

sudp newsletter



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History of the SUDP

Since the second half of the 1990s, UN-HABITAT has implemented a number of projects in the Somali urban sector. Project approaches have evolved from direct assistance targeting immediate needs at the local level towards more systematic attempts to address the issue of sustainable urban development by incrementally introducing governance mechanisms designed to



ensure better urban planning and management, revenue raising and delivery of services. A wide spectrum of urban issues has already been addressed within the 'Good Local Governance and Leadership Training Programme (GLTP)' and the 'Support to the

Priorities in the Urban Sector (SPAUS) Programme', which started in 2003 and 2002, respectively.

The GLTP, a capacity building programme to improve the leadership and management skills of local authorities, was implemented in 16 Somali



cities, including the major towns of Somaliland, Puntland and several towns and districts in South-Central Somalia. It consisted of a training curriculum for the local leaders, combined with

strategic planning and the implementation of action planning projects, putting the newly-learned skills into practice. The GLTP was

successfully rounded off in June 2005 and its results form the backbone of the governance component incorporated within the SUDP.

Although it continues as an independent project, the SPAUS programme is being integrated into the new SUDP, which started in April 2005. In the past years, many Somali cities have received technical and capacity building support in the four components of the SPAUS: (1) Support to urban law reform; (2) Municipal finance and assets management; (3) Urban planning and development control; (4) Land management, property registration, and the development of urban land information systems; and (5) Rehabilitation of public urban infrastructure. Some activities, such as municipal finance and land management, have become a direct part of the SUDP. The SUDP has a more extensive scope than SPAUS, functioning as an umbrella programme for all urban development interventions that take place in Somali cities.

Satellite image of Bosasso



European
Commission



Government
of Japan



UN-HABITAT is proud to announce the launch of the Urban Development Programme SUDP. The programme, coordinated by UN-HABITAT, marks an important landmark in the history of technical cooperation for Somali cities as seven key development agencies have come together to address the needs of the Somali people governing, managing and living in towns and cities in Somaliland, Puntland and South and Central Somalia. These partners include the European Commission, UNDP, UNICEF, ILO, UNA, Novib and UN-HABITAT.

SUDP is an integrated programme with three main components addressing needs in the urban sector: (1) governance, including legal and institutional reforms, strengthening municipal governance and the role of civil society; (2) urban management, including strategic planning and development controls, land management, municipal finance, delivery of basic services and local economic development; and (3) the implementation of

local projects by local consortia, building on the two capacity-building elements already mentioned. The local projects include urgently needed relief projects such as support to the settlement of internally displaced persons (IDPs), as well as reconstruction of public infrastructure and solid waste management interventions. All these elements are monitored through urban indicator systems to measure progress and achievements. This integrated, multi-dimensional synergetic programme, supported by a core team of highly qualified multi-disciplinary experts, has attracted additional donors such as the Governments of Italy and Japan as well as UNICEF. Negotiations with other donors are ongoing. The programmatic approach ensures sustainable activities and outputs by strengthening the capacities of local, regional and national authorities dealing with urban issues.

Mohamed El Sioufi, Senior Human Settlements Advisor, UN-HABITAT

introduction

This is the first newsletter of the Urban Development Programme (SUDP). This publication will appear on a quarterly basis, containing all the latest SUDP-related news and developments of the recent months. This edition is dedicated to the introduction of the programme, its activities and the agencies that are part of it.

What is the SUDP?

The SUDP was initiated by the European Commission which finances the programme with co-financing from UNDP and the Government of Italy. It is an umbrella programme for all interventions in the Somali urban sector. Since its start the Government of Japan and UNICEF have also funded projects within the larger SUDP framework for shelter activities. UN-HABITAT is the lead agency in the programme, which is implemented jointly with UNA, ILO, Novib and UNICEF who each contribute in their field of

specialization. Being an umbrella programme, new activities and organizations can also be added at a later stage.

A quick guide to the abbreviations and acronyms used in this newsletter

SUDP	Urban Development Programme
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
EC	European Commission
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNA	Italian Consortium of NGOs
ILO	International Labour Organization
Novib	Novib-Oxfam
GLTP	Good Local Governance and Leadership Training Programme
SPAUS	Support to Priority Areas in the Urban Sector

urban management

The first activity to start as part of the Urban Management activities is the training on municipal finance in Somaliland and Puntland. In Somaliland, earlier initiated SPAUS activities were followed up in September with the first training sessions for municipal employees, while a needs assessment on municipal finance was conducted in August in Puntland.

Several rehabilitation programmes for local authority buildings are ongoing under the SPAUS Programme. These include construction works at the municipal offices of Boroma and Garowe, the Governor's office in Hargeisa and an Annex to the Ministry of the Interior. These works should enable local authorities to operate more efficiently and have enough space to accommodate all the different departments. The municipal buildings of Berbera and Hargeisa have already been rehabilitated during earlier projects funded by the EC and UNDP. During the GLTP, some local authorities carried out rehabilitation works on their building as this was identified in a city consultation to be a major priority for improving good local governance.

Satellite image of Hargeisa



Land management activities have made progress in Hargeisa, where the Hargeisa property survey has been finalized. With this database the municipality of Hargeisa can drastically improve the revenue collection from property taxation, with technical support from UN-HABITAT. A similar survey will soon be started in Burao as part of the SUDP.

urban governance

To ensure the same governance strategy is applied in all cities of the SUDP, the newly selected councillors of Puntland's major cities Bosasso, Garowe, Gardo and Galkayo will go through the Local Leadership Management skills training curriculum in the coming months. This training has already been conducted by local partner organizations in 16 cities under the GLTP.

Advice and complaint boxes for the general public in the offices of the Jowhar administration



Local Leadership Management Skills Training, Erigavo



GLTP action planning projects

The Good Local Governance and Leadership Training Programme (GLTP) was concluded in 2005. The final stage consisted of action planning projects in all cities, which were implemented by local authorities, after priority projects were defined in city consultations, involving all relevant stakeholders. The projects received technical support from local NGOs and UN-HABITAT, and were implemented in the first half of 2005.

South Central Somalia

In Jowhar a drainage project was implemented to prevent annual flooding in the Red Sea neighbourhood. The meat market was rehabilitated and reorganized. In the nearby coastal town of Adaale, which is also governed by the Middle Shabelle Authorities, a fish and meat market was

rehabilitated while accommodating the rest of the informal vendors with proper shading. In both Jowhar and Adaale local partners SAACID were responsible for the day-to-day supervision of the activities.

In Buldo Burte (Hiraan Region) a garbage collection system was set up by the local authorities. Here and in Hudur, the capital of Bakool Region, UN-HABITAT's local partner was the Centre for Research and Dialogue. In Hudur the authorities completed the training curriculum, but a local project could not be organized due to security reasons.

SAACID and the Centre for Research and Dialogue also guided the implementation of projects in two districts of Mogadishu, Abdul Aziz and Bondheere. In the Abdul Aziz City Consultation a rehabilitation project for the market was defined as the priority, and local councillors together with the local community took part in a garbage collection campaign in the district.

Puntland

In Puntland, the City Consultations in Bosasso and Galkayo both defined garbage collection as their priority, with important contributions from the local business community. WAWA-Network was the local counterpart responsible for overseeing the implementation of the projects. In Garowe, the authorities mobilised the community for a road

rehabilitation project, which the authorities and other local stakeholders considered the main priority for the city as dirty puddles of water created a health hazard all over town.

Somaliland

Road rehabilitation was also the priority for Boroma, where the informal vendors occupying the main road were relocated, thus

allowing for its rehabilitation and improvement in traffic flow. Project implementation in Somaliland was supervised by the Academy for Peace and Development and Amoud University. In Erigavo local authorities and other stakeholders choose to restore the main public garden to its former glory. In the port city of Berbera, a playground was rebuilt for the city's youth. Sheikh town

wanted to improve the environmental quality of their town area. One thousand five hundred trees were planted and the main water source was protected from flood threats by the nearby river. The immense community mobilisation also resulted in the start up of the rehabilitation of the main dysfunctional hospital without any external assistance. Sheikh

was awarded the Somaliland Good Governance Award 2005. Nearby Burao was cleaned up through a garbage disposal project. In Hargeisa, 800 informal vendors in the central market area were reorganized so as to improve the quality and hygiene of the market and its accessibility. In Gebiley a project was implemented to start the rehabilitation of a local hospital.



Flooding in the town of Jowhar



New drainage channels, Jowhar

shelter programme

The shelter programme started mid-2005 and is being implemented in two cities: Hargeisa and Garowe. A self-help approach is followed in which the IDPs and returnees play an essential role in the construction of their houses.

In Hargeisa, the Ayaha II resettlement area has been selected for the pilot project. This is a relatively new settlement site, still offering few facilities to its recently arrived inhabitants. In August a lottery to select the beneficiaries of the project was organized by the shelter project steering committee. This was followed by a training in various construction skills for the IDPs and returnees, and by laying the first foundations for the houses.

If the project is successful, additional financial resources will be requested to expand the project to other areas of Hargeisa and/or cities in the region.

Presentation of housing models, Hargeisa



Authorities in Garowe have already allocated land in the Old Airport Area (the eastern side of the city) for the shelter project. The process to select the beneficiaries, the organizations that will be responsible for the training component, and the suppliers for the procurement of building materials has just begun.

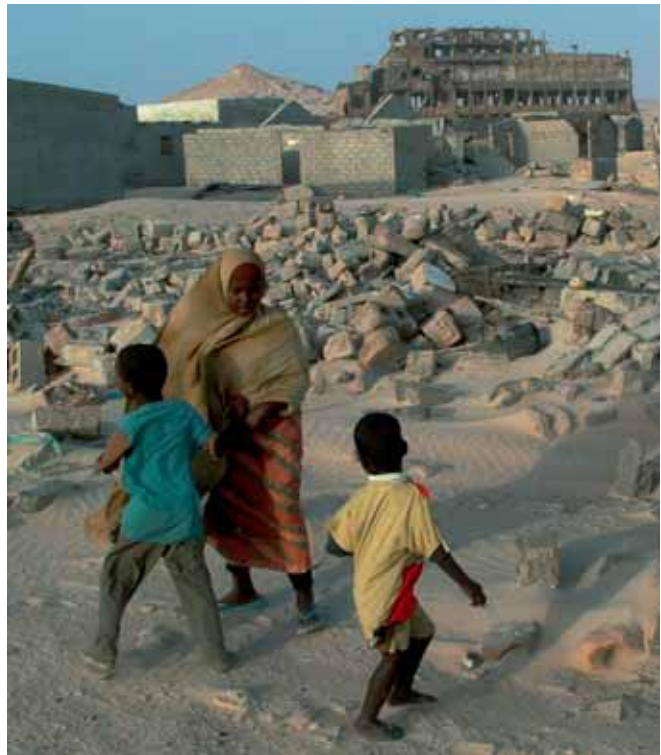
Xaafuun reconstruction

Xaafuun, a small fishing village on the northeastern Somali coast, was severely affected by the tsunami disaster of 26 December 2004. Numerous houses were washed away, severely damaged or destroyed and infrastructure was damaged. It was decided that the location of the village was too exposed to support rebuilding.

The Xaafuun Reconstruction Programme was started in July 2005. In the first phase of the project, the local communities met with UNICEF and UN-HABITAT to discuss the new settlement site. An international environmental expert also provided advice during the first mission.

An agreement has been reached to relocate the town to higher grounds on the peninsula in an area outside the vulnerable and unstable dune system. Human intervention has destabilized the sand dunes and the sand-laden strong winds have a damaging effect on the health of the inhabitants. An office is being set up in the area and construction will start in the coming months.

After the tsunami, Xaafuun village



local economic development

The Local Economic Development activities are implemented by ILO, and will start in October with activities including: (1) Economic profiling studies (Territorial Diagnosis and Institutional Mapping) as part of overall strategic planning; (2) Raising awareness on Territorial Diagnosis and Institutional Mapping (TDIM), targeting municipal authorities; (3) Review, adaptation and testing of training modules and best practices on labour intensive methods in the upgrading of low-income areas, dissemination of information/guidelines to key decision makers; (4) Capacity building in Local Economic Development by organizing training workshops and preparing procedural guidelines on the appropriate process, in order to enable community organizations to undertake municipal contracts for urban improvement and maintenance works.

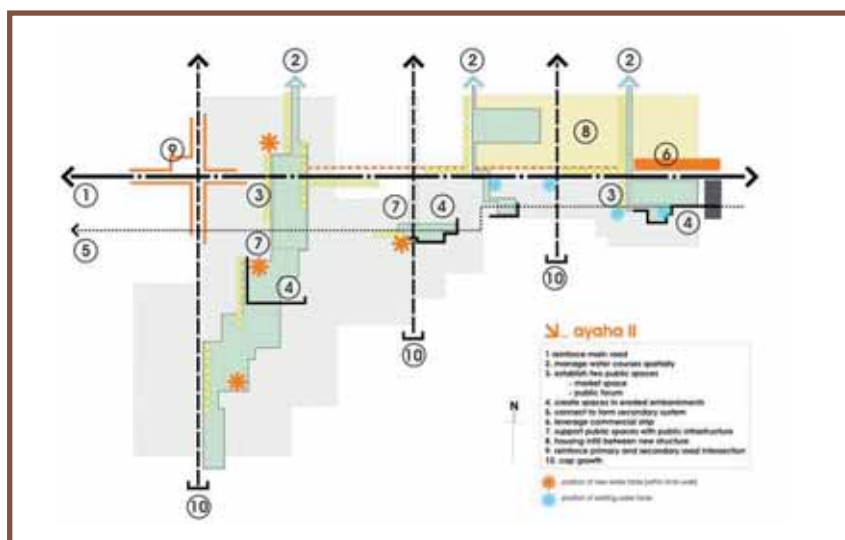
urban services

The Urban Services component of UNA has started with an extensive assessment of present solid waste management methods and capacities in Somaliland and Puntland. UNA will also contribute to the urban planning component by fielding a professor from the University Institute of Venice (IAUV), Italy. This University is dedicated to the teaching of urban design and planning, and has a specific Master's course focused on providing a theoretical foundation and technical skills for managing and planning cities in developing countries. The IAUV professor will provide inputs to the urban planning activities of the SUDP and will discuss urban planning issues with the local authorities. Throughout the programme similar contributions will be made by delegates from UNA's three partner universities. In the coming months, tangible solid waste management projects will begin.

urban planning and design

Activities started with the introduction of sustainable urban planning methods to local authorities. In Garowe, Hargeisa and Xaafuun these planning activities are directly linked to the practical implementation of housing/resettlement initiatives. In Jowhar UN-HABITAT is discussing resettlement opportunities with the government, in cooperation with UNICEF. In September a joint-UN mission travelled to Bosasso to discuss with the local and central authorities a new approach for improving the lives of IDPs and potential sites for permanent settlement. UN-HABITAT will take the lead to develop a Road Map for appropriate settlement together with the authorities, while the other UN-agencies will focus on activities in their core field of operation. The team follows the basic principles of 'Strategic

Structure Planning' and believes that urban design can provide a great deal of added value and synergies to the operations. Rapid Spatial Urban Analyses were already done for the major settlements of Somaliland and Puntland and a few in the South. The results of these Analyses will be published in the coming months.



Ayaha II drawing

Over the past months, attention has increased on finding sustainable solutions for the settlement of IDPs in Somali cities. In many places IDPs have settled for many years without seeing any progress in their situation with regard to security, access to basic services, secure tenure or sustainable shelter. United Nations agencies have jointly decided to make the situation of the IDPs a priority. OCHA appointed a special IDP advisor and a Joint UN IDP Strategy has been developed combining for the first time protection issues with basic principles of sustainable urban development. This guide will be the way forward for UN-HABITAT and other agencies to develop interventions to improve the situation of the IDPs. Within the UN framework, UN-HABITAT is the lead agency in the shelter sector. The joint agency approach makes it possible to focus increasingly on sustainable settlement solutions as each agency contributes within its own field of work.

July saw the opening of a new UN-HABITAT project office in Garowe. It is located at the common UN compound and already occupied by three local staff and an international urban planner. Garowe is also the new location of the EC liaison office, the main UNDP office and the ILO Puntland office. UNA has an office in Bosasso through its NGO Africa 70. A site office will be opened in Xaafuun during the coming months.

Upcoming events

- World Habitat Day celebrations in Hargeisa and Garowe – 3 October 2005
- Start of local economic development activities in urban areas
- Visit by urban planning professor from the University of Venice to give technical inputs to SUDP activities
- Resettlement and construction of houses in Garowe, Hargeisa and Xaafuun
- Development of resettlement plans in Bosasso and other cities
- Municipal finance training in Somaliland
- Launch for a call for proposals for local projects
- Local Leadership and Management Skills Training in Puntland
- GIS survey in Burao

World Habitat Day takes place this year on 3 October. This year's theme, Millennium Development Goals and the City, is being marked in Hargeisa and Garowe by the erection of banners outside the UN-HABITAT offices, and by the organization of live debates on TV and Radio Hargeisa. In addition, an exhibition is on display in Garowe in the Ministry of Local Government.

Activities in Africa to celebrate World Habitat Day are being led by Housing Ministries, youth groups, women's groups, sports groups, slum housing associations and other civil society groups. Activities include clean-ups, tree-planting, plays and lectures, as well as public events such as processions and rallies, free medical camps and sporting events. Conferences and seminars are also taking place, as are TV and radio broadcasts, public entertainments and school events.

World Habitat Day's theme is of particular relevance to the work of the SUDP, which focuses on improving urban governance and management with the aim of improving living conditions for the urban residents of Somaliland, Puntland and South-Central Somalia. UN-HABITAT's governance campaign seeks to boost the capacity of local governments and those with whom they work to practice good urban governance. It focuses attention on the needs of the excluded urban poor. It promotes the involvement of women in decision-making at all levels, as crucial for positive change in society. The secure tenure campaign is an advocacy instrument of the United Nations designed to promote secure forms of tenure for the most vulnerable groups, especially those living in informal settlements and slums in cities.

UN-HABITAT is focusing on Target 11 of Millennium Development Goal 7 – improving the living conditions of at least 100 million slum dwellers by the year 2020, and on Target 10 of MDG 7 – reducing by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water.



an introduction to the organizations involved in the SUDP

The European Commission

The EC is the main donor of the programme. Through its Somalia Operations of the Delegation of the European Union in Kenya, the Commission gives technical guidance to the project activities.

UNDP

The UNDP component of SUDP is part of UNDP's Governance and Financial Services Programme, under which a long term cooperation with UN-HABITAT exists. UNDP is actively involved in the project as the key coordinating agency with regard to the overall political context.

The Government of Italy

The Government of Italy funds part of the core SUDP Programme and gives technical advice to the implementing organizations.

The Government of Japan

The Japanese Government funds the 'Emergency Assistance for Resettlements of Returnees and Internally Displaced People' programme (ARRI) which has started with two pilot projects for the inhabitants of Ayaha II in Hargeisa and three sites in Eastern Garowe in the area of the former airport.

UNICEF

The United Nation's Children Fund (UNICEF) and UN-HABITAT recently started cooperation to rebuild the houses for the tsunami-affected town of Xaafuun as part of a new resettlement project. The project is implemented with UNICEF funding. UNICEF also implements a training component for youth and is an important counterpart as the Implementing Agency for another EC-funded programme for urban water.

UN-HABITAT

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), being the lead agency in the implementation of the SUDP, is responsible for the overall management and the main technical inputs. The UN-HABITAT Urban Planning framework forms the core component of SUDP activities and also gives inputs to activities from other agencies that are not part of the SUDP.

UNA

The Italian NGO Consortium UNA represents three Italian Universities and a number of international NGOs, of which Africa '70 is the best known in the area. UNA takes the lead in the Urban Services component (including solid waste management and sanitation activities), with technical advice from the universities, whose experts will from time to time visit SUDP projects.

ILO

The International Labour Organization is the UN specialized agency for the promotion of social justice and internationally recognized human and labour rights. It is responsible for the Local Economic Development component of the SUDP. The Local Economic Development activities are a continuation of previous work by ILO, but are more focused on urban areas.

Novib

Dutch NGO Novib is part of the Oxfam network and has been strengthening Somali civil society organizations since 1995. Under the SUDP Novib will extend their capacity building activities for local NGOs/CBOs.

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