

AI HAWTAH

City Profile



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 or the European Union concerning the legal status of any county, territory, city or area or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries regarding its economic system or degree of development.

Copyright: © United Nations Human Settlements Programme in Yemen (UN-Habitat), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), 2020, unless indicated otherwise.

UNESCO operates under an Open Access policy using the Creative Commons IGO 3.0 licenses for sharing its content. The works produced by UNESCO can be freely used and distributed

Excerpts may be reproduced without authorization, on condition that the source is indicated. Views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, the United Nations and its member states.

Cover photo:

Credit: Old heritage building in Al Hawtah, Yemen.

UN-Habitat, 2020.

This project was generously funded by the European Union and its Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP).



UN-Habitat would like to thank iMMAP as the main implementation partner for developing the contents of this profile.



UN-Habitat would like to thank the Joint IDP Profiling Service (JIPS) for their valuable contribution to the development of the data collection methodology.



UN-Habitat would like to thank UNESCO for their partnership in the development of the chapter on Cultural Heritage. Maps and data in this chapter are intellectual property of UNESCO unless stated otherwise.



With participation of
UNESCO

UN-Habitat would like to thank the UNOSAT for their technical support in developing damage assessments and land-use mappings for the city of Al Hawtah.



AI HAWTAH

City Profile

Urban Profiling Yemen

This project is part of a Profiling Project that aims to develop city profiles of 7 cities in Yemen. These cities include Aden, Sana'a, Sa'dah, Ta'iz, Al Hodeidah, Al Hawtah and Zinjibar. All profiles and data developed in this profile are accessible on the Yemen Mapping and Data Portal.

<https://yemenportal.unhabitat.org/>

Sa'dah
 Sana'a
 Al Hodeidah
 Ta'iz
 Zinjibar
 Al Hawtah
 Aden



Contents

Acronyms	5
Executive Summary	6
Introduction	7
1- Conflict Dynamics	9
2- Methodology	10
3- Demographics and Population Movement	12
4- Protection	19
5- Governance	22
6- Social Cohesion	29
7- Culture and Heritage	32
8- Economy	40
9- Housing, Land and Property (HLP)	47
10 Health and Emergency	52
11- Education	58
12- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	66
13- Energy and Electricity	73
14- Solid Waste Management (SWM)	82
15- Transportation	85
16- Communications	89

Annexes

A. Al Hawtah Analysis of City Recovery Needs	94
B. Asset Verification	99
C. List of Figures	103
D. List of Tables	106

Acronyms

AQAP	Al-Qaeda in Arabian Peninsula	MoLA	Ministry of Local Administration
CCIF	Cleanliness and City Improvement Fund	MoPHP	Ministry of Public Health and Population
CFP	Community Focal Point	MoT	Ministry of Transportation
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	MoTEVT	Ministry of Technical Education and Vocational Training
CSO	Central Statistical Organization	MoWE	Ministry of Water and Environment
DTM	Displacement Tracking Matrix	MPWH	Ministry of Public Works and Highways
EC	European Commission	MTIT	Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology
EFSNA	Emergency Food Security and Nutrition Assessment	NAMCHA	National Authority for the Management and Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Recovery
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War	NFI	Non-Food Items
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization	NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
GBV	Gender-Based Violence	NSSWM	National Strategy for Solid Waste Management
GHG	Greenhouse Gas	NWRA	National Water Resources Authority
GIS	Geographic Information System	NWSSIP	National Water Sector Strategy and Investment Program
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH	OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
GoY	Government of Yemen	OPHP	Office of Public Health and Population
GPC	General People's Congress	PEC	Public Electricity Corporation
GPS	Global Positioning System	PIN	People in Need
GSM	Global System for Mobile communication	REA	Rural Electricity Authority
Ha	Hectares	SBF	Security Belt Forces
HF	Health Facility	SFD	Social Fund for Development
HH	Household	SPCRP	Social Protection for Community Resilience Project
HLP	Housing, Land, and Property	STC	Southern Transitional Council
HNO	Humanitarian Needs Overview	SWM	Solid Waste Management
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee	UAE	United Arab Emirates
ICT	Information and Communications Technology	UN	United Nations
ID	Identification	UNDP	United Nations Development Program
IDP	Internally Displaced Person	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
IHL	International Humanitarian Law	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
IHRL	International Human Rights Law	UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
ILO	International Labor Organization	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
IOM	International Organization for Migration	UNOCHA	United Nations Organization for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
IRC	International Rescue Committee	UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
IRG	Internationally Recognized Government	UNOSAT	UNITAR's Operational Satellite Applications Program
JRC	Joint Research Center	USA	United States of America
KI	Key Informant	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
LAEO	Literacy and Adult Education Organization	UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
LAL	Local Authority Law	WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
LC	Local Council	WFP	World Food Program
LPG	Liquid Petroleum Gas	WHO	World Health Organization
LWSC	Lahj Water & Sanitation Corporation	WSS	Water Supply and Sanitation
MENA	Middle East and North Africa	WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant
MHM	Ministry of Housing and Municipalities	YER	Yemeni Rial (currency)
MoAI	Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation		
MoE	Ministry of Education		
MoHESR	Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research		
MoHUD	Ministry of Housing and Urban Development		
Mol	Ministry of Interior		

Executive Summary

This urban profile describes and examines living conditions and needs in the city of Al Hawtah across a variety of sectors. It addresses key thematic findings made prominent by the impact of the ongoing conflict, its toll on the city's population, and the ability of institutions to provide basic services. Each individual section paints a picture of the prevailing situation and the needs of the city's residents through triangulation of different data types, including secondary data analysis which draws on available publications and media reports; remote sensing, and structured interviews with community leaders and key sector experts. The aim of this profile is to provide partners with the widest possible canvas, assisting them in their operational programming and strategic policy development.

Key findings include:

- **Property damage is apparent throughout Al Hawtah.** Long considered a strategic foothold by warring factions, the city suffered a significant amount of damage since the start of the war in Yemen. Damage incurred from airstrikes, artillery, mortar improvised explosive ordinances and small arms fire has left its mark on various residences, commercial buildings, landmarks, and public spaces. The overall housing situation in Al Hawtah raises several concerns. At the forefront of these issues are the city's accelerated population growth rate, a growing squatter population that has no secure land tenure and lacks access to basic municipal services and increasing land and housing costs.¹ The lack of housing in the city can mostly be attributed to the (i) sudden rapid influx of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) to Lahj (75.1 percent of prospective tenants are IDPs),² (ii) tenants' inability to maintain the funds necessary to pay rent on a timely manner,³ and (iii) the deteriorating infrastructure situation that puts buildings and their structural integrity at risk.
- **The main challenges facing the health sector, according to government partners,** are a decreased operating budget approved for Health Facilities (HFs), partly caused by the weak Yemeni Rial compared to the dollar. This is particularly relevant as there is also significant damage to the health infrastructure, which is also suffering from frequent electricity outages. This includes a lack of budget to deal with the spread of epidemics. Furthermore, the health sector in Al Hawtah suffers not only from a shortage of medical staff due to retirements and low salaries, but also a shortage of medicines and medical supplies due to the recent increases of the population.
- **Years of ongoing conflicts coupled with the lack of available finance have deteriorated the education sector in Al Hawtah.** While most schools are open currently, many school buildings are in poor condition, with some reported to be near collapse.⁴ Most of the deterioration evidenced in educational facilities occurred due to conflict-related damage, lack of maintenance and repair and poor overall construction.
- **Several water and sanitation infrastructure assets sustained conflict-related damage.** This included the main office building (located in Al Hawtah), warehouses, reservoirs, pumping

station and wells.⁵ As of 2018, nearly 84 percent of the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) sector infrastructure appears to have no damage, while 12 percent was partially damaged, and 4 percent destroyed.⁶ In the interviews, affordability issues related to meeting the water needs were reported. When asked about the main barriers related to meeting the water for drinking purposes needs, all community leaders reported insufficient money, followed by the insufficient number of providers/shops supplying the area (57 percent), insufficient safety of goods and services (54 percent), and insufficient skills and competencies of service providers (46 percent).⁷

- **The collapse of the electricity sector had devastating consequences in Al Hawtah.** Electricity is a binding constraint for critical city services and facilities that do not have the means to invest in alternative energy sources. These include HFs, schools, grocery stores and vaccine cold chains. The shortage in electricity affects water supply, sanitation, food supply, banking services, fuel stations and more. Even where diesel generators were adopted for emergency power supply during the conflict, fuel shortages severely constrain service delivery. To that end, Al Hawtah has a dire need for critical material and equipment to rehabilitate the heavily damaged urban electric distribution networks.
- **There is no official dumpsite in Lahj Governorate.** The nearest landfill is found in the city of Aden and has been there for more than 15 years. Waste is collected in trucks from Al Hawtah City and then disposed of in the Aden landfill.⁸ Collection occurs infrequently, in the interviews it was suggested that 50 percent of residents live in areas where garbage is frequently visible, and that garbage collection takes place once a month. Consequently, over 50 garbage sites were present in Al Hawtah as of March 2019, some of which have served as makeshift landfills created by residents.⁹ Many residents have resorted to throwing garbage in the agricultural canals in the city, posing an environmental threat to the city of Al Hawtah and its residents.¹⁰
- **As of 2018, over half of the intra-city roads in Al Hawtah reportedly sustained some form of damage.**¹¹ This impacts mobility of the population and reduces access to various services, such as markets, HFs and schools. In terms of functionality, according to sector experts' perceptions, the main and secondary roads in Al Hawtah are only partially operable.¹²

5 Ibid.

6 The World Bank Group, Yemen Dynamic Needs Assessment (DNA): Phase 3, (Washington DC: World Bank, 2018), 134.

7 CFP Survey, March 2020.

8 UNOPS, Yemen Integrated Urban Emergency Services Project (YIUSEP) Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), (Copenhagen, Denmark: 2018) <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/494961526464057594/pdf/P164190-ESMF-Final.pdf>

9 Al-Ayyam, "موقعاً للقمامة بحوطة لحج بعضها تحول الى مكب 53 للنفايات", March 17, 2019, <https://www.alayyam.info/news/7QF-DP67Y-71243X> (accessed March 22, 2020).

10 Alayyam, "رفع المخلفات المتراكمة في قنوات الري بحوطة لحج", April 3, 2019, <https://www.alayyam.info/news/7R307L4N-DB5KES> (accessed March 22, 2020).

11 The World Bank Group, Yemen Dynamic Needs Assessment (DNA): Phase 3, (Washington DC: 2018).

12 KI Survey, March 2020.

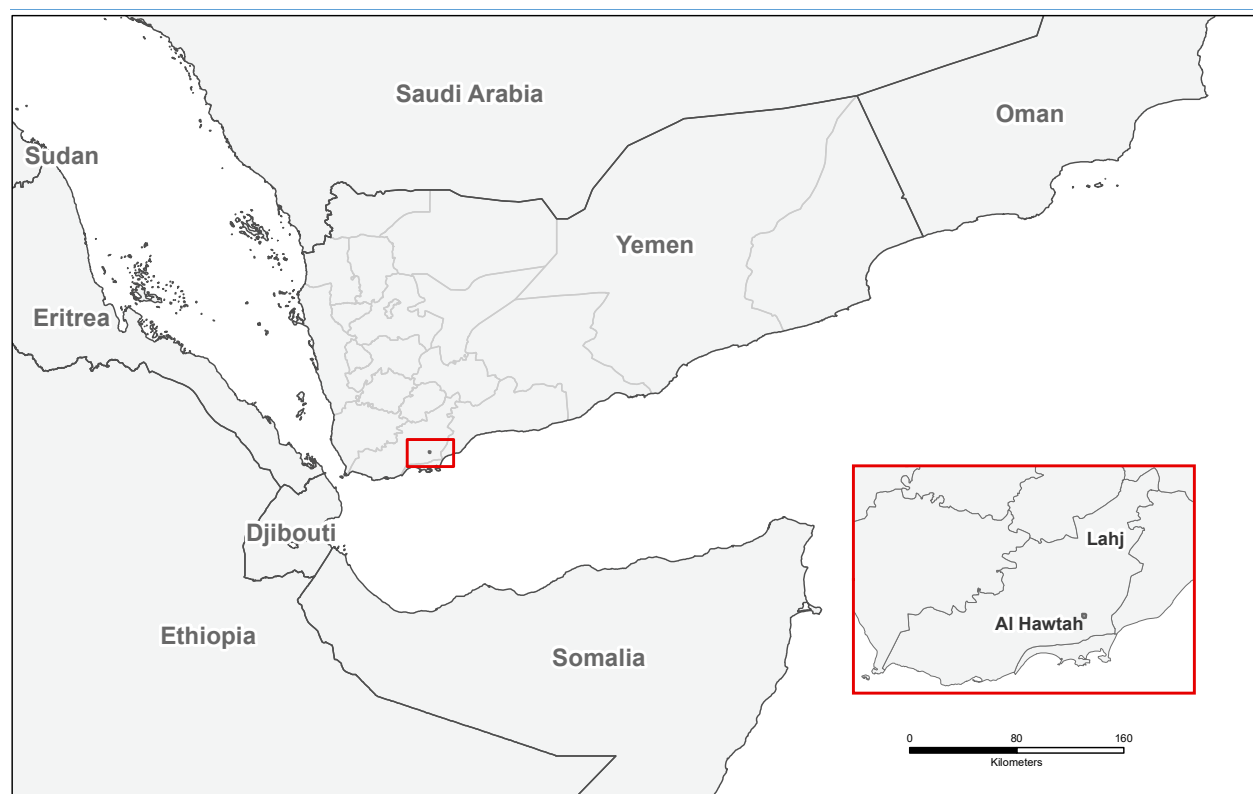
1 UN-Habitat, University of Aden (Academic Team), The State of Yemeni cities Development Report, Draft 1, 2019.

2 Yemen Shelter Cluster, Yemen Shelter Cluster Housing Rental Market Assessment, (Yemen: The Yemen Humanitarian Fund, 2018) https://www.sheltercluster.org/sites/default/files/docs/shelterficccm_cluster_preparedness_assessment_report_-_lahj_governorate.pdf (accessed March 12, 2020)

3 Ibid.

4 The World Bank Group, Yemen Dynamic Needs Assessment (DNA): Second Phase Report, (Washington, DC: 2017).

Figure 1: Geographic Location of Lahj governorate within Yemen.



Al Hawtah, Date Created: 18 Feb 2020, Datum/Projection: WGS_84, Data sources: OCHA
 Disclaimer: The boundaries, names and designations used in this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IMMAP.

Al Hawtah¹³ is the capital of Lahj Governorate, which is located 337 km to the southwest of the capital city Sana'a, and only 30 km to the east of Aden and its international seaport and airport. Lahj is known as the doorway between the south and north of Yemen and is also situated near other populous Governorates in the north. This affords Lahj a strategic position to access both domestic and global markets. In addition to being near larger cities, it is also near mineral rich areas of Yemen where proven, substantial and high-quality reserves of metallic and non-metallic minerals were long exploited for industrial production, including in Lahj.

Lahj is known for its semi-tropical climate and highly fertile valleys that has endowed it with a pastoral abundance and that has encouraged the agricultural sector to grow vegetables, fruits, various types of grain and long fiber cotton – helping to expand the local economy and support Yemen's farming resources. The topography of Lahj varies from sea level, such as Wadi Tuban, to high mountains reaching 2500 m above sea level as part of As-Sarat mountainous range.

Under the former Aden Protectorate, a British-ruled area, it was the capital of the 'Abdali Sultanate, which was abolished when Yemen (Aden) became independent in 1967.¹⁴ During the reign of the Abdali dynasty Lahj was culturally nourishing as it was home to different kinds of artists, mainly poets and composers, who had created their own music, poems and songs specific to Lahj culture.¹⁵

Total Population of Lahj is around 1 million while the population of Al Hawtah, according to 2020 projected estimates, is 39,009 inhabitants.¹⁶

¹³ This profile examines Al Hawtah city, which is the same as the district of Al Hawtah.

¹⁴ Encyclopaedia Britannica, "Lahij", Dec 01, 2009, available at: <https://www.britannica.com/place/Lahij> (accessed March 08, 2020).

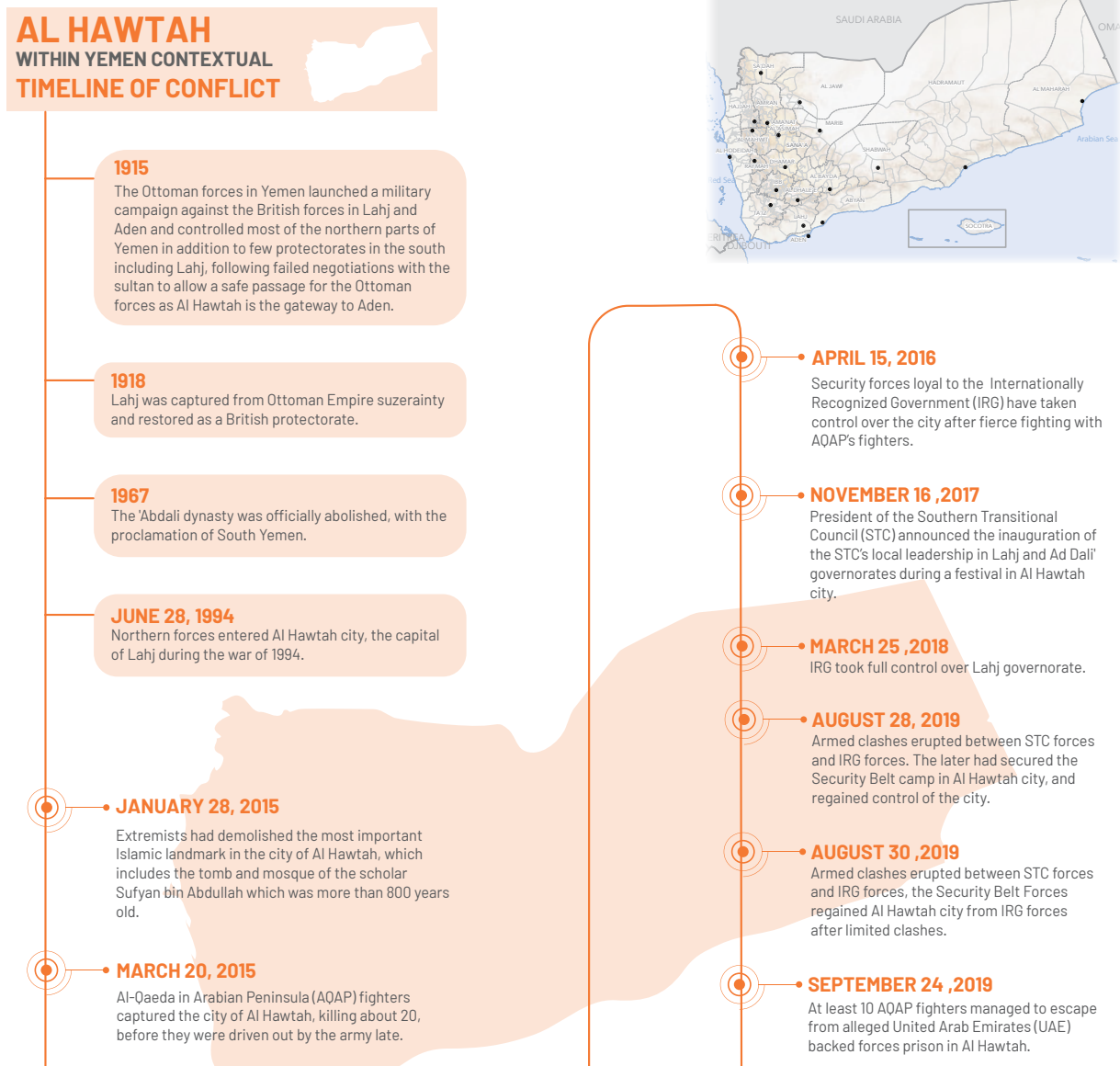
¹⁵ Sale Saleh Mohammed, مدن نسكنها ومدن تسكننا (Egypt: Arabic Journalist Agency, 2018).

¹⁶ UN-Habitat, University of Aden (Academic Team), The State of Yemeni cities Development Report, Draft 1, 2019.

People and Conflicts in Al Hawtah

Conflict Timeline

Figure 2: Al Hawtah Conflict Timeline



预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_17706

