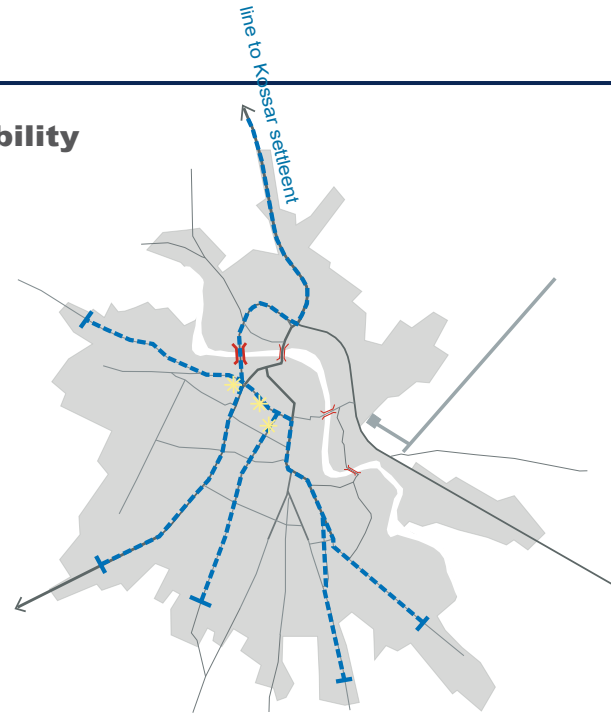
the river and the CBD



Togdheer River is the main structuring element of the city. The city fabric has developed mainly south of the river. The northern side predominantly hosts government offices, public institutions, and the military zone, which is currently largely occupied by IDP and returnee settlements.

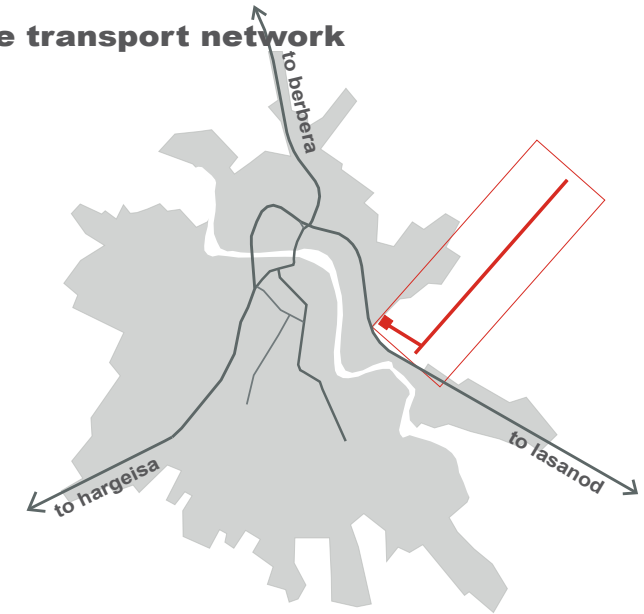
The central business district (CBD) of the city, located in the centre of the town at the main bend of the river between the two major road axes, faces severe congestion problems caused by trucks and minibuses.

mobility



The majority of Burao's pedestrian movement is concentrated between the centre and the south of the city. The river is crossed via the city's main bridge, as well as informal crossings at various points. Private sector companies have constructed a second bridge, located on the eastern side of Burao.

the transport network



Burao is situated along the main axis connecting the vast inland region with the major seaport of Berbera. A short road connects the city with the capital Hargeisa in the south, but transport is currently limited due to the poor condition of the road.

The city is served by an airstrip. However, because new informal developments are encroaching on the runway, it is currently dysfunctional.

tip

what are structuring elements?

Structuring elements are outstanding and recognizable elements around which the space and the activities of the city are organized. Identifying and mapping these elements is crucial to developing a comprehensive understanding of the city. No intervention can be planned without considering the impact and interference of the structuring elements on the project.

example

Road repair: mapping the structuring elements (such as the central business district, markets, river crossings, etc.) is necessary to correctly prioritize interventions and receive benefits at a minimum cost.

SPATIAL ANALYSIS

functional layout and main urban elements

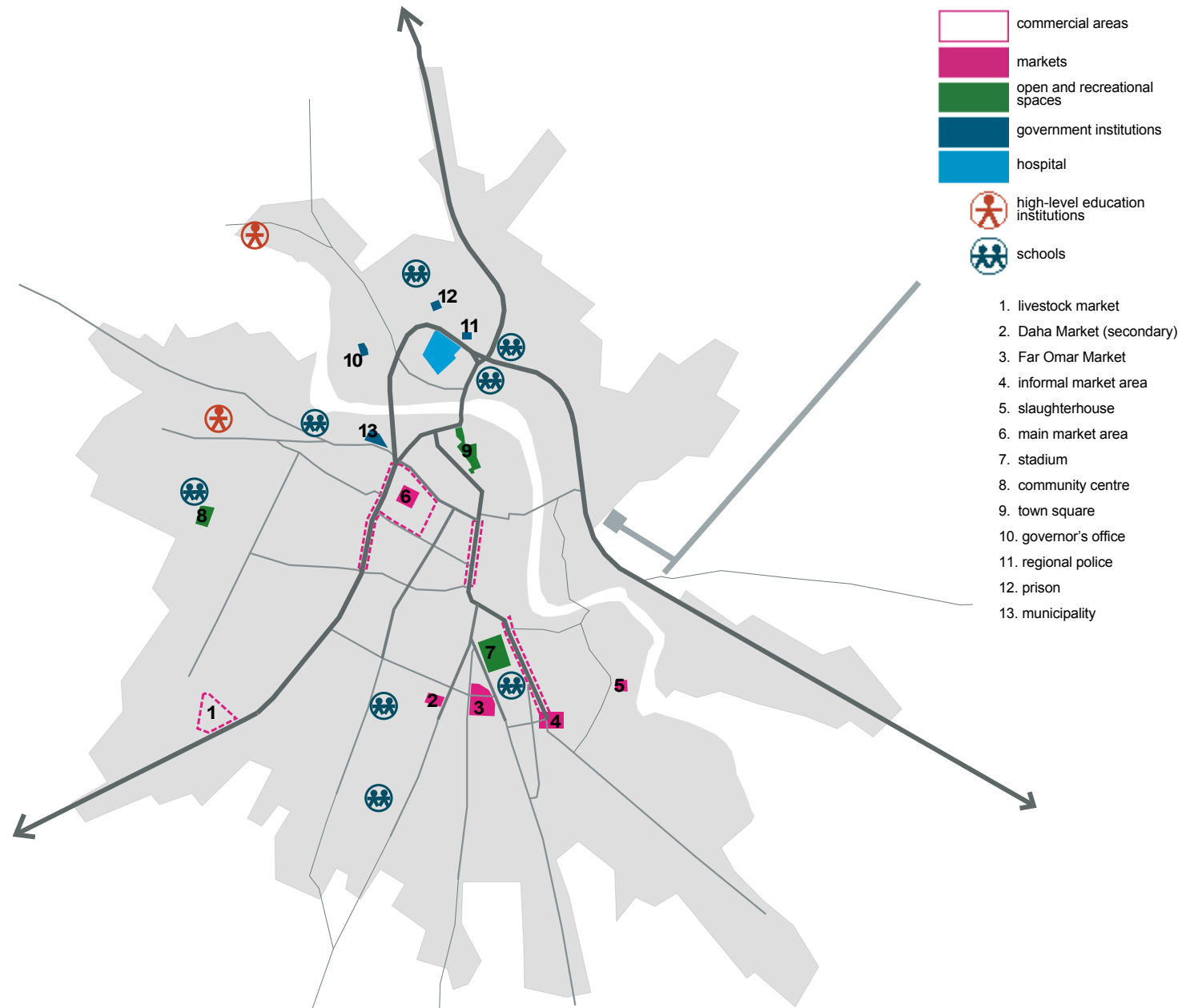
commercial activities

The main market of the city is located in the CBD, but trading activities stretch along the main city axes and expand towards the south. Far Omar Market and the livestock market are situated in the southern part of the city.

The industrial capacity of Burao is generally low and the industrial areas suffer from underdevelopment. However, it is possible to detect the development of some processing plants along the side of the road leading to Las Anod, as well as a recently established slaughterhouse and meat processing plant in the south-west of the city, past the livestock market.

open and recreational spaces

The main stadium is the only formal sports facility in the city. A recently established community centre is located on the eastern periphery, somewhat isolated from existing residential areas. The town square in the old city centre is a good location for public gatherings and public speeches. However, given the abandoned structures around it and its limited structuring elements, the place is not inviting to the public. Urban planning should take account of the old city centre as a focal point for public gatherings and aim to rehabilitate the entire neighbourhood and the old bridge.

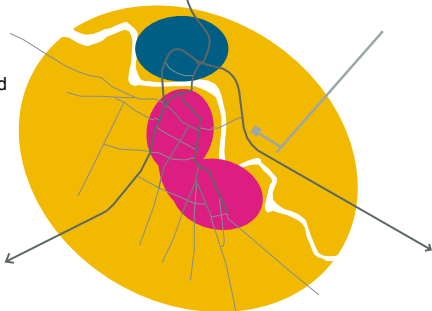


tip

how does a functional layout help?

In every city, different activities are interwoven in the urban space. The tensions generated by this mix can create great potential for economic development, cultural exchange, and social cohesion, but may also generate conflict. Functional layout analysis prepares the ground for fruitful, strategic economic and social interventions.

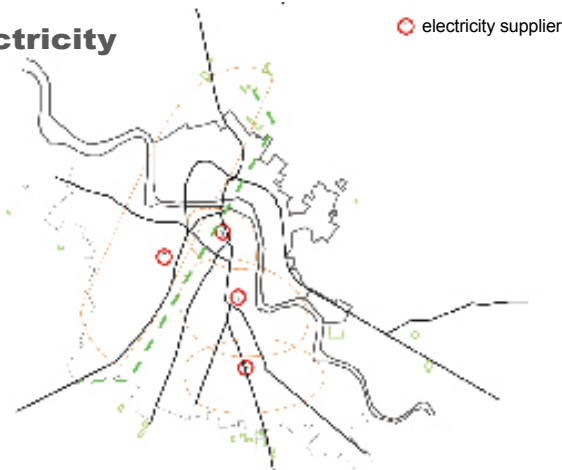
- mainly residential
- government institutions
- commercial (mixed with residential)



spatial framework

services and infrastructure

electricity



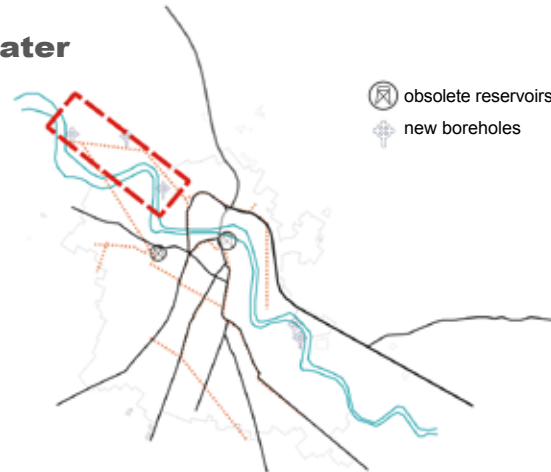
Electricity is currently supplied entirely by two private suppliers; there is no public provider. This has led to varying electricity charges and chaotic wiring in the city.

waste



Burao's waste management is generally poor. Although the municipality is equipped with six garbage collection trucks, the majority of the city's waste ends up in the flood plain or on vacant land. The careless dumping of waste along the outlets south of the city is highly deplorable and decisive action must be taken by the local authorities to raise awareness and improve the treatment of waste.

water



Most of Burao's boreholes are concentrated in the north-west of the city, with two boreholes under the responsibility of the Ministry of Water. Two additional boreholes, located in the south-east of the city, are not connected to the city's main water distribution pipeline, but serve the displaced and nomadic communities, as well as livestock herds accommodated on the periphery of Burao. In addition to the official and controlled boreholes, a number of private wells are currently operating without legal permission, leading to major quality and cost control concerns for the local authorities. The problems of quality control are further aggravated by the practice of accessing water through informal pits and shallow wells, which are highly susceptible to water contamination.

There is a felt need to upgrade the water provision system with new boreholes and storage tanks, especially because the two original tanks were destroyed during the war. A study has been undertaken in this regard.

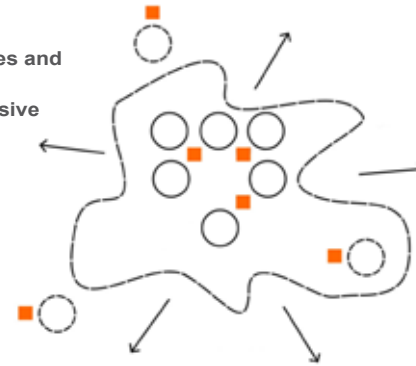
TWO URBAN DEVELOPMENT MODELS COMPARED

1 – dispersed city

- increased cost of services and infrastructure.
- more difficult and expensive administration.
- encouraged social and economic segregation.

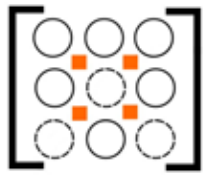
legend:

- consolidated settlements
- new settlements
- services



2 – compact city

- shared facilities and services.
- easier and cost-effective administration.
- integration of communities.
- enhancement of local economic development opportunities.



THIS IS THE URBAN DEVELOPMENT MODEL SUGGESTED FOR BURAO!

physical separation = social segregation

integration = social symbiosis



- what we build is an expression of cultural and social values.
- isolating the poor means projecting the idea of rejecting the poor.
- building cities = building communities.
- integration of communities reduces social segregation and isolation.
- consolidation = increased opportunities for social support systems to flourish.

IDPs and returnees often have no option but to live in the most disadvantaged areas of town – which lack services and infrastructures – or occupy hazardous areas such as flood plains, gullies, and lowlands.

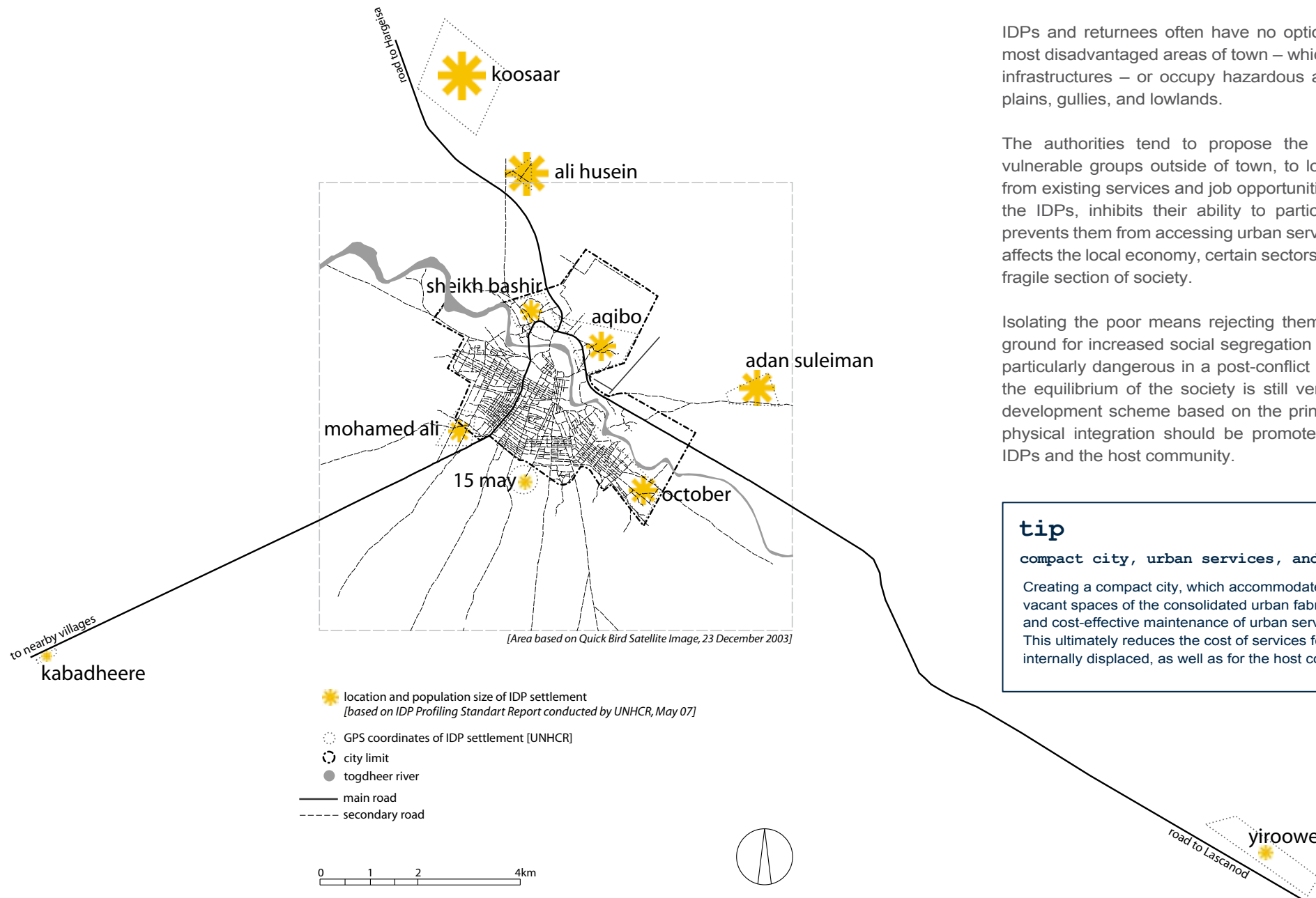
The authorities tend to propose the relocation of such vulnerable groups outside of town, to locations that are far from existing services and job opportunities. This segregates the IDPs, inhibits their ability to participate in urban life, prevents them from accessing urban services, and negatively affects the local economy, certain sectors of which rely on this fragile section of society.

Isolating the poor means rejecting them and preparing the ground for increased social segregation and tension. This is particularly dangerous in a post-conflict environment, where the equilibrium of the society is still very fragile. An urban development scheme based on the principles of social and physical integration should be promoted, to the benefit of IDPs and the host community.

tip

compact city, urban services, and urban poor

Creating a compact city, which accommodates new expansions in the vacant spaces of the consolidated urban fabric, allows for the efficient and cost-effective maintenance of urban services and infrastructure. This ultimately reduces the cost of services for the urban poor and internally displaced, as well as for the host community.



potential for development

PROPOSED STRATEGIC INTERVENTIONS

RIVERSIDE DEVELOPMENTS

- 1** **riverside development:** productive gardens and farmland
- 2** **riverside development:** rehabilitation and upgrading of open and public spaces
- 3** **riverside development:** measures against soil erosion
- 4** **riverside development:** large-scale recreational spaces

The riverside offers a number of problems and potentials to be addressed.

1. **The productivity of vegetable gardens and farmlands** could be enhanced through targeted interventions: irrigation, extension of productive land, improved access to the city and to the markets, introduction of new approaches to culture, diversification of products, etc.

2. **The open and public spaces** occupying the centre of the city could be rehabilitated and upgraded. Beautification and greening interventions could be coupled with an improved design of the spaces, ensuring the maximum exploitation of business and recreational opportunities. Child-friendly recreational spaces could be created, and areas could be provided for the youth to meet and engage in sports. Footpaths and accessibility to the institutions present in the area could be introduced.

3. **Erosion and burgeoning informal developments along the riverbanks** must be controlled. The accumulation of informal structures – built on riverbanks and vulnerable to erosion – characterizes this area. Without strong planning efforts, this area will pose a serious development risk for Burao. Erosion control measures should be put in place, and the riverbanks should be protected.

4. This area offers good opportunities for the development of **large-scale recreational spaces** for youth and adults and for the introduction of sport facilities in the city. Private sector-driven development could be combined with municipal interventions and a careful balance between middle-to-high income housing development and public spaces could be established.

SETTLEMENT UPGRADING



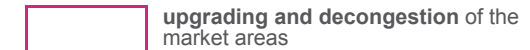
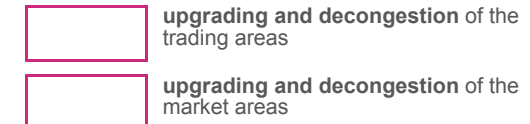
Burao hosts a number of unserviced low-income settlements, which are inhabited by IDPs, returnees, and the urban poor. Specific interventions are needed that upgrade the shelters and basic services and improve the living and hygienic conditions of the areas.

CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT



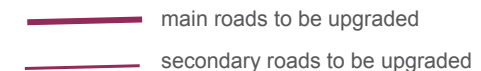
Densely built fabric and heavy traffic make the city centre a congested place. Better accessibility to major urban elements and improved regulation of the traffic to avoid the encroachment of various elements on parking areas, loading spaces, and open and recreational areas should be addressed.

TRADING AREAS



Formal and informal market areas should be reorganized, upgraded, and extended to improve the working and hygienic conditions of these areas and enhance livelihood opportunities for the local population. Options could be explored to integrate socially and physically vulnerable groups into the city economy.

MOBILITY

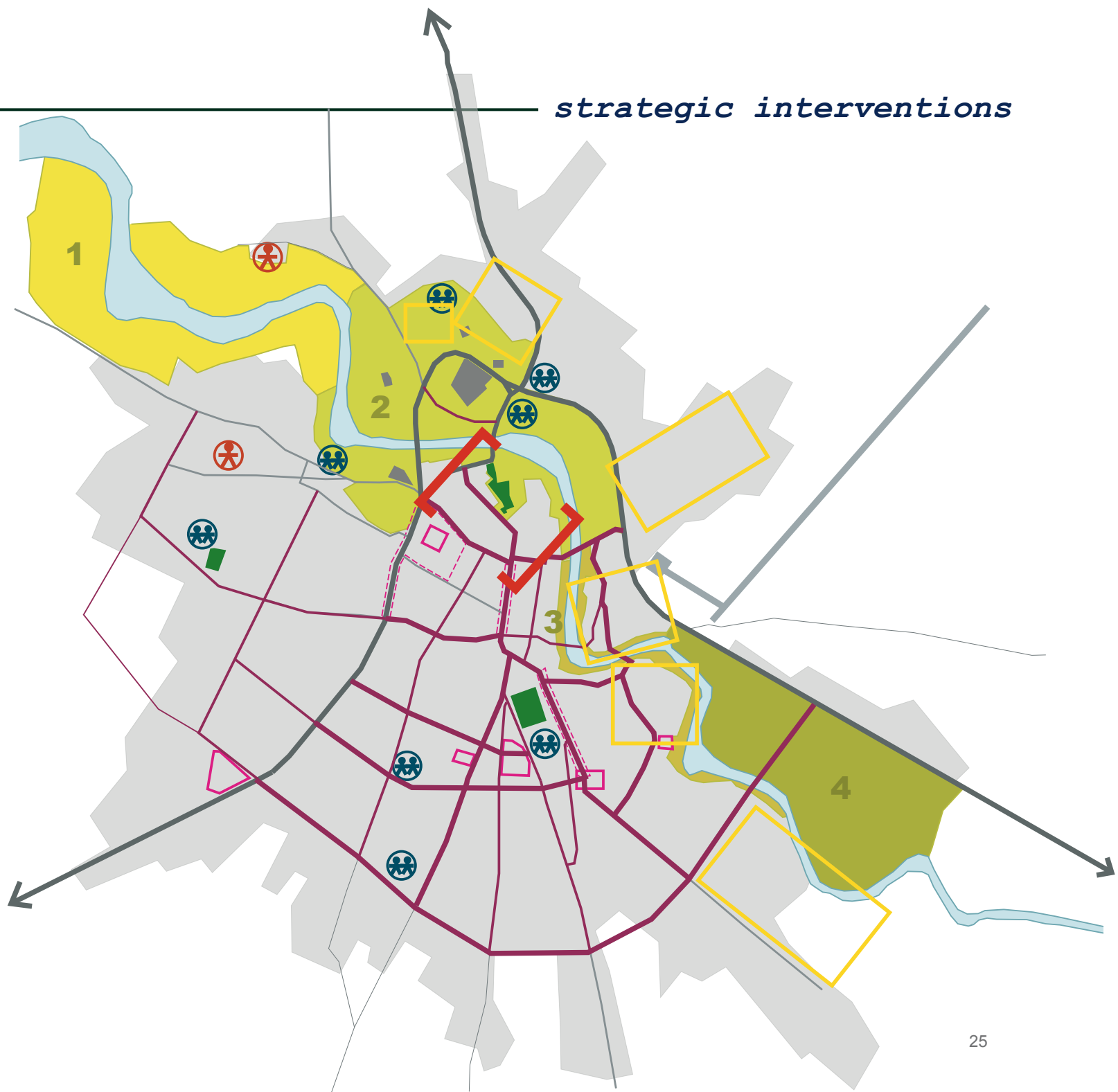


Mobility in the city is currently limited by the few existent transverse axes and river crossings. Additional transverse axes and river crossings could be provided, while existing main and secondary roads should be upgraded.

strategic interventions

LEGEND:

- 1** riverside development: productive gardens and farmland
- 2** riverside development: rehabilitation and upgrading of open and public spaces
- 3** riverside development: measures against soil erosion
- 4** riverside development: large-scale recreational spaces
- settlement upgrading
- upgrading and decongestion of the central business district
- upgrading and decongestion of the trading areas
- upgrading and decongestion of the market areas
- institutional buildings
- open and recreational areas
- main roads to be upgraded
- secondary roads to be upgraded



CITY CONSULTATION

A city consultation brings together all urban development actors in an urban centre to discuss, share points of view on, deepen their understanding of, explore solutions for, and build consensus on issues of common interest.

Key principles of a city consultation:

- **Inclusiveness** – To build a solid base for future cooperation, it is important to involve all key stakeholders, including marginalized groups and representatives of opposing political parties, factions, or clans. Everyone must have the opportunity to express his or her point of view.
- **Continuous process** – A city consultation is not an outcome in itself or a point of arrival, but it is the start of a process for further action and cooperation. To create a solid base for future steps, clear agreements should be reached on the main issues discussed. The way forward should be understood by all, and clear action points should be defined.
- **Conflict resolution** – An understanding of different perspectives and interests is the basis for finding common ground for action. All parties should share knowledge, expertise, and resources and be willing to compromise and work together on mutually acceptable solutions.
- **Gender balance** – Women and men should both be called upon to express their points of view on an equal-to-equal basis. Women and youth groups should be represented.

In the Somali context, where local institutions have limited coercive power and legal frameworks are not fully developed, it is particularly important to reach a broad consensus among all urban development actors on issues of common interest. A city consultation is a fundamental step towards realistic and sustainable city planning.

BURAO CITY CONSULTATION

The Burao City Consultation was attended by a broad spectrum of local development actors, including representatives of the local and central government, NGOs, the private sector, and the community.

The objective of the event was to increase community participation in urban life, build consensus on the priority needs for city development, and agree on appropriate strategies to solve the most urgent problems. The Planning Strategies section of this publication explains the outcomes of this process. A common vision for the future of Burao was agreed upon among the participants.



URBAN SPATIAL ANALYSIS

Urban spatial analysis is a tool for understanding the dynamics, problems, and development opportunities of a city through its physical form.

objectives:

- representing with maps and drawings the basic urban elements of the city: roads, services, infrastructure, major natural elements, traffic flow, main directions of urban expansion, key productive and commercial areas, public facilities, etc.
- identifying and mapping the most vulnerable and problematic areas of the city by putting data into a spatial perspective.
- providing to all urban development stakeholders a simple technical base for discussion to sustain the urban strategic planning process.
- proposing an example of how the spatial analysis, combined with participatory planning, could be translated into specific projects that are integrated into a broader city development plan.
- providing authorities, local and international agencies, and other public and private development actors with a flexible and simple tool to help direct investments and interventions.

methodology:

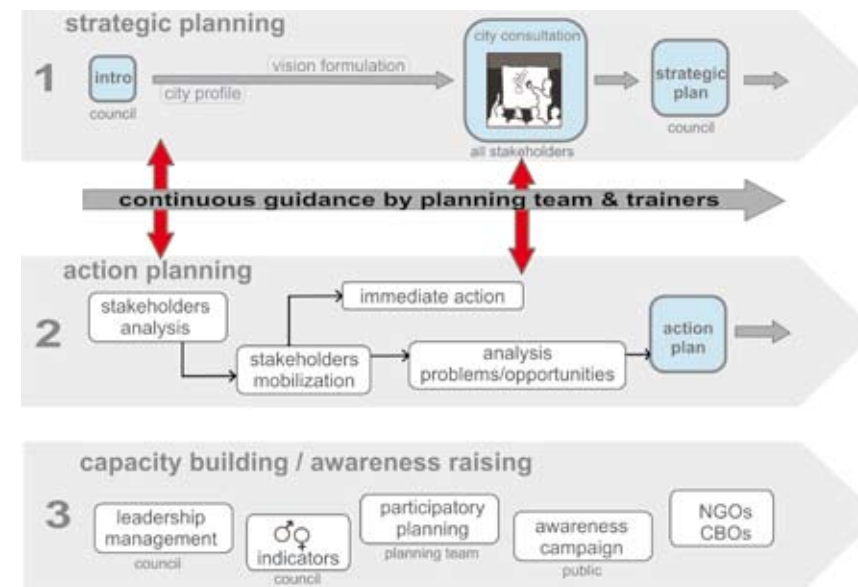
The information presented in the urban spatial analysis is based on:

- interviews with key municipal staff, officials from public institutions, and other key informers.
- preliminary site visits, with the support of the relevant informers.
- the preparation of preliminary maps, to be further detailed.
- a desk study of available documents.
- the collection of additional visual material (photos, graphics, etc.).
- additional site visits and surveys of the city.
- the finalization of the maps, to include all information collected.

The information collected through the urban spatial analysis of the city of Burao is presented on pages 19–25.

URBAN AND SPATIAL STRATEGIC ANALYSIS PLANNING

The graphic below illustrates the strategic planning process. Initiated through the capacity-building and awareness-raising component of the UN-HABITAT Good Local Governance and Leadership Training Programme, the process was later sustained with the urban spatial analysis and action plans.



As shown in the graphic, Rapid Urban Spatial Analysis is just one of the first steps of the planning process.

Planning is a continuous engagement with the needs and demands of an urban environment, complemented with capacity building, awareness raising, and continuous participative discussion among all stakeholders concerned.

To allow for the successful implementation of planning decisions, sustainable monitoring mechanisms have to be developed to prevent negative outcomes and overcome bottlenecks.

UN-HABITAT ACTIVITIES IN SOMALILAND

UN-HABITAT has been very active in Somaliland since 1996 and the main focus of its activities has been in the following fields:

- capacity building of public institutions
- governance (local leadership training)
- provision and management of basic services (in particular water supply and solid waste)
- urban planning
- land management, mapping, and development of urban land information systems
- municipal finance, asset management, and revenue collection
- assistance in the formulation of appropriate urban legislation
- assistance to IDPs and returnees, in particular site review and planning, shelter provision, and secure tenure

Following are the main programmes and activities implemented by UN-HABITAT in recent years. For more information: www.unhabitat.org/sudp

1. Urban Development Programme for the Somali Region (SUDP) *(see more detail on the next page)*

Activities: (1) **legal and institutional reforms** – assessment of land tenure options for IDPs and returnees, analysis of the land legal framework; (2) **municipal governance** – organization of urban forums, support to the Association of Mayors; (3) **strategic urban planning and development control** – development of resettlement plans for displaced population in major towns, capacity building for local authorities, development of town plans; (4) **urban land management** – setting up property taxation in Hargeisa, land information surveys in Boroma, setting up GIS and land management units in Hargeisa and Boroma municipalities, production of base maps and thematic maps for major towns; (5) **municipal finance** – training for municipal staff, assessment of municipal finance software options; (6) **basic urban service delivery** – assessment of solid waste systems, support to local authorities to set up improved solid waste management systems, technical and practical support to municipalities to set up waste collection systems; (7) **local economic development** – economic profiling of four towns, support to authorities to set up public-private partnerships, labour-intensive employment generation projects; and (8) **local projects** – rehabilitation of a market in Boroma, construction of two markets in Burao, rehabilitation of several markets in Hargeisa, construction of a slaughterhouse in Gebiley.

2. Emergency Assistance for IDPs and Returnees – Activities: (1) construction of 173 houses for IDPs and returnees in Hargeisa through a self-help methodology; (2) voluntary relocation of returnees and IDPs; (3) provision of security of tenure; (4) training of returnees and IDPs in the labour-intensive production of local construction materials and construction skills; (5) provision of job opportunities; and (6) developing community settlement governance and management techniques.

3. Support to Improved Service Delivery in Somali Cities (SISDISC) – Activities: (1) solid waste management projects in Hargeisa, Boroma, Gabiley, and Sheikh; (2) provision of technical, economic, and legal guidance to municipalities and representatives of the local consortia to strengthen their capacity and create a common understanding of sustainable and integrated solid waste management; and (3) training on appropriate technical solutions for local institutions and businesses to promote pro-poor public-private partnerships and income-generating activities in the waste sector.

4. Support to Priority Areas in the Urban Sector Programme (SPAUS) – Activities: (1) preparation of municipal finance training material; (2) municipal finance training; (3) rehabilitation of Hargeisa and Boroma municipal buildings and the governor's office in Hargeisa; (4) extension of the Ministry of Interior building in Hargeisa; (5) assistance in developing the Hargeisa City Charter and urban laws; (6) production of multi-purpose base maps of a few cities; and (7) rapid spatial urban analysis for main towns.

5. Good Local Governance and Leadership Training Programme (GLTP) – Activities: (1) training material on good local governance; (2) training on leadership management skills, gender, and action planning; (3) awareness campaigns on good local governance; (4) implementation of priority projects in Hargeisa, Boroma, Gebiley, Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, Erigavo, and Odweyne.

6. The Somalia Urban Sector Profile Study (USP) – An analysis of how to fill the gap between the EC's Country Support Strategy and individual urban project interventions, providing an instrument for policy dialogue and a basis for determining interventions.

7. Berbera Technical and Institutional Assistance Project (TIAP) – Activities: (1) rehabilitation of the Berbera municipal building, relocation of a market, and creation of a waste dump site; (2) municipal institutions development; (3) municipal revenue, financial management, and income generation investments; (4) town planning and land management; and (5) sanitation and waste management.

8. Burao Water Supply Project – Activities: (1) expansion and management of the Burao water system; (2) comprehensive hydro-geological study, borehole drilling, and increase of water availability; (3) improvement of the Burao Water Agency's management through capacity building in accounting, financial management, budgeting procedures, and revenue collection techniques; (4) staff technical training; (5) awareness on water supply issues; and (6) normative support to central and local authorities.

THE URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR THE SOMALI REGION: ITS DONORS AND IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

The Urban Development Programme for the Somali Region is an umbrella programme for all urban interventions in the Somali region. UN-HABITAT is the lead agency, and its partners are the Italian NGO Consortium UNA, the International Labour Organization, Oxfam-Novib, UNICEF, the Danish Refugee Council, UNHCR, and a number of local NGOs. The programme is funded by the European Commission and UNDP, and co-funded by the Government of Italy, the Government of Japan, UNICEF, the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom, UNHCR, and the Humanitarian Response Fund. The programme receives support from WFP through food-for-work schemes.

SUDP activities encompass: urban governance, legal and institutional reform, donor coordination, urban management, land management, municipal finance, basic services and urban infrastructure (markets, slaughterhouses, roads, and municipal building rehabilitation), local economic development, urban planning support, shelter provision for displaced populations and the urban poor, slum upgrading, and solid waste management.

European Commission	The EC is the main donor of the SUDP and supported several other UN-HABITAT interventions in the Somali region. The commission provides funding as well as technical and strategic guidance to programme design and implementation.
UNDP	UNDP's involvement in SUDP is part of its Governance and Financial Services Programme, under which long-term cooperation with UN-HABITAT exists. UNDP is the key coordinating agency for interventions in the region, and its partnership with UN-HABITAT extends to a wide range of programmes, most prominently the Joint Programme for Local Governance and Service Delivery.
Government of Italy	The support of the Government of Italy has been consistent throughout UN-HABITAT's presence in the Somali region. It funds part of SUDP's core activities and service delivery programmes and is involved in the elaboration of the new Joint Programmes.
Government of Japan	The Government of Japan funds the Emergency Assistance for the Resettlement of Returnees and Internally Displaced People programme in Hargeisa.
DFID	Through its Department for International Development, the Government of the United Kingdom funds a number of governance-related aspects of SUDP and the new Joint Programmes. DIFD support also extends to activities related to the Community-Driven Development and Reconstruction Programme.
UNICEF	The UN Children's Fund partners with UN-HABITAT in the implementation of several activities, such as the Joint Programme for Local Governance and Service Delivery, and the Community-Driven Development and Reconstruction Programme. It also collaborates in strengthening the role of youth in local governance.
UNA	The Italian NGO consortium UNA represents three Italian universities and a number of international NGOs. UNA takes the lead in the urban services component, which includes solid waste management and sanitation activities.
International Labour Organization	ILO is responsible for the local economic development component of the SUDP and partners with UN-HABITAT in a number of other programmes, such as the Joint Programme for Local Governance and Service Delivery and the IDP resettlement interventions.
Oxfam-Novib	Under the SUDP, Oxfam-Novib expanded its capacity-building activities for local NGOs and community-based organizations.
World Food Programme	WFP supports UN-HABITAT shelter activities by providing food-for-work at the construction sites of the shelter projects.
UNHCR	UNHCR is a key UN-HABITAT partner for the implementation of land-, shelter-, and IDP-related activities. UNHCR funds some IDP settlement upgrading components and supports joint research on land-related issues; in addition, UNHCR and UN-HABITAT are co-chairs of the Somali Shelter Cluster.
Swedish Agency for International Development	SIDA financially supports UN-HABITAT for the implementation of shelter activities for IDPs and the urban poor in south central Somalia.
Danish Refugee Council	DRC is one of the UN-HABITAT implementing partners, particularly concerning community development and IDP-related issues.
Norwegian Refugee Council	NRC partners with UN-HABITAT in the implementation of shelter activities for IDPs and other vulnerable communities.
Centre for Research and Dialogue, PIDAM, Civil Service Institute	The Centre for Research and Dialogue, PIDAM, and the Civil Service Institute are local partners supporting UN-HABITAT in various activities related to governance and management.

Donors and Partners



Contacts

UN-HABITAT Regional Office for Africa and the Arab States
Alioune Badiane, Director
alioune.badiane@unhabitat.org, tel: +254 20 762 3075

UN-HABITAT for the Somali Region
Dorothee von Brentano, O-i-C / Chief Technical Advisor
sudp@unhabitat.org, tel: +254 20 762 5030

UN-HABITAT Hargeisa
un-habitat.hargeisa@unhabitat.org, tel: +252 252 8695