

# GAROWE

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## URBAN PROFILE

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Working Paper and Spatial Analyses for  
Urban Planning Consultations  
and Strategic Spatial Planning



**JPLG**  
UN Joint Programme on  
Local Governance and Decentralised  
Service Delivery



**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Garowe Urban Profile  
Working Paper and Spatial Analyses for Urban Planning Consultations and Strategic Spatial Planning - May 2019

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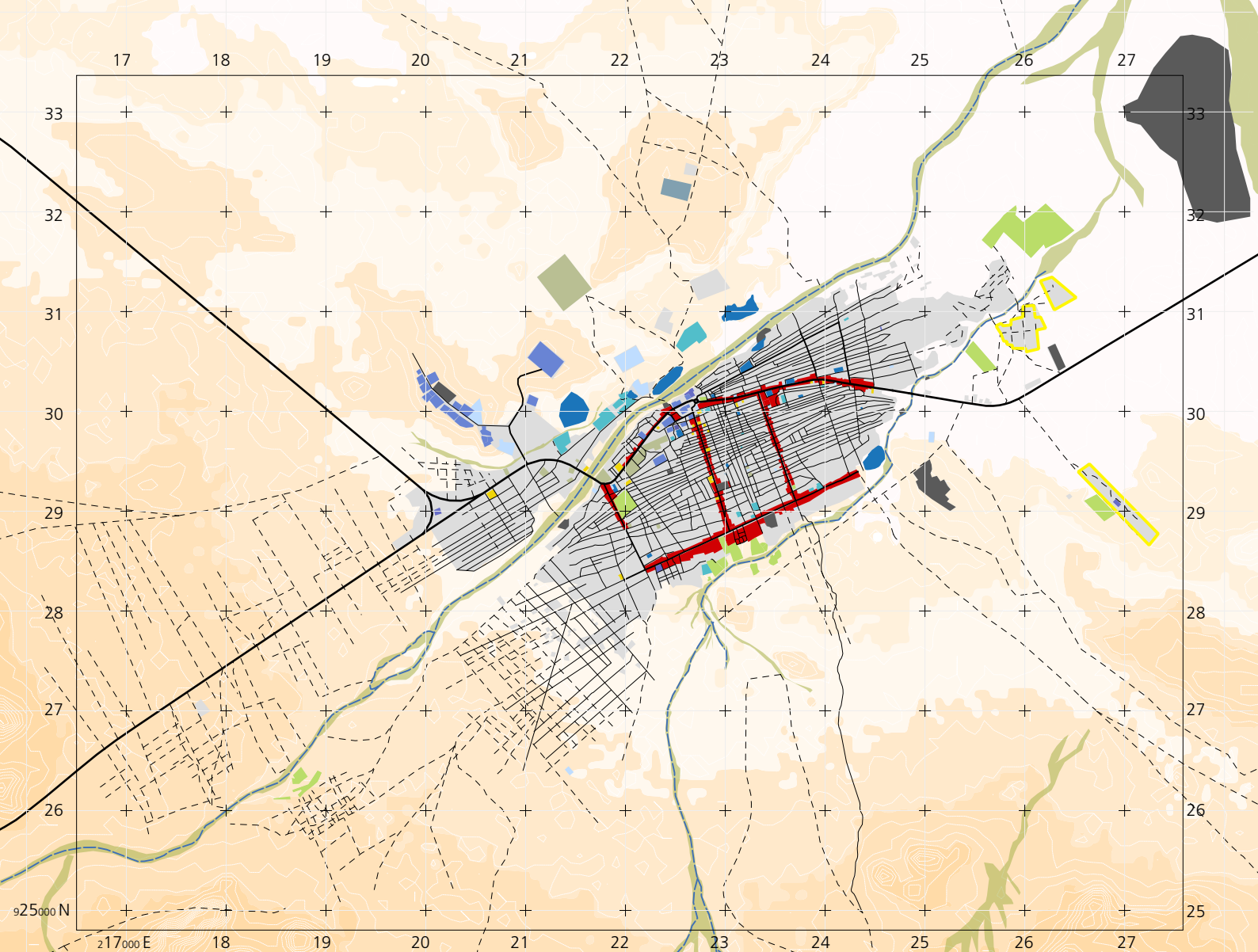
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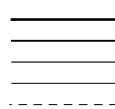
Built-up Area  
 Agriculture  
 Education  
 Health  
 Social and Religious Facilities  
 Administration  
 Other Public Facilities



Commerce  
 Tourism  
 Sport and Recreation  
 Special Area  
 Industrial  
 Utility  
 IDP Settlement



T1: Trunk Road  
 T2: Primary Road  
 T3: Secondary Road  
 T4: Access Road  
 Track



500 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 m  
 scale 1:60,000  
 Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 39N  
 Projection: Transverse Mercator  
 Datum: WGS 1984  
 Units: Meter

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# 1. INTRODUCTION



The central square of Garowe

The city of Garowe has been undertaking, in collaboration with UN-Habitat, a series of steps towards a balanced urban development.

In 2008, under the Urban Development Programme for the Somali Region, a publication called “**Garowe: First Steps Towards Strategic Urban Planning**” highlighted concrete challenges and priority areas of intervention, and proposed a strategic urban development plan.

The **Garowe Urban Planning Stakeholder Forum** in 2010 reviewed the plan and discussed ideas for finance of projects with local budget and their cost consequence for the community.

Even with some modification, this plan was able to guide the growth of the city for the last nine years in an orderly fashion.

The last decade has seen the town growing at a remarkable pace. Taking into consideration the dynamism of Garowe and Puntland’s context, due to changing trends in the economic, social and environment sectors, the need and urgency for a new strategical discussion on the future of the city is indisputable.

The past years have also marked significant steps in the formalisation of planning processes in Puntland.

The **Urban Regulatory Framework for Puntland (URF)** was developed through a consultative process throughout 2014, in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Works and Transport, and supported by the Joint Programme on Local Governance and Decentralised Service Delivery (JPLG).

It provides the principles for the sustainable development and management of all land, and it is binding for public and private land within urban areas, for estate development to be developed in new areas, and for any investment projects, public institutional, tourist, public space, urban renewal and any servicing projects

Furthermore the **Urban Land Management Law (ULML)**, under final approval process as of May 2019, will specify the required activities for the development and approval of an Urban Master Plan and any planning process, their content and the principles and objectives lying behind.

This working paper tries to capture the main settlement topics, linking them to the demands of the various communities living in town (including returnees, IDPs and host community), and contextualize them within the new policy framework of the country.

A team from UN-Habitat in consultation with Puntland MoPW&T and Garowe Municipality has summarized in this document major aspects of an urban analysis (profile) from the spatial prospective. That includes considerations to the development potentials and constraints with a time horizon of five to ten years.

The paper outlines proposals to combine planned city extensions and transformations with development initiatives and align them with local and national priorities, 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 Garowe’s future development and facilitates decision making by state and local authorities in the interest of all.

The purpose of the working paper is also to present the outcomes of the City Consultation and Rapid Urban Planning exercise held between 26 and 28 September 2017.

The consultation brought together all the urban development actors of the town, including local authorities, local NGOs, elders, religious leaders, women’s groups and the private sectors. Together, they discussed, shared points of view, deepened their understanding, explored solutions and together drafted the new **Garowe Strategic Urban Development Plan** linked to the review of the **District Development Framework (DDF)** and the World Bank **Somali Urban Investment Planning Project**.

In particular, the plan will have to support the district council in their preparation, identification and approval of district investments and projects for the new period covered by the DDF, in order to effectively move the city and the district towards their development vision.

The workshop was part of the 2017 Workplan of JPLG in partnership with the Government of Puntland Garowe Municipality, and the World Bank, .



A view of the main road leading leading to the city

Dowladda hoose ee Garowe oo kaashanaysa hay'adda UN-Habitat ayaa ku dhaqaaqday tillaabooyin isku xigxiga oo lagu higsanayo horumar magaalada oo isku dheeli tiran.

2008 dii, barnaamijka horumarinta magaalooyinka soomaaliyeed ayaa soo saaray qoraal loogu magacdaray "**Garowe: tillaabooyinka ugu horreeya ee lagu gaari karo qorshaha istiraatiijiyadeed ee magaalada**". Wuxuuna hoosta ka xariiqay caqabadaha jira iyo kala mudnaansiinta baahiyaha. Wuxuuna soo jeediyay in la diyaariyo qorshe istiraatiijiyadeed oo lagu horumarinayo magaalada. Inkastoo aan qorshahaas sidiisii loo raacin haddana wuxuu awood u yeeshay inuu hago koritaanka magaalada 9 kii sanoo ugu danbeeyay qaab nidaamsan.

10 kii sanoo ugu danbeeyay, magaalada Garowe waxaa ku dhacay isbadal ballaaran. Iyadoo la tixgalinayo maqaanka Garowe iyo Puntlandba arrintaas waxaa u sabab ah isbadalka dhaqan dhaqaale iyo deegaan, sidaas awgeed ayaa in magaaladu qorshe istiraatiijiyadeed oo fog yeelato ay noqotay arrin aan muran ka taagnayn.

Sanadihii ugu danbeeyay sidoo kale waxaa la qaaday tilabooyin muhiima oo lagu dajinayo siyaasada iyo habraacyada qorshaynta magaalooyinka.

**Xeernidaamiyaha Magaalooyinka Puntland (XNM)** ayaa la diyaariyay 2014 kii wadatashiyo badan ka bacdi, howshaas oo ay dawr wayn ka qaadatay wasaaradda hawlaha guud iyo gaadiidka uuna taageeray mashruuca wadaaga ah ee dowladaha hoose iyo daadajinta maamulka (JPLG). Xeernidaamiyuhu wuxuu hagayaa horumarinta waarta ee dhulalka oo dhan hadduu yahay dan guud iyo dangaaraba, qorshaynta dhulka cusub ee magaalada, qorshaynta mashaariicda maalgashiga, xarumaha maamulka, dalxiiska, danta guud, dib u habaynta malaadii hore iwm.

Waxaa intaas dheer diyaarinta **Xeerka Maamulka Dhulka Magaalooyinka** oo uu heer gababo ah marayo ansixintiisa May 2019, wuxuuna xadidi doona tillaabooyinkaay tahay in la qaado marka la dajinayo ama la ansixinayo nashqadda guud ee magaalooyinka iyo habraacca jaangoynkasta oo la samaynayo, waxay ka koobantahay iyuujeeddada ka danbaysa ee looga golleeyahay.

Qoraalkani wuxuu iskudayaya in uu soo koobo mowduucyada ugu muhiimsan ee deegsiimada, wuxuuna ku xirayaa baahiyaha bulshooyin kala duwan oo ku nool magaalada sida (dadka soo laabanaya ,barakayaasha iyo bulshada martida loo yahay) waxaana la waafajinayaa siyaasadaha cusub ee lagu hagayo dalka.

Koox ka tirsan UN-Habitat oo talo wadaag la ah Wasaaradda howlaha guud iyo dawladda hoose ee Garowe ayaa kusoo koobay qoraalkaan qaybaha ugu muhiimsan ee qaab dhismeedka magaalada (xog) iyadoo laga eegayo qaab dhismeedka dhulka. Taas waxaa weheliya tixgalinta horumarka suurta galka ah iyo caqabadaha inta lagu jiro mudda xilliyeed 5 ilaa 10ka sanoo soo socda.

Buuggaani wuxuu sidoo soo jeedinayaa in lagu xiro qorshaha fidinta magaalada iyo isbadalka mashaariic horumarineed laguna saleeyo qorshayaasha heer qaran, heer gobol iyo heer degmoba si faaiidadiisu u gaarto dhamaan bulshada, xaaladooda nololeedna u hagaagto, una helaan adeegyada danta guud iyo fursado shaqa.

Waxaa la rajaynayaa in warqaddaani wax badan kubiiriso muhiimadda ay leedahay in ay dadka Garowe ka tashadaan aayahooda horumarineed iyo inay sidoo kale fududeeyso habka go'aan qaadashada ee dhammaan daneeyayaasha heer degmo ilaa ilaa heer dowlad dhexe.

Ujeeddada buuggan ayaa ah in la soo bandhigo waxyaalihii kasoo baxay wadatashiga qorshaha fiditaanka magaalada oo Garowe lagu qabtay 26kii ilaa 28 dee.

Shirka wadatashiga magaaladu wuxuu isu keenay dhammaan daneeyayaasha horumarinta magaalada oo ay ka mid yihiin dowladda hoose, Ururada maxalliga ah, odayaasha dhaqanka, culimaa'udiinka, ururrada haweenka, iyo shirkadaha gaarka loo leeyahay. Dhammaan daneeyayaashu way doodeen ,aaraa' bay wadaageen, fahankooday kordhiyeen, xuluulna waa soo jeediyeen, waxayna si wadajir ah u sameeyeen qabyo qoraaleedka qorshaha istiraatiijiyadeed ee horumarinta magaalada oo waafaqsan **Qorshaha Horumarinta Degmada (DDF)** xiriirna la leh mashruuca qorshaynta **maalgashiga magaalooyinka somaliyeed** ee uu wado Bangiga adduunka.

Si gaara, qorshahaani wuxuu ka gacan siinayaa golaha deegaanka diyaarinta, go'aminta iyo ansixinta mashaariicda maalgashiga degmada eek u xusan qorshaha horumarinta degmada, si magaalada iyo degmada ay ugu sahlayaanto gaaridda yoolka horumarineed si sugan.

Buuggan waa qayb ka midah qorshe hawleed mashruuca bahwadaagta dowlada hoose ee JPLG isagoo wadashaqayn dhow la leh dowladda hoose Garowe, Dowladda Puntland iyo Bangiga adduunka.

## 2. GAROWE CITY INFORMATION

### LOCATION AND REGIONAL CONTEXT

Garowe city is the capital of the Puntland State of Somalia and one of the four districts in the Nugaal region in Puntland. It is located North-East of the intersection of Puntland, Southern Somalia, Somaliland and Ethiopia and has a transverse North-South highway connecting major cities in northern and southern Somalia: Bossaso, major port on the Gulf of Aden, Galkayo, capital of Mudug region, and Mogadishu, the main national urban centre.

Garowe city is the administrative capital of Puntland as well as the seat of the executive, parliament and judiciary branches of the government. It remains a key part of the region and continues to provide fairly good health, education, water and electricity services.

### GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

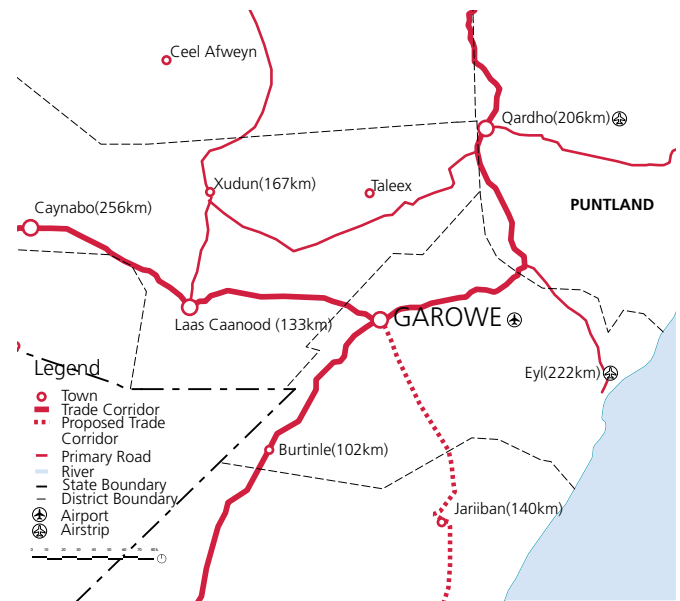
An armonised structure for local government has been endorsed by the Ministry of Interior but not yet fully implemented. Once in place, as a district A Garowe will have a structure of departments and units as shown below.

Garowe district consist of thirty one administrative villages. Nine of these are located within the capital of Garowe. The local administration comprises the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Local Council, Executive Secretary (appointed by the Ministry of Interior) and departments. The Mayor Ahmed Said Muse was elected by city councillors on August 29, 2018.

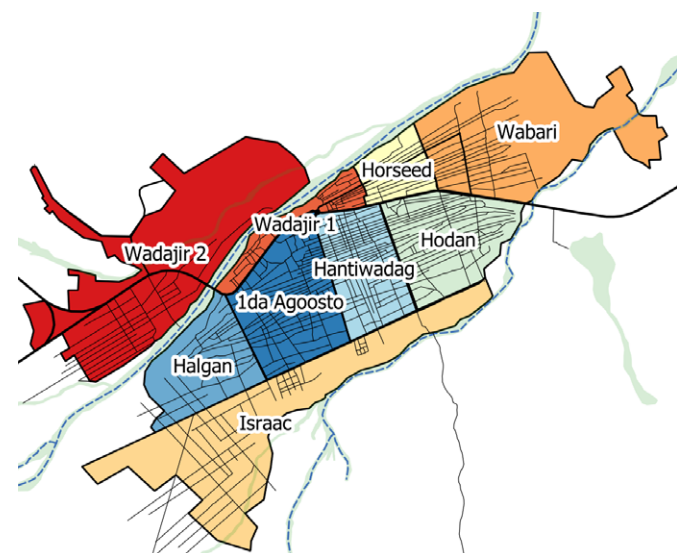
The Local Council is elected by clan elders, and performs the mandated constitutional authorities, duties and responsibilities as per Law No.7 of 18<sup>th</sup> September 2003 on the Laws of the District Councils of the Puntland State of Somalia.

The council is guided by the District Development Framework (DDF) – a 5-year plan developed in consultation with the Joint Programme on Local Governance and Decentralised Service Delivery (JPLG). The DDF process has been supported by UNDP and is linked to a participatory process to bring together local communities with their accountable governments and agencies.

The municipality has tried to establish boundaries for the urban area of the city, in order to clearly define areas for development and protect grazing lands. However the definition of the boundary requires a more precise survey, to link it to existing landmarks and recognisable features and nor arbitrary points hardly recognisable without a map.



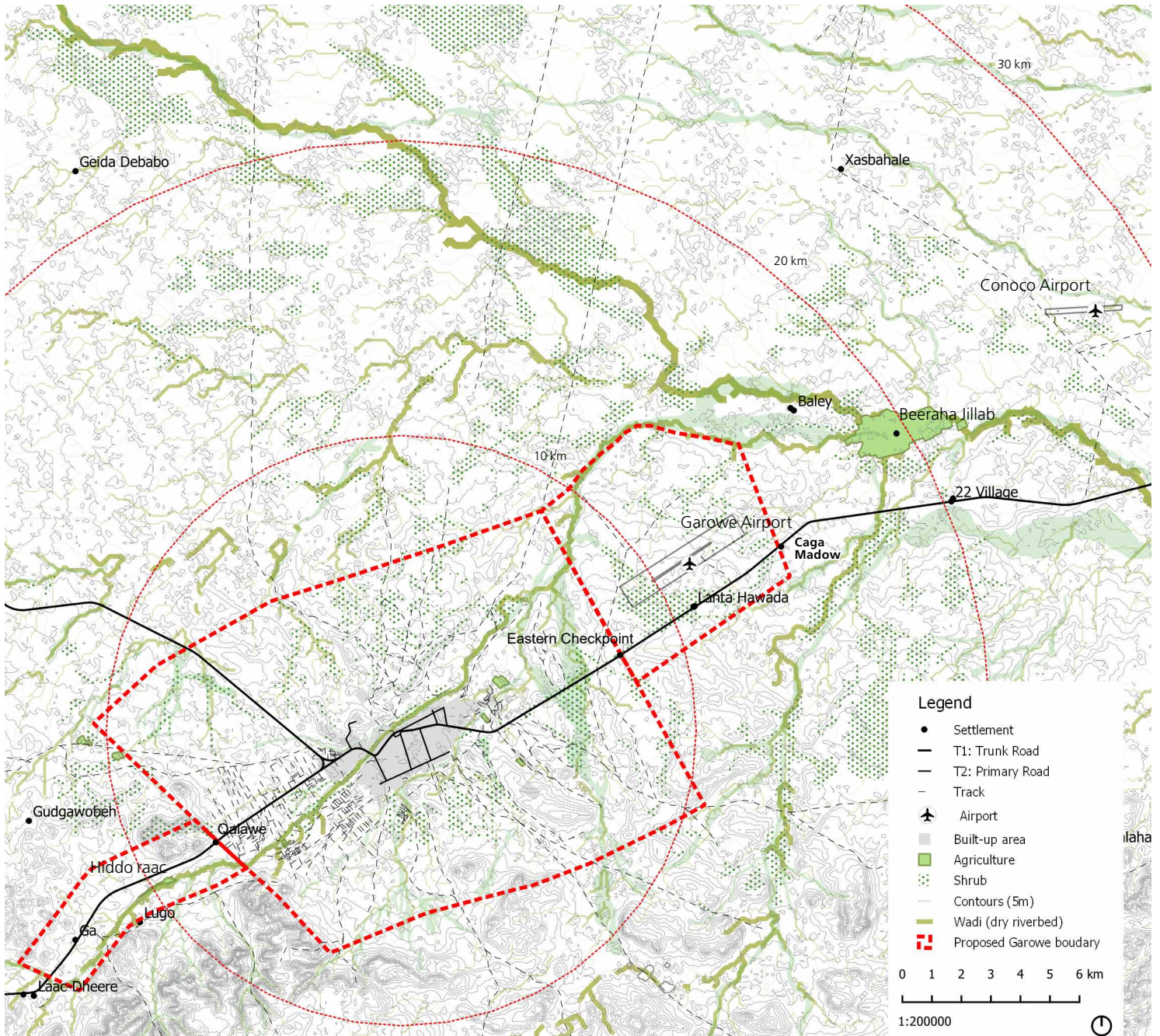
Garowe's Regional Context



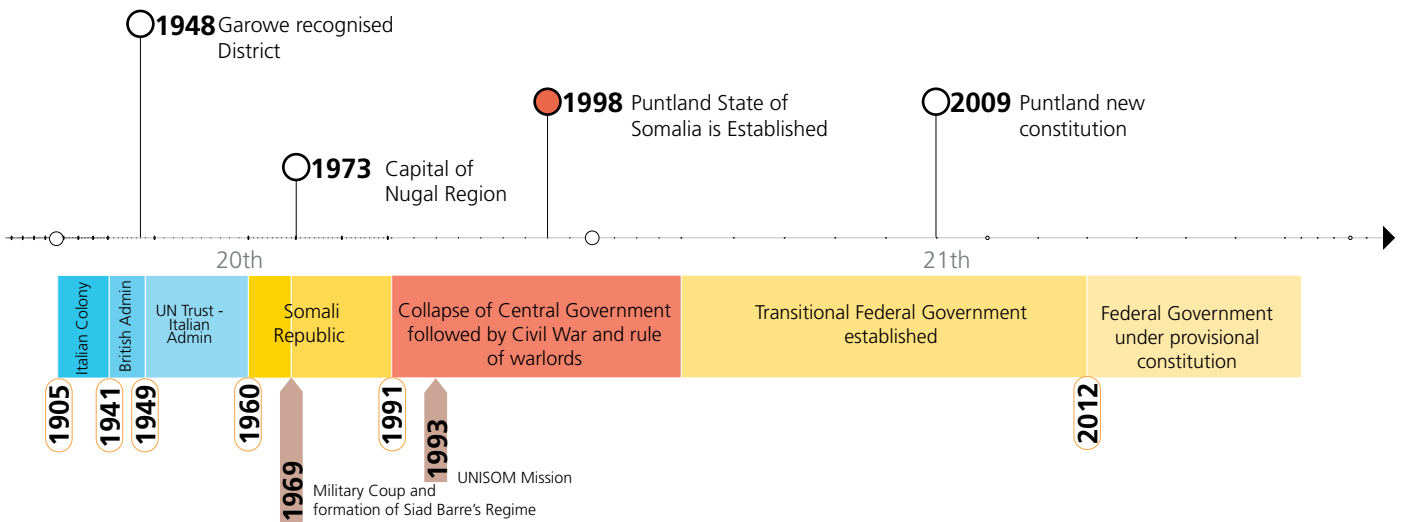
Garowe Administrative Villages

Mayor																																							
V. Mayor																																							
Executive Secretary		Internal Audit																																					
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>SOCIAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT</th> <th>PLANNING DEPARTMENT</th> <th>PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT</th> <th>REVENUE &amp; TAXATION DEPARTMENT</th> <th>ADMIN &amp; FINANCE DEPARTMENT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Primary Health Unit</td> <td>Monitoring &amp; Evaluation Unit</td> <td>Engineering &amp; Topography Unit</td> <td>Property Unit</td> <td>HRM Unit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Water, Sanitation &amp; Hygiene (wash) Unit</td> <td>Statistic Unit</td> <td>Asset Registration Unit</td> <td>Business Unit</td> <td>Procurement Unit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Basic Education Unit</td> <td>Local Economic Planning &amp; Development Unit</td> <td>Land Conflict Resolution Unit</td> <td>Market Unit</td> <td>Accounting Unit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Village liaison &amp; IDPs Unit</td> <td>Resource Unit</td> <td>Spatial Planning Unit</td> <td>Revenue Mobilization Unit</td> <td>ICT Unit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Environment &amp; Recreational (Sport) Unit</td> <td>Civil Register Unit</td> <td>Roads &amp; Transport Unit</td> <td></td> <td>Casual Support Unit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gender &amp; Social Welfare</td> <td></td> <td>Safety &amp; Security</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					SOCIAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT	PLANNING DEPARTMENT	PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT	REVENUE & TAXATION DEPARTMENT	ADMIN & FINANCE DEPARTMENT	Primary Health Unit	Monitoring & Evaluation Unit	Engineering & Topography Unit	Property Unit	HRM Unit	Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (wash) Unit	Statistic Unit	Asset Registration Unit	Business Unit	Procurement Unit	Basic Education Unit	Local Economic Planning & Development Unit	Land Conflict Resolution Unit	Market Unit	Accounting Unit	Village liaison & IDPs Unit	Resource Unit	Spatial Planning Unit	Revenue Mobilization Unit	ICT Unit	Environment & Recreational (Sport) Unit	Civil Register Unit	Roads & Transport Unit		Casual Support Unit	Gender & Social Welfare		Safety & Security		
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District A Harmonized Structure



Garowe and its hinterland, with the boundaries of the city as approved by the district council



Timeline of significant event of Garowe between 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century

### 3. URBAN GROWTH AND DEMOGRAPHICS

#### PEOPLE AND DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

The population of Garowe has been steadily growing, due to stability in the region. There are a large numbers of IDPs and returnees, who fled conflict in other parts of Somalia, as well as large number of Ethiopian and Yemeni refugees who settled in Garowe, pursuing employment opportunities and a better lifestyle.

Nugaal Region has a low urbanization rate. Rural areas are scarce, and as a result rural settlements are rare. The biggest percentage of the population maintains a nomadic life. However, Nugaal urban centres, and especially Garowe, have steadily grown in the past years.

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) estimated in 2014 the urban population of Garowe District to be around 100,000.<sup>1</sup> Garowe city's Local Government suggests a slightly larger number, of up to 150,000 people. In comparison with data from UNDP 2005 the population has more than doubled in less than 10 years.<sup>2</sup>

It is important to note that winter and summer population differs since many people from coastal regions with hot summer temperatures and high humidity spend some months inland.

#### POPULATION ESTIMATION OF NUGAAL REGION 2014

<b>Urban Population</b>	<b>138,929</b>	<b>35.4%</b>
Male pop.	68,300	49.2%
Female pop.	70,629	50.8%
Households:	23,110	
Household size:	6.0 (national average: 6.4)	
<b>Rural Population</b>	<b>31,047</b>	<b>7.9%</b>
Male pop.	15,249	9.1%
Female pop.	15,798	50.9%
Households:	4,658	
Household size:	6.3 (national average: 5.8)	
<b>Nomadic Population</b>	<b>213,227</b>	<b>54.3%</b>
Male pop.	111,469	52.3%
Female pop.	101,758	47.7%
Households:	33,367	
Household size:	6.4 (national average: 6.5)	
<b>IDP:</b>	<b>9,495</b>	<b>2.4%</b>
Male pop.	4,653	49.0%
Female pop.	4,842	51.0%
Households:	1,800	
Household size:	5.3 (national average: 3.7)	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>392,697</b>	

#### URBAN GROWTH

Garowe city has been experiencing rapid urban growth since the collapse of the central government in 1991, taking advantage also of its status as a political and administrative capital.

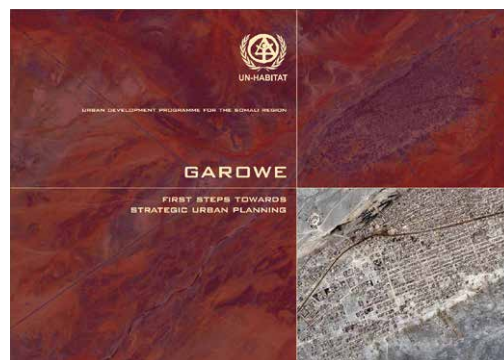
The population influx in the early 1990's and the return of IDPs returnees who fled conflict have led to continuous population growth in the district.

The city is known for its good hierarchy of roads and is characterized by a compact form, with an average density of roughly 80-100 people/ha.

In 2008 UN-Habitat supported the development of the first Spatial Strategic Plan of the city, within the framework of the "Urban Development Programme for the Somali Region". In a series of public consultation the city identified challenges, priorities and areas of intervention, and outlined a vision for the future of Garowe:

**"A city with well developed social services, good environment and infrastructure, and successful business and industry."**

Even with some modification, this plan was able to guide the growth of the city for the last nine years, and contributed to the creation of a compact city, accomodating new expansions in the vacant space of the consolidated urban fabric and allowing for a cost-efficient maintenance of the urban services and infrastructure. New demarcations have followed the existing grid south of the city and can provide an ordered structure for the city expansion.



Garowe: First Steps Towards Strategic Urban Planning

However, the city has already surpassed the extent of that plan, and construction have spread in direction which were

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