# DADAAB REGENERATION STRATEGY

Enhancing Self-Reliance for Refugees and Hosting Communities
in Garissa County, Kenya

November 2023

# Acknowledgements

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With the kind collaboration of the
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Fig. 1: Shelters of New Arrivals at Periphery of Dagahaley Camp
(UN-Habitat, 2022)

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# Abbreviations

| | |
|---|---|
| AAK | Architectural Association of Kenya |
| ABE | Alternative Basic Education |
| AJS | Alternative Justice Systems |
| ASAL | Arid and Semi-Arid Lands |
| ASDSP II | Agriculture Sector Development Support Programme Phase Two |
| CBO | Community Based Organisation |
| CDD | Community Driven Development |
| CDPs | Community Development Plans |
| CECM | County Executive Committee Member |
| CFSP | County Fiscal Strategy Paper |
| CIDP | County Integrated Development Plan |
| CIWA | Cooperation in International Waters in Africa |
| CPG | Community Planning Group |
| CRA | Commission on Revenue Allocation |
| CRRF | Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework |
| DANIDA | Danish International Development Agency |
| DRC | Danish Refugee Council |
| DRR | Disaster Risk Reduction |
| DRS | Department of Refugee Services |
| EAC | East African Community |
| ECD | Early Childhood Development |
| EEZ | Economic Enterprise Zone |
| EMCA | Environmental Management and Coordination Act of 1999 |
| ESA | East and Southern Africa |
| ESIA | Environmental and Social Impact Assessment |
| EU | European Union |
| EUTF | European Union Trust Fund |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organisation |
| FRADI | Fraternity for Development Integrated |
| FY | Fiscal Year |
| GAWASCO | Garissa Water and Sewerage Company |
| GCG | Garissa County Government |
| GCM | Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration |
| GCP | Gross County Product |
| GCR | Global Compact on Refugees |
| GDP | Gross Domestic Product |
| GIS | Geographic Information System |
| GLTN | Global Land Tool Network |

| | |
|---|---|
| GoK | Government of Kenya |
| HH | Household |
| HoAGDP | Horn of Africa Gateway Development Project |
| ICRAF | International Council for Research in Agroforestry (World Agroforestry) |
| ICT | Information and Communications Technology |
| IDA | International Development Association |
| IDP/s | Internally Displaced Person/People |
| IDeP | Integrated Development Plan |
| IFC | International Finance Corporation |
| IGAD | Intergovernmental Authority on Development |
| ILRI | International Livestock Research Institute |
| INGO | International Non-Governmental Organisation |
| IPF | Institute of Public Finance |
| IRC | International Rescue Committee |
| ISUD | Integrated Strategic Urban Development Plan |
| KADP | Kenya Accountable Devolution Program |
| KDRDIP | Kenya Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project |
| KeNHA | Kenya National Highways Authority |
| KeRRA | Kenya Rural Roads Authority |
| KES | Kenyan Shilling |
| KIP | Kenya Institute of Planners |
| KMTC | Kenya Medical Training College |
| KNBS | Kenya National Bureau of Statistics |
| KPLC | Kenya Power and Lighting Company |
| KRA PIN | Kenya Revenue Authority Personal Identification Number |
| KRCS | Kenya Red Cross Society |
| KUSP2 | Second Kenya Urban Support Programme |
| KYC | Know Your Customer (Regulations) |
| LAPSSET | Lamu Port South Sudan Ethiopia Transport |
| LVC | Land Value Capture |
| MoH | Ministry of Health |
| MoU | Memorandum of Understanding |
| MP | Member of Parliament |
| MSF | Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders) |
| MSMEs | Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises |
| NACHU | National Cooperative Housing Union |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| NEC | Northern Economic Corridor | | UNHCR | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees |
| NEMA | National Environment Management Authority | | USAID | United States Agency for International Development |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organisation | | VSLAs | Village and Savings Loans Associations |
| NLC | National Land Commission | | WASH | Water Sanitation and Hygiene |
| NMT | Non-Motorised Transport | | WASREB | Water Services Regulatory Board |
| NSP | National Strategic Plan | | WB | The World Bank |
| NRC | Norwegian Refugee Council | | WFP | World Food Programme |
| NUA | New Urban Agenda | | WHO | World Health Organization |
| OCOB | The Office of the Controller of Budget | | WHR | Window for Host Communities and Refugees |
| OSR | Own Source Revenue | | WSDP | Water and Sanitation Development Project |
| PAHs | Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons | | WSPs | Water Service Providers |
| PFM | Public Finance Management Act, 2012 | | WWDAs | Water Works Development Agencies |
| PLUPA | Physical and Land Use Planning Act, 2019 | | | |
| PoCs | People (Persons) of Concern | | | |
| PPP | Public Private Partnership | | | |
| PSV/s | Public Service Vehicle/s | | | |
| RAS | Refugee Affairs Secretariat | | | |
| RAP | Resettlement Action Plan | | | |
| RRR | Resource Recovery and Reuse | | | |
| SACCOs | Savings and Credit Co-Operative Societies | | | |
| SBP | Single Business Permit | | | |
| SDF | Spatial Development Framework | | | |
| SDGs | Sustainable Development Goals | | | |
| SDMUAK | Street Design Manual for Urban Areas in Kenya | | | |
| SEZ | Special Economic Zone | | | |
| SGBV | Sexual and Gender-Based Violence | | | |
| SMEs | Small and Medium-sized Enterprises | | | |
| SPA | Special Planning Area | | | |
| STDM | Social Tenure Domain Model | | | |
| TBC | To Be Confirmed | | | |
| TBD | To Be Determined | | | |
| TVET | Technical and Vocational Education and Training | | | |
| UACA | Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011 (Amended 2019) | | | |
| UDHR | Universal Declaration of Human Rights | | | |
| UN | United Nations | | | |
| UNDRR | United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction | | | |
| UN-Habitat | United Nations Human Settlements Programme | | | |

# Executive Summary

**Regeneration** is the process of revitalising and unlocking the potential of a community that is being held back due to certain urban and development challenges. Dadaab is a unique area, as host to a significant longstanding and growing refugee population, that faces many challenges, economically, socially, environmentally, and physically, and, as a result, is in need of targeted and holistic regeneration.

In response, the Dadaab Regeneration Strategy presented here is an output of a programme that has been implemented in three phases:

**Phase One** involved, first, an in depth analysis, in the form of the **Dadaab Spatial Profile**, that aims to provide a consolidated and spatialised overview of the Dadaab area and is part of a wider set of project initiatives that examine how the socio-economic development of the area can be enhanced. Second, it included a socio-economic survey designed to establish a baseline understanding of the prevailing socio-economic conditions, the nature of businesses, and the local economic development in Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties, as well as the broader trends of urbanisation in Garissa County and the wider region.

**Phase Two** involved the development of a five to ten year **Dadaab Future Vision** for the area through a visioning process in which the host and refugee communities of Dadaab, the Garissa County and Fafi and Dadaab Sub-County Governments, and humanitarian and development partners active in the region defined the future that they envision for the area. This vision encapsulates the positive aspects of Dadaab that should be protected and promoted while identifying and addressing the major challenges that the current and future residents face. This process resulted in the creation of a shared future vision statement, map, and goals.

**Phase Three** of the project has resulted in the development of the detailed regeneration strategy proposal, presented in this report, for Dadaab Refugee Complex and the adjoining communities, which emphasises projects and initiatives that support the realisation of the core components of the previously established **Dadaab Future Vision**, including accessibility, inclusion, security, prosperity, resilience, sustainability, and good governance.

Together, the recommended strategies, interventions, and actions presented in this report seek to contribute to the achievement of these goals while promoting the objectives of good urban planning and development, while promoting economic viability, attracting external investment, restoring degraded environments, and improving the standards of living for the communities of Dadaab, refugee and host alike, in a sustainable and enduring manner.

The report is organised into five main chapters as follows:

1. **Chapter 1: Introduction**, which provides a general introduction and background to the study including a summary of the overall programme, a brief introduction to the concept of regeneration, as adapted for the humanitarian-development context, and the planning process and methodology utilised in the creation of this report.

2. **Chapter 2: Policy and Legal Considerations**, which provides a brief explanation of the relevant local, national, and international policies and legal frameworks of particular interest for alignment and that will be critical to the successful implementation of the proposed actions and interventions.

3. **Chapter 3: Situational Analysis**, which presents a brief updated examination of the relevant conditions in Dadaab, including: housing, land, and property, demographics and density, local economic development, public facilities, infrastructure and basic services, and environmental conditions and natural hazards. The chapter goes on to present an overview of the important ongoing and planned future projects alongside a brief explanation of how they relate to what is proposed in this report.

4. **Chapter 4: Regeneration Concept Plan**, which describes what regeneration might look like in the context of Dadaab and how to move from planning to transformation. The chapter also introduces the proposed regeneration strategies and interventions and their correlation to the previously established future vision and goals with a particular focus on the objectives of good planning.

5. **Chapter 5: Towards Implementation**, which builds on the proposed concept plan by presenting more tangible and detailed action plans for implementation, including recommendations for sequencing and coordination, as well as an overview of potential financing sources and strategies. This final chapter also briefly summarises the report and proposes a general way forward, including some of the key considerations for promoting the successful realisation of this regeneration strategy in the current context.

*Fig. 2: Daily Activity on a Market Street in Dagahaley Camp*
*(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

Fig. 3: Temporary Shelters in Dagahaley Camp
(Paul Odongo, MSF, 2021)
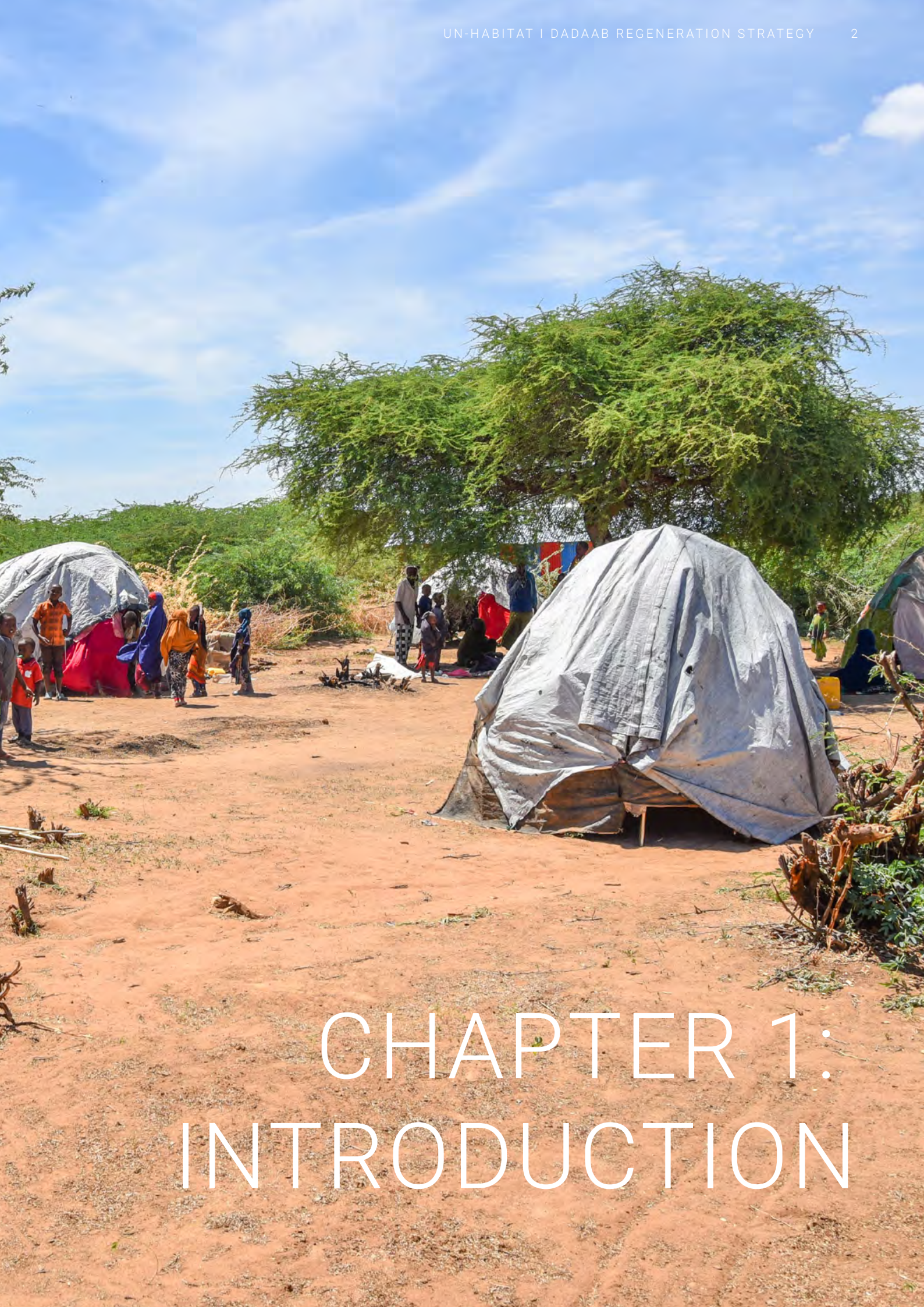
# CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

# 1.1 Project Summary

### 1.1.1 Project Overview

In collaboration with the Garissa County Government, the Department of Refugee Services (DRS), host and refugee communities, United Nations partners, and other stakeholders, UN-Habitat has prepared this Regeneration Strategy for the Dadaab area. This output is part of the European Union funded programme, "**Enhancing Self Reliance for Refugees and Hosting Communities in Kenya**," under which a range of outputs have been prepared.

The programme has consisted of three main interlinked phases:

1. **Phase 1: Profiling** - baseline survey and spatial profiling
2. **Phase 2: Visioning** - developing a strategic future vision and scenario building
3. **Phase 3: Regeneration** - defining regeneration strategies and actions to achieve the previously established vision

These components have led to a series of outputs, of which, this report is the third and final one.

**Phase 1** - The **Dadaab Spatial Profile** provides a succinct overview of the Dadaab area and is part of a wider set of project initiatives that examine how the socio-economic development of the area can be enhanced, holistically to benefit both refugees and host communities living in the area. Complementing the Spatial Profile is the **Report on Socio-Economic Conditions, Businesses, and Local Economic Development in Dadaab**, which identifies the socioeconomic conditions of the region, in order to design future interventions.

These two outputs allow local stakeholders to get a comprehensive spatial understanding of the existing situation as a basis for decision-making, long-term urban development strategies, and infrastructure investment planning.

**Phase 2** - The **Dadaab Future Vision** provides the foundation for this Regeneration Strategy. Through a process of participatory engagement, research and analysis and building upon the analytical work from the first component, UN-Habitat prepared a report that diagnoses the critical development challenges of Dadaab, its constantly changing context and its vulnerability to natural hazards such as drought and flooding, and emphasises potential opportunities of the area to tap on. The report identifies a collaborative future vision for Dadaab, which is summarised by the Vision Statement:

*"By 2030, the Dadaab area will be accessible, inclusive, safe and economically prosperous while still protecting its natural environment and pastoralist livelihood through improved access to facilities and services, well managed land and resources and improved community engagement. The Dadaab area will achieve its potential for integration, diversified employment opportunities, climate resilience, and improved quality of life."*

Alongside this statement, seven vision and enabler goals were identified and illustrated on a vision map, which



*Fig. 4: Programme Overview: Phasing and Outputs*

would support in achieving the Vision Statement. These goals were defined as:

1. Accessibility and Connectivity
2. Social Inclusion and Security
3. Prosperity and Economic Diversity
4. Resilient Environments
5. Sustainable Infrastructure
6. Resource and Land Management
7. Good Governance

**Phase 3** - This **Regeneration Strategy** takes the Vision Statement from the previous phase and the component goals as a guiding mission, but also acknowledges that this vision can only be delivered if regeneration is approached in an integrated manner. Stakeholders, which include the Garissa County Government, UNHCR, implementing partners, private sector actors, and the host and refugee communities, need to take a coordinated approach to the implementation of the proposed actions and interventions. For this matter, the regeneration phase proposes an action plan outlining the interventions needed and their sequencing in order to guide the incremental transformation of the area into sustainable and integrated settlements.

The programme overall process has been highly participatory and consultative, adopting an area based approach informed by an integrated design and planning approach that is all inclusive and would result in recommendations that take into consideration the economic, physical, socio-cultural and environmental aspects of the planning area.

The planning process was also highly informed by local legislation that influences development in the area. For example, the Garissa Integrated Socio-Economic Development Program (GISEDP) and the Garissa County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) ensure that there is a synergy in growth and investment plans in the area.

### 1.1.2 Scope

This Regeneration Strategy aims to provide a suite of validated strategies, interventions, and actions that addresses crucial issues to spur the economic, socio-cultural, environmental, and physical regeneration of Dadaab. The plan will serve as a valuable strategic guide for the Garissa County Government to facilitate implementation of key aspects of the forthcoming next generation of the Garissa CIDP as well as being a supporting document for the implementation of the GISEDP Phase 1, which was launched in September 2023.

### 1.1.3 Target Audience

This regeneration strategy is the product of consultations with representatives of the Garissa County Government, Dadaab and Fafi Sub-County Governments, UNHCR, and other humanitarian and development partners working in Dadaab and Garissa County. It is intended to be used by these various stakeholders, as well as the National Government, other UN Agencies, INGOs, NGOs, CBOs, and the municipality boards in Garissa County to support and inform future planning, decision making, and investment in the area.



*Fig. 5: Validation Workshop*
*(UN-Habitat, 2023)*

# 1.2 Concept of Regeneration

### 1.2.1 Principles of Regeneration

Urban Regeneration includes local policies and strategies designed to overcome the existing urban challenges that natural market forces alone may be insufficient to solve. It is a process that supports sustainable development as a tool to unlock the potential of an urban area that is being held back from positive growth and general progress.[1] Regeneration is generally undertaken as an approach to recovering underutilised assets and redistributing opportunities with the goal of increasing urban prosperity and quality of life for current and future residents.[2] Regeneration aims to build or restore economic viability, attract external investment, restore degraded physical and natural environments, and improve the living standards of communities in an inclusive, sustainable, and enduring manner. By capitalising on existing but often under-exploited opportunities, a regeneration strategy establishes a multidimensional plan for transforming settlements through improvements that span economic, environmental, social/cultural, physical, and governance dimensions.[3]

Urban Regeneration, which can sometimes also overlap with the related concepts of Urban Renewal, Reconstruction, Revitalisation, Rehabilitation, and Redevelopment, is a more holistic and integrated approach that aims to incorporate the varied goals of these other approaches.[4] Each of these other concepts have typically had a narrower focus, with Reconstruction primarily concerned with the physical dimension;
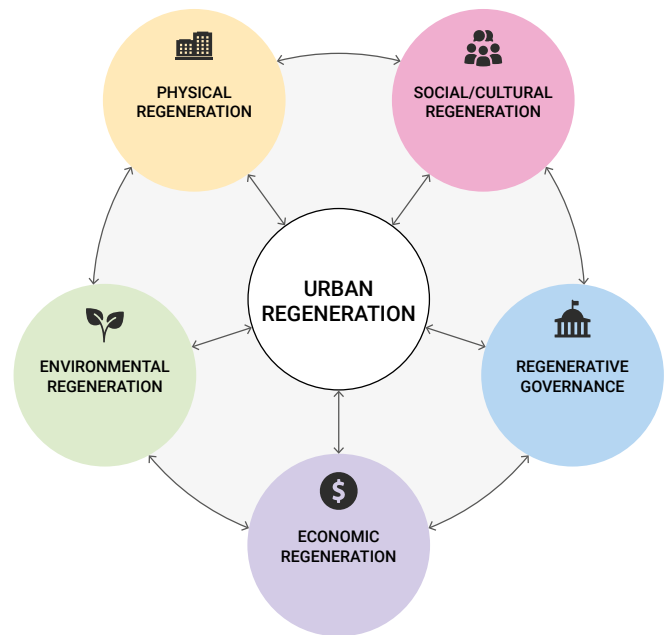


*Fig. 6: Traditional Dimensions of Urban Regeneration*

Revitalisation with the social, cultural, and economic dimensions; Redevelopment with the economic and governance dimensions; and Renewal with the physical, social, and economic dimensions. Regeneration, however, is generally understood as the broadest approach, as it aims to encompass all of these interrelated concerns, which are each considered vital to achieving sustainable and integrated urban regeneration in any context.[5]

Social and Cultural Regeneration activities aim to foster community and collaboration, preserve and celebrate cultural and historic heritage, and improve overall quality of life through expanded access to public social services such as affordable housing, education, and healthcare. In addition, efforts made to improve public safety and security further strengthen community participation and the development of a collective social and cultural identity, which can inspire civic pride and promote expanded participation. Cultural institutions such as galleries, theatres, and museums that support the arts while preserving and celebrating cultural heritage alongside safe, accessible, and inclusive public spaces that encourage an active civic life and community engagement for all are also important elements of Social and Cultural Regeneration.

Environmental Regeneration aims to promote responsible management of the natural resources that support a safe, healthy, and prosperous relationship between cities and the lands and environments that they occupy. This includes responsible human, solid, and industrial waste management, alongside the preservation of clean air,

*Table 1: Traditional Dimensions of Urban Regeneration*

| Concept of Urban Transformation[6, 7] | Dimensional Focus | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Physical | Economic | Social/Cultural | Environmental | Governance |
| Reconstruction | ● | | | | |
| Redevelopment | ● | ● | | | |
| Revitalisation | | ● | ● | | |
| Rehabilitation | ● | | | ● | |
| Renewal | ● | ● | ● | | |
| Regeneration | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |

*Fig. 7: An Access Road Into Dagahaley Camp Used by Firewood Harvesters*
*(Paul Odongo, MSF, 2021)*
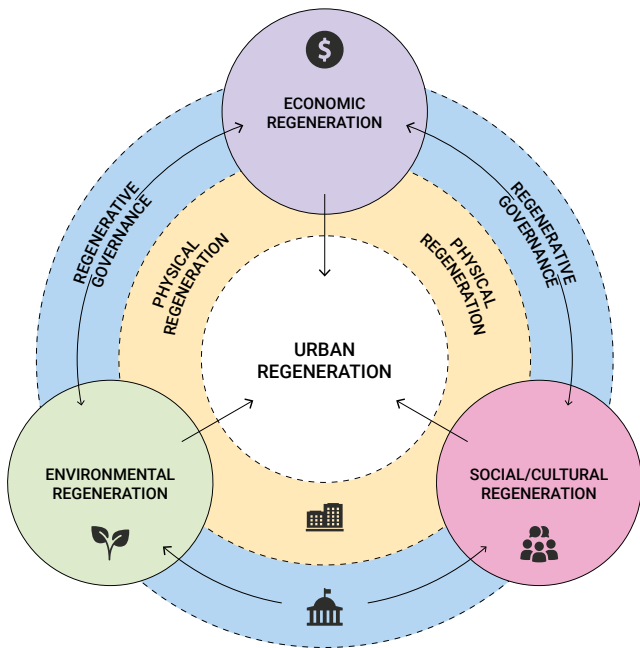
*Fig. 8: Integrated Dimensions of Urban Regeneration in the Humanitarian-Development Context*

water, and land, and sustainable energy sourcing and consumption. Where previous environmental damage has been done, Environmental Regeneration may often include the rehabilitation of these environmental conditions, as well as the establishment of conservation areas in order to rehabilitate or preserve natural areas. In an era of climate change, Environmental Regeneration should also include strategies of both adaptation and mitigation to protect communities against anticipated and future environmental risks and hazards and limit ongoing contributions to the underlying causes.

Economic Regeneration activities aim to establish conditions that promote business, attract investment, generate municipal revenue through taxation, create employment opportunities, and nurture a skilled workforce with strong and reliable income potential. The goal of Economic Regeneration is to foster an entrepreneurial culture of innovation to support resilient and sustainable livelihoods and the creation of cities and neighbourhoods where people want to live and work. By expanding commercial activity, Economic Regeneration can result in overall reduced unemployment, poverty alleviation, and increased land and property values. Combined, these outcomes may all encourage additional investment and attract outside businesses, which will contribute to sustained growth while raising present standards.

Physical Regeneration, which can sometimes also be understood as Reconstruction, Rehabilitation, or

Redevelopment, aims to improve the formal aspects of an urban area, often deploying the tools and techniques of urban planning, engineering, and architecture. The focus of Physical Regeneration is, therefore, on elements of the built environment, including buildings, physical infrastructure, and on management of the inhabited and built-up land itself. Physical Regeneration can involve interventions that address challenges at a wide range of scales from transportation infrastructure that may address connectivity and accessibility challenges at a regional scale to zoning and land management that may affect change at an urban or neighbourhood scale to proper maintenance and rehabilitation of individual buildings and structures that have fallen into disrepair. Strategies may include demolition or clearing where existing elements of the physical environment should be removed or replaced in order to promote redevelopment. In areas of the built environment with a particular assessed historic or cultural value, strategies might also include historic preservation and adaptive reuse as aspects of effective redevelopment.

Regenerative Governance aims to support and promote these various other forms of regeneration from a policy perspective with the goal of enabling durable and sustainable solutions and the generation of and eventual direction of municipal resources and revenues toward these efforts, as well. Regenerative Governance is achieved with greatest success when efforts are made to encourage active participation by the various affected communities and engaged participants are given agency in the decision-making processes shaping their cities. Regenerative Governance includes each of the systems and actors that guide how collective decisions regarding a city are made and how the information and data that guide those decisions are gathered, analysed, and distributed publicly. Regenerative Governance is a critical tool for successfully implementing any of the goals of Urban Regeneration, and critically, to ensure the durability of any actions taken.

### 1.2.2 Urban Regeneration in the Humanitarian-Development Context

Although Urban Regeneration efforts may be most commonly undertaken in more well-established urban environments with longer, and perhaps more traditional histories, there is good reason to apply the logic of urban regeneration in protracted humanitarian and development contexts, as well. Wherever urban conditions that resemble those often targeted for regeneration in more traditional settings are present, and especially where governing bodies have begun to adopt the planning and development strategies of a long term settlement, regeneration can offer a pathway to

*Table 2: Conditions for successful implementation of urban regeneration in the Humanitarian-Development Context*

| Conditions for Successful Implementation of Urban Regeneration in the Humanitarian-Development Context | | Situation in Dadaab |
|---|---|---|
| Protracted Situation | Refugee camps and/or settlements have existed for a significant period of time and show no immediate signs of closure or significant population decline as a result of voluntary repatriation, return, or resettlement. | Dadaab Refugee Complex has existed for over 30 years (since 1991). |
| Political Willingness and Engagement | Local and national government support and participation at all levels. | Government officials have signalled support for the conferral of the affected camps and settlements across Dadaab Refugee Complex as a nationally recognised and locally governed municipalities, and the process to fully accomplish this goal is well underway. |
| Social Relations | Good inter-community relations between and within host and displaced communities throughout the settlements. | Long-term and generally positive relationships between host and refugee communities in Dadaab are well established. |
| Policy Environment | Policy frameworks are in place to provide a concrete foundation to build from, ideally, some of these existing frameworks can help to provide some "guarantee" of continued support/ engagement by the relevant stakeholders. | Changing local dynamics from County development plans and new municipalities established that incorporates Dadaab Refugee Complex, and, as well, national policies such as the forthcoming Shirika Plan, Kenya's Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), Kenya Refugees Act 2021, etc. (See **Chapter 2: Policy and Legal Considerations** for further detail). |
| Economic Activity | The opportunity for the development of economic activities that could support self sufficiency as a settlement transitions away from a reliance on humanitarian aid and intervention and rural agrarian and pastoralist subsistence activities. | As has been demonstrated through the various studies and reports (e.g., Socio-Economic Survey, Markets Profile, and others) undertaken to examine the economic conditions in Dadaab Refugee Complex, there is a vibrant informal economy already present that demonstrates meaningful potential for the regularisation of existing activities and the further development of a strong urban economy. |

analysing current conditions and developing solutions to the existing challenges all while contributing to efforts to shift toward more durable and sustainable models of human settlement.

Of course, there are unique aspects of regeneration to be considered within the humanitarian-development context of a refugee or IDP camp, and these must be incorporated in any regeneration strategy for Dadaab. When first established, humanitarian camps are not intended to be permanent urban settlements, and are typically associated with rapid and often unmanaged growth, inefficient land-use, and short-sighted single-year planning. If planned, they are often planned as temporary camps and not with the intention of ever developing into anything resembling more formal urbanisation patterns. Furthermore, in the humanitarian context, initial action is typically responding to a particular emergency or crisis in real-time and is therefore more apolitical and focused primarily on needs-based life-saving and protection measures. In that sense, Urban Regeneration is more commonly a tool of development, where action is more long-term and rights-based.

However, in practice, the expectation that refugee camps, like those established in Garissa and Turkana more than thirty years ago, will be temporary and in place for only a short time often does not align with the reality on the ground, where protracted displacement can often require that such settlements remain long beyond their intended or planned lifespan. As time passes, the

nature of such settlements naturally evolves and the need for regeneration may become apparent. Within the more traditional context of urban development, regeneration may often encompass areas of a city that have changed use over time, such as industrial zones that have been abandoned or informally developed areas where infrastructure and services have not been well implemented yet. Slum upgrading, for example, might be considered as one form of urban regeneration and also one that might most closely resemble the activities of planning for urban regeneration in the humanitarian-development context. In many ways, humanitarian camps represent one type of urbanism that will inherently require regeneration, if it persists.

For this report, the traditional areas of urban regeneration, as presented in the previous section, have been reframed slightly to reflect an evolved understanding of the relationships between the various components. As the focus of this report is to present a regeneration strategy from an urban planning perspective, it can be understood that the primary themes of Environmental, Economic, and Social and Cultural Regeneration should be largely proposed, managed, and implemented through the tools of Regenerative Governance and be made manifest as Physical Regeneration through various forms of spatial planning. It is also important, therefore, to understand that these various areas of regeneration are, in fact, intersectional and should not be considered individually, because they can meaningfully affect one another and

strategies will often touch multiple dimensions.

As the focus of this report, Dadaab Refugee Complex were first established over thirty years ago, along with a continuous population growth over that time. This has resulted in them demonstrating many of the characteristics of emerging urban environments, without previously being recognised as such. However, with the aspirations laid out in "The New Way of Working," the United Nations has acknowledged the need for humanitarian and development actors to cooperate more closely to leverage their comparative advantages, especially in the context of protracted displacement, as in situations like Dadaab, in order to achieve collective outcomes that reduce risks and vulnerabilities, while strengthening resilience.

Although some uncertainty generally persists around the future of refugee camps, even ones with histories as long as Dadaab Refugee Complex, as they may be closed at any time, history has shown that it is just as likely that they will remain inhabited as human settlements in one form or another long into the future, even if their status evolves over time. Understanding that, these settlements need to be planned for what they are, which is long-term settlements for communities who envision a meaningful future there for themselves and for their families. Urban

regeneration offers many of the tools and strategies for redeveloping a humanitarian settlement and supporting its strategic transition into one that demonstrates the characteristics of sustainable urbanism.

In addition to the typical goals and actions generally associated with urban regeneration, though, there are some additional concerns specific to the Humanitarian-Development context that should also be considered. Critically, Social and Cultural Regeneration activities in this context should prioritise social cohesion, as it is common that disparate communities sharing an area may have differing backgrounds and distinct or competing interests. Therefore, regeneration strategies should promote social integration and cooperation between all present and affected communities where possible, but with a particular focus on relations between refugee (or displaced) communities and hosting communities. In this way, it is also important to build community and nurture the development of a new unified collective sense of place associated with a singular shared urban identity on which to develop civic pride. It is important to still celebrate, represent, and preserve space for all of the present cultures and identities while promoting inclusivity through social and cultural initiatives and institutions.

When considering the environmental dimension in the



*Fig. 9: Boda Boda Staging Area in Dagahaley Market*
*(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

humanitarian-development context, although strategies largely overlap with those applied in traditional urban regeneration, some of the underlying conditions are often unique. It is common, for example, for refugee and IDP camps to be established in relatively rural areas and those already at relatively higher risk of experiencing environmental hazards. These areas often have limited infrastructure or previous development and are therefore not well-equipped to mitigate these risks or respond to disasters. A large and sudden population influx can be a real shock to the surrounding environments and the host populations that reside there, as well. These are often small rural villages that have long relationships with the existing natural conditions and often depend on livelihoods that are integrally linked to the land (e.g., agriculture, pastoralism, etc.). It is critical, therefore, that Environmental Regeneration, in these cases, focus on land conservation while managing the existing and available natural resources. In addition, it is well understood that displaced communities represent a particularly vulnerable population that may not have been able to build up a resilience to environmental hazards. In fact, environmental drivers will often have played some role in their initial displacement. It is imperative then that efforts be made to improve the capacity of communities to recognise and respond to environmental crises as a key social component of any Environmental Regeneration activities.

From a planning perspective, Environmental Regeneration can often intersect with strategies of Physical Regeneration, as well, demonstrating well that Physical Regeneration can be an important tool for realising progress in the environmental dimension. In support of both goals, settled areas that are most vulnerable to climate risks should be identified for rehabilitation and affected residents should be prioritised for resettlement. As well, strategies of densification and consolidation of the urban footprint should guide planning activities, especially in areas where exposure to climate risks and environmental hazards is limited, with preference given to areas around existing settlements, facilities, and infrastructure. In order to prevent development in areas that are determined to be unsuitable for human settlement, buffer zones should also be established to reduce exposure to risk and to support the restoration of natural ecologies over time. Measures should also be implemented to limit the growth of any informal settlement, especially in areas where natural hazards present.

From an economic perspective, the primary goal of regeneration should be in supporting the settlement and its residents in a gradual transition away from a

reliance on international and humanitarian aid. Activities should include promoting ongoing and expanded efforts to restore, or engender, the settlement's economic viability in order to develop the economic conditions for a self-sustaining urban settlement. In order to enable this transition, though, a number conditions are critical, including that, through Regenerative Governance, the relevant local and national governmental bodies grant refugee community members the legal right to work and to move freely. Support should also be given to enable those currently participating in informal economic activities to participate in an emerging formal economy set up to collect revenue, administer the settlement, and provide services to support further growth and development. Activities should also promote entrepreneurship alongside a culture of enterprise and innovation, including amongst the local population and in all communities (including host and refugee/displaced). As these conditions are met, further attention should be given to attracting businesses and building confidence in external private investors to see the opportunities that such an emerging economy can represent.

Furthermore, Physical Regeneration should include a transition to more traditional urban planning and development strategies. Population density standards should be adopted that promote more sustainable growth patterns that include strategies of consolidation and densification. Physical infrastructure and facilities should be brought up to the standards of a municipality and any temporary shelters or structures should, over time, be upgraded or replaced with more permanent ones.

Finally, in the context of a settlement in transition, there is the opportunity for Regenerative Governance to support, enable, and guide a transition from a humanitarian camp management model to a sustainable and locally governed integrated settlement approach, as it has been demonstrated with the Kalobeyei Integrated Settlement in Turkana West, Kenya. Eventually, though, where political will is present, it is desirable that actions be taken to achieve conferral of the settlement as part of a formally recognised municipalities that encompasses all communities residing therein and meets the local and national standards of a city of its size. In the case of Dadaab, this process is currently underway and is anticipated to play an important role in the realisation of the strategies presented here and in the overall regeneration of the settlements.

*Table 3: Goals and Actions of Urban Regeneration for the Humanitarian Development Context*

| Dimension | Typical Goals and Actions | Goals and Actions Specific to the Humanitarian-Development Context |
|---|---|---|
| **Physical** | • Support projects and initiatives that encourage reconstruction, rehabilitation, and redevelopment of vacant, degraded, derelict, dilapidated, or otherwise deficient elements of the built environment, including buildings, physical infrastructure, and the inhabited and built-up land<br>• Deploy the tools and techniques of urban planning, engineering, and architecture to improve the formal aspects of an urban area<br>• Address connectivity and accessibility challenges at a local, city, and regional scale by expanding public transportation and improving transportation infrastructure<br>• Implement responsible and effective zoning and land management to optimise land use, guide future development, and affect change at a citywide or neighbourhood scale<br>• Promote proper maintenance and rehabilitation of individual buildings and structures that have fallen into disrepair<br>• Explore strategies of demolition or clearing, as appropriate, where existing elements of the physical environment should be removed or replaced in order to promote redevelopment<br>• Promote historic preservation and adaptive reuse as aspects of effective redevelopment, especially in areas of the built environment with a particular assessed historic or cultural value<br>• Revitalise, expand, and implement new accessible and inclusive public spaces and amenities<br>• Upgrade, improve, and extend physical infrastructure | • Transition any temporary shelters or structures toward more permanent ones<br>• Transition from a camp planning approach to a settlements based approach to urbanisation<br>• Promote densification and consolidation<br>• Adopt urban planning population density standards, as opposed to humanitarian standards |
| **Economic** | • Foster an entrepreneurial culture of business development and innovation<br>• Establish the conditions to attract businesses and investment<br>• Create employment opportunities to reduce unemployment, alleviate poverty, and raise the overall standard of living<br>• Nurture a skilled workforce with strong and reliable income earning potential<br>• Establish programs and build up the resources to improve skills and employability among local populations<br>• Generate municipal revenue through taxation, fees, and investment<br>• Provide funding for transportation and infrastructure<br>• Attract private investment and improve the confidence of private investors<br>• Promote projects and initiatives to expand commercial activity and contribute to an increase in property values | • Restore (or engender) economic viability - develop the economic conditions for a self-sustaining urban settlement<br>• Promote Entrepreneurship alongside a culture of enterprise and innovation- Amongst local population and in all communities (including host and refugee/displaced)<br>• Reduce reliance on international humanitarian aid<br>• Attract External Investment and Spur Economic Growth - Improve the confidence of private investors to invest in transitioning settlements<br>• Improve the confidence of investors to invest in humanitarian-development contexts<br>• Promote exchange between refugee and host communities<br>• Promote the formalisation of informal economic activities<br>• Work with local and national authorities to establish a process for permitting refugees to work legally |

*Continued on Next Page* $\longrightarrow$

*Table 3: Goals and Actions of Urban Regeneration for the Humanitarian Development Context (continued)*

| Dimension | Typical Goals and Actions | Goals and Actions Specific to the Humanitarian-Development Context |
|---|---|---|
| Social/Cultural | • Preserve and celebrate cultural and historic heritage and traditions of people and place<br>• Improve overall quality of life through expanded access to public and social services<br>• Improve quality and quantity of educational and healthcare facilities, as well as access to those facilities<br>• Improve quality of and access to affordable and sustainable housing<br>• Promote social equity and inclusion, in particular women, people with disabilities, older populations, children, etc.<br>• Establish safe, accessible, and inclusive public spaces and community centres<br>• Improve public safety and security<br>• Establish cultural institutions such as galleries and museums that support the arts while preserving and celebrating cultural heritage<br>• Inspire civic pride by promoting the development of a collective social and cultural identity<br>• Foster strong relations within and between communities<br>• Encourage an active civic life and foster community engagement<br>• Encourage active community collaboration and participation in decision making and placemaking activities | • Support host and refugee community integration, cohesion, and cooperation<br>• Shift social and cultural facilities from humanitarian to align with local and national standards<br>• Establish and nurture a unified collective sense of place associated with a singular shared urban identity on which to build a civic pride<br>• Promote inclusivity through social and cultural initiatives and institutions<br>• Celebrate and represent all present cultures while seeking to nurture the development of a new unified cultural identity |
| Environmental | • Support a safe, healthy, and prosperous relationship between cities, their residents, and the lands and environments that they occupy<br>• Promote responsible management and consumption of natural resources<br>• Promote responsible human, solid, and industrial waste management, including recycling, composting, and other sustainable practices wherever possible<br>• Prioritise waste management practices and activities that can translate into business and revenue generation opportunities<br>• Promote the preservation of clean air, water, and lands<br>• Promote sustainable sourcing, production, and consumption of energy<br>• Designate conservation areas in order to rehabilitate or preserve natural conditions, where appropriate<br>• Establish, manage, preserve, and maintain urban green belts and other urban green spaces<br>• Rehabilitate, repurpose, and redevelop brownfields and other formerly industrial sites<br>• Develop projects that promote walking, cycling, and public transportation<br>• Implement adaptation strategies to protect communities against anticipated and future environmental risks and hazards and the ongoing worsening effects of climate change<br>• Implement mitigation strategies to limit ongoing contributions to the underlying causes of climate change<br>• Improve resilience of communities and individual residents and develop their capacity to respond to environmental risks and hazards and the effects of climate change | • Wherever possible, previously settled areas that are most vulnerable to climate risks should be identified for rehabilitation and affected residents should be prioritised for resettlement<br>• Promote the densification and consolidation in areas that have been carefully selected to limit exposure to climate risks and environmental hazards, with preference given to areas around existing settlements, facilities, and infrastructure<br>• Establish buffer zones to prevent development in areas that are determined to be unsuitable for human settlement in order to reduce exposure to risk and support the restoration of natural ecologies over time<br>• Implement measures to limit the growth of any informal settlement, especially in areas where natural hazards present |
| Governance | • Establish and enforce policies that support and promote Social/Cultural, Environmental, Economic, and Physical Regeneration through relevant policies<br>• Direct municipal resources and generated revenues toward durable and sustainable solutions that promote regenerative activities and initiatives<br>• Encourage active participation by the various affected communities and encourage the creation of neighbourhood strategies and community groups<br>• Ensure that engaged participants have a stake in planning activities and are given agency in the decision-making processes shaping their cities<br>• Establish systems to gather and analyse data to guide collective decision making processes, distribute communications to keep the public informed of proposals, and solicit comments and feedback<br>• Ensure that the priorities of local communities are represented in the development of project ideas and the prioritisation of community services | • Support and enable the transition from a humanitarian camp model to a sustainable integrated settlement, and eventually toward conferral of the settlement as part of a recognised municipalities that meet the local and national standards of a city or settlement of its size where political will is present |

# 1.3 Regeneration Planning Process
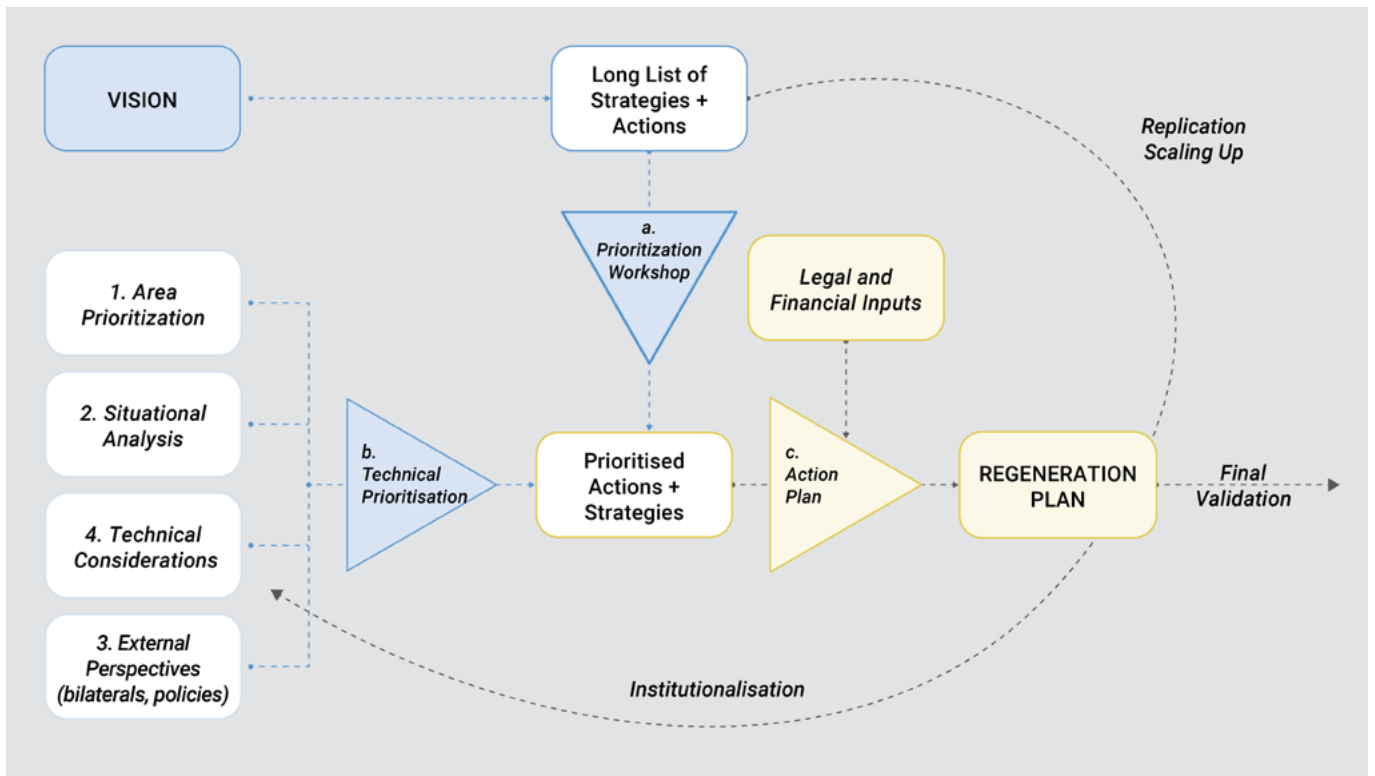


*Fig. 10: Planning for Regeneration Process Outline*

This Regeneration Strategy builds upon the **Dadaab Future Vision**, which identified a range of challenges and opportunities throughout the area, and established a common vision of what the area could develop into in the next 10 to 15 years time. Throughout the visioning process, specific strategies and projects arose from community, government, and agency engagement. From this, a preliminary long-list of regeneration strategies and actions was drafted and further engagement was undertaken with host and refugee community leaders and County Government representatives to weight these strategies based on priority (high, medium, and low) as well as an estimated timeframe for implementation (1-2 years, 3-5 years, or longer).

Simultaneously, a technical priority assessment, policy review, and situational analysis were undertaken to provide an evidence based understanding and overview, and to determine the practicality and feasibility of the strategies and interventions from a technical perspective.

Based on an analysis of the stakeholder feedback from the Regeneration Strategy Prioritisation Workshop, findings from the situational analysis, and external considerations, the strategies and interventions were refined and further spatialised. After incorporation of feedback from relevant agencies, the selected actions and interventions were further detailed and finally validated by government officials and community representatives, and the overall strategy presented in this report was finalised.

## 1.3.1 Participation

### Prioritisation Process

As the Regeneration Strategy led directly on from the **Dadaab Future Vision**, the initial step was the formulation of a comprehensive list of potential regeneration strategies and their translation into key actions, organised by ten key strategic thematic sectors:

1. Agriculture
2. Education
3. Energy
4. Environment
5. Health
6. Industry and Trade
7. Public Services
8. Spatial Planning
9. Transportation
10. WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Waste)

This resulted in a long-list of 18 broad strategies and 46 more specific actions (See **Appendix 1**), which was informed by the extensive engagement that was

*Strategies at Dadaab Complex scale*

**KEY SECTORS**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 🚗 TRANSPORTATION | | 💧 WASH (WATER/ SANITATION/ WASTE) | |
| 🏛 PUBLIC SERVICES | | ⚡ ENERGY | |
| 🏭 INDUSTRY & TRADE | | 🎓 EDUCATION | |
| 🌱 AGRICULTURE | | ⚕ HEALTH | |
| 🌿 ENVIRONMENT | | 🗺 SPATIAL PLANNING | |

Dadaab Complex scale strategies:
1.1.1  1.2.1  1.2.2  2.2.2  3.4.1  4.2.1  4.3.2
5.1.1  5.2.2  5.2.3  5.3.1  5.4.1  5.4.2  5.4.3
5.5.3  5.6.3  6.1.1

Dagahaley:
1.1.3  2.1.1  2.1.2  2.2.1  3.1.1  3.1.2  3.2.2  3.2.4
3.4.3  4.1.1  4.1.2  4.1.3  5.5.2  5.6.2  6.1.3

Ifo 2:
2.2.1  3.2.1  3.4.1  3.4.2  3.4.3  3.4.4
4.1.1  4.3.1  5.1.2  5.5.1  5.6.1

Ifo:
1.1.3  2.1.1  2.1.2  2.2.1  3.1.1  3.1.2  3.2.2
3.4.4  4.1.2  4.1.3  5.5.2  5.6.2  6.1.2  6.1.3

Dadaab Town:
1.1.2  1.1.3  1.2.1  2.1.1  2.1.2  2.1.3  2.2.1
3.1.1  3.1.2  3.2.2  3.2.4  3.4.2  4.1.1
5.5.2  5.6.2  6.1.2

Hagadera:
5.5.2  5.6.2  6.1.2
4.1.1  4.1.2  5.2.1
3.1.1  3.1.2  3.2.2  3.4.3
1.1.3  2.1.1  2.1.2  2.1.3  2.2.1

Kambioos:
3.4.3  3.4.1  4.3.2  5.1.2
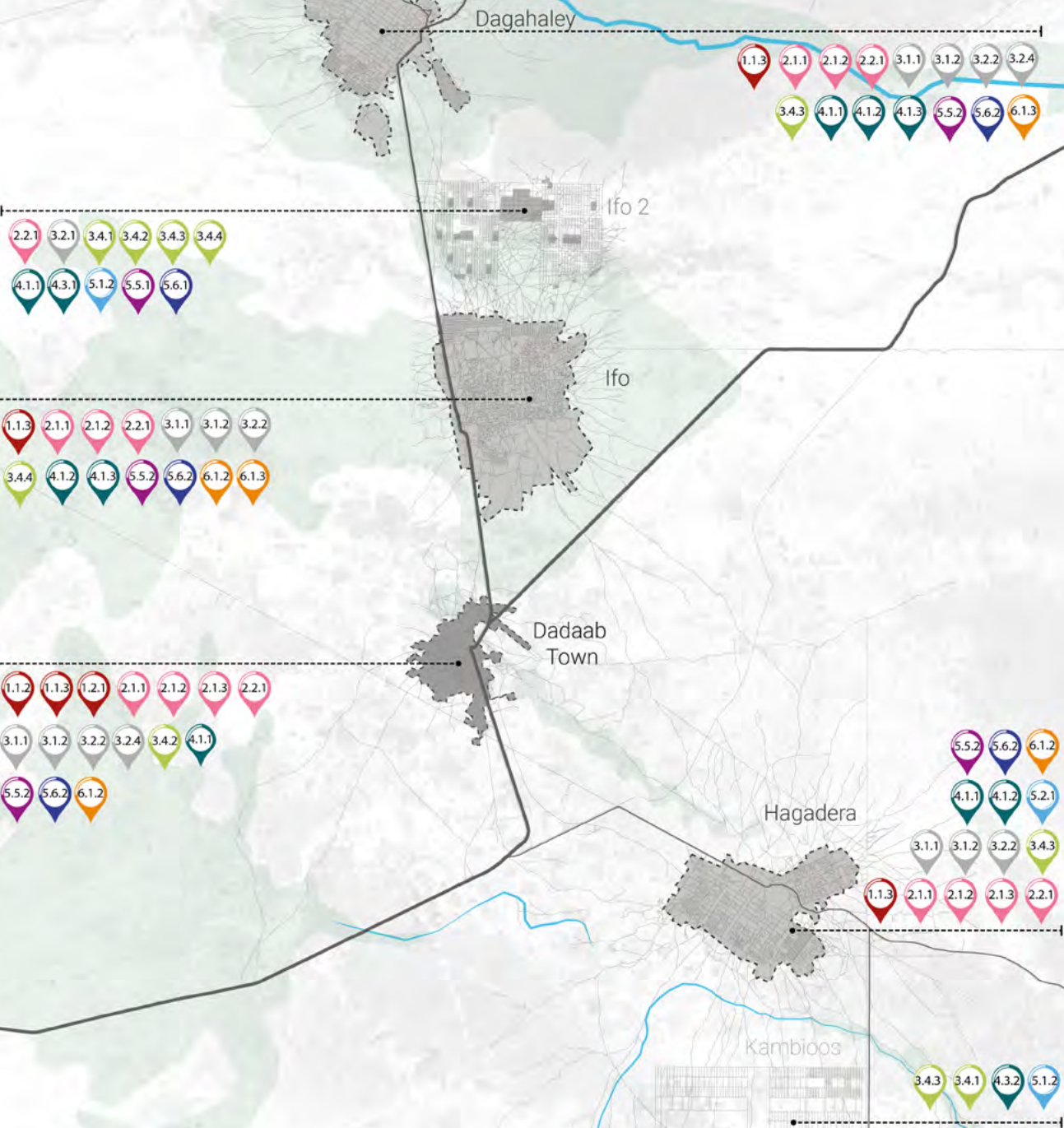
*Map 1: Actions Locations and Priority Nodes*

Scale: 0   2.5   5   10 km

**PRIORITY VERSUS TIMEFRAME (HIGH, MEDIUM, LOW)**
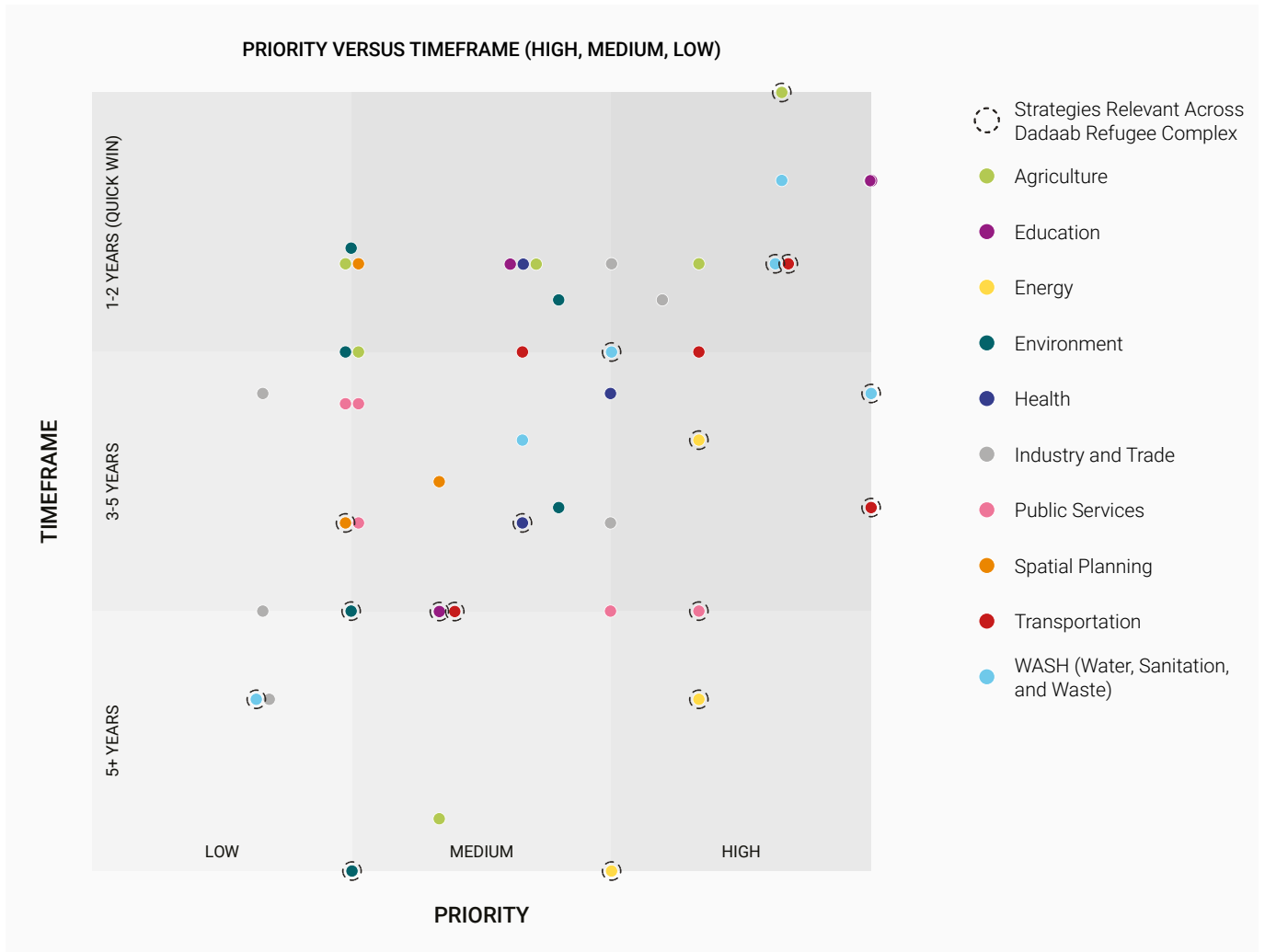


Fig. 11: Workshop Results Organised By Sector and Positioned According to Priority and Timeframe

undertaken with Community Planning Groups and stakeholders during the visioning process. In order to synthesise this preliminary long list of strategies, a Prioritisation Workshop was undertaken together with host and refugee community leaders and Garissa County Government representatives in October 2022.

The main objectives of the workshop were to:

1. Prioritise and assess the urgency of the proposed strategies and interventions
2. Assess the practicality of the proposed strategies
3. Estimate when each intervention could realistically be achieved and the time and resources required to implement each successfully
4. Identify potential new strategies that had not yet been well captured
5. Identify alignment with existing projects and policies and discuss on responsible parties and possible implementing partners

Through the small working group structure of the workshops, specific participant feedback was gathered on two key measures:

- Priority of strategy (assessed as high, medium, or low priority)
- Expected timeframe (assessed as short, medium, or long term)

The main points that were considered when prioritising the actions included the following:

- If the proposed project or action **responds to 'hotspot' challenges**
- The **number of people that would benefit** from the intervention, if implemented
- The potential **financial cost** of the intervention and possible **sources of funding/financing**
- **Alignment with key County and Sub-County priorities**, as outlined in plans and policies such as

the Garissa Integrated Socio-Economic Development Plan (GISEDP) and Garissa County Integrated Development Plans (CIDP) (see **2.1.3 Alignment with County Frameworks** on page 29)

The workshop feedback was processed and analysed with the results used to inform the creation of a short-list of prioritised regeneration strategies for final validation.

From the preliminary lists of 18 strategies and 46 interventions, a total of 19 interventions were selected as a high priority, with 10 of these being both high priority and achievable on a quick-win timeline, based on the feedback from that workshop (see **Appendix 1** on page 183). With further analysis in addition to the workshop feedback, it is reasonable to believe that each of these strategies could be implemented within the next one to two years while offering a meaningful positive impact.

### Location Identification

During the second half of the workshop, stakeholders were also requested to clarify on the possible locations where the interventions should be piloted or implemented on a broader scale. A majority of the most general interventions were identified to be replicated in each settlement, such as the upgrading of social facilities, the improvement of water supply and other basic services. Some interventions also apply to the whole area, and will require an eventual sequencing of actions, which would be the case for larger infrastructural interventions such as the road network upgrading, the development of a multi-modal transport system, energy supply systems, and the improvement of land management and resource preservation.

The location identification of all strategies and interventions helped in defining priority nodes or so called "hotspot areas," and understanding where concentrations of interventions are happening. This further informs where strategies should be piloted or implemented first and how they might affect or depend on each other.

### External Perspectives and Participation

The regeneration strategy planning process adopted active participatory and consultative exercises from onset to finalisation. Series of bilaterals, focused group discussions, technical consultative meetings, and



*Fig. 12: Regeneration Workshop*
*(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

validation workshops were conducted. Participation throughout the process involved development agencies, National and County Government officers, and representatives from the host and refugee communities. The stakeholder mapping exercise done at the inception phase ensured that all relevant key stakeholders were regularly and effectively involved and updated on all the stages. The stakeholders contributed to the development of the recommendations, strategies, and interventions, as well as to their prioritisation for implementation.

Bilateral meetings with relevant agencies and NGOs (e.g., UNHCR, FAO, WFP, ICRAF, etc.) were also undertaken to obtain specific feedback, guidance, and input on the regeneration process while ensuring alignment and complementary activity.

### 1.3.2 Policy Review and Situational Analysis

A basic policy and legal review was also undertaken alongside a brief situational analysis for the area to establish an updated baseline understanding of the current context and to build on the previous work of the **Dadaab Spatial Profile**, **Report on Socio-Economic Conditions, Businesses, and Local Economic Development in Dadaab**, and **Dadaab Future Vision**.

The situational analysis complements the previous profiling and analysis conducted for the area with an additional update of information related to the ongoing influx and population dynamics, the intensifying environmental and climate challenges, expanding service requirements for the continuous growth of the area, and an evolving political and legal environment.

The thematic areas of the situational analysis include:

- **3.1 Population Dynamics**
- **3.2 Housing, Land, and Property (HLP)**
- **3.3 Infrastructures and Basic Services**
- **3.4 Local Economic Development**
- **3.5 Environment and Natural Hazards**
- **3.6 Ongoing and Future Projects**

This effort also sought to bring in a series of key existing and future considerations, which include the establishment of special refugee-hosting municipalities in Garissa County, the anticipated Shirika Plan, the worsening climate crisis affecting the region, and the current and planned future projects identified in the area and its surrounding.

### 1.3.3 Technical Assessment and Practical Considerations

In addition to the workshop feedback, stakeholder inputs, and situational analysis, a further technical assessment of the proposed strategies and interventions was undertaken in order to determine the final selection of strategies for further development and inclusion in the regeneration strategy planning. In this way, their impact, viability and feasibility from a technical perspective, and their alignment to the current urgency of the situation were also considered. This process is further explained in **Fig. 14**.

These various considerations were compiled in order to consider economic, policy, social, environmental, and practical factors. Special attention was given to the characteristics that would allow the implementation of the selected strategies to contribute to the overall vision goals for Dadaab in the long term and to achieving good planning standards for the refugee-hosting municipalities in Garissa County.

The impact of regeneration was also taken into consideration, with each strategy assessed based on the anticipated economic, environmental, and social impact. From a social perspective, these considerations more specifically included social integration, accessibility, and safety, security, health, and well-being.

Another key priority taken into account in the selection of regeneration strategies in the humanitarian development context is the realistic consideration that the strategy is practically implementable. Within this consideration are a number of criteria that consider the practical elements of implementation such as:

- Feasibility
- Replicability
- Scalability
- Versatility
- Linkages to Existing Initiatives and to Other Strategies

**Replication and Scaling Up**

For example, many of the strategies that are proposed to be piloted in specific hotspot areas or locations have the possibility to be scaled up and replicated in other locations, if proven successful. Many of the strategies, interventions, and actions recommended can therefore be applied to other areas of the complex and adapted to each specific context, as needed. Some interventions intentionally piloted in the core settlements have the potential to be scaled up in the long run and to provide the opportunity to build on best practices and lessons learned and expand the reach and impact over time.

*Table 4: Summary of Stakeholder Engagement*

| Year | Date | Type of Engagement | Description | Purpose | Attendees | Location/Modality |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2022 | 24th - 26th May | Workshop - Training and Capacity Building | Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) Training | To build the capacity of the County officials in Garissa in the use of the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM), Geographic Information System (GIS), and data management | County Technical Officers, Lands Department, GLTN Team, UN-Habitat | Garissa Town |
| | 23rd August | Bilateral Partner Meeting | With REACH | To discuss on the project scope and available data from both partners and opportunities for knowledge sharing | REACH Colleagues UN-Habitat | Virtual |
| | 20nd September | Bilateral Partner Meeting | With County Representatives | General discussion on the ongoing challenges including security, drought and water issues. | County Commissioner, UN-Habitat | County Commissioner's Office, Garissa Town |
| | 22nd September | Bilateral Partner Meeting | With DRS, Dadaab MP | To discuss on the project progress updates and general planning challenges (including new influx) | Dadaab MP Officer, DRS, UN-Habitat | DRS Dadaab Offices, Dadaab Town |
| | 3rd October | Bilateral Partner Meetings | Meetings with new County Secretary, Director of Lands, and County Planner | Courtesy visit - Introduction of the regeneration work in Dadaab Discussion around the County priorities and ongoing projects. | County Secretary, Director of Lands & County Planner, UN-Habitat | County Offices, Garissa Town |
| | 4th October | Participatory Workshop | Regeneration Strategy Prioritisation Workshop with County and Community Representatives | Discussions on preliminary recommendations of strategies, and prioritisation of proposed strategies and interventions. | County Representatives, Host and Refugee Community Representatives, Other UN and NGO Partners, UN-Habitat | Garissa Town, Hybrid |
| 2023 | 31st January | Bilateral Partner Meeting | With UNHCR Settlement Planners | Information sharing about ongoing influx and data sharing, Overview about UN-Habitat's ongoing activities in Garissa and Turkana Counties (Dadaab and Kakuma-Kalobeyei) | UNHCR, UN-Habitat | Virtual |
| | 6th March | Bilateral | With DRS Camp Planner | Information sharing about ongoing influx and data sharing, overview of ongoing UN-Habitat activities | UN-Habitat, UNHCR, Partners | Virtual |
| | 7th March | Bilateral Partner Meeting | With UNHCR Settlement Planner | Follow-up on information sharing, Presentation of the Kalobeyei Settlement case and lessons learnt by UN-Habitat | UNHCR, UN-Habitat | Virtual |
| | 19th July | Workshop | With stakeholders | Understanding different challenges related to climate change in Garissa County and the role of partners in addressing these issues | County Government officials, UNHCR, and partners | Garissa Town |
| | 19th July | Bilateral Meeting | Bilateral meeting with CECM Lands | Discussion on the process of municipality conferral, updating the County on EUTF project progress and County plans on various activities | CECM Lands, UN-Habitat | CECM's Offices in Garissa Town |
| | 20th July | Validation Workshop | With County Representatives and Partners | To validate the proposed regeneration strategies and action plans and discuss on the overall programme status | County Representatives, DRS, UN Partners, UN-Habitat | Garissa Town, Hybrid |
| | 1st August | Validation Workshop | With Dadaab and Fafi Sub County Community Leaders | To validate the proposed regeneration strategies and action plans and discuss on the overall programme status | Community Leaders | Virtual |
| | 22nd August | Workshop | Garissa County Geographic Information System (GIS) Resource Mobilisation Meeting | To discuss the possibility of setting up a GIS system in Garissa Town, resource mobilisation strategy for all partners, and a platform for understanding the different partners' work in the County | Partners and Garissa County Government representatives | Nairobi, Kenya |

### 1.3.4 Planning

Once the prioritised list of strategies and interventions was identified, validated, and assessed, a concept plan and action plan were developed and spatialised to guide the regeneration process in the area by translating the strategic recommendations into implementable actions that can tackle incremental spatial, environmental, social, and economical transformations while promoting objectives of good urban planning.

These plans provide an overarching framework that will guide the newly established municipalities and the key stakeholders from relevant entities to ensure a proactive and manageable approach to implement the needed changes for sustainable growth and urban development. The action plan outlines briefly the key preliminary actions needed for prioritised projects and the implementation sequence to follow.

Following development of the concept and action plans, as presented in this report, final validation workshops were held in Garissa Town and virtually with host and refugee community representatives as well as government representatives, to gain a final validation on the action plan that has been proposed. These workshops were successful and demonstrated an overall validation of the proposed strategies and strong alignment with current and future plans.

Legal and financial considerations are also considered to ensure the feasibility of the action plan and to provide initial proposals on how the proposed strategy might be funded/financed. Further development should include average cost estimations for key projects as well as the legal steps towards implementation.



*Fig. 13: Regeneration Strategies Workshop
(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

**1. Urgency**
(High, Medium, Low)
*After conducting the situational analysis and assessing the intensity of the challenges impacting the settlements,*
*give priority to strategies that respond to the most urgent challenges, especially those of a time-sensitive nature.*

Does this strategy respond to the identified challenges and support the achievement of the identified vision goals?

**2. Impact**
(High, Medium, Low)
*Promote projects that will provide meaningful benefits for a significant number of beneficiaries*
*and that will contribute meaningfully to the overall regeneration of the settlements.*

| Economic Impact | Social Impact | | | Environmental Impact |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Social Integration | Accessibility | Safety, Security, Health, and Wellbeing | |
| Does the intervention contribute to economic development and the creation of jobs and new livelihood opportunities? | Does the intervention promote social integration and improved relations between host and refugee communities, and culturally and ethnically distinct refugee communities, while also promoting social equity and inclusion? | Does the intervention improve the connectivity/ Accessibility of people to their basic needs? | How much does the project impact the safety of communities? | Does the project promote sustainability and directly or indirectly mitigate the impacts of climate change? |
| | How many beneficiaries will be impacted by this strategy? | | How much does the project improve the well-being of residents? | |
| | | | How much does the project support the provision of basic needs? | |

**3. Practical Filter**
(Yes/No)

| Feasibility | Replicable | Scalable | Versatility | Linkages to Other Strategies |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Implement strategies that are realistically achievable given available resources and the contextual conditions | Demonstrate and pilot replicable strategies and solutions, develop projects that provide "proof of concept" | Introduce scalable strategies and solutions | Implement strategies that are not dependent on highly specific population scenario outcomes | What connections exist between this strategy and others? Can pursuit of this strategy coincide with the implementation of any other strategies? Can successful implementation of this strategy lead to progress on the implementation of any other strategies? If so, which? |
| Assess the ease of implementation. How likely is it that this strategy can be successfully implemented and the set out goals achieved? | | Provide confidence for the implementation of larger and longer-term projects | Will this strategy provide benefits regardless of population scenario outcomes? (including new influx or large scale voluntary repatriation of refugees) | |

*Fig. 14: Technical Assessment and Prioritisation*

Fig. 15: An Aerial View of Part of Ifo Camp
(UN-Habitat, 2022)

# CHAPTER 2: POLICY AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

# 2.1 Policy and Legal Framework

The preparation of this regeneration strategy has been guided by the existing National and County constitutional, legal, and policy frameworks, as well as Global frameworks.

## 2.1.1 Background

At the national level, the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 contains several provisions that support local planning and development regulation. These provisions fall largely into three categories. First, there are those that give the state powers to regulate land use "in the interest of defence, public safety, public order, public morality, public health, or land use planning" (Art. 66). The second category of provisions are enshrined in the devolution mechanism; i.e., the sharing of responsibilities between the national government and county governments. The third category of provisions contain the principles and values that ought to guide planning and development control and the rights upon which these are grounded, including, inter alia, the right to a clean and healthy environment (Art. 42); the right to accessible and adequate housing and to reasonable standards of sanitation (Art. 43.1.b.); to clean and safe water in adequate quantities (Art. 43.1.d.); the right to information (Art. 35); and the requirement for public participation (Art. 10).

One of the outcomes of the devolved structure of government is the division of responsibilities and functions between the national government and county governments (Fourth Schedule of the Constitution 2010). This division of functions is better articulated in the Physical and Land Use Planning Act (PLUPA), 2019, County Governments Act, 2012, and the Urban Areas and Cities Act (UACA), 2011. The PLUPA establishes a National Physical and Land Use Consultative Forum and County Physical and Land Use Consultative Forum meant to, among other things, promote effective coordination and integration of physical and land use development planning and sector planning. Under Section 103 of the County Government Act (2012), the objectives of county planning include, among other things, facilitation of development of a well-balanced system of settlements to ensure productive use of scarce land, water and other resources for economic, social, ecological and other functions across the county. Further, county spatial plans are required to contain strategies and policies regarding desired patterns of land use and setting out guidelines for a land use management system.

Within urban areas, land use regulation is a function explicitly vested upon cities and municipal boards (not fully operationalised). The Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011 requires that every municipality established must



**Global Frameworks**

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

New Urban Agenda (NUA)

Global Compact on Refugees (GCR)

Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM)

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, 2015

**Kenya National Laws and Frameworks**

Kenya Constitution, 2010

Public Private Partnership (PPP) Act, 2021

Kenya Vision 2030

Public Participation Act, 2019

Kenya National Spatial Plan 2015-2045

National Land Use Policy, 2017

Kenya's Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF)

Community Land Act, 2016

Kenya Refugees Act, 2021

Environmental Management & Coordination Act, 1999

Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011

County Governments Act, 2012

Physical and Land Use Planning Act (PLUPA), 2019

**County and Settlement Plans and Spatial Frameworks**

Garissa Integrated Socio-Economic Development Plan (GISEDP)

Garissa County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) II 2018-2022

Garissa County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) III 2023-2027

**Other Considerations**

Phased Reopening of Ifo 2 and Kambioos Camps

Dadaab Municipal Conferral, 2023

Shirika Plan (formerly Marshall Plan)

East African Community (EAC) Citizenship

**Dadaab Regeneration Strategy**

*Fig. 16: Summary of Policy and Legal Frameworks*

operate within the framework of integrated development planning (S. 36). An integrated development plan is binding, and there is a mandatory requirement to invite an urban planning process for every settlement with a population of at least 2,000 residents (S. 36(3)). The contents of such a plan are prescribed and so is the process of its development. Beyond the elements of land use controls, the introduction of the 'development fees' in PLUPA requires fiscal interventions for a well-structured infrastructure financing mechanism. The authority to levy development fees for infrastructure development is vested to the County Governments which is among the new changes introduced by PLUPA.

## 2.1.2 Alignment with National Frameworks

### The Kenyan Constitution 2010

The Fourth Schedule of the Kenyan Constitution highlights the functions of the County Governments including planning and development control. Article 66 of the Constitution gives the conditions under which regulation on land use and property may apply, which, among others, include development control and land use planning. Therefore, land use planning is to be used by the state as a tool for land use regulation to provide a better foundation for the proper management of land. Article 67 provides for the establishment of the National Land Commission; among its functions will be to monitor and have oversight responsibilities over land use planning throughout the country.

The Constitution also outlines the principles of land policy (Article 60) implementable through the National Land Policy. Among these key principles is the sustainable and productive management of land resources which is a pointer to optimisation of land as encapsulated in this Plan. The State is given powers to regulate use of any land and property (Article 66) in the interest of land use planning among others. This gives preparation for the Constitutional grounding of the National Strategic Plan (NSP). The NSP will be the principal instrument in regulating land uses and actualisation of these principles.

### Kenya Vision 2030

The Kenya Vision 2030 is the country's long term development blueprint covering the period from 2008 to 2030. It aims at transforming the country's economy into "a globally competitive and prosperous nation with a high quality of life by 2030" through the transformation of Kenya from a low-income country to a middle-income one, thus improving the quality of life for all Kenyans. The vision has six thematic developmental areas, which are based on three pillars: economic, social, and political. These pillars are expounded into infrastructure, land reforms, science, technology and innovation, public service reforms, security, and human resource development.

The vision includes considerations for infrastructure and land reforms which anchor urban regeneration strategies and renewal plans that are key in guaranteeing better housing, optimising and enhancing land utilisation, and fostering infrastructural development. In alignment with this vision, the land reforms proposed for Dadaab Refugee Complex within this regeneration plan aim to promote sustained economic growth, improve connectivity between settlements and across the region, improve land tenure and land administration through Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) interventions, achieve overall life improvement, improve access to basic services and amenities, such as water and sanitation, and improve a liveable environment characterised by equitable social development.

### Kenya National Spatial Plan 2015 - 2045

The Kenya National Spatial Plan provides a spatial framework for anchoring the Kenya Vision 2030 flagship projects and forms the basis upon which lower level plans should be prepared. The Plan provides strategies and policies to deal with national challenges including urbanisation, regional imbalances and inequalities, rural development, environmental degradation, transportation and underutilisation of the massive resources available in the country.

The Plan identifies Dadaab as a key urban centre in the North East Zone of Kenya. In general, policies such as the sustainable use and exploitation of natural resources, environmental conservation, balanced growth and increased investment in social and physical infrastructure are underscored in support of the proposed potential areas of growth.

The strategies identified in the Plan that could then bolster such areas and policies include:

- Selective development concentration
- Construction of key infrastructure to support sustainable urban development
- Resource mapping, management, and responsible exploitation
- Urban development around key human settlements and investment hubs such as Garissa, Mandera, and Wajir
- Enhanced agriculture and food production along the Tana River

### Kenya's Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF)

The Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) is the first of two Annexes to the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, which was adopted in September 2016 during a High-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly, and it contains a comprehensive set of obligations to be followed in situations involving large-scale refugee movement. It defines best practices in four key areas:

1. Reception and admission procedures
2. Assistance for immediate and ongoing needs
3. Assistance for host nations
4. Expanded chances for long-term solutions

The CRRF will be adjusted to local circumstances and appropriate operational settings in all instances, and for the purposes of this project, the context is Dadaab. The CRRF is intended to create durable solutions to displacement by increasing self-reliance, relieving the strain on host nations and hosting communities, expanding opportunities for voluntary repatriation, and where possible, enabling refugees to access possibilities in their home countries.

### Kenya Refugees Act, 2021

The Kenya Refugees Act was signed into law in November 2021. Kenya is one of Africa's countries with the highest number of refugees and asylum seekers. The new law gives the more than 600,000 refugees and asylum-seekers in the country hope that they will be able to access education, employment, and integration possibilities in Kenya.[8] The law also allows for the conversion of refugee camps into settlements. The newly designed Shirika Plan also provides strategic guidance for implementing the CRRF and the new Refugees Act, as well as a road map on specific areas of attention for transforming refugee camps into communities. It recognises the need to address housing, land, and property in the plan's Housing, Land, and Property section.

The Act includes new provisions that apply to Dadaab Refugee Complex. On employment, the act gives refugees the right to participate in Kenya's economic and social growth by easing access to the issuance of paperwork by county and national governments. It takes into account the unique circumstances of refugees seeking gainful work, starting a business, or practising a trade or profession for which they have qualifications recognised in Kenya.

Section 28 (8) states that a person from the East African Community (EAC) who has been recognised as a refugee may voluntarily give up their refugee status in order to enjoy any of the benefits due to them under the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community, the Protocol for the Establishment of the East African Community, and the Protocol for the Establishment of the East African Community. These measures enable integration and support the inclusion of refugees in national and county development plans, as well as the sharing of public institutions, facilities, and spaces by refugees and host communities.

The Act promotes the harmonious coexistence of refugees and the host community. This also includes the integration of refugees into communities and is majorly through the use of public institutions, amenities, and places by everyone. It also provides for the refugees' inclusion in the country's long term development planning process and environmental protection through effective participation in both county and National government programs, such as the government fiscal plan, the medium term plan, and the development of the County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs).

### Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011 (Amended 2019)

The Urban Areas and Cities Act (UACA) is a legislation that implements Article 184 of the Constitution of Kenya which talks about urban areas and cities. The article states that the National legislation will be responsible for the governance and the management of urban areas and cities. This Act provides for the classification of urban areas and has guided this analysis of the urban area to ascertain which category of urban areas it will be classified.

Now that the new municipalities in Garissa have been formally established, it is important to recognise that certain specified infrastructure will be required in order to serve municipalities with significant total populations. Currently, there are significant gaps in infrastructure provision in particular in areas of waste management, sanitation, water, and electricity.

In line with the new Refugees Act of 2021, the National Government should improve intergovernmental coordination with the County Government of Garissa and the new refugee-hosting municipalities to collaboratively implement a joint strategic plan for the area considering spatial, social, and economic inclusion for refugees and the host community.

On urban management, the Physical Planning and Land Use Act, 2019 considers refugee settlements as projects of national and inter-county strategic significance. According to the Urban Areas and Cities Act, the board has

*Fig. 17: Gedi Secondary School
(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

nine members including three Governor's appointees, the Minister and the Chief Officer of lands or urban planning, one member of a professional body like the Architectural Association of Kenya (AAK) or any professional body defined in the municipality, the informal sector, private sector and neighbourhood associations.

From this urban board structure, refugees being non-citizens may not expressly be appointed to the boards, but the County Government of Garissa should appoint a Kenyan citizen to the board who can specifically represent the refugee population. The DRS camp manager is perhaps best suited for this appointment. Future legal reforms can consider classifying municipalities in refugee hosting areas as special municipalities with special boards that include some representatives from the refugee community, as well.

The municipal manager also has opportunities for having policy advisors. This position can include the World Bank, UN agencies, and NGOs working in this context to provide technical advice and support in enhancing the municipality's efforts to mobilise resources to support projects that can benefit both refugees and the host community. The regeneration strategies that are recommended in this proposal will align with the required

infrastructure identified in the Urban Areas and Cities Act 2011 and the Urban Areas and Cities (Amendment) Act 2019, as well as support the new refugee-hosting municipalities in Garissa County.

### The Physical and Land Use Planning Act, 2019

The Physical and Land Use Planning Act (PLUPA) is the development framework that anchors spatial planning in Kenya. Section 45, (1) requires a county government to prepare a Local Physical and Land Use Development Plan in respect of a city, municipality, town, or unclassified urban area, as the case may be. Section 45, (2) states that a Local Physical and Land Use Development Plan may be for long-term physical and land use development, short-term physical and land use, development, urban renewal or redevelopment, and for the purposes set out in the Second Schedule in relation to each type of plan. Section 45, (3) states that a Local Physical and Land Use Development Plan should be consistent with an Integrated City or Urban Development Plan as contemplated under Part V of the Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011 (amended, 2019). This regeneration report was designed to be consistent with the existing development plans, e.g., Garissa County Integrated Development

Plan (CIDP), Garissa Infrastructure Socio-Economic Development Plan (GISEDP), etc., and should inform future planning for the municipalities around Dadaab Refugee Complex.

### Public Private Partnership (PPP) Act, No. 14 of 2021

The Public Private Partnership (PPP) Act encourages the participation between the public and private sector in the financing, development, operation, and maintenance of development projects in an area. This encourages mobilisation of resources and finances through local and international private sector investment in order to address the monetary deficit for the development of services and infrastructure.

Within the context of Dadaab Refugee Complex, provision of infrastructure and amenities to the refugees has been made through the humanitarian actors while this has been achieved in host communities through the County Government. As a result of this bifurcated approach, infrastructure and access to services has always been a source of conflict in the area. This act gives an opportunity to ensure a coordinated and collaborative effort among the different actors to help initiate and implement the regeneration strategies through efficient collaboration between the government, and the private sector in areas

that include transport, water and sanitation, solid waste management, health, housing, and land management.

### Public Participation Act, 2019

The objective of the Public Participation Act under Section 4 is to provide a framework for the involvement and consultation of the public in the process of decision making through an informed, effective, and efficient engagement of the public. Therefore, the Act provides the guiding principles for public participation which include:

- Timely access to relevant information relating to policy formulation and implementation
- Recognition and promotion of the role of non-state actors in decision making processes
- Promotion of partnership between public offices, state organs, and non-state organs
- Participation of women, youth, and people with disabilities in decision-making processes

Under the constitution, a new system of governance was proposed in which Kenyan citizens are placed at the centre of governance institutions and structures. The Public Participation Act provides a framework for public participation to uphold the constitutional principles of democracy. In alignment, public participation has been



*Fig. 18: Boda Boda Staging Area in Dagahaley Market (UN-Habitat, 2022)*

prioritised throughout the preparation of this report and the proposed actions and interventions contained within, including regular and ongoing consultation with host and refugee communities, government representatives, and the various humanitarian and development partners working in the context. The purpose of this extensive consultation was to sensitise, inform, set up communication channels, identify site-specific issues, respond to queries, involve target groups, design and develop a vision, strategies and actions that are specific to the needs of the public.

### National Land Use Policy, 2017

The overall goal of the National Land Use Policy is to provide an administrative, institutional, and technological framework for optimal utilisation and productivity of land related resources in a sustainable and desirable manner at national, county, and local community levels. The policy is premised on the philosophy of economic productivity, social responsibility, environmental sustainability, and cultural conservation.

The National Land Use Policy seeks to balance related concerns such as food security, human settlements, environmental protection, climate change, and other economic pursuits. In alignment, the Dadaab Regeneration Strategy aims to support the achievement of key goals of improved urban governance, sustainable infrastructure, increased connectivity, environmental resilience, and economic growth.

### The Community Land Act, 2016

The Community Land Act implements Article 63 (5) of the Constitution by providing for the recognition, protection, and registration of community land rights, as well as the management and administration of community land and the role of county governments in relation to unregistered community land.

It defines community land as land that has been proclaimed as such under Article 63 (2) of the Constitution or land that has been turned into community land under any law. Section 4 subsection 3 indicates that communal land vests in the community and may be held under any of the following tenure systems: customary, freehold, leasehold, or any other tenure system recognized by this Act or other written legislation.

Section 6 subsection (1) specifies that county governments must keep in trust for the communities all unregistered communal land. Any cash payable as compensation for forced acquisition of any unregistered community land as mentioned in subsection (2) shall be held in trust for a community by the respective county

government. To avoid ambiguity, until any parcel of community land is registered in accordance with this Act, it shall remain unregistered community land and should be held in trust by county governments on behalf of the communities for which it is held, in accordance with Article 63 (3) of the Constitution. This is in compliance with Section 10 of the same Act, subsection (3).

### Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA), 1999 (Amended 2015)

Part II of the Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA) states that every person in Kenya is entitled to a clean and healthy environment and has the duty to safeguard and enhance the environment. The EMCA proposes guidelines for the integration of standards of environmental protection into development planning and management at both the county and national level. As this regeneration strategy will act as an advisory to other future planning in Dadaab, it is important that the impact that the proposed interventions and actions may have on the environment are considered in relation to the EMCA and that effective alignment is achieved. Therefore, the provisions of this Act have been echoed by the environmental preservation and protection strategies formulated, as well as the actions put in place in this regeneration plan.

### County Governments Act, 2012

The County Government Act is an Act of Parliament that gives effect to Chapter Eleven of the Constitution of Kenya, which provides for County Governments' powers, functions, and responsibilities to deliver services to the people. County planning is included in Part eleven of the Act. Section 104 states that a County Government shall plan for the County and no public funds shall be availed without a planning framework developed by the county executive committee and approved by the county assembly.

It also states that the county development framework should integrate economic, physical, social, environmental, and spatial planning. Section 107 outlines the types of plans to be prepared by the County Governments as: five-year County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs), County Sectoral Plans, County Spatial Plans, and Cities and Urban Areas Plans as provided for under the Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011 (amended, 2019).

### Policy for Sustainable Development of Northern Kenya and other Arid Lands – Sessional Paper No. 8 of 2012[9]

The policy focuses on issues specific to Northern Kenya

and other arid and semi-arid land regions, requiring a more complicated policy response. This acknowledges that Northern Kenya exhibits many of the characteristics of isolated rural communities trapped in chronic poverty traps, where various and interconnected kinds of disadvantage exist. Isolation, insecurity, a lack of economic integration, limited political clout, and a difficult natural environment all contribute to high levels of risk and susceptibility. The wider objective for the policy will be to develop initiatives and programmes that contribute to the Government's objective of security, justice, and prosperity for the people of Northern Kenya and other dry regions. It will contribute to the achievement of Vision 2030's three pillars: economic, social, and political, but especially the social pillar, which aims to "create a just and cohesive society that enjoys equitable social development in a clean and secure environment."[10]

This paper addresses three distinct policy challenges which are particular to Northern Kenya and other arid lands, including:

- How to close the developmental gap between Northern Kenya, ASAL areas, and the rest of the country, which is a product of its historical experience, and in so doing strengthen national cohesion
- How to protect and promote the mobility and institutional arrangements which are so essential to productive pastoralism
- How to ensure food and nutrition security across the arid and semi-arid lands, where existing unpredictability is certain to increase as the impacts of climate change deepen

Garissa County, being in northern Kenya, and with Garissa Town being one of the major towns in the region, is highly affected by these challenges, including the rampant drought crisis, insecurity challenges, and water and environmental challenges. The government and investing partners can hence release latent support in agriculture, livestock, and pastoral interventions as well as renewable energy that will help to unlock the potential of the region.

### 2.1.3 Alignment with County Frameworks

#### Garissa County Integrated Development Plan III 2023-2027 (CIDP)

The Garissa County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) is a document under the Kenyan Constitution that steers the development agenda and strategies of the County over a period of five years. The Third-Generation County Integrated Development Plan for Garissa, for the years 2023-2027 (CIDP III), borrows significantly from the previous CIDP II (2018-20222), as they both share the same thematic key sectors. The ministerial sectors in both documents have been structured and derived from the national sector vision and mission. CIDP III is currently under development and will provide the requisite development priorities and direction for the next five years. This will also conform to the Governor's Manifesto for this term.

Although there are relatively few changes from the previous CIDP, the third generation CIDP does emphasise more on integration between the host and the refugee communities, which is critical for the proposed activities laid out in this report. This is largely due to key developments at the national level, including the Refugee Act of 2021, the adoption of the CRRF, the recent directive from the Government of Kenya to reopen the two previously closed camps in Dadaab, Ifo 2 and Kambioos, and the forthcoming Shirika Plan and KUSP 2. The CIDP III is also in line with the newly launched GISEDP Plan.

The priorities for the Garissa CIDP III (2023-2027) are organised under each of the following sectors, under the Executive branch of the County Government:

- Water and Sanitation Services
- Agriculture, Environment, and Natural Resources, Sustainable Energy Solutions
- Health and Nutrition
- Trade, Entrepreneurship, and Private Sector Development
- Education and Skills development
- Spatial Planning, Roads and Infrastructure Development
- Protection, Gender, Youth, Sports, Peace, and Security
- Roads and Transport
- Finance and Economic Planning

The CIDP III also seeks to prevent climate change issues such as drought by offering resources such as water to humans and livestock in the prone sub-counties through its flagship and transformative projects. One of the main goals for the County in the next few years is to provide access to resources, services and opportunities. More specific objectives set out by the CIDP include:

- Identify spatial distribution of county resources
- Assess existing infrastructure and future demand
- Identify actions for the protection of fragile ecosystems;
- Spur rural development and rural-urban linkages
- Enhance the capacities institutions and organisations
- Propose an integrated spatial framework to guide sustainable regional resource use

*Fig. 19: Youth on a Merry-Go-Round Unit at Halgan ABE Centre, Hagadera (UN-Habitat, 2022)*

- Prioritise areas of intervention

**Garissa Integrated Socio-Economic Development Plan**

The Garissa Integrated Socio-Economic Development Plan (GISEDP) is a comprehensive multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder initiative led by the Garissa County Government, UNHCR, and various other partners, that is tailored to assist the County to achieve inclusive economic growth, political stability, integration, and sustainability for the communities. From the onset, various UN agencies, humanitarian and development partners, and stakeholders have been involved in comprehensive stakeholder engagement sessions to work actively together in channelling investment to the region.

The GISEDP exists as a framework and tool for managing the presence of refugees with an approach that can be beneficial to all those residing there, refugee and host community members alike.

Its implementation follows a three-phased approach, providing strategic direction and support to the County Government in achieving comprehensive refugee and host community support. It also comes in the wake of the new 2021 Refugees Act, which embraces integration between host and refugee communities and seeks to offer equal opportunities for all. The first phase, running 2023-27, will be key in demonstrating that welcoming people who have been compelled to flee conflict can be transformed into an opportunity for the development of Garissa County in ways that benefit all current and future residents.

GISEDP strategic objectives include:

- Promoting sustainable growth that is increasingly resilient, green, inclusive, and equitable, and which supports productive sectors of the economy and promotes diversified economic growth
- Building on efforts and capacity deployed through a mixture of policy support, technical assistance, and capacity development for improved service delivery
- Promoting inclusive, sustainable, and equitable access to quality basic services to all, with particular focus on key groups such as women and youth
- Creating a peaceful and conducive environment to enable stakeholder investment for improved access to decent jobs and quality life for all

*Fig. 20: Dagahaley Market Taxi and Boda Boda Terminus (UN-Habitat, 2022)*

This document, which was officially launched in September 2023, aligns with the current Governor's manifesto as well as the new CIDP III 2023-2027. It is anticipated that the second phase of the GISEDP will run from 2028-2032.

## 2.1.4 Alignment with Global Frameworks

While all measures proposed within the project are targeted for implementation at the county and settlement levels, it is envisioned that such priorities could be replicated to address similar challenges in other settlements, and further scaled to regional and national levels. It is also well understood that local action is critical to achieving the goals of sustainable development. As such, the project is further strategically aligned to various international frameworks, while localising the actions and recommendations.

### Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Sustainable Development Goals provide a blueprint for achieving sustainable development by the year 2030 through working towards the attainment of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). They provide an urgent call for action that recognises that ending

poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve the environment.

Through transformative strategies, the programme directly supports the realisation of SDGs, but specifically SDG 11 on sustainable cities and communities and with particular reference to the following targets:

- **11.1** - *By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums*
- **11.2** - *By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons*
- **11.3** - *By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanisation and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries*
- **11.5** - *By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and*

*substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations*

- **11.6** *- By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management*

- **11.7** *- By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities*

- **11.a** *- Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning*

- **11.b** *- By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels*

These strategies are based on local opportunities and the strengths in the Dadaab area with the aim of achieving an integrated and indivisible settlement that looks at improving conditions across the dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social, and environmental through spatial planning, physical upgrades, and improved governance. Implementing these actions and interventions will not only reduce poverty levels but also help stimulate growth, attract investment, and generate employment for the project area's populace.

### The New Urban Agenda (NUA), 2016

The New Urban Agenda: Quito Declaration on Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements for All recognises that by 2050, the world's urban population will nearly double. This will make urbanisation a significant and transformative feature of the twenty-first century and mean that any hope of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals will involve cities in a meaningful way. The New Urban Agenda, therefore, calls for redressing the way "cities and human settlements are planned, designed, financed, developed, governed and managed."[11] This puts a huge demand on governments and other actors to invest in strategies that will harness the potential of sustainable urban development and address the challenges facing cities and human settlements such as slums and informal settlements, growing inequalities, environmental degradation, spatial segregation, economic exclusion, and other emerging challenges.

The New Urban Agenda (NUA) addresses urban regeneration particularly in paragraph 52 where member states "encourage spatial development strategies that take into account, as appropriate, the need to guide urban extension, prioritising urban renewal by planning for the provision of accessible and well-connected infrastructure and services, sustainable population densities and compact design and integration of new neighbourhoods into the urban fabric, preventing urban sprawl and marginalisation."[12] A direct call is made to promote planned urban extensions and infill, prioritising regeneration of urban areas. This includes the upgrading of informal settlements, the provision of high-quality buildings and public spaces, the implementation of integrated and participatory approaches, thus preventing spatial and socioeconomic segregation and gentrification, while preserving cultural heritage and preventing urban sprawl.

The declaration outlines commitments in various areas, including reaffirming the New Urban Agenda's commitments to:

- Regenerate urban areas through integrated and participatory approaches and to avoid spatial and socio-economic segregation and gentrification, while preserving cultural heritage and preventing and containing urban sprawl

- Sustainable urban development for social inclusion and ending poverty

- Sustainable and inclusive urban prosperity and opportunities for all

- Environmentally sustainable and resilient urban development

- Building the urban governance structure and establishing a supportive framework

- Planning and managing urban spatial development, this plan aims to guide stakeholders involved in the management of the refugee settlements in Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties to undertake implementation activities that build up to a sustainable human settlement, as envisioned by the New Urban Agenda

### Global Compact on Refugees

The Global Compact on Refugees is a framework for more predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing, recognising that a sustainable solution to refugee situations cannot be achieved without international cooperation. It provides a blueprint for governments,

international organisations, and other stakeholders to ensure that host communities get the support they need and that refugees can lead productive lives. It constitutes a unique opportunity to transform the way the world responds to refugee situations, benefiting both refugees and the communities that host them.

The regeneration strategy contributes to the larger urban development strategy of the Garissa County Government and complements the strengthening of the role of the new municipalities that include refugee settlements and host communities, in alignment with the Global Compact. This strategy will see the eventual further decentralisation of services to the municipalities for the benefit of both refugees and the host communities.

### Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM)

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM) addresses all aspects of international migration and establishes a range of principles, commitments, and understandings among Member States regarding international migration in all its dimensions, including to improve on its governance, enhance coordination and partnership, among other areas of mutual interest. The GCM is guided by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Resolution 70/1) and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Resolution 69/313).[13]

As described by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM),

*"It presents a significant opportunity to improve the governance of migration, to address the challenges associated with today's migration, and to strengthen the contribution of migrants and migration to sustainable development. The Global Compact is framed in a way consistent with target 10.7 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in which Member States committed to cooperate internationally to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration."*[14]

The GCM commits to addressing the various drivers of migration, including adverse effects of climate change, natural disasters and human-made crises, and gender and other inequalities, through protection and assistance, sustainable development, poverty eradication, and conflict prevention and resolution, contributions of migrants and diasporas, including women and youth to sending, hosting, and receiving countries through promotion and transfer of skills of migrants, among others areas. In addition, in order to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to leave no

one behind, it is important for various interventions targeting the migrants or refugees to contextualise the opportunities and challenges and address them adequately in line with the objectives contained in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants.[15]

It is also worth noting that by the time of enacting the GCM, there was an increase in migration in Africa as a result of a mix of complex push-pull factors. These drivers (push factors) include political instability, conflict, poverty, as well as lack of socio-economic and decent work opportunities. Migration has also been indirectly triggered by the promise of increased economic opportunities or quality of life in the host countries.

The local municipal and county governments can use the strategies proposed in this report in their efforts to achieve coordinated and well managed migration and improved conditions for both refugee and host communities in Dadaab. Taken together, they establish a platform on which to realise contextualised socio-economic inclusion of the refugees and host communities through equitable access to basic services and infrastructure, quality services, labour market integration, and economic and livelihood opportunities. These approaches would, therefore, greatly contribute to the betterment of living conditions for the refugees in this locality through ensuring equitable access to market opportunities, sustainable development, better housing, and a resilient and safe environment.

Further, the proposed short, medium, and the long-term strategies promote the inclusion and engagement of the refugee communities at every stage to ensure positive integration. Implementation of the strategies outlined in this regeneration report would, for instance, enhance local economic activity by encouraging the formalisation of businesses and the expansion of access to market strategies. In line with recent developments in these areas, such as the conferral of the two new refugee-hosting municipalities in Garissa County and the reopening of Ifo 2 and Kambioos, these strategies will expand sustainable business opportunities, create jobs, and increase tax revenues for the municipalities and the County.

The strategies also seek to promote local leadership, with recommendations for the government to seize the opportunities arising from the existence or presence of refugees and thus foster relationships among partners at all levels in order to implement the proposed action plan.

### Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, 2015

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-

2030 was adopted at the Third UN World Conference in Japan, on March 18, 2015. It is the outcome of stakeholder consultations and intergovernmental negotiations supported by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR). Amongst others, it articulates the need for improved understanding of disaster risk, vulnerability, and hazard characteristics, strengthening of disaster risk governance, accountability of disaster risk management and many more. The framework also "encourage[s] the adoption of policies and programmes addressing disaster-induced human mobility to strengthen the resilience of affected people and that of host communities, in accordance with national laws and circumstances."[16] Given the intersection of challenging climate conditions in Dadaab and the fact that many of the refugees currently residing there in protracted displacement were forced to seek asylum at least in part due to environmental factors, it is critical that this regeneration plan include Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strategies as a part of building resilience and reducing further exposure to risks and hazards. In this way, it is also important to recognise, understand, and address the environmental challenges that members of the host community face as a result of the presence of the camps in Dadaab.

# 2.2 Other Legal Considerations

In this section, the considerations outlined are primarily related to Kenya at a national and regional level and may apply more obviously to traditional development and urban planning approaches targeted at Kenyan nationals. However, humanitarian and development actors in Garissa County are working to implement solutions that address the needs of both refugee and host communities in a more integrated and holistic manner.

Simultaneously, the communities, local and national governments, through the conferral of the new municipalities around Dadaab Refugee Complex, have signalled a commitment to closer integration of the hosted refugee population. Therefore, while these considerations may not all currently apply fully to the refugees hosted in Dadaab Refugee Complex, they will become more pertinently relevant with the further development of the new municipalities where such legal considerations should also be applied in full and where an effort must be made to bring services, infrastructure, and land management up to municipal standards.

## 2.2.1 Land and Security of Tenure

### Flexible Tenure Systems

The Constitution, the Land Act, and Community Land Act recognise statutory (freehold and leasehold) and customary rights (community land). Occupancy rights do not have any legal recognition but there is an informal practice of issuing temporary occupancy permits or allotment letters that are not grounded on any legal instrument, have no legal value but are useful to access basic services, loans from microfinance institutions, and to reduce conflicts.

### Land Regularisation

The regularisation process happens through land conversion where public land is converted to private or community land in accordance with the Land Act, 2012. This often happens in the context of physical planning processes and requires the government's goodwill to solve informal tenure situations. In the case of Dadaab, this process is further complicated by the fact that much of the land has been planned and managed as refugee camps for decades. In most cases, regularisation of tenure in informal areas takes place after an area has been declared as a special planning area under Section 52 of the Physical and Land Use Planning Act 2019.

In Dadaab Town, the Garissa County Government has issued allotment letters, especially to the businesses. Where the land is big enough to accommodate all the individuals, the conversion results in individual titles. In cases where it is not feasible to give out individual titles, the land may be converted and registered as community land with informal settlers getting some form of documentation to show entitlement to occupy their respective portions. The process involves the surveying of the land, some community participation, planning, and the issuing of letters of allotment pending issuance of titles. Adverse possession is not an instrument that could support regularisation since it is inapplicable to public land yet that is where most informal settlements are located.

### Eviction and Involuntary Relocation

In Kenya, forced evictions are prohibited by law. Evictions can only be justified under reasonable ground (public interests) and following due process. The legal framework (Constitution, Land Act, and the 2012 Prevention, Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons and Affected Communities Act) provides for several procedural safeguards that apply to both formal and informal occupants of land. These include that evictions must:

- Be preceded by the proper identification of those taking part in the eviction or demolitions
- Be preceded by the presentation of the formal authorizations for the action
- Where groups of people are involved, government officials or their representatives to be present during an eviction
- Be carried out in a manner that respects the dignity, right to life and security of those affected
- Include special measures to ensure effective protection to groups and people who are vulnerable such as women, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities
- Include special measures to ensure that there is no arbitrary deprivation of property or possessions as a result of the eviction
- Include mechanisms to protect property and possessions left behind involuntarily from destruction
- Respect the principles of necessity and proportionality during the use of force
- Give the affected persons the first priority to demolish and salvage their property

However, these are rarely followed in practice with regards to those who have precarious land tenure, such as residents of informal settlements and refugees. Thus, due to lack of legal title, there is often no compensation for the land but sometimes the structures are compensated.

### Mechanisms to Resolve Disputes

There are special courts dealing with land issues and tenants-landlord disputes. In Garissa County, Kadhi courts and other Alternative Justice Systems (AJS)[17] hear and determine land inheritance disputes before they can be heard or decided in the Environmental and Land Courts. This is primarily in relation to disputes between tenants and landlords, but as per the cultural beliefs, the Kadhi courts handle land issues especially on land inheritance. While the Environment and Land Courts do not consider informal property rights, the Rent Tribunals cover all dwellings in both formal and informal or slum areas. There is a law providing for legal aid (Legal Aid Act, 2016), but at the moment it is not operational due to a lack of funding. There are, however, a number of NGOs engaging in legal aid as well as some law firms offering related pro bono (free) legal services.

## 2.2.2 Inclusive Planning at Scale

### Planning at Scale

The Physical Planning and Land Use Act, PLUPA (2019), Urban Areas and Cities Act, and the County Governments Act include the requirement to make projections on demographic and migratory trends, housing deficits, employment and income, land tenure and lack of services as among the aspects that should be considered in the planning process. Renewal plans are also provided for which are intended to spur development in run-down or underused areas. The Urban Areas and Cities Act and the County Governments Act call for a holistic approach to planning with a special focus on improving access to basic services in underserved areas, identifying areas where strategic intervention is needed and indicating areas where priority spending is required to integrate under-developed and marginalised areas. The Physical Planning and Land Use Act, PLUPA (2019) is fairly recent to judge its impact. As it is, urban plans tend to be reactive and fail to make available land in advance to respond to the projected demand.

### Inclusive Spatial Planning

Countries are required to prepare Integrated Development Plans which need to include an assessment of the existing level of development including an identification of communities which do not have access to basic services as well as current social, cultural, economic and environmental situations within their areas of jurisdiction. Areas where strategic intervention and priority spending is required such as refugee settlements and the preconditions for integrating under-developed and marginalised areas should be laid out in spatial plans

prepared by the county or declared special planning areas as per PLUPA. Currently the County Government of Garissa, in collaboration with Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), is working on the County Spatial Plan that aligns to the CIDP III and the GISEDP 1 Strategic Plan.

### Community/Stakeholder Participation

Public participation in the running of affairs of urban areas and counties is greatly emphasised in the County Governments Act and the Urban Areas and Cities Act. These laws give all citizens the right to participate in planning within urban areas and counties in general. The former requires a county planning unit to ensure meaningful engagement of citizens in the planning process. The latter provides that the governance and management of urban areas should be based on several principles, most notably, institutionalised active participation by residents in the management of its affairs. This is more clearly enunciated in the Second Schedule which is titled "Rights of, and Participation by Residents in Affairs of their City or Urban Area." It provides that residents of a city or urban area have the right to: contribute to the decision-making processes of the city or urban area. Regarding the preparation of physical development plans, the Physical Planning and Land Use Act requires the relevant institutions to prepare plans and invite the public after they have already been formulated but in practice, for instance, the Director of Physical Planning, has been involving area residents from the plan's formulation.

## 2.2.3 Access to Basic Services

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) and electricity are some of the essential base services which are required by any community for continuity of life. Being in a remote and rural ASAL region of Kenya, access to some of these services in Garissa County, and in Dadaab Refugee Complex in particular, has been and remains more challenging as compared to other areas. This report focuses on these services as key to regeneration for the communities in Dadaab.

### Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Services

There is a legal obligation for Water Service Providers (WSPs) in Kenya to provide water services to consumers within their service areas and to meet the regulations on minimum water quality standards. In practice, Water Works Development Agencies (WWDAs) often do not meet per capita volume requirements and typically cannot be held accountable for it. They are, however, required to meet quality standards, as set out by WASREB, the

National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), and the World Health Organization (WHO).

WWDAs are obligated to assist WSPs in meeting their service requirements through reviewing the Needs Plan and financing the Capital Works Plan. However, the responsibility of WSPs to provide water is subject to characteristics of the existing water sources and water supply infrastructure in the service area as well as the amount of funds that the WWDAs are ready to commit to capital investment. Additionally, the fact that minimum quantity standards are to be realised incrementally means that WSPs may take advantage of these allowances to abrogate their responsibilities.

Alternatives to direct piped connections (i.e., council distribution) to individual households are also allowed with room for communal boreholes and water kiosks. This is particularly common in refugee-hosting areas like Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties, where there are currently no payment tariffs for water and sanitation services to help fund service provision.

Water and sanitation regulations in emergency and displacement settings such as refugee camps are based on the SPHERE Standards, which is a humanitarian initiative that sets out minimum standards for various sectors of humanitarian response. These standards are designed to ensure that the basic needs of affected populations, including refugees, are met in a safe and dignified manner.

The specific standards for Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene in refugee camps may include guidelines for:

- Safe and reliable access to drinking water
- Adequate water quantity (litres per person per day)
- Water quality and treatment methods
- Proper sanitation facilities, including latrines and waste disposal
- Hygiene promotion and education
- Protection of water sources from contamination

These standards are meant to safeguard the health and well-being of refugees and displaced populations. However, the details and specific provisions may vary by context and the organisations involved in the humanitarian response. The SPHERE Standards prescribe a minimum quantity of potable water of 20 litres per person per day or 6 kilolitres per household per month, at a minimum rate of not less than 10 litres per minute, within 200 metres of a household, and with effectiveness such that no consumer is without supply for more than seven consecutive days in a month.

The Kenyan law also includes provisions on water quality, sufficiency, and proximity that should guide the service provision by water operators, though these may vary based on context and circumstances. The Model Water Service Regulations lay out the minimum standards for basic water supply services by WSPs. Kenyan design standards present a range of standards and recommendations for individual and communal connections across rural and urban areas of between 20 and 250 litres per day.

Notably, the Water Act, 2016 establishes the Water Sector Trust Fund which has been used to provide subsidies to WSPs for development of water infrastructure in under-served poor urban areas. The Fund gets its money from the National Government through budgetary appropriations. Additional funds may be obtained from the Equalization Fund and County Governments on agreed programmes as well as from donations, grants, and bequests.

### Electricity

Access to basic services, including electricity, has been a significant challenge in Dadaab due to the remote and challenging environment. Access to electricity has been limited and is often reliant on generators and solar collection. The primary challenges include:

**Limited Grid Access**: The settlements in Dadaab Refugee Complex were not connected to the national grid, so residents typically did not have access to a reliable and continuous supply of grid electricity. The power station in Dadaab has frequent power rations due to the faulty generators and ongoing challenges with maintenance.

**Generator Power**: Many organisations and agencies working in the camps, including UNHCR rely on generators to provide electricity for their operations, including hospitals, schools, and community centres. Generators are not sustainable due to the high maintenance costs and use of fuel. There are private electricity vendors around the camps but the cost of electricity is high.

The Garissa County Government, UNHCR, and other partners continue to improve access to electricity in Dadaab. These efforts have focused on increasing the use of renewable energy sources, such as solar power, to provide electricity for lighting, education, healthcare, and other critical services. Solar power solutions have been increasingly utilised as a primary source to provide electricity in Dadaab. Efforts continue to solarise most of the boreholes in the region for sustainability and reliability. Solar panels and solar-powered lanterns have also been distributed to residents to meet their basic energy needs, especially in households at the domestic scale.

### Financial Inclusion

The financial services sector in Kenya comprises a variety of institutional forms. These include banks, microfinance companies, cooperative societies, community saving schemes and building societies. The relevant laws in this field are:

- Building Societies Act, 1956
- Cooperative Societies Act, 1997
- Microfinance Act, 2006

The Microfinance Act 2006 distinguishes between deposit taking and non-deposit taking microfinance institutions and applies to the former. Deposit taking institutions accept money from members of the public and they can lend and invest the funds. Due to the nature of their business, the Act requires deposit taking institutions to acquire a licence from the Central bank of Kenya before undertaking microfinance activities. The institution must be a company registered under the Companies Act whose main objective is to carry out such business or be a wholly-owned subsidiary of a bank or a financial institution whose main objective is to carry out such business. This Act seeks to integrate microfinance institutions into the larger financial sector by introducing some measures such as requiring each institution to be managed by a board of directors; requiring the preparation of annual financial accounts and their submission to the Central Bank; and appointment of auditors, among others.

The Building Societies Act 1956 allows ten or more people to form a building society by registering with the Registrar of Building Societies. Under S 22, a building society may receive deposits or loans at interest from its members or from other persons to be applied to the purposes of the society. The funds may then be used by the society's members as loans, advances, guarantees, and other credit facilities. S 24 gives the building society the power to determine the conditions on which such loans may be given. S 24 (8) provides that security for a loan may be land or other forms deemed adequate by the building society. A building society also had the power to invest. Other matters covered by the Act include the board of directors; annual accounts and financial statements; rules and conduct of meetings; and dispute settlement options.

It appears that microfinance institutions take a variety of forms and are largely regulated. They are allowed to accept deposits, provide loans and invest their funds in some areas. Depending on the type, these institutions are supervised by the Central Bank, the Sacco Societies Regulatory Authority, or Registrar of Building Societies.

The government has also recently introduced tax relief measures for home buyers under the affordable housing programme. Non-deposit taking institutions are, however, not regulated (which is not necessarily a disadvantage as self-regulation may be preferred in these cases). These financial frameworks can be leveraged by the refugee and host community to boost their economic situation and livelihoods.

# 2.3 Key Ongoing Government Policy Interventions

This section includes some additional important new and ongoing government policy interventions that progressively will impact on the implementation of the regeneration strategy.

### Phased Reopening of Ifo 2 and Kambioos

Kambioos and Ifo 2 Camps were decommissioned in 2017 and 2018, respectively, due to a decline in the refugee population by 85,067 in Dadaab Refugee Complex resulting from a voluntary repatriation programme. Following closure, both camps, including land and facilities, were handed over to the County Government in 2019. However, a new large influx of refugees to the area has occurred in the last two years due to the persistent drought and conflicts in the neighbouring country, Somalia. Data collected by UNHCR shows that the number of new arrivals from Somalia has reached over 100,000 in the last two years, and the number is expected to increase.

In addition to newly arriving refugees, these challenges have forced many of those previously repatriated to return to Dadaab in search of food, water, and protection. This has led to a worsening of the living conditions in Dadaab Refugee Complex, with some of the new arrivals living in makeshift camps on encroached land, roads, and public spaces. In response to this, the government of Kenya has approved the reopening of closed camps, and has re-gazetted Ifo 2 and Kambioos as settlements. UNHCR is currently working on relocating some of the refugees into Ifo 2 to ease the pressure of the influx. More refugees will later be relocated to Kambioos Settlement, as necessitated.

### Municipal Conferral

In March 2023, The County Government of Turkana conferred municipality status upon Kakuma, which hosts Kenya's other major refugee settlements. This was an important and unique achievement, as Kakuma Municipality was the first of its kind in Kenya to include refugee settlements within its boundary delineation and refugees within its population. Following this model, Garissa County has now finalised a similar process, which resulted in conferral of municipality status upon both Dadaab and Bura Municipalities in 2023, as well. The goal of this transformation is to attract additional investment into the region while also improving service provision to all those living within the designated boundary, both host and refugee.

This process has been achieved in various ways, which include the following:

1. Setting up the town committees that passed a resolution to have Dadaab Town status changed into a municipality.

2. After the approval of the Town Committee Resolution by the County Executive, an ad hoc committee was established by the Governor to support the public participation concerning the need for having the areas converted into a municipality. The committee also did an inventory of infrastructure and services available at the proposed area according to the requirements of the Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011 and the Urban Areas and Cities (Amendment) Act 2019.

3. The County Assembly members subsequently conducted participatory meetings in the Municipality to understand the community's opinions and views on several themes related to the proposed municipality, especially in relation to the boundary delineation and coverage, the name of the municipality, and considerations on refugee inclusion. Subsequent debates were held at the County Assembly in line with the standing orders of the relevant County Assembly based on the report and the recommendations submitted by the Governor.

4. It is now expected that once the submitted planning report, which has benefited from the critique of the County Executive, is adopted and endorsed at the County Assembly level, the Governor will confer the municipality status of the proposed urban area.

5. After the County Assembly's approval, a resolution was drafted and forwarded to the County Governor which supported the conferment of Dadaab with the status of a municipality. The Municipality was also granted a charter, which gives guidance on the structure and the functions of the municipality.

The Urban Areas and Cities Act also stipulates that the County shall support in the establishment of a nine member urban board to support the urban management of the municipality through activities that support the provision of infrastructure and basic services to the residents.

The new municipalities in Garissa County now take into consideration the existing refugee settlements that compose Dadaab Refugee Complex, including Ifo, Ifo 2, Dagahaley, Hagadera, and Kambioos, meaning that they are geographically within the proposed administrative boundaries. This presents even greater opportunities for better partnership between the Municipality management, the County, and National Government, together with the various humanitarian and development partners to localise the Global Compact for Refugees, CRRF, and GISEDP commitments, especially the whole

*Fig. 21: Children Playing at Halgan ABE Centre, Hagadera
(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

of government and whole of society approaches for more inclusive service delivery. Through the recent policy transition, the new Refugee Act 2021 and the Shirika Plan additionally provide greater opportunity for developing integrated settlements, which additionally gives the refugees a chance to participate in sustainable economic, environmental, and social development.

The municipalities, being lower-level governance institutions with ability to attract external finance with the support of Garissa County, will help to offset the financing gaps left by the already plummeting humanitarian and development finance to ensure a strengthened infrastructural development and provision of basic services with both short-term humanitarian considerations while addressing long-term development needs in the area.

### Shirika Plan

The Government of Kenya, in collaboration with partners, has been developing various strategies and solutions to improve the conditions of asylum-seekers, refugees, and affected host communities in the country. These efforts have been made in an effort to achieve the commitments made in the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) and its

Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), which has expanded to promote a strategic shift from humanitarian assistance to development-oriented interventions in situations of protracted displacement. Although the Government of Kenya had previously, in March 2021, announced that all refugee camps in Kenya, including those in Dadaab Refugee Complex, were to be closed, the government strategy for refugee response has since shifted with renewed long-term commitments following the new Refugees Act of 2021. This progress is further expanded upon with the ongoing development of the Shirika Plan. In addition, with the significant recent influx of additional refugees to Dadaab in 2022 and 2023, the previously closed camps of Ifo 2 and Kambioos have also been regazetted for use as refugee camps with Ifo 2 already being reopened for settlement.

The Shirika Plan is expected to further strengthen Kenya's commitment to promote the socio-economic inclusion of refugees in Kenya by transforming the existing camps, including the five in Dadaab Refugee Complex, into fully integrated settlements and to further promote greater refugee protection models which are now anchored in Kenya's Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) and the 2021 Refugees Act.
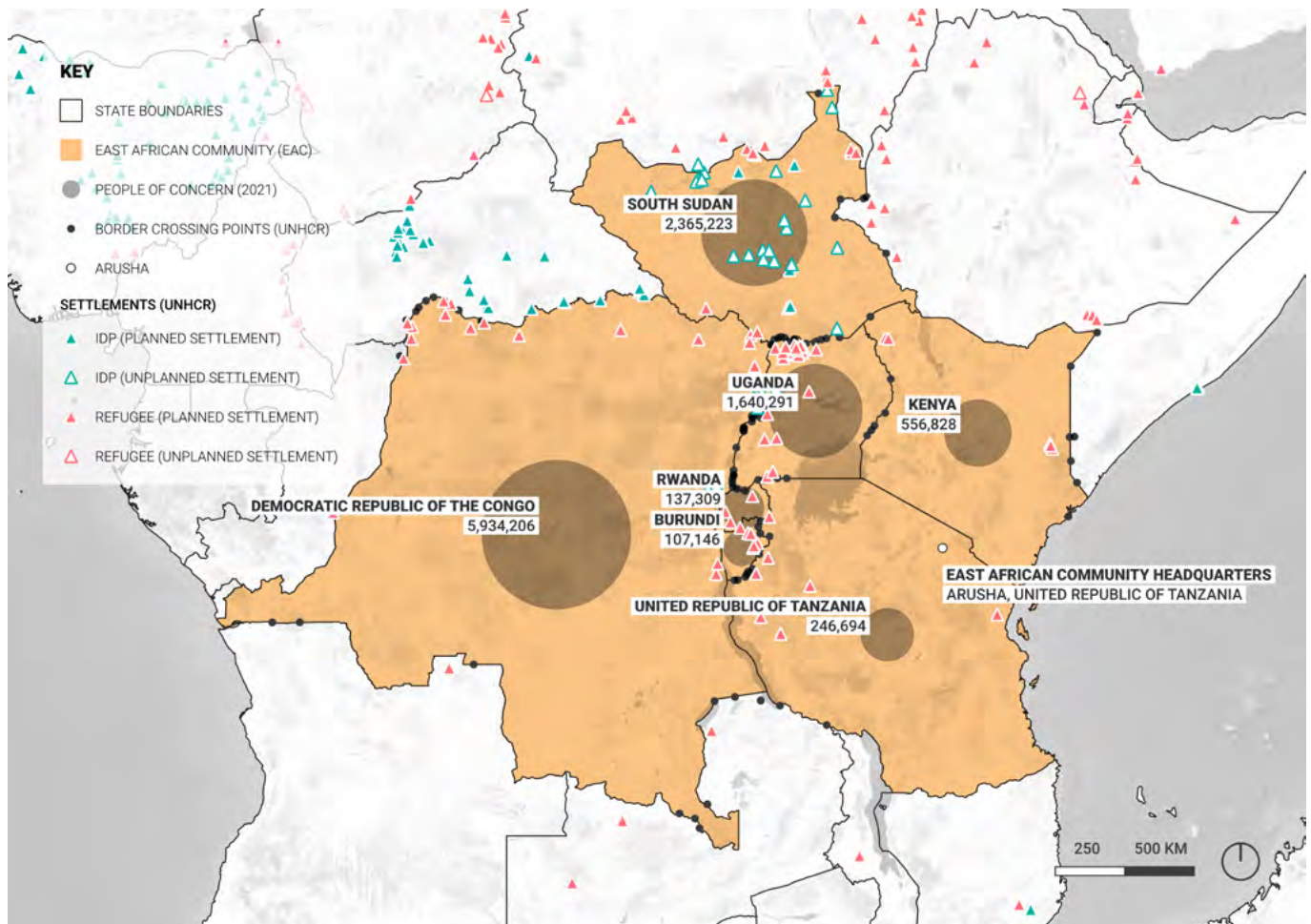
*Map 2: East African Community Displacement Context
(UNHCR, 2021)*

The implementation of the Shirika Plan will be aimed at long-term development with a combination of efforts in governance, resource mobilisation, strengthening of the implementation effort to transform the refugee response model in Kenya and to implement innovative approaches and durable solutions. This effort will be geared towards investment in provision of support to the basic infrastructure like education, health, water, energy, security, and environmental conservation in designated centres.

As proposed, the framework for the plan is expected to be built around the following key pillars:

1.  **System-Building**, including institutional capacity building, governance, policy, legal, rule of law, justice, etc.

2.  **Access to Integrated Services**, including education, health, shelter, water, energy, social protection, etc.

3.  **Human Capital and Skills Development**, including market-based livelihoods, technical training, market development, access to financial services, etc.

4.  **Environmental Management**, including sustainable natural resource management, climate change, resilient agriculture, disaster risk reduction, etc.

5.  **Sustainable Economic Development**, including inclusive and green economic growth, technology, economic infrastructure, rural and urban businesses, markets development, etc.

6.  **Durable Solutions and Complementary Pathways**, including advocacy, voluntary return, cross-border initiatives, resettlement support, etc.

The implementation of the plan will be pursued through a coordinated multi-stakeholder approach, to shift from a humanitarian-based response to a more predictable and sustainable response in simultaneously addressing the needs of both refugees and host communities. This approach is primarily Government-led, but partnerships and collaborations will be pursued with key stakeholders like the host communities, the refugees, Non-Governmental Organisations, civil society organisations, the private sector, development partners, humanitarian agencies, financial institutions, academic

and faith organisations will be able to support various initiatives and projects that are accessible to both the host communities and refugees.
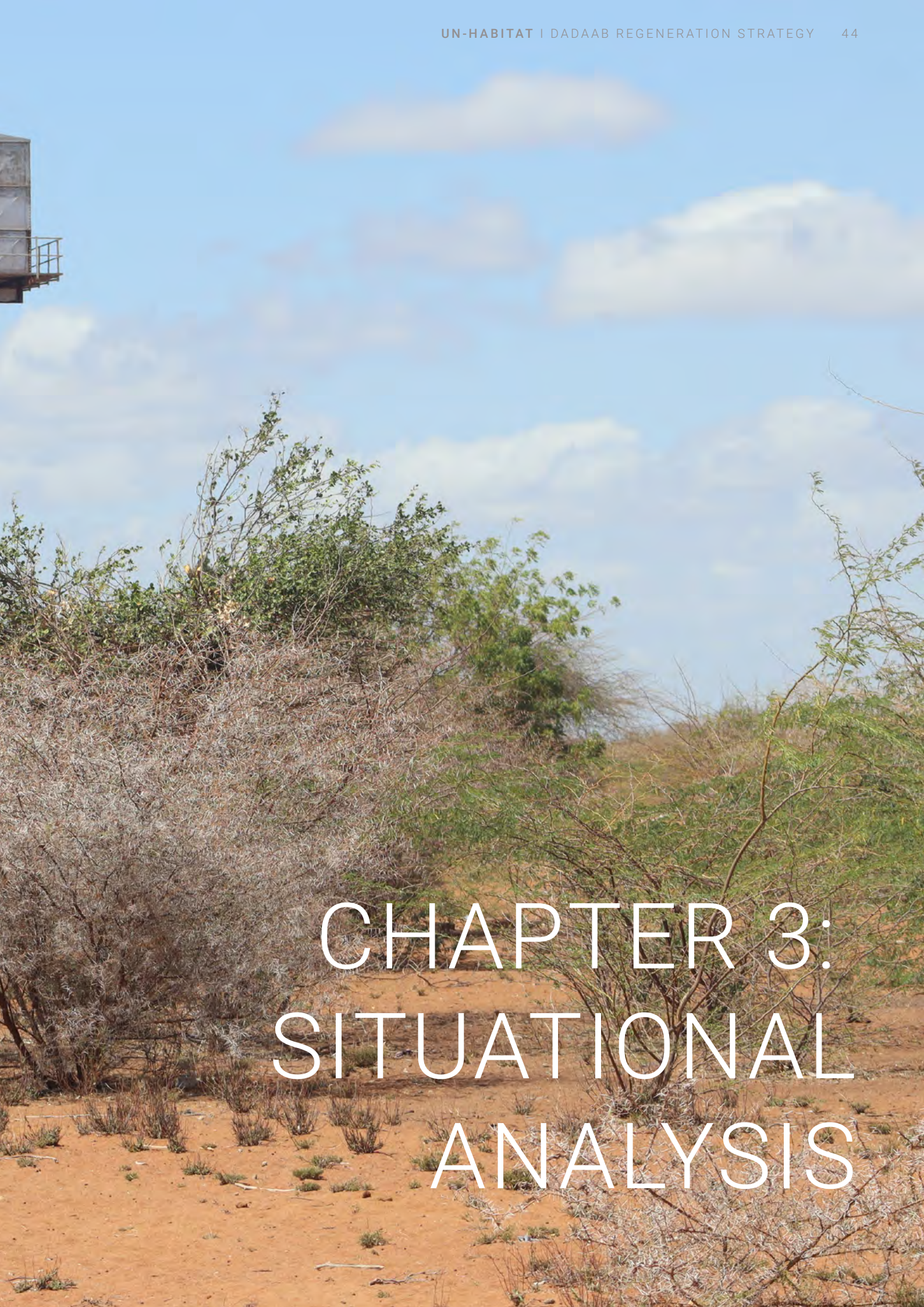
### EAC Citizenship

Kenya has recently pursued more progressive changes to its approach to hosting refugees within the country with the passing of the Refugees Act in 2021 and the development of the Shirika Plan, which advocate for a positive transformation of how refugees are to be included in the economic, social, and environmental development of hosting areas. The Refugees Act, under Section 28 (8), also provides that a person from the East African Community (EAC) who has been recognised as a refugee may opt to voluntarily give up refugee status for purposes of enjoying any of the benefits due under the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community, the Protocol for the Establishment of the East African Community Common Market, and any other relevant written law. This provision facilitates implementation of the EAC Protocol and has the potential to substantially reduce the refugee population while simultaneously operating as a durable solution to the protracted refugee situation. In this way, additional rights and services can be extended to refugees from East African Community Member states as part of an alternative legal stay arrangement that may offer a more sustainable and inclusive protection status and specific benefits under the Treaty and EAC Common Market Protocol.

This therefore indicates that the refugees in Dadaab with an EAC origin can be given certain residency rights, which may include rights for movement and travel within a region that might be restricted for refugees. In addition to Kenya, the EAC, includes Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, and Tanzania. Although the majority of the refugees and asylum-seekers in Garissa County originate from Somalia, there are a number that could benefit from this approach. In this case, it would be expected that many of the EAC residents might choose to relocate to larger urban centres throughout Kenya (such as Garissa Town or even Nairobi) due to the perception that they would offer greater employment and educational opportunities. This could lead to a decline in population for Dadaab, however it is difficult to estimate how significant this would be. Settlement consolidation must be considered within the scope of this strategy. Camp consolidation may occur in either circumstances of repatriation or EAC residency provision (leading to local/regional/national migration).

*Fig. 22: Water Pumping Unit, Ifo 2 Camp
(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

# CHAPTER 3: SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

# 3.1 Population Dynamics

### 3.1.1 Growth History

Dadaab's long history of hosting refugees is characterised by periods of intense influx and subsequent voluntary repatriation. The first refugee camp in Dadaab Refugee Complex was opened in 1991 to house 90,000 refugees fleeing civil war in neighbouring Somalia. This resulted in three camps being established: Ifo, Dagahaley, and Hagadera. A second major influx occurred in 2011 when an additional 130,000 refugees arrived fleeing ongoing drought and famine in southern Somalia.[18] During this time, the new camps of Ifo 2 and Kambioos were opened to meet the needs of this influx. After a programme of voluntary repatriation, though, Ifo 2 and Kambioos were subsequently closed in 2017 and 2018 respectively. These camps were handed over to Garissa County in June 2019, and have since been occupied informally by host communities who came to settle in the remaining structures.

Since the closure of Ifo 2 and Kambioos, the remaining camps in Dadaab Refugee Complex have still continued to grow both in size and in population to the current population of 241,000 registered refugees as of March 2023.[19] Refugee registration was halted in Dadaab in 2016, though, so exact refugee numbers remain uncertain. However, it is understood based on estimates by UNHCR that more than 110,000 additional refugees have arrived in Dadaab since 2021 and have either joined existing family compounds within the camps or settled informally around the camp boundaries.[20] This most recent population surge has been attributed to the critical drought that has hit the Horn of Africa and especially Somalia, and led to the decision by Kenya and UNHCR to regazette Ifo 2 and Kambioos Camps in late 2022 followed by their planned phased reopening beginning with Ifo 2.

Based on combined data from UNHCR and the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), the current population of the Dadaab Refugee Complex is estimated to be in excess of 380,000 people.[21] The host community of Garissa County predominantly has a history of pastoralism but many members have decided to settle in Dadaab Town and scattered villages for opportunities to do business with the refugee communities.

Dadaab's history of fluctuating populations has resulted in an inconsistent urban form. Dwelling densities within the camps are not closely regulated, resulting in a patchwork of high and low densities throughout the camps. Overcrowding and congestion are mostly seen in the blocks surrounding markets as these are the areas with the best access to facilities and opportunities. Decongestion may be needed in these areas. However,

this would come with challenges of refugee families having lived in these areas for many years being reluctant to relocate. Large-scale repatriation over the years has also left other areas sparse, providing opportunities for infill. Lack of an established growth boundary for Dadaab Town has also resulted in the beginnings of sprawl, which needs to be managed.

Wajir County

**DAGAHALEY CAMP**
**Population** - 79,028
**Density** - 9,273 hab/km²



DAGAHLEY TOWN

**IFO 2 CAMP**
**Population** - 6,155
**Density** - 741



Dagahaley

Distance - 10 km | 3h20 | 12min

Distance - 15 km | 5h | 18min *

Ifo 2

**IFO CAMP**
**Population** - 72,846
**Density** - 5,162 hab/km²
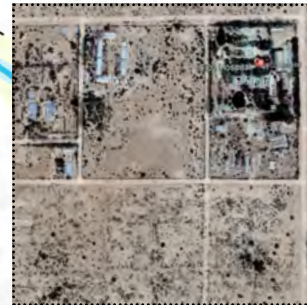


**DADAAB TOWN**
**Population** - 11,871
**Density** - 3,174 Hab/km²



Ifo

A3

Distance - 8 km
2h40 min | 9min

Dadaab Sub-County

+ DADAAB TOWN

**HAGADERA CAMP**
**Population** - 82,955
**Density** - 8,893 Hab/km²



Distance - 10 km
3h20 min | 12min

Hagadera

## LEGEND

**Existing**

– – –   County Boundary

– – –   Sub-County Boundary

........   Ward Boundary

─────   Major Roads

═════   Seasonal Rivers

●   Town

●   Refugee Camp

▢   5 min Walking Distance

▢   30 min Walking Distance

✈   Airport

**Population Density**

⬡   High

⬡   Medium High

⬡   Medium

⬡   Low

⬡   Very Low

Fafi Sub-County

Kambioos

0   2.5   5   10 km

*Map 3: Estimated Population Density & Distribution based on Building Footprints (KNBS, ESRI, Google Earth, UN-Habitat Research)*

Ifo 1 developed to house refugees fleeing
as a result of conflict in Somalia

Hagadera + Dagahaley planned and
opened due to scale of refugee influx

u
Ifo

HAGADERA

DAGAHALEY

IFO 1 ACTIVE

DADAAB TOWN

500,000

400,000

300,000          ■ Refugee Population

200,000          ■ Host Community Population

100,000

1990                    1995                    2000                    2005

**1995**
Developed Area: 11.03 km²
Population: 122,796
Density: 11,113 person/km²

Dagahaley

Ifo

Dadaab
Town

Hagadera

**2007**
Developed Area: 20.74 km²
Population: 180,221
Density: 8,690 person/km²

Dagahaley

Ifo

Dadaab
Town

Hagadera

Dagahaley

Dadaab
Town

■ Refugee Population

■ Host Community Population

Kambioos opened in response  to
unprecedented influx from Somalia

2 planned and developed
to relieve decongestion

Kambioos
decommissioned

Ifo 2
decommissioned

Ifo 2 and Kambioos
regazetted

| KAMBIOOS ACTIVE | KAMBIOOS INACTIVE |
| IFO 2 ACTIVE | IFO 2 INACTIVE |

2010    2015    2020    2023

*Fig. 23: Timeline of Historical Events In Relation to Refugee Population in Dadaab Refugee Complex*
*(UNHCR, The World Bank, UN-Habitat, USAID)*

**2013**
Developed Area: 40.1 km²
Population: 417,705
Density: 10,401 person/km²

Ifo 2

Ifo

Hagadera

Kambioos

**2020**
Developed Area: 32,8 km²
Population: 229,382
Density: 6,991 person/km²

Dagahaley

*Ifo 2*

Ifo

Dadaab
Town

Hagadera

*Kambioos*

**2023**
Developed Area: +/- 35 km²
Population: 252,855
Density: 7,709 person/km²

Dagahaley

Ifo 2

Ifo

Dadaab
Town

Hagadera

Kambioos

*Fig. 24: Growth Pattern of the Settlements With Historical Events In Relation to Refugee Populations In Dadaab*
*(UNHCR, The World Bank, UN-Habitat, USAID)*

# 3.2 Housing, Land, and Property (HLP)

### 3.2.1 Land and Property in Garissa County

Land issues in Garissa County, like in many other parts of Kenya, have been and remain a significant concern. Some of the key land issues in Garissa County include:

1. **Inadequate Land Use Planning and Regulation**: In some areas of Garissa County, and especially in the major towns like Garissa and Dadaab, there is only limited land use planning and regulation. There is also not yet any gazetted spatial or development plan for the County, though processes are ongoing. Though land management functions are a fully devolved function according to the Kenyan Constitution, the County Government has experienced some challenges in fully taking up the functions of land legislation and management. This can lead, and in Garissa County has led, to haphazard and improper development, encroachments on environmentally sensitive areas, and both human and wildlife conflicts over land use.

2. **Land Ownership and Title Deeds**: A significant portion of land in Garissa County, including Garissa and Dadaab Towns, does not have formal title deeds, and most of the land is communal land. The County also lacks proper land management and registration tools. Community members often experience these gaps as barriers when seeking to access other development facilities such as bank loans. It also usually prevents the communities from making permanent investments. This has led to disputes and conflicts over land ownership, as traditional and customary land tenure systems often clash with the formal legal framework.

3. **Land Encroachment**: Due to population influx from the neighbouring countries, this issue is a multifaceted challenge. It requires cooperation between the relevant government authorities, United Nations agencies, humanitarian and development organisations, and the communities. There is also encroachment of communal land and dumpsites in and around the camps. Efforts to alleviate overcrowding, improve living conditions within the camps, and ensure that refugees have access to basic resources are essential to reducing the underlying drivers of land encroachment. Furthermore, sustainable solutions that consider the long-term well-being of both refugees and host communities are necessary to mitigate the environmental and security issues associated with land encroachments.

4. **Lack of Access to Justice**: Many residents in Garissa County, especially those in rural areas, face challenges accessing legal systems to resolve land disputes. This applies to the refugee communities too, especially for interested entrepreneurs. This can lead to a lack of accountability in cases of land grabbing or encroachments.

5. **Pastoralist Conflicts**: Outside of the refugee population, Garissa County is predominantly inhabited by pastoralist communit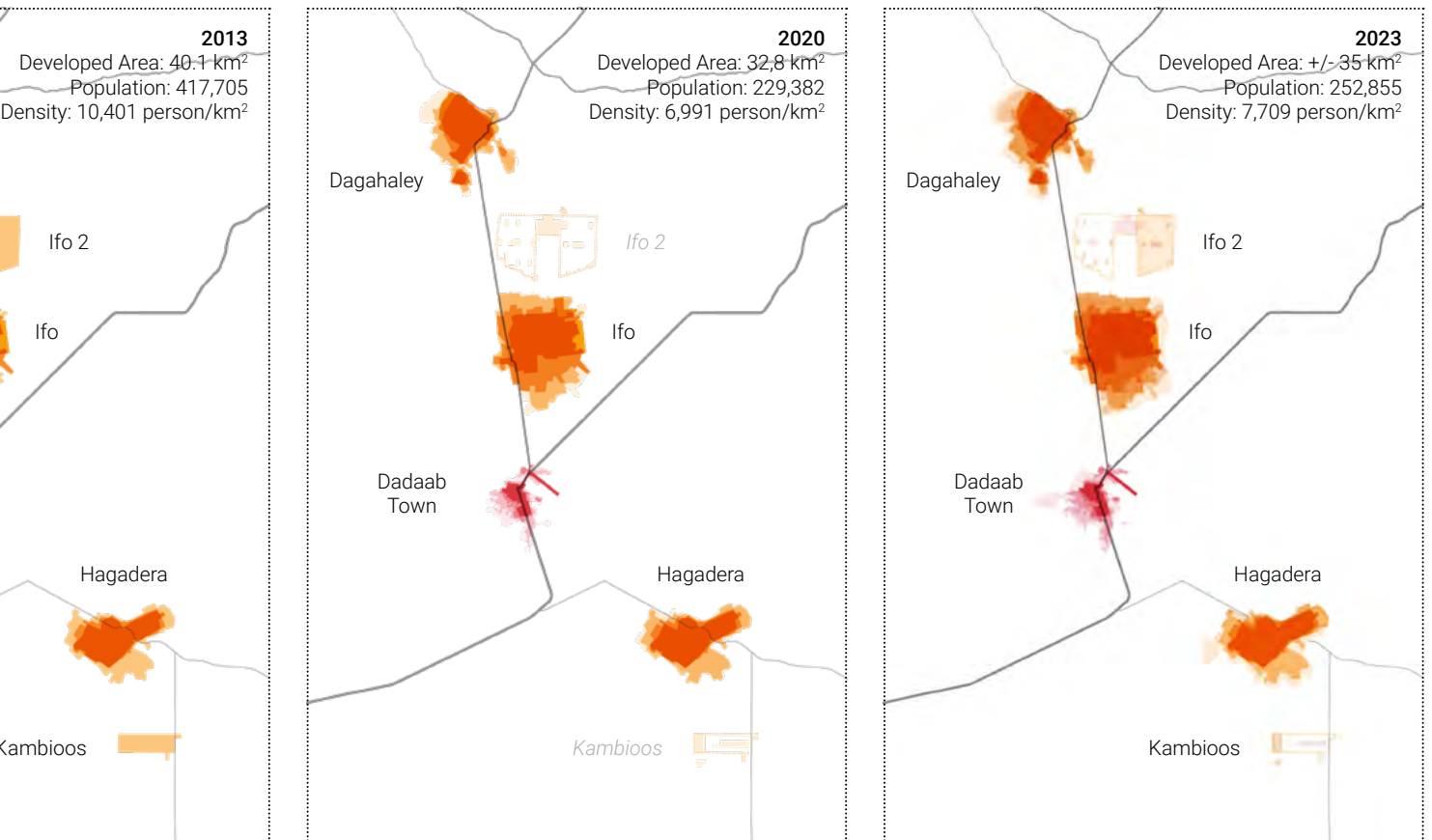ies. Competition over grazing lands and water sources for livestock has led to conflicts among different communities. With the refugee settlements in Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties there are land use disputes between communities. These conflicts are often exacerbated by the changing climate patterns, and drought which affect the availability of resources.

6. **Influence of Clan and Ethnic Dynamics**: Traditional clan and ethnic affiliations in the region often play a significant role in land issues. The clan and ethnic dynamics also play a major role in the political dynamics and resource allocations too. Disputes over land can be rooted in historical grievances or perceived injustices related to land distribution.

7. **Border Disputes**: Garissa County shares borders with other counties and neighbouring countries, including most importantly, Somalia. Disputes over the demarcation and ownership of borderlands can lead to tensions between communities. The refugee population of Dadaab Refugee Complex is also composed almost entirely of refugees from Somalia. As a result, and due to the camp's proximity to the border, ongoing security challenges in Garissa County and along the border with Somalia have significantly affected investment in and development of Dadaab and contribute to meaningful ongoing challenges to the opening up of the refugee camps.

### 3.2.2 Housing

It has been noted from the past and recent studies that there is a serious need for adequate and affordable housing in the Dadaab Refugee Complex. Currently, the majority of the houses/shelters in the camp are still of a temporary nature and are constructed of various types of materials which are sourced locally. The shelters are in dire conditions and the living conditions are generally poor with some households still living in makeshift tents, especially the newest arrivals. This situation has greatly affected access to adequate and affordable housing which is key to the growth and development of an area as well as the health, safety, and well-being of its residents. Such poor dwelling structures have been observed in the camps for decades with no formal effort for improvement. The inability to improve on the shelter conditions has been made worse by low donor funding,

variety of needs, encampment policy, unpredictability, and the growing population of the camps.

The policies and the Government directives are often unpredictable, as previously noted. These directives include the various advisories released by the Kenya National Government on Dadaab camps closure. These uncertainties continue to create temporary situations within the camps, where provision of long term, durable and accessible shelter solutions can hardly be advocated for or implemented, disincentivize investments and low focus on shelter upgrade. Recently, due to the high population of over 320,000 persons and renewed cases of new arrivals, Ifo 2 and Kambioos were reopened to accommodate the high influx.[22] This has further created the need for more shelters with the majority of the new arrivals in temporary makeshift shelters.

The findings of UN-Habitat's 2021 survey in Dadaab, which were published in the "**Report on Socio-Economic Conditions, Businesses, and Local Economic Development in Dadaab**," highlighted that even though the majority of households (62.9%) in Dadaab, inclusive of both refugee and host community households, reported owning the shelters that they occupy, much fewer are in a position to own the land their shelter has been built on, given that the majority is community land.[23] A high share of the same households (52%) also reported that their shelter was not adequate, with refugee households representing the larger portion of those respondents.[24] Over the decades, refugees in Dadaab Refugee Complex have struggled with the poor physical state of their dwelling structures. The often dilapidated condition of the shelters that can be observed throughout the camps has been exacerbated by the protracted situation making provision of adequate shelter a major need. Based on these findings and field assessments, Dadaab Refugee Complex is in critical need of a shift towards permanence that embraces quality and affordability, in housing in order to transition away from a humanitarian camp model to a more sustainable and integrated settlements model as well as fitting into the aspiration of quality housing for all the residents of the newly established municipalities.

The shelter inadequacy, as noted in the survey report, has resulted in a high need for localised shelter modification and improvements as reported by 61.3% of the refugee households and 38.8% of host community households who had made modifications to their shelters over the past five to ten years to try to address the inadequacies.[25] These localised response mechanisms are undertaken to meet the individual and family needs while the problem is a much larger one that has been amplified by the dramatic population growth over the past year. These localised solutions include construction of semi-

detached or detached houses which are culturally appropriate to create extra rooms for kitchens, bedrooms, storage, or extra spaces for business and commercial activities. These various scenarios all require strategic interventions to increase the percentage of households living in adequate, accessible, and affordable houses as well as providing a variety of shelter types.

There is a wide range of housing typologies within Dadaab Refugee Complex, as the refugees seek for more sustainable infrastructure, but most of the settlements are semi-permanent. Iron sheet roofing has been majorly adopted in the markets and settlements, though some of the settlements are still in tents, which is most common amongst the latest arrivals, especially those settling in the newly reopened Ifo 2. There are several manyattas, temporary shelters, and semi-permanent shelters constructed of various materials and are of different sizes and heights. Majority of the new arrivals are currently in T-shelters and family tents.

Most of the shelters observed in the areas, inclusive of refugee and host community dwellings, are mainly constructed of iron sheet wall at 47.4%, soil bricks at 17.9%, and earth mud at 12.3%, while the remaining are constructed of wood, quarry stones, a mixture of mud and cement, or polythene, paper, and recycled materials (see **Fig. 28**).[26] The host communities, especially in Dadaab Town, also majorly depend on manyattas. The most
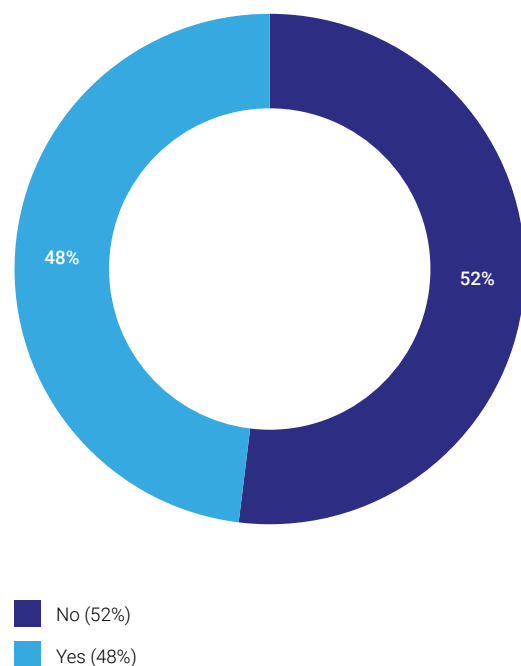


*Fig. 25: Shelter Adequacy*
*(UN-Habitat, Dadaab Socio-Economic Survey, 2021)*

common type of roofing materials within the area is iron sheets (93%), while only a few are made of thatch, canvas (tents, or polythene, paper, and recycled materials.[27] The camp market structures are predominantly semi-permanent, with recycled iron sheets. There are also selected brick walled structures, mainly around Dadaab Town. These solutions are not durable, especially considering natural hazards which frequently occur.

While some residents of Dadaab Refugee Complex have, over time, consolidated their shelters by individually investing in more durable options and coordinated efforts, the condition of most shelters has deteriorated in terms of quality due to minimal repair and maintenance interventions currently being offered due to limited funding and resources in the camps. Other shelter challenges include lack of privacy due to the shelter size, poor construction materials, and a lack of highly skilled construction workers. These conditions have continuously exposed residents to risk of SGBV, harsh climatic conditions, and insecurity.

Dadaab area is also known to experience long periods of drought interrupted by brief, but intensive, flooding, hence the need for ensuring adequate settlement provision. Refugees primarily source their construction materials in areas around the camp. Some of these locally sourced

materials have resulted in external conflict between the host and refugee communities and also led to deforestation and further environmental degradation of the surrounding lands. The effects of deforestation as the refugees look for construction materials and firewood have extended to other wards including Labasigale and Kulan, which has led to conflicts between the host and refugee communities. With the host communities being mainly pastoralists, they need to preserve local vegetation because their livestock largely depend on them. Hence, the depletion of tree cover by the refugees puts the host community's livelihood at risk, exposes them to dust storms, encourages drought, increases soil erosion, and reduces shade. Given that erosion is already a major challenge in Dadaab, further deforestation is also a major concern for residents of the camps.



*Fig. 26: Temporary Shelter At The Newly Reopened Ifo 2 Camp (UN-Habitat, 2023)*
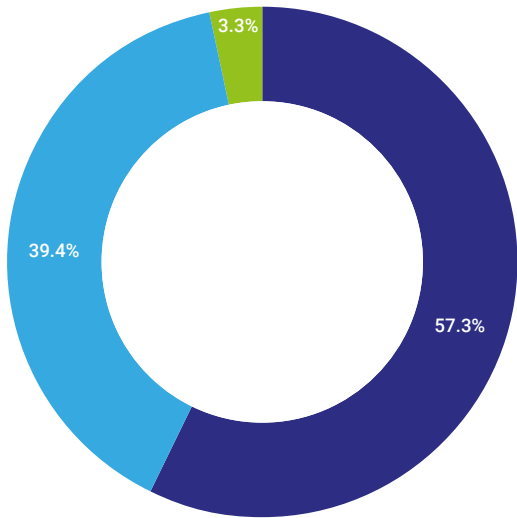
Earth (57.3%)
Cement (39.4%)
Tiled (3.3%)

*Fig. 27: Shelter Main Floor Material
(UN-Habitat, Dadaab Socio-Economic Survey, 2021)*
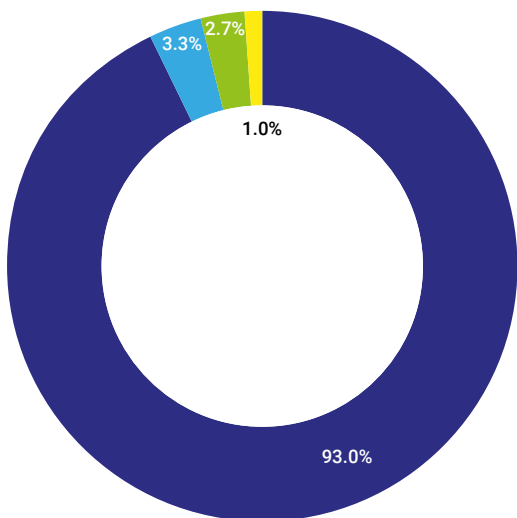


Iron Sheet (93.0%)
Thatch (3.3%)
Polythene, Paper, and Recycled Materials (2.7%)
Canvas (1.0%)

*Fig. 28: Shelter Main Wall Material
(UN-Habitat, Dadaab Socio-Economic Survey, 2021)*
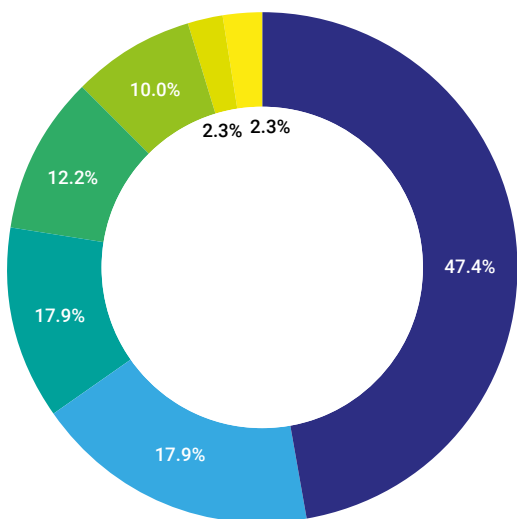


Iron Sheet (47.4%)
Soil Bricks (17.9%)
Earth Mud (12.2%)
Wood (10.0%)
Quarry Stone (7.9%)
Polythene, Paper, and Recycled Materials (2.3%)
Mixture of Mud and Cement (2.3%)

*Fig. 29: Shelter Main Roofing Material
(UN-Habitat, Dadaab Socio-Economic Survey, 2021)*

# 3.3 Infrastructures and Basic Services

### 3.3.1 Accessibility and Connectivity

Dadaab Refugee Complex is vast and spans over two sub-counties in Garissa County, i.e., Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties. There are three continuously operating refugee camps in Dadaab, i.e., Dagahaley, Ifo, and Hagadera, and a fourth, Ifo 2, that has recently been reopened, while a fifth, Kambioos has also been regazetted but not yet reopened for refugee settlement. Hagadera and Dagahaley are the furthest camps from Dadaab Town, and in opposite directions. Dadaab Town, where most of the host community reside, is located centrally to the overall complex. The long distances between the various settlements create a challenge when trying to form linkages between the camps and between the host and refugee communities. Connections between the settlements are further hampered by the poor quality of the roads and the lack of public transport options.

### Roads and Public Transport

Good infrastructure and services ensure good service delivery, security, and convenience to the communities. Furthermore, good roads open up more areas and stimulate economic and social development. For those reasons, road infrastructure is one of the most important of all public assets. Dadaab Refugee Complex has its major national links with Nairobi-Garissa-Kismayo road which is a Class A road. There is also a Class C road that connects Dadaab to Habaswein. However, these major roads that connect the Dadaab settlements and the internal roads within the settlements require major investment to ensure year-round that accessibility and connectivity are maintained.

Critically, there is a lack of an overall road network and hierarchy throughout the complex, which is largely due to the piecemeal development of the settlements over time and their relatively isolated locations. Furthermore, the roads in the two closed camps have already become overgrown with bushes and shrubs and require clearing and upgrades to be restored for use. There is wide recognition of the need to tarmac the major roads to Dadaab leading from Garissa Town to Kismayo (Garissa-Dadaab-Kismayo Road) as it is an international trunk road and the essential connection between Dadaab and Garissa Town and then on to Nairobi and beyond. The murram (dirt) feeder roads connecting the camps are also recognised as needing upgrading to support the growth of Dadaab.

The existing roads were used to establish a basic structure within the refugee camps. However, communities express that most internal roads are too narrow, informal, and not inclusive. Key road connections are also missing, especially in Ifo Camp where there are road network gaps that, if established, would significantly improve accessibility into the camp, creating opportunities for enhanced market linkages. In some areas, like in Dagahaley Camp, there have been major encroachments into the road reserves. As such, key roads should be upgraded and expanded to allow for improved public transport options (e.g., matatus, taxis, tuk-tuks, and boda bodas), to provide pedestrian and bicycle pathways, and include drainage infrastructure. There is also a need to develop public transport terminals in the major markets across the complex. For example, in Dagahaley the existing bus terminus is on the major highway and causes traffic conflicts with the various road users. Street lighting has been installed only in Dadaab Town, and is largely absent in the camps, which causes issues of safety and security, particularly for women and children.

### 3.3.2 Public Facilities (Education + Health)

The provision of public facilities throughout Dadaab is generally poor and fails to reach national standards. Generally, the refugee communities living in the camps experience better access to services, though, as
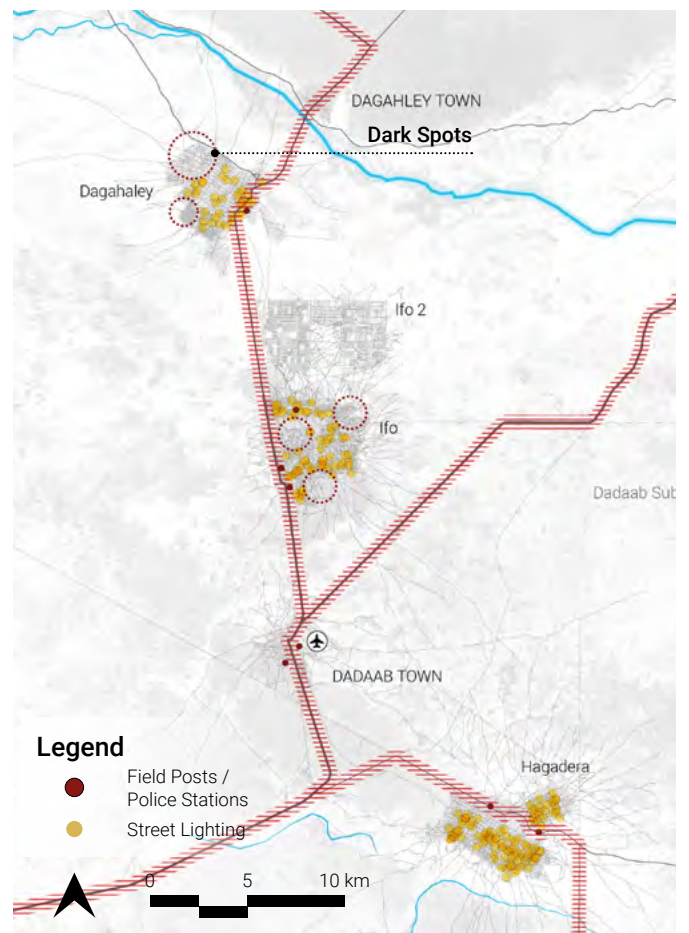


*Map 4: Security Infrastructure and Facilities in Dadaab*

Wajir County

*Note: The data displayed in the maps has been compiled from various partners and UN-Habitat field research, however it remains incomplete. Further infrastructure profiling is required to comprehensively illustrate the complete infrastructure coverage across the area and its condition and functionality.*

DAGAHLEY TOWN

**Dagahaley Camp**
Health Facilities - 6
Education Facilities - 18
Water Tanks - 12
Boreholes - 7

**Ifo 2 Camp**
Health Facilities - 2
Education Facilities - 0
Water Tanks - 6
Boreholes - 7

Dagahaley

Ifo 2

**Ifo Camp**
Health Facilities - 6
Education Facilities - 20
Water Tanks - 9
Boreholes - 7

Ifo

Dadaab Sub-County

**Dadaab Town**
Health Facilities - 3
Education Facilities - 6
Water Tanks - 0
Boreholes - 0

**Hagadera Camp**
Health Facilities - 7
Education Facilities - 32
Water Tanks - 8
Boreholes - 7

DADAAB TOWN

Hagadera

**LEGEND**

**Existing**

⎯⎯⎯ Major Roads

⎯⎯⎯ Seasonal Rivers

**Social Facilities**

🔴 Health Facilities

🟠 Education Facilities

**Catchment Area**

▨ 15 min walking

▨ 30 min walking

**Water Supply**

🔵 Boreholes

🔵 Water Tanks

**Kambioos Camp**
Health Facilities - 1
Education Facilities - 0
Water Tanks - 2
Boreholes - 2

Fafi Sub-County

Kambioos

0    2.5    5         10 km

*Map 5: Infrastructure, Public Facilities, and Services Distribution in Dadaab Refugee Complex*

*Fig. 30: An Access Road in Dagahaley Refugee Camp*
*(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

compared to the host communities in Dadaab Town and in the smaller surrounding towns and villages. This is mainly because the facilities operated by UNHCR and partners are typically better funded as compared to the local government facilities. This results in better staff allocation, equipment facilitation, and general maintenance of the UNHCR facilities. That being said, the public facilities within the camps still struggle with issues of maintenance, overcrowding, staff shortages, and lack of resources.

### Health

According to Kenya's Ministry of Health database, there are a total of 25 registered health facilities in the Dadaab Refugee Complex.[28] Five of these are government owned, six are privately owned, while fourteen are owned by NGOs (mainly UNHCR and partners). The majority of these facilities are located in Ifo and Dagahaley camps, with twelve facilities in each. The government facilities, however, face challenges in terms of staff and medical supplies. Additionally, the remote location and inadequate infrastructure pose obstacles in terms of timely access to medical supplies, specialised equipment, and skilled healthcare services. In terms of bed capacity in Dadaab

Sub-County, the primary care hospitals have good capacity with Ifo 1 hospital leading with 100 beds, while Ifo 2 hospital has 30 beds and Dadaab Sub-County hospital has 25 beds. In Fafi Sub-County, Hagadera hospital is the only primary care hospital, but it has a capacity of 120 beds.[29]

According to the communities, there is a huge gap in accessing the health services in the region especially for the host communities. Since the majority of hospitals and facilities are located within the camps, the residents still have to cover long distances over poor roads in poor condition in order to access the hospitals. Ambulance services are mainly only available in the camp hospitals due to better funding and coordination by the NGOs.

During Community Planning Group consultations and workshops, a number of facilities were mentioned as in critical need of upgrade in terms of conditions, space, and capacity, such as the Dadaab Sub-County Hospital in Dadaab Town, Ifo 2 Level 4 Hospital mentioned to be upgraded into a Kenya Medical Training College (KMTC), Dadaab Level 4 hospital and Borehole 5 dispensary in Hagadera.

Further, the County Government of Garissa, in
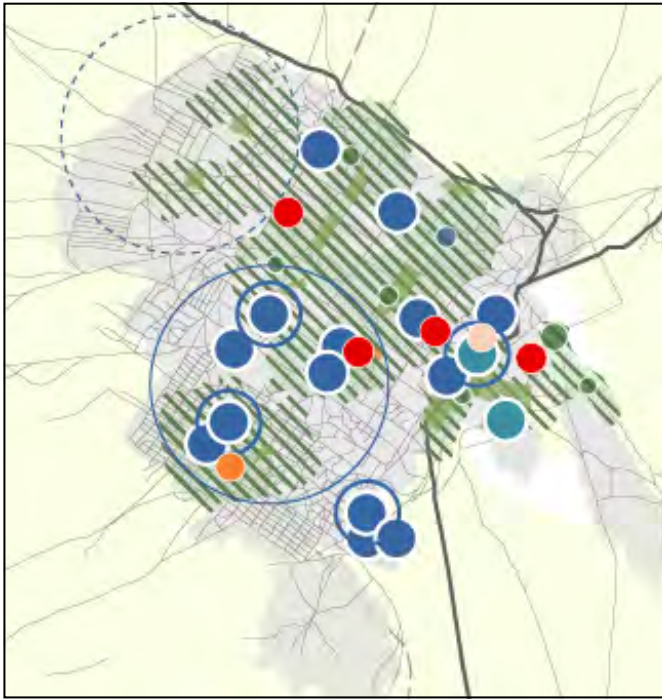
*Dagahaley Camp*
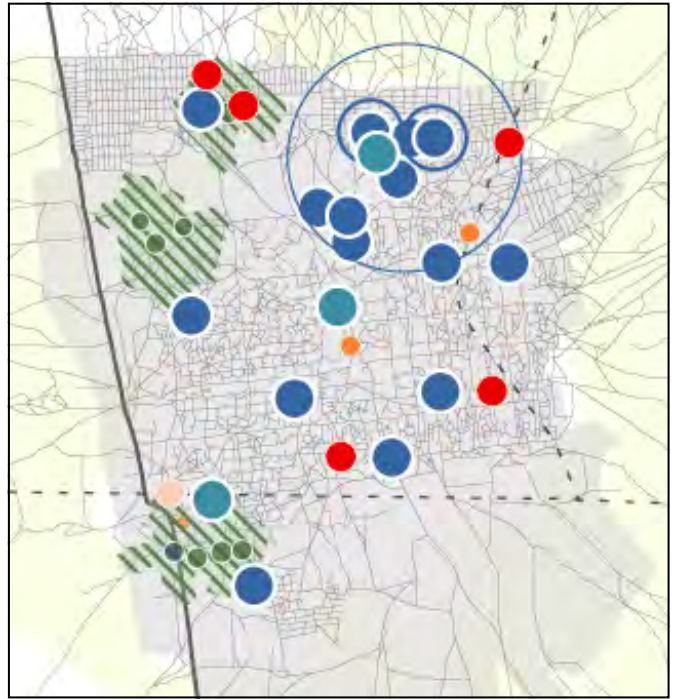
*Ifo Camp*

*Dadaab Town*

*Hagadera Camp*

**LEGEND**

**Existing**

—— Major Roads

≈≈≈ Seasonal Rivers

● Recreational Facilities

▨ 5 min Walking Radius
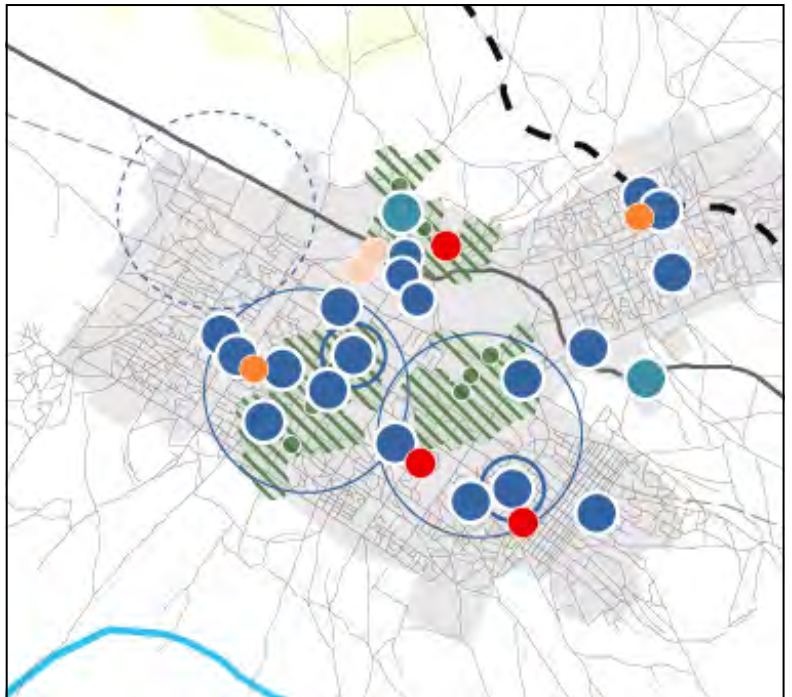
**Education Facilities**

● Primary

● Secondary

**Average Student to Classroom Ratio**

• Below 40:1 (S:C)

● 40:1 to 100:1 (S:C)

◉ Over 100:1 (S:C)

**Health Facilities**

● Run by NGOs

● Run by MoH (Ministry of Health)

● Private

0    1    2         4 km

*Map 6: Infrastructure, Public Facilities, and Services Distribution In Each Settlement (Details)*

collaboration with UNHCR, will upgrade the Dadaab Sub-County Hospital into a Level 4 hospital to serve both the host and the refugee communities.[30] This will be a good step into decongesting the Garissa County and referral hospital by bringing health facilities closer to the people who previously had to travel for over 100km to reach adequate facilities where they could receive the necessary services. Once complete, the facility, to be located in a 17.8 ha piece of land near the Dadaab airstrip, will be a major referral centre for both private and smaller government facilities in the region.

Including the proposed rehabilitation of the previously closed facilities in the decommissioned camps, Ifo 2 and Kambioos, some of the specific health facilities identified during community engagement as in need of particular attention included:

- Dadaab Sub-County Hospital in Dadaab Town
- Dadaab Level 4 Hospital in Dadaab Town (Proposed for upgrade to Level 5)
- Ifo 2 Level 4 Hospital in Ifo 2
- Borehole 5 Dispensary in Hagadera (Serving Fafi Sub-County)

**Education**

According to UNHCR, there are 22 pre-schools, 22 primary schools, 6 secondary schools, 5 primary accelerated learning centres, 9 Alternative Basic Education (ABE) centres, and 6 Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) centres registered in Dadaab refugee camps (Hagadera, Ifo and Dagahaley).[31] Most of the schools in the refugee settlements are constructed and managed by the humanitarian agencies to serve both the host and the refugee communities. Further, there are also other government public schools and private schools around Dadaab.

These schools in the refugee camps respond to a high demand and are thus overcrowded and often lack enough staff and learning materials for their students. Many of the education facilities are in poor conditions and still lacking WASH facilities, school supplies, and electricity. Most community members have expressed, during engagement sessions, that the upgrading of existing facilities should be prioritised over the creation of new education facilities. While there were education facilities established in the formerly closed camps Ifo 2 and Kambioos, following their closure, most of these facilities were vandalised and occupied, and are currently unable to be used without rehabilitation.

To accommodate the future growth, additional facilities



*Fig. 31: An Example of a Dilapidated Closed School Structure in Kambioos (UN-Habitat, 2022)*

*Table 5: Access to Education Facilities*

| Access to Facilities | Host Community | Refugee Community |
|---|---|---|
| ECD | 10% | 15% |
| Primary School | 24% | 35% |
| Secondary School | 15% | 24% |

would need to be established in the long term, in particular in the identified extension areas, where access to existing facilities would be further challenged. Furthermore, the Kenyan education system is transitioning to a new curriculum (i.e., moving from the 8-4-4 system to the Competency Based Curriculum) system. In this new system, the introduction of junior high schools will require more infrastructure, mainly classrooms and laboratories. The system will also need entirely new trained teachers, for all the 13 proposed subjects. Capacity building of existing teachers is also required to improve the education system and create an inclusive and supportive learning environment for all. The unstable security situation in the area has significantly affected the availability of trained professionals and especially teachers, as larger urban centres such as Garissa Town provide more and better employment options and opportunities for career growth.

Including the proposed rehabilitation of the previously closed facilities in the decommissioned camps, Ifo 2 and Kambioos, some of the other education facilities identified during community engagement as in need of particular attention included:

- Dadaab Primary School in Dadaab Town
- Dadaab Secondary School in Dadaab Town
- Kiwanja Ndege Primary School in Dadaab Town
- Daidai Primary School in Dadaab Town
- Haji Idriss Girls Secondary School in Dadaab Town
- Jubba Primary School in Dagahaley
- Kambioos Primary School in Kambioos
- Ifo 2 Primary School in Ifo 2
- Mwangaza Primary School in Ifo 2

**Open Spaces and Recreational Facilities**

Dadaab communities place emphasis on the need to upgrade and expand public sports facilities throughout the Dadaab settlements. While these types of facilities may not appear to have the same critical importance as provision of schools and markets, accessible and inclusive sports and recreational facilities are key to maintaining social connections and even enhancing host and refugee integration. Sports facilities and public



*Fig. 32: Children on a Merry-Go-Round Unit at Halgan ABE Centre, Hagadera (UN-Habitat, 2022)*

spaces throughout the Dadaab Refugee Complex should be accessible and made safe through use of lighting and design.

The current catchment of public spaces indicates major gaps within the camps, with blocks and neighbourhoods having limited to no access to any recreational facilities or open spaces. Furthermore, the current maintenance of the existing facilities and public spaces are lacking, with poor conditions and gaps in their functionality.

Based on workshop findings, some discussed interventions included:

- Construct a stadium and new modern sports facility in Fafi Sub County to serve Hagadera and Alinjugur
- Renovate Puskas Arena in Dadaab Town
- Construct additional new modern sports facility in Dadaab Town
- Complete planned swimming pool facility in Dadaab Town
- Make general upgrades to existing facilities, including adding goal posts, nets, etc.

### 3.3.3 Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Although challenges remain, it is apparent from the available information that basic water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services and facilities are available throughout most of the three original camps of Ifo, Hagadera, and Dagahaley. There are, however, gaps in regards to the conditions and functionality of these services. Outside of the camps, in Dadaab Town, in the more remote host community villages, and in the newly reopened camps (Ifo 2 and Kambioos), coverage is a bit less consistent. Water accessibility is generally sufficient within the area with the majority of households reporting being within a 30 minute walk of a water access point. However, the primary challenges include a lack of adequate water at collection points and a lack of adequate containers to carry and store water, which also directly affects the agricultural sector and food security.

Across Garissa County, around half of the population used pit latrines as their primary means of sanitation while the other half reportedly did not have access to functioning latrine facilities.[32] As a result, open defecation in and around the camps remains an ongoing challenge, which poses further health risks.[33] The Community Planning Groups indicated a meaningful lack of latrine provision in the refugee camps, particularly in the schools and other public facilities, and emphasised on other challenges to accessing WASH facilities such as unsafe, unclean, and poor conditions. This reduced accessibility to latrines,



*Fig. 33: Children at Water Drinking Unit in Halgan ABE Centre, Hagadera (UN-Habitat, 2022)*

discouraged their proper use, and exposed households to a risk of disease transmission and other health concerns.

The host community has also indicated the need for further solarisation of all the boreholes in the area in order to take advantage of the ample, available, and sustainable solar energy, as the area is an ASAL area. Some of the boreholes and associated storage tanks require rehabilitation as well.

### Solid Waste Management

Waste management remains a major challenge in Dadaab. Uncontrolled dumping, especially of non-biodegradable materials like plastic and polythene, is evident throughout the settlements despite different regulatory measures imposed by the Government. Most of the designated dumpsites have also been encroached by the refugees and the host communities, as they seek either expansion of residential areas or setting up of facilities such as mosques or shops to meet their needs.

Pilot waste management strategies have been implemented in Hagadera and Dagahaley, some of which have shown potential for success. However, they were eventually discontinued due to funding and other challenges. A dumping site has been provided as well by the government in Dadaab Town, however waste collection remains a challenge relying on a combination of donkeys, handcarts, and tricycle wagons that are used to bring waste from households to an initial sorting location, transferred from there by small trucks to a final disposal site. When it comes to disposal, most households reported reliance on either incineration or dumping/burying, with only a smaller number of households recycling or landfilling their waste.[34]

There is a lack of an overall waste management strategy for the whole area and this is seen as a critical issue by the community. The lack of such a strategy has prompted recommendations from community members, emphasising the need to map designated and approved dumping sites, establish recycling facilities, allocate resources for waste collection from both host and refugee communities, and explore the integration of Community Based Organisations (CBOs) in waste management strategies. Addressing these recommendations would ensure a more effective and sustainable approach to waste management in the area.



*Fig. 34: Waste Management Situation in Hagadera Camp*
*(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

# 3.4 Local Economic Development

### 3.4.1 Introduction

Most products and services in Dadaab are made available by wholesalers who source products from the major supply markets and distribute to the retailers in the local market. At the end of the supply chain are local retailers who are mainly MSMEs and primarily operate businesses in public markets and along street frontage. The businesses have established strong market systems across the value chains with networks in Nairobi, Garissa, Thika, and many other intermediate towns. This has created a significant number of jobs and provided meaningful income to members of both the refugee and the host communities. These networks ensure that the local markets are diversified enough to provide a wide array of products and services that are needed by both host and refugee communities.[35] Key challenges that the businesses face include inadequate training, limited connectivity and accessibility due to poor roads, lack of electricity and inadequate access to business capital to start and scale their businesses.

### 3.4.2 Nature of Businesses

According to findings of UN-Habitat's 2021 survey in Dadaab, which were published in the "**Report on Socio-Economic Conditions, Businesses, and Local Economic Development in Dadaab**," the majority of businesses in Dadaab are in the retail and informal service sectors, with food making up the majority of the goods sold in the market. The report shows that 37.3% of the businesses are operating in retail (food and non-food items), 10.2% in supermarkets, 9.3% in meat products, and 8% in hotels.[36] Grocery shops form 18.2% while personalised services like hair salons and salons, hotel and hospitality industries form 17.1% of the local market.[37]

### Agricultural Economy

The agriculture sector has the potential for creating jobs and increasing incomes for both refugees and the host community. Given the demographic dividend, Dadaab offers enough demand for most of the agricultural products if the requisite investments in water accessibility are made. The sector is however affected by climatic conditions affecting production, rangeland stability, grazing, and pasture.[38] These environmental vulnerabilities make livelihood and resource degradation worse and consequently exacerbating food insecurity.

The communities practise small scale agriculture predominantly for subsistence use. There are, however, additional agricultural activities in the green belts at the periphery of the camps that were developed to ensure



*Fig. 35: Bilibili Farm in Hagadera (UN-Habitat, 2022)*

Dagahaley

Ifo 2

Ifo

Dadaab
Town

Hagadera

Kambioos
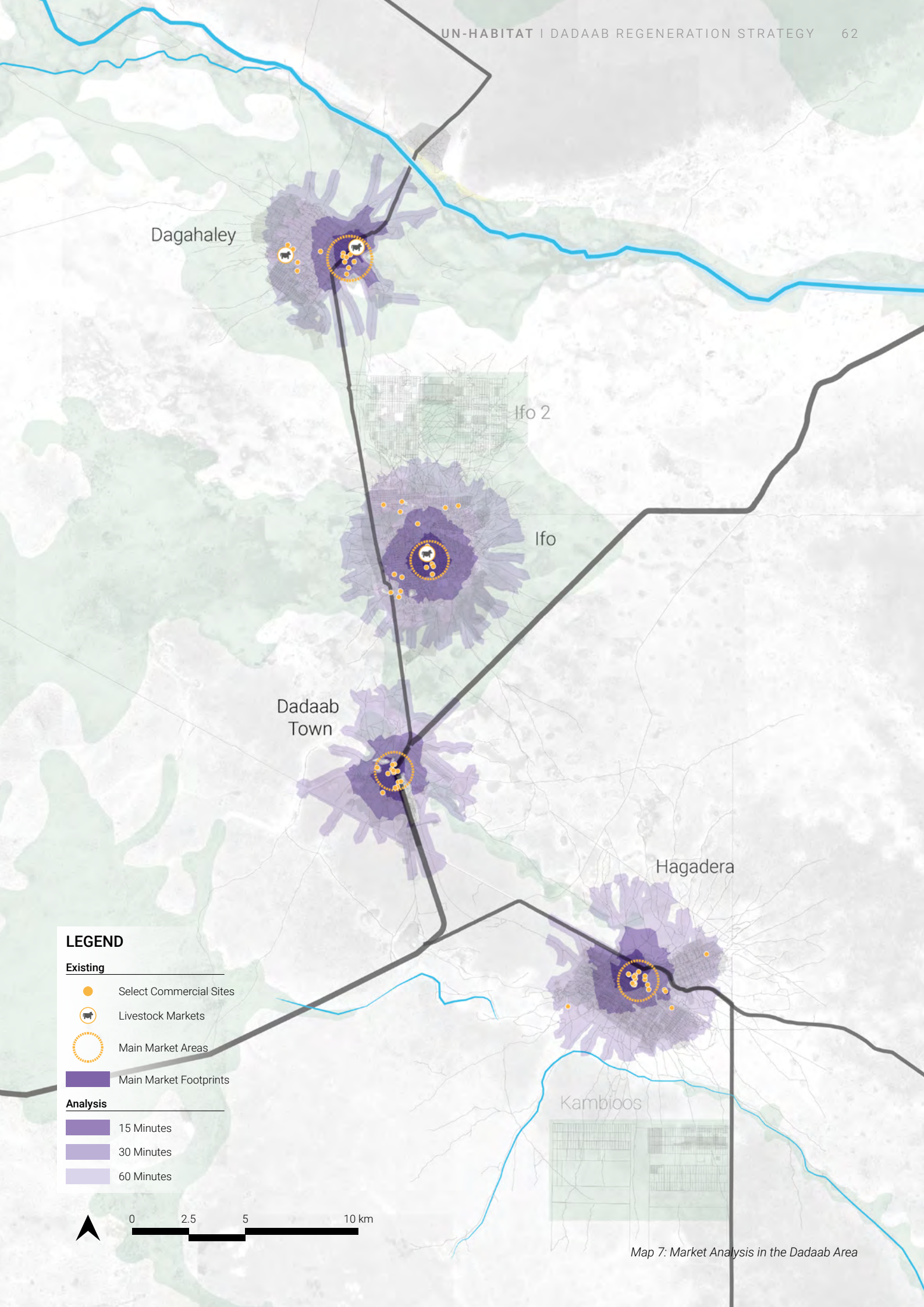
**LEGEND**

**Existing**

- Select Commercial Sites
- Livestock Markets
- Main Market Areas
- Main Market Footprints

**Analysis**

- 15 Minutes
- 30 Minutes
- 60 Minutes

0     2.5     5          10 km

*Map 7: Market Analysis in the Dadaab Area*

environmental conservation and strengthening of agricultural production.[39] There are groups of hosts and refugee communities who plant vegetables and cereals in the area and sell to the local markets.

Despite Hagadera having a large arable land especially for watermelons and other vegetables, Dagahaley has the highest number of refugees focused in farming mostly because of the high number of Somali Bantus who have originally been known to practise agricultural production.[40] This has strengthened the market in Hagadera with an elaborate agricultural value chain

making products available to the local market to meet part of the local demand. Being at the intersection also between Wajir and Garissa, Dagahaley is a key economic node providing linkages and accessibility of various markets in the camp and the wider host community.

**Livestock and Pastoralism**

Due to the pastoralist nature of the host community and the fact that some of the County and inter-county livestock migratory routes converge in Dadaab, livestock are a major component of Dadaab's local economy. As
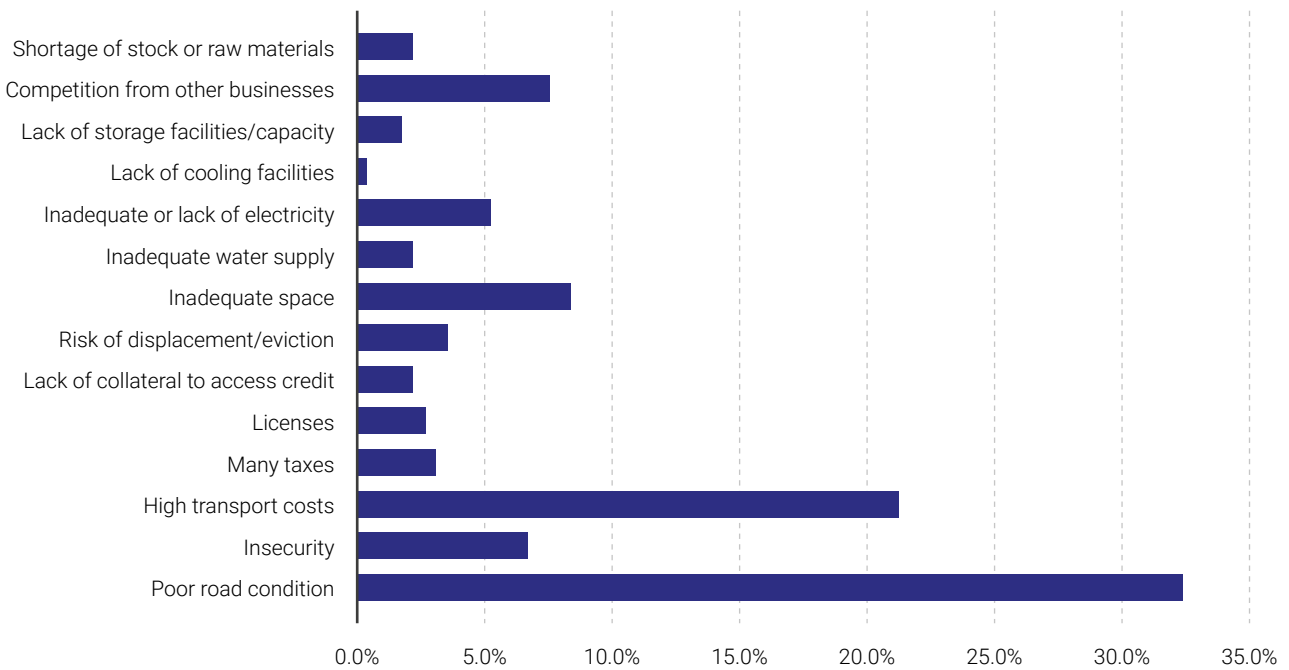


*Fig. 36: Primary Supply Chain Challenges Experienced By Businesses in Dadaab (UN-Habitat, 2022)*
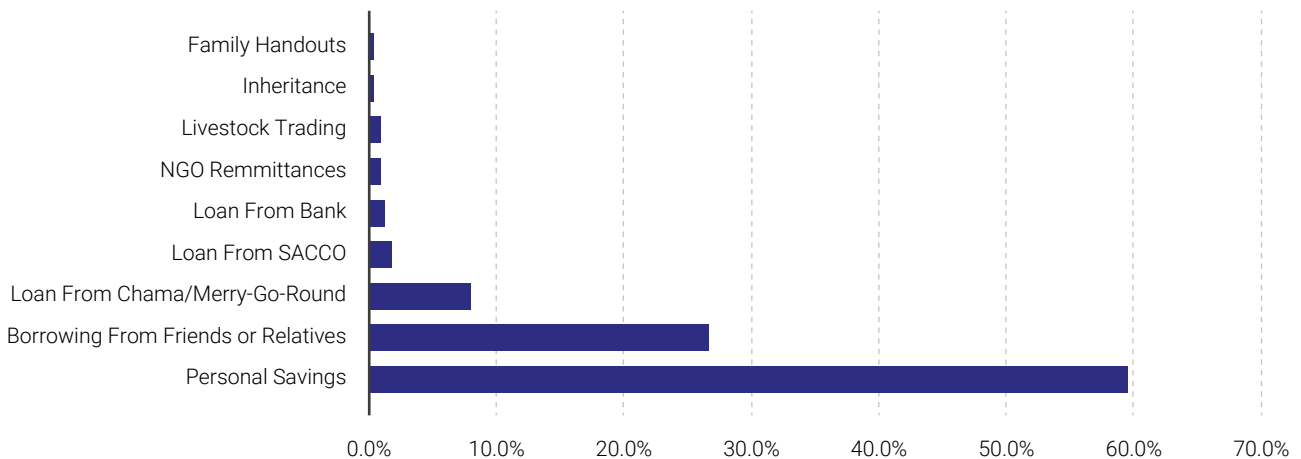


*Fig. 37: Businesses in Dadaab Main Sources of Start-Up Capital (UN-Habitat, 2022)*

*Fig. 38: Livestock Market in Hagadera Camp*
*(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

such, there is a strong demand for infrastructure that directly supports the livestock economy, such as cattle dips, slaughterhouses and slaughter slabs, fencing around designated areas in markets for livestock, and even relevant training institutes.

While the livestock economy must be catered for, economic diversification should also be encouraged throughout the Dadaab area. This is especially true because of environmental threats such as drought of which pastoralists are very vulnerable. Within the existing livestock economy itself there are also opportunities for diversification such as skin tanning and milk production, if the right facilities are made available. To support this transition, training and capacity building are required alongside improved connections to local and regional markets and value chains.

Some refugees are informally employed by the host communities to look after their livestock or provide services to local businesses which include transport, retail shops, and service providers. UNHCR and partners also employ refugees and host communities as incentive workers, e.g., security staff, cleaners, community workers, etc.

## Markets

There are four primary marketplaces in the Dadaab Refugee Complex: one in Dadaab Town and one in each of the original camps (Ifo, Dagahaley, and Hagadera), with a variety of other smaller commercial areas throughout the camps and surroundings. The existence of the refugee camps adds to a thriving and varied network of markets where refugees and members of the host community exchange goods and services. With the reopening of Ifo 2 Camp, it is anticipated that there will be an opportunity to reestablish a market centre there, as well. Supply chains for these local marketplaces originate in Kenya's larger cities, such as Nairobi and Mombasa, as there are public transport hubs in Dadaab Town, Ifo, Hagadera, and Dagahaley. Since there is a sense of kinship and homogeneity between the host and the refugees, as well as a shared language, religion, and culture. In addition to sharing their market demands, refugees and hosts frequently engage in market exchanges.

While the existing markets in Dadaab are vibrant, the current facilities remain insufficient. The host and refugee communities proposed existing market maintenance and expansion as well as the construction of new market facilities. In terms of infrastructural development, the

markets in both the host and refugee community lack basic essential amenities including electricity, water, latrines, waste collection, and infrastructure for fire prevention and protection. Additionally, the community has mentioned that parking, storage, and accessibility problems consistently plague markets, which could impede the expansion of small enterprises. In some cases, strong and active market committees already exist (in Hagadera, for example), but in order to grow and have more opportunities, they must be connected to market committees in the other settlements.

### 3.4.3 Challenges To Doing Business

Businesses in and around the Dadaab Refugee Complex face significant challenges related to doing business and the ongoing economic development of the area. The most significant challenges are related to poor connectivity and accessibility, including to supply chains, external markets, services, knowledge, and logistics systems. This is mostly due to inadequate capacity, poor road infrastructure development from the major supply markets which has significant implications on transaction costs which are transferred to consumers in form of high prices of products. Within the camps also the road networks are poorly developed hence hindering movement of people, goods and services especially

during the rainy season.

Other challenges are related to access to business capital to expand their businesses, periodic insecurities, lack of common use warehousing, reliable electricity and inadequate water and sanitation services. The key challenges however remain poor road infrastructure (32.4%), high transportation costs (21.3%) and insecurity (7%).[41]

### Access to Business Capital

Most businesses in Dadaab Refugee Complex find it hard to access loans from traditional banking institutions due to lack of collateral and lack of documentation to fulfil the Know Your Customer (KYC) Regulations. Instead, most businesses reported sourcing capital from personal savings, friends and family, or local Village and Savings Loans Associations (VSLAs). However, personal savings and borrowing from friends and relatives are reported to be the major sources of business capital with a share of 59.9% and 26.7% respectively.[42]

### Summary of Key Emergent Issues

1. Lack of tenure security and planning which encourages linear and ad hoc development of business, and general informality



*Fig. 39: Market Street in Hagadera*
*(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

2.  Insufficient or complete lack of support facilities and infrastructure such as water, toilet facilities, storage facilities, and connection to power

3.  Poor connectivity and accessibility to supply chains, external markets, services, knowledge, and logistics systems

4.  Few catalysts, clusters and business networks to support value-adding and import replacement investment activities

5.  Weak and inequitable access to jobs, labour markets, education, skills, knowledge, and business competency

6.  High costs of doing business, including limited collaboration on bulk buying

7.  Low level connectivity and networking within refugee and non-refugee communities

# 3.5 Environment and Natural Hazards

Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties and the surrounding environs are located in ASALs area in the northeastern part of Kenya. This part of the country experiences a multiplicity of environmental and climate constraints, threats, and challenges. These challenges and threats that are of a natural nature, human-induced ecosystem threats, and socio-economic threats are made worse by the effects of climate change.[43] All these threats have in one way affected the already fragile environment and the people's livelihoods resulting in water scarcity, food insecurity, migration, and poverty.

Hot and dry climatic conditions, recurrent drought and flooding have been the most prevalent cases in Dadaab as indicated in the environmental hazard map below which have been made worse by effects of climate change. Flood risk in Dadaab for instance, is a growing challenge in the face of the current increasing population, urbanisation trends, unpredictable weather patterns and climate change. Those living in refugee camps are the most vulnerable to the devastating impacts of seasonal flooding. In addition, the area has experienced scarce rainfall for the last few seasons and this has significantly impacted the current drought.

Dadaab Refugee Complex regularly experiences sudden high rainfalls which result in flash floods in some areas

and increased water levels along the Lagh Dera river in the vicinity of Dagahaley Camp and in the entire river basin around Dadaab, destruction of the existing infrastructure and properties, and disrupted accessibility to several parts of the camps and essential facilities. The camps also lack or have poor drainage facilities and solid waste management resulting in localised flooding throughout the camps, high level household flooding, as well as disease outbreaks such as diarrhoea and cholera.

The Dadaab Refugee Complex continues to receive new refugees from across the borders as they seek protection, better access to livelihood opportunities, and to escape climate hazards. This however has resulted in a high population against the land allocated carrying capacity. Thus, with the increased population, the rate of land degradation and deforestation as a result of expansive settlement, poor farming practices, charcoal burning, fuel wood extraction, and harvesting of native vegetation has far exceeded the natural regrowth rates and resulted in cases of soil erosion and loss of vegetation cover. Overgrazing by the host community has also escalated loss of natural cover, hence declining natural and grazing resources and shrinking areas for migratory pastoralism. These activities often result in cases of conflicts between the host and refugee communities as they compete for the reduced available resources and limited access



*Fig. 40: Dwindling Water Resources in Hagadera Camp (UN-Habitat, 2022)*
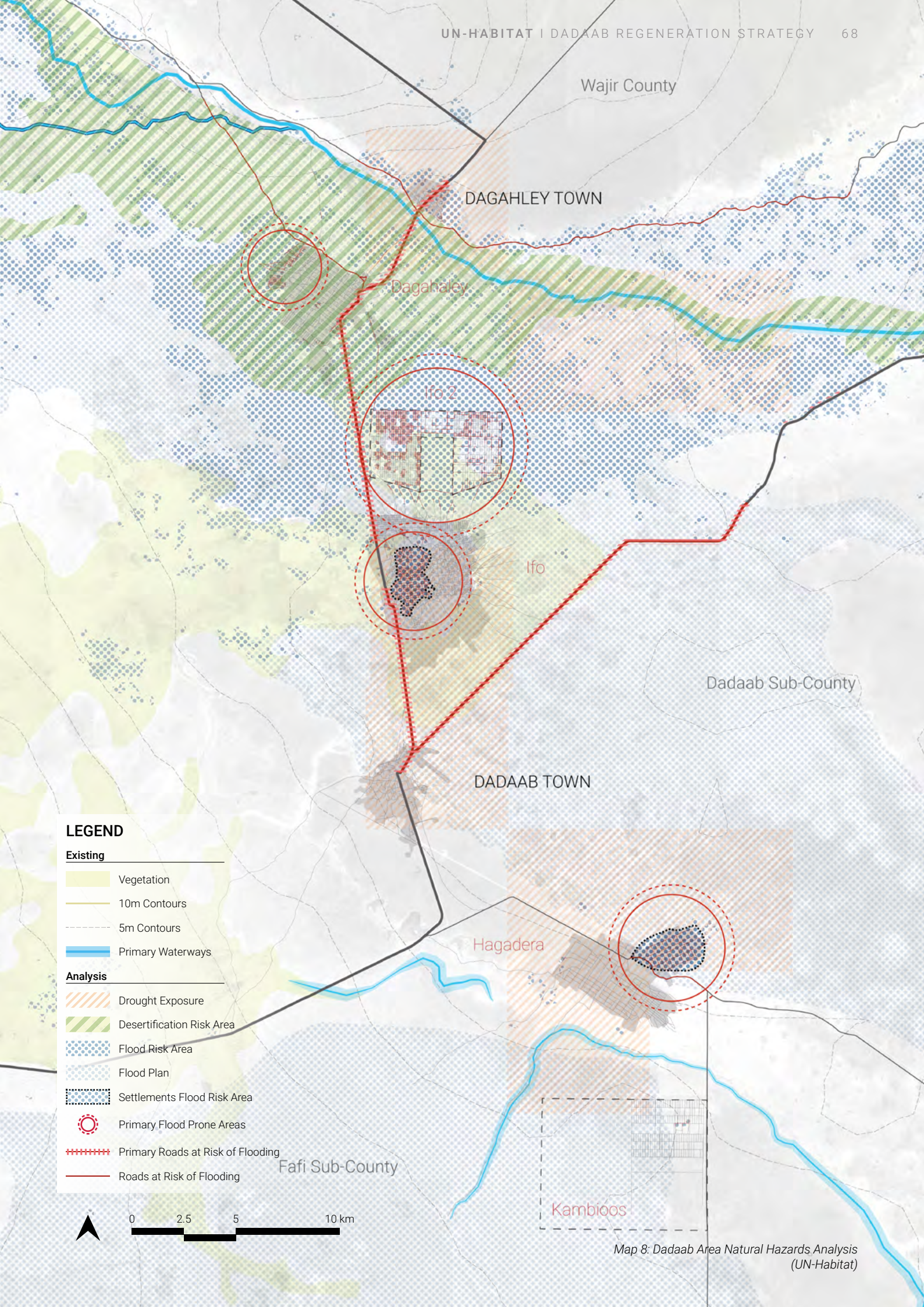
Wajir County

DAGAHLEY TOWN

Dagahaley

Ifo 2

Ifo

Dadaab Sub-County

DADAAB TOWN
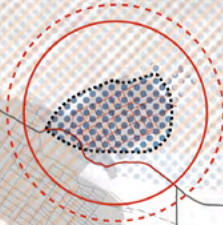
**LEGEND**

**Existing**

| | |
|---|---|
| | Vegetation |
| | 10m Contours |
| | 5m Contours |
| | Primary Waterways |

**Analysis**

| | |
|---|---|
| | Drought Exposure |
| | Desertification Risk Area |
| | Flood Risk Area |
| | Flood Plan |
| | Settlements Flood Risk Area |
| | Primary Flood Prone Areas |
| | Primary Roads at Risk of Flooding |
| | Roads at Risk of Flooding |

Hagadera

Fafi Sub-County

0    2.5    5         10 km

Kambioos

*Map 8: Dadaab Area Natural Hazards Analysis*
*(UN-Habitat)*

to basic services and income opportunities. Invasive species such as prosopis juliflora have also created a menace in the area due to the reduction in desirable grazing and settlement area.

Other factors contributing to natural hazard in Dadaab include insecurity affiliated with neighbouring Somalia's internal conflicts which have, in the past, undermined the development of this area and discouraged investment, resulting in poor infrastructural development and stunted growth. There has also been a shift away from traditional pastoral practices as the population has increased, fertile land for pastoral activities has declined, and an unwillingness to engage in the practice has emerged among the younger generations.

Water shortages in the region remain a major challenge with most members of both the host and refugee communities relying on boreholes as one of the main sources of water. There are other water sources which are few and sometimes poorly managed and their complimentary water supply infrastructure are inadequate and poorly developed. Water demand is high, given the region's traditional reliance on agricultural and pastoral activities, and supply from the available sources is still low. Thus, the majority of the communities cannot rely on the available water to practise meaningful

integrated agriculture with aspects of irrigation technologies.

The lack of adequate water points in the area to sufficiently serve for domestic and livestock purposes also encourages competition and conflicts between the host and refugee communities. Besides, human wildlife conflict is a common phenomenon as the wildlife also compete with humans for the scarce water and pasture resources. This has been noted in some areas and the communities have raised the issue relevantly with the County Government.

Towards a resilient community, there is a need to invest in climate resilient infrastructures that will boost the productivity of these areas, create additional employment opportunities, and improve food security. Promoting adaptive capacity of the local and refugee communities and adopting proper mitigation strategies as well as enhanced early warning systems with the right technologies would also help strengthen the resilience of communities living in Dadaab. Other measures could include fencing off of the existing game reserve and sustainable urban planning and land use management to comprehensively address the issues of resource use management, flooding, and climate change.

It's important to apply disaster risk reduction (DRR)



*Fig. 41: Ongoing Firewood Harvesting In Decommissioned Ifo 2 Camp (UN-Habitat, 2022)*

measures and address congestion and informality, challenges which have been further complicated by land management issues, lack of adequate financial resources, competing needs, and uncoordinated planning and consultation with the target communities. However several projects have been undertaken in Dadaab by various partners to address the issues of climate change. To help mitigate the potential degradation of the environment in Dadaab, UNHCR and partners such as Fafi Integrated Development Association (FAIDA), Relief, Reconstruction, and Development Organization (RRDO), the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS), and others have, in the past, worked to restore and rebuild the environment to allow for the host and refugee communities to live in harmony with the environment.

Some examples of the related environmental projects undertaken in Dadaab to mitigate the risk of climate change have included community education forums to expand awareness in Hagadera, Ifo, and Dagahaley Camps. Efforts to restore and protect the environment have also included rehabilitation of the landscape in some areas within and around Kambioos and Ifo 2 Camps by creating enclosed green belts with a mixture of agroforestry practices. In order to diversify livelihoods, generate extra income for the community members, and promote natural regeneration, these efforts have also included the planting of fruit trees to form orchards (of around 25 ha) and beekeeping. Fodder crops, such as alfalfa grass, have also been planted in the past on about 34 hectares of land to increase feed production for the community's pastoralist activities. Efforts have also been made to ensure proper waste disposal and to minimise environmental destruction.

Within wider Dadaab, some environmental regulations have also been operationalised to protect the environment from further degradation. Partners in Dadaab have also introduced various energy fuel saving jikos (stoves) and environmentally friendly sources of energy such as bio-ethanol fuel and stoves, installation of solar energy, while liquefied petroleum gas usage has also been promoted and encouraged for household use in Dadaab, especially within the town. But further efforts should be enhanced to ensure equitable access to sustainable energy sources for refugee and host communities. Together, these and other projects have been undertaken in order to address the urgent need to tackle the environmental challenges that have arisen from the increased pressure of both host and refugee communities' activities in the area.

# 3.6 Ongoing and Future Projects

There are numerous ongoing and planned future projects in Dadaab, Garissa County, and in the larger region that will have meaningful impacts on the ongoing growth, development, and evolution of conditions in the newly established municipalities. Because the area is home to both refugees and host communities, these projects are funded by both humanitarian aid and development financing and will be able to offer benefits to both communities and the various affected camps, settlements, towns, and villages.

There are many agencies working in the refugee camps and many planned and ongoing projects being implemented throughout the host and refugee communities. UNHCR, as the lead agency on the ground, has traditionally coordinated these various interventions. With further integration and the establishment of the new municipalities in Garissa County, though, alignment with the GISEDP is critical, because the GISEDP brings stakeholders from both the government and non-governmental organisations together in support of the implementation of projects and programmes to benefit all communities

The Dadaab Regeneration Strategy aims to account for and capitalise on the benefits of the ongoing and future projects already planned for the area and its surroundings in the short and longer term. In **Map 9** and **Table 6**, a substantial, though still certainly incomplete, list of some of these ongoing and planned future projects are presented. In particular, projects connected to the regeneration strategy outlined here have been selected for further exploration. Primary alignment with the established objectives of good planning has been proposed alongside each project, as well, to begin to demonstrate the connections. For some of the larger and more impactful projects, an additional description is also provided here, though the Garissa County CIDP 2023-2027 and the GISEDP documents explain many of the projects outlined here in greater detail.

**Garissa County Spatial Plan [04]**

The County Government of Garissa, in collaboration with FAO Kenya, has embarked on developing a County Spatial Plan which is currently in the preparation phase. This County Spatial Plan is a strategic vision that defines the general trend and direction of spatial development for the County. The preparation of the County Spatial Plan is a requirement under the County Government Act, 2012 which provides for all County Governments in Kenya to prepare and implement county spatial plans. The Spatial Plan is a ten-year, GIS-based depiction of a county's socio-economic development vision and program, including the distribution of people and activities, within the context of efficient, productive and sustainable use of land and other county spaces. The plan will take into consideration the natural resources in Garissa County and ways in which the plan will ensure that these natural assets are secured in an effective manner. With Garissa County being a refugee-hosting county, the plan is set to have both the host and the refugees benefiting from the strategic programs advised from the resulting spatial plan.

**Reactivation and Expansion of Agricultural Activities In and Around Dadaab [6]**

The Dadaab Refugee Complex falls within the expansive arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL) of Garissa County and is characterised by hot, dry weather and high rates of evaporation interspersed with occasional flooding in poorly drained areas. The dramatic changes in weather patterns have caused prolonged drought and have made life even harder for both host and refugee communities living in the area. With six consecutive seasons of failed rains, the only very occasional extreme rainfall is not well captured and often leads to immediate short term flooding with long term effects as a result of the damage caused.

The communities living in Dadaab also often do not readily have access to fresh fruit and vegetables, and depend heavily on supplies arriving from other areas. This is due to water scarcity and the hot, dry climatic conditions that they live in. In protracted refugee camp situations, where people are almost entirely dependent on humanitarian assistance, these challenges are even more pronounced. The Kenya Red Cross Society, Garissa County Government, UNHCR, and partners, however, look at this as a livelihood opportunity for the communities, and are working independently, on integrating farming with pastoral activities. The interventions also enhance food security and expand access to fresh locally grown fruits and vegetables. This not only includes reactivation of dormant farms, boreholes, and water systems, but also capacity building and encouraging the communities to adopt these interventions.

It is however important to note that, as a result of the reopening and resettlement of the previously closed camps, the size of some of the targeted farm lands may be reduced or relocated to accommodate the expanding settlements. Currently, the planned farm lands are congregated around the locations of the boreholes, with the communities using the available water for farming. Some of these farmlands extend to areas that were previously settlements, in particular in Ifo 2 and in parts of Kambioos. Additionally, there are some farmlands around Borehole 5 in Hagadera.

DAGAHALEY TOWN

DAGAHALEY CAMP

01  Reopening of Ifo 2 Camp

IFO 2 CAMP

06  Reactivation and Expansion of Agricultural
Activities In and Around Dadaab

IFO CAMP

DADAAB TOWN

11  Construction of Level 4 Hospital in Dadaab Town

Rural Electrification project  19

Conferral of Dadaab Municipality  02

16  Construction of Dadaab Town water supply pipeline works

20  Construction of road from
Garissa (Modika) to Dadaab

HAGADERA CAMP

Construction of 100 m² tank in
Hagadera Borehole 5 Farms  10    17  Construction of 100 bed capacity
Maternity Ward in Alinjugur

Piping water system for Hagadera
Borehole 5 Village Farms  09    08  Solarisation of Borehole 5 Village Farms
borehole to reduce the high cost of fuel usage

Conferral of Bura Municipality  03

Construction of 100 bed capacity
Maternity Ward in Alinjugur  17

Reopening of Kambioos Refugee Camp  01

07  Solarisation of Alinjugur Secondary
School and Sub-County HQ in Alinjugur

KAMBIOOS CAMP

ALINJUGUR

Rehabilitation and reactivation of borehole and water troughs in Kambioos  14

Reactivation and Expansion of Agricultural
Activities In and Around Dadaab  06

**LEGEND**

Project Status

● Complete

● Ongoing

● Planned

0    2.5    5    10 km

*Map 9: Dadaab Ongoing and Future Projects Spatial Overview*

### Dadaab Water Pipeline [16]

With Dadaab Town located in an arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL) region, water has always been one of the major challenges for the communities in the area. This challenge has been exacerbated by the fact that the County majorly hosts pastoral communities and hence requires water for the livestock as well. The government and other partners have, over time, made huge investments to salvage the situation, through borehole drilling and construction of other water infrastructure. However, water is more accessible to the refugee communities in the camps, as compared to the host community villages. Through Garissa Water and Sewerage Company (GAWASCO), Garissa County is constructing water pipelines around Dadaab Town to enhance water access to the communities.

Advertised for tender in 2021 and awarded in 2022, the Ksh 164 million project, funded by the World Bank through the Water and Sanitation Development Project (WSDP), targets the construction of 15 boreholes, which will cover settlements within a 50 km radius of Dadaab Town.[44] As a result, Welhar, Bulla Nyanya, Weldon, Mathagesi, Labisigale, Bulla Kheir and Bogyar villages in Dadaab and Alinjugur, Hagardera, Yumbis, Welmerer, Mathamarub, Biyamathobe, Fafi Centre and Harbole villages in Fafi Sub-County will have access to solar powered boreholes. Although awarded, the project has not moved into implementation yet. It is estimated that, once the project is completed, around 120,000 people from the refugee and host communities in Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties will benefit from the initiative. Apart from dealing with the water scarcity, the project will also involve the construction of ablution blocks, pit and vip latrines and other facilities like schools, markets, hospitals, and bus stops in Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties.

### Horn of Africa Gateway Development Project (HoAGDP) [21]

The Horn of Africa Gateway Development Project (HoAGDP) is planned to enhance connectivity between Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia. This shall be achieved through upgrading to bitumen standards of the existing road thereby increasing transport efficiency, facilitating trade and development along the Isiolo - Wajir - Mandera part of the Mombasa - Garissa - Wajir - Mandera - Mogadishu road corridor, as well as connecting the area with information and communication technologies.

The Madogo - Garissa - Modika - Dadaab - Liboi - Harhar A3 road serves as a historical link between Nairobi and Somalia. Further, Dadaab Refugee Complex is strategically located along the A3 Road, although not as established as Garissa Town, which is a key trading hub in the area. Poor road access to the northeastern part of Kenya has long constrained the area's social and economic development prospects. In response, this project will facilitate the movement of people and goods, expand digital connectivity, and improve the access to social services of communities at designated locations along the targeted sections of the Isiolo-Mandera Regional Road Corridor. The initiative will also increase the capacity of selected national and county transport related institutions. Dadaab Refugee Complex stands to benefit from this investment due to the resulting improved connection to neighbouring counties as well as the increased integration between the communities. The security situation in the area, which has long been a significant challenge for Dadaab in attracting investment and promoting development, is also set to greatly improve as a result.

This project is currently in its initial stages and the Kenya National Highways Authority (KeNHA) is currently conducting public participation, undertaking a Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), and developing a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) for the project.

### Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia Transport (LAPSSET) Corridor [22]

As part of a major transportation and investment corridor running through northern Kenya, the Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia Transport (LAPSSET) Corridor proposal envisages a new road network, railway, oil pipelines, airports, and utilities. The full corridor is designed to move oil from South Sudan to a new refinery in Lamu, increase cross-border trade with South Sudan and Ethiopia, and provide the foundational spine for the development of Northern Kenya and the improved integration of the region into the greater national and international economy.

The corridor is designed to be 500 metres wide, with an additional 50 kilometres on either side of the corridor designated as the outer economic corridor. This economic corridor will include urban development, including new and existing towns and villages, Special Economic Zones (SEZs) or Economic Enterprise Zones (EEZs) (as planned in Kalobeyei), as well as agricultural and irrigation schemes. The completion of the trunk infrastructure, particularly its transportation elements, is anticipated to stimulate economic growth and establish a second economic corridor in the East Africa region, in addition to the Northern Corridor.

The multibillion infrastructural project will traverse almost

*Table 6: Ongoing and Planned Projects*

| # | Description | Partner(s) | Commencement / Dates of Implementation | Status | Location(s) | Alignment with Principles | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | 1. Compact & Integrated | 2. Resilient Environment | 3. Connected & Accessible | 4. Inclusive & Vibrant |
| 01 | **Regazettement and reopening of Ifo 2 and Kambioos Refugee Camps** | UNHCR, DRS, Others | June 2023 | Ongoing | Ifo 2, Kambioos | ● | | | |
| | As of late 2022, both camps have been regazetted, and on 18 June, 2023, Ifo 2 was reopened and resettlement of refugees there has commenced | | | | | | | | |
| 02 | **Conferral of Dadaab Municipality** | GCG, Dadaab Sub-County | 2023 | Complete | Dadaab Town, Dagahaley, Ifo, Ifo 2 | ● | | | ● |
| | Completed | | | | | | | | |
| 03 | **Conferral of Bura Municipality** | GCG, Fafi Sub-County | 2023 | Complete | Hagadera, Alinjugur, Kambioos | ● | | | ● |
| | Completed | | | | | | | | |
| 04 | **Development of Garissa County Spatial Plan** | GCG, FAO | 2023 | Ongoing | Garissa County | ● | | ● | ● |
| | An MOU was signed on 16 March, 2023 | | | | | | | | |
| 05 | **Development of the Garissa County geo-spatial strategy and establishment of GIS platform** | Mercy Corps | 2022 | Not Started | Garissa County | ● | | | ● |
| | Dadaab Refugee Complex and the new municipalities will be included in the platform | | | | | | | | |
| 06 | **Reactivation and Expansion of Agricultural Activities In and Around Dadaab** | UNHCR, KRCS | 2022 | Ongoing | Ifo 2 | | ● | | ● |
| | Ongoing efforts to renew and expand agricultural projects impacted by new influx | | | | | | | | |
| 07 | **Solarisation of Alinjugur Secondary School and Sub-County HQ in Alinjugur** | GCG | TBD | Planned | Alinjugur | | ● | ● | ● |
| | One of the main host community schools in Fafi Sub-County where electricity remains a challenge | | | | | | | | |
| 08 | **Solarisation of Borehole 5 Village Farms borehole to reduce the high cost of fuel usage** | GCG | TBD | Planned | Hagadera | | ● | ● | ● |
| | Farms expected to enable communities to adopt farming as a sustainable livelihood for all seasons | | | | | | | | |
| 09 | **Piping water system for Hagadera Borehole 5 Village Farms** | GCG | TBD | Planned | Hagadera | | ● | ● | ● |
| | Aimed at improving efficient water distribution | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | **Construction of 100 m² tank in Hagadera Borehole 5 Farms** | GCG | TBD | Planned | Hagadera | | ● | ● | ● |
| | Aimed at improving efficient water distribution | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | **Construction of Level 4 Hospital in Dadaab Town** | UNHCR | 2022-2023 | Ongoing | Dadaab Town | | | ● | |
| | Includes general rehabilitation of the hospital ward and a theatre with upgrade to Level 4 Hospital | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | **Construction of new Level 4 Hospital between Dadaab and Ifo** | GoK | 2024 | Tender awarded | Dadaab Town | | | ● | |
| | Not commenced | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | **Construction of five (x5) 108 m3 water tanks in all the three of the open camps in Dadaab** | UNHCR | TBD | Planned, Tendering Stage | Ifo, Dagahaley, Hagadera | | | ● | |
| | Not commenced | | | | | | | | |
| 14 | **Rehabilitation and reactivation of borehole and water troughs in Kambioos** | UNHCR | June 2022 | Complete | Kambioos | | | ● | |
| | To improve access to water for the pastoral communities | | | | | | | | |

*Table 6: Ongoing and Planned Projects (continued)*

| # | Description | Partner(s) | Commencement / Dates of Implementation | Status | Location(s) | 1. Compact & Integrated | 2. Resilient Environment | 3. Connected & Accessible | 4. Inclusive & Vibrant |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 15 | **Horn of Africa Groundwater for Resilience Project (HoAGW4R)** — A project that includes drilling of additional boreholes in Garissa County and an assessment to determine where these facilities are needed | WB, CIWA, IGAD, | Planned for 2023 | Not Started | TBC | | | ● | |
| 16 | **Construction of Dadaab Town water supply pipeline works** — A project to enhance water access in the Dadaab area for the host community; mapping needed | GAWASCO | 2022 | Not Started, Tendering Stage | Dadaab Town, Garissa County | | | ● | |
| 17 | **Construction of 100 bed capacity Maternity Ward in Alinjugur** — A project aimed at giving better health services to the communities | GCG | Not Started | Planned | Alinjugur | | | ● | |
| 18 | **Construction of 100 bed capacity maternity ward in Hagadera near Borehole 5 Hospital** — A project aimed at giving better health services to the communities | GCG | Not Started | Planned | Hagadera | | | ● | |
| 19 | **Rural Electrification project** — Though the structural works are complete, the generators at Dadaab are faulty and KPLC's electricity production capacity has gone down | KPLC | 2018 | Ongoing | Dadaab Town | | | ● | |
| 20 | **Construction of road from Garissa (Modika) to Dadaab** — Improve the road to a dual carriage way, (EIA and RAP ongoing) | GCG, WB, KENHA | 2022 | Planned, Initial Stages | Garissa County | | | ● | |
| 21 | **Horn of Africa Gateway Development Project (HoAGDP)** — Construction of Isiolo Mandera Project (Passing through Garissa County) | GoK, KeNHA | 2023 | Planned (initial stages) | Through Elwark | | | ● | |
| 22 | **Lamu Port South-Sudan Ethiopia Transport (LAPSSET) Corridor Project** — The Project focuses on interconnecting the East African countries of Kenya, Ethiopia, South Sudan, and Uganda amongst others | LAPSSET Corridor Development Authority | 2012 | Ongoing | Regional | | | ● | ● |
| 23 | **Construction of an airstrip at Modika** — Planned as major transport hub in the region to replace the airstrip in the middle of Garissa Town | GoK | Inception | Ongoing | Garissa Town | | | ● | ● |
| 24 | **Construction and equipping of ICT Centre in Alinjugur Secondary School** — A project to to incorporate ICT opportunities | State Department of ICT | TBD | Planned | Alinjugur | | | ● | ● |
| 25 | **Renovation and furnishing of Fafi Sub-County headquarters in Alinjugur** — A project aimed at enhancing access to services by the communities | Fafi Sub-County | TBD | Planned | Alinjugur | | | | ● |
| 26 | **Kenya Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project (KDRDIP)** — A project to improve the livelihood opportunities through development projects | GCG, WB, DANIDA | 2018-2023 | Ongoing | Dadaab Refugee Complex | | | | ● |
| 27 | **The Second Kenya Urban Support Programme (KUSP2)** — World Bank funded pipeline project supporting refugee-hosting municipalities with service delivery | WB, GoK, Municipalities | 2023 | Ongoing | Kenya | ● | ● | ● | ● |

415 km through Ijara, passing through Bothai, Ijara, Bura, and Modika (just 93 kilometres from Dadaab) in Garissa County. The LAPSSET project will improve the livelihood of the residents not only through land compensation and investment, but also in opening up the hitherto closed community to other opportunities outside the region.

While uncertainties remain about some aspects of the ongoing initiative, the LAPSSET Corridor project has been projected to deliver an estimated USD $25 billion in infrastructure investment across the region over the coming years.[45] This could help to facilitate a significant turn of events for counties such as Garissa and Turkana, which have previously attracted very limited government investment in their infrastructure. The corridor would be a major game changer for the County in terms of connectivity and market integration into the wider country and region.

### Kenya Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project (KDRDIP)[46] [26]

Kenya Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project (KDRDIP) is a National Government initiative, supported by the World Bank, to improve the lives of the refugee-hosting communities in the north of the country. It is a Community Driven Development (CDD) initiative where communities identify, plan, implement, monitor, and sustain their own development projects. The committees are trained on their roles and responsibilities in project management and the projects identified by the communities are integrated into the Community Development Plans (CDPs) before they receive funding. Some of the projects identified by the communities included drilling and equipping solar powered boreholes to serve about 150 households and expanding table banking to empower women, which has already been well embraced by the communities.[47]

KDRDIP works with various stakeholders in efforts to transform lives of the refugee-hosting communities in Garissa, Turkana, and Wajir Counties. The initiative is structured in various components, e.g., social and economic infrastructure and services, environmental and natural resource management, livelihoods program and project management, monitoring and evaluation, and knowledge sharing. All these key components will go a long way in addressing the various challenges experienced by the host and refugee communities in Dadaab, and should be seen as a meaningful component of the proposed urban regeneration.

The first phase of the project is almost complete with a possibility of extension to a second phase. With the recent signing into law of the Kenya Refugees Act of 2021, both refugee and host communities are set to benefit meaningfully from this initiative.

### The Second Kenya Urban Support Programme (KUSP2) [27]

The Second Kenya Urban Support Programme (KUSP2) is a pipeline project by the national government of Kenya and the World Bank, aimed at supporting institutional development and service delivery in newly established municipalities in Kenya. Under the World Bank's International Development Association (IDA) 20, the project has incorporated a special Window for Host and Refugees (WHR) to strengthen the capacities of urban institutions in refugee hosting areas. Through the WHR, the newly established refugee-hosting municipalities, which are target beneficiaries, will design and implement multiple infrastructure and service delivery projects. These projects will benefit both refugees and the host community. KUSP2 therefore presents a meaningful opportunity for financing and realising some of the projects proposed in this regeneration strategy.

At the local level, the project's main goal is to establish and strengthen urban institutions and improve access to infrastructure services in refugee and host community areas and their surroundings. This entails activities that are designed to:

1. Coordinate integrated urban/settlement planning in refugee hosting municipalities
2. Improve the delivery and resilience of urban infrastructure and services
3. Enhance the private sector contribution to urban planning and development
4. Support the transition of refugee camps into integrated settlements

Furthermore, the KUSP2-WHR framework, under the special municipalities in Dadaab and Kakuma, will serve as a platform for coordination of spatial development planning interventions in these areas, which will target both host and refugee communities, as residents of the new municipalities. UN-Habitat has been invited by the Government of Kenya and the World Bank to provide technical and project management support, including capacity building, to the overall implementation of KUSP2-WHR at national and county (Garissa and Turkana) levels.

Fig. 42: Aerial View of Dagahaley Camp
(Arjun Claire, MSF, 2019)
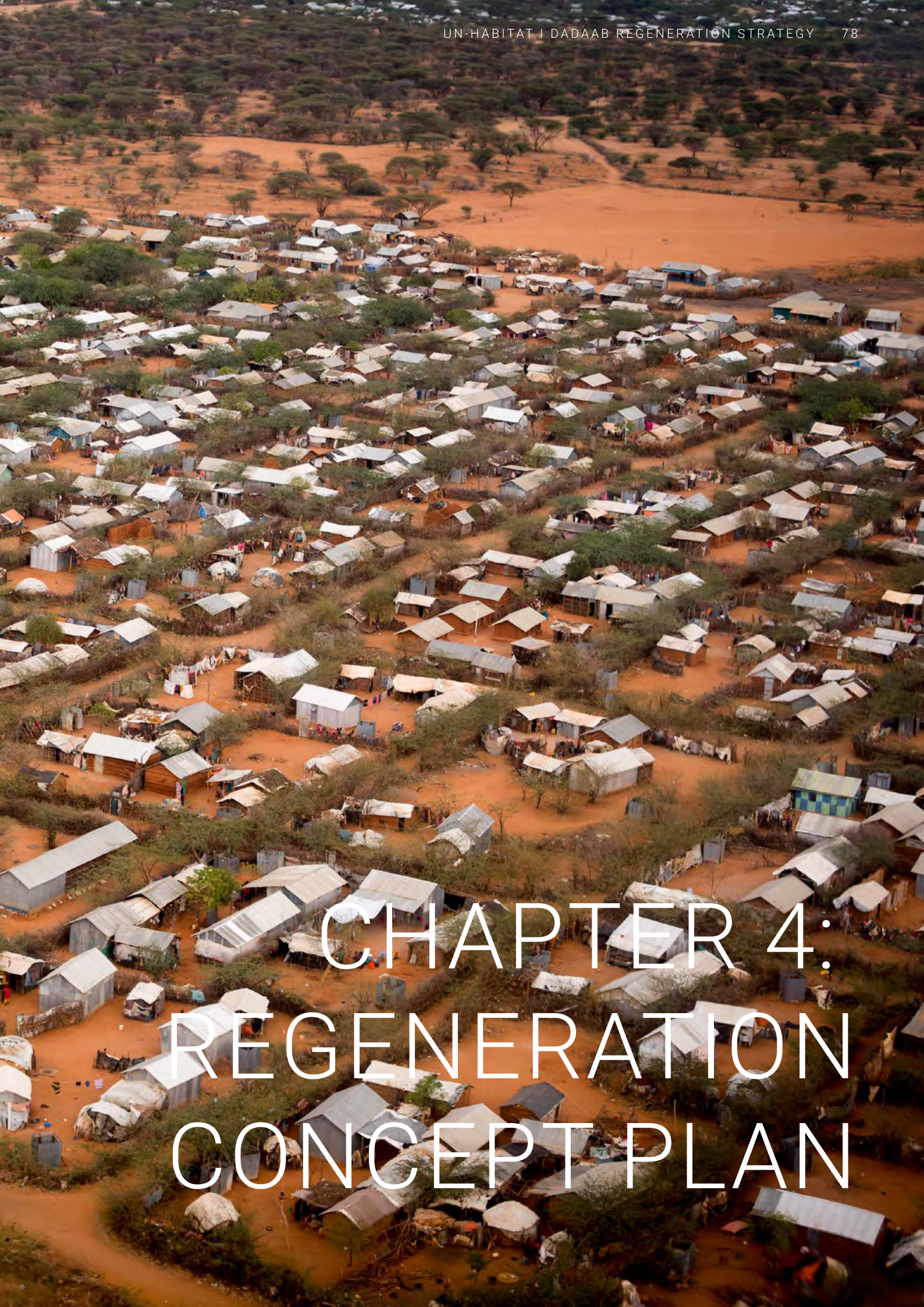
# CHAPTER 4: REGENERATION CONCEPT PLAN

# 4.1 Introduction

## 4.1.1 Objectives of Dadaab Regeneration Strategy

Thoughtful urban planning, well-managed and sustainable development, improved and integrated service delivery, and efficient land use provide the basis for the regeneration of Dadaab. This plan, therefore, takes up the objective of moving toward more comprehensive policies and practices that emphasise on social and economic integration by introducing strategic perspectives and promoting local and regional growth while prioritising the role of the community in the planning process. The regeneration approach adopted for Dadaab seeks to offer a path to improving living conditions throughout the area, promoting a sense of dignity in the public realm, while addressing issues of inequity, environmental degradation, and fragmentation of service delivery.

A wide range of approaches can be adopted to contribute to the regeneration of Dadaab. These may include the redevelopment of unplanned, poorly organised, or blighted areas to make land available for new and planned uses, e.g., opening pathways for access roads or road widening to accommodate pedestrian paths and drainage. Approaches might also include rehabilitation and conservation of structures with significant social or cultural importance to the community or lands with meaningful natural or strategic value, which could also be accompanied by improvements to community facilities. Ideally, regeneration would involve a combination of these approaches and others, but all in an area-based manner that encourages involvement of all stakeholders.

**Redevelopment** involves assessing and identifying blighted areas in the camps that can be repurposed and reused for the implementation of planned uses. This is applicable in areas with seriously deteriorated conditions and no preservation value or in areas with environmental challenges that can be put to good use if environmental restoration interventions accompany the planned uses. This approach may carry social and environmental costs, with relocation and disruption of neighbourhoods being the greatest impact to the community, so should be undertaken with sensitivity and care and include the engagement of all affected communities.

**Rehabilitation** is often based on preserving, repairing, and restoring the natural and human-made environments of existing neighbourhoods while taking advantage of the existing development as a valuable resource. This recognises the value of neighbourhoods and their built environments along with existing systems. Participation of all stakeholders is important at every stage, which can be achieved through the formation of neighbourhood associations and Community Planning Groups (CPGs) to

*Table 7: Good Planning Principles and the Dimensions of Regeneration*

| Dimensions of Regeneration | Good Planning Principles | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| | 1. Compact and Integrated | 2. Resilient Environment | 3. Connected and Accessible | 4. Inclusive and Vibrant |
| Physical | ● | ● | ● | |
| Economic | | | ● | ● |
| Social/Cultural | | | ● | ● |
| Environmental | ● | ● | | |
| Governance | ● | | | ● |

guide the process with minimal disruption.

**Integrated urban regeneration** often includes a combination of rehabilitation and redevelopment, which are adopted as complementary forces and therefore the best aspects of both can be combined. It allows for flexible implementation which can preserve the existing camp environments and their human scale characteristics while achieving respectable densities. It can enable the creation of a better environment through the coordination of complementary systems and interventions, e.g., new infrastructure should be planned not only to provide services to all residents, but to enrich and improve the appearance of the settlements while contributing to a unified and inclusive sense of place.

The regeneration strategy proposed here aims to present an integrated approach that is composed of a collection of more specific interventions and actions which can together support Dadaab to move towards achieving the vision previously established in the **Dadaab Future Vision** report, to improve self-reliance and catalyse economic growth. This proposal follows directly on that visioning work for the settlement that was developed in close collaboration with the various affected communities and stakeholders. In pursuit of that objective, the implementation of the strategy outlined in this proposal follows the established visioning goals, which are directly linked to the various dimensions of regeneration (see **Table 7**).

These various strategies, interventions, and actions span

different thematic categories as well as timeframes, with quick-win actions and interventions being a key component, because implementation of these strategies will provide benefits in the short-term, act as pilot projects for replicable and scalable interventions, and generate confidence for investment in longer term projects over time.

These proposed spatial interventions will catalyse regeneration within Dadaab inclusive of all facets of regeneration: economic, socio-cultural, environmental, physical, and governance. The intention of the proposed interventions is to benefit both the host and refugee communities, current and future.

Alongside the central benefits of regeneration, such as economic development and improved access to basic services, this strategy also aims to give the residents of Dadaab more autonomy over their lives and communities by creating improved access to education and health facilities, new opportunities for employment and wealth-generation, and ultimately self-sufficiency.

These proposals align directly with plans for Garissa County and the newly established municipalities. The conferral of the municipalities indicates a belief in the growth potential of Dadaab and its surroundings and support for the transition away from traditional models of encampment, which are ideals that this regeneration strategy is built upon.

In summary, the Dadaab Regeneration Strategy has the following objectives:

1. Support and promote the ongoing transition of Dadaab Refugee Complex and its component camps from a humanitarian camp model to one of sustainable integrated settlements

2. Support an incremental transition from planning that follows the humanitarian (UNHCR/SPHERE) minimum standards that are commonly applied in camp planning toward national and local urban planning standards, where possible, understanding that a full transition may not be immediately feasible due to limited capacity and resources as well as physical, spatial, and financial constraints

3. Support a shift toward a socially integrated settlement that is inclusive of both host and refugee communities, with services and facilities that benefit both populations equitably, while still taking into account the distinct socio-cultural backgrounds, needs, and priorities of each group

4. Support the ongoing establishment of the refugee-hosting municipalities into urban settlements that meet the local and national standards of

cities of their size with the governance structures and capacities to adequately serve the needs of their populations, inclusive of host and refugee communities

5. Translate the **Dadaab Future Vision** into concrete interventions and actions, with a particular focus on high priority quick-win solutions that can provide tangible results and meaningful progress to address the most urgent challenges facing residents

6. Support the implementation of interventions that will provide benefits regardless of unpredictable future population scenario outcomes, including any sudden new influx of refugees or large scale repatriation or resettlement, as Dadaab has faced both in recent years

7. To align the interests and values of all relevant stakeholders, including government officials, host communities, refugee communities, humanitarian and development actors, and all others in order to focus collective energy and actions on the core shared challenges and goals, while developing an understanding of any differing views

# 4.2 From Planning to Transformation

### 4.2.1 Dadaab Future Vision

The future vision of Dadaab, previously established during the visioning process and presented in the **Dadaab Future Vision** report, aimed to establish what the area should look like in five to ten years time. Utilising an area-based and whole of society approach, this future vision was informed by local, national, and transnational policies, refugee and host community perspectives, and sound urban planning principles. It sought to build on the existing positive attributes of Dadaab while addressing the major challenges that currently exist. It also sought to propose a pathway forward in Dadaab that capitalises on the opportunities available while making the most of all existing assets to contribute to the sustainable growth and ongoing development of the region.

These efforts resulted in the following statement:

*In 2030, the Dadaab area will be accessible, inclusive, safe, and economically prosperous while still protecting its natural environment and pastoralist livelihood through improved access to facilities and services, well-managed land and resources, and improved community engagement. The Dadaab area will achieve its potential for integration, diversified employment opportunities, climate resilience, and improved quality of life.*[48]

Which was further broken down into the following seven goals:

1. **Goal 1 - Accessibility and Connectivity**: Consolidate the road network and ensure accessibility between and within settlements

### Goal 1 - Accessibility and Connectivity

- Upgrading and improvement of existing roads
- Establish an efficient and affordable public transport
- Establish pedestrian paths between and within settlements
- Establish efficient road network systems within settlements
- Improve entry points from main road to settlements.

### Goal 2 - Social Inclusion and Security

- Promote social integration & protection for refugees and host communities especially youth and women
- Regeneration of existing/remaining camps into sustainable settlement 'villages'

### Goal 3 - Prosperity and Economic Diversity

- Consolidation of economic hub around Dadaab Town & Ifo / Core Development
- Upgrade and improve conditions of existing livestock markets in camps and Dadaab Town
- Establish facilities to reinforce livestock farming (e.g,. training centres)

### Goal 4 - Resilient Environment

- Protection and rehabilitation of land into agricultural purposes (diversify livelihoods opportunities and generate alternative incomes) - non buildable land
- Flood mitigation and adaptation strategies in flood risk area
- Buffer zone along streams/lake (possible riverbed farming)

### Goal 5 - Sustainable Infrastructure

- Adaptive re-use of decommissioned facilities
- Sources of sustainable electricity supply
- Sources of sustainable water supply
- Improvement of facility conditions and capacity, and equal distribution

### Goal 6 - Resources and Land Management

- Identify non buildable land to protect agriculture lands
- Potential extension areas for future growth
- Control and limit urban growth around settlements
- Densification and Infill
- De-congestion of overcrowded settlements

### Goal 7 - Good Governance

Promote participatory, inclusive, transparent, smart, and accountable governance to achieve peace and stability

" In 2030, the Dadaab area will be Accessible, inclusive, safe and economically prosperous while still protecting its natural environment and pastoralist livelihood through improved access to facilities and services, well managed land and resources and improved community engagement. The Dadaab area will achieve its potential for integration, diversified employment opportunities, climate resilience, and improved quality of life."[49]



WATER FROM MERTI AQUIFER

Dagahaley
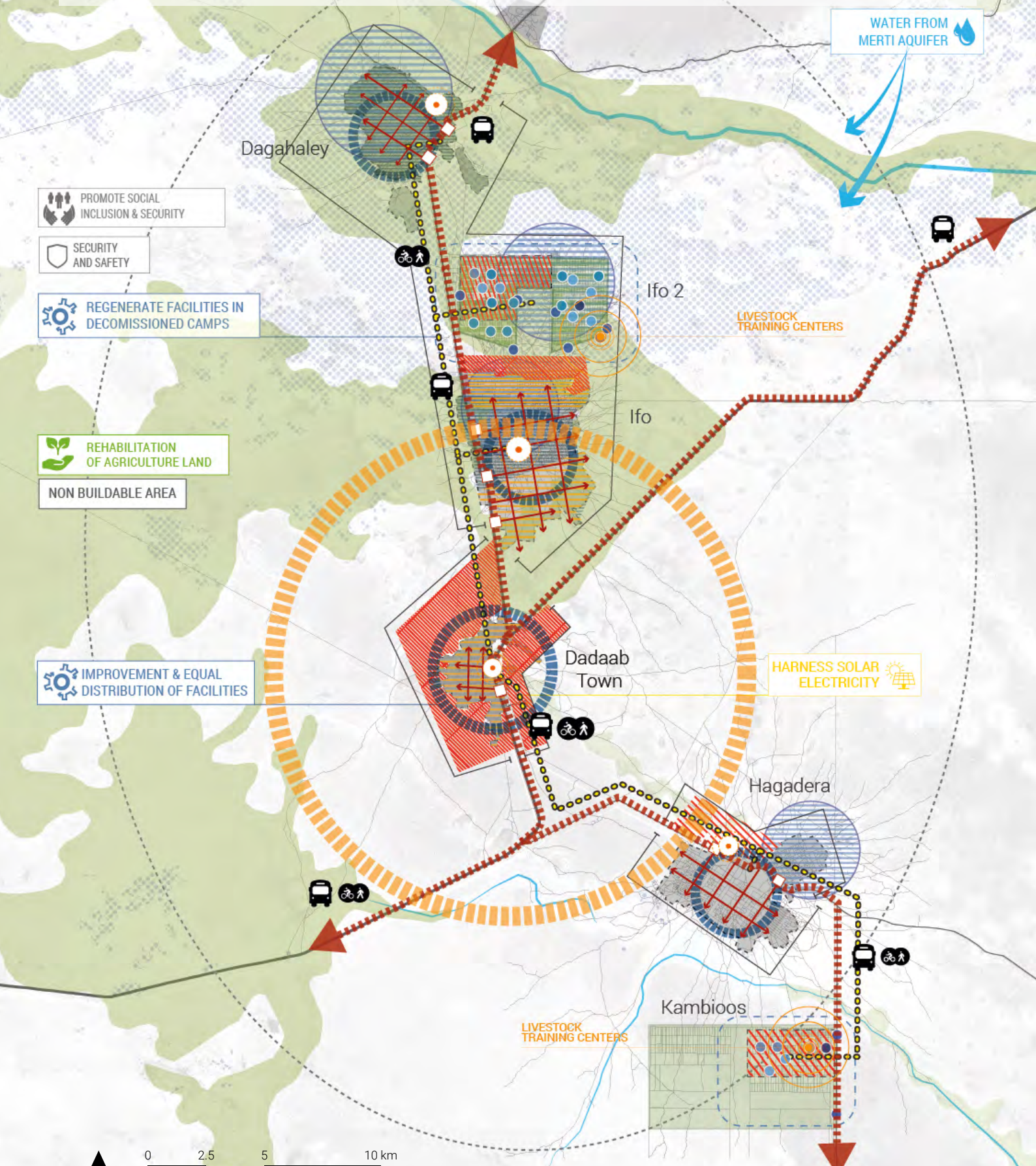
PROMOTE SOCIAL INCLUSION & SECURITY

SECURITY AND SAFETY

REGENERATE FACILITIES IN DECOMISSIONED CAMPS

Ifo 2

LIVESTOCK TRAINING CENTERS

Ifo

REHABILITATION OF AGRICULTURE LAND

NON BUILDABLE AREA

IMPROVEMENT & EQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF FACILITIES

Dadaab Town

HARNESS SOLAR ELECTRICITY

Hagadera

Kambioos

LIVESTOCK TRAINING CENTERS

0    2.5    5    10 km

Map 10: Dadaab Future Vision Map
(UN-Habitat, 2022)

2.  **Goal 2 - Social Inclusion and Security**: Promote social inclusion & guarantee right to health, education and social protection for refugees and host communities

3.  **Goal 3 - Prosperity and Economic Diversity**: Promote Dadaab as diversified hub recipient of foreign investment and promote trainings with an emphasis on young people and women to foster entrepreneurship and employment opportunities

4.  **Goal 4 - Resilient Environment**: Promote resilience and mitigation strategies to protect and safeguard livelihoods and communities

5.  **Goal 5 - Sustainable Infrastructure**: Build resilient and equitably distributed social facilities, basic services, and infrastructure

6.  **Goal 6 - Resources and Land Management**: Promote strategic and integrated land management to reduce vulnerability to natural hazards and prevent unmanaged development

7.  **Goal 7 - Good Governance**: Promote participatory, inclusive, transparent, smart, and accountable governance to achieve peace and stability

Together, this vision statement and its component goals were intended to help guide and inform future planning in Dadaab and to act as an informed basis for the development of this regeneration plan. The specific action areas and interventions identified here are intended to contribute to the realisation of the **Dadaab Future Vision**.

### 4.2.2 Regenerative Planning

While Dadaab is undergoing a transition from the traditional model of humanitarian encampment to sustainable integrated settlements, interventions and investments in the area should be made with a long-term urban vision and not as temporary solutions. Projects taken up now should avoid targeting particular population sub-groups and create opportunities for improving the lives and livelihoods of both the refugees and host communities living in and around the existing refugee camps in order to demonstrate the intention to respond to the needs of all the residents in Dadaab and the wider area.

## VISION GOALS

**Goal 1 - Accessibility and Connectivity**

Consolidate the road network and ensure accessibility between and within settlements

**Goal 2 - Social Inclusion and Security**

Promote social inclusion & guarantee right to health, education and social protection for refugees and host communities

**Goal 3 - Prosperity and Economic Diversity**

Promote Dadaab as diversified hub recipient of foreign investment and promote trainings with an emphasis on young people and women to foster entrepreneurship and employment opportunities

**Goal 4 - Resilient Environment**

Promote resilience and mitigation strategies to protect and safeguard livelihoods and communities

**Goal 5 - Sustainable Infrastructure**

Build resilient and equitably distributed social facilities, basic services, and infrastructure

**Goal 6 - Resources and Land Management**

Promote strategic and integrated land management to reduce vulnerability to natural hazards and prevent unmanaged development

**Goal 7 - Good Governance**

Promote participatory, inclusive, transparent, smart, and accountable governance to achieve peace and stability

The following section outlines the proposed regeneration strategies and interventions which have been assembled to help guide the long-term planning of the area. These strategies fulfil multiple roles, are interlinked and integrated with one another, and have both spatial and non-spatial components. The strategies have been designed to adapt to the specific context of Dadaab while applying key principles and objectives of good planning for sustainable cities and settlements.

The proposed plan primarily addresses the urban planning and spatial design component which advocates for promoting integration by creating well-connected settlements. This is, in turn, supported by good neighbourhood planning principles such as:

1. **Principle 1: Compact and Integrated** - Promoting appropriate density and compact development to maximise land efficiency and prevent low-density urban sprawl, protect community-owned agricultural and pastoral lands, and limit environmental degradation

2. **Principle 2: Resilient Environment** - Promoting

a Resilient Environment against immediate and chronic stresses within the area while enabling a self-reliant settlement to function in the instance of reduced resource availability

3. **Principle 3: Connected and Accessible** - Optimising the use of land to provide an interconnected network of vibrant streets that facilitate safe, efficient, and pleasant connectivity while improving accessibility to services and facilities

4. **Principle 4: Inclusive and Vibrant** - Fostering the development of diversified, inclusive, and economically thriving communities in a vibrant environment that creates areas for refugees and host communities to interact and do business

Using these principles of good planning as an organising framework, the following concept plan and subsequent action plan present a series of strategies, interventions, and actions to guide planning and development in Dadaab in order to achieve these goals and to realise the promise of this regeneration strategy.

## PRINCIPLES OF GOOD PLANNING

### Principle 1: Compact and Integrated

Promoting appropriate density and compact development to maximise land efficiency and prevent low-density urban sprawl, protect community-owned agricultural and pastoral lands, and limit environmental degradation

### Principle 2: Resilient Environment

Promoting a Resilient Environment against immediate and chronic stresses within the area while enabling a self-reliant settlement to function in the instance of reduced resource availability

### Principle 3: Connected and Accessible

Optimising the use of land to provide an interconnected network of vibrant streets that facilitate safe, efficient, and pleasant connectivity while improving accessibility to services and facilities

### Principle 4: Inclusive and Vibrant

Fostering the development of diversified, inclusive, and economically thriving communities in a vibrant environment that creates areas for refugees and host communities to interact and do business

*Fig. 43: From Vision Goals to Objectives of Good Planning*
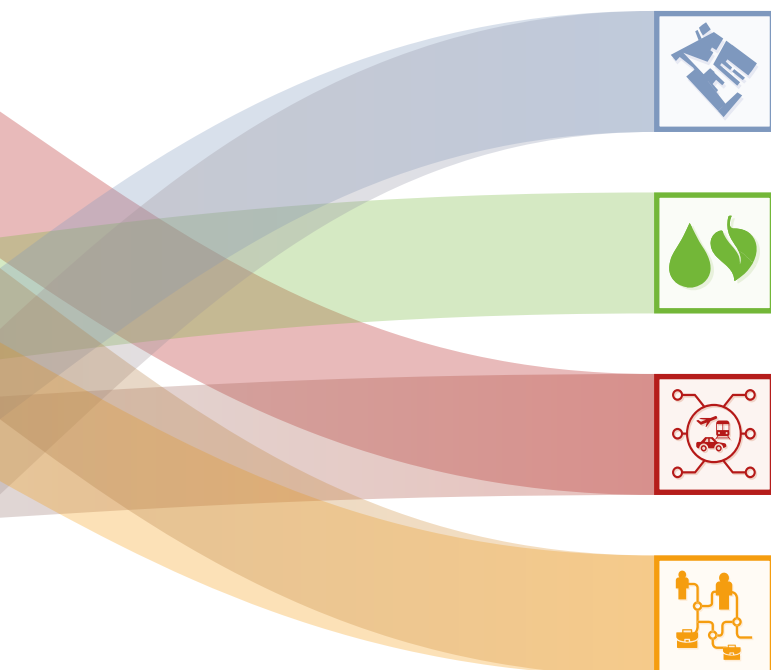
# 4.3 Principle 1: Compact and Integrated

*Goal 6 - Resources and Land Management*
*Goal 7 - Good Governance*

···· Strategy

▢ Intervention

**1. Identify adequate land for managed population growth and sustainable resource use**

1.1 Define a growth limit to control the growth and avoid sprawling and encroachment on existing green areas and agriculture land

1.2 Promote densification and infill within existing settlements where there is vacant land or low density areas

1.3 Identify potential extension areas

**2. Protect and conserve existing natural resources and ecologically sensitive land**

2.1 Preserve existing or potential agricultural lands, wetlands, and green areas (e.g., greenbelts, rivers, blue-green corridors, riparians areas, etc.)

2.2 Identify non-buildable areas due to hazards risks (e.g., flood prone risks areas)

**3. Support the strengthening of the management and planning institutions serving the new municipalities**

3.1 Provide public consultation regarding land regularisation in the new municipalities

3.2 Construction of municipal offices that will serve the needs of all communities in the new municipalities

## 4.3.1 Overview

**Principle 1: Compact and Integrated** seeks to promote appropriate density and compact development in order to maximise land efficiency and to prevent low-density urban sprawl, protect community-owned agricultural and pastoral lands, and limit environmental degradation. It takes up **Goal 6: Land and Resource Management** and **Goal 7: Good Governance** from the **Dadaab Future Vision** in order to promote these aspirations through good planning practices and is concerned primarily with the physical and governance dimensions of regeneration.

The ideal future of Dadaab is to achieve an area where all existing camps are transitioned to sustainable and integrated settlements that are internally and externally connected. With the formation of the new municipalities, each should also be concentrated around a central hub, such as with Dadaab Town as the main central hub for the Dadaab Municipality. Future expansion of the camps, in particular to meet the needs of any new influx, should be directed towards these commercial, transportation, and administrative hubs in order to ensure their role as an economic hub and maintain the viability of the area for the long run and the future population of the area.

## 4.3.2 Concept Plan

The compact and integrated model can be achieved through various strategies and interventions, including:

### 1. Identify adequate land for managed population growth and sustainable resource use

Expansion of viable settlement areas for refugees and host communities is inevitable due to the natural growth of the communities and the continued influx of refugees. The currently surging numbers in the camps have been multiplied as family sizes increase and the drought crisis in the region persists, particularly in neighbouring Somalia, which is the country of origin for most of the refugees living in Dadaab Refugee Complex.

Dadaab's natural population growth is expected to increase by 63% by 2035 with a total population reaching approximately 388,500 inhabitants (this without including any additional and difficult to predict new influx of refugees). Furthermore, the current drought crisis in the Horn of Africa has already brought over 110,000 new refugees since 2021, a number that may continue to grow.[50] Considering that a majority of these refugees will likely remain in the area, this would require an additional land of around 10 km$^2$ to accommodate the growth.

Wajir County
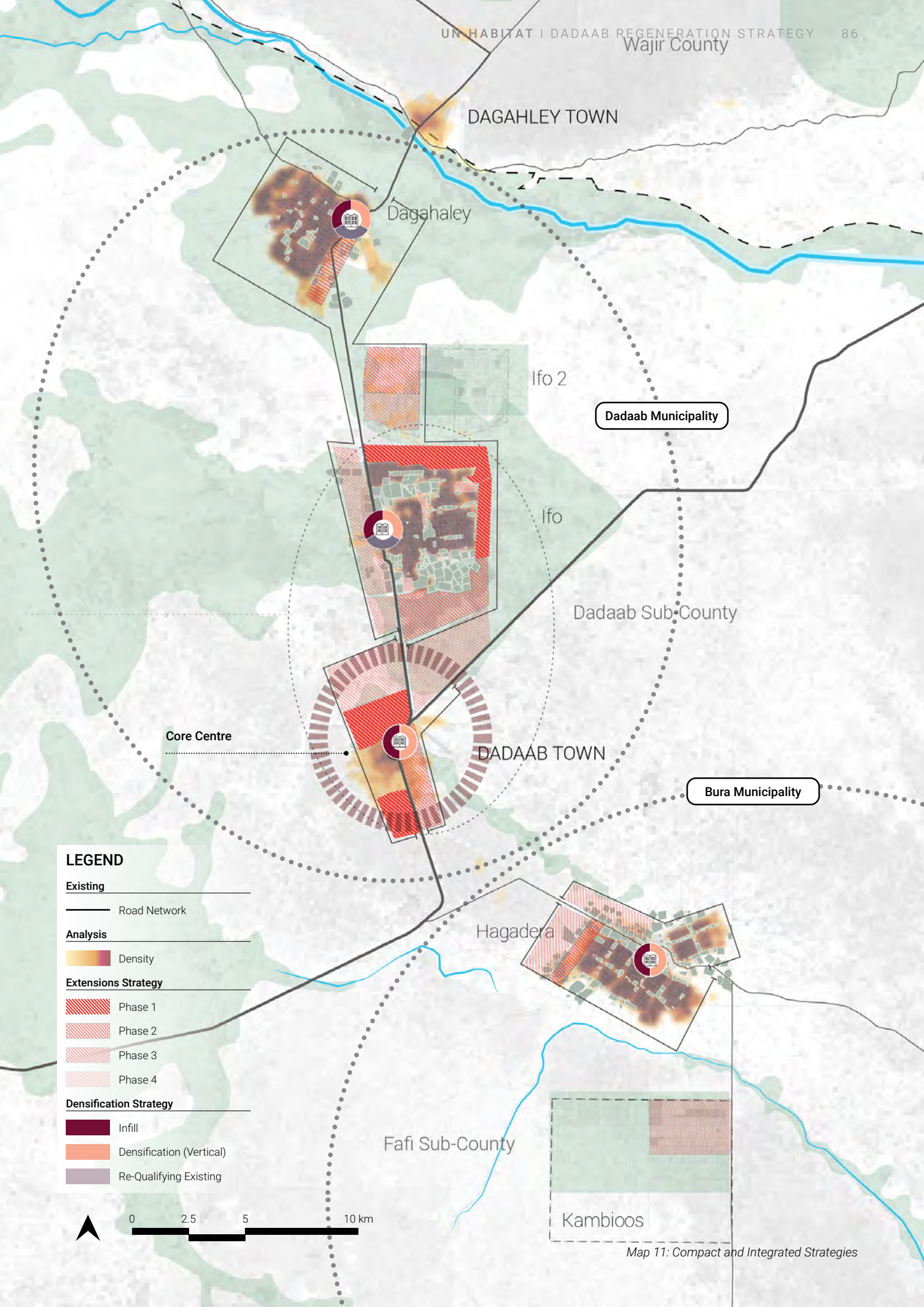
DAGAHLEY TOWN

Dagahaley

Ifo 2

Dadaab Municipality

Ifo

Dadaab Sub-County

Core Centre

DADAAB TOWN

Bura Municipality

Hagadera

Fafi Sub-County

Kambioos

## LEGEND

**Existing**

—— Road Network

**Analysis**

Density

**Extensions Strategy**

Phase 1

Phase 2

Phase 3

Phase 4

**Densification Strategy**

Infill

Densification (Vertical)

Re-Qualifying Existing

0    2.5    5    10 km

*Map 11: Compact and Integrated Strategies*

**LEGEND**

**Existing**

| | |
|---|---|
| ▬▬▬ | Major Roads |
| ──── | Existing Roads |
| ⬚ | Settlement Footprints |
| ⧨ | Extension Areas |
| ⌐ | Extension Boundaries |
| ▬▬ | Primary Settlement Network |
| ← | Settlement Network Growth Direction |
| ◉ | Settlement Nodes |
| ⬚ | Agricultural Land |
| ‖‖‖‖‖ | Green Network |
| ◄------ | Green Network Extensions |
| ⬗ | Green Buffers |

0    5    10 km
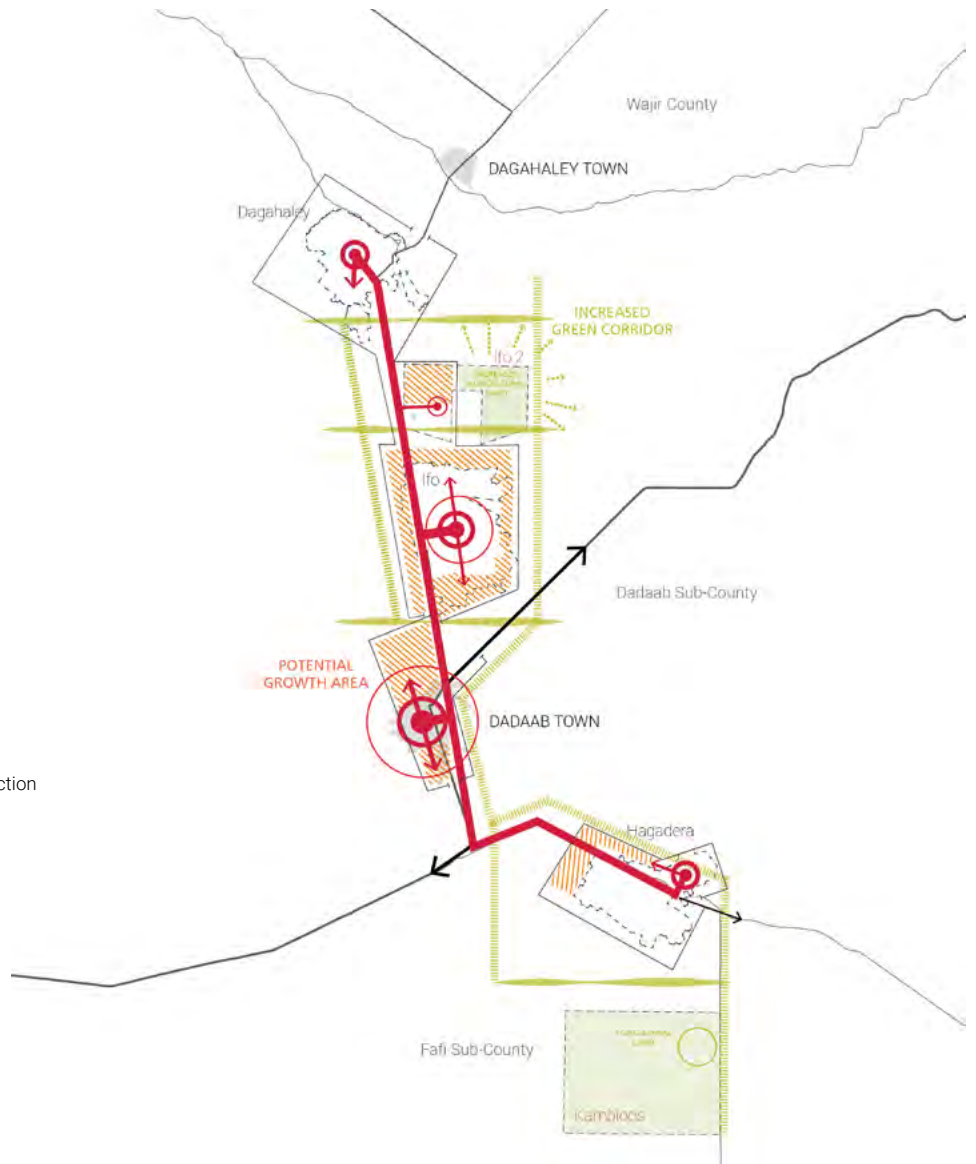
*Map 12: Integrated Settlements Diagram*

Nevertheless, this expansion should follow a development model that allows the new municipalities to exhibit the characteristics of compact urbanisation while preserving the surrounding environment. Therefore, this plan seeks to promote interventions that would contribute to liveable settlements that are well integrated into the wider municipal, county, national, regional, and international spatial structures, while ensuring that the territory is well organised. The compact nature of the area also aims to preserve agricultural areas and ecosystems in order to ensure the resilience of a region that is heavily dependent on its natural resources, both for economic development and for resilience to climate change.

The future expansion and densification of the settlements in and around Dadaab should provide a rational urban structure to minimise dispersed settlements while improving transportation networks. In turn, this would contribute to a range of goals including reducing service delivery costs, facilitating connectivity between settlements, improving access of all community members to services and infrastructure, optimising the use of land, and protecting and preserving open green spaces. The compact model aims at encouraging non-motorised transport such as walking and cycling, providing opportunities for both hosts and refugees to interact and businesses to emerge. This rationale would lead to a positive impact in terms of economic, environmental, and social dynamics.

1.1 Define a growth limit to control the growth and avoid sprawling and encroachment on existing green areas and agriculture land

Establishing a defined boundary is critical to limit further
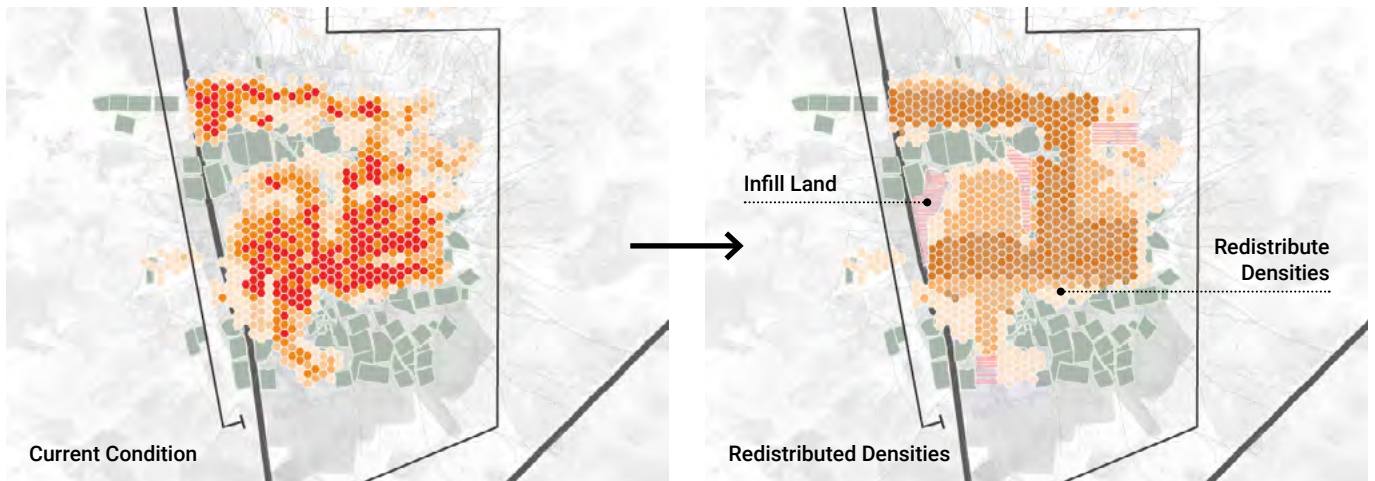
Fig. 45: Densification and Infill Strategy in Ifo Camp

urban sprawl and avoid future encroachment on resource land or sensitive land. The boundary will regulate the planned growth of the settlements which includes the existing fabric and its vacant land spread in the middle and towards the outskirts of the settlements and takes into consideration the establishment of the new municipalities.

Although areas of expansion will be required to accommodate the growing population, it is also critical to first identify areas where expansion should not occur, which, in addition to the growth boundaries, may also include non-buildable areas. Whether due to environmental hazards (e.g., flooding), land and wildlife conservation, or preservation of agricultural and pastoral grazing lands, it is critical to incorporate natural and

environmental factors into the broader land use planning of the new municipalities.

In particular, land that is at great risk of flooding should not be developed as this can result in damage to housing, facilities, infrastructure, and even loss of life or secondary displacement. To promote natural resilience to flooding and to encourage the growth of natural vegetation that would help combat desertification, riparian zones along perennial and seasonal or intermittent rivers should be established to maintain protection there and limit exposure to natural hazards. In order to guide the planning of riparian buffer zones, the National Environment Management Authority Land-Use Guidelines should be followed, as illustrated in **Fig. 44**.



**National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) Land Use Guidelines**

NEMA's Land Use Guidelines require a buffer zone between rivers and cultivated land equal to the width of the watercourse, with a maximum width of 30m and a minimum width of 2m for small rivers; measured from the high water mark.
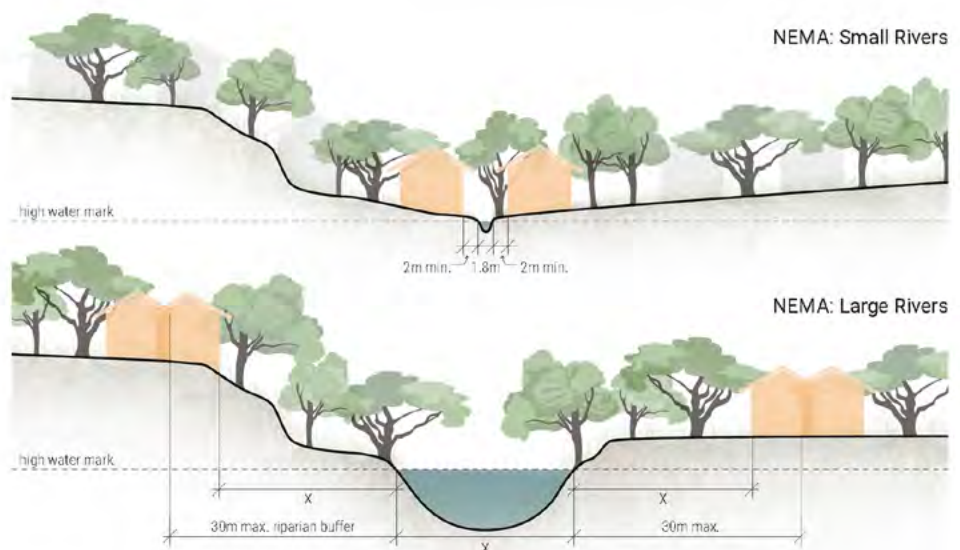
*Measured from high water point when statute does not specify

Fig. 44: Land Use Guidelines For Riparian Protection
(NEMA, 2011)

Furthermore, any planning efforts for the new municipalities should seek to limit unplanned and informal growth that would lead to unstructured and low-density sprawl that would create further challenges to efficient and sustainable service delivery and also further aggravate challenges of accessibility and connectivity throughout the settlements.

### 1.2 Promote densification and infill within existing settlements where there is vacant land or low density areas

Alongside the anticipated expansion of the settlement footprints, urban densification should be facilitated and promoted in select areas in order to serve the growing population while managing overall growth. This approach is critical to creating compact and vibrant communities while capitalising on transit oriented development initiatives. Densification interventions are focused on Dadaab Town as the centre for the new Dadaab Municipality, with the intention to eventually scale up the initiative to the surrounding settlements as appropriate, with priority to municipal centres, commercial hotspots, transit hubs, and other high value and high demand areas.

In pursuit of this approach, redistribution may be necessary, including resettlement to lower the density in congested areas while raising the density in low density areas. This strategy can be used to encourage settlement on strategic vacant lands and to raise density in areas to direct future growth and expansion. Critically, though, this is a process that requires meaningful input from affected communities and should be undertaken through participatory planning processes.

Densification will mainly occur in the centre of Dadaab Town where current densities are very low and the settlement is expanding in a sprawling manner. The outskirts of Ifo also have the potential to receive a higher density, which will enable the decongestion within the core of the settlement and the relocation of inhabitants in hazardous plots. At the same time, de-densification may be necessary for areas around the periphery of the existing settlements which show indications of flood and erosion vulnerability.

Infill densification, which involves the construction of dwellings and structures within existing development patterns that are assessed as capable of accommodating higher densities, should also be considered. Infill development should be concentrated in underutilised blocks with existing or planned access to transportation networks, markets, and existing facilities. Infill should be

1 - Identify adjacent low shelters in densely packed areas

2 - Reinforce the walls of the existing structures
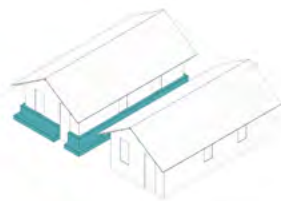
3 - Dismantle the roof while building up the existing walls
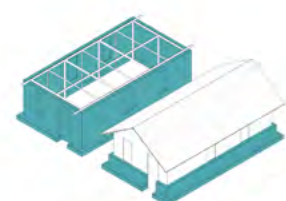
4 - Build up the second story of reinforced shelters
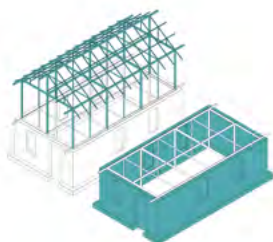
5 - Finish off walls and roof of second story structures
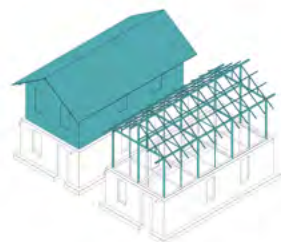
6 - Achieve greater vertical density with second stories added
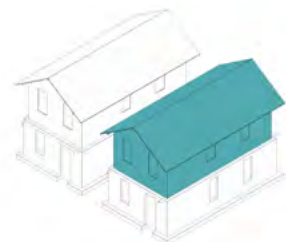
*Fig. 46: Vertical Densification: Doubling Usable Built Area On The Same Land Area*

focused in areas of existing camps where previous large-scale organised repatriation has left gaps in the existing camps. That land can be reissued to other refugees or new arrivals.

*Vertical Densification*

Strategies of vertical densification should also be considered in certain key areas, in particular at municipal centres and along primary transportation and commercial corridors. The greatest demand for space typically occurs in market areas, which are therefore prime locations for this approach. Importantly, this can help to open up additional land for commercial activity and also ensure that housing can be offered nearby. Vertical densification, which would allow construction of an additional storey in designated areas could offer a range of benefits including:

- Encouraging a compact urban form
- Maximising limited space in highest value areas
- Promoting opportunities for economic growth through ground-floor commercial and first floor residential typologies
- Providing options for local resettlement of families living in hazardous locations or temporary shelters
- Providing opportunities for the creation of small-

scale public and communal spaces in congested or underserviced areas

- Providing opportunities for urban agricultural production

**Fig. 46** and **Fig. 47** illustrate two options for how vertical densification could be implemented, either by densifying all structures within a certain area or along a certain corridor, or by going vertical with the intention of freeing up portions of the land for other uses. If regulated, both strategies could work well in select areas within the new municipalities, especially densification with the intention of freeing up plots for kitchen gardens or public spaces in congested areas.

Before an intervention such as this can be implemented, though, key considerations must be addressed such as the regulation and enforcement of building, construction, and structural standards. In addition, a geotechnical assessment should be undertaken to determine whether soil and ground conditions can support the proposed vertical development.

1.3 Identify potential extension areas

It is important, during the regeneration planning for the area, that potential extension areas are identified around

1 - Identify adjacent low shelters in densely packed areas
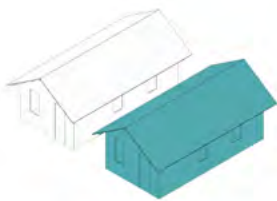
2 - Dismantle some shelters while reinforcing others
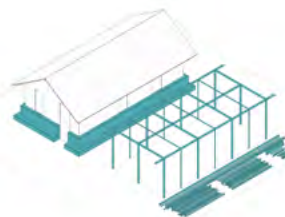
3 - Collect and repurpose reclaimed materials from dismantled shelters
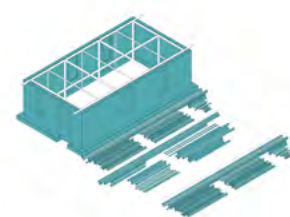
4 - Build up the second story of reinforced shelters utilising reclaimed materials
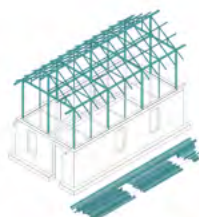
5 - Open up ground plane and increase vertical density with second story

6 - Utilise newly available ground plane for kitchen gardens or other purposes

*Fig. 47: Vertical Densification: Maintaining Built Area While Freeing Up Ground Plane For Other Productive Uses*

the existing settlement footprints to ensure an orderly expansion of the settlements and to provide the area with a well-managed spatial structure for a sustainable future. Extensions plans are to be developed in a progressive manner, selecting some areas that could be further developed in the coming years as demand grows and financial resources are available to properly develop.

The proposed incremental expansion of settlements is sequenced into four phases (see **Fig. 48**). First extensions are to be planned around Dadaab Town and in the outskirts of Ifo (Phase 1) to ensure connectivity to the existing services and to encourage densification around the main centre for the emerging Dadaab Municipality. This will also help to accommodate the growth for the next 2 to 5 years. Further expansion of the settlements over time (as in Phase 2 and Phase 3), including

investment in necessary infrastructure and facilities, will be needed to ensure adequate service provision in those extension areas.

## 2. Protect and conserve existing natural resources and ecologically sensitive land

Integrating the landscape as a key spatial component with green and blue infrastructure helps preserve the environment and natural resources of the area. A portion of the available land should be protected and preserved from future development and reserved for ongoing natural purposes and uses. This should include planning for blue-green corridors and maintenance of riparian buffer zones and watershed conservation areas for water retention and irrigation purposes.



**Phase 1 Extension**
Total Expansion Area - 5 km²
Approx Growth Accommodated - 45,000
Timeframe - 5 years

Due to unpredictable influx, potential growth could occur in the defined delimitation which follows the natural growth pattern and allows for sustainable and planned extensions

LEGEND

**Proposed**

Phase 1
Phase 2
Phase 3
Phase 4
Flexible Extension

0    5    10 km



**Phase 2 Extension**
Total Expansion area - 11km²
Approx growth accommodated - 100,000
Timeframe - 10 years

Dadaab is characterised by favourable natural conditions for agriculture that provide economic opportunities as well as food security for its inhabitants. Preserving and strengthening existing agricultural areas is a priority to ensure the sustainability of the region, especially since it is threatened by climate change, in particular drought and desertification if the existing vegetation is further depleted and not effectively managed and maintained.

The Dadaab area is severely prone to soil erosion and drought. Furthermore, the population growth and new influx led by the drought crisis in Somalia have increased the land clearing and removal of the windbreak function by trees and shrubs which led to dust and exposure of the population to respiratory diseases.

## 2.1 Preserve existing or potential agricultural lands, wetlands, and green areas (e.g., greenbelts, rivers, blue-green corridors, riparians areas, etc.)

The preservation of natural resources and the rehabilitation of degraded land is crucial to reestablishing a healthy, resilient, and productive ecosystem. Degraded lands within and around the refugee settlements should be rehabilitated to restore the productivity of the land for livestock and human sustenance. Already there have been efforts in recent years to establish green belts in and around Dadaab Refugee Complex, but these protected lands are at risk of being further degraded with continued unplanned encroachment, largely as a result of the recent influx of refugees. Those that can be preserved should be, and those that require rehabilitation, should be targeted for this. The development and strengthening of



**Phase 3 Extension**
Total Expansion area -16 km2
Approx growth accommodated - 145,000
Timeframe - 13 years

Wajir County

DAGAHLEY TOWN

Dagahaley

Ifo 2

Ifo

Dadaab Sub-County

DADAAB TOWN

Hagadera

Fafi Sub-County

Kambioos



**Phase 4 Extension**
Total Expansion area - 20km²
Approx growth accommodated - 200,000
Timeframe - >15 years

Wajir County

DAGAHLEY TOWN

Dagahaley

Ifo 2

Ifo

Dadaab Sub-County

DADAAB TOWN

Hagadera

Fafi Sub-County

Kambioos

*Fig. 48: Extension Growth Pattern*

agricultural lands around the settlements helps to sustain agricultural production, to cope with population growth, and to enhance livelihoods opportunities and create new economic opportunities.

Small scale farming already exists in Dadaab that should be seen as an example that can be expanded upon and help to address a number of the challenges in the area. According to UNHCR, what the small-scale farmers have been harvesting shows that there is a huge potential for food production in the Dadaab area.[51] A farmer could earn about USD $433 per season from the sale of various products. The products include tomatoes, okra, beans, chilli, kales and bananas.[52] About 77% is sold in local markets while 23% is consumed by the farmers.[53] The farmers are also trained on best farming practices and sensitised on planting trees and protecting the environment. The farmers' production can increase if their capacity is enhanced through better tools, farm inputs, and better irrigation procedures that reduce water loss.

Existing greenbelts within and around the settlement help in protecting open land. However, their benefits are multiple, including tackling issues such as air pollution, slowing and reducing the impacts of climate change, protecting from sand and winds, and providing essential habitats for wildlife and furthermore, when used for

**Integration of Refugees**

In many cases, when political conflicts are prolonged in various parts of the world, often leading to people fleeing to neighbouring countries principally to escape threats to their life, liberty, freedom, or physical integrity, their return to home countries or countries of origin is increasingly delayed, if not impossible. Today, many refugees have lived in exile for decades and in locations where they are confined in a range of environments including camps, rural settlements, and urban centres. The UNHCR defines a protracted refugee situation as one in which refugees find themselves in a long-lasting and intractable state of limbo. Their lives may not be at risk, but their basic rights and essential economic, social, and psychological needs remain unfulfilled after years in exile. A refugee in this situation is often unable to break free from enforced reliance on external assistance.'[54] In protracted situations, refugee populations have moved beyond the emergency phase—where the focus is on life-saving protection and assistance—but cannot expect durable solutions in the foreseeable future. Protracted refugee situations represent a significant challenge both to human rights and security.

In Kenya, as in many other countries of the Global South, the government has relied on material assistance from the international community in responding to refugee situations, where the focus is on life-saving protection and assistance without durable solutions in the foreseeable future. Hence, declining donor support and donor fatigue for refugee populations in host countries can contribute to the rise in protracted refugee situations because host countries in the Global South are unable to address the needs of refugees and respond to increased pressure on local environments, services, infrastructure, and the local economy. This has, in turn, reinforced the perception of refugees as a burden on host countries. As observed by UNHCR, "The consequences of having so many human beings in a static state, include wasted lives, squandered resources, and increased threats to security."[55] As such, contemporary response to protracted refugee situations has proposed the three durable solutions of repatriation, local integration, and third-country resettlement.[56]

Voluntary repatriation remains the preferred primary solution for most of the world's refugees as emphasised by UNHCR. As succinctly stated in a Note submitted by the High Commissioner, "Voluntary repatriation, whenever feasible, is of course the most desirable solution to refugee problems."[57] However, given the resulting continuation of protracted refugee situations and the dwindling resources to support refugees in host countries, it is imperative that local integration of refugees is explored as a durable solution to this issue. While repatriation remains the final goal, local integration gives refugees some certainty about what to do with their lives in the meantime.[58] Further to this, the 1951 UN Refugee Convention, restoring refugees to dignity and ensuring the provision of human rights includes an approach that would lead to their integration in the host society. Harrell-Bond defines integration as "a situation in which host and refugee communities are able to coexist, sharing the same resources — both economic and social — with no greater mutual conflict than that which exists within the host community."[59]

In Kenya, the 2021 Refugees Act, the Kenya CRRF, and the anticipated Shirika Plan, in combination with the actions taken in 2023 to confer Dadaab and Bura Municipalities, have together shown a commitment to transitioning away from the status quo, to seeking alternative solutions, and to improved integration of refugees. And beyond social integration, these approaches critically promote inclusion in the political processes governing planning and service provision in the settlements where refugees are living.

agricultural purposes,they help increase food security and food production to serve both current and future populations.

Preserving and protecting them from development is critical, especially with the current new influx and the drought crisis in the Horn of Africa. The maintenance and preservation of natural resources could potentially help in enhancing the self reliance of communities and reducing dependence on humanitarian aid. Additionally, farming of agricultural land helps provide further opportunities for employment, local economic growth, small businesses and contributions to local supply chains. It can also contribute to trade and integration between the host and refugee communities.

### 2.2 Identify non-buildable areas due to hazards risks (e.g., flood prone risks areas)

Alongside the identification of expansion areas and agricultural lands, activities should include the demarcation of land not suitable for development. It is important to clearly identify and enforce non-buildable areas. These lands refer to any sites where hazards could occur (such as flooding) and would not be suitable for development. The delimitation of extension areas and land not suitable for urbanisation (protected and preserved areas, areas at risk, among others) will serve as a reference for all ongoing spatial and development planning for the new municipalities and will be critical to guide the implementation of future public and private investments. Those areas would also allow for the preservation of livestock migration routes and encourage positive patterns of development that extend out from existing settlements in a controlled manner.

Establishing these areas in Ifo 2 now, as the land is being replanned and resettled, will be critical to the long-term safety and sustainability of the settlement and would be much more difficult to do if those areas are settled on.

### 3. Support the strengthening of the management and planning institutions serving the new municipalities

In October 2023, the Garissa County Government finalised the conferral of Bura Municipality after Dadaab Municipality was previously conferred in July 2023. These two municipalities border each other and together host all five of the refugee camps that make up the Dadaab Refugee Complex.

In March 2023, the County Governor signed an MoU with the Kenya Institute of Planners (KIP) to assist in developing the spatial plans for the municipalities in the County. The County is also working with other



*Fig. 49: Everyday Activity on a Market Street in Dagahaley Camp (UN-Habitat, 2022)*

implementing partners like FAO and Mercy Corps to develop the County Spatial Plan that will assist in programming around the County. Furthermore, this will be a foundation for future integration of refugees as residents in the hosting municipality. Both host and refugee residents will benefit from better provision of services and infrastructures ensured by the municipality.

The new municipalities will require support for institutional capacity in urban planning, administration, urban governance, and management, in addition to strengthening of land management through improved land governance, adjudication processes including housing, land and property rights, as well as infrastructural development.

### 3.1 Provide public consultation regarding land regularisation in the new municipalities

Land regularisation will be needed to improve land tenure security, access to land, and development in the new municipalities. This is an activity of the County and National governments in collaboration with the new municipal governing bodies that will require rigorous procedure, conversion of land, and planning for registration. Significant capacity building will be required for all stakeholders, particularly the communities that own the land through lineage and all that has been managed in a communal sense.

Through land regularisation, communal land can be transformed into public land, public land into private land, as well as giving refugees user rights such as protection for houses, no undue eviction and occupancy rights documentation.

Public participation will be key to ensure buy in and local ownership of the process by the community. This is important to manage the various expectations, issues, and concerns with regard to refugees and host communities.

### 3.2 Construction of municipal offices that will serve the needs of all communities in the new municipalities

A municipality is a devolved unit of the county government created under the Urban Areas and Cities Act 2012 and further elaborated in various policy documents. Therefore, in order to ensure effective service delivery to both communities in Dadaab, construction of municipal offices is necessary and inevitable. In Dadaab, the newly conferred municipality has already initiated and commenced the planning and construction of its offices in Dadaab Town. The municipality will seek to equally serve both communities, with the current legislature providing an enabling environment to integrate the

communities. According to the Refugees Act of 2021, all refugees are eligible to access the various services from the Government of Kenya, including legal and health services, and access opportunities. However, to access these services, all refugees needs to be duly and formally registered.

Municipal offices will also offer a platform where the communities can share their needs, challenges, and opportunities and where the municipalities can respond to the communities and work to address the issues raised.

For now, the mandate to plan for all the hosted communities and register the newly arrived refugees as quickly as possible still falls under the national government and DRS. With this in mind, the national government, through DRS, is considering options for integrating refugee data into the national system for ease of service delivery. However, municipalities are always established with the specific objective of providing for a governance mechanism that will enable the inhabitants to enjoy efficiency of service delivery. Therefore, the new municipalities, in collaboration with their partners, should see the interests of both the host and refugee communities as central to planning for integrated settlements and establishing sustainable and strategic urban development plans moving forward. Together, all entities should work collaboratively toward achieving a healthy, inclusive, and resilient urban future.

Fig. 50: Settlements in Dagahaley Camp
(UN-Habitat, 2022)

# 4.4 Principle 2: Resilient Environment

*Goal 4 - Resilient Environment*

- - - - Strategy

       Intervention

## 1. Implement flood mitigation and adaptation strategies to improve resilience

1.1 Raise awareness and climate literacy in communities on climate change and associated risks and hazards

1.2 Test, pilot, and promote domestic rainwater harvesting techniques

1.3 Implement floodwater harvesting and storage techniques

## 2. Implement Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for drylands

2.1 Implement nature-based regreening techniques along waterways

2.2 Implement flood-based irrigation strategies and agricultural techniques (e.g., floodplain irrigation, etc.)

2.3 Establish farming of drought tolerant crops

## 3. Improve and expand environmental conservation and wildlife preservation activities

3.1 Improve protection and management of existing green belts and orchard farms

3.2 Implement measures to protect and preserve existing wildlife

3.3 Improve and formalise rangeland management

### 4.4.1 Overview

**Principle 2: Resilient Environment** seeks to promote a resilient natural and ecological condition in and around the settlements in order to protect the population against immediate and chronic stresses within the area while enabling self-reliance and sustainably managing the existing natural resources. It carries forward **Goal 4 - Resilient Environment** from the **Dadaab Future Vision** in order to promote sustainability and limit the negative effects of urbanisation on the surrounding environment through good planning practices and is concerned primarily with the environmental and physical dimensions of regeneration.

Resilience refers to the capacity of a community to survive, adapt to, and grow in the face of environmental and social shocks and stresses. The new refugee-hosting municipalities in Garissa County face critical environmental challenges, in particular drought and flooding, as well as the flow-on effects of these challenges, such as food and water insecurity and risk of

further displacement. With the conferral of Dadaab and Bura Municipalities, the country's changing perspective on refugee camps, and the growing impacts of climate change, it is critical to begin improving the resilience of the new municipalities and their populations through climate mitigation and adaptation strategies.

The overall objective of this principle is to increase the long-term resilience of the new municipalities by targeting the existing vulnerability to both drought and occasional flooding and consequent erosion, which have long been the key environmental challenges for both Dadaab Refugee Complex and the surrounding area. While the entire region has been suffering from critical droughts for some time, the impacts of flooding and erosion are also clearly evident in the camp, with some refugees living in vulnerable locations, as a result. Access to natural resources, notably water and food security, is also a key component of this challenge, with sustainable and reliable sources being central to any kind of resilience and self-reliance in the area.
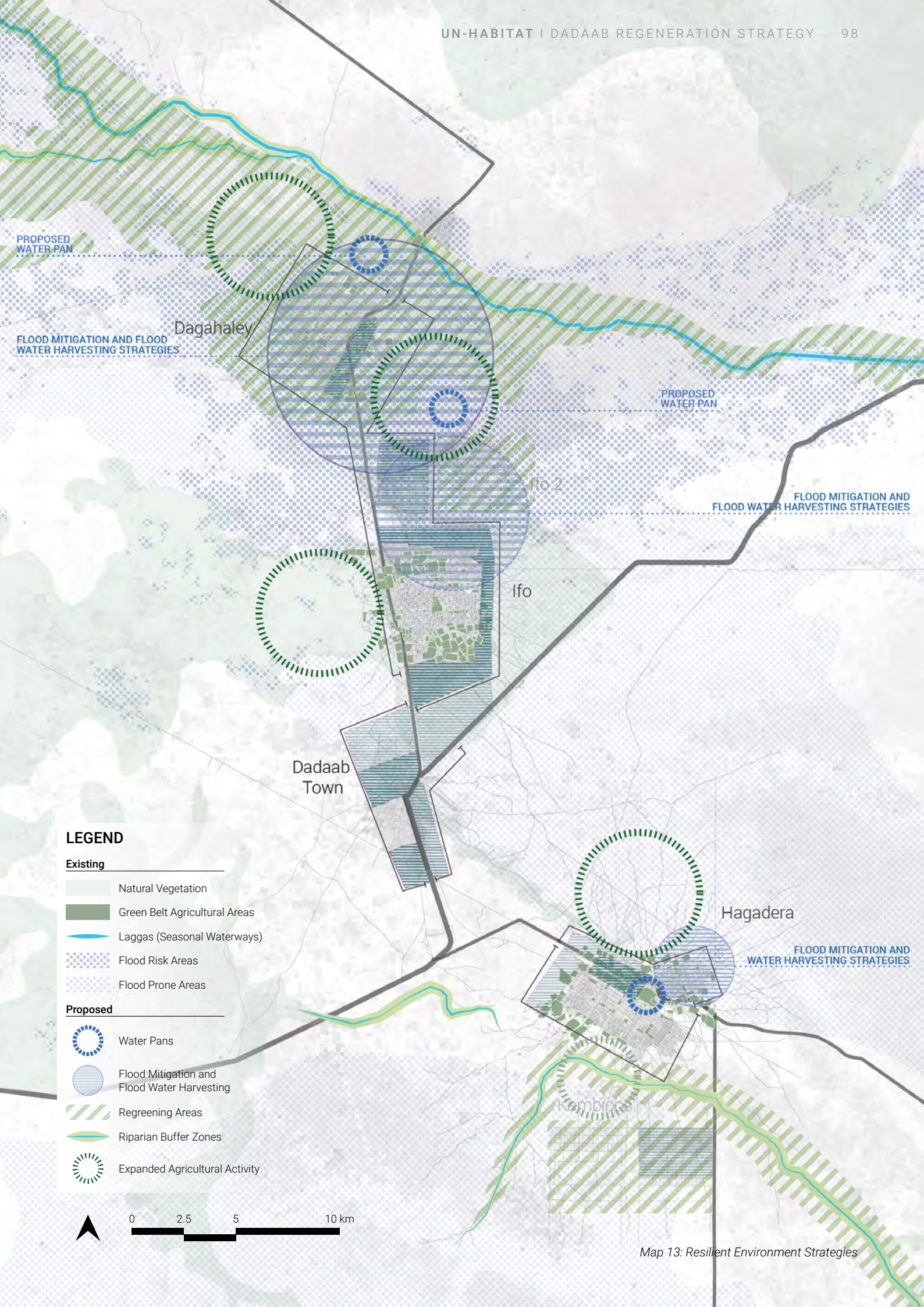
PROPOSED
WATER PAN

FLOOD MITIGATION AND FLOOD
WATER HARVESTING STRATEGIES

Dagahaley

PROPOSED
WATER PAN

Ifo 2

FLOOD MITIGATION AND
FLOOD WATER HARVESTING STRATEGIES

Ifo

Dadaab
Town

## LEGEND

**Existing**

Natural Vegetation

Green Belt Agricultural Areas

Laggas (Seasonal Waterways)

Flood Risk Areas

Flood Prone Areas

**Proposed**

Water Pans

Flood Mitigation and
Flood Water Harvesting

Regreening Areas

Riparian Buffer Zones

Expanded Agricultural Activity

Hagadera

FLOOD MITIGATION AND
WATER HARVESTING STRATEGIES

Kambioos

0     2.5      5            10 km

*Map 13: Resilient Environment Strategies*

*Fig. 51: Mixed Farming in Ifo 2 Camp*
*(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

Promoting resilience in this way will safeguard livelihoods and contribute to the overall self-reliance of communities. Self-reliance is an important concept of resilience especially in this current context of refugee camps, as the transition towards settlements will likely see reduced humanitarian aid, meaning refugees will have to become more self-reliant especially when it comes to such basic needs as food and water.

### 4.4.2 Concept Plan

This model of resilience, which would allow the growing population in and around Dadaab to adapt to increasing environmental challenges while mitigating the greatest risks from climate change, can be achieved through various strategies and interventions, including:

#### 1. Implement flood mitigation and adaptation strategies to improve resilience

Despite the region's dry condition and the ongoing drought, it is also known that in times of heavy rains, some portions of the existing camps demonstrate significant risk of flash flooding and severe consequences as a result. The overall objective of this strategy is to increase resilience by reducing the overall vulnerability and exposure to flooding. Wherever possible, mitigation techniques should be considered in order to limit the disruption to existing settlements and individual dwellings.

Taking into consideration the present situation and long-term goals for regeneration of the settlements in and around Dadaab, some primary approaches that might be considered include surface floodwater harvesting through water pans and lagoons, flood-based agricultural systems such as floodplain irrigation, spate irrigation, or negarims, as well as subsurface water storage techniques such as sand dams or subsurface dams, in particular along intermittent or seasonal waterways (laggas) in the area.

As part of regeneration, the most at-risk areas should be identified and, where necessary, coordinated resettlement should be undertaken to reduce risk. It is recognised that relocation is a very sensitive proposal, especially for communities that have lived in these locations for many years. Relocation has the potential to disrupt communities, which in many parts of the Dadaab Refugee Complex are very established. However, in certain areas, the risk to communities is significant enough to warrant a relocation intervention.

*Fig. 52: Bilibili Farm in Hagadera*
*(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

### 1.1 Raise awareness and climate literacy in communities on climate change and associated risks and hazards

Garissa County and the wider region are currently suffering from a prolonged and devastating drought, which has greatly affected the social and economic well-being of the present residents and thus created a very vulnerable population in the event of flooding. In addition to infrastructural climate resilience strategies, investment in information and communication strategies are also essential to effectively addressing these risks. Insufficient knowledge on environmental hazards and the challenges of climate change has resulted in loss of properties, livelihoods, and lives as well as disruption of social and economic structures in Dadaab. Strategies for mitigating and preparing for the challenges associated with drought and flooding have not been well implemented to date, and more proactive adaptation measures have also still been underutilised in the area, as well.

Sustaining community awareness and enhanced education about droughts and flooding are essential for building long-term community resilience to climate risks through community disaster management projects and ongoing educational and training programs. These interventions would allow the community to adapt to ongoing periods of drought and to respond to potential flood risks appropriately while minimising the most serious adverse consequences.

This awareness can be disseminated through various means that include distribution of flood risk and vulnerability maps which are very useful tools for creating awareness. These strategies should be undertaken in addition to practical dissemination and use of existing Garissa County disaster mitigation strategies. Awareness raising is critical to communicate about climate change impacts and adaptation strategies.

*Implement Early Warning Systems*

Early warning systems should be established in the main flood risk areas, in particular those that overlap significantly with the footprints of existing settlements. This will help in provision of timely information for emergency preparedness. A system of this kind would complement other community driven flood mitigation strategies. Early warning systems can be very inexpensive, often simply using basic flood sensors attached to a transmitter to detect rising water levels. Once water levels reach a certain height, the signal is

wirelessly transmitted to a receiver and the warning can be quickly and efficiently disseminated via mobile phones or siren to relevant agencies and community members. This allows communities to implement emergency measures such as temporary relocation, placing of sandbags, and continue to raise community awareness.

### 1.2 Test, pilot, and promote domestic rainwater harvesting techniques

Given the challenges surrounding water supply in Garissa County, it is recommended to explore various techniques for rainwater harvesting during the rainy season in order to capture the limited precipitation when it falls for various uses. In addition, since the land is quite dry, it is not able to absorb the rain when it falls easily, so most rainfall runs off quickly or contributes to flash flooding. Given these conditions, and also challenges surrounding access to fresh food, it is proposed to test, pilot, and promote domestic scale rainwater harvesting techniques, in particular to serve small-scale urban agricultural activities, such as kitchen gardens.

Two possible techniques that might be piloted and explored include rain barrels and basket composting. Rain barrels can be used to gather rainwater by collecting the runoff from any roof surfaces and storing the collected rain locally. This water can be used for household needs and small-scale gardening. Basket composting is simultaneously a domestic organic waste management technique that also collects and retains rainwater when available. Organic waste, such as garden or farm waste, household food waste, and other organic debris can be stored in a half buried basket with crops planted inside. The basket also naturally collects and stores rainwater and simultaneously provides moisture and nutrients to the crop. This technique has been used in Kenya for farmers growing banana crops where no access to irrigation is present.

In order to evaluate such techniques, a survey should be conducted to understand awareness of such techniques and openness to utilising them at the domestic scale. Selected techniques should be tested and piloted to determine viability and assess potential for uptake. If successful and well received by participants, capacity building and training should be undertaken to scale up the program and materials distributed to enable further scaling and replication.

### 1.3 Implement floodwater harvesting and storage techniques

In order to help manage and control flooding, encourage



*Fig. 53: A Water Pan In Ifo 2 Camp Serving Orchard Farms Near Mwangaza Primary School (UN-Habitat, 2022)*

*Fig. 54: An Example of Floodplain Irrigation From Kakuma Refugee Camp, Turkana County, Kenya (UN-Habitat, 2022)*

groundwater recharge, and store rainwater for agricultural and pastoralist activities, efforts should be made to implement large-scale surface and subsurface floodwater harvesting and storage techniques in the area. Although recent droughts have limited rainfall and the challenge of flooding has felt less immediate, the risk remains for future periods of heavy rainfall. Not only is it important to take actions to mitigate these risks, but the opportunity to gather and store additional water and encourage groundwater recharge to serve the new municipalities should not be ignored.

*Surface Floodwater Harvesting*

Some examples of surface floodwater harvesting techniques that could be considered in the Dadaab area include water pans, reservoirs ponds, and lagoons, which have already seen some successful uptake and implementation in the region. Water Storage Pans, Reservoir Ponds, and Lagoons are excavated ponds established to gather and store rainwater and ground runoff in water storage reservoirs. This technique is most popular in arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL) regions like northern Kenya where drought occurs frequently and where rainwater is commonly lost, primarily as a result of runoff patterns and limited ground infiltration.

Implementation is relatively easy compared to other similar techniques such as dams, that often require greater inputs and resources, including engineering, investment, and maintenance. Given the versatility and flexibility of this approach, such reservoirs can vary significantly in size according to need and capacity and may or not be lined to help limit loss through seepage and contamination. Lining materials may be organic, such as compacted clay or an artificial lining material, although both come with certain challenges. It is preferable to locate such interventions in areas where ground runoff can be directed naturally using the topography and gravity, though dams and channels may also be useful in some cases. Taking advantage of natural conditions can help to reduce implementation costs, limit mechanical inputs, and reduce maintenance requirements.

Water is typically stored in an excavated basin at a level below the natural surface of the surrounding ground. Where conditions are not suitable for a dam, these techniques can provide a useful solution for storing large volumes of water to help pass through dry periods. They are commonly used to gather water for livestock watering in regions where pastoralism is prevalent and demand on boreholes for household use and human consumption

*Fig. 55: An Example of Floodplain Irrigation From Kakuma Refugee Camp, Turkana County, Kenya (UN-Habitat, 2022)*

takes precedence.

One location where this approach might be particularly applicable is in the area of low lands adjacent to the Hagadera market area where flood waters are already known to collect. Another location would be near to Dagahaley and the larger existing waterways that pass near to the existing settlements. Not only does the environmental and geographic condition here suggest an opportunity, but proximity to an existing livestock market and migration routes make it a desirable location to increase access to water, as well.

*Subsurface Floodwater Harvesting*

Some examples of subsurface floodwater harvesting and storage techniques that might also be considered include Subsurface and Sand Dams, which are each strategies for creating reservoirs or slowing the flow of groundwater below the ground surface. These techniques can both be used in areas where seasonal or intermittent waterways occur, as are common in ASAL regions like northern Kenya. In each case a reservoir is created with the construction of an embankment, wall, or dam across a riverbed. In the case of sand dams, this structure is typically built at the surface of the riverbed,

whereas in the case of subsurface dams, the structure is constructed below the surface of the bed, typically using stone masonry or compacted clay, with a foundation extending below the surface layer of sand.

The key benefit of these techniques is that, because water is stored within the ground itself, losses to evaporation can be largely eliminated. Furthermore, without the creation of exposed standing water, the reservoir is less likely to be used by insects for breeding and is also less prone to contamination by human activity, livestock, or wildlife. The sand itself can double as a filter to clean the water and any water lost into the ground is just contributing to groundwater recharge, which offers further benefits to the regional environment and ecology.

## 2. Implement Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for drylands

To address land degradation, desertification, and erosion that result from drought and seasonal flooding, Nature-based Solutions (NbS), including a range of techniques and interventions that rely on relatively limited engineering and minimal infrastructural implementation should be considered for the area. Techniques that require less up front investment and limited maintenance over time can

*Fig. 56: An Example of Floodplain Irrigation From Kakuma Refugee Camp, Turkana County, Kenya (UN-Habitat, 2022)*

be particularly beneficial in humanitarian-development contexts where resources and capacity are limited. Furthermore, utilising techniques and technologies that align with and respond to natural ecological processes and work in harmony with the climate conditions of the region are inherently more sustainable and resilient.

Techniques including regreening and revegetation along with agricultural approaches such as planting of drought-resilient crops, permaculture, riverbank farming, and flood based irrigation should all be considered.

### 2.1 Implement nature-based regreening techniques along waterways

In order to combat desertification, promote the regreening of natural lands around the settlements, and build the resilience of the communities, action should be taken to preserve and rehabilitate the lands along both perennial and seasonal waterways in and around the new municipalities. To achieve this goal, riparian buffer zones should be established as non-buildable areas and regreening initiatives should be undertaken to conserve and rehabilitate these lands while limiting opportunities for erosion and improving ground infiltration. These activities should also extend to floodplains, agricultural areas, and other non-buildable zones that are designated for conservation. Together, these activities can offer meaningful benefits to the nearby residents. Some examples of techniques that might be implemented in such areas include Semi-Circular Bunds and Contour Bunds.

*Semi-Circular Bunds*

Semi-Circular Bunds, sometimes also referred to as Demi-Lunes or Half-Moons, are small to medium-sized shallow open-ended pits bounded by arced earth bunds and arrayed in a pattern of offset rows. These basins are most effective when laid out along gently sloping surfaces, with the rows following the contours of the slope. These micro-catchment areas are used to collect and store rain runoff as it moves down the slope to provide water to crops planted within the basins. This technique is popular in arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL) regions to support tree planting and combat erosion. It is therefore an effective solution for land rehabilitation and regreening, as well, and can be used for agricultural production and to improve the quality and fertility of the soil when combined with composting strategies.

*Contour Bunds and Trapezoidal Bunds*

*Fig. 57: Semi-Circular Bunds Implemented by Justdiggit in Kuku, Kenya (Justdiggit)*

**Case Study: Justdiggit and Kuku Group Ranch, Kenya**

Justdiggit is a Dutch organisation on a mission to support farmers in implementing Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to regreen the African continent. In this way, the organisation's work seeks to harness natural systems to combat climate change and a warming planet while addressing land degradation and restoring natural vegetation. The organisation works primarily with subsistence farmers on initiatives that combat desertification while contributing to improved agricultural practices and an overall regreening of the land.

Common techniques are deployed for this purpose, including semi-circular bunds, which form open-sided half-circle basins that can slow the flow of rainwater over the ground surface and capture it to serve crops planted within the basins. Given the dry conditions of the land, that rainwater would typically run off the hardened soil without being absorbed. This technique helps to texture the ground and create pockets where water can collect while it infiltrates the soil and provides the needed water to grow crops.

The organisation's work in Kenya has included a collaboration with the Kuku Group Ranch, which resulted in the digging of over 150,000 semi-circular bunds on ranch land that is home to around 29,000 Maasai people.[65] Given that the local community is almost entirely reliant on the land for both food and livelihoods, these efforts, which have already restored more than 1,0000 hectares of the land, this intervention has been critical to overcoming desertification that has resulted from overgrazing and climate change.[66]

Contour Earth or Soil Bunds and Trapezoidal Stone Bunds are techniques used to create catchment basins along hills and sloping land surfaces. Depending on the slope of the land and scale of the land area, different techniques will be most appropriate. Contour Bunds are typically smaller and can be more effective on steeper slopes, while Trapezoidal Bunds are typically larger and used to cover larger land areas with more gentle slopes. In each case, bunds are generally formed using some combination of soil and stones from the land, though the form may vary. Both respond to the topography and should be implemented so as to follow the contours of the land with the goal to collect runoff as it naturally flows over the surface. Both are used to help cultivate vegetation and to limit erosion by slowing the movement of rainwater running over the land.

## 2.2 Implement flood-based irrigation strategies and agricultural techniques (e.g., floodplain irrigation, etc.)

Flood-based irrigation strategies and agricultural techniques, such as Floodplain Irrigation, Road Runoff Harvesting, and Negarims have the dual benefit of helping to manage flood risk during period of heavy rain while leveraging the limited available water resources when they are most readily available, but not often well captured, as a result of seldom but typically severe precipitation. Therefore, in order to take advantage of the limited rainfall in the region while also mitigating flood risk during rainy seasons, flood-based irrigation strategies and agricultural techniques should be considered in Dadaab. These strategies offer a response to the environmental and climate challenges of the area, while leveraging the available natural resources to support key economic sectors and contributing to livelihoods of the affected communities.

To determine which techniques might be most successful, it is recommended to test, pilot, and promote a range of techniques before wide scale implementation. Some techniques that should be considered include floodplain irrigation, road runoff harvesting, contour bunds, terracing, and negarims, however there may be others that would be appropriate, as well. Some techniques that could be considered further in this context include:

### Floodplain Irrigation

In arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL) regions, crop farming and other water-dependent livelihoods, such as agroforestry, fisheries, pastoralism, etc., can be challenging, especially during times of drought, as is true of the current moment. In response, though, there are techniques that can help farmers overcome unpredictable and infrequent rains. One technique is to plan crop planting according to the topography in order to take advantage of gently sloping floodplains. Such surfaces can absorb flood waters more efficiently while waters are rising and receding during times of heavy precipitation. This approach can also be implemented along the banks of seasonal or intermittent rivers. If well planned and coordinated, crop seasonality can be timed to rainy seasons using both flood recession and flood rise technologies to fully realise the potential of the land. One challenge is that this strategy works best when precipitation is predictable and the amount is fairly consistent, which may not always be the case in places like Dadaab.

### Road Runoff Harvesting

Road Runoff Harvesting is a technique that leverages existing road surfaces as a catchment area and through a directed drainage system collects, diverts, and can even store rainwater for irrigation purposes. In this way, runoff captured from roads, footpaths, and other paved or unpaved urban surfaces can be put to good use. With well-planned drainage infrastructure, including trenches, dams, and diversion structures, water can be directed to crop fields while reducing the need to separately manage road drainage, which can lead to erosion and flooding. The potential to pair this approach with road upgrades offers a meaningful opportunity for Dadaab, especially residents engaged in crop farming at the urban periphery.

### Negarims

Negarims are an earthen micro-catchment technique, which can be used with fruit trees and other drought resilient crops in arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL) regions. They can be used to collect surface runoff in shallow diamond-shaped pits enclosed by low earth bunds. Trees and other crops can then be planted at the lowest corner of the sloped basins where rainwater can gather and infiltrate the soil slowly rather than run off the land quickly without being absorbed, often leading to flooding downhill. These can be arranged in a field configuration over any size area matching the available land and capacity in an efficient layout. This approach has become common in Kenya, particularly in Turkana County. Although fairly stable, the earth bunds can degrade over time or be damaged by heavy rains and do require regular upkeep, which should be factored into implementation.

## 2.3 Establish farming of drought tolerant crops

Promoting drought resilient crops is particularly appropriate in the case of Dadaab. A key case study that should be considered comes from projects implemented by the Kenya Red Cross Society in the Dadaab Refugee

Complex, particularly in the areas around Ifo and Ifo 2 Camps. With the goal of restoring tree cover to the area, combating the effects of climate change, improving access to nutritious fresh and natural food sources, and creating opportunities for generating income from agricultural activity, the project has included an orchard that has grown mangoes, guavas, tomatoes, cowpeas, tamarind, and hot peppers.[60] The project, which was first initiated in 2018, has included a land area of over 100 hectares, with 35 hectares devoted to orchard crops and the rest for native vegetation.[61] According to a case study from the report "Ex-post Evaluation for the EU Trust Fund Regional Development and Protection Programme in Kenya: Support to the Development of Kalobeyei and Mid-term evaluation Enhancing Self Reliance for refugees and host communities in Kenya," this initiative has created a meaningful source of income for 65 people, including members of both the host and refugee communities.[62]

### 3. Improve and expand environmental conservation and wildlife preservation activities

The Wildlife Census report of 2021 estimated ASAL areas in Kenya support over 50% of the nation's livestock population and over 70% of the country's wildlife population.[63] Garissa County encompasses one of the major ASAL regions and rangeland counties found in Kenya. In most of the year, over 70% of Kenya's terrestrial wildlife resides outside of protected areas and competes with livestock for resources such as water and rangelands. While moving around Garissa County, it's common to come across giraffes, gazelles, snakes, hyenas, dik diks, ostriches, and zebras, among other species. There are reports of rampant human wildlife conflicts in areas around Dadaab, especially at livestock watering points, as noted during several community and stakeholder engagement sessions. Therefore, this proposal includes various strategies aimed at addressing this pertinent issue, among others related to rangeland management and green belt conservation.

#### 3.1 Improve protection and management of existing green belts and orchard farms

Protecting and managing existing green belts and orchard farms in Dadaab Refugee Complex and in the surrounding community lands is essential for maintaining the local environment, supporting agricultural activities, and preserving the natural beauty of the area. This is particularly important as the settlements continue to grow and as the new municipalities are established.

In planning efforts by UNHCR, as set out in maps from 2013, significant areas of land, particularly around Ifo Camp were allocated as green belts.[64] This approach was expanded to all the camps, but in particular to Ifo 2 and Kambioos following their closure. However, today, most of this land has been encroached upon or repurposed for other uses. The green belt areas have very low vegetation and trees. In Ifo 2 and Kambioos, most of the green belt areas have been exploited by firewood harvesters. This could be because the communities did not actively participate in or were not well engaged in the planning or management of these green belts. However the orchard farms around the camps are doing well despite the challenges experienced.

Therefore in order to improve protection and manage the existing green belts, there is a great need for public participation and capacity building within the communities on water management, biodiversity conservation, and monitoring mechanisms to ensure compliance with environmental regulations and sustainable practices on various activities around the new municipalities. Funding is also required to support conservation efforts and sustainable agriculture practices in Dadaab's green belts and orchard farms. By implementing these measures, all stakeholders can work together towards the protection and sustainable management of the green belts and orchard farms, ensuring that these essential resources continue to benefit all communities and the environment for future generations.

#### 3.2 Implement measures to protect and preserve existing wildlife

There are no conservation or wildlife protected areas around Dadaab Refugee Complex and hence the animals roam freely on the vast land and are at risk of being poached by the communities. There are, however, few reports of wildlife animals entering the camps due to the existing high population. To address this, there is a need to collectively consider the existing wildlife in all the County and Municipal planning activities. Community engagement in all planning process will also be crucial to ensure sustainable community planning efforts to protect and manage these sensitive areas. The County Government and other implementing partners should involve them in eco-tourism initiatives, offer alternative livelihoods, and provide incentives for protecting wildlife and their habitats. The established and known wildlife corridors should be safeguarded to enable the movement of animals between isolated habitats. A sustainable land use plan that considers the needs of both human and wildlife populations should be implemented. This will minimise human-wildlife conflicts and habitat destruction through careful zoning and infrastructure development.

#### 3.3 Improve and formalise rangeland management

High population, climate change, and extreme weather events such as drought and overgrazing have been associated with deterioration of rangeland in Garissa County as well across the northern region of Kenya. To address some of these effects and to avoid further degradation and conflicts, Garissa County has recently embraced participatory range management as a tool while aiming to create guiding principles for community rangeland governance. Under the Garissa County Environmental Management and Coordination Bill, 2018, the County has provided for promoting sustainable investments in the rangelands, mainstreaming dryland and rangeland issues into the County development plans and policies, and involving and empowering communities in the management of rangeland ecosystems among others.

In this regard, there is a need to comprehensively identify and develop innovative projects and programs to support the County with the implementation of these policies to create a conducive environment for inclusive management and use of rangelands to ensure higher productivity. Strengthened partnership between the County Government, local leadership, communities and other stakeholders will help to improve on various related issues, including security of tenure, reduced conflicts, and responsibility sharing.

In order to achieve sustainable rangeland management, the rangeland management bill for Garissa County, which is currently being prepared with the support of Mercy Corps, International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), and USAID, should be finalised to enable regulated conservation and sustainable rangeland management efforts. The bill will, as well, complement the Community Land Act of 2016. The bill, once adopted as policy, will improve the confidence of local residents in the management, utilisation, and investment in the rangelands to promote social and economic benefits for the entire County.

Community involvement and utilisation of local knowledge in all decisions regarding the community lands in Garissa County and Dadaab areas will be key to the success of all initiatives to sustainably manage the rangelend.

# 4.5 Principle 3: Connected and Accessible - Transportation

*Goal 1 - Accessibility and Connectivity*
*Goal 5 - Sustainable Infrastructure*

---- Strategy

▮ Intervention

**1. Upgrade and improve existing road network**

> 1.1 Upgrade the main road network to improve connections between key urban centres

> 1.2 Upgrade road network within existing settlements

**2. Establish a transport system based on a balanced multimodal offering**

> 2.1 Establish an efficient, affordable, and convenient public transport system

> 2.2 Improve Non-Motorised Transport (NMT) within and between settlements

## 4.5.1 Overview

**Principle 3: Connected and Accessible**, when applied primarily to the issue of transportation, seeks to optimise the use of land in order to provide an interconnected network of vibrant streets that facilitate safe, efficient, and pleasant connectivity while improving opportunities for economic growth and development. It carries forward **Goal 1 - Accessibility and Connectivity** and **Goal 5 - Sustainable Infrastructure** from the **Dadaab Future Vision** in order to promote connectivity and accessibility both within the new municipalities and beyond through good planning practices and is concerned primarily with the physical, social, and economic dimensions of regeneration.

The connectivity and accessibility of the Dadaab area represent a crucial component in the development of the settlements. Indeed, achieving a well-connected and integrated urban settlement represents the basis for a sustainable future. Efficient connectivity and accessibility can ensure community well-being as well as provide opportunities for economic and social development and will enable the transition away from the traditional model of humanitarian camps to the new model of integrated settlements.

## 4.5.2 Concept Plan

The Connected and Accessible model for transportation can be achieved through various strategies and interventions, including:

### 1. Upgrade and improve existing road network

The strategy of upgrading and improving the existing road network consists of enhancing the road network system in terms of accessibility, conditions, standards, and maintenance. This applies not only to the road network within the settlements but also to the improved

connection of the various settlements to each other and between the area and the wider region in order to foster stronger economic relationships with the other nearby population and commercial centres and to the global market beyond.

Improving the road network includes the implementation of an adequate hierarchy to the roads, improving road conditions throughout (e.g., tarmacking the roads), establishing an adequate drainage system along the roads, and establishing safe and dedicated space for
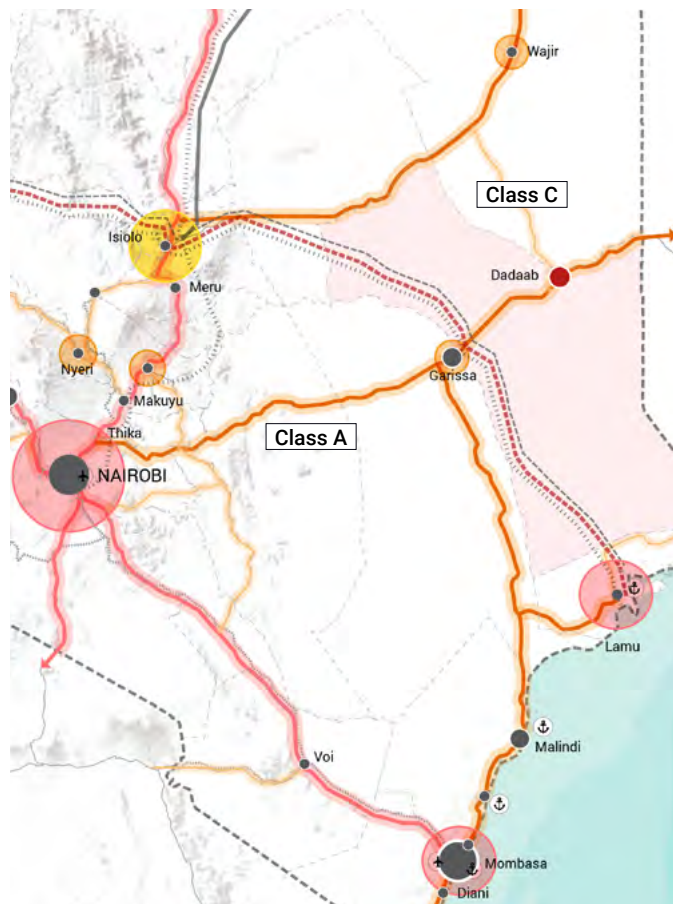


*Map 14: Regional Connectivity*

100 km
To Habaswein ↑

Dagahaley

Ifo 2

96 km
To Liboi →

Ifo

Dadaab
Town

Hagadera

103 km
To GarissaTown
←

22 km
To Alinjugur →

Kambioos
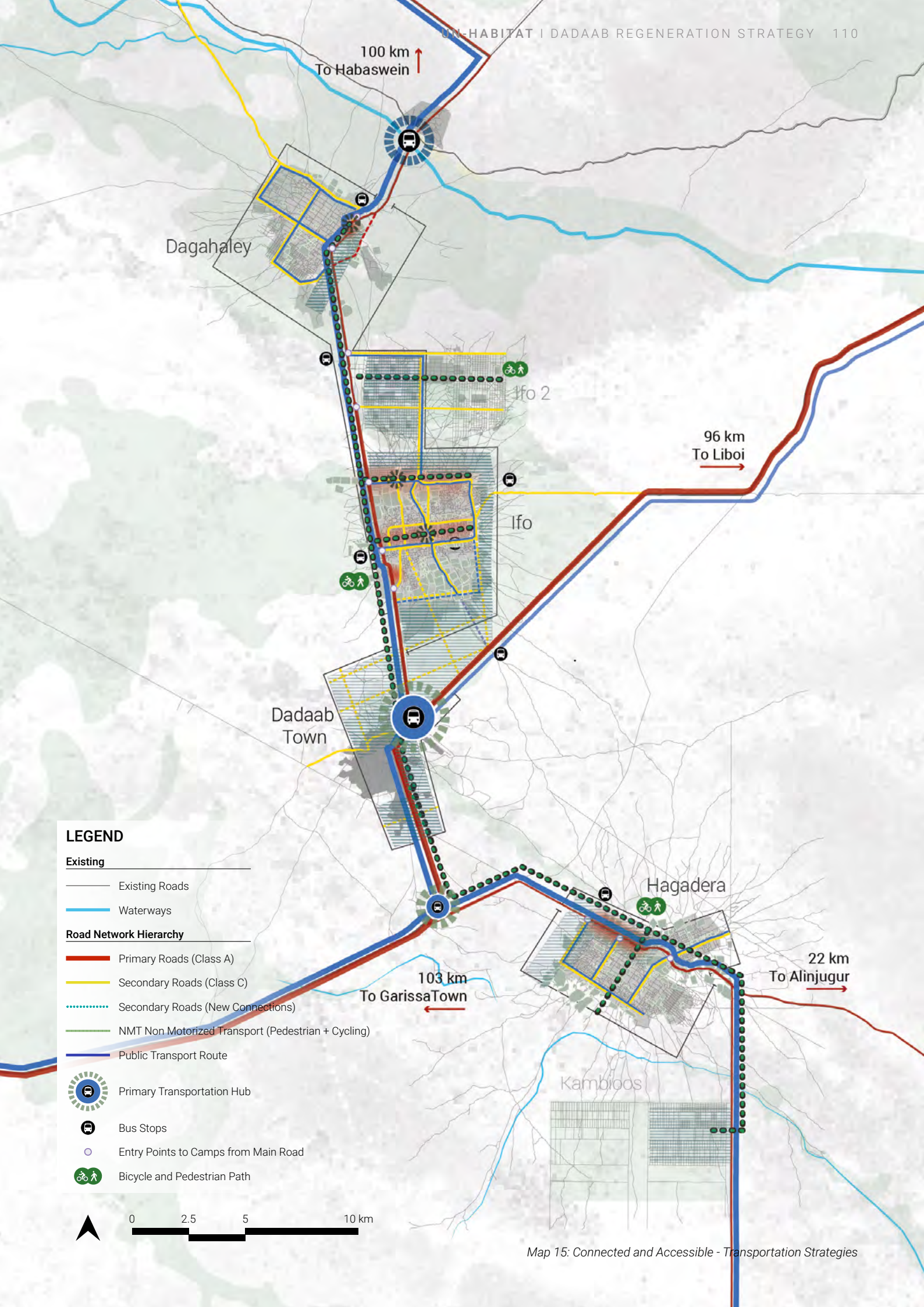
**LEGEND**

**Existing**

——— Existing Roads

——— Waterways

**Road Network Hierarchy**

——— Primary Roads (Class A)

——— Secondary Roads (Class C)

·········· Secondary Roads (New Connections)

------- NMT Non Motorized Transport (Pedestrian + Cycling)

——— Public Transport Route

Primary Transportation Hub

Bus Stops

○  Entry Points to Camps from Main Road

Bicycle and Pedestrian Path

0    2.5    5         10 km

*Map 15: Connected and Accessible - Transportation Strategies*

**Class E/ or G**

*Roads connecting settlements between each other and to other higher classes*

**Local Minor Road**

*Roads connecting to the main local streets within the camp and connecting to key facilities*

**Class C**

*Roads connecting County or other regionally important centres, to each other and to Class A*

**Class A**

*National Road connecting cities, regions, and border crossings.*

0    5    10 km

*Fig. 58: Road Network Classification and Hierarchy*

NMT (non-motorised transport) such as walking and cycling, along roads.

A well-connected settlement is also integrated with blue and green networks to support the functionality of the natural ecosystem and its adaptability to climate change. Public and open spaces along the roads make the streets more vibrant, safe, and attractive public spaces accessible for all.

Currently, the roads with the camps/settlements largely follow the recommendations provided by the SPHERE Handbook of humanitarian standards which are commonly applied in camp settings. This regeneration strategy aims to formalise and ensure the standards being applied to the roads assume to necessitate compliance with the Kenya Roads Act and Physical Planning Handbook of 2002. The fourth schedule

of the Kenya Roads Act 2007 and the subsequent supplementary gazette provides a classification of all public roads in Kenya which are classified as National and County roads. The implementation of this should borrow greatly from these classifications, and also put into consideration the recent establishment of the Dadaab and Bura Municipalities.

The role of the road is determined or defined for the traffic and transport service and also according to the areas they serve and the total movement that will be generated from those areas served. This will not be an exception for the roads in and around Dadaab and due and formal processes must be followed to ensure the roads are classified according to the existing guidelines as laid down by the Kenya Road Act of 2007 and Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 4 of 2016, Fourth schedule.

The roads in Kenya are primarily classified according to the following characteristics:

- Location of the road
- Land use surrounding the road
- Topography of the land over which the road runs
- Nature of the area through which the road runs
- Use type of the road

When it comes to the use type of the road, the classification takes into account the function the road is constructed to serve or achieve and the other roads that it connects to. For example, if a road:

- Serves as a link between centres of international importance, crossing international boundaries or terminating at international ports it should be designated as a Class A road or International Trunk Road
- Links nationally important centres, principal towns, or urban centres, it should be designated as a Class B Road or National Trunk Road
- Links provincially important centres to each other or to higher class roads, it should be designated as a Class C Road or Primary Road
- Links locally important centres to each other or to more important centres or to a higher class road, it should be designated as a Class D Road or Secondary Road
- Links to a minor centre, market, or local centre, it should be designated as a Class E Road or Minor Road

Road reserve is a good example of a standard that should be reconsidered in the regeneration planning process, especially following the establishment of the new municipalities. In the Dadaab Refugee Complex, the "Garissa - Dadaab - Liboi" Road is a Class A Road as it touches on the national boundary between Kenya and Somalia. The feeder roads into the camps are mainly Class D roads. Class D Roads typically link constituency headquarters, municipal or town council centres and other towns to each other and to higher class roads. They are required to collect local traffic from lower roads and channel it to the higher class roads. According to the Kenyan standards, the road design manual gives wayleaves of up to 25 metres for class D roads and 40 to 60 metres for class A roads. Class E, F or G roads are major feeder or link roads linking major market centres and constituency centres. They feed each other in that order. These roads are majorly under the management of the county governments.

## 1.1 Upgrade the main road network to improve connections between key urban centres

Upgrading the main road network aims to improve the regional accessibility of the new municipalities and the internal linkages between camps and settlements and the external connections between key urban centres in the area. This is essential for the area's economic growth and development, both at a local and regional level.

Improving the main national A3 road will allow better trading between countries (e.g., Kenya and Somalia), counties (e.g., Garissa and Wajir or Lamu) and urban centres (e.g., Dadaab and Garissa). Indeed, the nationally classified A3 road, passing through Nairobi - Garissa - Dadaab - Kismayo, is designated as such because it is considered a fundamental component of the national road network connecting cities, regions, and border crossings, and is of special significance for national and international transportation. Thus, the road would require to be upgraded in line with Kenya Standards for Class A roads. This means that the road reserves should be adequately sized between 40 and 60 metres, provided with road drainage infrastructure, and tarmacked as per these standards.

Improving the condition of the main roads that pass through Dadaab, like the mentioned A3 one, could help to meaningfully reduce travel times along key economic corridors and substantially improve trade and foreign investment into the area. It is indeed the density and quality of road infrastructure that will largely determine the competitiveness of the County. Since the region has also experienced major security issues and various threats, improving the road network system by tarmacking roads will help in mitigating incidents of bandit attacks.

Another major road which will require upgrading is the road leading from Dadaab Town to Habaswein. This road not only connects the key settlements of the area, but also connects Garissa to neighbouring Wajir County. The road is currently not classified. Efforts should be made in consultation with the Garissa County Government, Wajir County Government, and Kenya Rural Roads Authority (KeRRA) to upgrade this main spine road which passes through Dadaab Town, Ifo, Ifo 2, and Dagahaley camps and Dagahaley Town before continuing on to Habaswein and to have it be classified as a Class C road. This classification seems appropriate given the recent establishment of Dadaab and Buran Municipalities and the fact that all the settlements along this road serve major markets and institutions and have urban functions and characteristics. The road reserve should have an adequate width of 40 metres (adjustable to the context),

**Priorities by Class**

━━━ Class A

━━━ Class C

**3** *Dagahaley Camp to Dagahaley Town*

**2** *Ifo 2 to Dagahaley Camp*

**3** Dadaab Town and Ifo Camp toward Liboi / Kismayo

**1** *Dadaab Town to Ifo and Ifo 2 Camps*

**2** Dadaab Town to Ifo Camp toward LIboi / Kismayo

**1** Dadaab Town to Hagadera and toward Garissa Town

**2** *Dadaab Town and A3 Road to Hagadera Camp*

**3** *Hagadera Camp to Alinjugur*

**3** *Hagadera Camp to Kambioos Camp*

0   5   10 km
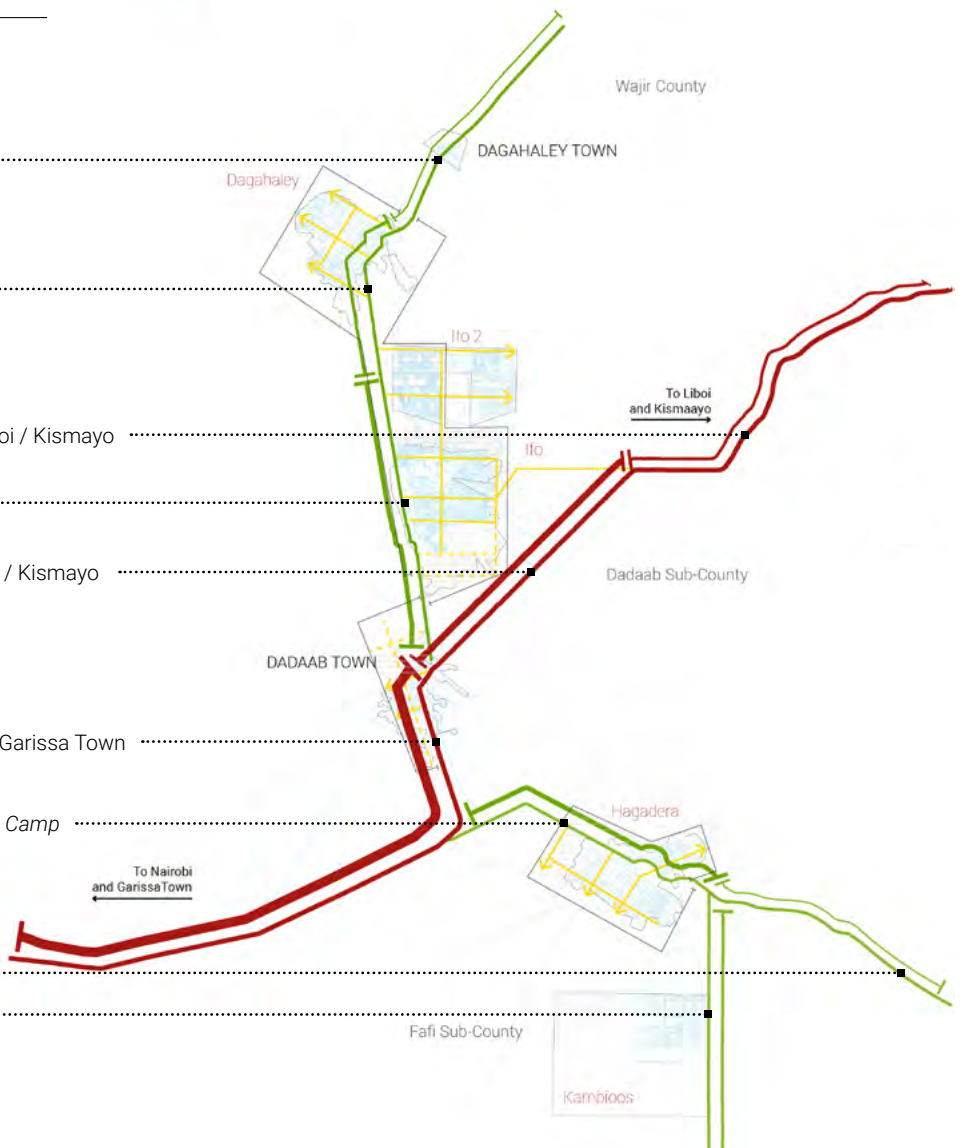
*Fig. 59: Road Network Sequencing*

including provision of an adequate drainage system, a Non-Motorised Transport (NMT) lane, and efficient space for commercial use. Typically, Class C roads are single carriageways.

This demonstrates also the importance of classifying the main roads that pass through the new municipalities and upgrading them to meet the relevant national standards. Among other factors, improving the standards of the main roads connecting the settlements is essential for:

- Economic growth (both local and regional)
- Improved emergency response
- Integration between host and refugee communities
- Improved road safety and security for all users
- Access to facilities and infrastructure (e.g., hospitals)

### 1.2 Upgrade road network within existing settlements

This strategy focuses on the internal road networks within the settlements and aims to establish a clear road hierarchy, which will also require physical and infrastructural upgrades to meet relevant standards and match the needs of the users. The plan should include identifying clear access and entry points off of the main roads into each of the settlements to improve overall connectivity and accessibility. Upgrades should include improving and encouraging NMT within the settlements with improved pedestrian infrastructure (e.g., sidewalks, crosswalks, street lighting, etc.). It is also critical that proper road drainage, particularly in the more densely populated urban areas, be added throughout.

The road network system within the settlements is currently informally planned. Routes have emerged as

needed, while only some roads have been earthed and graded to serve the most pressing needs. The existing roads within Dadaab Refugee Complex and surrounding towns are serving a high population and are critical to connecting the communities residing there and providing access to services and public facilities. In this regard, efforts should be increased to ensure a localised road network system is included in addressing infrastructure and accessibility as a main priority. Upgrades should include providing adequately sized infrastructure to meet the minimum standards within existing legal provisions and widening the existing access and major roads.

Further to this, it is critical that an adequate drainage system be planned and implemented to ensure that the roads remain passable year round and to help reduce maintenance requirements.

A localised road network system should be designed and implemented to define and categorise all the main roads, to provide a well-organised structure, and to improve the safety and accessibility of the area. The type of use and vehicles expected to be utilising the road will be a primary consideration for the determination of the basic width and classification of the roads, as well as expected

**Class A Road Section - 40 meters**
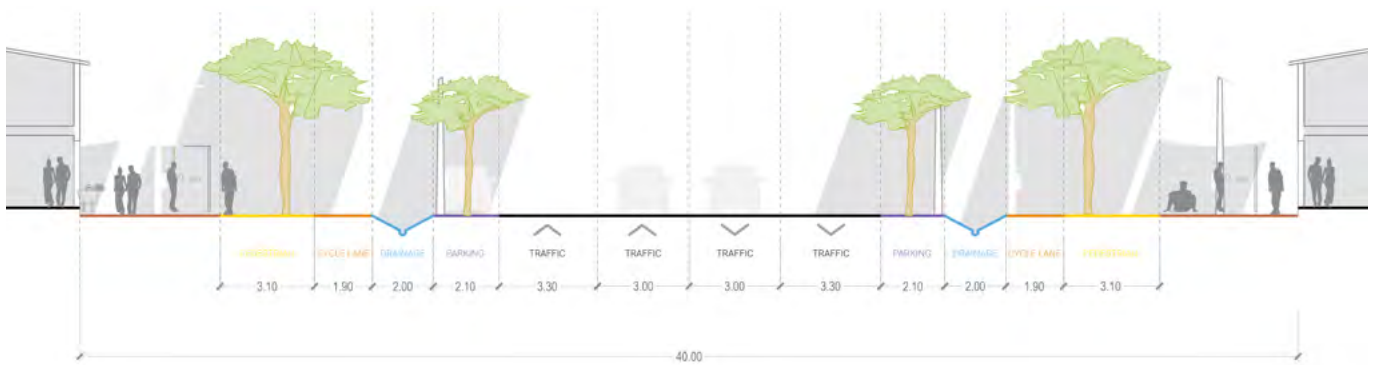
**Class C Road Section - 25 meters**
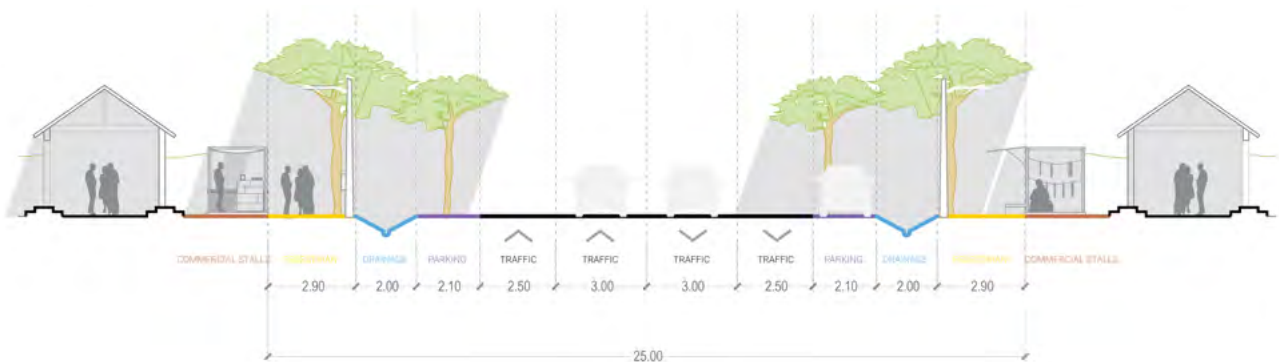
**Local Minor Road Section - 9 meters**

*Fig. 60: Proposed Road Sections By Classification*

shoulders and ditch requirements. A localised road network system should include:

- Localised road hierarchy map
- Proposed road hierarchy standards
- Identification of road upgrades required to meet road hierarchy plan
- Prioritisation of roads to be upgraded

Within the settlements, key secondary roads from other classes (Classes D, E, F, and G) should be defined. These roads would serve as key roads linking centres to higher class roads, either the main A3 Road or the Class C road leading to Dagahaley and further to Habaswein. Improving these roads will be crucial for allowing better entry points and accessibility into each settlement. This will be essential for improved emergency responses, increased security along the road and within the settlements, and enhanced access to basic needs.

Other secondary roads could further be defined in the future to increase connection between settlements without having to pass over the main A3 Road, like the road leading from Ifo to Ifo 2, or the one leading from Ifo to the main A3 Road towards Liboi. These secondary feeder roads would likely be classified as Class E or G, which would translate to wayleaves of 20-25 metres including all road fittings and furniture.

This will, in turn, enable the management of the road to fall under the responsibility of the County Government (or eventually the municipalities) for ease of construction, maintenance, and management, under the County urban service delivery programme and budgetary allocation. The County Government will be responsible for the construction, management, development, rehabilitation, and maintenance of the County roads of rural classes D, E, F, and G and urban classes L to P (Du- Gu) as well as unclassified roads as assigned in the fourth schedule of the constitution including street lighting, traffic management, parking, and public road transport.

Additional proposed local minor roads connecting to the main local streets within the camp are the roads that lead to additional key facilities within the camp, and should be formalised as approximately 9 metres wide. The 9 metres width option considers a 6 metre tarmacked carriageway and 1.5 metres on each side to provide for sidewalks and utilities like water, sewerage, and stormwater drainage. The redesigning of roads will not only permit a better connection within the settlements but also reduce risks of road flooding during the rainy season. Indeed, an efficient drainage system and sewage system along the roads is essential for excess water collection and storage, and for minimising the occurrence of flooding.

## 2. Establish a transport system based on a balanced multimodal offering

A healthy mobility ecosystem is made possible when various modes of transportation work in tandem to meet the needs of a community and its diverse population. A transport system based on a balanced multimodal offering, including streets that safely and equitably incorporate walking, cycling, and mechanised transit, is necessary. A diversified and efficient transport system that includes a range of modes of transport promotes the economic development of a region, while offering new travel opportunities to its inhabitants that ensure equitable accessibility for all and promote their well-being.

While these various modes of transportation are often viewed as standalone options rather than parts of a wider system, establishing an interconnected network of connectivity that can add functionality and optimise access.

### 2.1 Establish an efficient, affordable, and convenient public transport system

In order to ensure equitable access to economic development opportunities, basic services, and public facilities throughout the newly established integrated municipalities, enabling connectivity with an efficient, affordable, safe, and convenient public transportation system is essential. A comprehensive overall public transport system offers mobility to those who do not have private vehicles and provides an affordable alternative to private transportation. Public transportation helps reduce traffic congestion, is more sustainable, and may help in creating additional employment opportunities.

Effective public transportation requires an efficient integration within the existing road network and will benefit meaningfully from upgrades to the existing road system, as proposed in this report. The proposed transit route should follow the main road network with stops and hubs distributed along key landmarks, to greatly increase both host and refugee accessibility to facilities throughout the municipalities.

A central transportation hub should be re-evaluated and established in Dadaab Town. The hub should provide sufficient space for vehicles (including buses, matatus, proboxes, and boda bodas) to stop for transfer of passengers and goods. The hub will prevent vehicles from causing congestion along the A3 highway. This hub must be linked with the overall transit strategy to strengthen the connection between existing economic centres.

The proposed public transit stops should be located strategically at each settlement entrance along the main A3 primary road, and close to key landmarks within the settlements such as main markets, hospitals, schools, etc. These transit stop locations would provide designated safe locations for passengers to board and alight from vehicles. This will prevent adding congestion to the road network. Transit stops should be established with signage, shelters to provide weather protection and shading, and solar street lighting for safety.

2.2 Improve Non-Motorised Transport (NMT) within and between settlements

Facilitating a safe and walkable streetscape is a key measure to bring people into the public realm, reduce congestion, promote interaction, and boost local economic activity, especially where public transport remains limited. In order to ensure economic development and access to services for all, local connectivity between key landmarks (markets, major facilities, and public services) is essential. This requires increased accessibility within and between settlements. Non-Motorised Transportation (NMT) is already widely used as an affordable mode of transport in Dadaab, however it is hindered by a lack of supporting infrastructure.

A transit system based on a balanced multimodal offering should, therefore, be established in the new integrated municipalities including multimodal streets incorporating walking, cycling, and mechanised public and private transit. A diversified and efficient transit system, including all modes of transportation, promotes the economic development of a region, while offering new travel opportunities to its inhabitants to ensure equitable accessibility for all and contributing to the well-being of all community members.

Non-Motorised Transportation (NMT) includes all forms of travel that do not rely on an engine or motor for movement, which include most notably walking and bicycling. Non-Motorised Transportation (NMT) has immense benefits beyond accessibility and mobility for individual users, as well as for society at large, including improvements to physical health, air quality, the environment, climate change, personal finance, and the empowerment of vulnerable groups. Thus, NMT can help achieve economic and social equity, especially in the most vulnerable contexts, such as in refugee camps undergoing a transition toward integrated settlements.

The existing road network should therefore be upgraded to include separate protected pathways, for both pedestrians and cycling, in conjunction with the proposed road hierarchy and upgrading recommendations. The proposed road upgrades should include the provision of pedestrian paths and bicycle paths within and between the settlements that allow for separated use of the roads and increased safety.

Improving conditions for NMT, already being the most affordable and commonly used means of transportation within the area, would enhance and improve the quality of pedestrian pathways and help overcome major challenges in accessing essential facilities and services within the area. Pedestrian pathways should be prioritised along main arterial roads hosting activities and services like along the market areas and near hospitals and education facilities.

# 4.6 Principle 3: Connected and Accessible - Services

*Goal 1 - Accessibility and Connectivity*
*Goal 5 - Sustainable Infrastructure*

- - - - - Strategy

    Intervention

### 1. Upgrade and improve existing water infrastructure and management of water resources

1.1 Rehabilitate and upgrade existing boreholes for use by communities

1.2 Rehabilitate and repurpose redundant boreholes in Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties for agricultural and pastoralist use

1.3 Repair existing elevated water storage tanks

### 3. Improve sanitation and waste management

3.1 Implement a pilot solid waste management strategy in Dadaab

3.2 Implement a liquid waste management strategy in Dadaab

### 5. Improve condition, capacity, and distribution of, as well as access to, education facilities

5.1 Upgrade existing education facilities

5.2 Regenerate decommissioned education facilities in formerly closed camps

5.3 Construct and operationalise additional education facilities (ECD, Primary, Secondary)

### 2. Expand access to water and improve security of water resources

2.1 Expand access to water from the Merti Aquifer

### 4. Improve access to sustainable energy

4.1 Harness solar energy

4.2 Expand coverage of solar mini-grids through additional investment and physical deployment

4.3 Extension of national grid to Dadaab area

### 6. Improve condition, capacity, and distribution of, as well as access to, health facilities

6.1 Upgrade existing health facilities

6.2 Regenerate decommissioned health facilities in formerly closed camps

6.3 Construct and operationalise additional health facilities

### 7. Improve local access to government services

7.1 Establish Biashara-Huduma Centre(s) in the new municipalities to better serve communities locally

### 4.6.1 Overview

**Principle 3: Connected and Accessible**, when applied primarily to the issue of services and public infrastructure, seeks to utilise well-organised and forward-looking planning to optimise the use of land and provide improved and equitable connectivity between basic services and public facilities while facilitating safe, efficient, and convenient access to these services and facilities for all community members. It carries forward **Goal 1 - Accessibility and Connectivity** and **Goal 5 - Sustainable Infrastructure** from the **Dadaab Future Vision** in order to promote connectivity and accessibility both within the new municipalities and beyond through good planning practices and is concerned primarily with the physical, social, and economic dimensions of regeneration.

An accessible and connected settlement ensures accessibility to basic needs and services and prioritises the sustainability of these services. Integration of different uses within the settlement is an important part of achieving this goal. Indeed, daily necessities and key services should be accessible nearby by either walking or cycling from residents' homes. Proximity and distribution must be considered.

Dagahaley

VOCATIONAL
TRAINING CENTER
Farming trainings
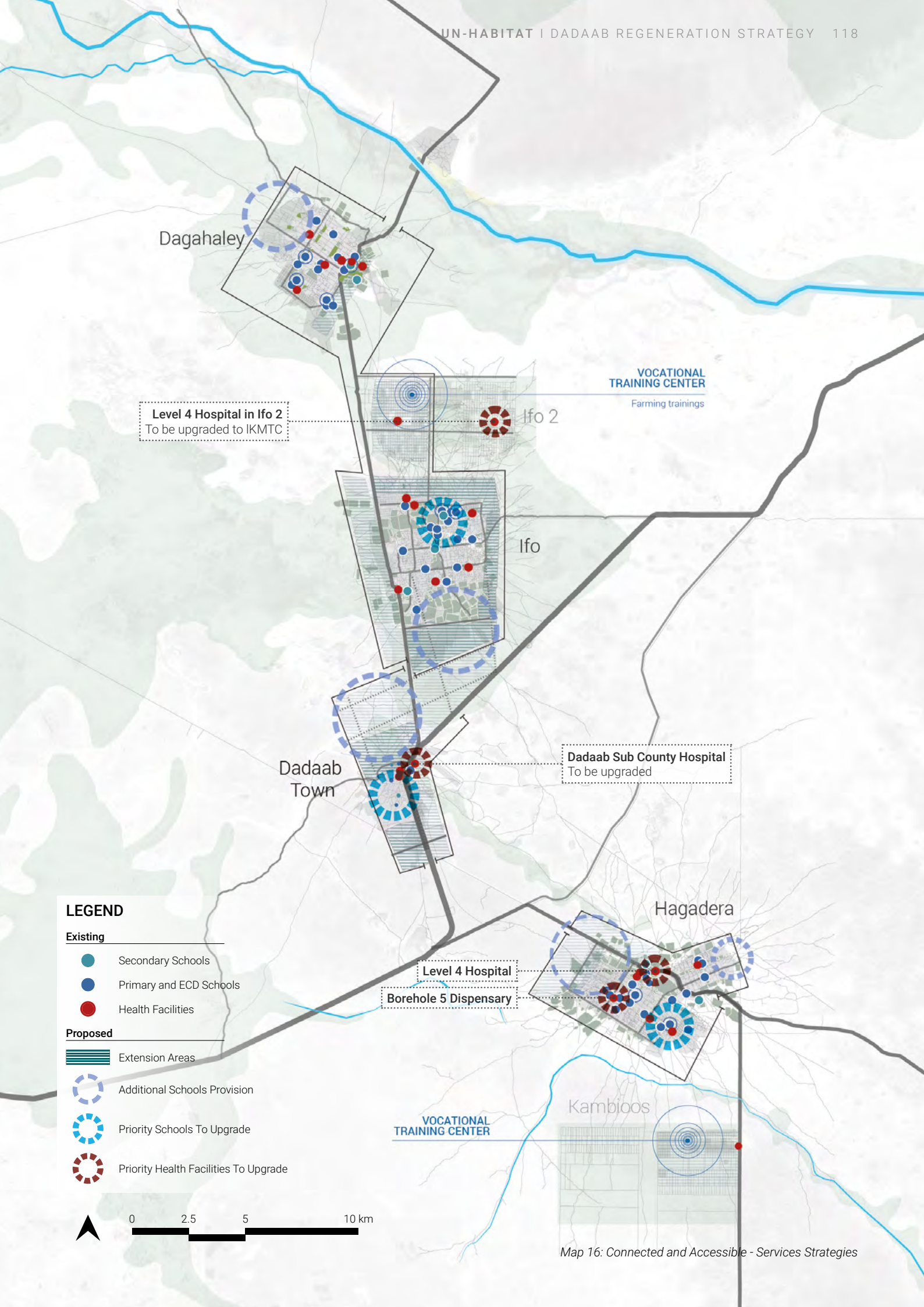
Ifo 2

Level 4 Hospital in Ifo 2
To be upgraded to IKMTC

Ifo

Dadaab
Town

Dadaab Sub County Hospital
To be upgraded

Hagadera

Level 4 Hospital

Borehole 5 Dispensary

Kambioos

VOCATIONAL
TRAINING CENTER

## LEGEND

**Existing**

- ● Secondary Schools
- ● Primary and ECD Schools
- ● Health Facilities

**Proposed**

- ▤ Extension Areas
- ⬭ Additional Schools Provision
- ◌ Priority Schools To Upgrade
- ◌ Priority Health Facilities To Upgrade

0   2.5   5   10 km

*Map 16: Connected and Accessible - Services Strategies*

A model of truly sustainable infrastructure requires that basic services and public facilities be equitably distributed, resilient, and meet the demands of current and future communities. As illustrated in the situational analysis, there are many gaps in the provision of infrastructure in Dadaab, and much of the available infrastructure is over capacity, in need of upgrades, and unsustainable. In many cases, it was not implemented with a long term outlook. Access is not currently equitable, which can lead to social tensions and create challenges to the ongoing project of integration. Therefore, upgrades to the area's network of infrastructure must be included as a key component of the transition from a model of humanitarian encampment towards an integrated urban settlement for both host and refugee communities.

Refugee and host communities have expressed a strong need for improved and expanded educational opportunities, as this would significantly increase the ability to access diverse job opportunities in the future. Communities have also indicated that waste management is a chronic challenge that has yet to be meaningfully addressed within the camps. Investing in sustainable infrastructure now will significantly improve community health, employment prospects, and overall quality of life. Sustainable infrastructure interventions can also help reduce the environmental impact of the camps and improve self-reliance.

## 4.6.2 Concept Plan

The Connected and Accessible model for services can be achieved through various strategies and interventions, including:

### 1. Upgrade and improve existing water infrastructure and management of water resources

In the arid landscape of Garissa County, clean and reliable water is an essential but, unfortunately, scarce resource, meaning access is often a major challenge that can have serious impacts on the health and livelihoods of its inhabitants. Dadaab Refugee Complex and much of the nearby host community rely almost entirely on the water infrastructure provided by UNHCR and its implementing partners. Water access is primarily limited to boreholes, which demonstrate an average depth of 130 metres. The power supply, which is critical for operating the borehole pumps, is sustained almost entirely by multiple large diesel generators that operate 24 hours per day, though upgrading to solar is well underway and has already had a meaningful impact.

There exists a meaningful opportunity in further solarisation of the existing boreholes, and the possible development of solar mini grids that can be used to supply electricity to the communities. This will also go a long way in achieving SDG 11, which seeks to combat climate change and its impacts.

To address this critical challenge, a strategy to enhance the management of water infrastructure is proposed to create a sustainable and efficient water supply system that positively impacts the community and livestock while also supporting efforts to achieve the relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

This strategy and component interventions overlap with some of the existing and ongoing projects and initiatives to address the extensive maintenance challenges and to add additional capacity to the water supply in order to serve the growing population and to enable expanding agricultural activities. Coordination is critical to ensure an efficient and complementary approach.

### 1.1 Rehabilitate and upgrade existing boreholes for use by communities

The Dadaab Refugee Complex currently has 31 boreholes that are managed by UNHCR, including some that are within the boundaries of the camps and some that fall within the host community lands.[67] These boreholes are known for their high yield capacity, ranging from $70m^3/h$, and they typically have depths of between 120m and 140m.[68] This is in addition to the boreholes within Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties that are not under UNHCR management that serve the host communities.

However, as water shortages have been identified as one of the major issues in this region, a comprehensive assessment will need to be undertaken to locate all existing boreholes and evaluate their condition and yielding capacity. Through a participatory approach, the community members will be engaged to provide insights about this challenge and this will help in ensuring that this strategy is tailored to address the water scarcity based on the needs of the community members. The assessment and community engagement will help with the prioritisation of at which boreholes immediate interventions are needed in order to serve a wider population and strategic livestock grazing area.

Maintenance of the existing water infrastructure remains one of the main challenges. Repairs to damaged infrastructure, cleaning and desilting the boreholes, and implementing solar-powered pumps to ensure a sustainable energy source for water extraction and a more resilient water supply system that better serves the needs of the community are all critical upgrades. Boreholes showing signs of underperformance, mainly due to poor or lack of maintenance, will be prioritised, as

optimising their functionality can significantly increase water availability and reduce the burden on vulnerable community members, particularly women and children.

There is also a need to develop an efficient water distribution and supply network, especially within the host community settlements, to ensure equitable distribution and water allocation in relation to the existing few water sources (i.e., boreholes). Construction of watering points for the animals will also enhance the survival of livestock and hence secure the livelihoods for the communities.

### 1.2 Rehabilitate and repurpose redundant boreholes in Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties for agricultural and pastoralist use

According to the Garissa County Government, there are a total of 81 boreholes in Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties which are managed through various national, county, and partner programs.[69] UNHCR manages an additional 31 active boreholes in and around the five refugee camps, some complete with water pans.[70] Together, these account for a total of 112 existing boreholes to serve the new municipalities.

Most of these boreholes run on generators while others use solar as their source of energy. Some of the boreholes are not at their optimum, while some are redundant due to maintenance challenges. To capitalise on this potential and foster food security, rehabilitation of the redundant boreholes is a good starting point to enhance the agricultural productivity in the settlements.

In this regard, boreholes deemed suitable for restoration should undergo comprehensive rehabilitation, including structural repairs and modern upgrades to ensure efficient water extraction. Furthermore, the implementation of drip irrigation systems will promote water conservation and optimal water usage, which is crucial in arid environments like Dadaab. Though a high initial investment is required, further solarisation also represents a great opportunity for securing a sustainable source of energy for the boreholes, which could also cut down the maintenance and running costs.

There is also a need to build capacity of both the host and the refugee communities to adapt crop farming as an alternative source of livelihoods. This will enhance food security in the region. Programs and projects tailored towards this will educate community members on sustainable farming practices, crop selection, and efficient water management, promoting self-reliance and income generation through surplus crop sales.



*Fig. 61: Water Pumping Unit, Ifo 2 Camp*
*(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

### 1.3 Repair existing elevated water storage tanks

In Dadaab, elevated water storage tanks play a vital role in the water supply system serving both the Dadaab Refugee Complex and surrounding host communities, acting as the primary storage reservoirs that ensure a steady and continuous distribution of clean water to the residents. However, with the passage of time and inadequate maintenance, these existing tanks have deteriorated and their structural integrity has been impacted. As a result, leaks that lead to a loss of the collected water have become a significant problem. In response, regular repairs are required to maintain their functionality and to enhance water storage capacity, optimise water use management, and ensure a consistent supply of safe drinking water to the camp's inhabitants.

### 2. Expand access to water and improve security of water resources

Over time there has been a growing risk of well salinisation and water level depletion (especially due to the failed rainy seasons), which has led to the concerns regarding sustainability of groundwater management in the area, which is almost entirely reliant on borehole wells.

### 2.1 Expand access to water from the Merti Aquifer

A critical issue for the new municipalities will be in securing a strategic long-term water supply, which will be needed to supply the current and growing population, while promoting economic development. In order to fuel this growth and both agricultural and industrial demands while ensuring sustainability and resilience, a reliable long term water source that can supplement the current reliance on boreholes is highly desirable.

The Merti Aquifer is currently the only permanent water resource for the supply of the Dadaab Refugee Complex and local communities. It lies in Northern Kenya, in Wajir and Garissa Counties and is available to both counties. The aquifer is relatively narrow at Habaswein (approximately 15-30 km) and broadens to 70 km near Dadaab. Based on the average Central Merti Aquifer dimensions and a mean specific yield of 0.33 m³ of the aquifer material, the estimated stored water volume is approximately 84 billion m³ of water, though more research is required to validate this.[71]

Some of the boreholes in the Dadaab Refugee Complex already tap into the Merti Aquifer and hence there is a risk of depletion. This water has a great potential for the communities in Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties. Apart from community usage, the water is a great resource



*Fig. 62: Water Pumping Unit, Ifo 2 Camp*
*(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

for pastoralism and farming activities, as well, which is meaningful for livelihoods.

### 3. Improve sanitation and waste management

To inform the implementation of this strategy, conducting a solid and liquid waste management assessment is needed to establish a detailed baseline for waste characterisation and composition, waste generation per business in the markets, willingness to pay, and generally the capacity to develop a public private partnership to support collection of waste and disposal in the identified County landfill.

#### 3.1 Implement a pilot solid waste management strategy in Dadaab

Throughout consultations with community members, waste management has repeatedly been raised as one of the biggest ongoing challenges across Dadaab Refugee Complex and the wider host community settlements in the area. The current waste management situation is at only a very basic level with serious need for meaningful investment, follow-through, and subsequent maintenance in order to be developed further, modernised, and made to meet the existing need. The most common type of waste disposal currently relies on burning within the dumpsites, but most of the dumpsites are informal and most of the formal ones have been illegally encroached upon.

Although various solutions have been tested, maintaining their success has been a challenge, generally due to a lack of funding following initial piloting. Therefore, with the establishment of the new municipalities, solid waste management should be addressed broadly through collaboration with the Garissa County Government as a main priority that requires coordinated attention.

For example, there was a pilot program in Hagadera Camp that was working quite well with skips to collect waste across the settlement blocks, however this was, unfortunately, discontinued due to a lack of funding. Since then, the skips and tractors have fallen into disrepair. A similar program was explored for Dagahaley Camp, but a dump site was not established. As a result, similar projects have not been attempted in the other settlements, in part due to scepticism following the mixed results from Hagadera and Dagahaley.

A comprehensive waste management strategy for the new municipalities should consider the following key components:

*Provide solid waste infrastructure system*

Solid waste infrastructure must be provided in alignment with an overall municipal and County solid waste management strategy and in accordance with the relevant national standards and environmental regulations, including as established by NEMA. Necessary infrastructure to be provided would include:

Establishment of waste collection infrastructure (especially in major waste producing areas like markets), including:

- Identification of and establishment of waste collection points
- Formalisation of waste picking opportunities
- Implementation of waste collection service, potentially through public-private partnership
- Purchasing, installation, and deployment of required waste collection infrastructure such as bins and vehicles, including trucks, wheelbarrows, carts, skips, etc. in order to facilitate collection

Establishment of processing and disposal infrastructure, in particular locations where solid waste can be recycled, processed, or disposed of in landfill, including:

- Formalisation, upgrading, and modernisation of existing dump sites in the camps and surrounding communities
- Prevention of any additional informal dump sites being set up throughout the camp, especially on flood prone lands and near waterways
- Establishment of new modern dump sites to address household waste, as needed, that are NEMA approved, including near all the major markets to address market waste
- Establishment of sorting facilities, including sorting sheds or waste separation stations where the different categories of waste can be organised
- Establishment of modern waste processing facilities, including recycling facility (it's understood that land has been set aside in Dadaab Town for this purpose, but the status should be confirmed)
- Piloting of potential sustainable and innovative waste management solutions

*Undertake policy and capacity building*

A variety of policy and capacity building interventions and actions will be needed in conjunction with a comprehensive waste management strategy:

- Raising of community awareness for sustainable waste management, including awareness campaigns within communities about the importance of proper solid waste management, the health implications of

burning waste, health and mobility implications of dumping of waste in public spaces/roads, and the benefits of recycling

• Capacity development on sustainable waste management for all market leaders, individual businesses, relevant government agencies and companies or agencies that will be responsible for waste collection, processing, and disposal (including training and empowering of youth to develop sustainable businesses for waste management, including circular economy networks through recycling)

• Inclusion of the camps informal recyclers and waste-pickers in the eventual municipal solid waste management system

• Creation and management of a waste management steering committee.

• Capacity building of the local technical personnel on how to handle waste and waste management issues

3.2 Implement a liquid waste management strategy in Dadaab

The issue of liquid waste treatment requires a particular and immediate attention. The continued use of pit latrines and even open defecation threatens the health of the population and long-term productivity of the land for both residential and urban agriculture. According to MSF, "almost half [of the] people living in [Dadaab] have no access to functional latrines, leading to open defecation in and around the camps, which raises the risk of disease outbreaks."[72] As a result, there is an urgent need for proper treatment of liquid waste, which, if properly managed, would not only prevent health problems, but could also serve as a source to irrigate local food gardens. Similarly, organic waste could be transformed into fertiliser for agricultural purposes.

*Explore alternative solutions for provision of communal sanitation facilities near market areas*

Communal sanitation facilities should be provided in high traffic areas (e.g., primary markets and commercial areas) and to serve key public facilities throughout the new municipalities. Pit latrines and septic tanks could be considered, including a network of septic tanks connected to a wastewater network throughout the camps.

However, pit latrines and septic tanks are not always appropriate for this application nor for all locations, especially in areas where there is a risk of flooding. Therefore, alternative solutions, including dry sanitation alternatives should be explored. There is a gap in the

provision of public WASH facilities in these high-traffic areas and the provision of this infrastructure will result in more inclusive and clean public spaces. Consideration should also be given to the ongoing upkeep and maintenance of these communal facilities, to ensure they remain clean, safe, and hygienic, and to prevent them from falling into disrepair.

*Explore decentralised sewer treatment facilities for use in key areas of high demand*

Improved liquid waste management capacity and treatment facilities should be provided in key areas of demand, such as in the camp's main market areas as well as to serve major facilities such as primary schools and major health facilities. Decentralised sewer treatment solutions should be explored in order to establish a wastewater network throughout the new municipalities, especially in conjunction with road upgrades.

## 4. Improve access to sustainable energy

Improving access to sustainable energy throughout the area is crucial for several reasons. It would enhance living conditions of both host and refugee communities by facilitating access to essential services, fostering economic empowerment, and creating more opportunities for income generation. Sustainable energy solutions contribute to environmental conservation and reduce the reliance on fossil fuels and other declining natural resources, such as firewood. It contributes, as well, to increased safety and security through reliable lighting and communication.

A long term vision to support effective growth in renewable energy is crucial to safeguard the sustainable use of available resources. As grid connections represent challenges in Dadaab, off grid energy solutions would provide more reliable and uninterrupted power supply to support economic activities and improve service performance.

4.1 Harness solar energy

Harnessing solar energy is a sustainable and increasingly popular approach to meeting energy needs in the region. The hot and arid climate in Garissa County makes it an ideal location for harnessing solar energy, especially given its remote nature and challenges with connecting to the national grid.

By harnessing solar energy, Dadaab can significantly reduce dependence on non-sustainable energy sources and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, thus contributing to environmental sustainability. Investment in solar mini-grids and portable energy systems should be targeted

to replace the existing diesel generators that provide piecemeal, unreliable, and unsustainable coverage. Solar power can be used to power existing boreholes, as well as to provide key upgrades to social facilities and markets such as street lighting and cooling facilities.

### 4.2 Expand coverage of solar mini-grids through additional investment and physical deployment

Mini-grid systems, which rely on clean and sustainable sources such as solar and wind, can provide electricity at the local level using isolated distribution networks. They can accelerate access to electricity in remote areas, in particular those like Dadaab that are not easily or efficiently connected to national grid infrastructure. According to the World Bank, "electric power generation and distribution systems that provide electricity to just a few customers in a remote settlement or bring power to hundreds of thousands of customers in a town or city" can be defined as mini-grids.[73] Importantly, such systems can operate entirely independently from any main or national grid system, whether or not they are connected, making them particularly appropriate in contexts like Dadaab.

This approach is seen as one of the best options for quickly and efficiently providing electricity to those currently without access worldwide, especially in remote and isolated areas. The World Bank has estimated that "solar mini grids can provide high-quality uninterrupted electricity to nearly half a billion people in unpowered or underserved communities and be a least-cost solution to close the energy access gap by 2030."[74] Already significant success has been seen with this solution in Kenya with the implementation of solar mini-grid technology in the Kalobeyei Settlement, which can serve as a model for Dadaab.

The establishment of mini-grids encourages the adoption of clean energy sources, such as solar and wind power. In Garissa County, this is meaningful given its dry and arid nature and the abundant supply of solar energy. In addition to expanding access to a reliable source of energy, by reducing reliance on fossil fuels, these mini-grids contribute to mitigating climate change and reducing carbon emissions, aligning with global sustainability goals and promoting the resilience of the new municipalities.

In order to pursue this intervention, a feasibility study should be undertaken to determine effectiveness and to analyse where the need is greatest and where there is the greatest opportunity for impact. Furthermore, education and awareness building should be implemented alongside such efforts in order to promote the uptake

of this technology and a shift away from reliance on firewood and charcoal, for example. In order to expand implementation and utilisation, renewable energy should be promoted at the government level through policies, regulation, and guidance (e.g., through building regulations and permits).

The phasing out of unsustainable energy sources such as diesel generators, firewood, and charcoal in favour of solar energy, at the same time as transitioning to municipalities requires that proposed electricity tariffs must be affordable to residents. The establishment of mini-grids makes it easy to have negotiated tariffs that can make access to energy more efficient and accessible. Adoption should be incentivised through competitive tariffs.

### 4.3 Extension of national grid to Dadaab area

In 2016, UNHCR and the Government of Kenya co-funded the construction of the Dadaab Power Substation project in Dadaab Town to provide electricity to more than 200,000 people in the area, as part of the Rural Electrification Programme.[75] The power generation was mainly by use of four generators that were installed in the Dadaab substation. The project was to have a phased improvement where it was later to be extended to Fafi Sub-County. The project has had minimal progress and is currently ongoing with the connection of Seretwa town (about 6 km from Dadaab). However, the maintenance program of the gensets at the station has not been very efficient, leading to increased downtimes of the electricity. This connection issue affects mainly the host community as UNHCR manages and maintains generators around the camps to meet its electricity needs.

This strategy can be made more efficient with the connection of the Dadaab electricity infrastructure to the national grid, at Modika near Garissa Town, and with the quick completion of the Dadaab Power Station to boost local production. This would reduce the local maintenance and funding challenges. It will also give an opportunity to the authorities to install and make use of efficient billing tariffs and systems where customers are responsible for their bills. Access to electricity is essential for economic growth as well as security interventions.

### 5. Improve condition, capacity, and distribution of, as well as access to, education facilities

Access to education is a fundamental factor in improving livelihood and employment opportunities for both host and refugee communities, which contributes most significantly to social stability and drives long-term economic growth. The existing education facilities within

the Dadaab Refugee Complex do not currently have the capacity to host existing and future students, and will be inadequate to serve the newly established municipalities and meet the needs of their communities.

To ensure equitable access to education for all individuals, including refugee and host communities, improvements to the facilities, including their distribution, infrastructure, and overall condition should be prioritised. Improved access to education across the area can be achieved by promoting an equal distribution of facilities, which entails the possibility to construct additional schools in underserved locations and any future extension areas, expand existing facilities with additional classrooms and teachers/capacity, and upgrade existing facilities with adequate infrastructure development.

### 5.1 Upgrade existing education facilities

Data previously collected has shown in general the need to renovate the majority of the facilities with a higher concentration of renovation required in Hagadera camp. Furthermore, the structure of facilities in Hagadera are mainly semi-permanent structures compared to the other camps where permanent structures are predominant. In all the camps, many of the school buildings are old, overcrowded, and are not sufficient to withstand the high temperatures of Dadaab's climate in their current condition.

Upgrading the school conditions implies improving the infrastructures to ensure adequate classroom space to avoid the overcrowding of students, provide an adequate teacher to student ratio, ensure access to clean water and sanitation facilities within the school, and accessibility to and within the schools for all individuals including students with disabilities. Infrastructure development and improvement should prioritise the safety, accessibility, and inclusivity of the education services. Additional open spaces and recreational facilities are also critically needed to accompany many of the existing education facilities and should be included in upgrade planning.

### 5.2 Regenerate decommissioned education facilities in formerly closed camps

Despite the changing situation in the previously decommissioned camps, Ifo 2 and Kambioos, there are a number of physical structures that were previously used as education facilities in each that could be used once again for their original purpose or be adapted for training purposes, among others. As the camps are resettled, education facilities will be needed to serve the growing population in many of these locations, which represents a meaningful opportunity.

In regards to facilities within the two formerly closed camps Ifo 2 and Kambioos, the majority of the primary schools and secondary schools are inactive and have been abandoned when the camps were closed. Some facilities have been reported to be vandalised and looted and some other occupied by host communities. However some facilities have also been adapted to new uses. Indeed, regenerating the facilities as education facilities would help to serve the growing need. It is also possible to consider adapting these for use as training centres, which could be used to help improve livelihood opportunities and the long-term economic growth of the new municipalities by training and improving skills among the youth. These facilities would still require to be rehabilitated and improved to ensure they are well accessible.

### 5.3 Construct and operationalise additional education facilities (ECD, Primary, Secondary)

Additional facilities should be proposed and established in areas with inadequate or limited access to education, to decrease the high demand on existing facilities which are currently above the national average standard for classroom capacity and teacher to student ratios. Factors such as the population density, distance to facilities, and transportation availability should be considered when determining the location of new facilities.

### 6. Improve condition, capacity, and distribution of, as well as access to, health facilities

The new influx of refugees into the Dadaab Refugee Complex has exacerbated the pressure on existing health facilities within the camps. Expanding and improving health services is essential to serving the already growing existing population and critical to accommodate the increased demand.

It is clearly evident that improving the living conditions will come with significant investments in the water, sanitation and hygiene sectors. This will ensure access to clean water, proper sanitation facilities and hygiene for all and help to limit the spread of diseases.

As mentioned in the situational analysis section and during engagement with Community Planning Groups, access to health services has been a bigger challenge to host communities as compared to the refugees, as they often need to travel longer distances, and often into the camps, for services. For this matter, it will be fundamental to ensure health facilities are well distributed within the area, and especially in Dadaab Town as the main hub.

6.1 Upgrade existing health facilities

During engagement with stakeholders and the communities, key facilities were mentioned to be in need of upgrading and expansion. Dadaab Sub-County Hospital in Dadaab Town and the Level 4 Hospital in Ifo 2 were mainly mentioned. Other facilities mentioned included the Hagadera main hospital and Borehole 5 dispensary in Hagadera. Other facilities would as well require improvement of conditions and reinforcement in terms of staffing for healthcare. Already the Garissa County Government, in collaboration with UNHCR, has made improvements to the Dadaab Level 4 hospital through construction of new facilities that include an operating theatre and maternal unit.

6.2 Regenerate decommissioned health facilities in formerly closed camps

As of late 2022, Ifo 2 and Kambioos Camps have been regazetted and on 18 June, 2023, Ifo 2 was reopened and resettlement of refugees there has commenced. Therefore, the existing former health facilities within the camps will need to be renovated or replaced to accommodate the future demand. Plans have already been established to rehabilitate and reconstruct the existing health facilities in the camps progressively, starting with the health facilities in Ifo 2.

The communities also raised the need of capacity building of the local health care workers to improve their capacity. It has been proposed that the government in collaboration with existing health facilities, research institutions, universities, or other development partners could partner with Kenya Medical Training College (KMTC), possibly established in the rehabilitated facilities to forge industry-academia linkages in support of teaching and learning to boost healthcare services and medical training in the various capacities. The students will have the opportunity to work in the various healthcare facilities in the camps and beyond. This could help to improve the availability of competent health professionals and improve capacity for the private medical practitioners in the area.

6.3 Construct and operationalise additional health facilities

Additional facilities, such as hospitals (of various levels), clinics, health posts, and dispensaries, should be proposed and established in areas with inadequate or limited access to health services to decrease the high demand on existing facilities. Furthermore, while the population will naturally grow in addition to the influx, there will be a growing demand and a need to ensure access for health services for the population within the extension areas. Factors such as the population density, distance to health services and transportation availability should be considered when determining the location of these new facilities.

## 7. Improve local access to government services

It has been established based on community feedback that accessibility to government services is an ongoing challenge. Currently there is a need to travel to Garissa Town for various services, which can be a rather high barrier for all community members, but in particular refugees who must apply for a permit to travel.

With the establishment of the new municipalities, it is expected that as capacity is developed and improved, many of the current functions managed at the County level would be decentralised to the municipal level as a matter of course. Bringing some of the administrative services, such as registering businesses or receiving data on jobs, skills, etc., to the Sub-County for municipal level, in particular with the establishment of the new municipalities would offer meaningful benefits.

7.1 Establish Biashara-Huduma Centre(s) in the new municipalities to better serve communities locally

Establishing a Biashara-Huduma Centre in Dadaab in partnership with Garissa County and the new municipal governments alongside the other relevant stakeholders (e.g., UNHCR, DRS, etc.), could create a one-stop-shop for national and County Government services and business support services, intended to be accessible to members of both the host and refugee communities. It could also serve as a Huduma Centre branch, to complement some of the services offered in Garissa Town.

Within the proposed centre, host and refugee communities would be able to access key services such as civil registration, national bureau, National Social Security Fund, National Health Insurance Fund, Kenya Revenue Authority pin certificates, police clearance certificates, enrolment to school national examinations, and Youth & Women and Cooperative Funds. The establishment of this centre would be significant as locals will no longer have to travel to Garissa Town to access these essential services. A Biashara-Huduma Centre in Dadaab Town would contribute to the strategic objectives of GISEDP and improve opportunities for collaboration and strategic partnerships, wealth creation, and revenue enhancement in the County.

# 4.8 Principle 4: Inclusive and Vibrant

*Goal 2 - Social Inclusion and Security*
*Goal 3 - Prosperity and Economic Diversity*

---- Strategy

Intervention

**1. Encourage and develop social integration by improving the living conditions of youth and women**

1.1 Establish recreational areas for youth and public community spaces for women

1.2 Establish new training and vocational centres

**3. Upgrade, improve, and expand existing markets**

3.1 Improve overall physical condition of market facilities

3.2 Improve provision of basic services to markets

3.3 Provide additional facilities to support markets and businesses

**5. Facilitate market formalisation and promote entrepreneurship**

5.1 Support formalisation of markets throughout the Dadaab area

5.2 Improve market integration and links to existing value and supply chains

**2. Improve security and social protection within and around the camps**

2.1 Increase the number of police stations and field posts

2.2 Provide street lighting in key areas to improve safety

2.3 Establish additional safehouses for SGBV cases

**4. Upgrade existing or establish additional facilities to support livestock industry**

4.1 Improve overall physical condition of livestock and industrial facilities

4.2 Provide additional facilities to support livestock industry

### 4.7.1 Overview

**Principle 4: Inclusive and Vibrant** seeks to foster the development of diverse, inclusive, and economically thriving communities in a vibrant physical and economic environment that creates opportunities for refugees and host communities to interact and do business while developing a shared identity and sense of place within the new municipalities. It carries forward **Goal 2 - Social Inclusion and Security** and **Goal 3 - Prosperity and Economic Diversity** from the **Dadaab Future Vision** in order to promote these aspirations through good planning practices and is concerned primarily with the social and economic dimensions of regeneration.

Social integration and employment lie at the heart of people's participation in the society. Hence, It is essential to secure adequate space for leisure, vocational purposes, employment, and youth activities. It's also critical that these spaces be open, integrated, and welcoming to residents from different races, ethnicities, genders, religions, and cultural backgrounds who may freely interact, exchange, and contribute to their communities. Furthermore, ensuring that people have access to decent work opportunities offers one route to addressing many of the issues associated with poverty and a lack of social integration.

Dadaab also has the potential to tap into strong opportunities to build on already existing growth, development, and fledgling value chains in the area. The presence of refugees in Dadaab has already greatly contributed to economic development of the area and should continue to do so with adequate investment.

**Additional Public Spaces**

Along main green corridors
proposed and in underserved areas

Dagahaley

Ifo 2

**Main markets concentration**

To upgrade conditions and
include improved public spaces

**Concentration of recreational areas**

To improve conditions

Ifo

**Additional Public Spaces**

Future consideration of public
spaces in extensions areas

Dadaab
Town

**Main markets concentration**

To upgrade conditions and
improve public spaces

Hagadera

**LEGEND**

**Existing**

Open Spaces

Community Facilities (Playgrounds)

Sports Facilities

Police Field Posts

Commercial Sites

**Analysis**

5 min Walk to Community Facility

**Proposed**

Market Upgrades and Formalisation

Public Spaces

Green Network Nodes

Green Network Connections

Kambioos

0    2.5    5    10 km

*Map 17: Inclusive and Vibrant Strategies*

Another key consideration for the vibrancy of a city is to ensure that all residents have access to a diversity of activities, urban services, and economic opportunities which can generate income and boost the local economy. Local businesses play a crucial role in creating employment and income generation, with both host and refugee communities reporting businesses, both formal and informal, as their main form of economic activity. It is also well understood that it is essential to include young people and women in the economic activity of the new municipalities in order to foster entrepreneurship, create additional employment opportunities, and further boost the economy of the area.

This strategy focuses on enhancing shared prosperity through improving and expanding the use of various local economic development mechanisms. Dadaab Town and each of the camps in Dadaab Refugee Complex have their own markets and market characteristics which together form vibrant economic nodes where both host and refugee community members provide and purchase a variety of goods and services. Indeed, the presence of refugees in Garissa County has had a significant impact on the economy and the development of the County and Dadaab Town.

Market exchanges between refugee and host communities are common, and some refugees are informally employed by host community members to look after their livestock, as restrictions on mobility severely limit refugees' ability to effectively run their own businesses in cost effective ways. In spite of these limitations, Dadaab community members have managed to build fledgling businesses and established livelihood opportunities in a diversity of sub-sectors. In fact, as previously established in the **Dadaab Future Vision**, UN-Habitat has found that, "The relationship between host and refugee communities goes beyond land sharing, and benefits both communities. Intermarriages, friendships and business partnerships between host and refugee communities are common. Refugees are well-integrated in the area and their Somali background has also played a key role in supporting long term planning opportunities and opening up linkages to a network of cities."[76]

The successful implementation of economic activity from both host and refugee communities will be translated into employment generation, less dependency on aid, sustainability, autonomy, and the improvement in livelihoods. These are necessary conditions to achieve the goal of transitioning the Dadaab Refugee Complex into sustainable settlements, moving from the traditional refugee camp approach.

Furthermore, the government and other development partners should look at the entire business ecosystem and focus on removing barriers and bottlenecks that hinder successful businesses and startups in the area.

## 4.7.2 Concept Plan

The inclusive and vibrant model can be achieved through various strategies and interventions, including:

### 1. Encourage and develop social integration by improving the living conditions of youth and women

In humanitarian settings, women and youth are often some of the most vulnerable groups, due to the role that women play in households, often taking the responsibility of feeding and caring for children and other members of the household in need of care and also for the primary livelihoods and economic activities of the household. Children also often lack the support, services, and space to fully thrive and express themselves without feeling uncomfortable, unwelcome, and unable to participate fully in or contribute to their community.

To become inclusive, the new municipalities should enhance the positive impacts of the refugees' presence in the Dadaab Refugee Complex and focus on improving the living conditions of youth and women while tackling the issues of insecurities which can highly jeopardise social inclusion.

#### 1.1 Establish recreational areas for youth and public community spaces for women

In order to encourage social integration and improve living conditions for all community members, especially women and children and other vulnerable social groups, it's important to create safe, accessible, and welcoming open public spaces for their use. Public spaces for women and children can include, among others, community centres, open spaces, sports facilities, playgrounds, and other recreational facilities.

Public spaces help build the essence of community, strengthen civic engagement, and facilitate the development of a settlement's social, economic, and environmental capital. They can contribute to a healthier and safer environment, making a settlement a more attractive place to live and work. In prosperous cities, UN-Habitat recommends an average ratio of 45 to 50% of land be dedicated to streets and public spaces, including 30-35% for streets and sidewalks and 15 to 20% for general open public spaces.[77] This can, of course, vary widely depending on the context.

To achieve this, a strategy for improving the public space network must be considered in order to improve the

*Dagahaley Camp*

*Ifo Camp*
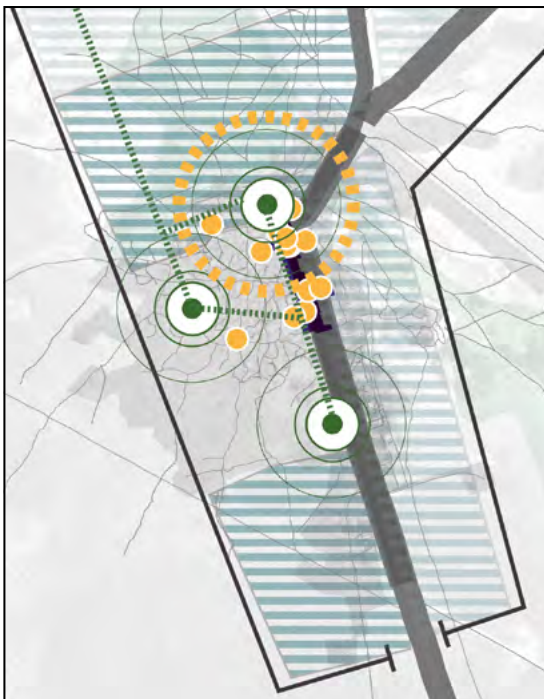
*Dadaab Town*
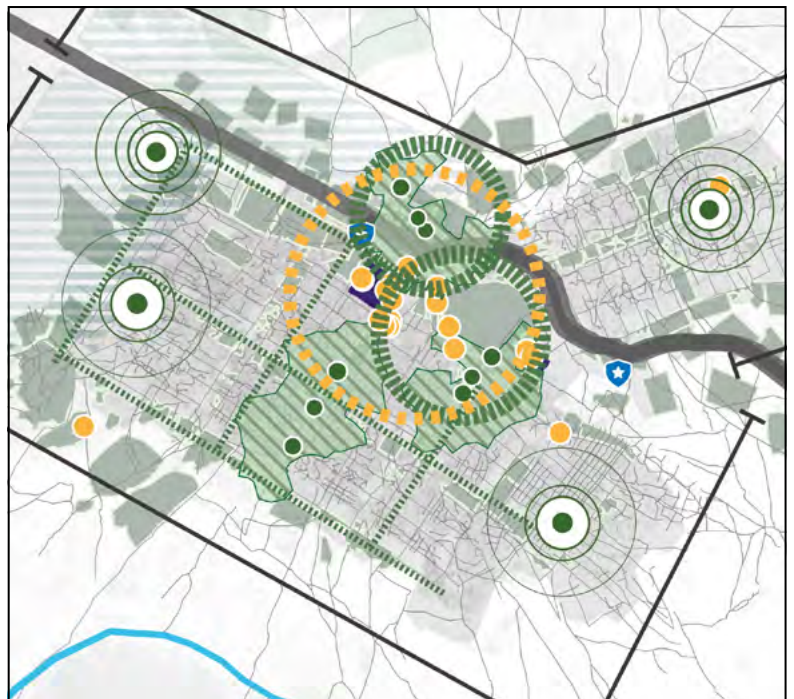
*Hagadera Camp*

## LEGEND

**Existing**

| | |
|---|---|
| ▬▬▬ | Major Roads |
| ──── | Existing Roads |
| ▬▬▬ | Waterways |
| | Vegetation |

| | |
|---|---|
| ▨ | Green Belts |
| ▨ | Open Spaces |
| ▨ | Market Footprints |
| 🛡 | Police Field Posts |

| | |
|---|---|
| ● | Community Facilities |
| ● | Sports Facilities |
| ● | Commercial Sites |

**Proposed**

| | |
|---|---|
| ◌ | Market Upgrades and Formalisation |
| ◎ | Public Spaces |
| ▤ | Phased Extensions |

| | |
|---|---|
| ◯ | Green Network Nodes |
| ···· | Green Network Connections |
| ● | Recreational Facilities |
| ▨ | 5 min Walking Radius |

0   1   2   4 km

*Map 18: Inclusive and Vibrant Strategies (Settlement Details)*

quality of the settlements and efficiently accommodate future growth. Public spaces should be well distributed within the settlement to form a network. Every resident of the settlements, host and refugees, should be able to reach from their home a public space or facility within a five-minute walking distance (the equivalent of 400-metre distance), as it is considered the most practical and realistic threshold.

Safe and accessible public spaces help to engage youth to effectively contribute to development, including peace and social cohesion. School playgrounds, for example, provide a platform for children to interact with each other and develop their social skills. Public spaces also provide the opportunity for youth to participate in sports and other recreational and leisure activities. Safe public spaces can also act as important civic spaces that can enable youth to engage in governance issues. These spaces can also provide an adequate and safe space for groups of women and mothers to gather and exchange.

Public and community spaces, including green spaces, green corridors, and other open spaces are important because they can contribute not only to social inclusion, health, and well-being, but also to environmental benefits and the resilience of the communities. Importantly, public spaces are often the settings where exchanges both social and economic take place. They offer opportunities to improve health, well-being, and can provide the opportunity to rest in shade from the harsh environment.

Public spaces also often coincide with the common places where basic services are accessed (waterpoints, latrines) and where essential services and livelihoods (markets, goods, etc.) are located. They are often important platforms for socio-economic opportunities for both host and refugee communities, commonly acting as the central locations for economic exchange. They can also contribute meaningfully to the shaping of the identity of a settlement and its community.

Currently, the Dadaab Refugee Complex has several community centres, youth empowerment centres, and playgrounds spread throughout the existing camps, while Dadaab Town has only a few playgrounds within school facilities. Most of the playgrounds around the camps are shared between the schools and the community. There are also facilities in the newly reopened camps but these will need to be rehabilitated for use. Moreover, there is a modern private football pitch in Dadaab Town that seeks to engage the youths with productive activities in the area. It is mainly accessed by the host community youth from Dadaab Ward. Nevertheless, the conditions of the public spaces are poor, not well maintained, and lacking utilities, and their distribution is unequally spread within

the settlements, leaving some neighbourhoods and blocks with no public spaces or recreational areas within a 400 metres catchment area.

## 1.2 Establish new training and vocational centres

In terms of vocational education, there is increasing demand for integrated training institutes, especially for training in livestock and crop farming activities, which would provide skills that align to the context and culture of Dadaab and Garissa County. Courses directed specifically towards women and youths should also be considered and prioritised where appropriate. If the vocational education is geared towards specific industries or trades such as livestock farming, their location should be in or near the commercial centres (markets and trading area) where potential job opportunities exist. Some of these vocational training facilities could also be located in the regenerated facilities in Kambioos and Ifo 2, in proximity to the farm lands.

Establishing new training centres or vocational centres is a critical step towards empowering the youth from both the refugee and host communities with skills and knowledge that can enhance self-reliance, expand livelihood opportunities, and open up more long-term prospects. Importantly these are critical to social integration and ongoing peace, security, and stability and will help create a stable foundation on which the new municipalities can be built.

These training centres should be designed and implemented in a participatory manner, involving the input and engagement of the community members to ensure that the programs meet the specific needs and aspirations of the communities, as well as the cultural context.

The training programs should align with the local job market and the skills demand in Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties and the surrounding area, meaning largely related to agriculture and pastoralism, to help increase employability and income generating opportunities in the area.

## 2. Improve security and social protection within and around the camps

Mitigating insecurity challenges in the area is critically essential to the future success not only of the proposed regeneration of the Dadaab Refugee Complex to the ongoing growth and development of the newly established municipalities. In order to attract investment and achieve further integration, both socially and economically, will certainly require a peaceful and open society with a view toward prosperity.

*Fig. 63: Slaughterhouse Facilities in Dagahaley Camp*
*(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

Some aspects of security could be addressed through better planning and distribution of services, increase of security posts and police infrastructure, more involvement of refugees and host communities to strengthen community engagement, and further building of trust and confidence among the communities.

In the immediate short term, protection actors should continue to provide training and raise awareness on international protection standards, including on child protection and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), recognising that youth and women are some of the most vulnerable social groups, especially in humanitarian contexts.

In the medium and long term, broader security considerations should be incorporated into the planning of the settlements. This will entail a better distribution of security posts in adequate locations, well designed and distributed public spaces designated as safe zones for communities to meet and engage. Adequate lighting is crucial in public spaces, especially along streets and walkways, to enhance security in the settlements. Illuminating public space, pedestrian, and road networks, and common areas can promote a sense of safety and security and act as a meaningful deterrent.

## 2.1 Increase the number of police stations and field posts

Dadaab Refugee Complex currently has 6 field posts distributed across the three main camps, with 1 in Dagahaley, 3 in Ifo, and 2 in Hagadera. During the community engagement, participants emphasised the need to enhance those stations. Improved security throughout the settlements will be achieved not only by increasing the number of field posts but also by establishing them at strategic locations within the settlements. Police stations should be easily accessible for any resident of the area, and should be primarily located around key landmarks. An overall strategy for the new municipalities that can serve the needs of both host and refugee communities is critical.

## 2.2 Provide street lighting in key areas to improve safety

To ensure better walkability and a sense of security, the urban environment should provide infrastructure for safe and convenient walking and cycling such as street lightning along sidewalks and in public spaces. Street lights promote security in the area, they have a major impact on crime reduction as well as vehicle accidents. Furthermore, it increases the quality of life by allowing

activities and business to keep running for longer hours, after dark.

<u>2.3 Establish additional safehouses for SGBV cases</u>

As Kenya's northern region has experienced four consecutive failed or below average rainfall seasons, many pastoralists have experienced the worst drought in close to forty years. The women in particular, have hence experienced increased levels of gender-based violence and child marriage in drought-affected communities, as the communities seek to survive. This has also affected children's accessibility to education. According to UNICEF, there exists a gender based clinic at the Garissa County and Referral Hospital in Garissa Town. This is the only establishment in the County and serves over 841,000 people living in an area of about 44,700 km$^2$.[78] As at the end of 2022, the clinic had managed over 70 SGBV cases. Unfortunately, only a few cases get legal redress due to the cultural climate, but accessibility is also a significant factor. The number may have gone up as the drought situation worsened in the first half of 2023, as well.

If such a centre is set up in the new municipalities to serve the host and refugee communities, it would go a long way in improving access to the local communities and relieving pressures on the facility in Garissa Town. As SGBV cases are also reported in the refugee camps, the centre would also be a safe haven for the victims.

### 3. Upgrade, improve, and expand existing markets

The major markets in the area are the Hagadera and Alinjugur markets in Fafi Sub-County and the Dagahaley, Ifo, and Dadaab Town markets in Dadaab Sub-County. The markets in the camps have contributed significantly to the economic vibrancy of the area. The Ifo Camp market is smaller and less established and is mainly accessed by refugees. With the reopening of Ifo 2 and Kambioos Camps, there is an opportunity of establishment of other markets in these camps. Market integration in Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties is critical to food security and economic development and almost every population centre has at least one market that operates daily.

Hagadera Market is situated along the road to Wajir and Mandera, an artery that connects to the rest of the country. It is also the biggest livestock market in the area, which is strategically positioned along transhumance migratory routes. The market is the most vibrant in the area, as more items are available there than anywhere else in Dadaab. In addition, Hagadera has more advanced shops and infrastructure, with transport services that link to Eastleigh in Nairobi.

Nevertheless, expanding the market in Dadaab Town will

be crucial considering its development as the core hub of the new Dadaab Municipality. The market in Dadaab Town will require additional spaces and upgrading of services, as well as the development of additional facilities that would support the livestock industry such as adequate slaughterhouses, a need for infrastructural development to enhance connectivity and accessibility, access to electricity and other services.

To foster Dadaab's growth as a diversified economic hub, enhanced access to financial and business development services should be considered. Dadaab's markets should be well-used by both host and refugee communities and be well established based on basic standards such as safety, hygiene, vibrant public spaces and should create environments that trigger confidence for future investment.

<u>3.1 Improve overall physical condition of market facilities</u>

Some key principles for market regeneration in the humanitarian-development context should be considered and assessed based on each market context, including:

- Upgrade market stalls, including provision of stalls specifically for the host community within camp markets
- Provide solid waste receptacles throughout the market areas
- Develop street light infrastructure to improve walkability, accessibility, and security at night in main
- Include durable shade structures due to high temperatures throughout the year
- Pedestrianise narrow and high traffic market alley areas, including preventing boda bodas from driving through and parking in such sections
- Improve the section of streets with adequate drainage, especially in areas affected by flooding, to improve accessibility of the market during rainy season, and limit damage to the physical facilities

Some further considerations include:

*Accessibility*

It's important to ensure that markets are easily accessible and welcoming to both host and refugee communities and the wider public. To achieve this, some key factors should be considered:

**Location**: markets should be located in strategic locations within the local road network, including being in proximity to wider transport corridors

**Roads**: roads leading to and within markets must be

constructed and maintained to allow for all-weather access, including provision of sufficient road widths to allow supply vehicles, road drainage infrastructure, multi-modal transportation access, and to discourage encroachment

**Pedestrian Access**: roads must provide space to allow for the safe access of all pedestrians, including people with disabilities

**Shading**: shade structures should also be available throughout the markets and in transport hubs to provide protection to traders and shoppers alike, including boda boda shelters

**Delivery**: designated space should be allocated for offloading and onloading goods for local distribution to avoid congestion of main roads

*Safety and Security*

As active and vibrant public spaces, safety of market operators and customers must be prioritised through the provision of adequate infrastructure such as street lighting and designated pedestrian pathways. Safety can also be improved through designating specific staging areas for boda bodas and matatus to prevent congestion, dangerous interactions between various

modes of transportation, especially with pedestrians, and possible accidents. Fire safety is also a critical concern in markets. This risk must be addressed through the upgrading of the physical conditions of the markets to use fire resistant materials, provide separation between market stalls, widening roads to allow emergency vehicle access, and providing water points spaced frequently throughout. Unregulated existing electricity wiring must also be upgraded to comply with minimum standards.

*Sustainability*

Environmentally sustainable practices must be established within the markets to help reduce long-term costs and minimise overall environmental impact. This can be achieved, in part, through investment in renewable energy (such as solar) and providing opportunities and infrastructure for recycling and proper waste management.

*Shared-Use*

Similar market stall typologies should be clustered to allow for the shared use of supporting infrastructure, for example fresh food and meat stalls being clustered to commonly use cool storage facilities and waste infrastructure. This also allows for the utilisation of shared offloading and warehousing facilities, as well.



*Fig. 64: Typical Market Street Condition in Ifo Camp (UN-Habitat, 2022)*

*Inclusivity*

Women are less likely to be entrepreneurs or small business owners due to lack of education opportunities, lack of access to financing opportunities and cultural challenges. Women should be empowered to become involved in business opportunities through provision of targeted skills upgrading and training opportunities.

*Affordability*

Goods and services provided within the markets must be affordable for refugees. This can be encouraged by capitalising on local value chains, provision of micro-financing programmes and encouraging entrepreneurship. Prices can also be kept down by encouraging the shared use of infrastructure between stall operators.

3.2 Improve provision of basic services to markets

One of the biggest challenges throughout the existing markets in both Dadaab Refugee Complex and in the market in Dadaab Town is a lack of sufficient services and infrastructure to serve the facilities. Access to reliable supplies of electricity, water, and communications infrastructure are critical to the functioning of the markets. Waste management, as in the settlements themselves, is also a major issue, especially in the markets, which produce a higher rate of waste.

The Government and partners should focus more on infrastructural development to improve the business environment to strengthen local economic development. This includes better road connectivity, improved communication infrastructures, and sufficient water and energy infrastructure. The focus on decentralised renewable energy, safe access to water and sanitation, and the proposal for improved waste management to

upgrade the market conditions are key enablers for developing the local economy.

In terms of waste management, it's important to provide solid waste receptacles throughout the market areas so that organic, inorganic, and recyclable waste from vendors and customers is not disposed of in the street, obstructing mobility, posing health risks, and increasing fire risks. This should include joint collection areas for aggregation and transportation to a communal land fill or processing site. This therefore necessitates close linkages with systemic overall waste management upgrades needed across the new municipalities. WASH facilities are also critically needed, in particular adequate communal sanitation facilities, to serve both traders and customers throughout the markets.

Access to electricity is essential for implementing the market upgrades such as street lighting and cooling facilities. Consideration should be given to utilising sustainable energy sources such as solar panels. Consideration must also be given to regulating the installation of electricity infrastructure, to minimise the risk of potential fires in these high-traffic areas. Ideally, solar mini-grids should be established to provide clean and reliable energy for market needs. It is also well understood that improving access to electricity can allow the businesses to operate for longer hours.

Most of the public markets need better planning for logistics and investment in common user warehousing infrastructure and cold storage to support the increased supply of retail goods, food and fresh produce which require large to medium centralised facilities.

Opportunities for water harvesting through sand dams or berm ponds located in the area should be explored to support agricultural activities for both refugee and host community.

| PEDESTRIAN | MARKET | LIMITED TRAFFIC | PEDESTRIAN |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2.00 | 2.50 | 2.50 | 2.00 |

9.00
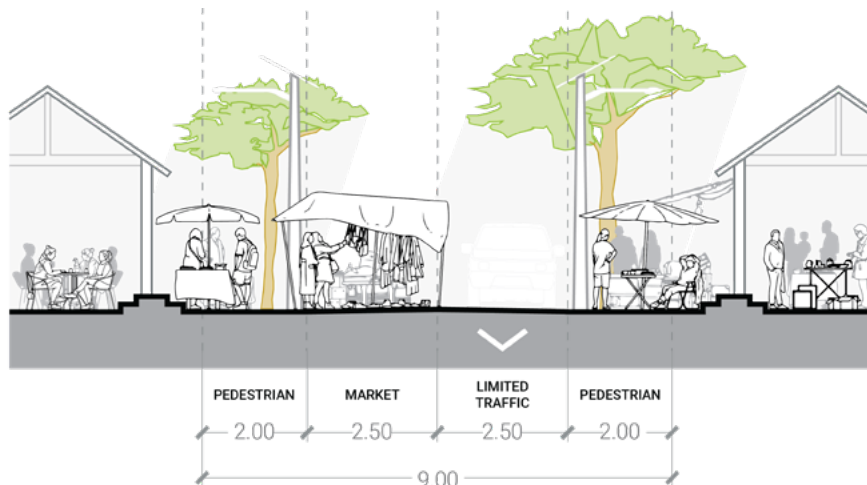
*Fig. 65: Typical Market Condition With Limited Traffic Permitted*

3.3 Provide additional facilities to support markets and businesses

In addition to market upgrading, other facilities should be considered to ensure the good functioning of markets such as logistics centres, slaughterhouses with adequate hygiene measures, and warehousing and storage facilities to properly store goods, including cool storage facilities, as well as designated spaces for offloading and onloading of goods, among others. As needed, as well to accommodate market growth, in certain instances additional streets and other areas should be designated to accommodate such expansion over time in a planned and orderly way.

A warehousing and logistics centre should be established to provide general warehousing areas and areas with refrigeration for cold storage. In addition there should be services provided to farmers to sort and package in order to enable selling farm produce to small and bulk consumers and expand market and value chain opportunities. These facilities should likewise enable farmers to control the flow of goods to markets in a more consistent manner and to avoid the fluctuations of harvest time market flooding and of seasonal scarcity, which can lead to dramatic shifts in price.

A more detailed market improvement and upgrading strategy should be developed to consider each market separately to assess the unique current gaps and conditions of each market and respond to the needs accordingly.

### 4. Upgrade existing or establish additional facilities to support livestock industry

Livestock production is the backbone of the region's economy.[79] Supporting the livestock value chain, production and marketing through enhanced market facilities, improved market integration and linkages to existing value and supply chains will be critical to ensure the success of this sector and enhance local economic development. Livestock are the main source of livelihood, income, and employment in this area. They also offer social security to the owners and increase their status in the society.

Besides, livestock are the major source of food for the local residents. However, the majority of livestock, especially cattle, are consumed externally. Mostly the cattle are dispatched to various terminal markets in Nairobi and other areas. The livestock products are sourced locally mainly in Hagadera and Dagahaley as well as Dadaab Town, Alinjugur, Madogashi, Sabuli, and Sarif and in Dobley and Kismayo in Somalia.[80]

To enhance this business, the overall condition of the existing markets and industrial facilities should be upgraded and additional new facilities established to support the industry, as needed. The strategies will also be leveraged on the ongoing projects including the LAPSSET and the A3 Highway which intersects the Dadaab Refugee Complex, as the primary land route between Nairobi, Kismayo, and Mogadishu. The highway has established Garissa Town as a major destination for livestock trading, which forms the foundation of the County's economy.[81] There is also a recently launched aggregation and industrial park in Garissa Town, which is the largest in the northern region of Kenya. This industrial park offers solutions for livestock markets, trading, and animal products, including meat, hides, and skins. Connection to this facility will offer meaningful benefits for the livestock industry in Dadaab.

The livestock industry will remain one of the key drivers of the economy in this region, in Garissa County, and for the newly established municipalities. Therefore, special



PEDESTRIAN    MARKET    MARKET    PEDESTRIAN
2.00    2.50    2.50    2.00
9.00

*Fig. 66: Typical Pedestrianised Market Condition*

consideration should be given to manage and improve the livestock market and industry, as highlighted in the following interventions.

4.1 Improve overall physical condition of livestock and industrial facilities

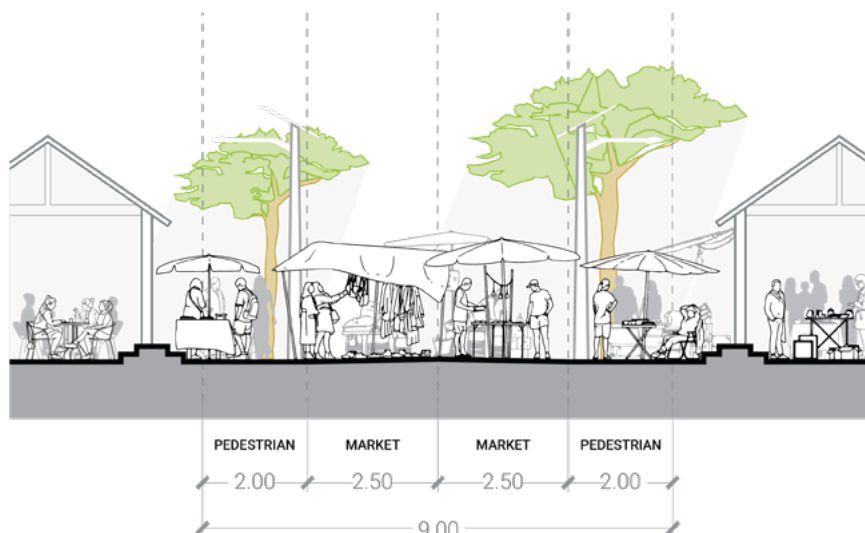Garissa Town, which developed initially at the intersection of the Tana River and the national A3 Highway as more of a trading post primarily for livestock traders, hosts the main livestock market in the region, with five smaller feeder markets in the surrounding towns.[82] Each of these sells different species of stock on different days and some operate on a daily basis. These livestock markets include Modogashe, Hullugo, Fafi, Masalani, and Dadaab. Balambala is an additional market that is operational, but informal.[83]

The market in Dadaab Town will need significant improvement and upgrade to enable it to receive a considerably high number of stock ready for dispatch to various parts of the country. The major markets in Hagadera and Dagahaley will require upgrades and improvement to sufficiently serve the high population and demand while also supplying the nearby towns. The slaughterhouses already established in Dagahaley and Hagadera will require regular maintenance and improvement to boost their capacity and functionality.

Dadaab Town has a great potential for small industries such as animal product processing facilities and a slaughterhouse. The need for new slaughterhouses and milk/meat processing plants should be explored in areas of Dadaab Town and Ifo 2. In Ifo 2, the chances of enhancing the livestock market are slightly low due to the existing economic activities mainly being driven by the refugees. In Dadaab Town the facilities will supplement the needs of the municipality and therefore it will be imperative to establish and construct both in a suitable area away from the built up area to reduce the risk of nuisance and pollution. The increasing numbers of refugees will continue to provide a large and ready market for meat and milk, while the value addition can also be practised and products distributed locally and to external markets.

A majority of the livestock market facilities and industries will require complimentary services and utilities, such as connections to sustainable waste management systems, electrical supply, as well as reliable water supply systems. Shared facilities and common rooms should also be promoted. Narrow access roads need to be widened to improve on NMT and ensure adequate accessibility. Unregulated waste disposal points should be discouraged and plans should be prepared to promote safe disposal. In addition, adequate formal shades should be installed within the market to protect the traders (both buyers and sellers).

4.2 Provide additional facilities to support livestock industry

The livestock markets in and around Dadaab Refugee Complex are known to be very vibrant and are key selling points for goats, goat meat, camels, and other animal products sourced locally. Dagahaley and Hagadera Camps are home to the main markets supporting the livestock industry in the region. These two markets, as well as the other local markets within the Dadaab Refugee Complex, play a critical role in the local livestock industry. Therefore, developing their infrastructure and capacity can further promote the local economy as well as the industry more broadly in the region. Demand for meat and other animal products is high within the refugee and the host communities. To sufficiently satisfy the high demand, efforts should be enhanced to promote livestock production and rearing through provision of fodders and increased drinking water points, provision of subsidies to boost production, localised extension services, such as veterinary services, as well as encouraging animal husbandry through provision of startup capital and genetically upgraded breeds.

Some partners like KRCS and UNHCR have, in the past, promoted increased fodder production through investment in several hectares of land. Such initiatives to increase farm production should be supported and enhanced and new farms should be established in suitable locations identified by the communities, local partners, UN agencies, and the government. Water infrastructure, such as irrigation and water harvesting and storage facilities that support livestock farming, should be increased in areas dedicated for livestock rearing to service this expansion.

Besides production, marketing of the animal products will be critical for the growth of this industry and, as reported in UN-Habitat's 2021 survey, "**Report on Socio-Economic Conditions, Businesses, and Local Economic Development in Dadaab**," "the Marketing and Value Addition Department in the County Government focuses on enhancing the milk value chain, beef value chain, goat meat value chain and hides and skins in the County."[84] This is done with the goal to promote the local industry and linkages that will support the livestock products value chain, which are understood to be instrumental to local economic development. Livestock product marketing facilities in the existing host and refugee markets should be developed and upgraded to the right standards to help farmers to diversify and add value to their products

through provision of physical shading and access to adequate cold storage to support common small and medium enterprise milk and meat collection and selling.

Training and research institutes should be established in the new municipalities to focus on the production and rearing of the local livestock, animal husbandry, and increased productivity as well as to provide accessible extension services. Other livestock infrastructure investment projects required in the area include well maintained strategic local roads networks to increase access and enhance delivery and supply of animal products to the markets along with modernised sale yards and slaughterhouses with refrigeration facilities and waiting/gathering bays. Increasing the number of animals sold and slaughtered within the facilities supported and constructed by the local government would also increase the revenues collected by the new municipalities, hence boosting resources for public service delivery.

### 5. Facilitate market formalisation and promote entrepreneurship

The markets in the Dadaab Refugee Complex are majorly informal markets. Most of the businesses are small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, (OECD), (MSMEs) constitute 99% of all business enterprises internationally and are the main source of employment worldwide.[85] As most of these MSMEs are informal, the markets in Dadaab Refugee Complex and the surrounding host community are largely informal.

### 5.1 Support formalisation of markets throughout the Dadaab area

Promoting market formalisation is an objective included under SDG Target 8.3 on sustainable economic growth for all. As both the host and the refugee communities depend on these camp markets, it is important to formalise the markets. Each of the camps in Dadaab Refugee Complex has its own market with varying characteristics, which together form a vibrant and diverse market environment where both host and refugee community members sell and purchase a diversity of goods and services.

Formalisation might include formal identification and designation of the commercial areas to clearly demonstrate where the boundaries of the formal markets fall. Efforts should also be made to undertake activities that would support the formalisation of ownership of the businesses operating throughout these markets.



*Fig. 67: Activity in the Dagahaley Livestock Market (UN-Habitat, 2022)*

Although informal market management systems already exist currently in Dadaab Refugee Complex, with the formalisation of the markets, formalisation of market management committees to help manage these markets would also offer meaningful benefits to all users. To avoid market exploitation, the government and the local traders should work together to form and formalise well organised market committees and cooperatives that protect the interest of the traders in the region from price and commodities exploitation, high and unfavourable levies that often result in good delivery delay, and high market prices. These systems ensure that any issues and conflicts arising are addressed. These committees can also play a vital role in ensuring that marketplaces are orderly and serve the needs of the residents.

*Formal identification of market/commercial areas*

Each of the camps in the Dadaab Refugee Complex hosts a market with an additional market in Dadaab Town. The market areas are not formally mapped or planned and hence there are regular encroachment issues between the communities. The land in Dadaab Town is predominantly owned by the host communities who have been issued with allotment letters, and is competitively marketable. The markets hence face challenges in access to basic services, overall accessibility and connectivity, and fire

response management. Fire has ravaged the Ifo market on separate occasions, and challenges with the response have been reported. In 2020, Dagahaley market caught fire and the market task force also contacted UN-Habitat at that time to develop a draft plan for the market which was done and submitted. The plan was, however, not implemented due to budget constraints.

*Formalisation of business ownership*

According to Kenyan legislation, refugees can register a business as a limited liability company or as a single business name with the national registrar to receive a single business permit from the county government based on national registration. The Refugees Act of 2021 also allows the refugees to tap into local opportunities for sustainable livelihoods around the country, through formal and informal employment and businesses. Currently the refugee communities still have challenges with a hope to have a better solution with the regulations of the Refugee Act, though, which are expected to be finalised by the end of 2023. Easy processes on formalisation of business ownership will give investors confidence in doing businesses with the refugees and in refugee hosting areas, create employment and also give the Government of Kenya and the new municipalities an opportunity to increase its revenue collection base.



*Fig. 68: Dagahaley Firewood Market
(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

## 5.2 Improve market integration and links to existing value and supply chains

Market establishment is one of the major sources of employment and income for most households living in these areas. The existing and new proposed market establishment will continue to play a key role in Garissa County economy and most of the refugee camps will continue to be the key hub for business activities. To further enhance the role of the markets in the economy, key integration and linkages to the existing value and supply chain should be established and promoted. Local markets and production areas are not well advanced and therefore the County Government, UN Agencies, and local partners should incentivise local production in order to promote the local markets as well as improve market infrastructures, such as roads, to ensure local market integration and sufficient economic growth. This would help to lower local prices and create competitive commodities that would ensure markets in Dadaab Refugee Complex are as attractive as external markets. As the local Government and partners develop incentive strategies for effective production and market growth, opportunities should also be provided for business development and skills upgrading to reduce the existing gaps, with an emphasis on women and youth to foster entrepreneurship and employment opportunities.

Additionally, the Dadaab market has been noted to depend on a variety of external supply markets outside of the region. Most commodities are sourced externally and therefore there is a high need to promote strong market linkages through a well established supply chain and improved transportation corridors. The area receives much of its supplies mainly through the northeastern corridor and therefore improved transport corridors such as the LAPSSET will also open up new strategic locations which present opportunities for future growth. Other improvements and connections such as the A3 Highway connecting Nairobi to Ethiopia and Somalia through Garissa Town and Dadaab Town towards Liboi/ Dhobley will strengthen the existing market linkages such as Mandera, Nairobi, Wajir and Ethiopia.[86]

On the local level the Dadaab-Garissa road is a key market connection route and thus efforts should be made to improve on its condition thus promoting an efficient transportation system for ease of goods and persons movement. Reliable transportation systems should be established as well as promoting warehousing facilities in Garissa and Dadaab to ensure constant supply of goods and to tap in the opportunity provided by the livestock trade route that passes through Dadaab vicinity and Garissa Town, this trades route is critical for the formal as well as informal economy and thus supporting

infrastructures are needed to promote value addition and supply chain. This will significantly reduce the high prices of the commodities due to the high transportation costs and will enable easy dispatch of livestock to terminal markets as well.

Improved security and the elimination of middlemen cartels to reduce their influence along the supply chain will enhance reliable supply of goods and services from as far as the markets outside the region such as Somalia, Tanzania, Mombasa, Nairobi, Wajir, Isiolo, and Garissa. Border point security and patrol and improved security along the Garissa-Mombasa Route should be prioritised in order to promote the trade along the route. In the past business and good deliveries has been hampered by the poor security and road condition thus delinking the areas from the Mombasa and Somali strategic market points. In addition, focus should be on the Dadaab-Garissa route, where insecurity issues in the past have disrupted delivery and supply of goods and services in the local area.

It is also important to encourage the national and county governments to build their capacity and to create an enabling environment through ensuring that the policies and regulations are favourable for sustainable development of this sector. The trade policies for instance should enhance labour market access, linkages to the local and regional markets should be promoted to enhance the market systems. Additionally, linking community livelihood based upon agriculture and livestock with the international orientation of the LAPSSET in the design and operation of the corridor to support agro-processing, commercial abattoirs, increase employment opportunities, and economic growth. Besides road improvement, ICT services within the new municipalities should be improved to provide cross cutting services to market linkage through effective communication and eased business transaction processes. Local network boosters and fibre connection should be advocated for by the government and shareholders.

To enhance the value chain there is a need to link the host and refugee communities to business, livestock, and other agricultural capacity building programs as well as ensuring they have adequate access to capital through improved financial inclusion. With the support form the County Government and partners, there should be initiatives to ensure enhanced financial inclusion for business operators, farmers, and entrepreneurs from both the refugee and the host communities for maintenance of and scaling up of existing businesses, markets and industries and to support the establishment of new ones, as well.

*Fig. 69: Daily Activity On A Market Street in Dagahaley Camp
(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

# CHAPTER 5: TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION

# 5.1 Introduction

The action plans presented in this chapter is aimed at guiding the prioritised list of strategies and interventions for each goal, by translating the strategic recommendations prioritised into key preliminary actions needed with a logical implementation sequence. This action plan provides an overarching framework that will contribute to future development efforts in the Dadaab and Bura Municipalities, ensuring close coordination across key stakeholders from relevant entities to implement the needed changes to achieve regeneration and the established vision for the future of the new municipalities.

Under each goal, a table outlining the strategies and interventions are further elaborated upon with a series of actions that are presented sequentially and accompanied by a series of maps illustrating general phasing of these on a short, medium, and long term basis. Following these, a preliminary municipal funding strategy is outlined, giving a full spectrum of possible mechanisms to be considered for funding the various strategies presented herein.

*Fig. 70: Farm Produce at Bilहल Farm in Hagadera Camp*
*(UN-Habitat, 2022)*

# 5.2 Action Plan

| Strategy | Interventions / Actions | Timeframe | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | S | M | L |
| **Principle 1: Compact and Integrated** | | | | |
| 1. Identify adequate land for managed population growth and sustainable resource use | **1.1 Define a growth limit to control the growth and avoid sprawling and encroachment on existing green areas and agriculture land** | ■ | | |
| | Identify and enforce growth limits | | | |
| | **1.2 Promote densification and infill within existing settlements where there is vacant land or low density areas** | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| | De-densify vulnerable neighbourhoods | | | |
| | Permit and manage effective infill densification in identified zones | | | |
| | Increase vertical density in identified hotspots and corridors (e.g., commercial corridors) | | | |
| | **1.3 Identify potential extension areas** | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| | Identify areas for extension of the camps through the development, finalisation, adoption, and implementation of a Dadaab spatial plan | | | |
| | Undertake a suitability assessment of the identified expansion areas | | | |
| | Implement extensions Phases 1 and 2 | | | |
| | Implement extensions Phases 3 and 4 | | | |
| 2. Protect and conserve existing natural resources and ecologically sensitive land | **2.1 Preserve existing or potential agricultural lands, wetlands, and green areas (e.g., greenbelts, rivers, blue-green corridors, riparians areas, etc.)** | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| | Monitor and regulate land for preservation | | | |
| | Establish riparian buffer zones along waterways (streams/laggas) to limit exposure to flooding, manage development, protect ecosystems, and contribute to the regreening of the landscape | | | |
| | Identify and accurately map seasonal and intermittent waterways in the region | | | |
| | Plan and plant vegetation (e.g., bamboo) along waterways to rehabilitate and preserve riparian lands and prevent growth and development in areas at risk of flooding | | | |
| | **2.2 Identify non-buildable areas due to hazards risks (e.g., flood prone risks areas)** | ■ | ■ | |
| | Suitability assessment of identified non-buildable areas | | | |
| | Inclusion of non-buildable areas in ISUDs of new municipalities | | | |
| 3. Support the strengthening of the management and planning institutions serving the new municipalities | **3.1 Provide public consultation regarding land regularisation in the new municipalities** | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| | Undertake public participation and capacity building regarding land regularisation in Dadaab | | | |
| | Undertake institutional capacity building regarding land regularisation | | | |
| | **3.2 Construction of municipal offices that will serve the needs of all communities in the new municipalities** | ■ | ■ | |
| | Determine sites for Dadaab and Bura Municipality offices | | | |
| | Construct and operationalise municipal offices to serve the new municipalities | | | |

| | Priority | Responsible Entity | Related SDGs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | County Ministry of Lands, Physical Planning, and Urban Development; Municipalities | 11.3 11.7 12.2 15.1 |
| | | UNHCR; WB; National Government; Country Government; Development Partners | 11.1 11.3 11.a |
| | | County Ministry of Lands, Physical Planning, and Urban Development; Municipalities | 9.1 11.3 1.4 16.7 |
| | | County Ministry of Water, Environment, Energy, Climate Change, and Natural Resources Management | 6.6 11.4 15.1 15.3 |
| | | County Ministry of Lands, Physical Planning, and Urban Development; Municipalities | 11.4 11.5 11.b 15.1 15.3 |
| | | Municipalities; County Ministry of Lands, Physical Planning, and Urban Development; County Affairs, Public Service, Intergovernmental Relations | 10.7 11.a 11.b 17.9 |
| | | Municipalities; County Government | 11.3 |
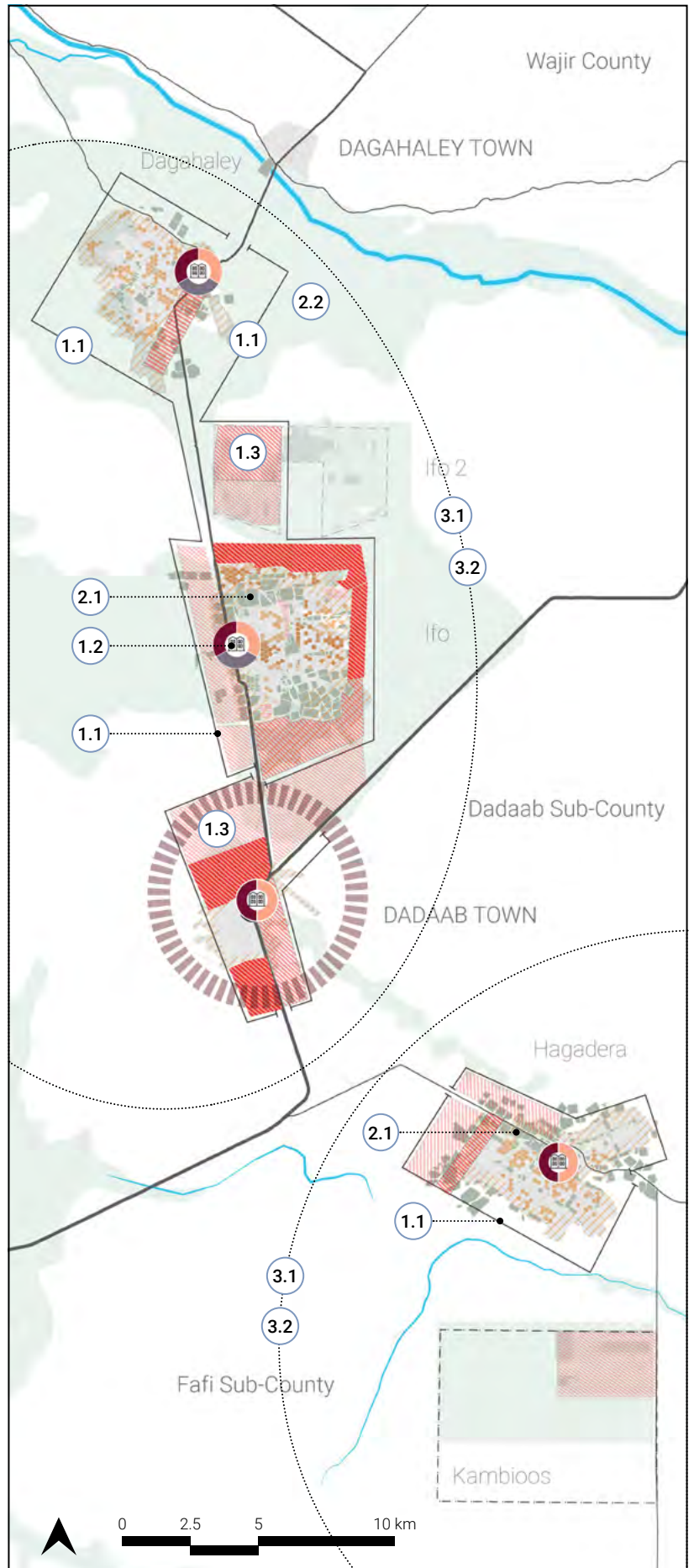


*Map 19: Action Plan: Compact and Integrated*
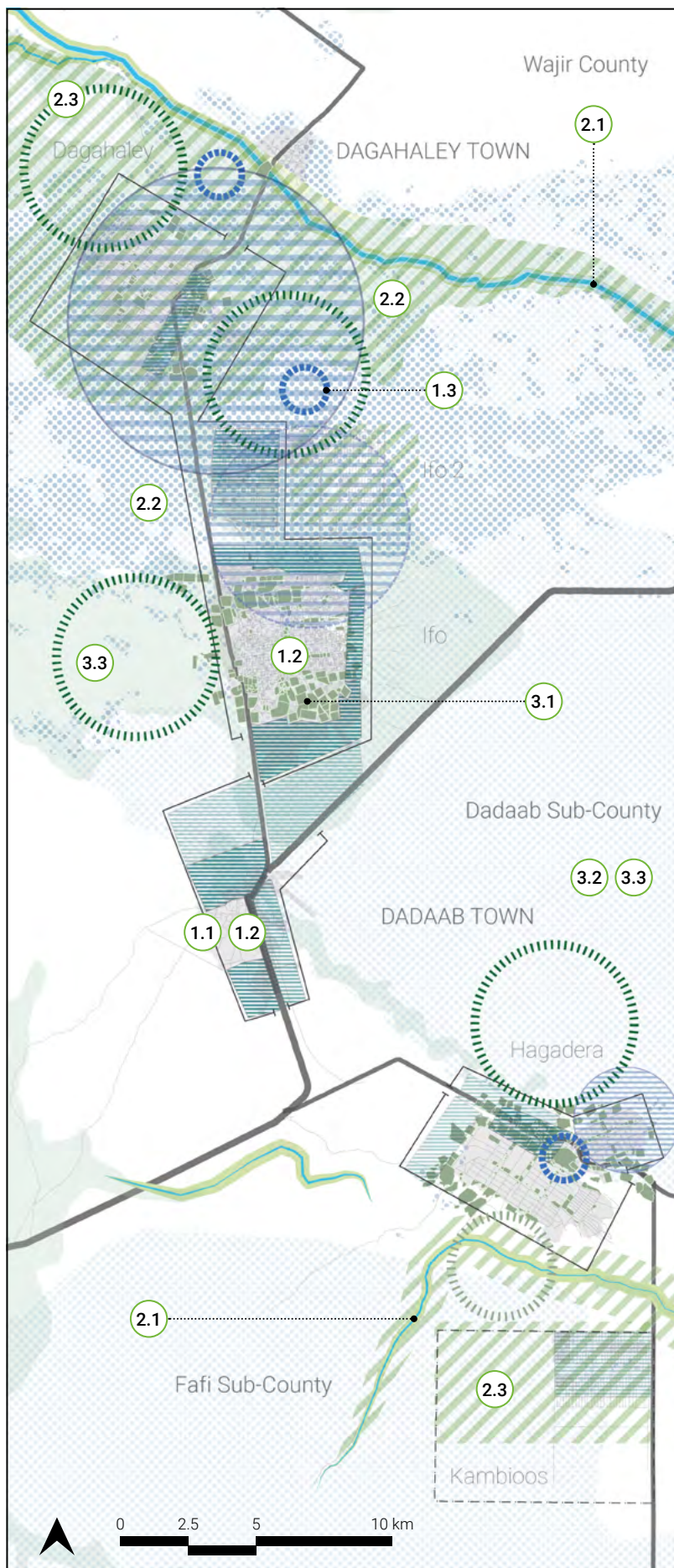
| Strategy | Interventions / Actions | S | M | L |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Principle 2: Resilient Environment** | | | | |
| 1. Implement flood mitigation and adaptation strategies to improve resilience | **1.1 Raise awareness and climate literacy in communities on climate change and associated risks and hazards** | ■ | ■ | |
| | Expand awareness of climate risks and environmental hazards and how to manage the effects (including drought, desertification, flooding, etc.) | ▫ | | |
| | Implement Early Warning Systems in key at-risk areas | | ▫ | |
| | **1.2 Test, pilot, and promote domestic rainwater harvesting techniques** | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| | Conduct survey of households to understand awareness of and familiarity with such techniques and openness to utilising | ▫ | | |
| | Test and pilot to determine viability and assess potential for uptake | | ▫ | |
| | Undertake capacity building and material distribution to enable scaling and replication | | | ▫ |
| | **1.3 Implement floodwater harvesting and storage techniques** | | ■ | ■ |
| | Conduct detailed flooding analysis and spatial study of the landscape to identify strategic site(s) for implementation of floodwater harvesting and storage techniques | | ▫ | |
| | Test, pilot, and promote the implementation of techniques such as Surface Floodwater Harvesting and Subsurface Floodwater Harvesting in selected locations | | ▫ | |
| | Undertake capacity building and material distribution to enable scaling and replication | | | ▫ |
| 2. Implement Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for drylands | **2.1 Implement nature-based regreening techniques along waterways** | ■ | ■ | |
| | Identify areas for implementation of regreening, in particular floodplanes, agricultural lands, riparian zones, conservation areas, and non-buildable zones | ▫ | | |
| | Test, pilot, and promote the implementation of techniques such as Semi-Circular Bunds and Trapezoidal Bunds in selected locations | | ▫ | |
| | Undertake capacity building and material distribution to enable scaling and replication | | | ▫ |
| | **2.2 Implement flood-based irrigation strategies and agricultural techniques (e.g., floodplain irrigation, etc.)** | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| | Conduct feasibility study and baseline assessment of the landscape to identify site(s) for implementation of flood-based irrigation strategies and agricultural techniques | ▫ | | |
| | Test, pilot, and promote the implementation of techniques such as Floodplain Irrigation, Road Runoff Harvesting, Negarims, etc. | | ▫ | |
| | Undertake capacity building and material distribution to enable scaling and replication | | | ▫ |
| | **2.3 Establish farming of drought tolerant crops** | ■ | ■ | |
| | Conduct survey of households to understand awareness of and familiarity with such techniques and openness to utilising | ▫ | | |
| | Identify areas for pilot initiatives of drought tolerant crop farming with interested participants | | ▫ | |
| | Test, pilot, and promote the farming of drought tolerant crops through pilot initiatives | | ▫ | |
| | Undertake capacity building and material distribution to enable scaling and replication | | | ▫ |
| 3. Improve and expand environmental conservation and wildlife preservation activities | **3.1 Improve protection and management of existing green belts and orchard farms** | ■ | | |
| | Undertake community engagement to raise awareness about protecting these lands | ▫ | | |
| | **3.2 Implement measures to protect and preserve existing wildlife** | | ■ | ■ |
| | Conduct survey of households to understand relationship of communities with existing wildlife and awareness levels about preservation and conservation measures in the area | | ▫ | |
| | Establish a wildlife conservancy in the region to reduce conflict between wildlife and humans | | | ▫ |
| | **3.3 Improve and formalise rangeland management** | | ■ | ■ |
| | Implement measures to prevent overgrazing, especially on lands that have already been degraded in order to limit further deterioration | | ▫ | |
| | Undertake rangeland regeneration measures to rehabilitate lands that have been overgrazed and degraded | | ▫ | ▫ |

| | Priority | Responsible Entity | Related SDGs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | County Ministry of Water, Environment, Energy, Climate Change & Natural Resources Management, UNHCR and Partners | 11.5 13.1 15.3 |
| | | County Ministry of Water, Environment, Energy, Climate Change & Natural Resources Management, UNHCR and Partners | 6.4 13.1 |
| | | County Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Pastoral Economy | 6.4 13.1 |
| | | County Ministry of Water, Environment, Energy, Climate Change & Natural Resources Management | 15.3 13.1 13.2 |
| | | County Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Pastoral Economy | 2.3 6.4 |
| | | County Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Pastoral Economy | 2.3 2.4 13.b |
| | | Kenya Forest Service (KFS); County Ministry of Lands, Physical Planning, and Urban Development | 15.1 2.3 |
| | | Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), Kenya Forest Service (KFS), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), County Ministry of Lands, Physical Planning, and Urban Development | 11.4 15.5 |
| | | Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), Kenya Forest Service (KFS), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), County Ministry of Lands, Physical Planning, and Urban Development | 15.3 15.9 |

*Map 20: Action Plan: Resilient Environment*

| Strategy | Interventions / Actions | Timeframe | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | S | M | L |
| **Principle 3: Accessibility and Connectivity - Transportation** | | | | |
| **1. Upgrade and improve existing road network** | **1.1 Upgrade the main road network to improve connections between key urban centres** | ▓ | ▓ | |
| | Reclassify main roads under class A and C | ░ | | |
| | Implement physical upgrades | ░ | ░ | |
| | **1.2 Upgrade road network within existing settlements** | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ |
| | Undertake a baseline assessment of current road network | ░ | | |
| | Design a localised road network system including road hierarchy | ░ | | |
| | Upgrade roads in accordance with localised road network plan | | ░ | ░ |
| | Plan, design, and implement an urban drainage system | | ░ | ░ |
| **2. Establish a transport system based on a balanced multimodal offering** | **2.1 Establish an efficient, affordable, and convenient public transport system** | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ |
| | Prepare integrated municipal public transport system plans for the new municipalities | ░ | | |
| | Identify key locations for public transport facilities, e.g., boda boda shelters, transit hubs, bus stops, etc. | | ░ | |
| | Establish boda boda shelters in key areas | | ░ | |
| | Implement and operationalise planned municipal public transport systems | | ░ | ░ |
| | **2.2 Improve Non-Motorised Transport (NMT) within and between settlements** | ▓ | ▓ | |
| | Ensure pedestrian and cycling path are included when upgrading roads | ░ | ░ | |
| | Improve safety conditions to promote NMT options for everyone | ░ | ░ | |

| | Priority | Responsible Entity | Related SDGs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | County Ministry of Roads, Transport, Public Works, and Housing; National Government | 9.1 11.2 |
| | | UNHCR; WB (KUSP2); Kenya Roads Board | 9.1 11.2 |
| | | County Ministry of Roads, Transport, Public Works, and Housing; National Government | 9.1 11.2 |
| | | KENHA; KURA; KERRA | 11.2 |
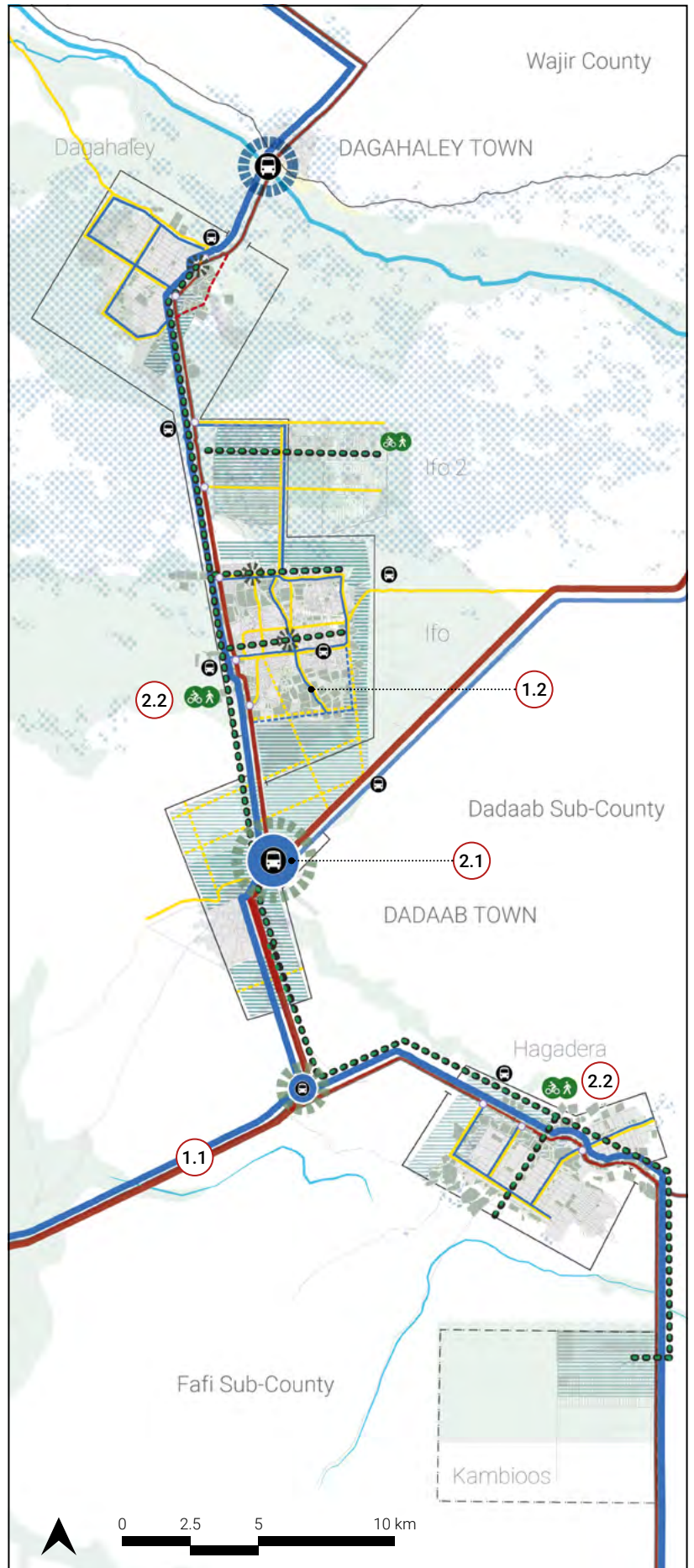


*Map 21: Action Plan: Accessibility and Connectivity (Transportation)*

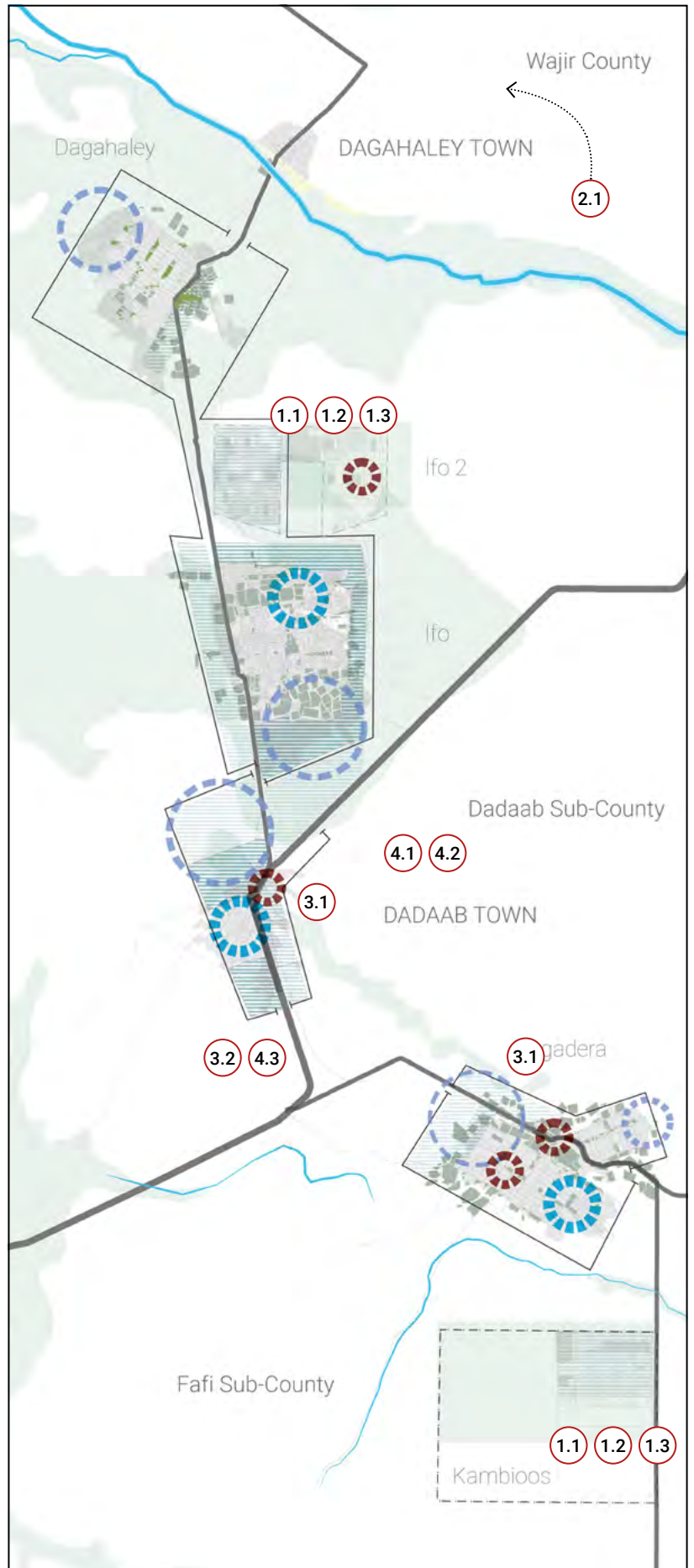| Strategy | Interventions / Actions | S | M | L |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Principle 3: Accessibility and Connectivity - Services** | | | | |
| 1. Upgrade and improve existing water infrastructure and management of water resources | **1.1 Rehabilitate and upgrade existing boreholes for use by communities** | � | ▓ | |
| | Undertake baseline assessment and feasibility study (demand analysis and projection demand) | ▓ | | |
| | Upgrade borehole conditions | | ▓ | |
| | **1.2 Rehabilitate and repurpose redundant boreholes in Dadaab and Fafi Sub-Counties for agricultural and pastoralist use** | | ▓ | |
| | Undertake baseline assessment to identify redundant boreholes that might be used for agricultural and pastoral purposes | | ▓ | |
| | Undertake rehabilitation of identified boreholes | | ▓ | |
| | **1.3 Repair existing elevated water storage tanks** | ▓ | ▓ | |
| | Undertake baseline assessment of existing elevated water storage tanks to determine which are in greatest need of maintenance and repairs | ▓ | | |
| | Implement repairs of existing elevated water storage tanks | | ▓ | |
| 2. Expand access to water and improve security of water resources | **2.1 Expand access to water from the Merti Aquifer** | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ |
| | Undertake feasibility study to ensure sustainability and to inform implementation of the Merti Aquifer | ▓ | | |
| | Develop plans for implementation of the Merti Aquifer | | ▓ | |
| | Construct and operationalise Merti Aquifer and supporting infrastructure | | | ▓ |
| 3. Improve sanitation and waste management | **3.1 Implement a pilot solid waste management strategy in Dadaab** | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ |
| | Conduct survey of waste characteristics, compositions, and volumes | ▓ | | |
| | Prepare a solid waste management strategy for the municipality | | ▓ | |
| | Provide solid waste infrastructure system | | ▓ | ▓ |
| | Undertake policy and capacity building | | | ▓ |
| 3. Improve sanitation and waste management | **3.2 Implement a liquid waste management strategy in Dadaab** | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ |
| | Prioritise provision of latrines and septic tanks near main public locations and in key areas of demand (markets, public spaces, schools) | ▓ | | |
| | Implement policy and capacity building strategies | | ▓ | |
| | Explore alternative solutions for provision of communal sanitation facilities near market areas and decentralised sewer treatment facilities for use in key areas of high demand | | | ▓ |
| 4. Improve access to sustainable energy | **4.1 Harness solar energy** | ▓ | ▓ | |
| | Undertake feasibility study and identify opportunities for expansion | ▓ | | |
| | Promote use of renewable energy through policies, regulations, and guidance | | ▓ | |
| | **4.2 Expand coverage of solar mini-grids through additional investment and physical deployment** | ▓ | ▓ | |
| | Undertake feasibility study and analysis of where need is greatest and where these would be most effective and impactful | ▓ | | |
| | Construct and implement additional solar mini-grids in areas of greatest need | | ▓ | ▓ |
| | **4.3 Extension of national grid to Dadaab area** | | ▓ | ▓ |
| | Expand the distribution grid network using public resources | | ▓ | |
| | Complete and operationalise Dadaab Power Substation | | ▓ | ▓ |

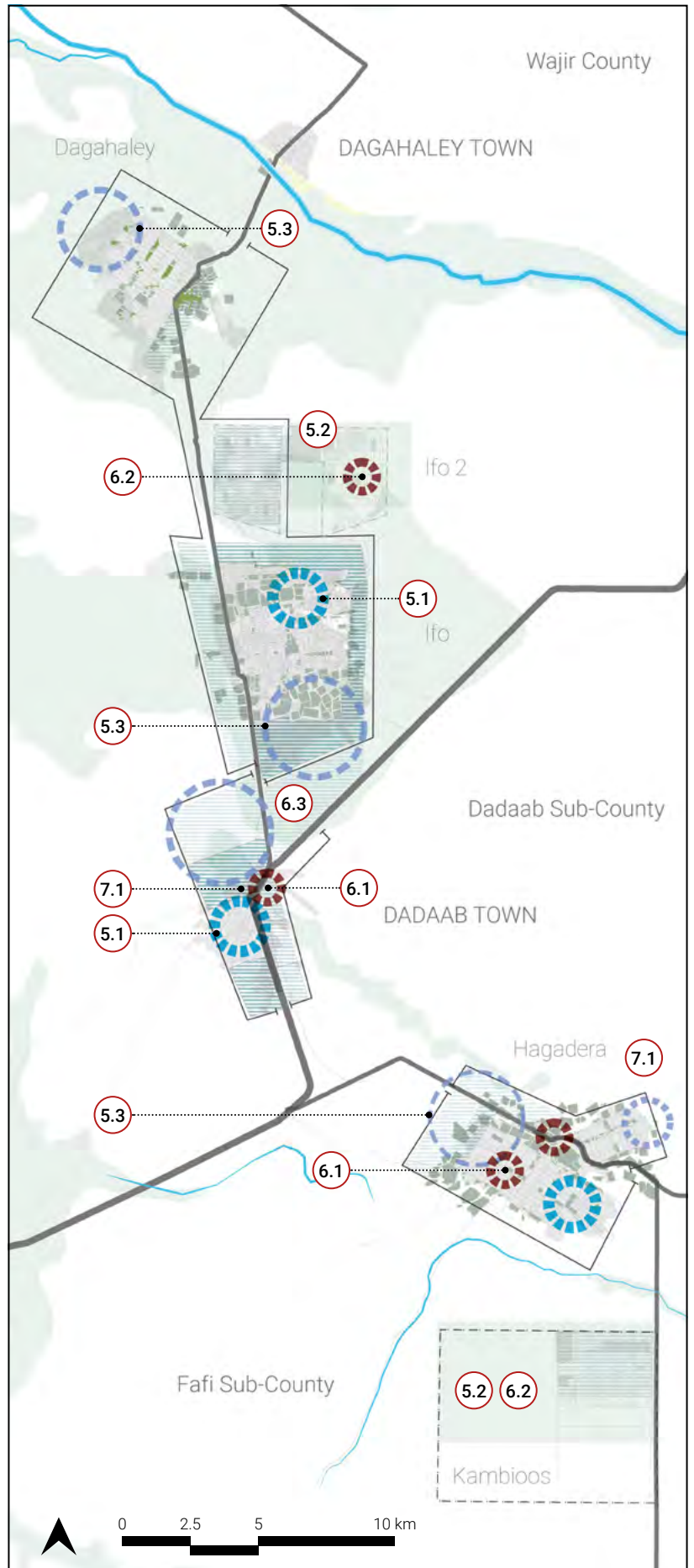| | Priority | Responsible Entity | Related SDGs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |
| | | County Ministry of Water, Environment, Energy, Climate Change & Natural Resources Management | 6.1 6.4 |
| | | County Ministry of Water, Environment, Energy, Climate Change & Natural Resources Management; County ministry of Health and Sanitation, NEMA, PPPs, UNHCR | 2.4 6.4 |
| | | County Ministry of Water, Environment, Energy, Climate Change & Natural Resources Management; UNHCR | 6.1 6.4 |
| | | County Ministry of Water, Environment, Energy, Climate Change & Natural Resources Management | 6.6 |
| | | County Ministry of Water, Environment, Energy, Climate Change & Natural Resources Management; County ministry of Health and Sanitation, NEMA, PPPs, Municipalities | 6.b 11.6 |
| | | County Ministry of Water and Sanitation, UNHCR and Partners | 6.2 6.b |
| | | Ministry of Energy, County Ministry of Water, Environment, Energy, Climate Change & Natural Resources Management; Municipalities, UNHCR; and Partners | 7.2 7.3 7.a 7.b |
| | | Ministry of Energy, County Ministry of Water, Environment, Energy, Climate Change & Natural Resources Management, Municipalities | 7.2 7.a 7.b |
| | | Ministry of Energy, County Ministry of Water, Environment, Energy, Climate Change & Natural Resources Management, Municipalities | 7.1 9.1 |

*Map 22: Action Plan: Accessibility and Connectivity (To Services)*

| Strategy | Interventions / Actions | Timeframe | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | S | M | L |
| **5. Improve condition, capacity, and distribution of, as well as access to, education facilities** | **5.1 Upgrade existing education facilities** | ■ | ■ | |
| | Undertake area-wide baseline assessment to identify where upgrades are most needed | ▨ | | |
| | Upgrade priority schools based on assessment in a phased manner, prioritising areas of greatest need | | ▨ | |
| | **5.2 Regenerate decommissioned education facilities in formerly closed camps** | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| | Undertake baseline assessment to determine current conditions of decommissioned facilities and to identify opportunities for regeneration | ▨ | | |
| | Reoperationalise previously decommissioned facilities where need is present and facility conditions allow | | ▨ | ▨ |
| | **5.3 Construct and operationalise additional education facilities (ECD, Primary, Secondary)** | | ■ | ■ |
| | Undertake area-wide assessment to evaluate the gaps in capacity and catchment areas to identify where additional facilities are most needed | ▨ | | |
| | Identify locations for additional facilities to serve the communities in greatest need | | ▨ | |
| | Operationalise additional facilities in prioritised locations | | ▨ | ▨ |
| **6. Improve condition, capacity, and distribution of, as well as access to, health facilities** | **6.1 Upgrade existing health facilities** | ■ | | |
| | Undertake area-wide baseline assessment to identify where upgrades are most needed | ▨ | | |
| | Upgrade priority health facilities based on assessment, prioritising areas of greatest need | ▨ | | |
| | **6.2 Regenerate decommissioned health facilities in formerly closed camps** | ■ | ■ | |
| | Undertake baseline assessment to determine current conditions of decommissioned facilities and to identify opportunities for regeneration | ▨ | | |
| | Reoperationalise previously decommissioned facilities where need is present and facility conditions allow | | ▨ | |
| | **6.3 Construct and operationalise additional health facilities** | | ■ | ■ |
| | Undertake area-wide assessment to evaluate the gaps in capacity and catchment areas to identify where additional facilities are most needed | | ▨ | |
| | Identify locations for additional facilities to serve the communities in greatest need | | ▨ | |
| | Operationalise additional facilities in prioritised locations | | ▨ | |
| **7. Improve local access to government services** | **7.1 Establish Biashara-Huduma Centre(s) in the new municipalities to better serve communities locally** | | ■ | ■ |
| | Identify site(s) for centres in new municipalities | | ▨ | |
| | Operationalise new Biashara-Huduma Centre(s) to serve the new municipalities | | ▨ | ▨ |

| | Priority | Responsible Entity | Related SDGs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | UNHCR and Education Partners, County Ministry of Education | 4.a |
| | | UNHCR and Education Partners, County Ministry of Education | 4.3 |
| | | UNHCR and Education Partners, County Ministry of Education | 4.1 4.a |
| | | County Ministry of Health and Sanitation; UNHCR and Health Partners | 3.8 3.b |
| | | UNHCR and Health Partners, County Ministry of Health and Sanitation | 3.8 3.b.1 |
| | | County Ministry of Health and Sanitation; UNHCR and Health Partners | 3.8 3.b.1 |
| | | County Government, National Government | 10.2 10.7 16.9 16.10 |

*Map 23: Action Plan: Accessibility and Connectivity (To Services)*

| Strategy | Interventions / Actions | S | M | L |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Principle 4: Inclusive and Vibrant** | | | | |
| **1. Encourage and develop social integration by improving the living conditions of youth and women** | **1.1 Establish recreational areas for youth and public community spaces for women** | ▓ | ▓ | |
| | Undertake area-wide assessment to evaluate existing facilities and identify gaps in capacity and catchment areas | ░ | | |
| | Upgrade and improve existing public spaces and recreational areas, including adding equipment and services, as needed and appropriate | ░ | ░ | |
| | Implement additional public spaces and recreational areas, particularly in areas of greatest need | | ░ | |
| | **1.2 Establish new training and vocational centres** | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ |
| | Undertake area-wide assessment to evaluate the gaps in capacity and catchment areas to identify where additional facilities are most needed | ░ | | |
| | Identify locations for additional facilities to serve the communities in greatest need | | ░ | |
| | Operationalise additional facilities in prioritised locations | | ░ | ░ |
| **2. Improve security and social protection within and around the camps** | **2.1 Increase the number of police stations and field posts** | ▓ | ▓ | |
| | Undertake area-wide assessment to evaluate the gaps in capacity and catchment areas to identify where additional facilities are most needed | ░ | | |
| | Identify locations for additional facilities to serve the communities in greatest need | | ░ | |
| | Operationalise additional facilities in prioritised locations | | ░ | ░ |
| | **2.2 Provide street lighting in key areas to improve safety** | ▓ | | |
| | Undertake area-wide assessment to evaluate gaps in coverage and identify where need is greatest | ░ | | |
| | Install and operationalise additional street lighting in key areas to improve safety and facilitate NMT | ░ | ░ | |
| | **2.3 Establish additional safehouses for SGBV cases** | ▓ | | |
| | Undertake area-wide assessment to evaluate the gaps in capacity and catchment areas to identify where additional facilities are most needed | ░ | | |
| | Identify locations for additional facilities to serve the communities in greatest need | | ░ | |
| | Operationalise additional facilities in prioritised locations | | ░ | ░ |
| **3. Upgrade, improve, and expand existing markets** | **3.1 Improve overall physical condition of market facilities** | ▓ | ▓ | |
| | Undertake area-wide baseline assessment to identify where upgrades are most needed | ░ | | |
| | Upgrade priority market facilities based on assessment, prioritising facilities in greatest need | ░ | ░ | |
| | **3.2 Improve provision of basic services to markets** | ▓ | ▓ | ▓ |
| | Undertake area-wide baseline assessment to identify where access to basic services is currently absent or limited and where improved access is most needed | ░ | | |
| | Identify locations for additional facilities to serve the communities in greatest need | | ░ | |
| | Operationalise additional facilities in prioritised locations | | ░ | ░ |
| | **3.3 Provide additional facilities to support markets and businesses** | | ▓ | ▓ |
| | Undertake area-wide assessment to evaluate the gaps in capacity and catchment areas to identify where additional facilities are most needed | ░ | | |
| | Identify locations for additional facilities to serve the communities in greatest need | | ░ | |
| | Operationalise additional facilities in prioritised locations | | ░ | ░ |

| | Priority | Responsible Entity | Related SDGs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | County Ministry of Gender, Social Services & Sports | 11.7 |
| | | County ministry of Gender, Social Services & Sports; UNHCR and Partners | 8.6 |
| | | Ministry of Interior and Coordination, Department of Refugee Services, UNHCR | 16.1 16.2 16.3 |
| | | UNHCR; Municipalities | 11.2 16.1 |
| | | Ministry of Interior and Coordination, County Ministry of Gender, Social Services & Sports, Department of Refugee Services, UNHCR | 5.1 5.2 5.3 5.6 |
| | | County Ministry of Trade, Enterprise Development and Tourism; County Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning | 9.3 |
| | | County Government, Municipalities, UNHCR | 7.1 9.1 9.4 |
| | | County Ministry of Trade, Enterprise Development and Tourism; County Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning; UNHCR | 1.4 6.2 6.3 |
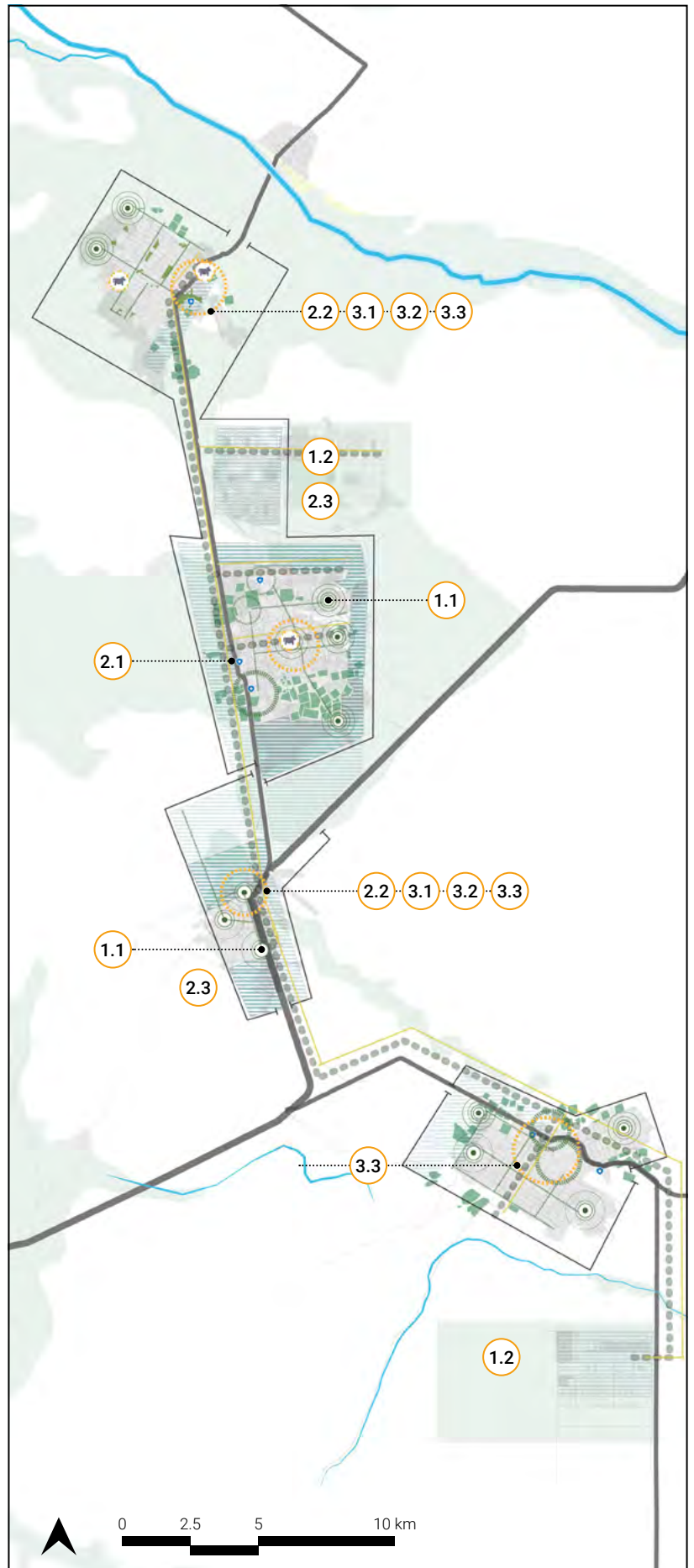
*Map 24: Action Plan: Inclusive and Vibrant*

| Strategy | Interventions | | Timeframe | | |
| | Actions | | S | M | L |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **4. Upgrade existing or establish additional facilities to support livestock industry** | **4.1 Improve overall physical condition of livestock and industrial facilities** | | ■ | ■ | |
| | Undertake area-wide baseline assessment to identify where upgrades are most needed | | ■ | | |
| | Upgrade priority livestock and industrial facilities based on assessment in a phased manner, prioritising facilities in greatest need | | ■ | | |
| | **4.2 Provide additional facilities to support livestock industry** | | | ■ | ■ |
| | Undertake area-wide assessment to evaluate the gaps in capacity and catchment areas to identify where additional facilities are most needed | | | ■ | |
| | Identify locations for additional facilities to serve the communities in greatest need | | | ■ | |
| | Operationalise additional facilities in prioritised locations | | | | ■ |
| **5. Facilitate market formalisation and promote entrepreneurship** | **5.1 Support formalisation of markets throughout the Dadaab area** | | ■ | ■ | |
| | Formal identification of market/commercial areas | | ■ | | |
| | Formalisation of business ownership | | | ■ | |
| | **5.2 Improve market integration and links to existing value and supply chains** | | | ■ | ■ |
| | Identify opportunities to connect economic and commercial activities in Dadaab with existing value and supply chains in the area | | | | ■ |

| | Priority | Responsible Entity | Related SDGs |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | County Ministry of Trade, Enterprise Development and Tourism; County Ministry of Finance & Economic Planning, County Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Industrialisation; Municipalities | 9.3 |
| | | County Ministry of Trade, Enterprise Development and Tourism; County Ministry of Finance & Economic Planning, County Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Industrialisation; Municipalities | 9.1 |
| | | County Ministry of Trade, Enterprise Development and Tourism; County Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning | 1.4 9.3 |
| | | County Ministry of Trade, Enterprise Development and Tourism; County Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning | 1.4 9.3 |
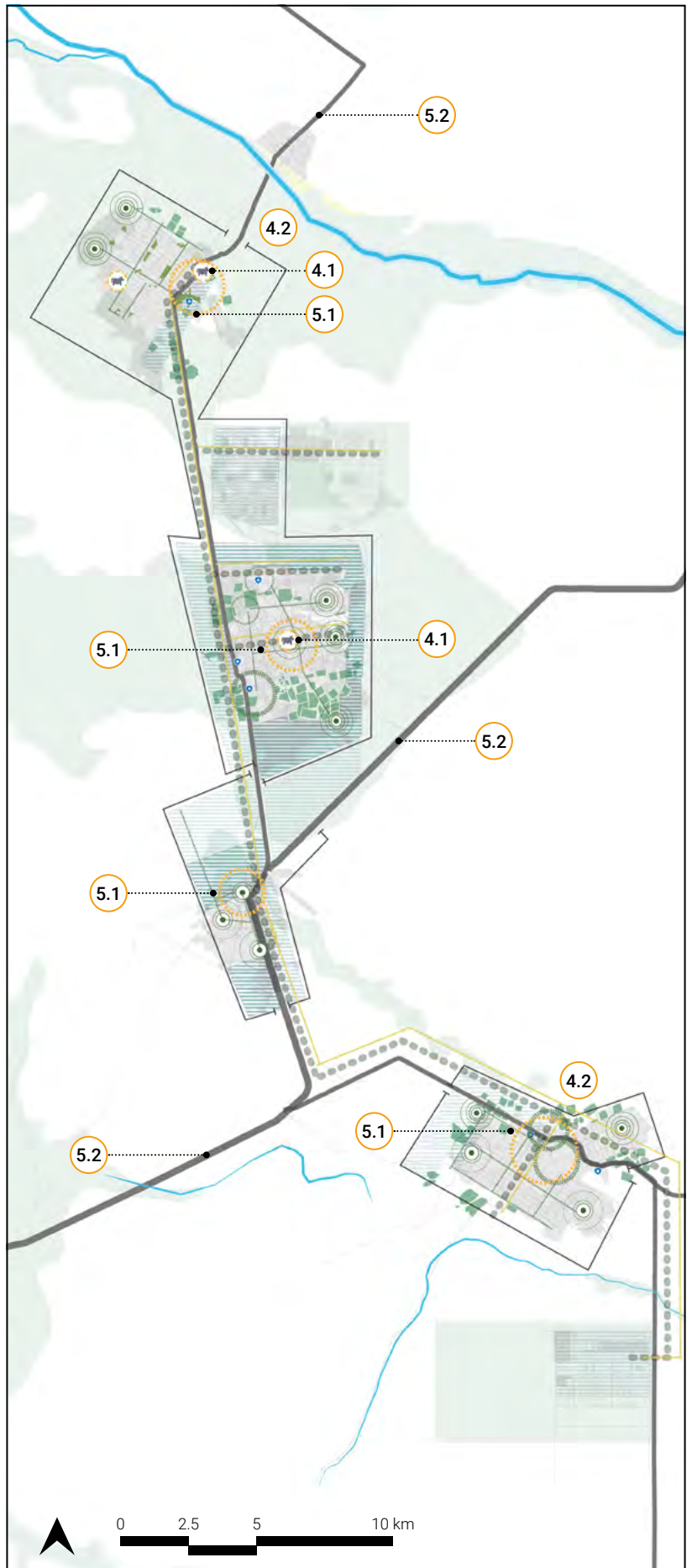
*Map 25: Action Plan: Inclusive and Vibrant*

# 5.3 Financing Sources and Strategies

### 4.3.1 Context

As this regeneration strategy outlines, Dadaab has a significant need for infrastructural development to better serve residents of the settlements and the local host community as it continues to grow and evolve from a collection of humanitarian camps and host community towns and villages toward a more integrated settlement and now, finally, a consolidated municipality for both host and refugee communities. To address these needs, a clear and realistic understanding of the economic context at the local, regional, and national levels must first be established. Then, it's critical to consider realistically what the available options are for promoting capital investment in infrastructure projects and for financing overall development. Finally, how financing options may evolve with time in a context like Dadaab, and in other similar settlements shaped by protracted displacement, should be evaluated in order to inform future planning and decision-making and to eventually achieve aspirations of sustainability and self-reliance.

### The Economic Situation in Kenya

Kenya, which is widely considered to be East Africa's economic powerhouse, has experienced significant economic growth in the past two decades with a rise in GDP from under USD $500 per capita in 2003 to over USD $2,000 in 2022.[87] Despite positive long-term developments like this, though, the nation is still dealing with several compounding economic challenges that continue to affect overall development aspirations. Like many other countries around the world, Kenya is still recovering economically from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. The pandemic led to a decline in labour force participation from 75% to 61% in 2020 alongside an overall increase in unemployment and decline in productivity levels.[88] GDP per capita growth rates also declined during the pandemic by 1.72% in 2020 for the first time in years.[89] Positive GDP growth has since returned, but there are now signs of slowing after the initial bounce back in 2021 (see **Fig. 71**).[90]

These effects of the pandemic were further compounded by political tensions that followed the general elections in 2022. Disputes over election results and the increasing cost of living in the country have negatively impacted the business environment and delayed investment in the economy in an already tight and volatile global financial market. The political tensions have also further increased pressure on the Kenyan shilling. Following an average monthly depreciation of the Kenyan shilling against the US Dollar of only 0.6% throughout 2022, the shilling experienced an accelerated decline of 4 to 6% in the first quarter of 2023.[91] This depreciation of the shilling worsened the trade balance of the country and placed pressure on already high debt to GDP levels (see **Fig. 72**), which are well above the IMF's recommended 50%.[92]

### The Economic Situation in the Kenyan Counties

With the passing of a new national constitution in 2010, Kenya introduced a devolved system of governance. Service delivery at the local level largely became the responsibility of the 47 newly established county governments, which were to receive no less than 15% of gross national revenue to help finance their operations. In the financial year 2021/2022, county governments received USD $2.9 billion from the national government,[93] or USD $56.50 per capita.[94, 95] Additionally, the counties
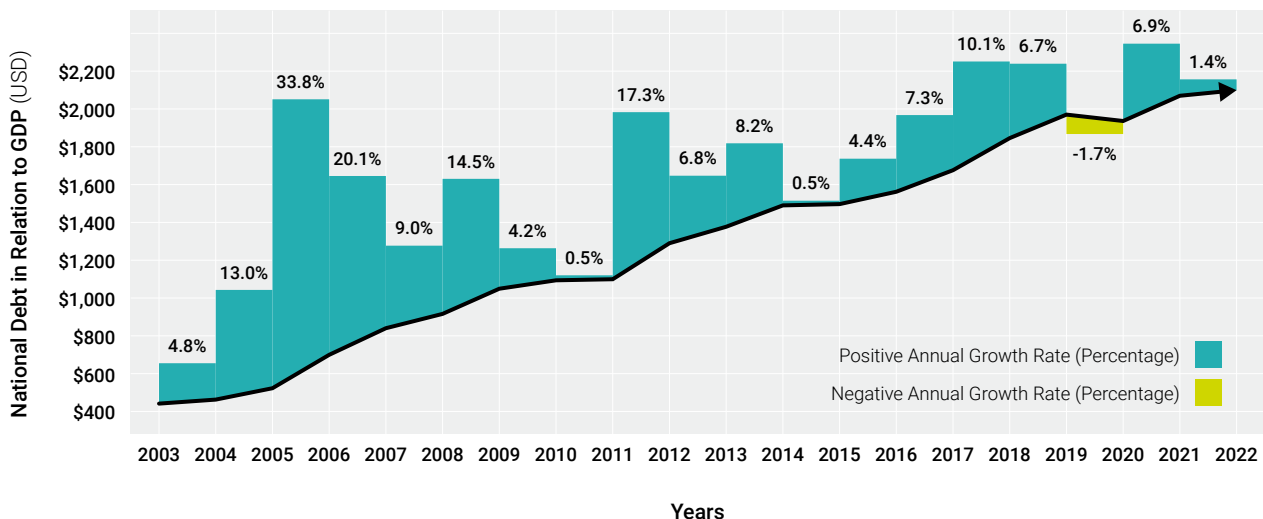


*Fig. 71: Kenya GDP per Capita and Annual Growth Rate, 2002-2022 (Macrotrends, 2022)*

are authorized to raise their own taxes, licenses, and fees or Own Source Revenues (OSR). However, in practice, counties continue to experience significant challenges in effectively leveraging their own OSR potential due to a combination of policy and administrative issues including, incomplete property and business registries, outdated and inconsistent valuations, weak collection, ineffective enforcement, and non-digitised management and collection systems. In the financial year 2021/2022, counties raised USD $208.9 million in OSR (USD $4 per capita), against an annual target of USD $512.6 million (USD $10 per capita).[96] While counties also receive small grants from international donors, they are, by and large, highly financially dependent (around 90% on average) on intergovernmental transfers.[97]

The revenue challenges are accompanied by issues of financial planning and budget execution that undermine effective service delivery. County governments also have a ballooning wage bill, with most of their revenue going towards recurrent expenditure in the form of employee



Fig. 72: Kenya National Debt in Relation to GDP, 2018 - 2028
(Statista, IMF, 2023)



Fig. 73: Kenya Real GCP Per Capita by County, 2019
(KNBS, 2021)

compensation and, to a lesser extent, operations and maintenance In the just concluded financial year FY 2022/2023, USD $2.9 billion (USD $56.8 per capita) was approved by the national government to be used by the counties in recurrent expenditure as opposed to USD $1.6 billion (USD $31.4 per capita) for development expenditure across the counties.[98]

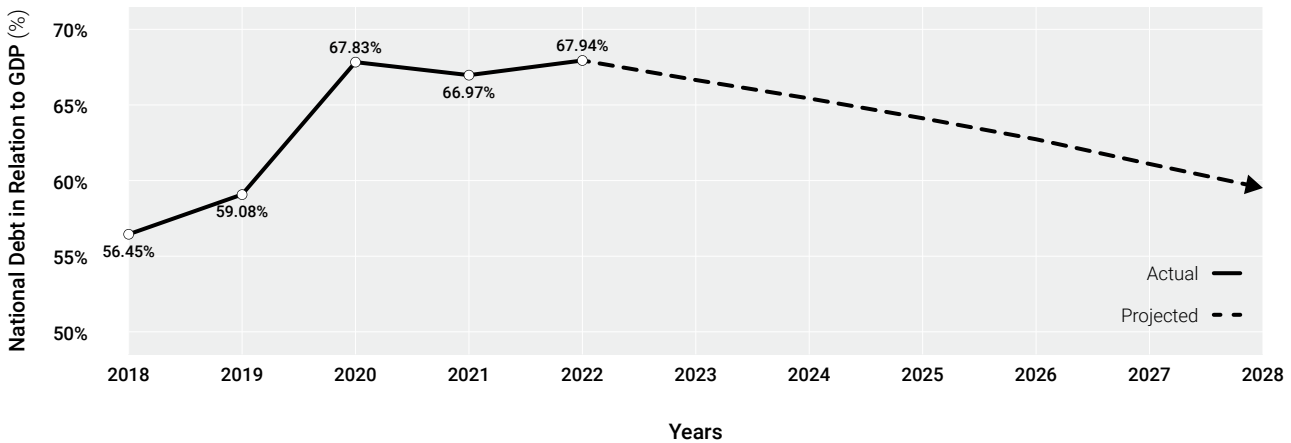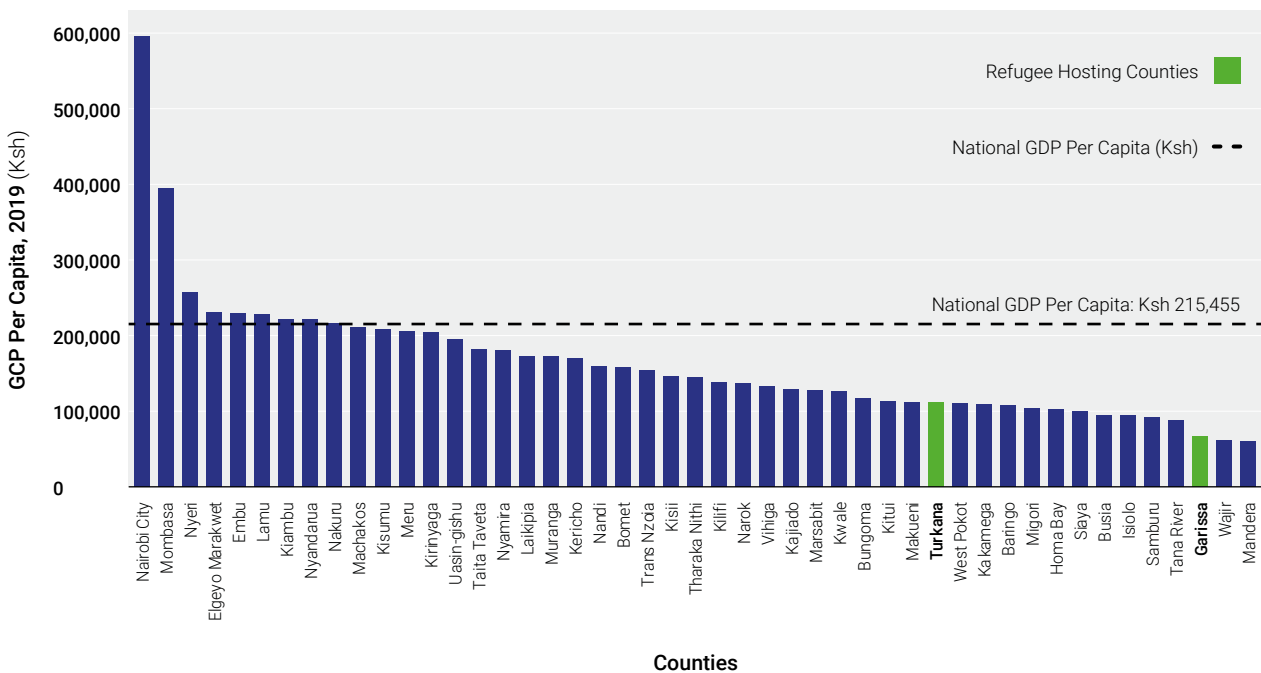### The Economic and Financial Situation in Garissa

According to the National Bureau of Statistics, Garissa County's GCP, which was USD $787 million in 2019, ranked 40th out of all the 47 counties in Kenya.[99] Its GDP per capita, which was USD $1,787 in 2018, ranked 41st among the 47 counties in Kenya.[100] Garissa County is one of the poorest counties in Kenya, with its GCP and GCP per capita consistently ranking in the bottom ten counties in Kenya and trivial contribution towards the national GDP.[101] This is also reflected in the sharp increase in its poverty level from FY 2005/06 to FY 2015/16 when its poverty headcount soared from 49.2% to 65.5% and its poverty rankings increased from 24th to 5th in Kenya.[102]

In Garissa, the top three industrial contributors to the GCP are Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing (31.1%); Public Administration and Defence (23.3%); and finally, Wholesale and Retail Trade (8.8%).[103] The primary sector is also the largest source of employment in the County, employing around 45% of the labour force.[104] The County has a very high unemployment rate of 28.4% (a figured

that doesn't even include refugees)[105] and faces serious challenges from seasonal droughts and security related incidents due to its proximity to and long border with Somalia.

Revenues

In the FY 2021/22, Garissa County Government's revenue consisted of USD $66.20 per capita from the equitable share, USD $0.60 per capita in OSR, USD $7.30 per capita in conditional grants from the national government and development partners.[106] The County also brought forward a balance from the prior fiscal year of USD $5.50 per capita. With minor fluctuations, this revenue composition has remained relatively stable over the past five years (see **Fig. 75**).[107]

Overall, the County is highly dependent on national grants. This dependence has become increasingly problematic for the County as the timeliness of national transfers has decreased in the past year due to national fiscal challenges. Garissa County also benefited from several aid projects in 2020 and 2021, with a major tranche coming from the World Bank (WB). Projects funded by the WB encompassed themes such as health with the Transforming Health Systems for Universal Care Project, climate-smart agriculture, urban support, and water and sanitation. Alongside the WB, other notable contributors to Garissa's development were DANIDA and Sweden, which primarily focused on agricultural advancements
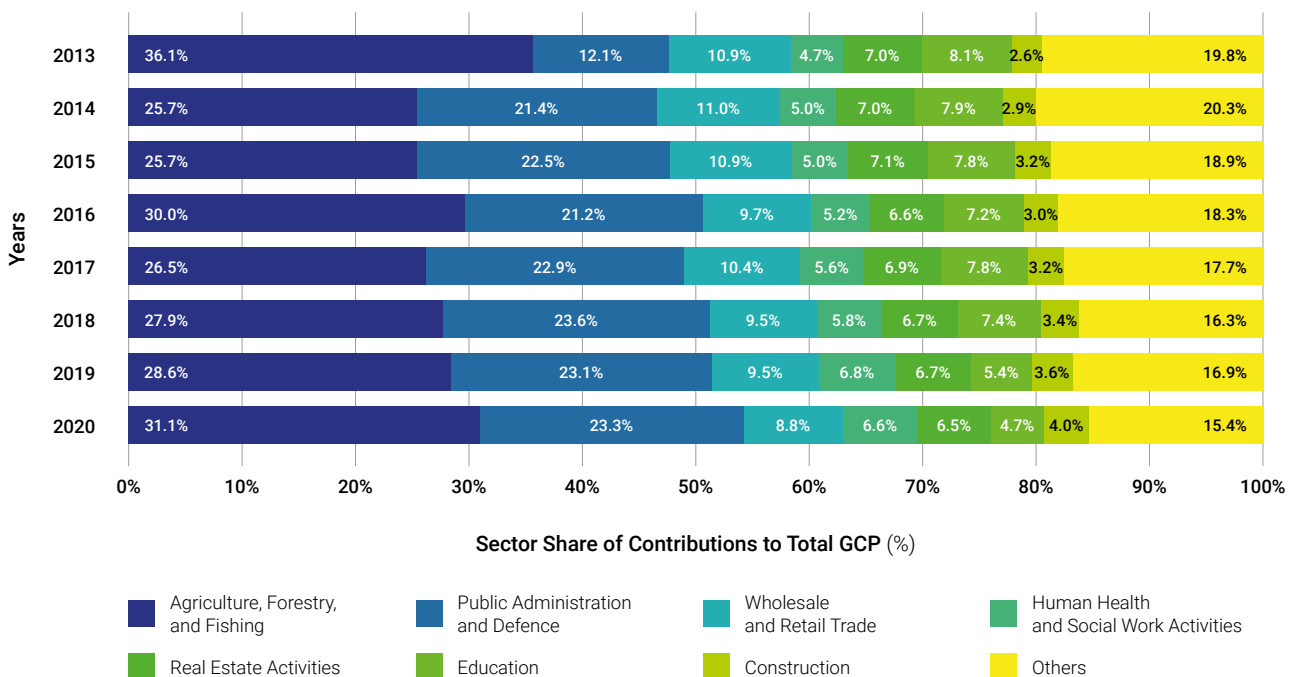


*Fig. 74: Garissa Sector Contribution to Total GCP, 2013-2020 (CRA, 2022)*
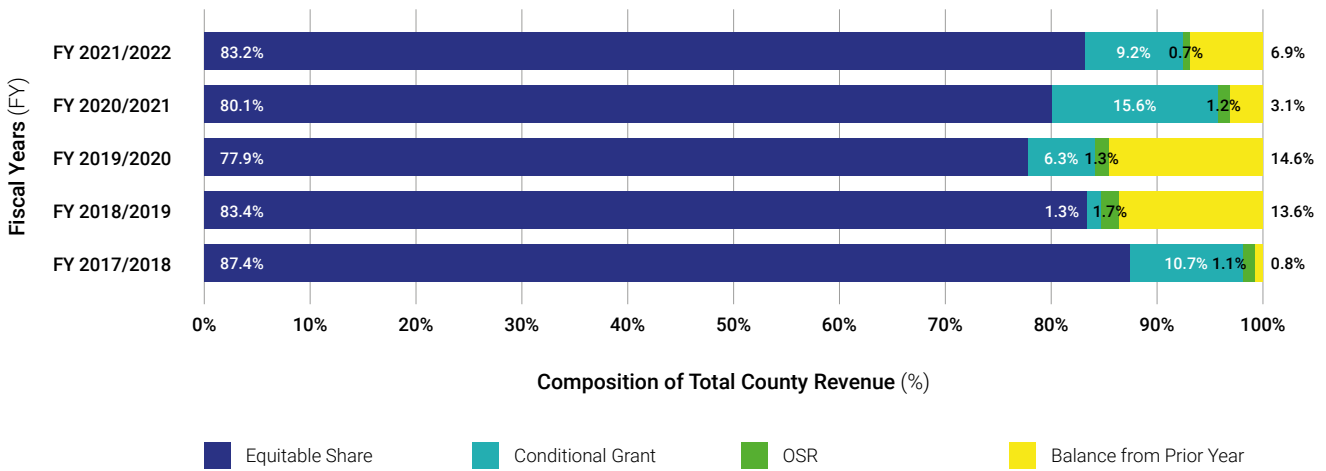
Fig. 75: Garissa County Revenue Composition, 2017-2022
(OCOB, 2018-2022)
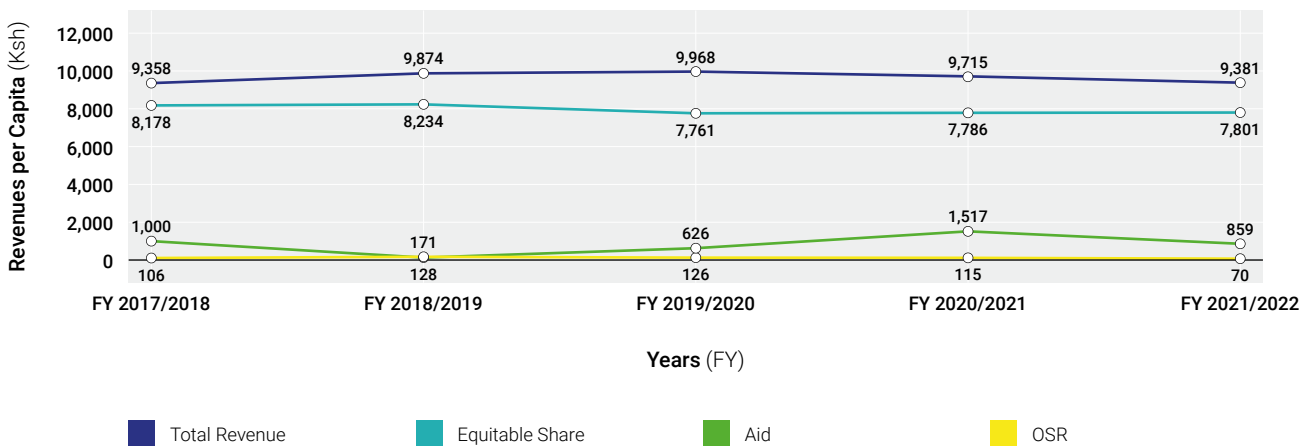


Fig. 76: Garissa County Revenue Levels of Revenue per Capita, 2017-2022
(OCOB, 2018-2022)

through the ASDSP II.[108]

Garissa County generates only a very small percentage of its revenue from OSR. Its peak OSR performance was in FY 2018/19 when it generated 1.73% of its total revenue in OSR.[109] For FY 2021/22, the two largest streams of OSR were USD $0.13 per capita from Land Rates (rents) and USD $0.08 per capita from business permits.[110] **Fig. 77** illustrates the progression of OSR distribution based on data from the years where information was available.[111]

Expenditures

In the fiscal year 2021/2022, the Garissa County Government's actual expenditure consisted of USD $71.07 per capita, comprising USD $62.19 for

recurrent expenditures and USD $8.88 for development expenditures per capita.[112] As indicated in **Fig. 78**, there has been a decline in actual expenditure over the past four years, partially attributed to external factors. The development expenditure has also fallen by more than half since FY 2018/2019, while the recurrent expenditure has gone up.

In Kenya, the legal framework dictates that at least 30% of a county government's budget should go towards development projects.[113] However, revenue shortfalls have prompted the local government to reduce development spending. As illustrated in Figure 9, in FY 2021/2022 only 12% of the actual expenditures in Garissa were directed towards development, while across Kenya,
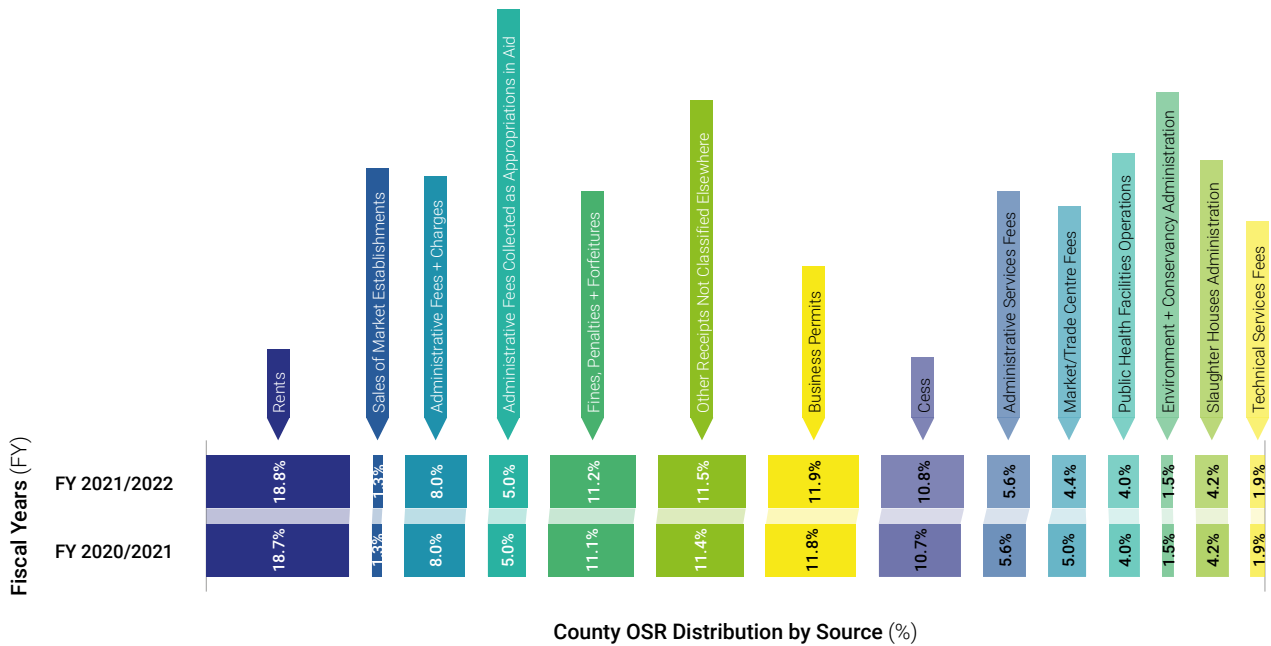
Fig. 77: Garissa County OSR Distribution, FY 2020/2021 and FY 2021/2022
(Garissa County Government, 2022)

the County average was 28.9%.[114]

The issue of never reaching the development expenditure target has always been persistent in Garissa County, which stands out as one of the counties allocating the smallest portion of its expenditure to development.[115] Another historical problem that Garissa County faces is the high number of pending bills, which goes against policies of promoting private sector investments.[116] These issues raise concerns about the imprudent financial management and expenditure practices within the County.

Financing Gap

According to the Garissa County development plan (CIDP II 2018-2022), the County estimated a KES 56 billion (USD $464 million) gap between revenues and its operational and investment needs for the period FY 2018/19 to FY 2021/22.[117] However, not only was there a huge financing gap, but the actual revenue performance was even lower than projected by KES 1.6 billion (USD $13.2 million), as can be seen in **Fig. 80**.[118] Considering the lower actual revenue in that period, a conservative estimate would suggest the actual resource gap was closer to KES 56 billion (USD $478 million). Notably, this financing gap does not include the refugee settlements. Garissa's CIDP for 2018-2022 only mentions the refugees' presence and environmental impact.[119] If the refugee settlement were included in these calculations, the resource gap

estimates would increase significantly.

**The Economic and Financial Situation in Dadaab**

Over the past three decades since the first camp was established in Dadaab, the international community has assumed most of the financial burden and responsibility for funding and coordinating the development of the affected settlements and the implementation of infrastructure for both the refugee and host communities living there.[120] However, the refugees living inside the camps have quite diverse incomes based on how long they have lived there, even if they remain very poor overall.



Fig. 78: Garissa County's Expenditures, 2018-2022
(OCOB, 2018-2022)

**County Revenue Breakdown, FY 2021/22**



Equitable Share (83.2%)

Conditional Grant (9.2%)

Balance from FY 2020/21 (7.0%)

OSR (0.8%)
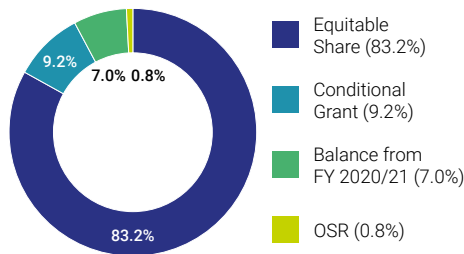
**County Expenditure Breakdown, FY 2021/22**



Recurrent Expenditure (87.5%)

Development Expenditure (12.5%)

**Recurrent Expenditure Breakdown, FY 2021/22**



Employee Compensation (77.2%)

Operation + Maintenance (22.8%)
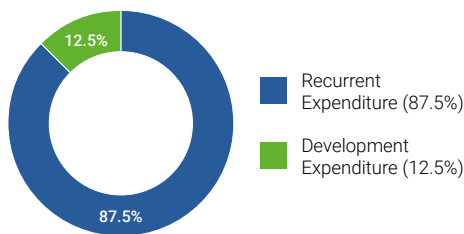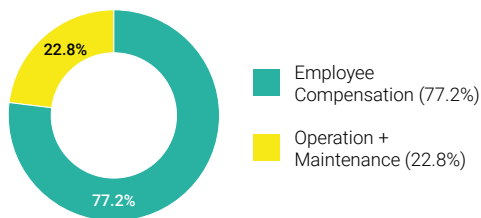
*Fig. 79: Garissa County's Expenditure Breakdown, FY 2021/2022 (OCOB, 2022)*

Despite wide-spread poverty, the large number of refugees in Garissa County have a significant impact on the local economy. This may not be surprising, given that the refugee population constitutes around 60% of the total population in the County and that the host population is also very poor.[121] In fact, studies debate whether the refugees, with direct access to humanitarian assistance, are better off economically than many members of the area host communities.[122, 123] In fact, the camps in Dadaab are a crucial source of employment for local communities, as well.

A slightly dated study of Dadaab from 2010 found that the refugee camps generate USD $14 million for host communities each year.[124] Research furthermore has revealed that there are around 5,000 businesses in Dadaab[125] and that they generate over USD $25 million in revenues each year.[126] These businesses and the refugee demand in general increase local markets and provide additional options for the host community producers to sell their products in the refugee markets.[127] Local host communities have also benefited from humanitarian and development activities that were originally exclusively intended for the refugees. As a result, even though investment has been limited relative to the need and available funding, the economic potential represented by the sizable refugee population should not be ignored.

### 4.3.2 Overview of Financing and Funding Options

The previous sections have showcased the overall economic and financial context in Kenya, as well as the situation in Garissa County and the refugee camps themselves. It has revealed that significant financial challenges exist within the country as a whole but also in the County itself. Garissa County has lower than projected OSR, high unemployment, and is one of the poorest counties in Kenya. The financial gaps within the



CIDP Revenue Projections

Actual Revenues

CIDP Expenditure Needs
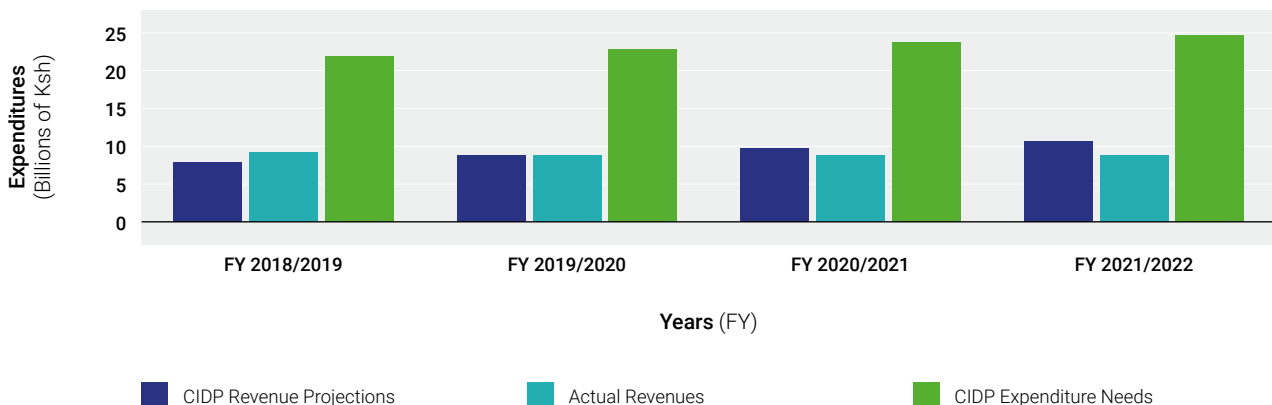
*Fig. 80: Revenues Versus Expenditure Needs in Garissa County, 2018-2022 (Garissa County CIDP II, 2018-2022)*

County are huge and only partially, if at all, factor in the development/service delivery needs of Dadaab. This then raises the question of how the current financial impasse can be overcome and how more funding and finance can be attracted to Kenya's refugee-hosting counties and the affected settlements.

### 1 - Humanitarian and Development Aid/Assistance

Humanitarian aid and development assistance, typically coming in the shape of aid and grants from international humanitarian and development partners, continue to be the primary sources of financing for the refugee settlements in Garissa County. This reliance on international aid and assistance is unlikely to change in the near future given the financial reality of the County Government, as outlined above. Nevertheless, it is critical to move beyond the traditional model of aid and encampment to leverage the economic potential of the refugee camps and to find durable solutions for the refugee and host communities.

The overall levels of humanitarian aid funding in Kenya decreased meaningfully in the period between 2010 and 2019 from USD $417 million to USD $340 million, but have since increased again slightly.[128] Nevertheless, UNHCR's overall funding requirement for Kenya is nowhere near being reached. In Kenya, UNHCR's estimated funding requirement as of August 2023 was USD $153.4 million.[129] Only 34% of this estimate, which is equivalent to USD $52.5 million, was available for earmarked and unearmarked projects, leaving an indicative funding gap of 66%.[130] In June 2022, UNHCR launched an appeal for USD $42.6 million to respond to specific needs of over a million people affected by drought in Ethiopia, Kenya, and

Somalia, but by December 2022, only 45% of the required funds had been raised.[131] Given this scarcity, there continues to be a strong need to ensure that humanitarian assistance provides necessary subsistence support to refugees and explore how international aid can be used most effectively to better support the refugee camps populations.

While it is important to ensure the availability of humanitarian support, it has become ever clearer that unless there is an explicit policy change from a humanitarian support model to an integrated settlement development model, the refugee communities will not be able to transition away from a reliance on aid and will not be able to become self-sustainable. It is thus critical to explore options to increase self-reliance. Humanitarian assistance will still be required to cushion the needs of the most vulnerable but will need to be complemented with other sources of funding/finance over time.

### 2 - County Government Funding

According to Kenya's Constitution, the vast majority of services that are to be provided to the refugee camps are the responsibility of the county governments. The few exceptions include the provision of secondary education, complex health care provision, and electricity, which are not within the remits of county governments. As a result, it is critical to explore how Garissa County can provide improved services to both refugee and host communities in Dadaab.

#### i - Intergovernmental Fiscal Transfers

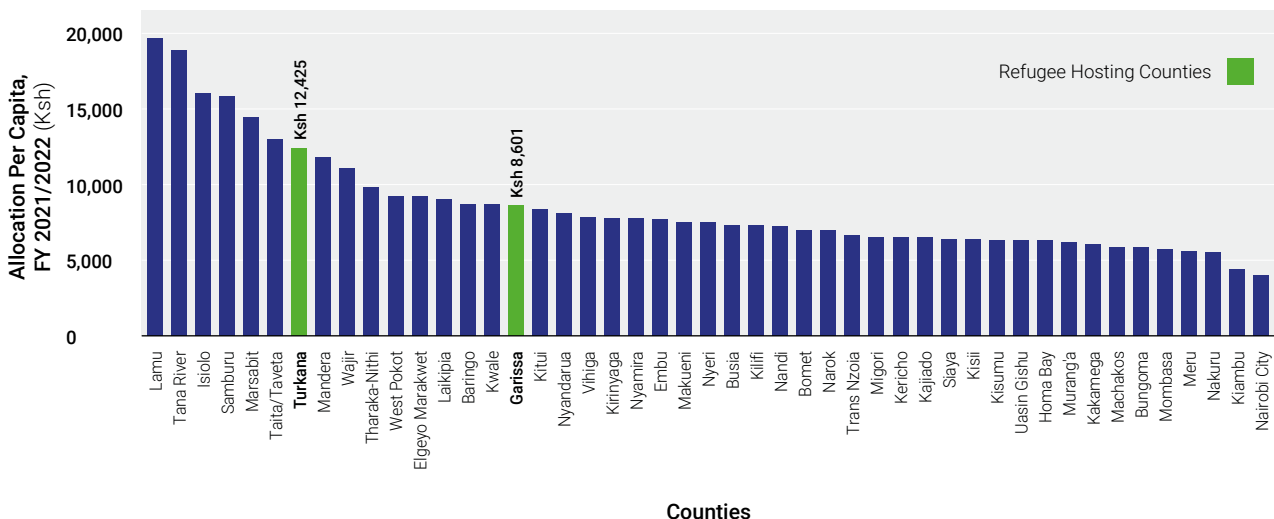The most important source of revenue for Garissa County



*Fig. 81: Kenya Equitable Share per Capita Received by County in FY 2022/2023 (CRA, Kenya National Treasury, 2023)*

is the intergovernmental transfer. The County receives over 80% of its annual expenditure from these transfers.[132] The largest component of the intergovernmental transfers consists of the equitable share. As mentioned above, the equitable share consists of no less than 15% of the national budget and is allocated to the 47 counties based on a formula defined by the Commission on Revenue Allocation (CRA) every five years.

However, given that primary refugee-hosting counties in Kenya (Garissa and Turkana) already receive a relatively high per capita allocation from the equitable share, they are unlikely to receive a significantly greater share going forward. Given Kenya's overall national financial situation and heavy indebtedness, the need to curb public expenditure makes it unlikely overall that counties will receive a greater share of the national budget. The most realistic way for Garissa County to increase the funds it receives from the national government is if the national government introduces a separate and specialised grant for refugees and the counties hosting these populations.

### ii - Own-Source Revenue (OSR) (Property Tax, LVC, Fees etc.)

The source of funding that is most directly within the control of Garissa County is OSR. Since the County is amongst the poorest counties in Kenya, though, the overall potential to generate high returns in the form of taxes and fees may be smaller than that of other counties. Nonetheless, the CRA estimates that Garissa County is generating only a fraction of its potential OSR. In 2021, the Commission on Revenue Allocation estimated that Garissa County could self-finance 5.6% of its budget via OSR, despite OSR still representing an actual percentage of only 0.75% of total revenue in 2022.[133] This suggests that Garissa County has the opportunity to generate significant additional revenue in this way, with the potential to increase its OSR by nearly ten-fold.

On the surface, though, these potential OSR improvements still constitute only a fraction of the funds necessary to fund the County CIDP and provide services to both host and refugee communities. At a financing gap of 56 billion KSh, even if the County were to attain its potential OSR and generate 500 million KSh, this would still only cover a fraction of the needed investment in Garissa.[134]

However, these calculations from the CRA do not consider the potential revenues that can be generated via the use of land-value capture. Spillover benefits, such as water provision and healthcare access to the adjacent host communities, have attracted development along the camp's periphery.[135] Similar spillover effects from humanitarian development in the Kismayo hybrid refugee-host settlements in Somalia have resulted in increased demand for surrounding land and increased value.[136] One resulting opportunity is that the local government can leverage these humanitarian investments and spillover effects to fund service delivery by capturing the increased land value through property taxes or other land value capture mechanisms.[137]

The potential estimates of the CRA also do not include the potential revenue that can be generated from the refugee camps themselves if their residents were allowed to partake in economic activity more effectively. While the refugee populations are largely impoverished, studies do find that the Kakuma-Kalobeyei refugee camps, for example, alone already constitute a USD $56 million market opportunity.[138] Given the recognition of refugee's rights to work and engaging in economic activities, partners need to progressively and systematically consider various ways of including refugees in the County revenue enhancement strategy and policies while at the same time putting into consideration for refugee protection.

In addition to these immediate financial opportunities, working on OSR would also generate important governance dividends, meaning a greater reliance on OSR often leads to improved service delivery as citizens increase pressure on the government to deliver services in exchange for their tax contributions. OSR optimisation is also vital to demonstrate fiscal capacity, establish credit-worthiness, and service debt. While receiving loans may still be a somewhat distant goal for Garissa County, it is a goal worth working towards.

### iii – Loans & Bonds

Loans and bonds are an unlikely source of finance for Garissa County in the immediate future. As per the Constitution and the 2012 Public Finance Management Act, Counties are allowed to take up long-term loans for capital expenditure as well as short-term loans to manage cash flow issues. While short-term borrowing is limited to 5% of the County's last audited financial accounts[139] and is thus not a serious option for improved service delivery for most counties, long-term borrowing has the potential to be a powerful source of funds for counties. However, the conditions for accessing this funding are strict and are not achievable for Garissa County.

### iv – Expenditure Optimisation

A source of finance or funding that is not as commonly explored is expenditure optimisation at the county level. Garissa County has historically not allocated

the mandated 30% of budget towards development expenditure. When looking at the percentage of public funds spent on the wage bill, it also appears that there is room for improvement in Garissa. While mandated to spend no more than 35% on wages, the County has historically spent close to 44% of public funds on salaries. These salaries do not include additional allowances that are spent on county civil servants and thus likely significantly underestimate the total percentage of funds spent on wages and salaries.

Freeing up additional resources will require the County to introduce more prudent financial management practices as a direct way of unlocking additional funds for infrastructure development. More effectively leveraging existing resources will likely also require more strategic prioritisation of development projects to maximise economic benefits for the County and its refugee populations.

### 3 - National Government Funding

The national government, as the key funder of the county governments, indirectly plays a key role in the search for financial solutions to the service provision gap in the refugee camps and surrounding host community settlements. The national government also has direct service provision responsibilities outside of what it is providing to the county governments. Secondary and tertiary education, for instance, are functional responsibilities of the national government and its respective ministries, as well as cross-cutting functions such as curriculum development, etc. In an exemplary move, the Government of Kenya, county governments,

UNHCR, donors, international financial institutions, UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders have developed a national strategy, dubbed the Shirika Plan, which will be used as resource mobilisation tool to ease the pressure on refugee-hosting communities in Garissa, Turkana, and urban areas in Kenya by mobilising additional financial, technical, and material support in the spirit of responsibility sharing. These resources will provide complimentary funding to reduce the budgetary shortfall at the county level.

### 4 - Private Sector Financing

Private finance has garnered increasing interest in the past years as a means of addressing service delivery in refugee contexts. Private finance is abundant and if it could be attracted towards these refugee contexts, it would constitute a veritable game-changer. At present however, its role is likely to revolve around boosting local economic development, rather than large-scale public service delivery.

Where refugees are able to pay for goods and services, private companies are able to invest in the refugee camps and kickstart the local economy, which can help contribute to overcoming the most severe economic conditions experienced by refugees within the camps. Treating refugees as consumers is particularly feasible where private investors are able to minimise business risks by leveraging public or charitable donations/subsidies. Examples of this include the work of IFC in launching a USD $25 million challenge fund in Kakuma-Kalobeyei.[140] This fund aims to enhance private sector engagement and support small- and medium-sized
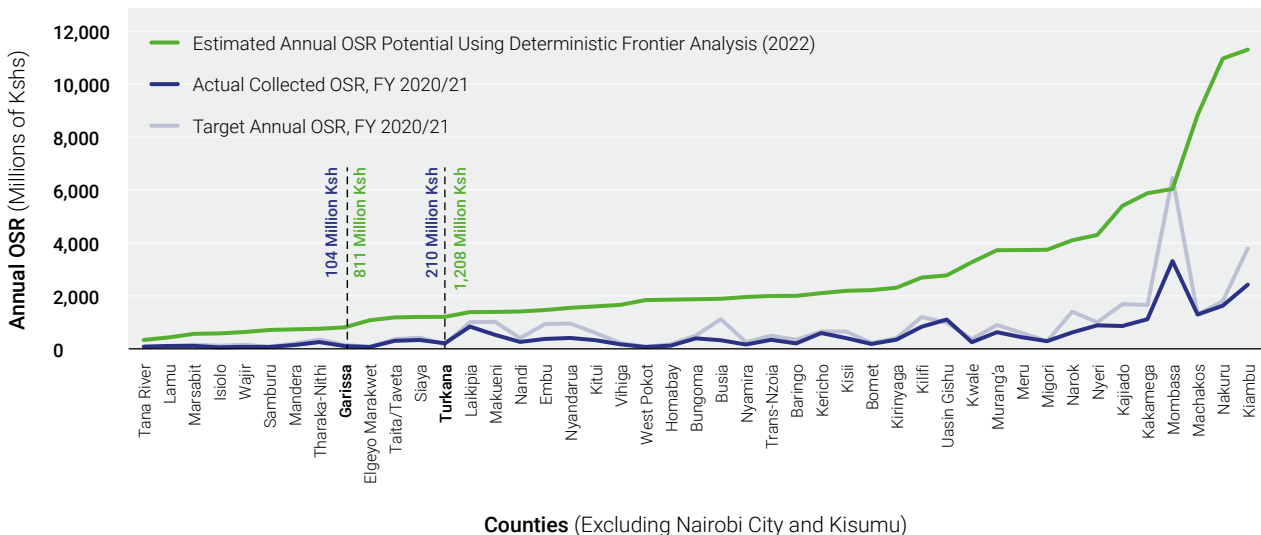


Fig. 82: Average Actual Revenue Collection Versus Estimated Potential, by County
(OCOB, National Treasury, 2022)

enterprises (SMEs) within both host communities and refugee populations.[141] Similarly, crowdfunding campaigns can leverage charitable giving to fund investment, especially for targeting specific projects. An example of this is the collaboration between UNHCR and Kiva. Through this partnership, Kiva's microfinance crowdfunding platform offers risk-tolerant capital to refugees, filling a vital funding gap. Since the inception of this initiative in 2016, Kiva's data reveals a commendable 95% repayment rate from refugee borrowers, underlining that they are just as creditworthy as their non-refugee counterparts in microfinance ventures.[142]

The potential for innovation in this space is near endless. For example, in Dadaab, the conducive environmental conditions, paired with the emerging collaboration between host communities and refugee populations, point to potential avenues for enhanced private sector engagement, notably within domains such as small-scale farming and recycling. According to the ILO, while still in their initial phases, these value chains exemplify how localized endeavours can seamlessly integrate with overarching financing approaches.[143]

Over time, private investment will also become an option for public service delivery, not exclusively for private goods, i.e., where significant user-fees can be charged for revenue generation despite the low overall disposable incomes of refugee populations. Examples of this could include markets, bus parks, and/or utilities. Where public services cannot generate significant revenues or user-fees cannot be applied (e.g., for the construction of local roads), private finance would require significant subsidies and guarantees from national or local government that are currently unlikely to be feasible in a cost-effective manner given the limited financial capacity of local government, the limited fiscal space, and the poor adherence to public financial management principles.

One exception to the above that could be considered while employing considerable care, is the leasing or selling of public assets and land for the purposes of attracting private investment. The simple risk in these transactions being the fact that local government is likely to have to offer a very considerable discount on its own assets to entice private investment, that may only in very limited circumstances be warranted, i.e., where the private investment brings about local economic development benefits that far exceed the costs of selling public assets below their actual market value.

### 4.3.3 The Way Forward: Overview of a Simple Framework to Guide Strategic Financing

#### Towards a Financing Framework

The challenges described in this report on how to address the financing gaps of Dadaab are not unique. Refugee camps, in low-income countries in particular, often face financial shortages and often persist beyond their original short-term purpose from temporary refugee camps to long-term protracted settlements. As these refugee camps evolve, as the ability of their inhabitants to return becomes ever less feasible, and as the nature of the camps becomes ever more protracted, the political and financial policies towards these refugee settlements need to be adapted. As outlined here in **Table 8**, the exact nature of these changes depends on at which stage a refugee settlement finds itself.

This framework suggests a general evolution of finance/funding over time as a settlement that results from protracted displacement is transformed physically and economically. This is not a linear process however and is likely to be beset by policy reversals and significant political back-and-forth. And while the micro steps of these refugee settlements will likely differ, some broad trends are discernible.

At the early stages of a refugee settlement, the key is to facilitate the work of humanitarian agencies and the flow of aid to the impacted communities. As the overall permanency of the settlement becomes more entrenched and in the absence of a realistic timeline for the voluntary return or subsequent resettlement of the refugees elsewhere, the host community should consider ways to integrate the refugee population economically and socially into the local community. In return, the host community and local government should request that the refugee population work towards eventually contributing towards the provision of public services and overall economic development. As this integration progresses, the income of refugees is able to rise, and the financial capacity of the local government increases, more and more complex financial mechanisms will become applicable including loans and Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) (see **Table 8**).

In the beginning, development partners and humanitarian organizations are often best equipped to coordinate and finance a humanitarian response for a short-term influx of refugees. They are also often best positioned to provide basic services such as access to water, sanitation, and shelter along with public facilities to provide health, education, and security services in previously unsettled spaces. However, while this type of humanitarian assistance is ideal for short-term solutions, it becomes ever more problematic over time. The humanitarian/emergency mode often restricts refugees from being able to effectively participate in the local economy and integrate into the host communities. In fact, humanitarian

assistance often undermines the effective development of local markets and disincentivises inhabitants from seeking (formal) employment, education, and economic self-sustainability. It can also create perverse incentives for local communities who benefit from the spillovers of humanitarian assistance. Transitioning away from humanitarian assistance is not easy, however, as it is vitally needed to protect the most vulnerable populations in camps, even long after a particular settlement becomes protracted. Consequently, it cannot be easily replaced but, rather, needs to be supplemented over time with other sources of finance.

The next step in the evolution of a refugee camp is to allow for local economic development. Since the process is often politically loaded, refugees can also be allowed informally to develop economically even if in the absence of formal economic rights being expanded to refugee populations. These informal rights will include granting increased access to financial services, easier/increased right of movement, easier/increased property rights, and easier/increased labour participation. And beyond the direct benefits, this economic opening will enable private finance to enter the refugee settlements to increase trade and economic activity with the overall effect of increasing the incomes of refugee populations.

Once this integration (informal or formal) of the refugees has started and they have been granted increased economic freedoms, it becomes necessary to also include them in the financing of public service delivery to the refugee camps. The most important way of doing so is by formalising the status of the refugees and including them in local OSR systems. This includes the formalisation of land and property and inclusion into the tax net. While the per capita contributions of the refugees may be minimal, at least initially, they have the potential to deliver very significant public revenues for service provision in the refugee settlements. They will likely also bring about a process of expenditure optimisation at the local level as refugees demand improved services in exchange for their tax contributions.

In the next stage of integration of a settlement, it becomes critical to consider the use of loans, bonds, and other forms of private investment to put in place needed infrastructure improvements without which the refugee population would continue to be disadvantaged economically by poor access to services. Accessing this type of finance will only become an option once the local government has created robust OSR systems and developed strong financial capacity. As a last step in the process and as refugee populations contribute financially towards the government, they should increasingly also be included in service provision, including education,

*Table 8: Financing Framework from Refugee Settlements to Integrated Settlements*

| Source | 1. Encampment | 2. Informal Economic Opening | 3. Formalised Economic Integration | 4. Social and Political Integration |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Aid | ● | ● | ● | |
| CBO Support | ● | ● | ● | |
| Private Investment | | ● | ● | ● |
| OSR | | | ● | ● |
| Expenditure Optimisation | | | ● | ● |
| Loans & PPPs | | | | ● |
| National Grants | | | | ● |

health care, etc. It is then also time to consider extending greater political rights to the refugees to enable them to have a say in how their tax contributions are spent and how their community develops.

## Recommendations for Dadaab

Dadaab currently finds itself in Phase 2 of the process described above. The conferral of municipality status in 2023 shows a commitment by both the national and Garissa County Government to the integration of refugees into the socio-economic fabric of the County. Major refugee policies over the past few years, as outlined previously in this report, but which include the 2021 Refugee Act, the CRRF, and most recently, the Shirika Plan, all seek to support the changes necessary to expand the rights of refugees hosted in Kenya, to further promote integration and self-reliance, and to create more opportunities for the municipalities themselves to begin to expand their revenue sources and promote overall development to benefit both communities.

Moving effectively through this phase and then launching into Phase 3 of more formalised economic integration still constitutes an ostensible leap of faith for Kenya. There can be no doubt, however, that finding durable solutions for these refugee populations will require taking the next steps along the process with the principal near term objective of activating OSR as a source of finance for the refugee communities. What exactly these steps

entail and how the refugee camps can successfully move towards more integrated settlements is described in more detail below. Once significant progress has been made in regard to the below reform areas, the counties will be in a better position to advance to the last stages of the financing framework (Phase 4).

## Economic Integration

Kenya's Refugee Act of 2021 constituted a step in the right direction and significantly contributed towards the economic integration of refugees into the economy in Kenya. Nonetheless, there is still a need to further ease economic restrictions for refugees to participate in formal economic activity and clear legal ambiguities surrounding refugee's economic rights. This includes the further lifting of restrictions of refugees to travel outside of the refugee camps, seek employment, open bank accounts, access loans, use and access ICT, where necessary, to apply for the appropriate documents, etc. As such, the government should continue to streamline these processes and ease access to obtain the necessary documents and permits to work (e.g., class M work permits, refugee IDs, etc.). Simultaneously, it is important to expand vocational training programs, job matching services, and other programs designed to integrate the refugee population into the economy. Lastly, it is key to incentivise private companies, and specifically financial service providers, to offer services to refugee populations and allow market forces to effectively unfold within the refugee settlements.

## Registration of Refugees' Economic Assets

Following the economic integration there is a need to drive forward the formal registration of refugees as taxpayers. This includes the formal registration of businesses with the refugee camps, and the raising of SBP fees and other business-related fees at the national level. There is a need to continue to work with the national government and the local community to accelerate the land titling processes to enable refugees to leverage the economic benefits of land ownership and also be included in the tax net for charging of land rates. As much as this is a sensitive political process, it is key to moving forward towards a more integrated settlement.

## County OSR Optimisation

The process of taxpayer registration is integral to the broader process of OSR optimisation which needs to take place within Garissa County. There is considerable potential for OSR optimisation, as showcased above,

Table 9: Detailed Financing Framework from Refugees Settlements to Integrated Settlement

| | 1. Encampment | 2. Informal Economic Opening | 3. Formalised Economic Integration | 4. Social and Political Integration |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Political Status** | Refugees are sheltered within the camp to receive protection, but are largely reliant on aid and experience heavy restrictions on rights/freedoms | Informal right of movement and employment, etc. | Formalised property rights and economic opportunities | Comprehensive formal inclusion in political and social life |
| **Finance** | • Aid<br>• Community-based support and remittances | • Aid<br>• Community-based support and remittances<br>• Private investment | • Reduced Humanitarian assistance<br>• Community-based support and remittances<br>• Private investment<br>• OSR and Taxation<br>• Expenditure Optimisation | • Community-based support and remittances<br>• Private investment<br>• OSR and Taxation<br>• National Grants<br>• Loans and Private Investment (PPPs) |
| **Responsibility for Service Provision** | • Humanitarian Agencies<br>• Civil Society | • Humanitarian Agencies<br>• Civil Society | • Humanitarian Agencies<br>• Civil Society<br>• Local Government | • Civil Society<br>• Local Government<br>• National Government |
| **Types of Services** | • Humanitarian assistance (food, shelter, safe drinking water, basic sanitation, health care, education) | • Humanitarian assistance (food, shelter, safe drinking water, basic sanitation, health care, education) | • Humanitarian assistance<br>• Improved basic services | • Improved basic services<br>• Improved public infrastructure<br>• Public education, health care, |
| **Overall Condition of Refugee Settlement** | • Poverty and basic survival/subsistence<br>• Temporary | • Poverty and basic subsistence<br>• Slight increase in economic opportunities and incomes | • Increased economic activity<br>• Improved incentives to develop | • Equal opportunity to participate in economy for refugees<br>• Permanence |
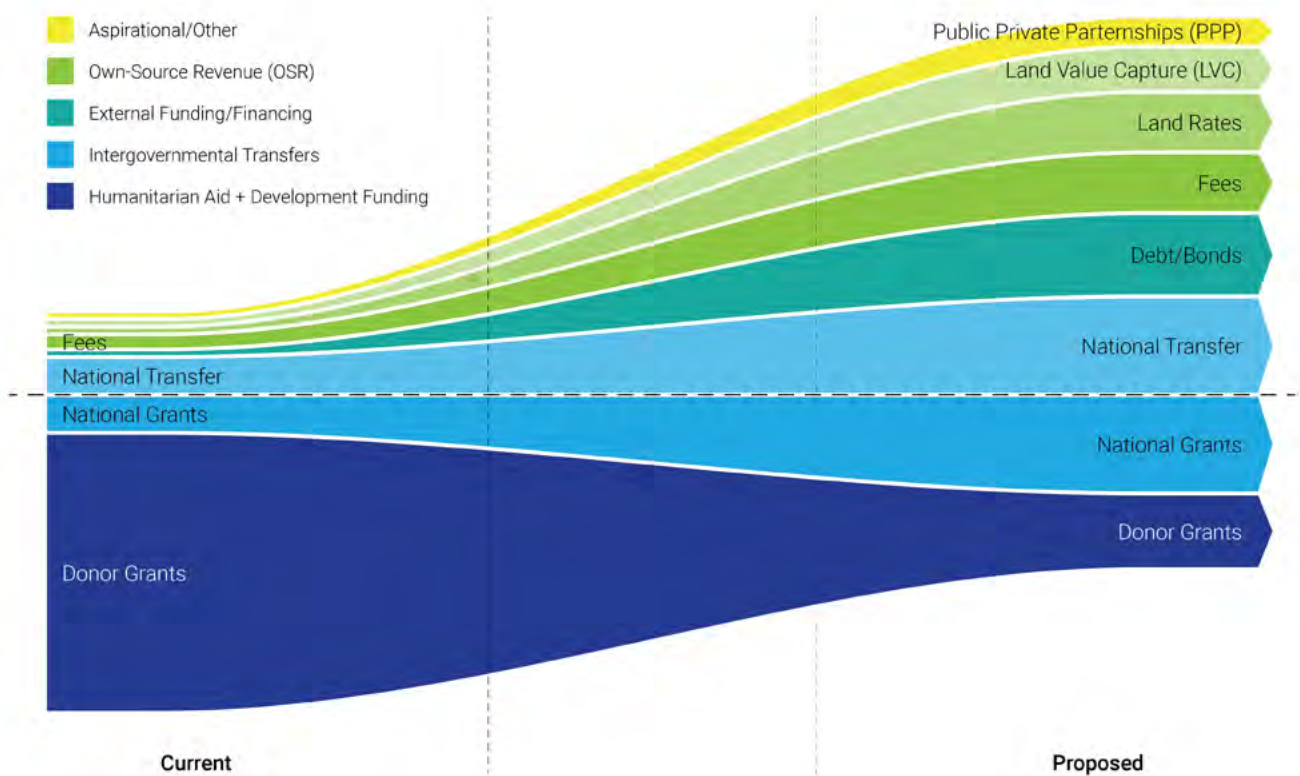
*Fig. 83: Municipal Financing Transition, Current to Proposed*

which needs to be leveraged and reinvested into improved services. To enable OSR optimisation there is a need to build capacity at the local level, optimise rates, clearly record/manage government-owned assets, digitise payments, and streamline enforcement of tax arrears, as clearly documented in numerous OSR analyses.[144, 145] Perhaps more important still than increasing capacity at the local level is strengthening incentives around OSR optimisation.[146] This needs to be done by strengthening internal and external audit reporting, and overall financial transparency towards the public, as well as reinforcing OSR performance as a criterion in the Equitable Share formula. These types of incentives need to also be set by the development community, which should link funding to improvements in OSR and PFM adherence.

<u>County Expenditure Optimisation</u>

Alongside the optimisation of OSR, there is a need to optimise expenditure-related processes. If this does not happen, there is a risk that generated OSR increments will not translate into improved service delivery, not for the host population, and certainly not for the refugee settlements. Given the current tendency of inflated wage bills, poor execution on capital expenditures, etc., serious

work is needed to avoid revenue leakages. Here too, the equitable share formula can be used to incentivise adherence to PFM standards. Unless the reports of the Auditor General are followed by specific actions, there is no incentive for counties to improve their usage of existing funds. There is also a need for increased public participation in budgeting processes, especially for budget review processes following the ending of financial years. There is also a need to scrutinise public procurement more carefully and introduce more performance-based management and recruitment. Last but not least, there is a need to review the CIDP, as well as other development plans to ensure that they strategically position the County and prioritise the right assets for economic development.

**Areas for Further Research**

While the available data from the refugee settlements is sufficient to outline a high-level reform strategy, additional research is required to fine-tune this strategy and determine technical reform entry points. Some of the key areas for further research include:

- **Opportunity cost of not integrating settlements**:

while it is clear that the refugee settlements are contributing economically to the local economies, the cost of not fully leveraging the potential of the refugee settlements remains unclear. The costs of political instability, lower labour participation, suppressed customer demand, increased health care costs, etc., that result from not more fully developing the settlements could be quantified to better inform decision-making around the need for increased integration of the settlements. This can also include the impact of humanitarian assistance on the local economies and to what extent local production and market forces more broadly are currently crowded out by aid, but could, in the future, rise to replace humanitarian service levels.

- **Detail on economic reality of refugees**: additional information on disposable incomes, sources of income, asset ownership, saving and consumption patterns, etc., would all help to inform business models aimed at servicing the refugee camps.

- Service delivery costs: in order to better gauge the levels of required finance and the particular financial realities of distinct projects within the CIDPs it would be important to have more accurate information for each project on a) overall costs, b) project-life cycle costs, and c) revenue generating opportunities within the project.

- **Land ownership**: to better gauge the potential of land-value capture around the refugee settlements, it is critical to have precise information on the percentage of titled land, the ownership of the lands, and the overall valuations of land over time. Projects on land value changes could also help inform decisions around land-concession.

- Survey of public assets: another revenue area that is not properly considered within the OSR estimates of the CRA is the total value and revenue potential of the assets of the County Government.

- Cost/benefit Analysis of specific fees for specific services: This level of assessment will involve understanding the municipal net income, contribution of cost for service provision, collection procedures and mechanisms/manpower and the actual income/performance by geographic area and service fee.

- Cost/benefit Analysis of taxes by type and structure: this will include assessing the municipal net income – annual, multi-year trends, long term investment – infrastructure and assets; collection procedures and mechanisms/manpower; actual income/performance by geographic area and type of tax; tax performance in relation to economic power by geography and sector. This can extend to looking

into unit for taxation which involves small versus large blocks (combination of units e.g., amount of square metres, number of market stalls, length of infrastructure)

- Analysis/Assessment of Total value of tax base in different structures: which includes the extent of detailed valuations by the local government)

# 5.4 Looking Forward

### 5.4.1 The New Municipalities

In final validation workshops for this regeneration strategy, concluding discussions were focused on the way forward given the recent updates surrounding the establishment of the new refugee-hosting municipalities that include the entire populations and settlements of the Dadaab Refugee Complex. Overall, there was optimism about this development and hope that the transition toward better coordinated governance of the area combined with inclusive and integrated service delivery would contribute meaningfully to the communities' vision for the future of the area and plans for overall regeneration.

#### County Government

The Government of Garissa County is committed to supporting the strengthening and development of the newly established municipalities and to ensure delivery of services to all residents, including all members of both the host and refugee communities. Representatives acknowledge that the concept of envisioning inclusive municipalities in and around the Dadaab Refugee Complex involves transforming the long-standing refugee camps into a more organised, inclusive, and sustainable urban area, with improved infrastructure, services, and opportunities for both refugees and the host community to participate.

It is understood that the County administrative infrastructure will work in tandem with the new municipal administrative infrastructure and their various partners to achieve these goals. The County and national officials have envisioned these municipalities as establishing a key governance level for bringing the responsibility for service delivery closer to the communities where they live.

In this way, discussions with government representatives about the new municipalities and the way forward revolved around the following key considerations:

1. **Infrastructure Development**: improving the overall infrastructure of the area, including roads, schools, healthcare facilities, water and sanitation services to be a key priority
2. **Economic Opportunities**: creating economic opportunities for both members of both the host and refugee communities will be an ongoing priority that will involve initiatives to promote opportunities for developing livelihoods, vocational training, and the establishment of small businesses
3. **Social inclusion and Integration**: further efforts will be made to promote peaceful coexistence and social integration between the refugee population and the local host communities, including cultural exchange programs, dialogue, and community-building activities
4. **Environmental Sustainability**: addressing environmental challenges and ensuring sustainable resource management will be critical to the resilience of the new municipalities given the strain that the large refugee populations have placed on local resources
5. **Long-Term Planning**: further collaboration with the County Government and other partners is needed to continue to develop long-term plans for the ongoing transition of the camps into more permanent settlements, with inclusion of the host communities
6. **Security and Stability**: ensuring the security and stability of the area is crucial and will involve coordinate and collaboration between law enforcement agencies and peacekeeping forces to safeguard security, prevent conflicts, and maintain a safe environment
7. **International Partnerships**: envisioning the future of the new municipalities will continue to involve collaboration with various international partners, UN agencies, and donor countries, to secure the funding, resources, and technical capacity for realising the planned development projects.
8. **Humanitarian-Development Shift**: as long as the refugee camp exists, officials may focus on maintaining humanitarian support and improving living conditions for the refugees, but a transition to inclusive development-oriented planning is critical to ensuring the success of the new integrated municipalities
9. **Local Participation**: engaging with all communities and seeking their input and involvement in decision-making processes will continue to contribute to a more inclusive and successful vision for the new municipalities

#### Communities

Members of both the host and refugee communities see the formation of the new municipalities as a positive development that should create opportunities for all residents to see their lives improve. The host community envisions this transition as an opportunity for improved infrastructure and economic development, while the refugees living in Dadaab Refugee Complex see the transition as a chance for increased independence, self-governance, and self-reliance. Both communities hope that the change will also come with improved service delivery, both in terms of access and quality.

*Fig. 84: Key Intentions For The New Municipalities, From Participants During Validation Workshop*



*Fig. 85: How To Achieve Intentions For The New Municipalities, From Participants During Validation Workshop*

| Government Feedback | Shared | Community Feedback |
|---|---|---|
| | | Partnerships |
| Well-Organised | | Efficient |
| Inclusive | Inclusive | Empowered |
| Safe and Secure | Well-Coordinated | Timely |
| Developed | Well-Planned | Professional |
| Successful | Resilient | Better Resourced/Funded |
| Integrated | Collaborative / Cooperative | Improved Institutional Capacity |
| Connected | Sustainable | Restored |
| | | Participatory |
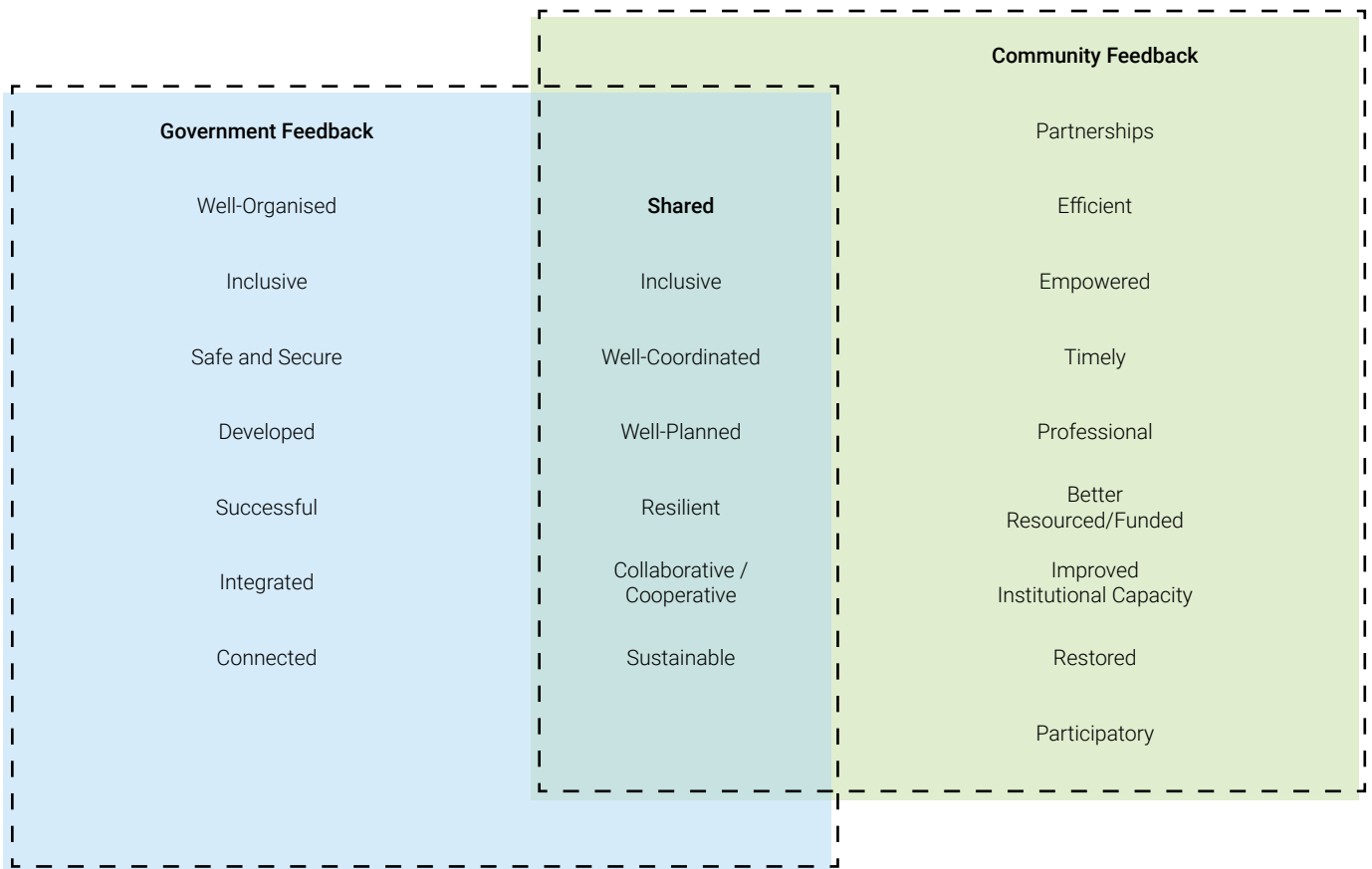
*Fig. 86: Synthesised Intentions For The New Municipalities From Validation Workshop Participants*

Host community members hope that the creation of a formal municipal structure could attract more investment, create jobs, and lead to improvements in education, roads, security, healthcare, and other essential services for all communities. Better governance, community inclusion, and more funding were also mentioned. Refugee community members also hope that the change will help to reduce discrimination, especially by security organs, who have been known to be particularly strict about documentation as a result of security concerns in the region.

Since the new municipalities are still emerging and many ongoing challenges remain, the ability of the new municipalities to realise these aspirations may be limited by capacity and funding. However, optimism remains for now. Together, all parties see the transition as a meaningful opportunity to foster accessibility, inclusivity, safety, and economic development through collaboration across the various institutions.

### 5.4.2 Conclusions

Regeneration takes time and resources. Especially in Dadaab, regeneration remains a pressing need and an ongoing process which will require adequate buy-in from all the relevant stakeholders, as well as long-term support and vision from local authorities and the host and refugee communities who live there. The recommendations presented here reveal a shift away from traditional models of hosting refugees in camps under strict encampment policies where reliance on the provision of parallel services for assistance and protection were supported mostly by the international community, and which revealed socio-economic challenges and inequalities between a growing interdependence between local towns and the refugee camps. The intention of the Dadaab Regeneration Strategy is to promote additional considerations and opportunities that will encourage the scaling up and replication of the interventions and actions identified here for the regeneration of the existing settlements and the development and strengthening of the new integrated municipalities.

Several efforts have emerged in response to the scale and protracted nature of displacement affecting Garissa County to promote the integration of refugees and hosts in Kenya. The Refugees Act was gazetted and published in November 2021 and came into effect in February 2022. Its passage provides more opportunities, rights, protections, and solutions for refugees and asylum-

seekers in Kenya, in alignment to global commitments such as the Global Compact on Refugees, the Sustainable Development Goals amongst others, and complements the objectives of the Roadmap for Solutions developed by the Government of Kenya and UNHCR. In April 2022, the Government announced its intention to transition camps to integrated settlements under a plan to be developed, named the Shirika Plan (formerly Marshall Plan). Drafting of the plan, as well as development of modalities for implementation, are currently in development. The Plan envisions 'that refugee camps will be transformed into urban settlements to fully integrate them into the local administrative structures', which should result in increased service provision, investment and quality of life of refugee and host community members. In the case of the Dadaab Refugee Complex, the newly launched GISEDP is also an important spatial planning instrument at the County level.

The establishment of the new refugee-hosting municipalities in 2023 has been complementary to the above mentioned processes and is a major milestone in the history of Kenya, and indeed of global significance. These municipalities provide an incredible opportunity for enhanced governance and service provision to communities, in the sectors of water management, healthcare, education, and others. However, there remain significant gaps in attaining a local area-based approach in addressing the priority humanitarian and development issues that arise from the co-existence of refugees and host communities in traditional underdeveloped parts of Kenya, such as in Garissa County, let alone in a newly conferred municipality. The municipalities can pilot upcoming programmes to enhance the integration of refugees with host communities, within hopefully supportive national urban and refugee management frameworks which will follow. Yet, setting up municipalities in such unique contexts will have its complexities, requiring innovations and paradigm shifts in institutional and refugee response management. For instance, the municipalities will require the preparation of an Integrated Sustainable Urban Development Plan, for which this strategy also aims to inform.

UN-Habitat believes that when transitioning into implementation and scaling up regeneration efforts in the future, while there is no 'one-size-fits-all' approach to renewal, the focus should be kept on identifying low-hanging fruit and joint opportunities where a variety of strategies could be simultaneously implemented. The benefit of this would be that strategies could enhance the effectiveness and impact of one another, to build interconnected, vibrant neighbourhoods. Additionally, strong institutions and well-enforced financing systems are essential prerequisites to regeneration efforts, and when handled well, public-private regeneration programs and investments can be very successful and an efficient use of resources, and will help to lead the intended transformation of refugee camps into self-sufficient and integrated settlements of the future.

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# Appendices

*Appendix 1: Master List of Strategies Considered and Assessed*

| Vision Goal Alignment | | Proposed Strategy | No. | Action | Location | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Goal 1: Accessibility and Connectivity** | Transportation | 1.1 Upgrading existing Road Network | 1.1.1 | Upgrade the main road leading from Garissa Town to Kismayo/Liboi | Dadaab Refugee Complex - main road leading from Garissa through Dadaab Town, Ifo, Dagahaley, Leboy | |
| | | | 1.1.2 | Upgrading roads within Dadaab Town | Dadaab Town | |
| | | | 1.1.3 | Modika-Hagadera-Alinjugur road to be upgraded | Dadaab Refugee Complex - main road from Garissa to Hagadera, Kambioos | |
| | | 1.2 Establish multi-modal transport | 1.2.1 | Establish an efficient and affordable public transport | Dadaab Refugee Complex | |
| | | | 1.2.2 | Improve pedestrian paths between & within settlements/ Design pedestrian path network system | Throughout Dadaab Refugee Complex | |
| **Goal 2: Social Inclusion + Security** | Public Services | 2.1 Encourage and develop social integration | 2.1.1 | Establish recreational areas for youth (public spaces) | To be determined, across all settlements | |
| | | | 2.1.2 | Establish new training centres/vocational centres | To be determined, across all settlements | |
| | | | 2.1.3 | Establish additional sport facilities / | To be determined, across all settlements | |
| | | 2.2 Address Insecurity | 2.2.1 | Increase the number of police stations and/or Field posts | Dadaab Refugee Complex (all settlements) | |
| | | | 2.2.2 | Provide (solar-powered) street lighting to improve safety | Dadaab Refugee Complex (all settlements) | |
| **Goal 3: Prosperity + Economic Diversity** | Industry and Trade | 3.1 Upgrading existing markets | 3.1.1 | Existing livestock market to be upgraded and improved | Dadaab Town, Hagadera, Dagahaley, Ifo | |
| | | | 3.1.2 | Existing markets to be upgraded and improved | Dadaab Town, Hagadera, Dagahaley, Ifo | |
| | | 3.2 Additional facilities for livestock industry | 3.2.1 | Establish livestock institute (training facility) | Dadaab Town | |
| | | | 3.2.2 | Abattoir/slaughterhouse to be set up.(proj) | Dadaab Town, Hagadera, Dagahaley, Ifo | |
| | | | 3.2.3 | Proposed cattle dip facility. (proj) | Dadaab Refugee Complex (to be specified) | |
| | | | 3.2.4 | Additional livestock market/other market | Dadaab Refugee Complex (to be specified) | |
| | | 3.3 Revitalizing livestock farming | 3.3.1 | Encouraging community to engage in agro-pastoralism/ raise awareness | Dadaab Refugee Complex (all settlements) | |
| | | | 3.3.2 | Establish Disease Free Zone (DFZ) | Dagahaley | |
| | Agriculture | 3.4 Increase Agriculture Farming | 3.4.1 | Identify and allocate new land for agricultural use through existing land laws | | |
| | | | 3.4.2 | Establish Agriculture training facilities | Ifo 2 | |
| | | | 3.4.3 | Develop riverbanks farming | | |
| | | | 3.4.4 | Green belt and orchard farms to be extended and/or replicated | Ifo 2 | |
| **Goal 4: Resilient Environment** | Environment | 4.1 Flood mitigation and adaptation strategies to improve resilience | 4.1.1 | Store flash floods water for domestic and irrigation purposes (e.g., Water Pans, Sand or Sub-Surface Dams) | | |
| | | | 4.1.2 | Creation of buffer zone along the stream/lake | Dadaab Refugee Complex (along waterways) | |
| | | | 4.1.3 | Possible Voluntary Relocation of communities in flood prone risks area | | |
| | | 4.2 Establish solutions for drylands to tackle land degradation and drought | 4.2.1 | Nature-based Solutions (NbS) | | |
| | | 4.3 Environment conservation and wildlife preservation | 4.3.1 | Protection and management of existing green belt | Ifo 2 | |
| | | | 4.3.2 | Wildlife sanctuary in Kambioos preservation | Kambioos | |

| | Workshop Feedback | | Urgency (Based on Needs Assessment) | Economic Impact | Social Impact | | | Environmental Impact | Linkages with Other Strategies |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| | Priority | Timeframe | | | Integration | Accessibility | Safety | | |
| | High Priority | Quick Win | High | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium |
| | High Priority | Quick Win | Medium | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium |
| | Medium Priority | Quick Win | Medium | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium |
| | Medium Priority | Medium Term | High | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | Medium |
| | High Priority | Medium Term | High | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | High |
| | Medium Priority | Medium Term | Medium | Low | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | Low | Medium |
| | High Priority | Medium Term | Medium | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium |
| | Medium Priority | Medium Term | Low | Low | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | Low | Medium |
| | Medium Priority | Medium Term | Medium | Low | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | Low | Low |
| | High Priority | Medium Term | High | Low | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | High |
| | High Priority | Quick Win | Medium | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Low | Low | Low |
| | High Priority | Quick Win | High | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | Low | Low | Low | Medium |
| | Low Priority | Long Term | Low | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Low | Low | Low | Medium |
| | High Priority | Medium Term | Low | Medium (Indirect) | Low | Low | Low | Low | Medium |
| | Low Priority | Medium Term | Low | Low | Low | Low | Low | Low | Medium |
| | Low Priority | Medium Term | Low | Low | Low | Low | Low | Low | Medium |
| | High Priority | Quick Win | Medium | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | Medium |
| | Medium Priority | Long Term | Low | Low | Low | Low | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Low |
| | High Priority | Quick Win | High | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Low | Medium (Indirect) | Medium |
| | Medium Priority | Quick Win | Medium | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Low | Medium (Indirect) | Medium |
| | Medium Priority | Quick Win | Medium | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Low | High (Direct) | Medium |
| | Medium Priority | Quick Win | High | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Low | High (Direct) | Medium |
| | Medium Priority | Quick Win | High | High (Direct) | Low | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | High |
| | Medium Priority | Quick Win | High | Low | Low | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | High |
| | Medium Priority | Medium Term | High | Low | Low | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | High |
| | Medium Priority | Medium Term | High | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | High |
| | Medium Priority | Quick Win | High | High (Direct) | Low | Low | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | Medium |
| | Medium Priority | Long Term | Low | Low | Low | Low | Low | High (Direct) | Medium |

*Appendix 1: Master List of Strategies Considered and Assessed (Continued)*

| Vision Goal Alignment | | Proposed Strategy | No. | Action | Location | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Goal 5: Sustainable Infrastructure | Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) | 5.1 Upgrading and Improve management of existing water infrastructures | 5.1.1 | Identify and improve existing boreholes for use by community and livestock | | |
| | | | 5.1.2 | Rehabilitate boreholes in decommissioned camps for agricultural use | Ifo 2, Kambioos | |
| | | 5.2 Improve water security for community | 5.2.1 | Construct water pans (to store flash floods water) for domestic and irrigation purposes | Hagadera | |
| | | | 5.2.2 | Provide access to water through the Merti Aquifer | | |
| | | | 5.2.3 | Construct more elevated tanks and boreholes in Dadaab Refugee Complex. UNHCR plans to construct 5x 108 M³ In all the thee open camps in Dadaab | | |
| | | 5.3 Improve sanitation and waste management | 5.3.1 | Provide adequate actions to improve waste management | | |
| | Energy | 5.4 Improve access to energy supply | 5.4.1 | Investment in additional mini-grids | Dadaab Refugee Complex (all settlements) | |
| | | | 5.4.2 | Support access to portable solar energy systems | Dadaab Refugee Complex (all settlements) | |
| | | | 5.4.3 | Extension of national grid to Dadaab area | Dadaab Refugee Complex (all settlements) | |
| | Education | 5.5 Improvement of education facilities conditions and capacity, and equal access & distribution of services | 5.5.1 | Regenerate decommissioned Education facilities in closed camps for education purposes (among others) > Regenerate/rehabilitate decommissioned education facilities in Ifo 2 to serve needs of new influx and reopening of the camp | Ifo 2, Kambioos | |
| | | | 5.5.2 | Upgrade conditions of existing Education facilities | | |
| | | | 5.5.3 | Provide Additional Education facilities (ECD, Primary, Secondary) | | |
| | Health | 5.6 Improvement of Health facilities conditions and capacity, and equal access & distribution of services | 5.6.1 | Operationalise existing Level 4 hospital and have a KMTC training facility. | Ifo 2 | |
| | | | 5.6.2 | Upgrade conditions of existing (operational) health facilities | | |
| | | | 5.6.3 | Provide Additional Health facilities | | |
| Goal 6: Resources and Land Management | Spatial Planning | 6.1 Identify adequate land for managed population growth | 6.1.1 | Identify planned extensions area for future growth | Ifo 2, Kambioos, area around Dadaab Town (refer to Visioning) | |
| | | | 6.1.2 | Identify areas for Infill and Densification | Locations to be determined based on Situational Analysis | |
| | | | 6.1.3 | Identify decongested areas of overcrowded neighbourhoods | Identify hotspots around markets in Hagadera and Dagahaley | |

| Workshop Feedback | | Urgency (Based on Needs Assessment) | Economic Impact | Social Impact | | | Environmental Impact | Linkages with Other Strategies |
| Priority | Timeframe | | | Integration | Accessibility | Safety | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| High Priority | Quick Win | Medium | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Low | Medium (Indirect) | Medium |
| High Priority | Quick Win | High | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium |
| Medium Priority | Medium Term | High | High (Direct) | Low | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | High |
| Low Priority | Long Term | Low | Medium (Indirect) | Low | Low | Low | Medium (Indirect) | Medium |
| High Priority | Quick Win | Medium | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Low | Medium |
| High Priority | Medium Term | High | Medium (Indirect) | Low | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | Low |
| High Priority | Long Term | Medium | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Low |
| High Priority | Medium Term | Medium | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Low |
| High Priority | Long Term | Medium | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Low |
| High Priority | Quick Win | High | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Low | Low |
| Medium Priority | Quick Win | Medium | Low | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | Low | Low |
| Medium Priority | Medium Term | Low | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Low | Low |
| High Priority | Medium Term | High | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | Low | Low |
| Medium Priority | Quick Win | High | Low | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | Low | Low |
| Medium Priority | Medium Term | Low | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | High (Direct) | Low | Low |
| Medium Priority | Medium Term | High | Low | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | High |
| Medium Priority | Quick Win | High | Low | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | High |
| Medium Priority | Medium Term | High | Low | Medium (Indirect) | High (Direct) | Medium (Indirect) | Medium (Indirect) | High |