# **BAIDOA** URBAN PROFILE

Working Paper and Spatial Analyses for Urban Planning Consultations and Durable Solutions for Displacement Crises



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Cover: IDP settlements near Baidoa Airport © Lisette Albrechtsen.

Baidoa Urban Profile Working Paper and Spatial Analyses for Urban Planning Consultations and Durable Solutions for Displacement Crises - November 2017

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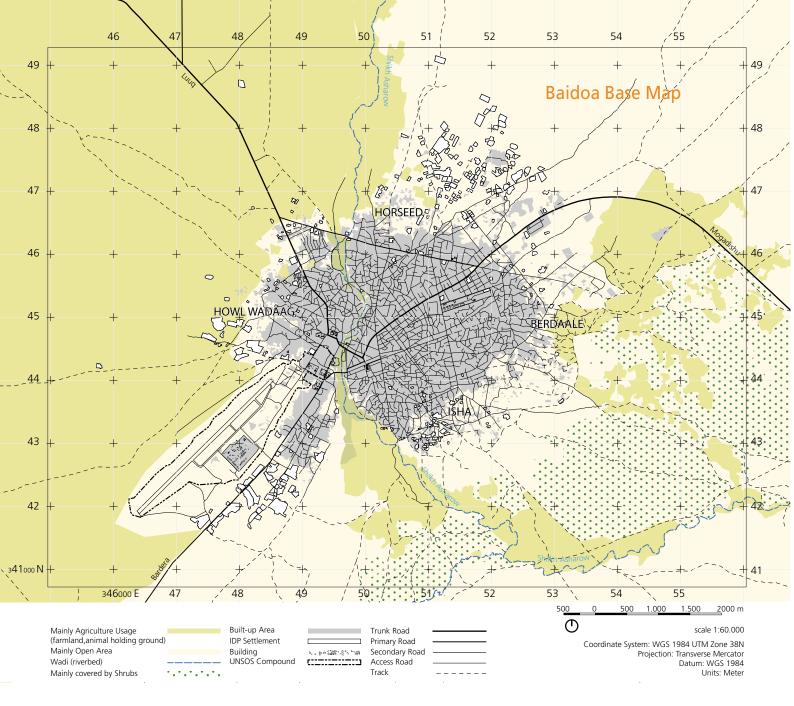


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## 1. INTRODUCTION



The purpose of the working paper is to prepare a rapid urban planning exercise for elaborating on solutions for long term urban development and current displacement crisis.

Reference is being made to other studies and data updates undertaken by UN agencies and other international stakeholders, for example REACH Initiative, which capture in detail the situation of IDPs and returnees in Baidoa.

This working paper summarizes major aspects of an urban analysis (profile) from the spatial prospective. That includes considerations of the development potentials and constraints with a time horizon of five to ten years.

Taking into consideration that developments in Baidoa can change quite quickly and depend on the overall economic, social and environmental trends in Somalia, the paper tries to capture the main settlement topics and link them to the demands of the various communities living in town (including returnees, IDPs and host community).

Based on the recent Community Consultations in Baidoa's urban villages, and reflecting on local, state and national strategy papers and plans (National Development Plan) the paper outlines proposals to combine planned city extensions and transformations with the integration and upgrading of the many IPD settlements in a way that all residents benefit from the improved living conditions, better access to urban services and job opportunities.

It is hoped that this working paper contributes to the necessary public discussion on Baidoa's future development and facilitates decision making by state and local authorities, including the new Baidoa District Council, in the interest of all. The steps and the concept for city consultations are explained in the final chapter.

This process is supported and funded under the Midnimo Programme jointly implemented by International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and the United Nation Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). The Midnimo (Unity) Project's has been developed to support the Attainment of Durable Solutions in Areas Impacted by Displacement and Returns in Jubaland and South West States. It stems from a newly established UN Peacebuilding Programme and aligns itself with broader peacebuilding and stabilization objectives championed by the Ministry of Internal and Federal Affairs and Regional Authorities in Jubbaland and South West States.

The project is anchored on the following government frameworks:

- Wadajir Framework
- National Development Plan Somalia 2017-2019
- Peace Building Priority Plan
- South West State Drought Response Plan
- SWS Strategic Plan
- Durable Solutions Initiative

This programme is intended to enhance local leadership capacities to facilitate the sustainable return, recovery, social integration and peaceful co-existence of displacement affected, returnees, other migrant groups and host communities.

It looks at solutions to enable some of the displaced people to return back to their villages, but also takes into account the creation of new homes in a safer environment with new opportunities to return to a normal life with jobs, education for the kids and health facilities for all.

In doing so, the project contributes in a new way to accompany the ever increasing number of IDP the rapid growing cities of Somalia with a view to also serve the hosting communities.



Hadafka uu buugani laga leeyahay ayaa ah in ladiyaariyo qorshe magaalo oo deg deg ah si loo helo sharaxaad kusaabsan xalka mudada fog ee kobca baldka iyo midka dhow ee ah mushaakilka haatan kataagan barakaca.

Waxaa tixraac lagu sameeyey daraasaad iyo macluumaadyo ay horey u qabteen Hay'adaha qarmada midoobey, qaar kale oo arintani khuseyso tusaale ahaan sida hindisaha "REACH" oo ka haya faafaahin xaalada kuwa gudaha dalka kusoo barakacay iyo kuwa kusoo laabtey Magaalda Baydhabo.

Hagistan shaqo ayaa soo koobeysa astaamaha ugu muhiimsan ee falangeynta (sooyaalka)magaalada iyo muuqaalka uu ahaan karo. Waxaana kamid ah in ladardargeliyo ifafaalooyinka koriimo ee iyo culeysyada jira rajada danbe ee waqtiga shan ilaa tobansano.

lyadoo ahmiyad gaar ah lasiinaayo kobca magaalo ee Baydhabo uu si dhakhsa leh isu badalaayo iyadoona lagama maarmaan utahay isbadalka guud ee dhaqaale, bulsho, iyo deegaan ee kajira Soomaaliya, nugulkan ayaa wata qaybaha ugu ahmiyada leh ee deegaanada oo weliba kusii xiraya baahiyaha bulshooyinka kala duwan eek u dhaqan magaalada oo ay kamid yihiin, kuwa kasoo laabtey dibada, barakacyaasha, iyo kuwii horey usii daganaa.

lyadoo laga tusaale qaadanaayo wadatashiyadii xeer bulsho ee dhawaantan lagu qabtay xaafadaha magaalada baydhabo, oo laguna iftiimiyey qorshayaasha habraacyada xeer deegaan, maamul gobaleed, iyo heer qaranba(Qorshaha Horumarinta ee heer Qaran) warqadan ayaa waxaa kujira qorshayaal ladoonaayo in lagu fidiyo cabdirka magaalada waxna looga badalo bilicdeeda iyadoo dib la iskugu keenaayo lana hagaajinaayo goobaha ay barakacayaasha ay deganyihiin si dhamaan dadka kudhaqan ay uga faa'iideystaan xaalada nolaleed ee soo hagaagta, wadooyiin fiican oo ay ku gaari karaan adeegyada asaasiga u ah nolasha biniaadamka, iyo fursadaha shaqo ee yimaada.

Waaxaa lafilayaa in habraacan shaqo kusoo krodhin doono waxyaabo lagama maarmaan u noqoqon kara iney dadweynuhu kawada hadlaan kobca mustaqbalka magaalada Baydhabo iyadoo ay u sahleyso go'aan qaadashada mas'uuliyiinta heer maamul gobaleed iyo mid deegaan oo ay kujiraan golaha deegaanka cusub ee degmada Baydhabo yeelan doonto oo dhamaan dan u ah. Talaabooyinka iyo aragtiyadii laga dhaxley wadatashiyadii heer magaalo ayaa ku cad qaybta danbe.

Hawashan/geedi socodkan shaqo ayaa waxaa si wadajir ah u hirgelinayaa Hay'ada caalamiga ah ee arimaha muhaajiriinta ee lasoo gaabiyo (IOM) iyo Hay'ada qaramada midoobey u gaabilsan barnaamijka deegaameynta bini'aadamka (UN-Habitat). Mashruucan midnimo ayaa waxaa loo dejijey in lagu taageero deegaanada iyo maamul gobaleedyada Jubalanad iyo Koonfur Galbeed inay gaaraan xal waara maadaama ay si wayn u saameysey barakaca iyo kusoo laabashada qaxootiga banaanka kayimaada.

Waxayna salka ku haysaa barnaamijka nabadeynta oo ay dhawaan diyaarisay qaramada midoobey oo la waafajinaayo gudhiisa ulajeedooyinka balaaran ee xasilinta iyo nabadeynta oo ay u olaleynayaan wasaarada arimaha gudaha ee heer dhexe iyo wasaaradha arimaha gudaha ee heer maamul gobaleedyo ee kajira Jubaland iyo Koonfur Galbeed.

Mashruucan ayaa iskugu jira hab hab qaabeedkan ay dowladu ay u qaabeysay in laraaco

Hab-raaca wadajir

Qorshaha horumarinta heer qaran ee Soomaaliya 20172019

Qorshaha mudnaanta nabadeynta

• Qorshaha qurmadka abaarta ee maamulka koonfur galbeed

- Qorshaha hab raaca maamulka koonfur galbeed
- Hindisaha xalka waara

Barnaamijkan ayaa waxaa looga dan leeyahay in kor loogu qaado muga iyo awooda maamulka deegaanka lana sahlo soo laabasho sii jiri doonta, kasoo kabasho, wadajirta bulsho iyo nabad kuwada noolaasha kuwa soo barakacay, kuwa kasoo laabtey wadamada deriska, wixii kaloo muhaajiriin ah iyo kawa horey usii deganaan oo looyimid.

Waxaa xal loo arkaa in awood loo siiyo qaar kamid ah kuwa gudaha dalka kusoo barakacay iney kusoo laabtaan xaafadahoodi, aydoo oo xisaabta lagu daraayo in loo sameeyo hooy meel nabdoon oo loogu abuuraayo fursado hor lehsi nolashooda ay usoo hagaagto ayna u helaan shaqooyin, waxbarashada ilmahooda, iyo adeegyo caafimaad qof kasta gaara.

Si taa loo sameeyo, mashruuca wuxuu soo kordhin doonaa qaab cusb oo ay iskula socon karaan tirade sii dhordheysa ee barakacayaasha, koriimada deg dega ah ee magaalooyinka soomaaliya oo arkaayo in xitaa kuwa lagu soo barakacay ay mudan yihiin in wax loo qabto.

## 2. BAIDOA CITY INFORMATION

## LOCATION AND REGIONAL CONTEXT

Baidoa, locally known as Baydhabo, is a strategic town in south-central Somalia and the interim capital of South West State of Somalia.

Baidoa is situated approximately 240 kilometers west of Mogadishu and southeast of the Ethiopian border, on one of the main Somalia trade corridors, connecting the seaport of Mogadishu and the productive region of the Lower Shabelle with Ethiopia and Kenya.

All roads were built over 30 years ago and have not received proper maintenance for a long period during the continuing conflict. The National Development Framework 2017-2019 contains a detailed description for the road network and the strategic intervention needed.

With a huge maintenance backlog, there is a significant need for reconstructing or resurfacing these existing paved roads. The security situation in the region, though, with large part of the territory outside the control of the federal government, makes it very hard to assess this issue properly.

#### **GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

The designed capital of South West State is Baraawe, located on the coast in Lower Shabelle Region, half way between Mogadishu and Kismayo. However, the South West State Administration is located ad interim in Baidoa.

As the administrative Head Quarters of the Bay Region and the interim capital of the State, Baidoa is classified as a A district. Its District Council is currently being formed. The Law No. 10 of 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017 "*Local Government Law of Southwest State of Somalia*" defines its role and responsibility, in particular:

- Town planning;
- Provision, maintenance and operation of basic urban services;
- Provision and administration of public facilities and housing;
- Promotion and regulation of economic activities;
- Environmental protection and disaster prevention.

Administratively, Baidoa Town is divided into four urban villages:

<u>Berdale:</u>	East
Horseed:	Northwest
Howl-Wadaag:	Northwest
<u>Isha:</u>	Southeast

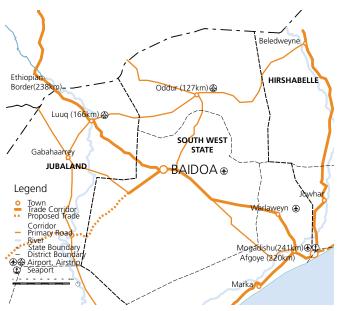
Each village elects a village Committee of maximum seven member, with a Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer. Villages are divided in other additional six sub-villages: Darusalam, Salamey, Adaado, Wadajir, Waberi, Towfiiq.

#### **HISTORY**

Baidoa is home to a number of important ancient sites. Archaeologists have found pre-historic rock art on the city's outskirts, in Buur Heybe. Baidoa's location depends mostly on the presence at the centre of the town of Isha Spring, which has been providing water for centuries to the region.

In the Middle Ages, Baidoa was part of the influential Ajuran Sultanate, that covered much of southern Somalia and eastern Ethiopia extending from Mareeg in the north, to Qelafo in the west, to Kismayo in the south.

During the Italian Colonial Administration Baidoa was the



Baidoa's Regional Context

capital of the Upper Juba Region, including also Gedo and Bakool, as well as most parts of Middle Juba. Present regions were created in the 1970s by the then ruling military regime, when Baidoa was established as Bay's capital.

After the start of the Somali Civil War in 1991, the city was subjected to violent clashes by various rival factions of the Rahanweyn Resistance Army to ensure full control.

During the turmoil of the war, the Southwestern State of Somalia was formed in 2002, with Baidoa as its main headquarters, but later dissolved in 2006.

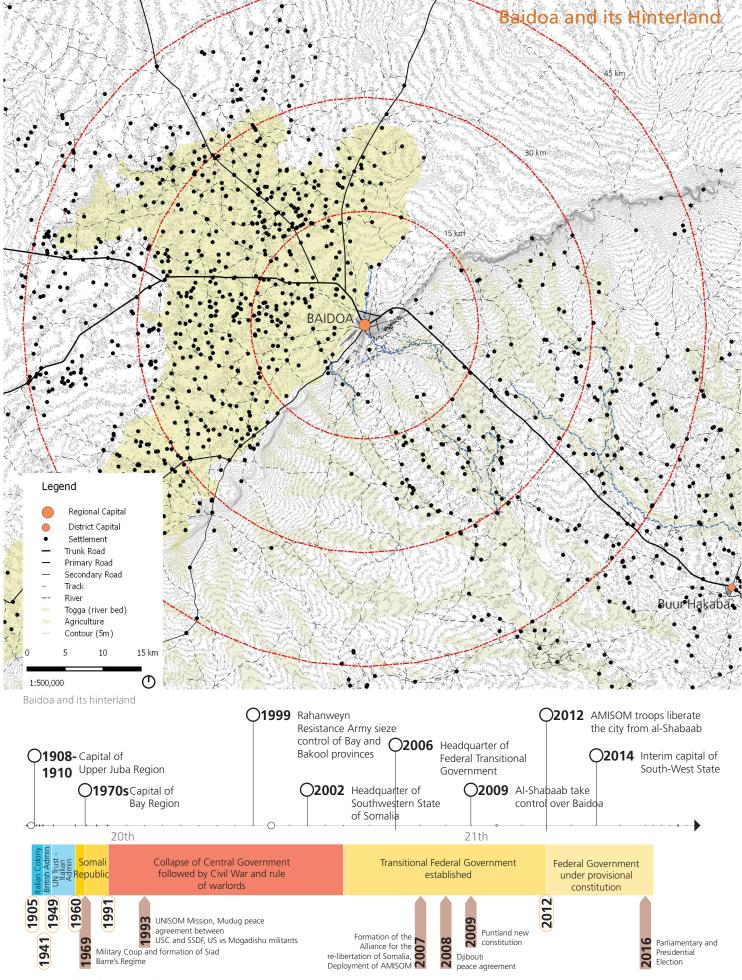
In February 2006, Baidoa became the headquarters of the Federal Transitional Government, following the capture of Mogadishu by the Islamic Courts.

In January 2009, al-Shabaab terrorist troops took control of the city after a harsh siege that lasted from July 2008. However, the government managed to regain it on the 22nd of February 2012 with the support of Ethiopia.

Following the establishment of the Somali Federal Government Baidoa became the interim capital of the autonomous South-West State.



Isha Spring, 1945 © IWM (K 8532)



Timeline of significan event of Baidoa between 20th and 21st Century

## 3. URBAN GROWTH AND DEMOGRAPHICS

## PEOPLE AND DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

Baidoa is the cradle land for Maay language, which varies significantly from standard Somali. The main clans are the Digil and Mirifle clans, also known as the Rahaweyn.

There is no updated population data available for Baidoa. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) had drafted population data reports in 2005 where the population of the district of Baidoa was estimated to be 227,761 people; the urban population as 59,107 and the non-urban as 168,654<sup>1</sup>. New estimations from 2014 do not aggregate district populations, but estimates the Bay region population to be 792,182, with an urban population of 93,046<sup>2</sup>. Given the precence of at least four other urban centres in Bay, these figures appear unreliable, as they would suggest a population drop.

Currently, the drought situation, related conflicts and loss of livelihoods have led to the number of IDPs increasing drastically in the urban areas of Bay and Bakool. This is mainly attributed to the availability of aid, jobs and less conflict in urban centers.

CCCM Cluster's most recent report indicates that currently, Baidoa is home to an estimated 261 IDP sites and 43,479 households. Most of these settlements are in and around the town.<sup>3</sup>

Compared to the previous population data, this shows that the urban population has more than doubled if consideration is taken of the entire community including the host population.

#### **POPULATION ESTIMATION OF BAY REGION - 2014**

Urban Population	93,046	11.7%
Male pop.	47,971	51.6%
Female pop.	45,075	48.4%
Households:	19,527	
Household size:	4.8 (national average: 6.4)	
Rural Population	463,330	<u>58.5%</u>
Male pop.	235,354	50.8%
Female pop.	227,976	49.2%
Households:	88,847	
Household size:	5.2 (national average: 5.8)	
Nomadic Population	195,986	24.7%
Malanan	00 070	EN 20/

## **URBAN GROWTH**

Baidoa was never subject to planning, and the only areas formally developed were along the main axes, where the majority of the public buildings were located.

In the absence of a stable central authority and an overarching urban development planning system, the built environment has been shaped by vernacular and informal forces. The area surrounding the town has been occupied by dispersed constructions that have slowly consolidated and densified. In the last fifteen years the growth has not followed any particular direction but instead has steadily sprawled around the town. The resulting pattern is characterized by a lowdensity development without a clear hierarchy nor a regular street pattern, with poor access.

This growth mode is also creating issues such as urban fragmentation, illegal occupation, land disputes and lack of basic services and infrastructure.

Security greatly impacts the way the city evolves. The interim government is located within the area directly controlled by AMISOM, and most of the main facilities, such as Bay Regional Hospital, the police headquarter and many schools, are concentrated in close proximity to the compound. This leads to overstretching the capacity of many services, while leaving large areas underserviced.

#### IMPACT OF DISPLACEMENT ON URBAN GROWTH

Baidoa is one of the centres most impacted by migration dynamics. With the huge influx of IDPs and returnees, displacement has been one of the main drivers of the urban expansion that has occurred in the last few years.

Notably, not only the built-up area is grown, but given the compact nature of the IDP settlements, the overall density of city has substantially increased.

Camps are spread across the city, within vacant land in the consolidated city and in its outskirts. However, they tend to be concentrated in two major locations.

On the West, settlements are placed both north and

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